



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Qtrade Investor takes first place in annual ranking of online brokerages

VANCOUVER, B.C., December 12, 2016—Qtrade Investor has once again claimed first place in the latest annual ranking of online brokers by *The Globe and Mail*.

Of Canada's 12 online brokers, Qtrade was one of only two to receive an overall 'A' rating—once again topping the big banks' services to secure a share of top spot. This is the eighth time in the past 11 years that Qtrade Investor has been awarded first place in the *Globe's* review.

"In an evolving world, they keep adapting to better serve clients," said financial columnist Rob Carrick of this year's top brokers. He praised Qtrade Investor's "fresh, clean, and client-friendly package" while acknowledging Qtrade's ability to meet high client expectations across numerous criteria, including a clean, modern, easy-to-use website; trades for under \$10; commission-free ETFs; no-commission on all mutual funds; U.S. dollar accounts; dividend re-investment plans; and Level II quotes for all clients.

"We're honoured to be ranked as a top choice for self-directed investors, and first nationwide in a very competitive industry," said Qtrade Financial Group CEO Bill Packham. "Our team works very hard to provide self-managed investors with exceptional value and an outstanding online brokerage experience, and it's gratifying to see that work recognized."

"The results of the *Globe's* survey validate our commitment to improving and streamlining the client experience and to offering competitive pricing," said Catherine Wood, Qtrade Financial Group's Senior VP and Head of Online Brokerage. "This year we improved our offering with numerous enhancements inspired by client feedback and supported by client usage analytics, and we've been very pleased by the positive reaction from our clients."

Among the enhancements made this year, Qtrade Investor eliminated ECN fees. Young Investor Pricing was introduced to empower investors age 18 to 30 to save more and build assets more quickly. Qtrade also significantly increased its commitment to ETF investors by expanding the list of commission-free ETFs from 60 to 100. As well, Qtrade launched a major overhaul of the navigation and home page dashboard within its client site: the simplified new design reduces friction and allows clients to easily monitor their portfolios and take action, with fewer clicks.

The latest online brokerage review was published December 12, 2016. According to *The Globe and Mail*, the annual ranking "is designed to highlight the brokers that are most effectively adapting to a more competitive world" while emphasizing "features that help people build and manage their portfolios effectively, notably user-friendly websites."

The recognition in the latest *Globe* survey follows Qtrade Investor being named Canada's top online brokerage in the 2016 Canadian Online Discount Brokerage Review by Surviscor, which was announced December 1, 2016.

About Qtrade Investor

Known for its easy-to-use online and mobile investing platforms and world-class client service, Qtrade Investor has consistently been ranked among Canada's top online brokerages for over a decade. Qtrade gives clients access to a wide range of investments and account types, all at competitive prices, along with extensive free educational resources and trading tools—making it a trusted choice for beginners and seasoned investors alike. Part of Qtrade Financial Group, Qtrade Investor is a division of Qtrade Securities Inc., Member of the Canadian Investor Protection Fund. For more information, visit www.qtrade.ca/investor.

About Qtrade Financial Group

Qtrade Financial Group is a national, award-winning, integrated financial services company, with over \$13 billion in assets. Qtrade Financial Group provides online brokerage services to individual investors along with full-service brokerage, wealth and investment management platforms and services, custodial services, introducing broker services, and insurance solutions to meet the diverse needs of over 150 financial institutions, as well as their members and clients, across Canada. Qtrade's partners include credit unions, banks, trust companies, insurance companies, investment dealers, portfolio managers and financial planning firms. Qtrade Financial Group is backed by Desjardins Group, the leading cooperative financial group in Canada and the sixth largest cooperative financial group in the world. More information is available at www.qtrade.ca.

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