

# **REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

## Market Making of S&P/TSX 60 Dividend Index Futures (SDV<sup>™</sup>)



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#### Introduction and Purpose of the Request for Proposal

The Montréal Exchange (the "**Bourse**") is inviting all approved participants/foreign approved participants or clients of approved participants/foreign approved participants with direct electronic access to the Bourse who are interested in the new market making program described herein (the "**Market Making Program**") to submit a proposal outlining their abilities and commitment towards the market making of futures contracts on the Bourse's S&P/TSX 60 Dividend Index Futures ("SDV") (a "**Proposal**").

#### Background

Dividend derivatives experienced tremendous growth over the past five years in Europe and are now offered on a growing number of exchanges globally. In response to increasing client demand and a desire to enhance and expand the suite of equity derivatives products, the Bourse will introduce futures on the S&P/TSX 60 Dividend Points Index, an index that tracks the accumulation of dividends paid by the constituents of the S&P/TSX 60 annually.

The Bourse is soliciting participants and clients' interest in supporting the SDV, during the regular session from 9:30 a.m. ET to 4:30 p.m. ET through a Market Making Program.

#### Program

#### Description of the Market Making Program

The Bourse will proceed, if the responses submitted are satisfactory, with the selection of up to two (2) market makers (the "**Market Makers**") for the Designated Contract who will quote the Designated Contract.

#### Eligibility and Selection Criteria

All approved participants/foreign approved participants or clients of approved participants/foreign approved participants of the Bourse are eligible to be appointed as a Market Maker.

The Bourse will consider the criteria listed in article 3.112 of its Rules in selecting Market Makers, including:

- Technology: Automation capabilities which can be deployed to support efficient market making activities.
- Knowledge: Market Makers will be required to have the necessary skills and experience for the market making of interest rate products.
- Compliance with rules: Only approved participants/foreign approved participants or clients of approved participants/foreign approved participants in good standing and in compliance with the



Rules of the Bourse will be considered.

#### Incentives

In exchange for meeting the market making obligations on the Designated Contracts, the Bourse shall grant incentives to the Market Makers.

Further information related to the incentives will be provided to interested parties on request.

#### Duration of the Program

The duration of the Program will be one (1) year. Market Makers will be required to sign a standard Market Making Agreement for a fixed one-year term, with the Bourse.

#### **Designated Interest Rate Futures Contracts**

S&P/TSX 60 Dividend Index Futures (SDV)

#### Market Making Requirements

Market Makers will be required to post markets at the contracted minimum size and maximum spread (or better), for a predefined percentage of time. The agreement may also include other quantitative and/or qualitative requirements.

Further information related to the market making obligations will be provided to interested parties on request.

#### Monitoring of Performance

The Bourse will be monitoring the Market Makers' order book activity to determine compliance with the obligations set forth in the Market Making Agreement. The Bourse shall be solely responsible for the monitoring of Market Makers' compliance with the Market Making Program obligations and the calculation of the corresponding incentives in accordance with the terms of the Market Making Agreement.

#### **Application Process**

To respond to this Request for Proposals ("**RFP**"), please provide a Proposal addressing the requirements and selection criteria outlined above. All Proposals should be submitted to the contact indicated below by no later than 5:00 pm Eastern time (ET) on **November 13<sup>th</sup>**, **2020.** 



#### **Contact Information**

For any questions or information, including confidential details regarding the market making requirements and/or incentives, please contact:

#### Gladys Karam

Director, Equity Derivatives Phone: 514-871-7880 | Email: gladys.karam@tmx.com

#### Timeframe

| October 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2020  | Distribution of RFP                                   |  |  |  |
|----------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| November 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2020 | Deadline for delivery of Proposals to the Bourse      |  |  |  |
| November 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2020 | Notification of selected Market Makers                |  |  |  |
| December 11 <sup>th</sup> , 2020 | Deadline for signature of the Market Making Agreement |  |  |  |

#### Market Maker Application

The Bourse will evaluate Proposals based on the requirements and selection criteria described in this RFP. All Proposals should include a filled out Market Maker Application attached (page 7).

#### Confidentiality

All documents submitted by respondents and the information contained in the Proposals shall be treated as confidential by the Bourse.

#### Evaluation

The objective of the evaluation process is to identify the Proposals that, in the discretion and assessment of the Bourse, most effectively meet the requirements and selection criteria provided for in this RFP. Any additional information provided by the respondents will also be considered if it is deemed to be the most beneficial to the Bourse's market participants.

#### **General Terms and Conditions**

- 1. The Market Making Program is subject to the Rules of the Bourse and in the event of an inconsistency between the Market Making Program and the Rules of the Bourse, the latter shall prevail. However, where a term of the Market Making Program is more specific than or supplement the Rules, such more specific or supplementary term will apply.
- 2. The issuance of this RFP shall not cause any express or implied commitment or undertaking on the part of the Bourse and the Bourse is under no obligation or commitment, whatsoever, to accept any Proposal, select Market Maker(s) or implement the Program. The Bourse may cancel, amend or withdraw this RFP, at its own discretion, without prior notice.
- 3. All decisions will be made by the Bourse at its sole discretion, including regarding the selection of Market Maker(s), and shall be final and binding.



- 4. The Bourse shall not be liable for any fees, costs or expenses incurred by the respondent resulting from this RFP or any other request.
- 5. Proposals received after the deadline for Proposal submissions will only be accepted at the discretion of the Bourse.
- 6. All Proposals shall be binding for a period of 30 days following the deadline for Proposal submissions. Should a respondent wish to alter or amend a Proposal, it shall withdraw its original Proposal by delivering written notice via email to the contact person listed above, and submit a new Proposal prior to the deadline for Proposal submissions. The respondent may revoke its Proposal at any time prior to the deadline for Proposal submissions by delivering written notice via email to the contact person listed above.
- 7. The selected Market Maker(s) will be required to sign the same standard Market Making Agreement with the Bourse prior to being admitted into the Program. No incentives may be earned before the binding standard Market Making Agreement has been signed by the Bourse and the selected Market Maker(s).
- 8. The selected Market Maker(s) will be required to, directly or through their clearing member (responsible for the allocation process), set up a sub-account that can be recognized by the Bourse, and will also set up a Multi-Purpose sub-account (i.e. client netted account) at the Canadian Derivatives Clearing Corporation (CDCC).
- 9. If selected, the Market Maker consents to the disclosure of their status as a market maker on the Designated Contracts in any marketing efforts the Bourse deems appropriate, including, but are not limited to, the Bourse's website.
- 10. The Bourse reserves the right to terminate the Market Making Agreement or modify the Market Making Program upon 30-day written notice to the Market Maker(s).
- 11. The Bourse reserves the right to replace or appoint additional Market Maker(s) in instances including, but not limited to, where a Market Maker fails to fulfil the obligations set forth in the Market Making Agreement. The replacement or addition of a new Market Maker is at the sole discretion of the Bourse, and can be completed by selecting a Market Maker that originally submitted a Proposal or by re-opening this RFP. The Bourse reserves the right to change the terms of this RFP or to reopen it after the deadline for Proposal submissions without prior notice.

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#### Market Maker Application

Conditions for Applying for Market Maker Status

Applicants shall meet the criteria listed in article 3.112 of the Rules of the Bourse, including:

- 1. Have adequate financial capital to support Market Making obligations;
- 2. A history of compliance with the regulation of the Bourse;
- 3. A reliable trading infrastructure, risk management system and technology to support electronic trading, as well as adequate operational capacity;
- 4. Experience with trading similar derivative instruments;
- 5. Willingness to promote the Bourse as a marketplace;
- 6. Willingness to sign a Market Making Agreement;
- 7. Any other factors deemed relevant by the Bourse.

Additional criteria for client market makers:

- 1. Client agrees to be subject to the jurisdiction of the Bourse's Regulatory Division with respect to its trading activity and conduct as a market maker during the term of the market making assignment;
- 2. Client must obtain the acknowledgement of the approved participant providing it is for electronic access.

| General Information      |
|--------------------------|
|                          |
| Firm name:               |
| Address:                 |
| Firm Division:           |
| Authorized Contact name: |
| Title:                   |
| Phone:                   |
| Email:                   |



| Market Making status               |             |             |  |  |  |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|--|--|--|
| AP/FAP<br>Client of an AP/FAP      |             |             |  |  |  |
| Designated Contracts (specify cate | gory & name | contracts)  |  |  |  |
| Equity and ETF Options             |             |             |  |  |  |
| Index Options                      |             |             |  |  |  |
| Currency Options                   |             |             |  |  |  |
| Index Futures                      |             |             |  |  |  |
| Share Futures                      |             |             |  |  |  |
| STIR Futures                       |             |             |  |  |  |
| Bond Futures                       |             |             |  |  |  |
| Options on STIR Futures            |             |             |  |  |  |
|                                    |             |             |  |  |  |
| Options on Bond Futures            |             |             |  |  |  |
| Market Making Capital              |             |             |  |  |  |
| \$                                 |             | As of Date: |  |  |  |
| Other Exchange Memberships         |             |             |  |  |  |
|                                    |             |             |  |  |  |
|                                    |             |             |  |  |  |
|                                    |             |             |  |  |  |



| Information on Technology   |           |             |           |          |              |         |
|---|-----------|-------------|-----------|----------|--------------|---------|
| Description of technology supporting e  | electro   | onic tradir | ng, tradi | ng tools | and infrastr | ucture: |
|   |           |             |           |          |              |         |
|   |           |             |           |          |              |         |
| Adequate personnel in place to suppor   | t:        |             |           |          |              |         |
| On-screen quoting functions:  |           | YES         |           |          | NO           |         |
| Trading functions:  |           | YES         |           |          | NO           |         |
| Name of Independent Software Vendors (ISVs):  |           |             |           |          |              |         |
|   | al a ul:. |             |           |          |              |         |
| Description of Access to Contract's Un  | aeriyii   | ng Marke    | [:        |          |              |         |
| Description of Risk Management Tools:   |           |             |           |          |              |         |
|   |           |             |           |          |              |         |
| Additional Safeguards (if applicable):  |           |             |           |          | Ν            |         |
|   |           |             |           |          | ין           | J/A □   |
| Operational Capacity  |           |             |           |          |              |         |
| Description of ability to manage operational tasks (trade allocation, reconciliation, administration of rebates, etc.): |           |             |           |          |              |         |
|   |           |             |           |          |              |         |
| Adequate personnel in place to suppor   | rt:       |             |           |          |              |         |
| Operational functions:  |           | YES         |           | NO       |              |         |
| Name of Clearing Member:  |           |             |           |          |              |         |
|   |           |             |           |          |              |         |



| In the case of client market makers, established a relationship with an active execution broker?                                      |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| Market Making & Trading Experience  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Number of years market making similar contracts:  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Number of years trading similar contracts :   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Description of general experience (products, venues):   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Description of experience trading Montréal Exchange (MX) products and participation in MX market making or other commercial programs: |  |  |  |  |  |

| COMMITMENT TO DESIGNATED CONTRACTS |      |        |  |  |
|------------------------------------|------|--------|--|--|
| Contracts                          | Size | Spread | Percentage of Time<br>(Rate of Presence) |  |
| SDV                                |      |        |  |  |



What are the advantages of your market making abilities over other firms? Please elaborate.

Acknowledgment and Signature

The Applicant attests the information provided herein is complete and accurate.

Signature of Authorized Contact:

Date: