

## **BMO Global Asset Management Names Co-Heads of Governance and Sustainable Investment Team**

**LONDON, 3 April 2018** – BMO Global Asset Management has appointed Alice Evans and Claudia Wearmouth as Co-Heads of the Governance and Sustainable Investment (GSI) Team, alongside bolstering the team’s presence in the Netherlands with the hire of Pieter van Stijn.

Alice and Claudia will be jointly responsible for further integrating the consideration of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) issues across investment teams at BMO Global Asset Management. They will also be accelerating the growth of BMO Global Asset Management’s Responsible Funds range and the engagement and voting services, provided to in house funds as well as third party clients through the responsible engagement overlay (**reo**<sup>®1</sup>) service. They will report to Richard Watts, Head of Fundamental Investment and CIO EMEA at BMO Global Asset Management.

Alice returns to BMO Global Asset Management having previously worked at the company from 2010 until 2016, when she was Co-Lead Manager of the Responsible Global Equity Fund alongside Jamie Jenkins. Prior to joining the company in 2010, Alice gained 10 years of investment experience at Henderson Global Investors and JP Morgan Asset Management. Claudia has over a decade of experience at BMO Global Asset Management, having joined the company in 2007. Claudia has worked with **reo** clients, the investment teams and most recently as the lead on the Responsible Fund Range as Director in the GSI team. Claudia also manages BMO Global Asset Management’s independent Responsible Investment Advisory Council (RIAC), whose president is the Most Reverend Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury.

**Richard Watts, Head of Fundamental Investment and CIO EMEA at BMO Global Asset Management** said: “In order to build on our leadership position in responsible investing, it is important to have the right people and expertise. Both Claudia and Alice bring a wealth of complementary experience to their new roles, which greatly enhances the team and its profile both across our business and in the wider marketplace.”

In addition, BMO Global Asset Management has appointed Pieter van Stijn as a Director in the GSI team, based in the Netherlands. Pieter has over 18 years’ experience in the industry, spending the last 11 years at PGGM as a Senior Advisor for Responsible

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<sup>1</sup> information on BMO Global Asset Management’s responsible engagement overlay (**reo**<sup>®</sup>) service for clients can be found [here](#).

Investment. Prior to this, Pieter was a Sustainable Investment Analyst at SNS Asset Management and worked as a Policy Adviser at Wissenraet & van Spaendonck.

**Mandy Mannix, Head of Distribution & Client Management, EMEA, at BMO Global Asset Management**, added: “We continue to see increasing demand from our clients for investment solutions that are ESG aware. With the recent enhancements made to our GSI team, we remain at the forefront of responsible investing, offering clients integrated responsible investment solutions across a range of asset classes with an overlay of active company engagement.”

BMO Global Asset Management has been running investment strategies that consider ethical as well as environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors for over 30 years. The 15 strong GSI team is responsible for screening companies against ESG criteria, working with our fund managers to integrate ESG risks and opportunities and engaging and voting with companies we invest in and also on behalf of 34 advisory-only *reo*<sup>2</sup> clients<sup>2</sup>.

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**About BMO Global Asset Management**

BMO Global Asset Management is a global investment manager with offices in more than 25 cities in 14 countries, delivering service excellence to clients across five continents.

Our four major investment centres in Toronto, Chicago, London and Hong Kong are complemented by a network of world-class specialist managers strategically located across the globe: BMO Real Estate Partners, LGM Investments, Pyrford International Ltd. BMO Global Asset Management is a signatory of the United Nations-supported Principles for Responsible Investment initiative (UNPRI).

BMO Global Asset Management is a part of BMO Financial Group, a highly diversified financial services provider based in North America with total assets of CDN \$728 billion as of 31 January 2018, and over 45,000 employees. BMO Wealth Management has worldwide assets under management of CDN \$436 billion, as of 31 January 2018.

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<sup>2</sup> as at 31 December 2017

*The value of investments and any income derived from them can go down as well as up as a result of market or currency movements and investors may not get back the original amount invested.*

*Screening out sectors or companies may result in less diversification and hence more volatility in investment values*