



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Former Finance Minister Joe Oliver joins Echelon Wealth Partners as Chairman

TORONTO, June 26, 2017 – Echelon Wealth Partners Inc. (Echelon) announced today that former federal Finance Minister, the Hon. Joe Oliver, P.C., has joined the firm as Non-Executive Chairman of the Board. He succeeds Campbell Deacon, who will continue with Echelon as a Special Advisor.

In his role as Chairman, Mr. Oliver will take a leadership role in addressing the issues of independent financial services firms, including regulatory policy, emerging market and industry trends, technological innovation, as well as the deepening challenge of capital formation for small and mid-cap Canadian innovation companies. Mr. Oliver, who served in the federal Cabinet in both the Finance and Natural Resources portfolios, will also address critical Canadian fiscal, economic and monetary developments from time to time. As part of his role at Echelon, Mr. Oliver will be involved in client relationship activities and will represent the firm at industry and thought leadership events.

“We are absolutely delighted that someone of Mr. Oliver’s scope and depth of knowledge, wisdom and experience has chosen to join our firm,” said David Cusson, CEO of Echelon. “Our vision at Echelon is to be the pre-eminent independent capital markets and wealth management firm in Canada. We are founded on the principle of partnership, which makes us accountable, responsive and dynamic. Additionally, we have the rare advantage of being well-capitalized due to our financial partner, Miles Nadal and Peerge Capital. With Joe aboard, we will have a strong voice representing the value of robust independent investment firms in Canadian capital markets.”

Mr. Oliver said, “This is an exciting opportunity to work with experienced professionals dedicated to growing an independent investment firm that serves both the investing public and the innovative companies in Canada seeking capital and advice. The structure of the Canadian capital markets changed dramatically with the direct involvement of the chartered banks. More than ever, independent firms can play a crucial role in the financial markets and in enhancing prosperity for both clients and for the Canadian economy. Echelon benefits from substantial and committed financial backing, a key driver for success in the independent space.”

During his financial career Mr. Oliver served as president and CEO of the Investment Dealers Association of Canada, was founding president and CEO of the Mutual Fund Dealers Association, chairman of the

Consultative Committee of the International Securities Commissions and served as executive director of the Ontario Securities Commission. He held senior positions in investment banking operations at Merrill Lynch Royal Securities, Nesbitt Thomson, BMO Nesbitt and First Marathon Securities.

Mr. Deacon, who is Echelon's founding chairman, is stepping back for health reasons but will remain involved with the firm. Mr. Deacon has spent more than 30 years with private and public companies in Canada and internationally as a director or an officer. His former industry roles include: chairman of the Investment Dealers Association of Canada, governor of the Canadian Investor Protection Fund and a member of the Listing Committee of the Toronto Stock Exchange.

"The success of Echelon is becoming very apparent to many in our industry and it was important to set the bar high in finding a successor. David Cusson and I agreed that there was no better Canadian suited to become the chair of a growing, independent, integrated firm than Joe Oliver. He will be an outstanding resource to our firm and our board," said Mr. Deacon.

About Echelon Wealth Partners

Echelon Wealth Partners Inc. is a Canadian independent wealth management and capital markets firm known for its client-centred approach and innovative, entrepreneurial spirit. The company has approximately 100 Advisors and Portfolio Managers (representing 70 teams) with more than \$4 billion in assets under administration and management. Echelon offers a wide range of financial services for individuals, households, institutions and corporate clients from its offices in Toronto, Oakville, Ottawa, London, Montreal, Saskatoon, Calgary, Vancouver, Victoria and Tokyo. Echelon Wealth Partners is a member firm of the Investment Industry Regulatory Organization of Canada (IIROC) and a member of the Canadian Investor Protection Fund (CIPF). www.echelonpartners.com

About Joe Oliver

Hon. Joe Oliver, P.C., is the former Minister of Finance, Minister of Natural Resources, Minister Responsible for the Greater Toronto Area and Member of Parliament for Eglinton-Lawrence. While Finance Minister he served as vice-chair of the Priorities and Planning Committee of cabinet under Stephen Harper's chairmanship. In 2015, Mr. Oliver presented a socially and fiscally balanced budget, which introduced numerous tax and other measures of benefit to Canadians and the Canadian economy. He represented Canada at G7, G20, IMF and World Bank meetings of Finance Ministers and Governors of Central Banks. He co-chaired the G20 committee responsible for generating and overseeing country plans to increase global growth by \$2 trillion. During his financial career, Mr. Oliver held senior positions at Merrill Lynch Royal Securities, Nesbitt Thomson, BMO Nesbitt and First Marathon Securities. He was the founding president and CEO of the Mutual Fund Dealers Association, president and CEO of the Investment Dealers Association and initiated its division into a self-regulatory organization and trade association (IIROC and IIAC). He also served as executive director of the Ontario Securities Commission. Mr. Oliver holds a BA and BCL (civil law) from McGill University and an MBA from Harvard University.

About Campbell Deacon

Campbell Deacon was the founding Chairman of Echelon Wealth Partners. He has been involved as a director and/or officer in a number of domestic and international public and private companies over the past 30 years, including UTS Energy Corporation, Scandinavian Minerals Limited and Deacon Barclays de Zoete Wedd Limited. Mr. Deacon is a former chairman of the Investment Dealers Association of Canada, a former Governor of the Canadian Investor Protection Fund and a former member of the Listing

Committee of the Toronto Stock Exchange. In 2012, He was one of 38 individuals awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal for his extraordinary service to the Canadian investment industry. Mr. Deacon is currently CEO and a director of PetroMaroc Corporation, an independent oil and gas exploration/development company whose operations are based in Morocco. He has been Chairman and a Director of Deacon & Company Inc since August 2007. Mr. Deacon holds a BA from the University of Guelph.

For more information, media may contact:

Patricia Best

Chief Communications Officer

Echelon Wealth Partners

patricia.best@echelonpartners.com

416-356-7901