

## Q4 2022 CORPORATE ENGAGEMENT SNAPSHOT

## Nintendo entering early stages of workplace culture improvement

**Meeting objective(s):** Exploration and relationshipbuilding (it was our first engagement with the company); focus on workplace culture, DEI.

As a Japan-based company with operations globally, Nintendo faces unique circumstances among peers when it comes to managing workplace culture and DEI matters. In Japan, for example, women make up only 5% of Nintendo's management. Nintendo acknowledged they have work to do in these areas to meet increasing expectations of global stakeholders. We expressed that it's fine to have a flexible DEI program that works for each region (Japan, U.S., Europe, Australia), but we want to see greater disclosure around accountability and around their process for addressing workplace concerns. Nintendo said they are reviewing their relationship with contract workers, which has been criticized recently in the U.S.

**Next steps:** We will determine specific areas for improvement and share ideas at our next meeting.

## New CEO of Johnson & Johnson has big shoes to fill

**Meeting objective(s):** Understand JNJ's plan for living up to its credo; discuss pricing and access.

We joined a small group of investors for a twohour meeting with senior executives at JNJ, in part to hear from the new CEO on how he intends to continue upholding the values and expectations of the company's credo. We pressed for greater transparency around drug pricing, a notoriously complex topic. We learned the company is examining ways to address rising inequality in the U.S. and what role they can play in improving health equity, for example, by investing in non-profits that support community health.

**Next steps:** The investor group is seeking a follow-up meeting to hear more on JNJ's drug pricing.

## Aggressive emissions target from Canadian Natural Resources

**Meeting objective(s):** Press for more ambitious and detailed net-zero targets.

As a co-lead for the CA100+ engagement with Canadian Natural Resources, we have been pushing the company to keep pace with its peers when it comes to climate strategy. A core focus of our dialogue over the years has been a request for more ambitious, corporate-wide emissions reduction targets, and on November 30, the company announced they are targeting a 40% reduction in absolute scope 1 and 2 emissions by 2035. This is a welcome change and a fairly aggressive target. Companies in the sector have traditionally been reluctant to set targets for absolute emissions, preferring the more common metric of emissions intensity. This commitment from one of Canada's biggest O&G companies will further shift the conversation to the need for absolute reductions.

**Next steps:** We look forward to engaging the company on their plans for achieving this target.

This report is based on NEI records, research and impressions gathered during company engagements. Unless otherwise indicated, no company identified in this report reviewed its contents before publication.

This material is for informational and educational purposes and it is not intended to provide specific advice including, without limitation, investment, financial, tax or similar matters. The views expressed herein are subject to change without notice as markets change over time. Information herein is believed to be reliable but NEI does not warrant its completeness or accuracy. Views expressed regarding a particular security, industry or market sector should not be considered an indication of trading intent of any funds managed by NEI Investments. Forward-looking statements are not guaranteed of future performance and risks and uncertainties often cause actual results to differ materially from forward-looking information.

Commissions, trailing commissions, management fees and expenses all may be associated with mutual fund investments. Please read the prospectus before investing. Mutual funds are not guaranteed, their values change frequently and past performance may not be repeated.

NEI Investments is a registered trademark of Northwest & Ethical Investments L.P. ("NEI LP"). Northwest & Ethical Investments Inc. is the general partner of NEI LP and a wholly-owned subsidiary of Aviso Wealth Inc. ("Aviso"). Aviso is the sole limited partner of NEI LP. Aviso is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Aviso Wealth LP, which in turn is owned 50% by Desjardins Financial Holding Inc. and 50% by a limited partnership owned by the five Provincial Credit Union Centrals and The CUMIS Group Limited.

2300042E SS 01/23 AODA