February 2021 LongView **Artis Real Estate Investment Trust** Corporate Board Report The David and Sharon Johnston Centre for Corporate Governance Rotman Here's where it changes. Innovation

### **Preface:**

### **Outside the Box**

Welcome to **LongView**. Your customized report on *Artis Real Estate Investment Trust's* corporate governance disclosure, process and structure.

Over the past 20 years, our researchers have learned that while there is likely no single best practice, good governance is a critical part of long-term, sustainable value creation. LongView is an evolution in governance reporting, enabling you to compare elements of Artis Real Estate Investment Trust's governance to other issuers at a glance, while moving away from the Johnston Centre's previous judgment-based approach. The Johnston Centre has developed LongView reports for every issuer (207) on the S&P/TSX Composite Index (TSX Index).

Access reports on other issuers at <a href="https://www.rotman.utoronto.ca/Johnston">www.rotman.utoronto.ca/Johnston</a>.

#### Artis Real Estate Investment Trust (AX.UN)

#### **Corporate Profile**

Industry:	Market Cap:	TSX Index Market Cap Rank:	Region:	Fiscal Year End:
Real Estate	\$1.5 billion	188 / 207	Manitoba, Canada	12/31

AX.UN Ownership Type: Widely-Held

AX.UN Size Peer Group: Market Cap Under \$4.75B\* 2021 among our sample of

\*\$4.75B is the median market capitalization as of January 21, 2021 among our sample of 207 TSX Index companies

Ownership Type Breakdown:	<b>78%</b>	10%	<b>12%</b>
	Widely-Held	Controlled: Single-Class	Controlled: Dual-Class
2020 TSX Index	No shareholder or entity holds shares with at least 30% voting control of the corporation.	A shareholder or a block of related shareholders controls at least 30% of all votes.	At least 30% of all votes are controlled by a shareholder or a block of related shareholders using a share class with superior voting rights.

# **Board Composition**

Boards require the right people with an array of skills and perspectives to advise and oversee the organization. This section provides a snapshot of the salient features of *Artis Real Estate Investment Trust* board's composition—size, independence, committee independence, demographics and director tenure—as it compares to other issuers across the TSX Index.

#### **Board Size**

Comparisons

	TSX		
AX.UN	Index	Real Estate	Widely-Held
7	9.7 avg	8.3 avg	9.5 avg

#### **Highlights:**

**Board Renewal Practices** 

The Johnston Centre tracks several variables on board renewal. Below you'll find what we learned about Artis Real Estate Investment Trust's renewal policies and the adoption of renewal policies across the TSX Index:

Does AX.UN have a director term limit?

29.0% TSX Index Adoption

Does AX.UN have a director retirement age limit?

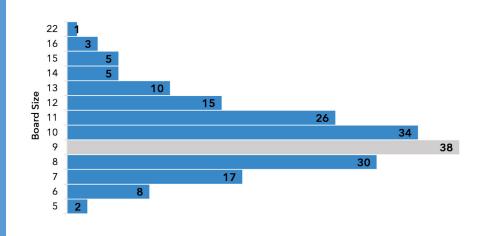
No

Yes

37.2% TSX Index Adoption

#### **Board Size Distribution**

TSX Index in 2020



#### **Board Demographic**

**Composition Comparisons** 

Category	AX.UN	TSX Index	Real Estate	Widely-Held	
Percentage (number) of Women*	14.3% (1)	28.8%	28.9%	28.4%	
Percentage (number) of Aborigina	Percentage (number) of Aboriginal				
Peoples or Visible Minorities*	0% (0)	5.1%	2.4%	4.2%	
Average Age	61.0	61.9	62.0	62.1	
Average Tenure	10.1	7.4	7.9	6.9	
*Peer Group numbers are averages.					

### **Board**

# Independence

There are a multitude of definitions and guidelines around director independence, which can make it difficult to meet everybody's expectations. The Johnston Centre understands that independence involves much more than can be measured on paper. We do, however, gather many variables related to the various relationships that directors might have to a company.

In this section, we summarize what we know about the independence of the *Artis Real Estate Investment Trust* board and provide comparisons to other companies on the TSX Index.

#### Artis Real Estate Investment Trust

**Board Independence** 

<u>Independent directors:</u> 6 / 7 (85.7%)

CEO/Chair Roles Split: Yes - Independent Chair

**Lead Director:** 

No

<u>Audit Committee:</u> 4/4 (100%) Independent

Human Resources Committee:

4/4 (100%) Independent

Nominating Committee: 4/4 (100%) Independent

#### **Types of Material Relationships**

on TSX Index Boards

Business with the Corporation

21.7% of issuers have board members that are lawyers or other professionals retained by the company, or owners/executives that control a third-party entity engaged in business with the company.

Related Party Executives

15.9% of issuers have an executive from a parent/ subsidiary/sister company on the board.

**Executives of the Company** 

**13.5%** of issuers have more than one company executive on the board.

Family Ties

12.1% of issuers are considered family enterprises, with at least one generation of family succession and family members on the board.

#### **Board Independence**

**Comparisons** 

Peer Group	Average Board Independence		Companies with a Lead Director if Chair is Non-Independent
TSX Index	81.1%	66.2%	85.7%
Real Estate	80.7%	72.7%	100.0%
Widely-Held	84.0%	77.0%	89.2%

#### Committee Independence

Comparisons

_	Audit		ces Governance	Nominating
Peer Group	Committee	Committee	Committee	Committee
TSX Index	99.5%	91.8%	87.9%	89.9%
Real Estate	100%	100%	100%	100%
Widely-Held	100%	98.7%	95.6%	97.5%

### Board

## Compensation

This section provides a snapshot of the Artis Real Estate Investment Trust board's compensation—features, total cost, and pay breakdown—compared against other TSX Index peer groups.

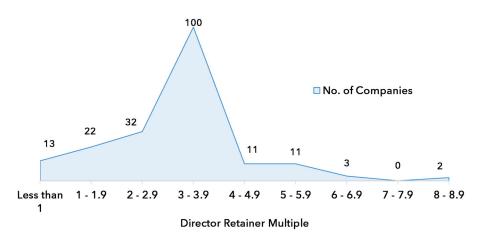
#### Comparisons:

2019 Average Pay per Director



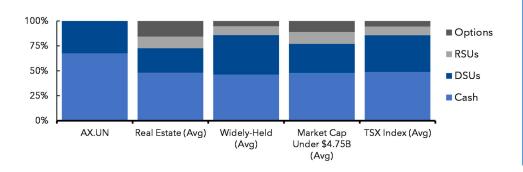
#### TSX Index: Prevalence of Director Share Ownership

**Guidelines as a Multiple of Total Retainer** 



#### Comparisons:

Compensation Breakdown Per Director in 2019



#### **Artis Real Estate Investment Trust**

**Board Compensation Info** 

2019 Average Compensation per Director:	\$192,571	
Director Share Ownership Requirement*:	3x	
2019 Total Board Compensation :	\$1,348,000	
*Multiple of total retainer incl. cash and equity		

#### **Highlights:**

#### **Board Compensation**

The Johnston Centre tracks the adoption and disclosure of several corporate governance parameters related to how corporate boards are paid. Below you'll find what we learned about Artis Real Estate Investment Trust and adoption rate among Real Estate peers (Industry).

Are AX.UN Directors Required To Hold Shares?	Yes
89.2% Industry Adoption.	
Does AX.UN Pay Committee	V
Fees?	Yes
45% Industry Adoption.	
<b>Does AX.UN Pay Board Meeting</b>	
Fees?	Yes

Do AX.UN Directors Receive
Options?

5% Industry Adoption.

55% Industry Adoption.

### **CEO**

# Compensation

CEO compensation is a key responsibility of the board. Every public board makes different decisions about CEO pay, often motivated by several considerations: recruitment and retention, resource allocation, shareholder concerns, company value and performance, and peer compensation. This section provides a snapshot of the *Artis Real Estate Investment Trust* 2019 CEO compensation and characterizes overall pay according to the largest component: cash or equity. Compensation features and breakdown of pay are compared against TSX Index peers.

#### Artis Real Estate Investment Trust

**CEO Compensation Info & Comparisons** 

CEO Total Pay:	CEO Pay Type:	
\$2,930,984	Cash Focused	
Market Cap Under \$4.75B	Real Estate	

Market Cap Under \$4.75B CEO Pay Median:

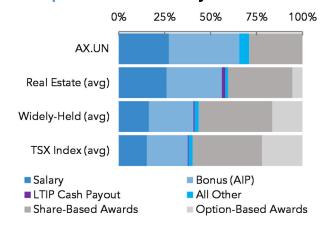
CEO Pay Median: \$2,721,080

\$2,941,812

# CEO Pay Types: TSX Index in 2019

Cash Focused CEO Pay	Balanced CEO Pay	Equity Focused CEO Pay
37% of issuers:	19% of issuers:	43% of issuers:
Cash makes up at	Neither cash nor	Equity awards make
least 60% of the	equity make up at	up at least 60% of
CEO's compensation	least 60% of the CEO's	the CEO's
excluding pension.	compensation	compensation
<u> </u>	excluding pension.	excluding pension.

#### Comparison: CEO Pay Breakdown in 2019



# Highlights: TSX Index CEO Pay

The Johnston Centre tracked several parameters on the compensation governance of TSX Index companies in 2020. Below we compare *Artis Real Estate Investment Trust* to other companies in the Real Estate sector (Industry).

Does relative corporate financial performance affect the CEO's bonus at AX.UN?

No

Yes

No

Yes

No

18% Industry adoption.

Does AX.UN disclose bonus metrics linking the CEO's bonus to corporate financial performance?

90% Industry adoption.

Does AX.UN disclose the weight given to each financial metric affecting the CEO's bonus payout?

59% Industry adoption.

Can AX.UN's CEO receive no bonus for not meeting targets under the plan?

68% Industry adoption.

Does the AX.UN CEO receive equity awards with performance hurdles that consider relative corporate financial performance?

63% Industry adoption.

Does AX.UN disclose a claw-back policy that enables the Board to recoup for reasons that do not require a financial restatement?

22% Industry adoption.

### **Disclosure**

# **Examples**

In this section, we highlight several areas where companies are less likely to earn maximum points in *The Globe and Mail's* annual corporate board ranking "Board Games". In each area, we indicate the 2020 result for *Artis Real Estate Investment Trust* and offer examples of disclosure that meet the criteria for each question, which can be used as optional guides.

#### **Board Games Questions with Low Adoption Rates**

Board Games Question #	AX.UN Score	TSX Index with max score (%)	References to Examples of Disclosure
7. b) Does the company describe how it considers the representation of women for the board of directors?	2/2	49%	Intact Financial Corp earns full marks, because its circular discloses a board gender diversity policy that includes a target for the representation of women, and shows how the board has surpassed the target.  Reference: Intact Financial Corporation. (2020). Management Information Circular, 60. Retrieved from http://www.intactfc.com/English/investors/financial-reports-and-filings/default.aspx
8. Has the company addressed diversity on its board in areas other than gender?	0/2	2%	Cameco Corp earns full marks, because its circular discloses a diversity policy that requires at least one board member to identify as Indigenous and explains how the requirement has been met.  Reference: Cameco Corporation. (2020). Management Information Circular, 29. Retrieved from https://www.cameco.com/media/media-library/documents/management-proxy-circular
9. Does the board have a system to evaluate its performance?	3/3	59%	Canadian Tire Corp earns full marks, because its circular discloses how board and individual director peer assessments are conducted. Reference: Canadian Tire Corporation. (2020). Management Information Circular, 27-28. Retrieved from https://corp.canadiantire.ca/English/investors/financials-reporting/annual-disclosures/default.aspx
25. Does the company disclose it has a provision to 'claw back' bonus payments to the CEO if wrongdoing is discovered?	1/2	35%	ATCO Ltd earns full marks, because its circular discloses that directors have the discretion to recoup bonus payments if they discover wrongdoing. Several activities constitute wrongdoing, and financial restatement is not required.  Reference: ATCO Ltd. (2020). Management Information Circular, 41. Retrieved from www.atco.com/en-ca/about-us/investors/documents-filings.html
33. Does the company describe how it deals with related-party transactions?	0/2	14%	Ritchie Bros. Auctioneers Inc earns full marks, because its circular discloses the board committee responsible for reviewing related-party transactions, which parties are considered related, and the criteria used to evaluate related-party transactions.  Reference: Ritchie Bros. Auctioneers Incorporated. (2020).  Management Information Circular, 38. Retrieved from https://investor.ritchiebros.com/financials/sec-filings/default.aspx

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Rotman School of Management 105 St. George Street, Toronto Ontario, Canada M5S 3E6 t 416-978-4930 E matt.fullbrook@rotman.utoronto.ca