

**CIRCULAR 077-19** May 22, 2019

## **REQUEST FOR COMMENTS**

# AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLE 6.206 OF THE RULES OF BOURSE DE MONTRÉAL INC. TO ALLOW ADDITIONAL REPORTING TIME FOR LARGE BLOCK TRANSACTIONS ON TEN-YEAR GOVERNMENT OF CANADA BOND FUTURES (CGB)

On May 9, 2019, the Rules and Policies Committee of Bourse de Montréal Inc. (the "Bourse") approved amendments to article 6.206 of the Rules of the Bourse in order to allow additional reporting time for large block transactions on the CGB contract.

Comments on the proposed amendments must be submitted at the latest on **June 21, 2019**. Please submit your comments to:

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A copy of these comments shall also be forwarded to the Autorité des marchés financiers (the "Autorité") to:

Me Anne-Marie Beaudoin Corporate Secretary Autorité des marchés financiers 800 Victoria Square, 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor P.O. Box 246, Tour de la Bourse Montréal (Québec) H4Z 1G3

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Please note that comments received by one of these recipients will be transferred to the other recipient and that the Bourse may publish a summary of such comments as part of the self-certification process concerning this file. Unless specified otherwise, comments will be published anonymously by the Bourse.

# **Appendices**

You will find in the appendices an analysis as well as the text of the proposed amendments. The implementation date of the proposed amendments will be determined by the Bourse, in accordance with the self-certification process as established by the *Derivatives Act* (CQLR, chapter I-14.01).

## **Process for Changes to the Rules**

The Bourse is authorized to carry on business as an exchange and is recognized as a self-regulatory organization by the Autorité. The Board of Directors of the Bourse has delegated to the Rules and Policies Committee of the Bourse its powers to approve and amend the Rules, the Policies and the Procedures, which are thereafter submitted to the Autorité in accordance with the self-certification process as determined by the *Derivatives Act* (CQLR, chapter I-14.01).

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# AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLE 6.206 OF THE RULES OF BOURSE DE MONTRÉAL INC. TO ALLOW ADDITIONAL REPORTING TIME FOR LARGE BLOCK TRANSACTIONS ON TEN-YEAR GOVERNMENT OF CANADA BOND FUTURES (CGB)

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#### I. SUMMARY

Bourse de Montréal Inc. (the "Bourse") hereby proposes to update its rules pertaining to block transactions on the Ten-Year Government of Canada ("GoC") bond futures ("CGB") in order to better reflect market conditions and stimulate more activity on the contract. The Bourse considers that a well-functioning block transactions market is desirable for the growth of its products and wants to ensure that its design framework is in line with the needs of market participants. Therefore, the Bourse proposes to allow additional reporting time for large block transactions on the CGB contracts, as the current 15 minutes reporting delay during regular trading hours is deemed not adequate for participants desiring to execute and/or hedge large transactions in the CGB market. More specifically, the Bourse recommends to add a new category of minimum volume thresholds and reporting time for CGB block transactions within Article 6.206 of its Rules, setting a 30 minutes reporting time for CGB block transactions for which the volume traded meets or exceeds 3 500 contracts. The Bourse believes that these proposed amendments will better serve the needs of market participants and facilitate greater market efficiency through improved execution quality.

#### II. ANALYSIS

#### a. Background

The block facility of the Bourse offers a convenient way for market participants to execute large transactions on a specific contract at a single price. These transactions are privately negotiated between counterparties and once agreed upon, must be submitted to the Bourse within a prescribed time delay for reporting purposes. The block transaction minimum volume thresholds are determined by the Bourse on the basis of market liquidity conditions.

Clients involved in the block markets are usually important buy-side institutions that need to transact large sizes. When working with large positions, participants are often concerned that a large order size may have a negative and disruptive impact on the market by inducing excess volatility and price dislocations. When the order book cannot assimilate sizeable orders in an efficient manner, it creates unnecessary volatility which can disrupt orderly efficient markets and affect investor confidence. For these reasons, participants often prefer off-exchange transactions facilities to ensure they can have all their contracts filled at a single price, with minimum market impacts.

Along with the growth of CGB volumes in recent years, the Bourse has observed an increase in block trade sizes as well. Brokers and clients have begun to request and execute larger block transactions on a more frequent basis. This can be explained by multiple factors including:

- Participants feeling more comfortable in their ability to open and close positions in different market environments;
- Strong open interest levels (now constantly over 500 000 contracts) reduce the risks associated with holding large positions;
- Access to better block prices resulting from increased number of market participants.

As illustrated in table 1, the majority of CGB block transactions (91%) have a volume of 3 000 contracts or less and the Bourse expects this trend to continue. However, block transactions with a volume over 3 500 contracts have been observed more often recently.

Table 1: CGB block transaction distribution by year

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	CGB Block Transaction Size								
	Year	[1500 - 2000]	[2001 - 2500]	[2501 - 3000]	[3001 - 3500]	[3501 - 4000]	[4001 - 4500]	[4501 - 5000]	5000+
	2015	84	18	5	1	1	0	0	0
	2016	83	23	5	1	5	0	2	0
	2017	131	19	9	2	2	2	6	5
	2018	165	38	20	3	5	4	5	4

Source: Montreal Exchange

As capital markets continue to evolve and grow, participants are increasingly looking for more efficient ways to transact large orders. In the CGB market, participants involved in large block transactions are finding the current 15 minutes time reporting period (during regular trading hours) too restrictive to offset risk in the market without impacting market dynamics (creating excess volatility, price dislocation, etc.). Given the current CGB liquidity conditions, large block size transactions are more difficult to execute and counterparties are more frequently choosing to break up blocks into smaller transactions or delay transactions to avoid market frictions, leading to inefficiencies. Therefore, in line with the current and upcoming initiatives to revitalize the GoC bond futures yield curve, the Bourse proposes to offer participants desiring to execute large block transactions the possibility to do so without incurring market impact costs from current liquidity levels. A greater reporting delay for large CGB block transactions would facilitate greater market efficiency through improved execution quality. Additionally, in situations where a market is not sufficiently accommodative to permit large orders, non-centrally cleared and non-transparent traded markets may grow in relevance.

The Bourse considers that the proposed amendments remain consistent with its objective of providing market participants with an efficient mechanism of price discovery and hedging utility. The Bourse proposes to introduce a greater reporting delay for large CGB block transactions for the following reasons:

- Accommodate large order activity that would otherwise be negotiated away from the organized market;
- Facilitate greater market efficiency through improved execution quality and price certainty for market participants;
- Align the Bourse's block transactions structure with practices observed on other international exchanges.

For the purpose of this analysis, the Bourse would limit its proposed amendments to the CGB contract, for the following reasons:

• CGB is the only GoC bond futures for which market participants expressed interest in having additional reporting time for large block transactions;

- the two-year and 30-year GoC bond futures are not currently actively trading and therefore, the Bourse considers as premature the implementation of a longer block reporting delay for large block transactions on these contracts;
- A new market maker program on the five-year GoC bond futures came into force in December 2018. The Bourse considers as premature the implementation of a longer block reporting delay for large block transactions on such a contract given that market conditions are likely to change significantly in a short-term future. The Bourse would like to further assess the impact of its revitalization efforts before amending block transaction requirements for this contract.

## b. Description and Analysis of Market Impacts

The Bourse proposes to add a section to the block transaction requirements within article 6.206, adding an additional reporting time delay for large transactions on the CGB contract. The table below summarizes the modifications contemplated:

Table 2: Current and proposed block thresholds and reporting time

	Current requir	<u>Current requirements in MX rules</u>		
Product	Block volume threshold from 2 am to 6 am (1 hour reporting)	Block volume threshold from 6 am to 4:30 pm (15 minutes reporting)	Large Block volume threshold from 6 am to 4:30 pm (30 minutes reporting)	
CGB	350 contracts	1 500 contracts	3 500 contracts	

As detailed below, the proposed modifications are based on a liquidity analysis of the CGB contract, consultations with market participants and market practices for similar products on other major electronic derivatives exchanges.

Tables 3, 4 and 5 below present market statistics on the CGB contract to better assess potential market impacts of the proposition. As we can see, the majority of CGB block transactions (80%) happen between 8am and 3pm, matching the time frames when the average volume per 15 minutes is the highest. We can notably see that between 8am and 12pm, there is about 3 000 CGB contracts traded each 15 minutes, on average. However, this average volume per 15 minutes period includes both *buy and sell* transactions and therefore, is not directly representative of the ability for a participant to hedge a block transaction in the market (directional trading) without impacting market dynamics.

If we estimate that 50% of the volume is done on each side of the market (i.e as much active buying and selling activity), the current block threshold (1 500 contracts) is higher than the highest average volume executed per side per 15 minute period throughout the day. Therefore, the Bourse effectively sees a challenge for market participants entering into large block transactions to effectively hedge their position in the market during the current 15 minutes reporting window without impacting market dynamics.

Table 3: Average CGB volume per 15 minutes period<sup>1</sup>

	Average volume done	Minimum volume done	Maximum volume done
Trading Period	per 15 minutes period	per 15 minutes period	per 15 minutes period
[6:00 - 8:00]	1127	734	1773
[8:00 - 12:00]	2943	2041	4298
[12:00 - 15:00]	1599	1188	3202
[15:00 - 16:30]	918	453	1546

Source: Bloomberg and Montreal Exchange

Table 4: CGB block transactions per time period

Trading Period	2015	2016	2017	2018
[6:00 - 8:00]	8	17	22	25
[8:00 - 12:00]	71	75	101	132
[12:00 - 15:00]	26	18	42	65
[15:00 - 16:30]	4	9	11	22

Source: Montreal Exchange

Table 5: CGB order book and no-review range: average buy and sell quantity

	CGB order book (fro	ont month contract)	CGB no-review range	front month contract)
Time period	Average <b>Buy</b> quantity	Average <b>Sell</b> quantity	Average <b>Buy</b> quantity	Average <b>Sell</b> quantity
8:00	1393	1194	1073	874
11:00	1553	1480	1120	1087
14:00	1467	1359	1122	933
Average	1471	1344	1105	965

Source: Montreal Exchange

In terms of market depth at a given point in time, the front month CGB contract has (on average) 1 400 contracts posted on the bid and ask during the day, with about 75% of that (1 050 contracts) within the no-review range<sup>2</sup>. This also supports the conclusion of challenging market conditions to hedge a large block trade size during the 15 minutes reporting time without impacting market dynamics, and implies that the block threshold of 1 500 contracts for CGB during regular trading hours is still adequate. The no-review range determines what is an acceptable price for an instrument given all the available information before a trade under review occurs<sup>3</sup>. Large block transactions (over 3 500 contracts) would clearly move the CGB market by a large price amount (exceeding the no-review range) should they be hedged in an insufficient time period. To support this statement, the Bourse analyzed the price impact of recent large block transactions in the CGB<sup>4</sup> contract. The price variation during the 15 minutes period following the execution of these

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Data analyzed during a 9 months period (March to December 2018), excluding "roll" days.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Based on daily order book snapshots on the front month CGB contract, done between December 10 and December 21 2018 and taken at 8am, 11am and 2pm. No-review range for CGB is set at 40 ticks.

 $<sup>^3</sup>$  See Article 6.210 h) of the Rules of the Bourse for more information on the no-review range.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Block transactions over 3500 contracts done on the CGB December, 2018 expiry.

large blocks trades is on average 2 times higher than the average 15 minutes price variation during the day they were traded, reaching up to 15 ticks (vs 4 ticks for the average daily 15 minutes price variation). That illustrates that the price is already volatile following the execution of large block transactions, and that phenomenon is likely to be more frequently observed as larger block transactions are being executed.

In addition, block transactions on CGB represents only 1.80% of the total CGB volume<sup>5</sup>, which support the relevance of the current CGB block threshold. The Bourse do not expect this ratio to increase significantly following the implementation of this proposition. Based on these market statistics, the Bourse does not believe that allowing additional reporting time for large transactions will negatively impact market dynamics.

## Impacts on market integrity

Because block transactions are negotiated away from the prevailing best bid and offer in the central limit order book ("CLOB"), the price of the block trade must be fair and reasonable in accordance with the prevailing rules. In determining the price, consideration must be given to factors such as the trade size, the trade prices observable in the market as well as bid and ask prices on the same contract at the relevant time period, the volatility and liquidity of the relevant market and general market conditions. Upon request, the approved participant who arranges a block trade must provide satisfactory evidence that the block trade has been arranged in accordance with the Rules of the Bourse. The control parameters (prescribed time delay and minimum quantity thresholds) of block transactions are determined in order not to adversely impact:

- liquidity;
- price;
- transparency;
- the Bourse's participants and their clients who are active on its market.

It should be noted that the proposition has no impact on the compliance, supervision and reporting rules on the Bourse. Participants engaged in blocks transactions (not matter the size of the trade and the reporting time delay applicable) should comply with the Rules on the Bourse and are subject to the Regulatory Division of the Bourse oversight. As a reminder, participants must at all times adhere to the principles of good business practice in the conduct of their affairs. Specifically for block transactions, the Bourse would like to remind participants that practices such as front running (article 7.6) are prohibited. The Bourse feels that increasing the reporting time delay would also help prevent undesirable behaviors from market participants, given the fact that it may be easier to identify participants involved in large CGB block transactions. Allowing an insufficient amount of time for these participants to execute their hedging strategy might create unhealthy awareness and lead to unnecessary market disturbances.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> In 2018.

#### Impacts on transparency

The Bourse is committed to promote the use of the CLOB as the main source of price transparency for its contracts. Thus, the Bourse expects that the principal way of trading its products remains on its open and competitive electronic trading platform. Block transactions are allowed by the Bourse for exceptional market conditions, as an accommodation for market participants who find this way of conducting business more convenient. Based on the statistics presented above, the Bourse recognizes that large orders might impact market dynamics, create excess volatility and generate price dislocations and allowing additional time to report large block transactions is a way to maintain stability to the benefit of all market participants. Block transactions can be more difficult to execute than regular trades on the exchange and often expose brokers to more risk, notably because they are committing to a price for a large amount of contracts. Any adverse market movement can result in a large loss if the position has not been properly hedged. The objective of this mechanism is not to have these types of transactions represent a large part of the market or have them become current practice. The goal is in fact to bring more transparency by facilitating the execution of these large transactions into an exchange environment, where transaction prices and volumes are made publicly available, rather than being executed in a nontransparent OTC market. The Bourse continuously monitors block transactions to make sure they remain fair and reasonable at any time and for all market participants, as described in the section above.

#### c. Comparative Analysis

A closer look at the average daily volume ("ADV") to open interest ("OI") ratio for international ten-year bond futures shows that CGB liquidity conditions (even though they have improved significantly over the recent years) are not quite as high as other comparable products. As seen in table 6, CGB's ratio is near 20% while the average for similar products is closer to 35%<sup>6</sup>. This suggests that it is likely 1) more frequent and 2) harder for participants holding a high percentage of open interest to execute large transactions in an efficient manner in the market, supporting the addition of a longer reporting delay for large transactions.

Table 6: ADV to OI ratio (end of 2018) for comparable 10Y bond futures products

10Y IRD Product	ADV	Open Interest (O.I.)	Ratio (ADV / O.I.)
CGB	115,077	515,198	22%
CBOT - 10Y UST Bond Futures	1,816,346	4,044,615	45%
CBOT - Ultra 10Y UST Bond Futures	187,898	718,116	26%
Eurex - Euro-Bund	635,391	1,796,937	35%
ICE - Long Gilt	259,981	767,457	34%
JPX - 10Y JGB Futures	38,228	110,589	35%
ASX - 10Y AUD Bond Futures	192,175	1,211,820	16%

Source: Exchange websites

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Excluding the ASX product (outlier)

ICE Futures Europe and CurveGlobal have also implemented a delayed reporting/publication structure (during the same trading session) for large block transactions on interest rate derivatives products. On ICE Futures Europe, the volume threshold for large block transactions on the 10Y bond futures is set at 3x the regular threshold, and the delayed reporting time is 60 minutes. On CurveGlobal, the delayed block threshold is 5x the regular threshold. While participants still have the same reporting time, large block transactions are only published to the market at the end of the trading day. As anticipated, larger exchanges like CME and Eurex don't have similar delayed block transactions requirements because the liquidity (volume, market depth) in their bond futures products is much higher and thus, doesn't require such structure.

Table 7: ICE Futures Europe and CurveGlobal block transaction requirements for bond futures<sup>7</sup>

	ICE Futures Europe						
Bond Futures	Regular Block Threshold and	Delayed Block Threshold, Reporting Time					
Bond Futures	Reporting/Publication Time	and Publication Time					
2Y	250 contracts (15 minutes)	1000 contracts, 60 minutes reporting time					
5Y	100 contracts (15 minutes)	and publication at end of trading day					
10Y	500 contracts (15 minutes)	1500 contracts, 60 minutes reporting time and publication at end of day					
30Y	50 contracts (15 minutes)	250 contracts, 60 minutes reporting time					
301	50 contracts (15 minutes)	and publication at the end of trading day					
	CurveGloba	al					
Bond Futures	Regular Block Threshold and	Delayed Block Threshold, Reporting Time					
Bona rutures	Reporting/Publication Time	and Publication Time					
2Y							
5Y	50 t (5 i t )	250 contracts, 5 minutes reporting time and					
10Y	50 contracts (5 minutes)	publication at the end of the trading day					
30Y							

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Source: <a href="https://www.theice.com/futures-europe/market-resources">https://www.theice.com/futures-europe/market-resources</a> Appendix C - Fixed Income Contracts and <a href="https://www.lseg.com/derivatives/document-library">https://www.lseg.com/derivatives/document-library</a> LSEDM BNT & DP Threshold Parameters and LSEDM Bilaterally Negotiated Trade Guidance

In summary, the above benchmarking supports the implementation of a longer reporting delay for large block transactions in two different ways:

- CGB liquidity conditions are not quite as high as comparable 10Y bond futures products, as illustrated by the ADV to OI ratio.
- The proposed large block transaction threshold and longer reporting delay are consistent with the structure implemented at some other exchanges, mainly ICE Futures Europe and CurveGlobal.

Based on this international benchmarking, the Bourse considers that the proposed modifications are justified and will better align the block thresholds requirements of CGB with international practices for certain comparable products. As previously mentioned, the Bourse would limit the applicability to the CGB contract for the moment.

## d. Proposed Amendments

The Bourse proposes to amend the table of eligible derivatives and minimum volume thresholds for block trades located in article 6.206 of the Rules of the Bourse to add another set of minimum volume thresholds and reporting time for large transactions, applicable to the CGB contract within the regular trading hours. Specifically, market participants would then have 30 minutes to report block transactions with a volume over 3 500 contracts in the CGB market. This specific amendment would be effective upon the self-certification of the present proposed amendments. Proposed amendments are attached.

#### III. AMENDMENT PROCESS

The drafting process was initiated by the request to evaluate a longer block transaction reporting delay structure for GoC bond futures. Given the Bourse's current and upcoming initiatives regarding the revitalization of the yield curve, the Bourse believes that more appropriate block thresholds should be set to help generate further interest and activity in the CGB contract.

### IV. IMPACTS ON TECHNOLOGICAL SYSTEMS

The proposed changes should have no impact on the technological systems of the Bourse, CDCC, approved participants, independent software vendors, or any other market participants. The Bourse has not identified any impediments, whether technical, operational or other, to the implementation of the proposed amendments.

#### V. OBJECTIVES OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

The objective is to strengthen the functioning of the Canadian derivatives market and better serve the interests of market participants. In particular, the Bourse believes that the proposed amendments will:

- Accommodate and attract large order activity that would otherwise be negotiated away from the Bourse (in the OTC market);
- Facilitate greater market efficiency through improved execution quality and price certainty for large transactions;
- Align the Bourse's block transactions structure with practices observed on other international exchanges.

The goal is to facilitate the transition from an opaque over-the-counter market to a transparent listed market and not to diminish the role of the organized electronic market.

#### VI. PUBLIC INTEREST

The Bourse considers these amendments to be in the interest of the public as they will allow for better trading and hedging practices for market participants. Block transactions offer both clients and approved participants the convenience of privately negotiating a trade with a selected counterparty and the ability to execute a large transaction at a fair and reasonable single price. Furthermore, details of block transactions are publicly available after the reporting delay, providing more transparency compared to the competing OTC market.

## VII. EFFICIENCY

The Bourse's proposal should attract additional trading volume by offering market participants certainty of price and immediacy of execution in the transaction of large orders, as well as the benefits of central clearing. As such, large block trades on CGB should result in greater market efficiency through improved execution quality.

### VIII. PROCESS

The proposed amendments, including this analysis, must be approved by the Bourse's Rules and Policies Committee and submitted to the Autorité des marchés financiers, in accordance with the self-certification process, and to the Ontario Securities Commission for information purposes.

#### IX. ATTACHED DOCUMENTS

Proposed amendments to the Rules of the Bourse.

# **Chapter C—Prearranged Transactions and Trade Cancellation**

[...]

# **Article 6.206 Block Trades**

- (a) <u>In general</u>. Approved Participants may negotiate and execute a Transaction off of the Electronic Trading System pursuant to the following conditions:
  - (i) A block trade Transaction may be arranged and executed only during trading hours on the Bourse for the eligible derivative.
  - (ii) Block trades are only permitted in the Derivative Instruments and for a quantity which meets or exceeds the minimum volume thresholds as follows (only to the extent the eligible security or derivative instrument is available for trading):

Eligible derivatives instruments	Prescribed time delay (from 6AM until the end of the Trading Day)	Block - Minimum volume threshold (from 6AM until the end of the Trading Day)	Prescribed time delay (from 2AM until 5h59m59s)	Block - Minimum volume threshold (from 2AM until 5h59m59s)
	(As soon as practicable and in any event within the following time delay)		(As soon as practicable and in any event within the following time delay)	
30-Day Overnight Repo Rate Futures Contracts (ONX)	15 minutes	1,000 contracts	1 hour	250 contracts
Overnight Index Swap Futures Contracts (OIS)	15 minutes	200 contracts	1 hour	50 contracts

Eligible derivatives instruments	Prescribed time delay (from 6AM until the end of the Trading Day)	Block - Minimum volume threshold (from 6AM until the end of the Trading Day)	Prescribed time delay (from 2AM until 5h59m59s)	Block - Minimum volume threshold (from 2AM until 5h59m59s)
	(As soon as practicable and in any event within the following time delay)		(As soon as practicable and in any event within the following time delay)	
Ten-Year Government of Canada Bond Futures Contracts (CGB)	15 minutes  30 minutes	1,500 contracts  3,500 contracts	1 hour	350 contracts
Two-Year Government of Canada Bond Futures Contracts (CGZ)	15 minutes	250 contracts	1 hour	100 contracts
30-Year Government of Canada Bond Futures Contracts (LGB)	15 minutes	100 contracts	1 hour	100 contracts
Five-Year Government of Canada Bond Futures Contracts (CGF)	15 minutes	500 contracts	1 hour	100 contracts
Options on Three-Month Canadian Bankers Acceptance Futures Contracts	15 minutes	2,000 contracts	1 hour	500 contracts

Eligible derivatives instruments	Prescribed time delay (from 6AM until the end of the Trading Day)	Block - Minimum volume threshold (from 6AM until the end of the Trading Day)	Prescribed time delay (from 2AM until 5h59m59s)	Block - Minimum volume threshold (from 2AM until 5h59m59s)
	(As soon as practicable and in any event within the following time delay)		(As soon as practicable and in any event within the following time delay)	
Three-Month Canadian Bankers' Acceptance Futures Contracts quarterlies one through four (BAX Whites)	15 minutes	-	1 hour	500 contracts
Three-Month Canadian Bankers' Acceptance Futures Contracts quarterlies five through eight (BAX Reds)	15 minutes	1,000 contracts	1 hour	250 contracts
Three-Month Canadian Bankers' Acceptance Futures Contracts quarterlies nine through twelve (BAX Greens)	15 minutes	500 contracts	1 hour	100 contracts
Three-Month Canadian	15 minutes	Sum of the strategy legs:	1 hour	Sum of the strategy legs:

Eligible derivatives instruments	Prescribed time delay (from 6AM until the end of the Trading Day)	Block - Minimum volume threshold (from 6AM until the end of the Trading Day)	Prescribed time delay (from 2AM until 5h59m59s)	Block - Minimum volume threshold (from 2AM until 5h59m59s)
	(As soon as practicable and in any event within the following time delay)		(As soon as practicable and in any event within the following time delay)	
Bankers' Acceptance Futures Contracts (BAX) / Options on Three-Month Canadian Banker's Acceptance Futures Contracts Strategy Instruments		2,000 contracts in which the options leg(s) volume must amount to at least 50% of the sum of the strategy legs		2,000 contracts in which the options leg(s) volume must amount to at least 50% of the sum of the strategy legs
Ten-Year Government of Canada Bond Futures Contracts (CGB) / Options on Ten-Year Government of Canada Bond Futures Contracts (OGB) Strategy Instruments []	15 minutes	Sum of the strategy legs: 2,000 contracts in which the options leg(s) volume must amount to at least 50% of the sum of the strategy legs	1 hour	Sum of the strategy legs: 2,000 contracts in which the options leg(s) volume must amount to at least 50% of the sum of the strategy legs

# **Chapter C—Prearranged Transactions and Trade Cancellation**

[...]

# **Article 6.206 Block Trades**

- (b) <u>In general</u>. Approved Participants may negotiate and execute a Transaction off of the Electronic Trading System pursuant to the following conditions:
  - (i) A block trade Transaction may be arranged and executed only during trading hours on the Bourse for the eligible derivative.
  - (ii) Block trades are only permitted in the Derivative Instruments and for a quantity which meets or exceeds the minimum volume thresholds as follows (only to the extent the eligible security or derivative instrument is available for trading):

Eligible derivatives instruments	Prescribed time delay (from 6AM until the end of the Trading Day)	Block - Minimum volume threshold (from 6AM until the end of the Trading Day)	Prescribed time delay (from 2AM until 5h59m59s)	Block - Minimum volume threshold (from 2AM until 5h59m59s)
	(As soon as practicable and in any event within the following time delay)		(As soon as practicable and in any event within the following time delay)	
30-Day Overnight Repo Rate Futures Contracts (ONX)	15 minutes	1,000 contracts	1 hour	250 contracts
Overnight Index Swap Futures Contracts (OIS)	15 minutes	200 contracts	1 hour	50 contracts

Eligible derivatives instruments	Prescribed time delay (from 6AM until the end of the Trading Day)	Block - Minimum volume threshold (from 6AM until the end of the Trading Day)	Prescribed time delay (from 2AM until 5h59m59s)	Block - Minimum volume threshold (from 2AM until 5h59m59s)
	(As soon as practicable and in any event within the following time delay)		(As soon as practicable and in any event within the following time delay)	
Ten-Year Government of Canada Bond Futures Contracts (CGB)	15 minutes 30 minutes	1,500 contracts 3,500 contracts	1 hour	350 contracts
Two-Year Government of Canada Bond Futures Contracts (CGZ)	15 minutes	250 contracts	1 hour	100 contracts
30-Year Government of Canada Bond Futures Contracts (LGB)	15 minutes	100 contracts	1 hour	100 contracts
Five-Year Government of Canada Bond Futures Contracts (CGF)	15 minutes	500 contracts	1 hour	100 contracts
Options on Three-Month Canadian Bankers' Acceptance Futures Contracts	15 minutes	2,000 contracts	1 hour	500 contracts

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	(As soon as practicable and in any event within the following time delay)		(As soon as practicable and in any event within the following time delay)	
Three-Month Canadian Bankers' Acceptance Futures Contracts quarterlies one through four (BAX Whites)	15 minutes	-	1 hour	500 contracts
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Three-Month Canadian Bankers' Acceptance Futures Contracts quarterlies nine through twelve (BAX Greens)	15 minutes	500 contracts	1 hour	100 contracts
Three-Month Canadian	15 minutes	Sum of the strategy legs:	1 hour	Sum of the strategy legs:

Eligible derivatives instruments	Prescribed time delay (from 6AM until the end of the Trading Day)	Block - Minimum volume threshold (from 6AM until the end of the Trading Day)	Prescribed time delay (from 2AM until 5h59m59s)	Block - Minimum volume threshold (from 2AM until 5h59m59s)
	(As soon as practicable and in any event within the following time delay)		(As soon as practicable and in any event within the following time delay)	
Bankers' Acceptance Futures Contracts (BAX) / Options on Three-Month Canadian Banker's Acceptance Futures Contracts Strategy Instruments		2,000 contracts in which the options leg(s) volume must amount to at least 50% of the sum of the strategy legs		2,000 contracts in which the options leg(s) volume must amount to at least 50% of the sum of the strategy legs
Ten-Year Government of Canada Bond Futures Contracts (CGB) / Options on Ten-Year Government of Canada Bond Futures Contracts (OGB) Strategy Instruments []	15 minutes	Sum of the strategy legs: 2,000 contracts in which the options leg(s) volume must amount to at least 50% of the sum of the strategy legs	1 hour	Sum of the strategy legs: 2,000 contracts in which the options leg(s) volume must amount to at least 50% of the sum of the strategy legs