

Strong Quarter to Finish a Record Year

Following a slight pullback in Q3, M&A activity picked up again in Q4 2021 with 943 announced transactions. This elevated the full-year into the record books with 3,857 announced deals representing \$359B in aggregate value. In terms of annual activity and deal value, 2021 surpasses the prior record by more than 400 deals and \$27B in value while significantly outpacing the 3,136 deals and \$163B in value booked in 2020.

"2021 was an extraordinary year for Canadian M&A with three of the four most active quarters we've ever seen," said Colin Walker, Managing Director of Crosbie & Company Inc. "As well as a little catch up from the prior year, this reflects favourable conditions for vendors as well as an active universe of buyers and liquid capital markets. Despite the heightened uncertainties that some might point to for 2022, we expect the M&A train to keep on rolling."

There were 14 mega-deals (transactions with values above \$1B) in Q4 worth a combined value of \$56B, of which five involved a Canadian target. **Information Technology** dominated the mega-deal league table with 5 transactions accounting for \$33.1B in aggregate value. The largest mega-deal in the fourth quarter was the \$26B take-private transaction of **McAfee Corp.** led by a consortium of buyers, including **Canada Pension Plan Investment Board**.

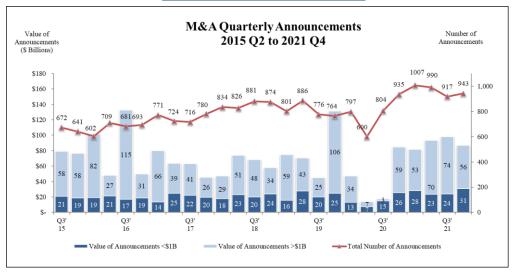
The mid-market, represented by transactions with values below \$250M remained strong in the fourth quarter with 358 transactions announced, representing 88% of total deals with values disclosed and 16% of the aggregate value for such deals. For the full-year, the mid-market was responsible for 1,359 transactions (91%) representing \$50.8B in value (14%).

Cross-border transactions continued to a key driver of overall M&A activity representing 52% of total announcements and 69% of aggregate value. Consistent with most quarters, outbound activity (Canadian acquiror and foreign target) outpaced inbound activity by a factor of 1.8x. In 2021, Canadian buyers were highly acquisitive internationally with 1,142 acquisitions of foreign companies during the year (+38% relative to 2020). The data shows that the United States continues to represent the largest market for Canadian companies looking to make acquisitions abroad. In 2021, Canadian companies acquired 717 US-based companies, representing 63% of all foreign acquisitions made by Canadian firms.

For a more local perspective, in Q4 there were 577 acquisitions of companies domiciled in Canada. The median value for these transactions was \$12 million. Overall, Canadian firms made 719 acquisitions in Q4 2021, of which 405 (56%) involved domestic targets (with a \$31M average deal value) and the remainder representing foreign targets (with an \$149M average deal value).

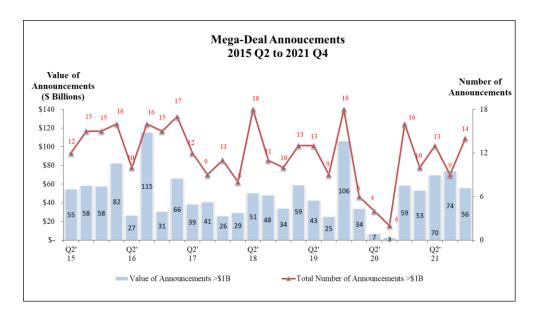
The increase in activity in Q4 was broadly based, with more than half of the industry sectors we track experiencing an increase in activity. The **Consumer Discretionary**, **Materials** and **Utilities** sectors lead the pack with each up by more than 55% over Q3. The **Information Technology**, **Industrial** and **Real Estate** sectors were the most active this quarter with 140 (\$36.8B), 132 (\$1.8B) and 109 (\$7.6B) announced transactions, respectively. In terms of weaker sectors this quarter, **Healthcare**, **Financial Services**, and **Precious Metals** each fell more than 14%.

Q4 2021 M&A Report



Overview

- Deal activity picked up in Q4 2021 with 943 announced transactions, bringing the full-year total to a record 3,857 announced transactions, or roughly 23% higher than 2020
- Aggregate deal value remained strong at \$87B in Q4 2021 contributing to an annual deal value high of \$360B, which is \$28B higher than the previous record set in 2016
- Cross-border M&A activity continued at a strong pace in the fourth quarter with 486 announced transactions representing \$60B in value (69% of the aggregate deal value). There were 300 transactions (62% of cross-border deals) involving a Canadian buyer and a foreign target



Mega-Deals

- There were 14 mega-deals (deals surpassing \$1B in value) announced in Q4 2021 representing \$56B in deal value, bringing the full-year total to 46 mega-deals and \$253B in deal value
- The largest deal this quarter involved a consortium of buyers, including **Canada Pension Plan Investment Board**, engaging in a \$26B take-private transaction of **McAfee Corp.**
- Five mega-deals involved a Canadian target, collectively representing \$9.8B in deal value

	20:	2021 Q4			
	# of	Value	# of	Value	
INDUSTRY GROUPS	Deals	\$Millions	Deals	\$Millions	
Information Technology	141	3,218	140	36,830	
Industrials	117	42,463	132	1,826	
Real Estate	110	15,826	109	7,627	
Metals and Mining	101	1,660	113	2,431	
Healthcare	78	1,292	67	2,976	
Financial Services	70	1,700	56	165	
Precious Metals	63	14,725	29	7,584	
Communication Services	58	2,413	55	9,580	
Consumer Discretionary	53	895	84	3,817	
Energy	48	5,938	55	5,093	
Consumer Staples	34	527	44	2,607	
Materials	22	896	36	4,195	
Other	13	5	3	3	
Utilities	9	6,310	20	2,119	
TOTAL	917	97,869	943	86,851	
Services	121	46,618	147	7,442	

		20	21 Q3		2021 Q4				
	# of		Value		# of		Value		
Size	Deals	%	\$ Millions	%	Deals	%	\$ Millions	%	
<\$100m	306	33	4,339	4	310	33	6,136	7	
\$101m-\$250m	47	5	7,536	8	48	5	7,783	9	
\$251m-\$500m	16	2	5,793	6	23	2	8,174	9	
\$501m-\$1b	10	1	6,168	6	12	1	8,678	10	
>\$1b	9	1	74,034	76	14	1	56,080	65	
Undisclosed	529	58	0	n/a	536	57	0	n/a	
	917		97,869		943		86,851		

202	1 Q3	202	1 Q4
# of	Value	# of	Value
Deals	\$ Millions	Deals	\$ Millions
418	18,181	405	12,578
161	12,238	172	13,308
579	30,418	577	25,886
282	61,172	314	46,656
56	6,278	52	14,308
338	67,451	366	60,965
917	97,869	943	86,851
	# of Deals 418 161 579 282 56 338	Deals \$ Millions 418 18,181 161 12,238 579 30,418 282 61,172 56 6,278 338 67,451	# of Value # of Deals 418 18,181 405 161 12,238 172 579 30,418 577 282 61,172 314 56 6,278 52 338 67,451 366

Industry Sector Activity

- More than half of the industry sectors we track experienced an increase in announcements relative to Q3 2021.
 Consumer Discretionary (84), Materials (36) and Utilities (20) led the pack in terms of growth with increases in excess of 55%
- Healthcare (67), Financial Services (56) and Precious Metals (29) posted the largest declines in deal volume relative to the prior quarter, each declining more than 14%
- **Information Technology** (140) dominated the mega-deal league table with 5 transactions accounting for \$33.1B value

Breakdown by Transaction Size

- Mid-market transactions with disclosed values (deal value below \$250M) comprised 88% of quarterly activity, which is slightly below the full-year figure of 91%
- Mega-deal activity accelerated in the fourth quarter to 14 announcements while the average mega-deal size was cut in half (\$4B average mega-deal size)

Canadian Domiciled versus Foreign M&A Targets

- Acquisitions involving Canadian targets stayed flat quarter-over-quarter at 577 announced transactions, slightly below the full-year average of 622
- Canadian firms made 719 acquisitions in Q4 2021, of which 405 (56%) involved domestic targets (\$31M average deal value) and the remainder targeted foreign firms (\$149M average deal value)

	2021 Q3		2021 Q4	
	# of	Value	# of	Value
	Deals	\$Millions	Deals	\$Millions
Ordered Me A (CDN Draw) Francisco Trava	282	(1.172	314	AC (5)
Outbound M&A (CDN Buyer/ Foreign Target)		61,172		46,656
Inbound M&A (Foreign Buyer/ CDN Target)	161	12,238	172	13,308
Total Cross Border	443	73,410	486	59,965
Outbound : Inbound Ratio	1.75	5.00	1.83	3.51
Cross Border as % of Total Activity	48%	75%	52%	69%
Canada / US Activity				
US Target	184	51,989	199	36,198
US Buyer	89	10,011	101	4,979
Total Canada/US	273	62,000	300	41,177
Canada/ US as % of Cross Border	62%	84%	62%	69%
	917	97,869	943	86,851

Cross-Border Deals

- Cross-border deals represented 52% of total activity and 69% of total value in Q4 2021
- Outbound cross-border activity increased 11% from the prior quarter while inbound activity increased by 7%
- Canada/U.S. transactions represented 62% of cross-border deals and 69% of cross-border deal value

	2	3	2021 Q4					
-	# of		Value		# of	Value		
=	Deals	%	\$ Millions	%	Deals	%	\$ Millions	%
Ontario	228	39	22,642	74	220	38	5,323	21
British Columbia	139	24	3,865	13	147	25	11,327	44
Quebec	85	15	1,095	4	87	15	3,855	15
Alberta	69	12	2,331	8	68	12	4,783	18
Saskatchewan	19	3	259	1	19	3	156	1
Newfoundland	16	3	7	0	7	1	2	0
New Brunswick	8	1	54	0	8	1	69	0
Manitoba	7	1	148	0	8	1	59	0
Nova Scotia	4	1	14	0	9	2	313	1
Prince Edward Island	3	1	2	0	0	0	-	0
Northwest Territories	0	0	-	0	3	1	-	0
Nunavut	0	0	-	0	1	0	-	0
Yukon Territory	0	0	-	0	0	0	-	0
Undisclosed Province	1	0		0	0	0		0
·-	579		30,418		577		25,889	

Deals by Provincial Domicile

- Ontario remained the most active province by deal count (220) but experienced a more than 50% decline in share of deal value.
- The median transaction value across deals with disclosed values was \$11.9M for **Canada** and \$11.5M for **Ontario**
- **British Columbia** (+31%), **Quebec** (+11%) and **Alberta** (+11%) each experienced significant increases in deal value market share
- Ontario, British Columbia, and Quebec collectively represented 78% of all deals and 54% of deal value in 2021

Largest Transactions in Q4 2021

	Announced			Transaction
Target Industry	Date	Value Target	Role	Status
nformation	8-Nov-21	\$25,964 McAfee Corp.	Target	Announced
Technology		Advent International Corporation; GIC Pte. Ltd.; Canada Pension Plan Investment Board; Abu Dhabi Investment Authority; Permira Advisers LLC; Crosspoint Capital Partners, LP	Acquiror	
		McAfee LLC; TPG Global, LLC; TPG VII Manta AIV Co-Invest, L.P.; TPG VII Manta Blocker Co-Invest I, L.P.; TPG VII Manta AIV I, L.P.; TPG VII Manta Holdings II, L.P.; TPG VII Side-by-Side Separate Account I, L.P.	Vendor	
Communication	8-Nov-21	\$9,155 Inmarsat Group Holdings Limited	Target	Announced
Services		Viasat, Inc.	Acquiror	
		Apax Partners LLP; Warburg Pincus LLC; Canada Pension Plan Investment Board; Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan Board	Vendor	
Information	21-Dec-21	\$3,705 Link Administration Holdings Limited	Target	Announced
Technology		Dye & Durham Limited	Acquiror	
Precious	8-Nov-21	\$3,600 Pretium Resources Inc.	Target	Announced
Metals		Newcrest Mining Limited	Acquiror	
		Blackstone Inc.; Liberty Metals & Mining Holdings, LLC; Blackstone Tactical Opportunities Fund L.P.; Orion Mine Finance	Vendor	
Health Care	6-Oct-21	\$2,212 Baylis Medical Company Inc.	Target	Announced
		Boston Scientific Corporation	Acquiror	
Precious	8-Dec-21	\$1,834 Great Bear Resources Ltd.	Target	Announced
Metals		Kinross Gold Corporation	Acquiror	
		Northfield Capital Corporation	Vendor	
Materials	30-Nov-21	\$1,684 Mantos Copper (Bermuda) Limited	Target	Announced
		Capstone Mining Corp.	Acquiror	
		Audley Capital Advisors LLP; Orion Resource Partners	Vendor	
Information	20-Dec-21	\$1,382 intelliHUB Holdings Pty Ltd	Target	Announced
Technology		Brookfield Asset Management Inc.	Acquiror	
		Pacific Equity Partners; Landis+Gyr Pty Ltd	Vendor	
Consumer	15-Nov-21	\$1,252 Firehouse Restaurant Group, Inc.	Target	Closed
Discretionary		Restaurant Brands International Inc.	Acquiror	
Consumer	26-Oct-21	\$1,100 Weston Foods Fresh and Frozen Bakery Businesses of George Weston Limited	Target	Closed
Staples		FGF Brands Inc.	Acquiror	
		George Weston Limited	Vendor	
Utilities	30-Nov-21	\$1,087 2,520-Megawatt Renewables Portfolio	Target	Announced
		Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan Board	Acquiror	
		NextEra Energy Resources, LLC	Vendor	
Information	8-Nov-21	\$1,081 Zix Corporation	Target	Closed
Technology		Open Text Corporation	Acquiror	
		True Wind Capital Management, L.P.	Vendor	
Information	1-Nov-21	\$1,013 ecobee, Inc.	Target	Closed
Technology		Generac Power Systems, Inc.	Acquiror	
		Tech Capital Partners Inc.; BDC Capital Inc.; Thomwest Ventures, Inc.; Just Energy Group Inc.; Amazon.com Inc., Investment Arm; The Ontario Capital Growth Corporation; Northleaf Capital Partners Ltd.; Relay Ventures; Energy Impact Partners LLC; Evergy Ventures	Vendor	
Consumer	11-Oct-21	\$1,009 Dorel Sports USA LLC	Target	Closed
Discretionary		Pon Holdings B.V.	Acquiror	
•		Dorel Industries Inc.	Vendor	
Metals	9-Oct-21	\$960 Neo Lithium Corp.	Target	Announced
and Mining	. 00. 21	Zijin Mining Group Company Limited	Acquiror	. mnounced
Energy	9-Nov-21	\$900 Storm Resources Ltd.	Target	Closed