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Impact of Macro-economic Developments on the Accounting Profession – Accounting Standards, Estimates, Auditing and the Profession in General

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Disclaimer

The views I am about to express are my own, and are not necessarily representative of the Ontario Securities Commission or its staff.

Economic Uncertainty and Financial Reporting – securities regulatory observations and areas of interest

Financial statement preparation – Management

- Increasing estimation uncertainty
- Going concern
- Subsequent events
- Significant judgments & estimates
- Impairment
- Inconsistencies with Management Commentary
- Risk of inappropriate earnings management practices
- Risk of inappropriate non-GAAP measures



Economic Uncertainty and Financial Reporting – the Three-legged Stool

Audit Committee

- Oversight
- Meaningful dialogue with management probing questions
- Appropriate expertise
- Sufficient engagement with external auditor

Auditor

- Risk assessments, fraud risk
- Professional skepticism
- Reasonableness of assumptions
- Scrutinize going concern assessments and mitigation plans