

## **Press Release**

For Immediate Release

## Transcontinental Inc. announces its financial results for the third quarter of Fiscal 2017

## **Highlights**

- Revenues increased by \$9.9 million, or 2.1%.
- Operating earnings increased by \$4.6 million, from \$63.6 million to \$68.2 million. Adjusted operating earnings, which exclude restructuring and other costs (revenues) and impairment of assets, increased by \$7.2 million, or 11.5%.
- Net earnings increased by \$3.1 million, from \$45.9 million to \$49.0 million. Adjusted net earnings, which exclude restructuring and other costs (revenues) and impairment of assets, net of related taxes, increased by \$6.0 million, or 13.6%.

**Montreal, September 7, 2017** - Transcontinental Inc. (TSX: TCL.A TCL.B) announces its results for the third quarter of Fiscal 2017, which ended July 30, 2017.

"I am proud of what we achieved in the third quarter as we continued to deploy our transformation plan while improving the Corporation's performance," said François Olivier, President and Chief Executive Officer of TC Transcontinental. "Our financial performance is the result of our promising strategy, diligently implemented by our teams throughout the organization."

"The printing division posted a solid quarter, thanks to the increased demand by Canadian retailers for our service offering, in particular printed flyers. The packaging division generated, for its part, sustained organic growth resulting from the investments we made in the last few quarters. Lastly, in the Media Sector, the Business and Education group performed very well, and the process to sell our local newspapers in Quebec and Ontario is thriving. Discussions are continuing with potential acquirers in several regions."

"Our enviable financial position and our significant cash flows provide the solid foundations that will allow us to maintain our momentum and invest in our development."

## **Financial Highlights**

(in millions of dollars, except per share amounts)	Q3-2017	Q3-2016	Variation in %	NINE MONTHS 2017	NINE MONTHS 2016	Variation in %
Revenues	\$ 477.7	\$ 467.8	2.1 %	\$ 1,480.0	\$ 1,463.9	1.1 %
Operating earnings before depreciation and amortization	93.7	90.1	4.0	276.9	211.7	30.8
Adjusted operating earnings before depreciation and amortization (1)	95.4	89.2	7.0	273.4	256.2	6.7
Operating earnings	68.2	63.6	7.2	198.4	131.5	50.9
Adjusted operating earnings (1)	69.9	62.7	11.5	194.9	176.0	10.7
Net earnings	49.0	45.9	6.8	138.1	88.6	55.9
Net earnings per share	0.64	0.59	8.5	1.79	1.14	57.0
Adjusted net earnings (1)	50.1	44.1	13.6	133.9	119.7	11.9
Adjusted net earnings per share (1)	0.65	0.57	14.0	1.73	1.54	12.3

<sup>(1)</sup> Please refer to the table "Reconciliation of Non-IFRS financial measures" in this press release for adjusted data presented above.

Telephone: 514-954-4000 Fax: 514-954-4160

www.tc.tc

## 2017 Third Quarter Results

Revenues went from \$467.8 million in the third quarter of 2016 to \$477.7 million in the third quarter of 2017, an increase of 2.1%. This increase is attributable to the contribution from the acquisitions in the packaging division, as well as the favourable exchange rate effect and the organic growth in revenues for the Printing and Packaging Sector. Organic growth in revenues is attributable to higher volume in the packaging division and higher demand for all services to Canadian retailers, namely for flyer and in-store marketing printing services, as well as for premedia and door-to-door distribution services, notably under the terms of the expanded agreement with Lowe's Canada, partially offset by the decline in revenues from the other printing division verticals. The above-mentioned revenue increase is also attributable to the contribution from the acquisition of specialty financial brands and to the organic growth in revenues for the Media Sector, in particular from the educational book publishing activities. However, the contribution from these items was more than offset, mostly by the impact of the sale of media assets and the decline in revenues from the local newspaper publishing activities caused by lower advertising revenues.

Operating earnings increased by \$4.6 million, from \$63.6 million in the third quarter of 2016 to \$68.2 million in the third quarter of 2017. Adjusted operating earnings went from \$62.7 million in the third quarter of 2016 to \$69.9 million in the third quarter of 2017, an increase of 11.5%. Excluding the unfavourable effect of the stock-based compensation expense as a result of the change in the share price in the third quarter of 2017 compared to the corresponding period in 2016, adjusted operating earnings increased by 18.0%. This increase is mostly attributable to the performance of the Printing and Packaging Sector due to the above-mentioned organic growth in revenues, the favourable impact of cost reduction initiatives in the printing division, the contribution from the acquisitions in the packaging division and the favourable exchange rate effect for the sector. The above-mentioned adjusted operating earnings increase is also notably attributable to the organic growth in revenues from the educational book publishing activities and the contribution from cost reduction initiatives in the Media Sector. The contribution of these items was however partially offset by the impact of the sale of media assets.

Net earnings increased by \$3.1 million, from \$45.9 million in the third quarter of 2016 to \$49.0 million in the third quarter of 2017. This increase is mostly attributable to the increase in operating earnings, partially offset by the increase in net financial expenses. On a per share basis, net earnings went from \$0.59 to \$0.64. Excluding restructuring and other costs (revenues) and impairment of assets, net of related income taxes, adjusted net earnings increased by \$6.0 million, or 13.6%, from \$44.1 million in the third quarter of 2016 to \$50.1 million in the third quarter of 2017. On a per share basis, adjusted net earnings went from \$0.57 to \$0.65.

## 2017 First Nine Months Results

Revenues went from \$1,463.9 million in the first nine months of 2016 to \$1,480.0 million in the first nine months of 2017, an increase of 1.1%. This increase is mostly attributable to the contribution from the acquisitions in the packaging division and the favourable exchange rate effect for the Printing and Packaging Sector. Moreover, the organic growth in revenues generated by higher volume in the packaging division and higher demand for all services to Canadian retailers, as well as the additional volume from the agreement to print the *Toronto Star*, also contributed to the increase in revenues. However, the contribution from these items, related to organic growth, only partially offset the lower volume in several verticals affected by the decline in advertising spending and the impact of the completion of the agreement to print Canada's Census forms in 2016. The above-mentioned revenue increase is also attributable to the contribution from the acquisition of specialty financial brands and the organic growth in revenues for the Media Sector, in particular from the educational book publishing activities. However, the contribution from these items was more than offset, mostly by the impact of the sale of media assets and the decline in revenues from the local newspaper publishing activities caused by lower advertising revenues.

Operating earnings increased by \$66.9 million, from \$131.5 million in the first nine months of 2016 to \$198.4 million in the corresponding period in 2017. Adjusted operating earnings went from \$176.0 million in the first nine months of 2016 to \$194.9 million in the corresponding period in 2017, an increase of 10.7%. Excluding the \$13.1 million unfavourable effect of the stock-based compensation expense as a result of the change in the share price in the first nine months of 2017 compared to the corresponding period in 2016, adjusted operating earnings increased by 18.2%. This increase is mostly attributable to the performance of the Printing and Packaging Sector as a result of the above-mentioned organic growth in revenues and the favourable impact of cost reduction initiatives in the printing division, partially offset by the impact of the investments made in the last few quarters to develop the packaging division's platform and strengthen its sales force. The contribution from the acquisitions in the packaging division and the favourable exchange rate effect for the sector also contributed

2

to the increase. The above-mentioned adjusted operating earnings increase is also attributable to the contribution from cost reduction initiatives in the Media Sector, the organic growth in revenues from the educational book publishing activities and the contribution from the acquisition of specialty financial brands. These items were however partially offset by the impact of the sale of local newspapers.

Net earnings increased by \$49.5 million, from \$88.6 million in the first nine months of 2016 to \$138.1 million in the corresponding period in 2017. This increase in mostly attributable to the increase in operating earnings, partially offset by the increase in income taxes. On a per share basis, net earnings went from \$1.14 to \$1.79. Excluding restructuring and other costs (revenues) and impairment of assets, net of related income taxes, adjusted net earnings increased by \$14.2 million, or 11.9%, from \$119.7 million in the first nine months of 2016 to \$133.9 million in the corresponding period in 2017. On a per share basis, adjusted net earnings went from \$1.54 to \$1.73.

For more detailed financial information, please see the *Management's Discussion and Analysis for the third quarter ended July 30, 2017* as well as the financial statements in the "Investors" section of our website at <a href="https://www.tc.tc">www.tc.tc</a>

## **Outlook for 2017**

In the printing division, we expect revenues from all our retailer-related services to remain relatively stable in the fourth quarter of 2017 compared to the same period in 2016. In all the other printing verticals, we expect that our revenues will continue to be affected by a decline in volume and the end of the additional contribution from the agreement to print the *Toronto Star*, which had started in July 2016. In addition, we will no longer benefit from the additional contribution of plant closures which occurred in 2016, although we will continue our operational efficiency initiatives to partially offset the decline in volume.

In our packaging division, in the fourth quarter of 2017, we will continue to benefit from the contribution from the acquisition of Flexstar Packaging, which was completed in mid-October 2016. In addition, we expect that the efforts of our sales force will continue to bear fruit and generate sustained organic growth, and we will maintain our disciplined acquisition approach.

In the Media Sector, the Business and Education group will benefit from the contribution from our acquisition of specialty financial brands completed in December 2016, and we expect that this group will continue to perform well. The sale of our media assets in Atlantic Canada and the continuation of the process to sell our local newspapers in Quebec and Ontario will greatly reduce the share of our local newspaper publishing activities in our media portfolio in the fourth quarter of 2017.

To conclude, in the fourth quarter of this fiscal year, we expect to generate significant cash flows and maintain our excellent financial position, which should enable us to continue investing to support our transformation into flexible packaging.

## **Reconciliation of Non-IFRS Financial Measures**

The financial information has been prepared in accordance with IFRS. However, financial measures used, namely the adjusted operating earnings, the adjusted operating earnings before depreciation and amortization, the adjusted net earnings, the adjusted net earnings per share, the net indebtedness and the net indebtedness ratio, for which a complete definition is presented in the *Management's Discussion* and *Analysis for the third quarter ended July 30, 2017*, and for which a reconciliation is presented in the following table, do not have any standardized meaning under IFRS and could be calculated differently by other companies. We believe that many of our readers analyze the financial performance of the Corporation's activities based on these non-IFRS financial measures as such measures may allow for easier comparisons between periods. These measures should be considered as a complement to financial performance measures in accordance with IFRS. They do not substitute and are not superior to them.

3

We also believe that the adjusted operating earnings before depreciation and amortization, the adjusted operating earnings, that takes into account the impact of past investments in property, plant and equipment and intangible assets, and the adjusted net earnings are useful indicators of the performance of our operations. Furthermore, management also uses some of these non-IFRS financial measures to assess the performance of its activities and managers.

Regarding the net indebtedness and net indebtedness ratio, we believe that these indicators are useful to measure the Corporation's financial leverage and ability to meet its financial obligations.

## Reconciliation of operating earnings - Third quarter and cumulative

	Three mo	nths er	nded		nded		
	July 30		July 31		July 30		July 31
(in millions of dollars)	2017		2016		2017		2016
Operating earnings	\$ 68.2	\$	63.6	\$	198.4	\$	131.5
Restructuring and other costs (revenues)	1.7		(1.0)		(6.0)		14.1
Impairment of assets	_		0.1		2.5		30.4
Adjusted operating earnings	\$ 69.9	\$	62.7	\$	194.9	\$	176.0
Depreciation and amortization	25.5		26.5		78.5		80.2
Adjusted operating earnings before depreciation and amortization	\$ 95.4	\$	89.2	\$	273.4	\$	256.2

## Reconciliation of net earnings - Third quarter

	Three months ended								
	 July 30, 2017				July	31, 201	<del>3</del>		
(in millions of dollars, except per share amounts)	Total Per share Total		Total	Per share					
Net earnings	\$ 49.0	\$	0.64	\$	45.9	\$	0.59		
Restructuring and other costs (revenues), net of related taxes	1.1		0.01		(2.3)		(0.03)		
Impairment of assets, net of related taxes	_		_		0.5		0.01		
Adjusted net earnings	\$ 50.1	\$	0.65	\$	44.1	\$	0.57		

## Reconciliation of net earnings - Cumulative

		Nine months ended									
(in millions of dollars, except per share amounts)			July 31, 2016								
		Total	Per	share		Total	Per shar				
Net earnings	\$	138.1	\$	1.79	\$	88.6	\$	1.14			
Restructuring and other costs (revenues), net of related taxes		(6.0)		(80.0)		8.7		0.11			
Impairment of assets, net of related taxes		1.8		0.02		22.4		0.29			
Adjusted net earnings	\$	133.9	\$	1.73	\$	119.7	\$	1.54			

#### Reconciliation of net indebtedness

(in millions of dollars, except ratios)	As a	July 30, 2017	As at Oc	tober 31, 2016
Long-term debt	\$	348.2	\$	347.9
Current portion of long-term debt		_		0.2
Cash		(152.8)		(16.7)
Net indebtedness	\$	195.4	\$	331.4
Adjusted operating earnings before depreciation and amortization (last 12 months)	\$	407.3	\$	390.1
Net indebtedness ratio		0.5 x		0.8 x

#### Dividend

The Corporation's Board of Directors declared a quarterly dividend of \$0.20 per share on Class A Subordinate Voting Shares and Class B Shares. This dividend is payable on October 18, 2017 to shareholders of record at the close of business on October 2, 2017.

## **Conference Call**

Upon releasing its third quarter of 2017 results, the Corporation will hold a conference call for the financial community today at 4:15 p.m. The dial-in numbers are 1 647 788-4922 or 1 877 223-4471. Media may hear the call in listen-in only mode or tune in to the simultaneous audio broadcast on the Corporation's website, which will then be archived for 30 days. For media requests or interviews, please contact Nathalie St-Jean, Senior Advisor, Communications of TC Transcontinental, at 514 954-3581.

## **Profile**

Canada's largest printer with operations in print, flexible packaging, publishing and digital media, TC Transcontinental's mission is to create products and services that allow businesses to attract, reach and retain their target customers.

Respect, teamwork, performance and innovation are strong values held by the Corporation and its employees. The Corporation's commitment to its stakeholders is to pursue its business and philanthropic activities in a responsible manner.

Transcontinental Inc. (TSX: TCL.A TCL.B), known as TC Transcontinental, has more than 7,000 employees in Canada and the United States, and revenues of C\$2.0 billion in 2016. Website <a href="https://www.tc.tc">www.tc.tc</a>

## **Forward-looking Statements**

Our public communications often contain oral or written forward-looking statements which are based on the expectations of management and inherently subject to a certain number of risks and uncertainties, known and unknown. By their very nature, forward-looking statements are derived from both general and specific assumptions. The Corporation cautions against undue reliance on such statements since actual results or events may differ materially from the expectations expressed or implied in them. Forward-looking statements may include observations concerning the Corporation's objectives, strategy, anticipated financial results and business outlook. The Corporation's future performance may also be affected by a number of factors, many of which are beyond the Corporation's will or control. These factors include, but are not limited to, the economic situation in the world and particularly in Canada and the United States, structural changes in

5

the industries in which the Corporation operates, the exchange rate, availability of capital, energy costs, competition, the Corporation's capacity to engage in strategic transactions and integrate acquisitions into its activities, the regulatory environment, the safety of its packaging products used in the food industry, innovation of its offering and concentration of its sales in certain segments. The main risks, uncertainties and factors that could influence actual results are described in *Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A)* for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2016, in the latest *Annual Information Form* and have been updated in the *MD&A* for the third quarter ended July 30, 2017.

Unless otherwise indicated by the Corporation, forward-looking statements do not take into account the potential impact of nonrecurring or other unusual items, nor of divestitures, business combinations, mergers or acquisitions which may be announced after the date of September 7, 2017.

The forward-looking statements in this press release are made pursuant to the "safe harbour" provisions of applicable Canadian securities legislation.

The forward-looking statements in this release are based on current expectations and information available as at September 7, 2017. Such forward-looking information may also be found in other documents filed with Canadian securities regulators or in other communications. The Corporation's management disclaims any intention or obligation to update or revise these statements unless otherwise required by the securities authorities.

- 30 -

For information:

## Media

Nathalie St-Jean Senior Advisor, Communications TC Transcontinental Telephone: 514-954-3581 nathalie.st-jean@tc.tc www.tc.tc

## **Financial Community**

Shirley Chenny Advisor, Investor Relations TC Transcontinental Telephone: 514-954-4166 shirley.chenny@tc.tc www.tc.tc



#### MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

For the third quarter ended July 30, 2017

The purpose of this Management's Discussion and Analysis is to help the reader better understand the business, development strategy and future prospects of Transcontinental Inc., as well as to analyze the Corporation's results and financial position for the third quarter ended July 30, 2017. It should be read in conjunction with the information in the unaudited condensed interim consolidated financial statements and the accompanying notes included in this report. Additional information relating to the Corporation, including its Annual Report and Annual Information Form, may also be obtained on SEDAR at www.sedar.com.

In this document, unless otherwise indicated, all financial data are prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and the term "dollar", as well as the symbol "\$" designate Canadian dollars.

In addition, in this Management's Discussion and Analysis we also use non-IFRS financial measures for which a complete definition is presented below and for which a reconciliation to financial information in accordance with IFRS is presented in table #2 entitled "Reconciliation of Non-IFRS Financial Measures" and in Note #3 "Segmented Information" in the unaudited condensed interim consolidated financial statements for the third quarter ended July 30, 2017. These measures should be considered as a complement to financial performance measures in accordance with IFRS. They do not substitute and are not superior to them.

Terms Used	Definitions
Adjusted operating earnings before depreciation and amortization	Operating earnings before depreciation and amortization as well as restructuring and other costs (revenues) and impairment of assets
Adjusted operating earnings	Operating earnings before restructuring and other costs (revenues) and impairment of assets
Adjusted operating earnings margin	Adjusted operating earnings divided by revenues
Adjusted income taxes	Income taxes before income taxes on restructuring and other costs (revenues) and income taxes on impairment of assets
Net earnings attributable to shareholders of the Corporation	Net earnings less non-controlling interests
Adjusted net earnings attributable to shareholders of the Corporation	Net earnings attributable to shareholders of the Corporation, before restructuring and other costs (revenues) and impairment of assets, net of related income taxes, adjustment to deferred income tax assets, reversal of financial expenses resulting from notices of assessment and net earnings from discontinued operations
Net indebtedness	Total of long-term debt plus current portion of long-term debt less cash
Net indebtedness ratio	Net indebtedness divided by the last 12 months' adjusted operating earnings before depreciation and amortization

Finally, to facilitate the reading of this report, the terms "TC Transcontinental", "Corporation", "we", "our" and "us" all refer to Transcontinental Inc. together with its subsidiaries and joint ventures.

#### CAUTION REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Our public communications often contain oral or written forward-looking statements which are based on the expectations of Management and inherently subject to a certain number of risks and uncertainties, known and unknown. By their very nature, forward-looking statements are derived from both general and specific assumptions. The Corporation cautions against undue reliance on such statements since actual results or events may differ materially from the expectations expressed or implied in them. These forward-looking statements include, among others, statements with respect to our medium-term objectives, our outlook, our strategies to achieve these objectives, as well as statements with respect to our beliefs, plans, expectations, anticipations, estimates and intentions. The words "may", "could", "should", "would", "assumptions", "strategy", "outlook", "believe", "plan", "anticipate", "estimate", "expect", "intend", "objective", the use of the future and conditional tenses, and words and expressions of similar nature are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking statements may also include observations concerning the Corporation's anticipated financial results and business outlooks and the economies in which it operates. The Corporation's future performance may also be affected by a number of factors, many of which are beyond the Corporation's will or control. The main risks, uncertainties and factors that could influence actual results are described in the Management's Discussion and Analysis for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2016 and in the Annual Information Form.

Unless otherwise indicated by the Corporation, forward-looking statements do not take into account the potential impact of non-recurring or other unusual items, nor of disposals, business combinations, mergers or acquisitions which may be announced or concluded after the date of September 7, 2017.

These forward-looking statements are made pursuant to the "safe harbour" provisions of applicable Canadian securities legislation.

The forward-looking statements in this Management's Discussion and Analysis are based on current expectations and information available as at September 7, 2017. Such forward-looking statements may also be found in other documents filed with Canadian securities regulators or in other communications. The Corporation's Management disclaims any intention or obligation to update or revise these statements unless otherwise required by the securities authorities.

## PROFILE OF TC TRANSCONTINENTAL

Canada's largest printer with operations in print, flexible packaging, publishing and digital media, TC Transcontinental's mission is to create products and services that allow businesses to attract, reach and retain their target customers.

Respect, teamwork, performance and innovation are strong values held by the Corporation and its employees. The Corporation's commitment to all stakeholders is to pursue its business and philanthropic activities in a responsible manner.

Transcontinental Inc. (TSX: TCL.A, TCL.B), known as TC Transcontinental, has more than 7,000 employees in Canada and the United States, and revenues of C\$2.0 billion in 2016. Website www.tc.tc.

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

#### Table #1:

(in millions of dollars, except per share amounts)	Q3-2017		Q3-2016	Variation in \$	Variation in %	
Revenues	\$	477.7	\$ 467.8	\$ 9.9	2.1	%
Operating earnings		68.2	63.6	4.6	7.2	
Adjusted operating earnings (1)		69.9	62.7	7.2	11.5	1
Net earnings		49.0	45.9	3.1	6.8	1
Net earnings per share		0.64	0.59	0.05	8.5	1
Adjusted net earnings (1)		50.1	44.1	6.0	13.6	ı
Adjusted net earnings per share (1)		0.65	0.57	0.08	14.0	1

<sup>(1)</sup> Please refer to table #2 "Reconciliation of Non-IFRS Financial Measures" in this Management's Discussion and Analysis for adjusted data presented above.

- Revenues increased by \$9.9 million, or 2.1%.
- Operating earnings increased by \$4.6 million, from \$63.6 million to \$68.2 million. Adjusted operating earnings, which exclude restructuring
  and other costs (revenues) and impairment of assets, increased by \$7.2 million, or 11.5%.
- Net earnings increased by \$3.1 million, from \$45.9 million to \$49.0 million. Adjusted net earnings, which exclude restructuring and other costs (revenues) and impairment of assets, net of related taxes, increased by \$6.0 million, or 13.6%.

# RECONCILIATION OF NON-IFRS FINANCIAL MEASURES

(unaudited)

The financial information has been prepared in accordance with IFRS. However, financial measures used, namely the adjusted operating earnings, the adjusted operating earnings before depreciation and amortization, the adjusted net earnings, the adjusted net earnings per share, the net indebtedness and the net indebtedness ratio, for which a reconciliation is presented in the following table, do not have any standardized meaning under IFRS and could be calculated differently by other companies. We believe that many of our readers analyze the financial performance of the Corporation's activities based on these non-IFRS financial measures as such measures may allow for easier comparisons between periods. These

measures should be considered as a complement to financial performance measures in accordance with IFRS. They do not substitute and are not superior to them.

We also believe that the adjusted operating earnings before depreciation and amortization, the adjusted operating earnings, that takes into account the impact of past investments in property, plant and equipment and intangible assets, and the adjusted net earnings are useful indicators of the performance of our operations. Furthermore, management also uses some of these non-IFRS financial measures to assess the performance of its activities and managers.

Regarding the net indebtedness and net indebtedness ratio, we believe that these indicators are useful to measure the Corporation's financial leverage and ability to meet its financial obligations.

Table #2:

Reconciliation of operating earnings - Third quarter and cumulative

	-	Three mo	nths e	nded		ended		
		July 30		July 31		uly 30	J	uly 31
(in millions of dollars)		2017		2016		2017		2016
Operating earnings	\$	68.2	\$	63.6	\$	198.4	\$	131.5
Restructuring and other costs (revenues)		1.7		(1.0)		(6.0)		14.1
Impairment of assets		_		0.1		2.5		30.4
Adjusted operating earnings	\$	69.9	\$	62.7	\$	194.9	\$	176.0
Depreciation and amortization		25.5		26.5		78.5		80.2
Adjusted operating earnings before depreciation and amortization	\$	95.4	\$	89.2	\$	273.4	\$	256.2

## Reconciliation of net earnings - Third quarter

	Three months ended								
	July 30, 2017				July	31, 2010	3		
(in millions of dollars, except per share amounts)	Total Per share			Total		Per share			
Net earnings	\$ 49.0	\$	0.64	\$	45.9	\$	0.59		
Restructuring and other costs (revenues), net of related taxes	1.1		0.01		(2.3)		(0.03)		
Impairment of assets, net of related taxes	_		_		0.5		0.01		
Adjusted net earnings	\$ 50.1	\$	0.65	\$	44.1	\$	0.57		

## Reconciliation of net earnings - Cumulative

	Nine months ended							
	July	30, 20	17	July 31, 2016				
(in millions of dollars, except per share amounts)	Total Per share		Total F		Per share			
Net earnings	\$ 138.1	\$	1.79	\$	88.6	\$	1.14	
Restructuring and other costs (revenues), net of related taxes	(6.0)		(80.0)		8.7		0.11	
Impairment of assets, net of related taxes	1.8		0.02		22.4		0.29	
Adjusted net earnings	\$ 133.9	\$	1.73	\$	119.7	\$	1.54	

#### Reconciliation of net indebtedness

(in millions of dollars, except ratios)	As at July 30, 2017	As at October 31, 2016
Long-term debt	\$ 348.2	\$ 347.9
Current portion of long-term debt	_	0.2
Cash	(152.8)	(16.7)
Net indebtedness	\$ 195.4	\$ 331.4
Adjusted operating earnings before depreciation and amortization (last 12 months)	\$ 407.3	\$ 390.1
Net indebtedness ratio	0.5	x 0.8 x

## **ANALYSIS OF CONSOLIDATED RESULTS - THIRD QUARTER**

#### Revenues

Revenues increased by \$9.9 million, or 2.1%, in the third quarter of 2017 compared to the corresponding period in 2016. This increase is attributable to the favourable exchange rate effect, the organic growth in revenues and the contribution from acquisitions, net of disposals and closures. A more detailed analysis of revenues is presented in the "Analysis of Sector Results - Third Quarter" section.

## **Operating and Other Expenses**

Operating expenses were up \$3.7 million, or 1.0%, in the third quarter of 2017 compared to the corresponding period in 2016. Excluding the stock-based compensation expense as a result of the change in the share price in the third quarter of 2017 compared to the third quarter of 2016, operating expenses remained stable, despite the increase in revenues. The stability of operating expenses is mostly due to the favourable impact of Corporation-wide cost reduction initiatives.

Restructuring and other costs (revenues) increased by \$2.7 million, from a gain of \$1.0 million in the third quarter of 2016 to an expense of \$1.7 million in the third quarter of 2017. The unfavourable impact is mostly due to a higher gain related to the effect of the revaluation of contingent considerations payable as part of business combinations in the third quarter of 2016.

In the third quarter of 2017, no expense related to impairment of assets was recorded compared to an expense of \$0.1 million in the third quarter of 2016.

Depreciation and amortization went from \$26.5 million in the third quarter of 2016 to \$25.5 million in the third quarter of 2017 as a result of fully depreciated assets.

## Operating Earnings

Operating earnings increased by \$4.6 million, from \$63.6 million in the third quarter of 2016 to \$68.2 million in the third quarter of 2017. Adjusted operating earnings was up \$7.2 million, or 11.5%, from \$62.7 million to \$69.9 million. In addition, excluding the \$4.1 million unfavourable effect of the stock-based compensation expense as a result of the change in the share price in the third quarter of 2017 compared to the corresponding period in 2016, adjusted operating earnings increased by 18.0%. A more detailed analysis of adjusted operating earnings is presented in the "Analysis of Sector Results - Third Quarter" section.

## **Net Financial Expenses**

Net financial expenses increased by \$1.4 million, from \$2.5 million in the third quarter of 2016 to \$3.9 million in the third quarter of 2017, mainly as a result of lower net foreign exchange gains in 2017.

#### Income Taxes

Income taxes remained stable at \$15.3 million in the third quarter of 2017 compared to the third quarter of 2016. Excluding income taxes on restructuring and other costs (revenues) and impairment of assets, adjusted income taxes amounted to \$16.2 million in the third quarter of 2016, for a tax rate of 27.0%, compared to \$15.9 million in the third quarter of 2017, or a rate of 24.0%. This decrease in tax rate stems mostly from favourable differences between the accounting and tax treatment of certain items in 2017.



## **Net Earnings**

Net earnings increased by \$3.1 million, from \$45.9 million in the third quarter of 2016 to \$49.0 million in the third quarter of 2017. This increase is mostly attributable to the increase in operating earnings, partially offset by the increase in net financial expenses. On a per share basis, net earnings went from \$0.59 to \$0.64. Excluding restructuring and other costs (revenues) and impairment of assets, net of related income taxes, adjusted net earnings increased by \$6.0 million, or 13.6%, from \$44.1 million in the third quarter of 2016 to \$50.1 million in the third quarter of 2017. On a per share basis, adjusted net earnings went from \$0.57 to \$0.65.

## **ANALYSIS OF CONSOLIDATED RESULTS - CUMULATIVE**

## Revenues

Revenues increased by \$16.1 million, or 1.1% in the first nine months of 2017 compared to the corresponding period in 2016. This increase is attributable to the contribution from acquisitions, net of disposals and closures, and to the favourable exchange rate effect, partially offset by the organic decline in revenues. A more detailed analysis of revenues is presented in the "Analysis of Sector Results - Cumulative" section.

## **Operating and Other Expenses**

Operating expenses decreased by \$1.1 million, or 0.1% in the first nine months of 2017 compared to the corresponding period in 2016. Excluding the stock-based compensation expense as a result of the change in the share price during these same periods, operating expenses decreased by 1.2%, despite the increase in revenues. The decline in operating expenses is mostly due to the favourable impact of Corporation-wide cost reduction initiatives.

Restructuring and other costs (revenues) decreased by \$20.1 million, from an expense of \$14.1 million in the first nine months of 2016 to a gain of \$6.0 million in the corresponding period in 2017. The favourable impact is mostly attributable to lower workforce reduction costs, gains on the sale of certain activities in the Media Sector and higher net gains on the sale of buildings.

The asset impairment charge decreased by \$27.9 million in the first nine months of 2017 compared to the corresponding period in 2016. An asset impairment charge of \$2.5 million was recorded on production equipment in the Media Sector and intangible assets in the local newspaper publishing activities during the period in 2017, compared to an expense of \$30.4 million in the corresponding period in 2016, which was mostly related to the intangible assets of daily and weekly newspapers outside Quebec.

Depreciation and amortization decreased by \$1.7 million, from \$80.2 million in the first nine months of 2016 to \$78.5 million in the corresponding period in 2017 as a result of fully depreciated assets.

## **Operating Earnings**

Operating earnings increased by \$66.9 million, from \$131.5 million in the first nine months of 2016 to \$198.4 million in the corresponding period in 2017. Adjusted operating earnings was up by \$18.9 million, or 10.7%, from \$176.0 million to \$194.9 million. In addition, excluding the \$13.1 million unfavourable effect of the stock-based compensation as a result of the change in the share price in the first nine months of 2017 compared to the corresponding period in 2016, adjusted operating earnings increased by 18.2%. A more detailed analysis of adjusted operating earnings is presented in the "Analysis of Sector Results - Cumulative" section.

## Net Financial Expenses

Net financial expenses increased by \$1.4 million, from \$12.0 million in the first nine months of 2016 to \$13.4 million in the corresponding period in 2017. This increase is mostly due to higher net interest expense on defined benefit plan assets and liabilities and lower net foreign exchange gains, partially offset by a decrease in financial expenses on long-term debt.

#### **Income Taxes**

Income taxes increased by \$15.6 million, from \$31.3 million in the first nine months of 2016 to \$46.9 million in the corresponding period in 2017. Excluding income taxes on restructuring and other costs (revenues) and impairment of assets, adjusted income taxes amounted to \$44.7 million in the first nine months of 2016, for a tax rate of 27.2%, compared to \$47.6 million in the corresponding period in 2017, for a tax rate of 26.2%. This decrease in tax rate stems mostly from favourable differences between the accounting and tax treatment of certain items in 2017.

## **Net Earnings**

Net earnings increased by \$49.5 million, from \$88.6 million in the first nine months of 2016 to \$138.1 million in the corresponding period in 2017. This increase in mostly attributable to the increase in operating earnings, partially offset by the increase in income taxes. On a per share basis, net earnings went from \$1.14 to \$1.79. Excluding restructuring and other costs (revenues) and impairment of assets, net of related income taxes,



adjusted net earnings increased by \$14.2 million, or 11.9%, from \$119.7 million in the first nine months of 2016 to \$133.9 million in the corresponding period in 2017. On a per share basis, adjusted net earnings went from \$1.54 to \$1.73.

# **ANALYSIS OF SECTOR RESULTS - THIRD QUARTER**

(unaudited)

Table #3:

(in millions of dollars)	Printing & Packaging Sector	Me	Media Sector		Head office and Inter-Segment Eliminations		onsolidated results
Revenues - Third quarter of 2016	\$ 403.7	\$	74.9	\$	(10.8)	\$	467.8
Acquisitions/disposals and closures	18.7		(17.9)		_		8.0
Existing operations							
Exchange rate effect	5.0		_		_		5.0
Organic growth (decline)	2.9		(0.9)		2.1		4.1
Revenues - Third quarter of 2017	\$ 430.3	\$	56.1	\$	(8.7)	\$	477.7
Adjusted operating earnings (1) - Third quarter of 2016	\$ 64.8	\$	4.0	\$	(6.1)	\$	62.7
Acquisitions/disposals and closures	1.4		(1.3)		_		0.1
Existing operations							
Exchange rate effect	0.9		_		_		0.9
Organic growth (decline)	6.5		3.0		(3.3)		6.2
Adjusted operating earnings (1) - Third quarter of 2017	\$ 73.6	\$	5.7	\$	(9.4)	\$	69.9

<sup>(1)</sup> Please refer to table #2 "Reconciliation of Non-IFRS Financial Measures" in this Management's Discussion and Analysis for adjusted data presented above, as well to Note #3 "Segmented Information" in the unaudited condensed interim consolidated financial statements.

## **Printing & Packaging Sector**

Printing and Packaging Sector revenues increased by \$26.6 million, or 6.6%, from \$403.7 million in the third quarter of 2016 to \$430.3 million in the third quarter of 2017. This increase is attributable to the contribution from our acquisitions in the packaging division, as well as the favourable exchange rate effect and the organic growth in revenues for the sector. Organic growth in revenues is attributable to higher volume in the packaging division and higher demand for all our services to Canadian retailers, namely for flyer and in-store marketing printing services, as well as for premedia and door-to-door distribution services, notably under the terms of the expanded agreement with Lowe's Canada, partially offset by the decline in revenues from the other printing division verticals.

Adjusted operating earnings increased by \$8.8 million, or 13.6%, from \$64.8 million in the third quarter of 2016 to \$73.6 million in the third quarter of 2017. This increase is attributable to the above-mentioned organic growth in revenues, the favourable impact of cost reduction initiatives in the printing division, the contribution from our acquisitions in the packaging division and the favourable exchange rate effect for the sector. The sector's adjusted operating earnings margin improved from 16.1% in the third quarter of 2016 to 17.1% in the third quarter of 2017.

#### **Media Sector**

Media Sector revenues decreased by \$18.8 million, or 25.1%, from \$74.9 million in the third quarter of 2016 to \$56.1 million in the third quarter of 2017. This decrease is mainly due to the impact of the sale of our media assets in Atlantic Canada and some local newspapers in Quebec, as well as certain products in our interactive marketing solutions offering, partially offset by the contribution from our acquisition of specialty financial brands. In addition, the organic decline in revenues from our local newspaper publishing activities, caused by lower advertising revenues, and the impact of our initiative, implemented at the end of Fiscal 2016, aimed at reducing the publishing frequency of some of our publications in the Business vertical, more than offset the increase in revenues from our educational book publishing activities.

Adjusted operating earnings increased by \$1.7 million, or 42.5%, from \$4.0 million in the third quarter of 2016 to \$5.7 million in the third quarter of 2017. This increase is due to the organic growth in revenues from the educational book publishing activities, the contribution from our cost reduction initiatives, the contribution from our acquisition of specialty financial brands and the impact of our strategic exit from our interactive marketing solutions offering. The contribution of these items was however partially offset by the impact of the sale of media assets.

## **Head office and Inter-Segment Eliminations**

Inter-segment revenues eliminations went from -\$10.8 million in the third quarter of 2016 to -\$8.7 million in the third quarter of 2017, mostly as a result of local newspapers disposals and closures. Adjusted operating earnings decreased by \$3.3 million, from -\$6.1 million in the third quarter of 2016 to -\$9.4 million in the third quarter of 2017. This decrease is mostly due to the increase in stock-based compensation expense as a result of the change in the share price in the third quarter of 2017 compared to the third quarter of 2016, which has more than offset the reduction in head office expenses.

## **ANALYSIS OF SECTOR RESULTS - CUMULATIVE**

(unaudited)

#### Table #4:

(in millions of dollars)	Printing & Packaging Sector	Me	edia Sector	Inte	d office and er-Segment iminations	С	onsolidated results
Revenues - Nine months ended July 31, 2016	\$ 1,270.0	\$	230.2	\$	(36.3)	\$	1,463.9
Acquisitions/disposals and closures	68.1		(37.4)		_		30.7
Existing operations							
Exchange rate effect	7.8		_		_		7.8
Organic growth (decline)	(16.0)		(14.6)		8.2		(22.4)
Revenues - Nine months ended July 30, 2017	\$ 1,329.9	\$	178.2	\$	(28.1)	\$	1,480.0
Adjusted operating earnings (1) - Nine months ended July 31, 2016	\$ 200.8	\$	(5.4)	\$	(19.4)	\$	176.0
Acquisitions/disposals and closures	6.1		1.9		_		8.0
Existing operations							
Exchange rate effect	5.4		_		_		5.4
Organic growth (decline)	8.0		6.5		(9.0)		5.5
Adjusted operating earnings (1) - Nine months ended July 30, 2017	\$ 220.3	\$	3.0	\$	(28.4)	\$	194.9

<sup>(1)</sup> Please refer to table #2 "Reconciliation of Non-IFRS Financial Measures" in this Management's Discussion and Analysis for adjusted data presented above, as well to Note #3 "Segmented Information" in the unaudited condensed interim consolidated financial statements.

## **Printing & Packaging Sector**

Printing and Packaging Sector revenues increased by \$59.9 million, or 4.7%, from \$1,270.0 million in the first nine months of 2016 to \$1,329.9 million in the corresponding period in 2017. This increase is mostly attributable to the contribution from our acquisitions in the packaging division and the favourable exchange rate effect for the sector. Moreover, the organic growth in revenues generated by higher volume in the packaging division, higher demand for all our services to Canadian retailers and the additional volume from our agreement to print the *Toronto Star* also contributed to the increase in revenues. However, the contribution from these items, related to organic growth, only partially offset the lower commercial printing volume caused by the reduction in advertising spending and by the impact of the completion of the agreement to print Canada's Census forms in 2016, as well the lower volume in our magazine and newspaper printing activities resulting from the decrease in circulation and number of printed pages for the publications of several publishers.

Adjusted operating earnings increased by \$19.5 million, or 9.7%, from \$200.8 million in the first nine months of 2016 to \$220.3 million in the corresponding period in 2017. This increase is mostly attributable to the above-mentioned organic growth in revenues and the favourable impact of cost reduction initiatives in the printing division, partially offset by the impact of the investments made in the last few quarters to develop our packaging division's platform and strengthen our sales force. The contribution from our acquisitions in the packaging division and the favourable exchange rate effect for the sector also contributed to this increase. The sector's adjusted operating earnings margin improved from 15.8% in the first nine months of 2016 to 16.6% in the corresponding period in 2017.

## **Media Sector**

Media Sector revenues decreased by \$52.0 million, or 22.6%, from \$230.2 million in the first nine months of 2016 to \$178.2 million in the corresponding period in 2017. This decrease is mainly due to the impact of the sale of our media assets in Atlantic Canada and some local newspapers in Quebec, as well as certain products in our interactive marketing solutions offering, partially offset by the contribution from our acquisition of specialty financial brands. In addition, the organic decline in revenues from our local newspaper publishing activities, caused by lower advertising revenues, and the



impact of our initiative, implemented at the end of Fiscal 2016, aimed at reducing the publishing frequency of some of our publications in the Business niche, more than offset the increase in revenues from our educational book publishing activities.

Adjusted operating earnings went from -\$5.4 million in the first nine months of 2016 to \$3.0 million in the corresponding period in 2017. This improvement is attributable to the contribution from our cost reduction initiatives, the contribution from our acquisition of specialty financial brands, the organic growth in revenues from the educational book publishing activities and the impact of our strategic exit from our interactive marketing solutions offering, partially offset by the impact of the sale of local newspapers.

## **Head office and Inter-Segment Eliminations**

Inter-segment revenues eliminations went from -\$36.3 million in the first nine months of 2016 to -\$28.1 million in the corresponding period in 2017, mostly as a result of local newspapers disposals and closures. Adjusted operating earnings decreased by \$9.0 million, from -\$19.4 million in the first nine months of 2016 to -\$28.4 million in the corresponding period in 2017. This decrease is mostly due to the \$13.1 million increase in stock-based compensation expense as a result of the change in the share price in the first nine months of 2017 compared to the corresponding period in 2016, which has more than offset the reduction in head office expenses.

## **SUMMARY OF QUARTERLY RESULTS**

(unaudited)

Table #5 summarizes selected consolidated financial information derived from the Corporation's unaudited condensed interim consolidated financial statements and some non-IFRS financial measures for each of the last eight quarters.

Table #5:

			2017						2016				2015
(in millions of dollars, except per share amounts)	Q3		Q2		Q1	Q4		Q3		Q2		Q1	Q4
Revenues	\$ 477.7	\$	498.7	\$	503.6	\$ 555.6	\$	467.8	\$	497.2	\$	498.9	\$ 540.1
Operating earnings before depreciation and amortization	93.7		94.2		89.0	107.8		90.1		43.2		78.4	88.4
Adjusted operating earnings before depreciation and amortization (1)	95.4		90.1		87.9	133.9		89.2		83.1		83.9	114.3
Adjusted operating earnings margin before depreciation and amortization (1)	20.0	%	18.1	%	17.5 %	24.1	%	19.1	%	16.7	%	16.8 %	21.2 %
Operating earnings	68.2		67.8		62.4	81.3		63.6		16.3		51.6	61.9
Adjusted operating earnings (1)	69.9		63.7		61.3	107.4		62.7		56.2		57.1	87.8
Adjusted operating earnings margin (1)	14.6	%	12.8	%	12.2 %	19.3	%	13.4	%	11.3	%	11.4 %	16.3 %
Net earnings attributable to shareholders of the Corporation	\$ 49.0	\$	46.4	\$	42.7	\$ 57.7	\$	45.9	\$	5.4	\$	37.3	\$ 100.2
Net earnings attributable to shareholders of the Corporation per share	0.64		0.60		0.55	0.75		0.59		0.07		0.48	1.28
Adjusted net earnings attributable to shareholders of the Corporation (1)	50.1		42.5		41.3	76.6		44.1		34.2		41.4	60.6
Adjusted net earnings attributable to shareholders of the Corporation per share (1)	0.65		0.55		0.53	0.99		0.57		0.44		0.53	0.78
% of fiscal year	_	%	_ 9	%	<b>–</b> %	39 (	%	23	%	17	%	21 %	33 %

<sup>(1)</sup> Please refer to table #2 "Reconciliation of Non-IFRS Financial Measures" in this Management's Discussion and Analysis for adjusted data presented above.

The variability of financial information for interim periods is influenced by many factors, such as:

- The impact of acquisitions, disposals and closures completed in line with our transformation;
- The exchange rate effect;
- The impact of the change in the share price on the stock-based compensation expense (gain);
- The impact of adjusting items presented in Table #2, "Reconciliation of Non-IFRS Financial Measures".

Excluding the impact of the above-mentioned items, we can see a slight decrease of our consolidated revenues. This decrease is due to lower advertising spending in print media, which has a negative impact on circulation or the number of pages of certain printed publications. The decline



in advertising spending results from the impact of new media and the corresponding shift of advertising revenues to new platforms. However, this trend was mitigated by an increase in revenues from our service offering to retailers, in particular printed flyers. Many retailers still consider that printed flyers are the most effective marketing tool to drive traffic to the store. In addition, as a result of the seasonality of advertising activities, we can see that printing volume is higher in the fourth quarter.

Regarding financial data related to profitability, we can see that they are trending up as a result of the numerous operational efficiency and rationalization measures that were implemented over the last few years as part of our transformation.



# FINANCIAL CONDITION, LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

(unaudited)

Table #6

		Three	month	ns ended
(in millions of dollars)		July 30, 2017		July 31, 2016
Operating activities				
Cash flows generated by operating activities before changes in non-cash operating ite	ems			
and income taxes paid	\$	98.6	\$	92.6
Changes in non-cash operating items		(17.0)		7.7
Income taxes paid		(8.6)		(14.4)
Cash flows from operating activities	\$	73.0	\$	85.9
Investing activities	, ,			
Business combinations	\$	0.1	\$	(36.4)
Business disposals		(0.8)		2.1
Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment		(7.7)		(19.1)
Disposals of property, plant and equipment		_		6.6
Increase in intangible assets		(3.7)		(4.9)
Cash flows from investing activities	\$	(12.1)	\$	(51.7)
Financing activities				
Reimbursement of long-term debt	\$	_	\$	(16.2)
Net decrease in credit facility		_		(2.0)
Financial expenses on long-term debt		(5.2)		(5.2)
Dividends		(15.5)		(14.3)
Share redemptions		_		(5.9)
Cash flows from financing activities	\$	(20.7)	\$	(43.6)
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash denominated in foreign currencies	\$	(0.8)	\$	1.5
Net change in cash	\$	39.4	\$	(7.9)
Financial position		As at July 30, 2017		As at October 31, 2016
Net indebtedness (1)	\$	195.4	\$	331.4
Net indebtedness ratio (1)		0.5 x		0.8 x
Credit rating				
DBRS		BBB (low)		BBB (low)
Outlook		Stable		Stable
Standard and Poor's		BBB-		BBB-
Outlook		Stable		Stable
Balance sheet		As at July 30, 2017		As at October 31, 2016
Current assets	\$	628.5	\$	559.9
Current liabilities		298.6		384.9
Total assets		2,002.1		2,062.2
Total liabilities		849.1		993.5

<sup>(1)</sup> Please refer to table #2 "Reconciliation of Non-IFRS Financial Measures" in this Management's Discussion and Analysis for adjusted data presented above.



## **Cash Flows from Operating Activities**

Cash flows from operating activities decreased from \$85.9 million in the third quarter of 2016 to \$73.0 million in the third quarter of 2017. This decline is primarily explained by an unfavourable timing differences in the receipt of a few important accounts receivable, partially offset by a lower cash outflow with respect to income taxes paid.

## Cash Flows from Investing Activities

Cash flows from investing activities went from a cash outflow of \$51.7 million in the third quarter of 2016 to a cash outflow of \$12.1 million in the third quarter of 2017. This decrease is mostly attributable to the acquisition of Robbie Manufacturing and higher investments in property, plant and equipment in the third quarter of 2016.

## **Cash Flows from Financing Activities**

Cash flows from financing activities went from a cash outflow of \$43.6 million in the third quarter of 2016 to a cash outflow of \$20.7 million in the third quarter of 2017. This decrease is mostly attributable to cash outflows for the reimbursement of debt instruments and the redemption of shares in the third quarter of 2016.

#### **Debt Instruments**

Net indebtedness went from \$331.4 million as at October 31, 2016 to \$195.4 million as at July 30, 2017 as a result of our excess cash flows from operations as well as lower cash outflows related to our investing activities. Consequently, our net indebtedness ratio stood at 0.5x as at July 30, 2017 compared to 0.8x as at October 31, 2016.

## Share Capital

Under the share repurchase program renewed for one year as of April 17, 2017, no shares have been repurchased in the third quarter of 2017. Under this renewed program, the Corporation is allowed to purchase for cancellation, on the open market, up to 2,000,000 of its Class A Subordinate Voting Shares and up to 442,349 of its Class B Shares.

#### Table #7:

Shares Issued and Outstanding	As at July 30, 2017	As at August 31, 2017
Class A (Subordinate Voting Shares)	63,380,536	63,391,236
Class B (Multiple Voting Shares)	14,008,026	13,997,326

## CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

## Clarification of acceptable methods of depreciation and amortization

The Corporation has adopted the amendments to IAS 16 "Property, Plant and Equipment" and to IAS 38 "Intangible Assets" on November 1, 2016. The adoption of these modifications had no significant impact on the consolidated financial statements of the Corporation. Please see Note 2 to the condensed interim consolidated financial statements for more information.

## New or amended accounting standards not yet adopted

The Corporation has not yet determined the impact of adopting the changes in accounting standards listed below. The assessment of the impact on our consolidated financial statements of the new standards or amended standards is still ongoing. Please see Note 2 to the condensed interim consolidated financial statements, as well as the most recent annual financial statements for more information.

- IFRS 9 "Financial Instruments"
- IFRS 15 "Revenue from Contracts with Customers"
- IFRS 16 "Leases"
- Amendments to IAS 7 "Statement of Cash Flows"
- Amendments to IFRS 2 "Share-based Payment"

## INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING

Management is responsible for implementing and maintaining adequate internal control. The purpose of internal control over financial reporting is to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of the Corporation's financial reporting and the preparation of consolidated financial



statements in accordance with IFRS. Management certifies disclosures in annual and interim filings under Regulation 52-109 using the internal control framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO).

During the third quarter ended July 30, 2017, no change that has materially affected or is reasonably likely to materially affect the internal control over financial reporting was brought to the attention of management, including the President and Chief Executive Officer, and the Chief Financial and Development Officer of the Corporation.

#### **OUTLOOK FOR 2017**

In the printing division, we expect revenues from all our retailer-related services to remain relatively stable in the fourth quarter of 2017 compared to the same period in 2016. In all the other printing verticals, we expect that our revenues will continue to be affected by a decline in volume and the end of the additional contribution from the agreement to print the *Toronto Star*, which had started in July 2016. In addition, we will no longer benefit from the additional contribution of plant closures which occurred in 2016, although we will continue our operational efficiency initiatives to partially offset the decline in volume.

In our packaging division, in the fourth quarter of 2017, we will continue to benefit from the contribution from the acquisition of Flexstar Packaging, which was completed in mid-October 2016. In addition, we expect that the efforts of our sales force will continue to bear fruit and generate sustained organic growth, and we will maintain our disciplined acquisition approach.

In the Media Sector, the Business and Education group will benefit from the contribution from our acquisition of specialty financial brands completed in December 2016, and we expect that this group will continue to perform well. The sale of our media assets in Atlantic Canada and the continuation of the process to sell our local newspapers in Quebec and Ontario will greatly reduce the share of our local newspaper publishing activities in our media portfolio in the fourth quarter of 2017.

To conclude, in the fourth quarter of this fiscal year, we expect to generate significant cash flows and maintain our excellent financial position, which should enable us to continue investing to support our transformation into flexible packaging.

On behalf of Management,

(s) Nelson Gentiletti
Chief Financial and Development Officer

September 7, 2017



# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF EARNINGS Unaudited

		Three m	onths	ended	Nine mo	ended	
(in millions of Canadian dollars, except per share data)	Notes	July 30, 2017		July 31, 2016	July 30, 2017		July 31, 2016
Revenues		\$ 477.7	\$	467.8	\$ 1,480.0	\$	1,463.9
Operating expenses	5	382.3		378.6	1,206.6		1,207.7
Restructuring and other costs (revenues)	6	1.7		(1.0)	(6.0)		14.1
Impairment of assets	7			0.1	2.5		30.4
Operating earnings before depreciation and amortization		93.7		90.1	276.9		211.7
Depreciation and amortization	8	25.5		26.5	78.5		80.2
Operating earnings		68.2		63.6	198.4		131.5
Net financial expenses	9	3.9		2.5	13.4		12.0
Earnings before share of net earnings in interests in joint ventures and income taxes		64.3		61.1	185.0		119.5
Share of net earnings in interests in joint ventures, net of related taxes		_		0.1	_		0.4
Income taxes	10	15.3		15.3	46.9		31.3
Net earnings		\$ 49.0	\$	45.9	\$ 138.1	\$	88.6
Net earnings per share - basic		\$ 0.64	\$	0.59	\$ 1.79	\$	1.14
Net earnings per share - diluted		\$ 0.64	\$	0.59	\$ 1.78	\$	1.14
Weighted average number of shares outstanding - basic (in millions)	14	77.4		77.5	77.3		77.7
Weighted average number of shares - diluted (in millions)	14	77.6		77.8	77.5		78.0

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

Unaudited

			Three m	onths	ended	Nine mo	onths e	nths ended	
		,	July 30,		July 31,	July 30,		July 31,	
(in millions of Canadian dollars)	Notes		2017		2016	2017		2016	
Net earnings		\$	49.0	\$	45.9	\$ 138.1	\$	88.6	
Other comprehensive income (loss)									
Items that will be reclassified to net earnings									
Net change related to cash flow hedges									
Net change in the fair value of derivatives designated as cash flow hedges Reclassification of the net change in the fair value of derivatives designated as			5.3		(3.1)	4.4		3.2	
cash flow hedges in prior periods, recognized in net earnings during the period			0.3		(0.4)	1.1		5.7	
Related income taxes			1.5		(0.9)	1.5		2.4	
			4.1		(2.6)	4.0		6.5	
Cumulative translation differences									
Net unrealized exchange gains (losses) on the translation of the financial									
statements of foreign operations			(47.2)		16.9	(36.9)		1.7	
Net change in the fair value of derivatives designated as hedges			(41.2)		10.5	(30.3)		1.1	
of net investments in foreign operations			6.0		(1.2)	5.0		1.8	
Related income taxes			1.7		(0.4)	1.4		0.4	
			(42.9)		16.1	(33.3)		3.1	
Items that will not be reclassified to net earnings									
Changes in actuarial gains and losses in respect of defined benefit plans									
Actuarial gains (losses) in respect of defined benefit plans	16		2.4		2.9	21.0		(20.4)	
Related income taxes			0.6		0.8	5.6		(5.4)	
			1.8		2.1	15.4		(15.0)	
Other comprehensive income (loss)	16		(37.0)		15.6	(13.9)		(5.4)	
Comprehensive income (loss)		\$	12.0	\$	61.5	\$ 124.2	\$	83.2	

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN EQUITY Unaudited

		Share	Con	ıtributed	ı	Retained	mulated other hensive		
(in millions of Canadian dollars)	Notes	capital		surplus		earnings	ne (loss)	To	tal equity
Balance as at October 31, 2016		\$ 361.9	\$	3.2	\$	700.9	\$ 2.7	\$	1,068.7
Net earnings		_		_		138.1	_		138.1
Other comprehensive loss		_		_		_	(13.9)		(13.9)
Shareholders' contributions and distributions to shareholders									
Exercise of stock options	13	6.7		(1.3)		_	_		5.4
Dividends	13	_		_		(45.3)	_		(45.3)
Balance as at July 30, 2017		\$ 368.6	\$	1.9	\$	793.7	\$ (11.2)	\$	1,153.0
Balance as at October 31, 2015		\$ 368.2	\$	3.2	\$	625.5	\$ 19.4	\$	1,016.3
Net earnings		_		_		88.6	_		88.6
Other comprehensive loss		_		_		_	(5.4)		(5.4)
Shareholders' contributions and distributions to shareholders									
Share redemptions	13	(4.8)		_		(10.5)	_		(15.3)
Exercise of stock options	13	0.5		(0.1)		_	_		0.4
Dividends	13	_				(41.9)	_		(41.9)
Balance as at July 31, 2016		\$ 363.9	\$	3.1	\$	661.7	\$ 14.0	\$	1,042.7

# **CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

Unaudited

(in millions of Canadian dollars)	Notes	As at July 30, 2017	As a October 3	1,
Current assets				
Cash		\$ 152.8	\$ 16.	7
Accounts receivable		327.6	401	
Income taxes receivable		10.3		.8
Inventories		115.9	119	
Prepaid expenses and other current assets		21.9	15.	
Tropala expenses and other eartent assets		628.5	559	
Property, plant and equipment		507.5	566	0.0
Intangible assets		178.3	217	.0
Goodwill		499.8	509	.7
Investments in joint ventures		2.7	2.	.9
Deferred taxes		143.5	171.	
Other assets		41.8	35.	.4
		\$ 2,002.1	\$ 2,062	.2
Current liabilities				
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities		\$ 239.8	\$ 316	0.0
Provisions	12	4.9		1.8
Income taxes payable		3.9		.5
Deferred revenues and deposits		50.0	55.	
Current portion of long-term debt		_		1.2
		298.6	384	.9
Long-term debt		348.2	347	.9
Deferred taxes		44.2	43.	.4
Provisions	12	1.5	2.	2.9
Other liabilities		156.6	214	.4
		849.1	993	.5
Equity				
Share capital	13	368.6	361	.9
Contributed surplus		1.9	3.	.2
Retained earnings		793.7	700	.9
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	16	(11.2)	2	2.7
		1,153.0	1,068	.7
		\$ 2,002.1	\$ 2,062	.2

<sup>(1)</sup> Certain comparative figures have been reclassified to conform to the presentation adopted in the current period.

# **CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

Unaudited

		Three months ended					Nine mo	nths ended	
		,	July 30,		July 31,		July 30,		July 31,
(in millions of Canadian dollars)	Notes		2017		2016 (2)		2017		2016 (2)
Operating activities									
Net earnings		\$	49.0	\$	45.9	\$	138.1	\$	88.6
Adjustments to reconcile net earnings and cash flows from									
operating activities:									
Impairment of assets	7		_		0.1		2.5		30.4
Depreciation and amortization	8		31.1		32.9		96.6		100.7
Financial expenses on long-term debt	9		4.4		4.4		13.1		13.4
Net losses (gains) on disposal of assets			0.5		0.3		(2.3)		1.0
Income taxes	10		15.3		15.3		46.9		31.3
Net foreign exchange differences and other			(1.7)		(6.3)		(10.3)		(5.0)
Cash flows generated by operating activities before changes									
in non-cash operating items and income taxes paid			98.6		92.6		284.6		260.4
Changes in non-cash operating items (1)			(17.0)		7.7		(31.5)		11.1
Income taxes paid			(8.6)		(14.4)		(40.4)		(59.0
Cash flows from operating activities			73.0		85.9		212.7		212.5
nvesting activities									
Business combinations	4		0.1		(36.4)		(15.9)		(46.3
Business disposals	4		(0.8)		2.1		24.4		2.6
Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment	7		(7.7)		(19.1)		(24.5)		(46.9
Disposals of property, plant and equipment			(1.1)		6.6		7.0		6.8
Increase in intangible assets			(3.7)		(4.9)		(13.9)		(15.8
Cash flows from investing activities	,	-	(12.1)		(51.7)		(22.9)		(99.6
			, ,		(- /		( - /_		(
Financing activities									
Reimbursement of long-term debt			_		(16.2)		(0.2)		(29.8
Net decrease in credit facility			_		(2.0)		_		(24.0
Financial expenses on long-term debt			(5.2)		(5.2)		(13.4)		(13.4
Interest received related to previous tax reassessments			_		_		_		7.9
Exercise of stock options	13		_		_		5.4		0.4
Dividends	13		(15.5)		(14.3)		(45.3)		(41.9
Share redemptions	13		_		(5.9)		_		(15.3
Cash flows from financing activities			(20.7)		(43.6)		(53.5)		(116.1
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash denominated in foreign currencies			(0.8)		1.5		(0.2)		(0.4
Net change in cash			39.4		(7.9)		136.1		(3.6
Cash at beginning of period			113.4		42.9		16.7		38.6
Cash at end of period		\$	152.8	\$	35.0	\$	152.8	\$	35.0
Non-cash investing activities  Net change in capital asset acquisitions financed by accounts payable		\$	1.2	\$	(1.4)	\$	(0.2)	\$	1.8
riot oriengo in capital asset acquisitions illianceu by accounts payable		φ	1.4	φ	(1.4)	φ	(0.2)	ψ	1.0

<sup>(1)</sup> During the three-month period ended January 31, 2016, an amount of \$31.0 million was received and recognized as deferred revenues.

<sup>(2)</sup> Certain comparative figures have been reclassified to conform to the presentation adopted in the current period.

Unaudited

Quarters ended July 30, 2017 and July 31, 2016

(in millions of Canadian dollars, unless otherwise indicated and per share data)

## 1 GENERAL INFORMATION

Transcontinental Inc. (the "Corporation") is incorporated under the Canada Business Corporations Act. Its Class A Subordinate Voting Shares and Class B Shares are traded on the Toronto Stock Exchange. The Corporation's head office is located at 1 Place Ville Marie, Suite 3240, Montreal, Quebec, Canada H3B 0G1.

The Corporation is Canada's largest printer, with operations in print, flexible packaging, publishing and digital media. The Corporation conducts business in Canada and the United States in two separate sectors: the Printing and Packaging Sector and the Media Sector. The Corporation's main activities are described in Note 3 "Segmented Information".

The Corporation changed its fiscal year end date from a calendar year end to a floating year end, thus the end of the quarter will always be the last Sunday of the month. This change was effective at the beginning of the fiscal year.

The operating results for interim periods are not necessarily indicative of expected full-year results due to the seasonal nature of certain activities of the Corporation. Operating results are influenced by the advertising market, which is stronger in the fourth quarter.

The Corporation's Board of Directors approved these condensed interim consolidated financial statements on September 7, 2017.

# 2 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### Basis of presentation

These interim consolidated financial statements were prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS"), as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board ("IASB"). In particular, these interim consolidated financial statements were prepared in accordance with IAS 34 "Interim Financial Reporting", and therefore, are condensed consolidated financial statements since they do not contain all disclosures required by IFRS for annual consolidated financial statements. These condensed interim consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the audited annual consolidated financial statements for the year ended October 31, 2016, which include the significant accounting policies used by the Corporation.

The accounting policies adopted in these condensed interim consolidated financial statements are based on IFRS issued, in force and which were adopted by the Corporation as at July 30, 2017. Any subsequent changes to the accounting policies, that will take effect in the Corporation's annual consolidated financial statements for the year ending October 29, 2017 or after, could result in a retrospective restatement of these condensed interim consolidated financial statements.

## New or amended accounting standards adopted

#### Clarification of acceptable methods of depreciation and amortization

In May 2014, the IASB issued modifications to IAS 16 "Property, Plant and Equipment" and to IAS 38 "Intangible Assets". The amendments to IAS 16 explicitly mention that depreciation method based on revenues cannot be used for property and equipment. The reason being that the depreciation method reflects factors other than the consumption of the economic benefits of the asset. Amendments to IAS 38 introduces a refutable presumption that the use of amortization methods based on revenues is inappropriate in the case of intangible assets. This presumption may be refuted only when products and consumption of economic benefits of the intangible assets have a "high correlation" or when the intangible asset is expressed as a measure of revenues. The Corporation adopted these amendments on November 1, 2016. The adoption of these modifications had no significant impact on the consolidated financial statements of the Corporation.

## New or amended accounting standards not yet adopted

#### **Revenue from Contracts with Customers**

In May, 2014 the IASB issued IFRS 15 "Revenue from Contracts with Customers". IFRS 15 will replace IAS 11 "Construction Contracts", IAS 18 "Revenue", IFRIC 13 "Customer Loyalty Programs", IFRIC 15 "Agreements for the Construction of Real Estate", IFRIC 18 "Transfer of Assets from Customers", and SIC 31 "Revenue - Barter Transactions Involving Advertising Services".

IFRS 15 contains a single model that applies to contracts with customers and two approaches to recognizing revenue: at a point in time or over time. The model features a contract-based five-step analysis of transactions to determine whether, how much and when revenue is recognized. New estimates and judgmental thresholds have been introduced, which may affect the amount and/or timing of revenue recognized. IFRS 15 will be applicable to the Corporation for the annual period beginning on November 1,2018, with earlier application permitted.

The analysis of this standard requires the Corporation to compile historical data for all of its contracts. Accordingly, the Corporation will devote, during the upcoming months the time and effort necessary to develop and implement the accounting policies, estimates, judgments and accounting processes (including incremental requirements of information technology systems) needed to have in place in order to comply with this standard.

At this time, the Corporation is performing a detailed impact assessment that this standard and its amendments will have on its consolidated financial statements.



Unaudited

Quarters ended July 30, 2017 and July 31, 2016

(in millions of Canadian dollars, unless otherwise indicated and per share data)

# 3 SEGMENTED INFORMATION

During the year ended October 31, 2016 the Corporation revised its organizational structure to combine its services offered to retailers within the printing division. As a result, door-to-door distribution and premedia services have been transferred under the responsibility of the Printing & Packaging Sector. Accordingly, the comparative data for our operating sectors have been restated to reflect these changes.

The operating segments were determined and grouped by management in two separate sectors, according to the type of activity, which are manufacturing and publishing activities. The Printing and Packaging Sector includes the manufacturing activities of the Corporation and generates revenues from activities such as the printing of retail flyers, magazines, newspapers, color books, personalized and mass marketing products, premedia and geotargeted door-to-door distribution services and the production of flexible packaging solutions in Canada and the United States. The Media Sector generates revenues through print and digital publishing products, in French and English, of the following type: newspapers, educational books and specialized publications for professionals. Inter-segment sales of the Corporation are recognized at agreed transfer price, which approximates fair value. Transactions other than sales are recognized at carrying amount.



Quarters ended July 30, 2017 and July 31, 2016 (in millions of Canadian dollars, unless otherwise indicated and per share data)

# 3 SEGMENTED INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

The following tables present the various segment components of the Consolidated Statements of Earnings:

For the three-month period ended July 30, 2017	ating and ackaging Sector	Media Sector	aı	ad office nd inter- segment inations	Cons	solidated Results
Revenues Operating expenses	\$ 430.3 334.5	\$ 56.1 48.8	\$	(8.7) (1.0)	\$	477.7 382.3
Adjusted operating earnings before depreciation and amortization (1) Restructuring and other costs (revenues) Impairment of assets	95.8 — —	7.3 0.3		(7.7) 1.4 —		95.4 1.7 —
Operating earnings before depreciation and amortization Depreciation and amortization	95.8 22.2	7.0 1.6		(9.1) 1.7		93.7 25.5
Operating earnings	\$ 73.6	\$ 5.4	\$	(10.8)	\$	68.2
Adjusted operating earnings (1)	\$ 73.6	\$ 5.7	\$	(9.4)	\$	69.9
Acquisitions of non-current assets (2)	\$ 8.4	\$ 3.3	\$	0.9	\$	12.6
For the three-month period ended July 31, 2016	ating and ackaging	Media Sector	aı s	ad office nd inter- segment inations	Cons	solidated Results
Revenues Operating expenses	\$ 403.7 317.0	\$ 74.9 68.2	\$	(10.8) (6.6)	\$	467.8 378.6
Adjusted operating earnings before depreciation and amortization (1) Restructuring and other costs (revenues) Impairment of assets	86.7 (3.0) 0.1	6.7 2.8 —		(4.2) (0.8)		89.2 (1.0) 0.1
Operating earnings before depreciation and amortization Depreciation and amortization	 89.6 21.9	3.9 2.7		(3.4) 1.9		90.1 26.5
Operating earnings	\$ 67.7	\$ 1.2	\$	(5.3)	\$	63.6
Adjusted operating earnings (1)	\$ 64.8	\$ 4.0	\$	(6.1)	\$	62.7
Acquisitions of non-current assets (2) (3)	\$ 18.6	\$ 3.6	\$	0.4	\$	22.6



Unaudited

Quarters ended July 30, 2017 and July 31, 2016

(in millions of Canadian dollars, unless otherwise indicated and per share data)

# 3 SEGMENTED INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

		nting and		а	ad office nd inter-		
For the nine-month period ended July 30, 2017	Р	ackaging Sector	Media Sector		segment ninations	Cons	solidated Results
Revenues Operating expenses	\$	1,329.9 1,042.1	\$ 178.2 169.5	\$	(28.1) (5.0)	\$	1,480.0 1,206.6
Adjusted operating earnings before depreciation and amortization (1) Restructuring and other costs (revenues) Impairment of assets		287.8 2.8 0.1	8.7 (8.1) 2.4		(23.1) (0.7)		273.4 (6.0) 2.5
Operating earnings before depreciation and amortization Depreciation and amortization		284.9 67.5	14.4 5.7		(22.4) 5.3		276.9 78.5
Operating earnings	\$	217.4	\$ 8.7	\$	(27.7)	\$	198.4
Adjusted operating earnings (1)	\$	220.3	\$ 3.0	\$	(28.4)	\$	194.9
Acquisitions of non-current assets (2)	\$	24.8	\$ 9.9	\$	3.5	\$	38.2
For the nine-month period ended July 31, 2016		nting and ackaging Sector	Media Sector	a	ad office nd inter- segment ninations	Cons	solidated Results
Revenues Operating expenses	\$	1,270.0 1,003.4	\$ 230.2 226.9	\$	(36.3) (22.6)	\$	1,463.9 1,207.7
Adjusted operating earnings before depreciation and amortization (1) Restructuring and other costs (revenues) Impairment of assets		266.6 3.1 0.3	3.3 11.6 29.7		(13.7) (0.6) 0.4		256.2 14.1 30.4
Operating earnings before depreciation and amortization  Depreciation and amortization		263.2 65.8	(38.0)		(13.5) 5.7		211.7 80.2
Operating earnings	\$	197.4	\$ (46.7)	\$	(19.2)	\$	131.5
Adjusted operating earnings (1)	\$	200.8	\$ (5.4)	\$	(19.4)	\$	176.0
Acquisitions of non-current assets (2) (3)	\$	46.0	\$ 15.8	\$	2.7	\$	64.5

<sup>(1)</sup> The Corporation's officers mainly make decisions and assess segment performance based on adjusted operating earnings. Adjusted operating earnings before depreciation and amortization and adjusted operating earnings exclude restructuring and other costs (revenues), and impairment of assets.



<sup>(2)</sup> These amounts include internally generated intangible assets, acquisitions of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets, excluding those acquired as part of business combinations, whether they were paid or not.

<sup>(3)</sup> Certain comparative figures have been reclassified to conform to the presentation adopted in the current period.

Unaudited

Quarters ended July 30, 2017 and July 31, 2016

(in millions of Canadian dollars, unless otherwise indicated and per share data)

# 3 SEGMENTED INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

The Corporation's revenues by main products and services are as follows:

	Th	ree month	ns ended	Nine n	nonths	ended
	July	30,	July 31,	July 30,		July 31,
	2	.017	2016	2017		2016
Printing and packaging products	\$ 3	70.4	342.8	\$ 1,150.9	\$	1,083.3
Publishing and content products		70.0	85.1	220.3		254.8
Other products and services		37.3	39.9	108.8		125.8
<u> </u>	\$ 4	77.7	467.8	\$ 1,480.0	\$	1,463.9

The Corporation's total assets by segment are as follows:

	As at July 30, 2017	Oc	As at stober 31, 2016
Printing and Packaging Sector	\$ 1,624.9	\$	1,775.9
Media Sector	174.7		209.9
Head office and inter-segment eliminations (1)	202.5		76.4
	\$ 2,002.1	\$	2,062.2

<sup>(</sup>f) This heading includes mainly cash, income taxes receivable, property, plant and equipment, intangible assets, deferred taxes and defined benefit asset not allocated to segments.

# **4** BUSINESS COMBINATIONS AND DISPOSITIONS

#### **Business combination**

On December 1, 2016, the Corporation acquired of all B2B brands of the Advisor and Financial Services Groups from Rogers Media Inc. for a total consideration of \$3.9 million paid in cash. During the nine-month period ended July 30, 2017, the Corporation completed its final assessment of the fair value of assets acquired and liabilities assumed related to this combination. The assets acquired are mainly comprised of intangible assets of \$3.7 million and goodwill of \$0.7 million, partially offset by a negligible amount of liabilities assumed. This acquisition is in line with the Corporation strategy to grow specialized products and services offering in the Media sector, reinforcing actual B2B brands portfolio.

During the nine-month period ended July 30, 2017, amounts of \$7.8 million and \$4.6 million were paid for contingent considerations related to acquisitions realized in 2016 and 2015, respectively, and an amount of \$0.4 million was received related to an acquisition realized in 2016.

During the nine-month period ended July 30, 2017, the Corporation completed its final assessment of the fair value of assets acquired and liabilities assumed of Flexstar Packaging Inc., acquired on October 14, 2016. Changes in the fair value of assets acquired and liabilities assumed are negligible.

#### **Business disposition**

On April 12, 2017 the Corporation sold its Atlantic media assets for a cash consideration and an amount receivable. The transaction includes 28 brands and web-related properties, four printing plants operated within the Media Sector, commercial printing activities in the province of Newfoundland and Labrador, and distribution activities in Atlantic Canada. During the nine-month period ended July 30, 2017, the Corporation paid the final amount of the working capital adjustment.

During the three-month period ended July 30, 2017, the Corporation disposed of 2 groups of local newpapers in the context of the process of the sale of its local and regional newspapers in Quebec and Ontario as announced on April 18, 2017.



Unaudited

Quarters ended July 30, 2017 and July 31, 2016

(in millions of Canadian dollars, unless otherwise indicated and per share data)

## **5** OPERATING EXPENSES

Operating expenses by major headings are as follows:

	TI	Three months e			Nine mo	onths	ended
	July	y 30,	July 31,		July 30,		July 31,
		2017	2016	2017			2016
Employee-related costs	\$ 1	41.8	\$ 149.0	\$	451.6	\$	474.5
Supply chain and logistics (1)	2	208.4	202.6		657.3		648.4
Other goods and services (2)		32.1	27.0		97.7		84.8
	\$ 3	82.3	\$ 378.6	\$	1,206.6	\$	1,207.7

<sup>(1) &</sup>quot;Supply chain and logistics" includes mainly production and distribution costs related to external suppliers.

# **6** RESTRUCTURING AND OTHER COSTS (REVENUES)

Restructuring and other costs (revenues) by major headings are as follows:

		Three me	onths	ended	Nine mo	ended	
	,	July 30,		July 31,	July 30,		July 31,
		2017		2016	2017		2016
Workforce reductions	\$	3.4	\$	5.8	\$ 8.3	\$	19.8
Other costs (revenues) related to the sale of certain activities in the Media Sector		(0.8)		(0.7)	(10.8)		0.8
Net gains on sale of buildings		_		(1.4)	(3.8)		(1.4)
Onerous contracts		(0.1)		0.2	0.6		(0.4)
Business acquisition costs (1)		_		0.2	0.5		0.4
Other revenues (2)		(8.0)		(5.1)	(8.0)		(5.1)
	\$	1.7	\$	(1.0)	\$ (6.0)	\$	14.1

<sup>(1)</sup> Business acquisition costs include transaction costs, primarily legal fees and other professional fees, for potential or realized business combinations.

<sup>(2) &</sup>quot;Other goods and services" includes mainly promotion, advertising and telecommunications costs, office supplies, real estate expenses and professional fees.

<sup>(2)</sup> Other revenues represent the effect on revaluation of contingents considerations payable as part of a business combinations.

Unaudited

Quarters ended July 30, 2017 and July 31, 2016

(in millions of Canadian dollars, unless otherwise indicated and per share data)

# 7 IMPAIRMENT OF ASSETS

Impairment of assets by major headings is as follows:

	Three	months	ended	Nine mo	onths ended	
	July 30,		July 31,	 luly 30,		July 31,
	2017		2016	2017		2016
Property, plant and equipment	\$ <b>-</b>	\$	0.1	\$ 1.2	\$	0.8
Intangible assets	_		_	1.3		29.6
	\$ <u> </u>	\$	0.1	\$ 2.5	\$	30.4

#### 2017 Impairment test

The sale of Atlantic Canada media assets and the announcement of a process for the sale of newspaper in Quebec and Ontario conducted the Corporation to perform an impairment test on all the assets in the Media Sector's Local Solutions Group during the nine-month period ended July 30, 2017, The Corporation concluded that there was no impairment on the residual net assets.

During the nine-month period ended July 30, 2017, the Corporation recorded a \$1.3 million impairment charge, mainly due to costs relating to technology projects in the Media Sector for the portion attributable to the Atlantic Canada media sold assets. This impairment charge had no effect on the Corporation's activities, on cash or on meeting the requirements of debt covenants.

## 2016 Impairment test

Due to financial results of certain daily and weekly newspapers outside of Quebec that were lower than the forecasts for the nine-month period ended July 31, 2016, the Corporation performed an interim impairment test on certain intangible assets with an indefinite useful life. These intangible assets with an indefinite useful life consist of trade names acquired in business combinations for newspaper publishing activities. The Corporation has concluded that the recoverable values of certain cash generating units ("CGU") in the Media Sector's Local Solutions Group, determined on the basis of value in use, were less than their carrying amounts due to a decline in profitability, as a result of a decrease in advertising revenues. Therefore, the Corporation recorded a \$28.7 million impairment charge during the nine-month period ended July 31, 2016. The Corporation also recorded an impairment charge of \$0.9 million during the nine-month period ended July 31, 2016, mainly due to costs relating to technology projects in the Media Sector. These impairment charges had no effect on the Corporation's activities, on cash or on meeting the requirements of debt covenants.

The Corporation also performed an interim impairment test on goodwill with respect to the Local Solutions Group CGU's and concluded that there was no impairment on the residual net assets.

# 8 DEPRECIATION AND AMORTIZATION

Depreciation and amortization by major headings is as follows:

		Three months ended			Nine months end			nded
	,	July 30,		July 31,		July 30,		July 31,
		2017		2016		2017		2016
Property, plant and equipment	\$	19.1	\$	19.9	\$	58.4	\$	60.0
Intangible assets		6.4		6.6		20.1		20.2
		25.5		26.5		78.5		80.2
intangible assets and other assets, recognized in revenues and operating expenses		5.6		6.4		18.1		20.5
	\$	31.1	\$	32.9	\$	96.6	\$	100.7

Unaudited

Quarters ended July 30, 2017 and July 31, 2016

(in millions of Canadian dollars, unless otherwise indicated and per share data)

# 9 NET FINANCIAL EXPENSES

Net financial expenses by major headings are as follows:

	, ,	Three m	onths e	ended		Nine mo	onths ended		
	J	uly 30, 2017	,	July 31, 2016	•	July 30, 2017		July 31, 2016	
Financial expenses on long-term debt	\$	4.4	\$	4.4	\$	13.1	\$	13.4	
Net interest on defined benefit plans asset and liability		0.5		0.2		1.5		0.5	
Other revenues		(0.4)		_		(0.3)		(0.6)	
Net foreign exchange gains		(0.6)		(2.1)		(0.9)		(1.3)	
	\$	3.9	\$	2.5	\$	13.4	\$	12.0	

# **10** INCOME TAXES

The following table presents a reconciliation of income taxes at the Canadian statutory tax rate and at the effective tax rate:

	 Three m	onths	ended		Nine months ended			
	July 30,		July 31,		July 30,		July 31,	
	2017		2016		2017		2016	
Earnings before share of net earnings in interests in joint ventures and income taxes	\$ 64.3	\$	61.1	\$	185.0	\$	119.5	
Canadian statutory tax rate (1)	26.82	%	26.90	%	26.82	%	26.90 %	
Income taxes at the statutory tax rate	 17.2		16.4		49.6		32.1	
Effect of differences in tax rates in other jurisdictions	0.4		(0.6)		1.3		(0.2)	
Income taxes on non-deductible expenses and non-taxable portion of capital gains	(1.9)		(0.5)		(3.0)		0.1	
Change in deferred tax assets on tax losses or temporary differences								
not previously recognized	_		_		(0.3)		_	
Other	(0.4)		_		(0.7)		(0.7)	
Income taxes at effective tax rate	\$ 15.3	\$	15.3	\$	46.9	\$	31.3	
Income taxes before the following items:	\$ 15.9	\$	16.2	\$	47.6	\$	44.7	
Income taxes on restructuring and other costs (revenues)	(0.6)		(1.3)		_		(5.4)	
Income taxes on impairment of assets			0.4		(0.7)		(8.0)	
Income taxes at effective tax rate	\$ 15.3	\$	15.3	\$	46.9	\$	31.3	

<sup>(1)</sup> The Corporation's applicable tax rate corresponds to the combined Canadian tax rates applicable in the provinces where the Corporation operates.

# 11 LONG-TERM DEBT

## Credit facility extension

On January 9, 2017, the Corporation extended the maturity of its credit facility, in the available amount of \$400.0 million or the U.S dollar equivalent, for one additional year, to February 2022, on the same terms.



Unaudited

Quarters ended July 30, 2017 and July 31, 2016

(in millions of Canadian dollars, unless otherwise indicated and per share data)

## 12 PROVISIONS

The following table presents changes in provisions for the nine-month period ended July 30, 2017:

	Restruc	turing costs	nerous	Other (1)	Total
Balance as at October 31, 2016	\$	6.2	\$ 5.5	\$ 1.0	\$ 12.7
Provisions recorded		8.9	1.1	_	10.0
Amounts used		(11.9)	(2.9)	(0.4)	(15.2)
Provisions reversed		(0.6)	(0.5)	_	(1.1)
Balance as at July 30, 2017	\$	2.6	\$ 3.2	\$ 0.6	\$ 6.4
Current portion	\$	2.6	\$ 2.0	\$ 0.3	\$ 4.9
Non-current portion		_	1.2	0.3	1.5
	\$	2.6	\$ 3.2	\$ 0.6	\$ 6.4

<sup>(1)</sup> Other provisions include provisions for asset retirement obligations and provisions related to claims and litigations.

## 13 SHARE CAPITAL

The following table presents changes in the Corporation's share capital for the nine-month period ended July 30, 2017:

	Number of	
	shares	Amount
Class A Subordinate Voting Shares		
Balance as at October 31, 2016	62,886,445	\$ 342.8
Conversion of Class B Shares into Class A Subordinate Voting Shares	66,600	0.1
Shares redeemed and cancelled	(2,663)	_
Exercise of stock options	430,154	6.7
Balance as at July 30, 2017	63,380,536	349.6
Class B Shares		
Balance as at October 31, 2016	14,074,626	19.1
Conversion of Class B Shares into Class A Subordinate Voting Shares	(66,600)	(0.1
Balance as at July 30, 2017	14,008,026	19.0
	77,388,562	\$ 368.6

## Shares redemptions

The Corporation has been authorized to repurchase, for cancellation on the open market, or subject to the approval of any securities authority by private agreements, between April 17, 2017 and April 16, 2018, or at an earlier date if the Corporation concludes or cancels the offer, up to 2,000,000 of its Class A Subordinate Voting Shares and up to 442,349 of its Class B Shares. The repurchases are made in the normal course of business at market prices through the Toronto Stock Exchange.

The Corporation had been authorized to repurchase, for cancellation on the open market, or subject to the approval of any securities authority by private agreements, between April 15, 2016 and April 14, 2017, or at an earlier date if the Corporation concludes or cancels the offer, up to 2,000,000 of its Class A Subordinate Voting Shares and up to 226,344 of its Class B Shares. The repurchases were made in the normal course of business at market prices through the Toronto Stock Exchange.

During the nine-month period ended July 30, 2017, the Corporation repurchased and cancelled 2,663 of its Class A Subordinate Voting Shares at a weighted average price of \$17.48, for a negligible total cash consideration. The excess of the total consideration paid over the carrying amount of the shares was negligible and was applied against retained earnings. The Corporation was under no obligation to repurchase its Class A Subordinate Voting Shares and Class B Shares as at July 30, 2017.



Unaudited

Quarters ended July 30, 2017 and July 31, 2016

(in millions of Canadian dollars, unless otherwise indicated and per share data)

# 13 SHARE CAPITAL (CONTINUED)

During the nine-month period ended July 31, 2016, the Corporation repurchased and cancelled 883,864 of its Class A Subordinate Voting Shares at a weighted average price of \$17.33, for a total cash consideration of \$15.3 million. The excess of the total consideration paid over the carrying amount of the shares, in the amount of \$10.5 million, was applied against retained earnings. The Corporation was under no obligation to repurchase its Class A Subordinate Voting Shares and Class B Shares as at July 31, 2016.

#### Exercise of stock options

When officers and senior executives exercise their stock options, any consideration paid is credited to share capital and the amount previously credited to contributed surplus is also transferred to share capital. For the nine-month period ended July 30, 2017, the consideration received was \$5.4 million and an amount of \$1.3 million was transferred from contributed surplus to share capital. For the nine-month period ended July 31, 2016, the consideration received was \$0.4 million and an amount of \$0.1 million was transferred from contributed surplus to share capital.

#### Dividends

Dividends of \$0.20 and \$0.185 per share were declared and paid to holders of shares for the three-month periods ended July 30, 2017 and July 31, 2016, respectively. Dividends of \$0.585 and \$0.54 per share were declared and paid to holders of shares for the nine-month periods ended July 30, 2017 and July 31, 2016, respectively.

# 14 NET EARNINGS PER SHARE

The following table presents a reconciliation of the components used in the calculation of basic and diluted net earnings per share:

	Thre	Three months ended		Nine months end			
	July 3	July 30,		July 30,		July 31,	
	20	17	2016	 2017		2016	
Numerator							
Net earnings	\$ 49	.0	\$ 45.9	\$ 138.1	\$	88.6	
Denominator (in millions)							
Weighted average number of shares outstanding - basic	77	.4	77.5	77.3		77.7	
Dilutive effect of stock options	(	.2	0.3	0.2		0.3	
Weighted average number of shares - diluted	77	.6	77.8	77.5		78.0	

As at July 30, 2017 and July 31, 2016, all the stock options are included in the calculation of the diluted net earnings per share due to their potential dilutive effect.

# 15 STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION

## Stock option plan

The Corporation has a stock option plan for the benefit of certain officers and senior executives. Under the plan, each stock option entitles its holder to receive upon exercise one Class A Subordinate Voting Share. The exercise price of each option is determined using the weighted average price of all trades for the five days immediately preceding the grant of the stock option. The Corporation ceased granting stock options during the year ended October 31, 2014.

For the three-month and nine-month periods ended July 30, 2017, as well as for the three-month and nine-month periods ended July 31, 2016, negligible amounts of stock-based compensation expenses were charged to the Consolidated Statements of Earnings and increased contributed surplus included in equity.

The following table presents the changes in the plan's status for the nine-month period ended July 30, 2017:

	Number of options	/eighted average exercise price
Options outstanding as at October 31, 2016	729,502	\$ 12.60
Exercised	(430,154)	12.34
Options outstanding as at July 30, 2017	299,348	\$ 12.97
Options exercisable as at July 30, 2017	299,348	\$ 12.97



Unaudited

Quarters ended July 30, 2017 and July 31, 2016

(in millions of Canadian dollars, unless otherwise indicated and per share data)

# 15 STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION (CONTINUED)

## Share unit plan for certain officers and senior executives

The Corporation offers a share unit plan for the benefit of certain officers and senior executives under which deferred share units ("DSU") and restricted share units ("RSU") are granted. Vested DSUs and RSUs will be paid, at the Corporation's discretion, in cash or with Class A Subordinate Voting Shares of the Corporation purchased on the open market.

The following table presents the changes in the plan's status for the nine-month period ended July 30, 2017:

	Number	of units
	DSU	RSU
Balance as at October 31, 2016	274,168	1,069,860
Units granted	13,545	248,371
Units cancelled	_	(6,198)
Units paid	(6,907)	(382,726)
Dividends paid in units	6,817	20,856
Balance as at July 30, 2017	287,623	950,163

As at July 30, 2017, the liability related to the share unit plan for certain officers and senior executives was \$21.1 million (\$16.5 million as at October 31, 2016). The expenses recorded in the Consolidated Statements of Earnings for the three-month and nine-month periods ended July 30, 2017 were \$4.0 million and \$12.6 million, respectively. The expenses recorded in the Consolidated Statements of Earnings for the three-month and nine-month periods ended July 31, 2016 were \$1.0 million and \$3.0 million, respectively. Amounts of \$0.2 million and \$8.0 million were paid under this plan for the three-month periods ended July 30, 2017, respectively. No amount was paid under this plan for the three-month period ended July 31, 2016.

#### Share unit plan for directors

The Corporation offers a deferred share unit plan for its directors. Under this plan, directors may elect to receive as compensation either cash, deferred share units, or a combination of both.

The following table presents the changes in the plan's status for the nine-month period ended July 30, 2017:

	Number of units
Balance as at October 31, 2016	377,901
Directors' compensation	18.197
Units paid	(101,200)
Dividends paid in units	7,785
Balance as at July 30, 2017	302,683

As at July 30, 2017, the liability related to the share unit plan for directors was \$8.0 million (\$6.8 million as at October 31, 2016). The expense recorded in the Consolidated Statements of Earnings for the three-month and nine-month periods ended July 30, 2017 were \$1.0 million and \$3.6 million, respectively. The expense (the reversal) recorded in the Consolidated Statements of Earnings for the three-month and nine-month periods ended July 31, 2016 were \$(0.1) million and \$0.1 million, respectively. Amounts of \$0.9 million and \$2.4 million were paid under this plan for the three-month and nine-month periods ended July 30, 2017. No amount were paid under this plan for the three-month and nine-month periods ended July 31, 2016.

Unaudited

Quarters ended July 30, 2017 and July 31, 2016

(in millions of Canadian dollars, unless otherwise indicated and per share data)

# 16 ACCUMULATED OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)

						Actuarial ains and	Accu	mulated
	Ca	Cash flow hedges		Cumulative losses related translation to defined differences benefit plans		related	d other d comprehensive	
Balance as at October 31, 2016	\$	(1.6)	\$	38.7	\$	(34.4)	\$	2.7
Net change in gains (losses), net of income taxes  Balance as at July 30, 2017	\$	4.0 2.4	\$	(33.3)	\$	15.4 (19.0)	\$	(13.9) (11.2)
Balance as at October 31, 2015	\$	(7.0)	\$	24.3	\$	2.1	\$	19.4
Net change in gains (losses), net of income taxes		6.5		3.1		(15.0)		(5.4)
Balance as at July 31, 2016	\$	(0.5)	\$	27.4	\$	(12.9)	\$	14.0

As at July 30, 2017, the amounts expected to be reclassified to net earnings in future years are as follows:

	2017	2018	2019	Total
Net change in the fair value of derivatives designated as cash flow hedges Income taxes	\$ 0.4 0.1	\$ 1.9 0.5	\$ 1.0 0.3	\$ 3.3 0.9
	\$ 0.3	\$ 1.4	\$ 0.7	\$ 2.4

## Actuarial gains (losses) in respect of defined benefit plans

The actuarial gains (losses) in respect of defined benefit plans recognized in other comprehensive income reflect the following items:

	Three months ended				Nine months ended			
	July 30, 2017		July 31, 2016	July 30, 2017			July 31, 2016	
Actuarial gains (losses) on obligation - change in discount rate Actuarial gains (losses) on plan assets - excluding interest income	\$ 31.2 (28.1)	\$	(42.8) 46.0	\$	66.9 (40.8)	\$	(105.0) 80.5	
Effect of the asset ceiling	(0.7)		(0.3)		`(5.1)		4.1	
	\$ 2.4	\$	2.9	\$	21.0	\$	(20.4)	

Actuarial gains on obligation recognized in Statements of Comprehensive Income for the three-month and nine-month periods ended July 30, 2017 are explained by the change in the discount rate, which changed from 3.3% as at October 31, 2016, to 3.9% as at January 29, 2017, to 3,6% as at April 30, 2017 and to 3,9% as at July 30, 2017. Actuarial losses on plan assets are due to actual rates of return on assets that was lower than expected return for the three-month and nine-month periods ended July 30, 2017.

Actuarial losses on obligation recognized in Statements of Comprehensive Income for the three-month and nine-month periods ended July 31, 2016 are explained by the change in the discount rate, which decreased from 4.4% as at October 31, 2015, to 4.0% as at January 31, 2016, to 3.7% as at April 30, 2016 and to 3.2% as at July 31, 2016. Actuarial gains on plan assets are due to actual rate of return on assets that was greater than expected return for three-month and nine-month periods ended July 31, 2016.

Unaudited

Quarters ended July 30, 2017 and July 31, 2016

(in millions of Canadian dollars, unless otherwise indicated and per share data)

## 17 FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The fair value represents the amount that would be received for the sale of an asset or paid for the transfer of a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The fair value estimates are calculated at a specific date taking into consideration assumptions regarding the amounts, the timing of estimated future cash flows and discount rates. Accordingly, due to its approximative and subjective nature, the fair value must not be interpreted as being realizable in an immediate settlement of the financial instruments.

The carrying amount of cash, accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued liabilities approximates their fair value due to their short term maturities.

The fair value of long-term debt is determined using the discounted future cash flow method and at discount rates based on market interest rates for identical or similar issuances as determined by management.

The only financial instruments of the Corporation that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis subsequent to their initial recognition are derivative financial instruments, including foreign exchange forward contracts and contingent considerations payable related to business combinations. The fair value of derivative financial instruments is determined using an evaluation of the estimated market value, adjusted for the credit quality of the counterparty. The valuation model of the contingent considerations considers the present value of expected payment, discounted using a risk-adjusted discount rate. The expected payment is determined by considering various scenarios of achievement of pre-established financial performance thresholds, the amount to be paid under each scenario and the probability of each scenario.

The Corporation presents a fair value hierarchy with three levels that reflects the significance of inputs used in determining the fair value assessments. The fair value of financial assets and liabilities classified in these three levels is evaluated as follows:

- Level 1 Unadjusted prices on active markets for identical assets or liabilities
- Level 2 Inputs other than the prices included within level 1, that are observable for the asset or liability, directly (prices) or indirectly (derived from prices)
- Level 3 Inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data

The following table presents the fair value and the carrying amount of other financial instruments and derivative financial instruments:

		As at July 30, 2017					As at October 31, 2016			
			0	arrying				Carrying		
	Fair	Fair value		amount	Fair value			amount		
Foreign exchange forward contracts in assets	\$	9.4	\$	9.4	\$	2.5	\$	2.5		
Contingent considerations		(1.4)		(1.4)		(15.0)		(15.0)		
Long-term debt		(361.1)		(348.2)		(366.1)		(348.1)		
Foreign exchange forward contracts in liabilities						(2.3)		(2.3)		

These financial instruments are classified in Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy, with the exception of contingent considerations payable with respect to the business combinations which are classified in Level 3. For the nine-month period ended July 30, 2017, no financial instruments were transferred between levels 1, 2 and 3.

The changes in Level 3 financial instruments are as follows for the nine-month period ended:

		July 30, 2017		
	<del>'</del>	2017		
Balance, beginning of period	\$	(15.0)		
Amount paid		12.5		
Change included in net earnings		0.8		
Exchange rate change		0.3		
Balance, end of period	\$	(1.4)		

#### Sensitivity analysis of the Level 3 financial instruments

On July 30, 2017, all other things being equal, a 10 % increase of pre-established financial performance thresholds of acquired businesses would have resulted in a decrease of \$3.1 million in net earnings. A 10 % decrease of pre-established financial performance thresholds would have resulted in an increase of 1.2 million in net earnings.

