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Elisa Kearney Shares 2020 Outlook for Foreign Investment with Lexpert

In an article published in Lexpert's Special Edition: *Finance and M&A*, Davies partner [Elisa Kearney](#) was featured for her insights on the regulatory environment for foreign investors in Canada in 2020.

Elisa points out that the Canadian government is generally hospitable to foreign investment, noting that foreign direct investment was up in 2018-2019 and the threshold transaction value for net benefit reviews "has increased significantly, to over \$1.5 billion for countries that Canada has a free-trade agreement with."

On the national security side, she sees less uncertainty around "the new NAFTA" – or CUSMA, the Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement – but continued uncertainty around Canada's relationship with China.

Still, she adds, "I feel like 2020 will be a good year for Canada to do business and as a place for foreign investment."

Although the biggest deals of 2019 were in the cannabis sector, Elisa predicts fewer significant investments and novel transactions in that sector in 2020. "What we'll end up seeing is a consolidation of existing Canadian cannabis companies through asset sales, bankruptcies and consolidation of smaller players," she says.