

## M&A Strong but Feeling the Pull of Gravity

M&A activity continued to moderate in the third quarter of 2021 with 917 reported deals, representing a decline of 7% compared to Q2 and the lowest quarterly level transactions we have seen over the prior three quarters. However, despite this declining trend, the quarter was still the fourth strongest quarter on record with announcements that were well above pre-pandemic levels. From a value perspective, aggregate transactions announced remained strong at \$98B, making it one of the five strongest quarters in the last 5 years.

"We have seen a modest pull-back in M&A announcements but there are still historically strong conditions and other ingredients driving the market," said Colin Walker, Managing Director at Crosbie. "Market conditions generally remain very supportive of continued strong levels of M&A activity in the coming quarters. We also think the fourth quarter could also be positively impacted by some sellers trying to get their deals completed by year-end in anticipation of higher capital gains taxes," he added.

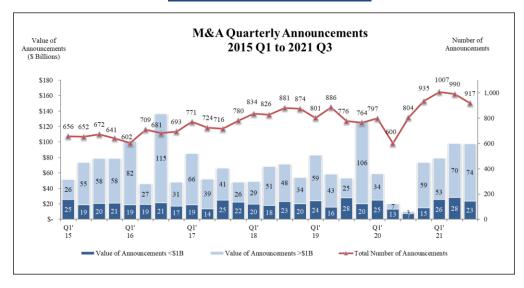
Underpinning the quarter were nine mega-deals (deals with value in excess of \$1B), collectively representing aggregate value of \$74B. The largest of these was **Canadian Pacific Railway's** offer of \$39.7B for **Kansas City Southern** which appears to have ended the bidding war with Canadian National Railway that has played out over recent quarters. While lower than Canadian National's previous bid, **Canadian Pacific's** offer was accepted given greater certainty of being accepted by the regulators. The other significant transaction in the quarter was **Anglo Eagle Mines** acquisition of **Kirkland Lake Gold** for \$13.5B.

As always, the mid-market drove many market metrics. Transactions with disclosed values below \$250M represented approximately 91% of deal activity and 12% of deal value in Q3 2021. In aggregate, this amounted to 353 transactions, which was 15% below the prior quarter.

Cross-border M&A grew its share of total deal volume to 48% in Q3 2021, which represents the new high-water mark and may in part reflect the relaxation of foreign travel restrictions. Additionally, as a share of total reported value, cross-border transactions increased to 75%, which is the fourth largest cross-border share of total deal value on record. Outbound M&A activity (Canadian acquiror and a foreign target) continued to outpace inbound M&A activity by a ratio of 1.75:1. Canadian firms have acquired 828 foreign companies year-to-date, which is roughly in line with the total number of outbound deals that occurred in the year of 2020. At roughly two-thirds of all outbound deal activity in Q3 2021, the U.S. continued to represent the largest market for Canadian firms acquiring abroad.

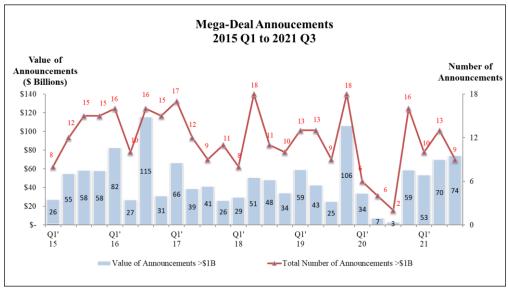
More than half of the industry categories profiled experienced a decline in activity relative to Q3 2021, with **Precious Metals**, **Consumer Staples** and **Utilities** each posting declines in excess of 20%. Conversely, **Information Technology**, **Industrials** and **Real Estate** were the most active sectors in Q3, representing 141 (\$3.2B), 117 (\$42.5B) and 110 (\$15.8B) announced transactions, respectively. **Real Estate** comprised one-third of the 15 largest transactions in Q3 2021. The large increase in **Precious Metals** was driven by the \$13.5 billion merger announcement between U.S.-based **Agnico Eagle Mines Limited** and Ontario-based **Kirkland Lake Gold Ltd**.

## **Q3 2021 M&A Report**



#### **Overview**

- Deal activity in Q3 2021 continued to moderate relative to the preceding three quarters with 917 announced transactions, which represents a 9% decline from the all-time high observed in Q1 2021 and a 14% increase relative to the same quarter last year
- Aggregate deal value reached \$98B in Q3 2021, which is the fifth largest quarterly deal value in the past five years and represents a more than fivefold increase relative to Q3 2020
- Cross-border M&A activity continued at a strong pace in the third quarter with 499 announced transactions collectively representing \$79.8B (82% of the aggregate deal value). There were 282 transactions representing Canadian firms acquiring foreign targets representing 57% of cross-border deals



#### **Mega-Deals**

- There were 9 mega-deals (deals surpassing \$1B in value) announced in Q3 2021. In aggregate, these transactions represented \$74B of deal value and earmarked Q3 2021 as the fourth largest quarter for mega-deal value over the preceding five years
- The largest transaction this quarter was Canadian Pacific's bid of \$39.7B for Kansas City Southern, followed up by Agnico Eagle Mines \$13.5B announced merger with Kirkland Lake Gold
- Canadian Pacific's bid for Kansas City Southern is the largest mega-deal over the past year and the fourth largest over the past five years

	20:	2021 Q3			
	# of	Value	# of	Value	
INDUSTRY GROUPS	Deals	\$Millions	Deals	\$Millions	
Information Technology	141	3,272	141	3218	
Industrials	99	44,456	117	42,463	
Real Estate	108	9,949	110	15,826	
Metals and Mining	125	446	101	1,660	
Healthcare	95	2,787	78	1,292	
Financial Services	64	3,496	70	1,700	
Precious Metals	82	1,596	63	14,725	
Communication Services	52	1,158	58	2,413	
Consumer Discretionary	45	1,219	53	895	
Energy	52	18,816	48	5,938	
Consumer Staples	50	546	34	527	
Materials	24	1,210	22	896	
Other	41	1,099	13	5	
Utilities	12	3,074	9	6,310	
TOTAL	990	93,123	917	97,869	
Services	126	59,242	121	46,618	

#### **Industry Sector Activity**

- More than half of the industry sectors we track experienced a decline in announcements relative to Q2 2021, with **Precious Metals**, **Consumer Staples** and **Utilities** each posting declines in excess of 20%
- Information Technology, Industrials and Real Estate were the most active sectors in Q3 2021, representing 141 (\$3.2B), 117 (\$42.5B) and 110 (\$15.8B) announced transactions, respectively
- **Real Estate** deals comprised one-third of the 15 largest announced transactions by deal value in Q3 2021

		202	21 Q2		2021 Q3				
	# of		Value	,	# of		Value		
Size	Deals	%	\$ Millions	%	Deals	%	\$ Millions	%	
<\$100m	382	39	5,767	6	306	33	4,339	4	
\$101m-\$250m	33	3	5,624	6	47	5	7,536	8	
\$251m-\$500m	17	2	6,644	7	16	2	5,793	6	
\$501m-\$1b	7	1	5,376	6	10	1	6,168	6	
>\$1b	13	1	69,712	75	9	1	74,034	76	
Undisclosed	538	54	n/a	n/a	529	58	0	n/a	
	990		93,123		917		97,869		

#### **Breakdown by Transaction Size**

- Mid-market transactions with disclosed values (deal value below \$250M) comprised 91% of the quarterly activity
- Mega-deal activity (value over \$1B) tapered relative to the prior quarter with 9 announcements, while aggregate deal value increased by 6% to \$74B

_	202	1 Q2	2021 Q3		
_	# of	Value	# of	Value	
_	Deals	\$ Millions	Deals	\$ Millions	
Canadian Targets					
With Canadian Buyers	485	27,195	418	18,181	
With Foreign Buyers	163	6,663	161	12,238	
Domestic M&A	648	33,858	579	30,418	
Foreign Targets (Canadian Buyer)	295	56,373	282	61,172	
Canadian Foreign Subsidiaries Sold					
to Foreign Buyers	47	2,892	56	6,278	
Foreign M&A	342	59,265	338	67,451	
_	990	93,123	917	97,869	
_					

#### **Canadian Domiciled versus Foreign M&A Targets**

- Canadian firms made 700 acquisitions in Q3 2021, of which 418 were domestic deals (down 10% from the prior quarter) and 282 were acquisitions made abroad (down 4% quarter over quarter)
- Acquisitions involving Canadian targets moderated to 579 in Q3, which is a decline of 11% from Q2 and 15% from the Q1 high
- The deal value for transactions involving a Canadian target decreased to \$30.4B in Q3, representing a decline of \$3.4B from the prior quarter

	202	2021 Q2		1 Q3
	# of	Value	# of	Value
	Deals	\$Millions	Deals	\$Millions
Outbound M&A (CDN Buyer/ Foreign Target)	295	56,373	282	61,172
Inbound M&A (Foreign Buyer/ CDN Target)	163	6,666	161	12,238
Total Cross Border	458	63,038	443	73,410
Outbound : Inbound Ratio	1.81	8.46	1.75	5.00
Cross Border as % of Total Activity	46%	68%	48%	75%
Canada / US Activity				
US Target	179	48,801	184	51,989
US Buyer	83	2,207	89	10,011
Total Canada/US	262	51,008	273	62,000
Canada/ US as % of Cross Border	57%	81%	62%	84%
	990	93,123	917	97,869

#### **Cross-Border Deals**

- Cross-border deals represented 48% of total activity and 75% of total value in Q3 2021
- Outbound cross-border activity decreased by 4% from the prior quarter, while inbound cross-border activity declined by 1%
- Canada/U.S. transactions represented 62% of cross-border activity and 84% of cross-border deal value

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•	# of		Value		# of		Value	
	Deals	%	\$ Millions	%	Deals	%	\$ Millions	%
Ontario	233	36	8,174	24	228	39	22,642	74
British Columbia	178	27	2,085	6	139	24	,-	13
Quebec	102	16	2,846	8	85	15	1,095	4
Alberta	77	12	20,414	60	69	12	2,331	8
Saskatchewan	17	3	188	1	19	3	259	1
Newfoundland	15	2	2	0	16	3	7	0
New Brunswick	6	1	71	0	8	1	54	0
Manitoba	5	1	44	0	7	1	148	0
Nova Scotia	8	1	8	0	4	1	14	0
Prince Edward Island	1	0	n/a	n/a	3	1	2	0
Northwest Territories	3	0	26	0	0	0	-	0
Nunavut	1	0	0	n/a	0	0	-	0
Yukon Territory	0	0	n/a	n/a	0	0	-	0
Undisclosed Province(2)	2	0	n/a	n/a	1	0		0
	648		33,858		579		30,418	

#### **Deals by Provincial Domicile**

- Ontario remains the most active province by activity and deal value, representing 228 announced transactions and \$22.6B in deal value, of which 3 were mega-deals
- **British Columbia** decreased their share of quarterly deal volume by 3% but more than doubled their share of deal value, reaching 13% in Q3 2021

# **Largest Transactions in Q3 2021**

	Announced		<b>.</b>		Transaction
Target Industry	Date		Target	Role	Status
Industrials	10-Aug-21		Kansas City Southern (NYSE:KSU)	Target	Announced
			Canadian Pacific Railway Limited (TSX:CP)	Acquiror	
			BlackRock, Inc.; The Vanguard Group, Inc.; MFS Investment Management, Inc.	Vendor	
Precious	28-Sep-21		Kirkland Lake Gold Ltd. (TSX:KL)	Target	Announced
Metals			Agnico Eagle Mines Limited (NYSE:AEM)	Acquiror	
Utilities	15-Jul-21	\$5,801	Spark Infrastructure Group (ASX:SKI)	Target	Announced
			KKR & Co. Inc. (NYSE:KKR); Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan Board; Public Sector Pension Investment Board	Acquiror	
Real	9-Aug-21	\$4,775	WPT Industrial Real Estate Investment Trust (TSX:WIR.UN)	Target	Announced
Estate			Blackstone Real Estate Income Trust, Inc.	Acquiror	
			Alberta Investment Management Corporation; Middlefield International Limited; Middlefield Limited; Middlefield Canadian Income PCC - Middlefield Canadian Income - GBP PC	Vendor	
Energy	7-Sep-21	\$3,790	Moda Ingleside Energy Center and Other Assets	Target	Closed
			Enbridge Inc. (TSX:ENB)	Acquiror	
			Moda Midstream, LLC	Vendor	
Real	17-Aug-21	\$2,777	14.5 Million Square Foot Infill and Light Industrial Portfolio	Target	Announced
Estate			Oxford Properties Group, Inc.	Acquiror	
			KKR & Co. Inc. (NYSE:KKR)	Vendor	
Consumer	27-Sep-21	\$1,526	Companies constituting Digital Sports Betting Business of Scientific Games Corporation	Target	Announced
Discretionary			Endeavor Operating Company, LLC	Acquiror	
·			Scientific Games Corporation (NasdaqGS:SGMS)	Vendor	
Financial	4-Aug-21	\$1.142	Custom House ULC	Target	Announced
Services			The Baupost Group, LLC; Goldfinch Partners LLC	Acquiror	, milouneed
			The Western Union Company (NYSE:WU)	Vendor	
Real	26-Aug-21	\$1.043	Office Property Located at One Memorial Drive	Target	Closed
Estate	20 1 kg 21		Norges Bank Investment Management; MetLife Investment Management, LLC	Acquiror	Closed
			Oxford Properties Group, Inc.; J.P. Morgan Asset Management, Inc.	Vendor	
Industrials	10-Sep-21		Portfolio of Seven Class "A" Institutional Quality Multi-Family Properties	Target	Announced
muustrais	10-3cp-21		Starlight Investments; Starlight U.S. Multi-Family (No. 1) Core Plus Fund (TSXV:SCPO.UN)	Vendor	Aimounced
Energy	28-Jul-21		Velvet Energy Ltd.		Closed
Elicigy	28-Jui-21		Spartan Delta Corp. (TSX:SDE)	Target	Closed
				Acquiror	
Industrials	25-Aug-21		Augean plc (AIM:AUG)	Target	Announced
			Ancala Partners LLP; Fiera Infrastructure Inc.	Acquiror	
			Gresham House Strategic plc (AIM:GHS); North Atlantic Smaller Companies Investment Trust PLC (LSE:NAS); Oryx International Growth Fund Limited (LSE:OIG); Hargreave Hale Limited; Harwood Capital LLP; Chelverton Asset Management Limited; Close Asset Management Limited;		
			Artemis Investment Management LLP; Harwood Capital Nominees Limited; Gresham House Asset Management Limited	Vendor	
Consumer	29-Jul-21	\$651	Selenta Hospitality Group, S.L.	Target	Closed
Discretionary			Brookfield Asset Management Inc. (TSX:BAM.A)	Acquiror	
Real	3-Aug-21	\$613	Bow Office Tower in Calgary, Alberta	Target	Closed
Estate			Oak Street Real Estate Capital, LLC	Acquiror	
			H&R Real Estate Investment Trust (TSX:HR.UN)	Vendor	
Real	27-Jul-21		Safeco Plaza, a 50-story, Class A Office Building in Seattle, Washington	Target	Closed
Estate			Boston Properties, Inc. (NYSE:BXP); GIC Pte. Ltd.; Canada Pension Plan Investment Board	Acquiror	210304
	1-Sep-21		-		Announced
Consumer	1-Sep-21	2001	Gage Growth Corp. (CNSX:GAGE)	Target	Announced