



## **B Lab Statement on PKF Antares' B Corp Certification**

B Lab's independent Standards Advisory Council has rendered the following decision and guidance regarding eligibility for B Corp Certification for companies providing tax advisory services:

*"Companies in the tax advisory industry are eligible for B Corp Certification if they are able to confirm that their tax philosophy, used to provide services and recommendations to clients, aligns with the company specific principles listed in B Lab's framework, specifically, 1) the tax advice provided appropriately reflects the actual amount of income generated by the client over time; and, 2) the tax advice provided to a client for a jurisdiction appropriately reflects the actual operations of the client in that jurisdiction."*

PKF Antares is required to disclose a summary of how it complies with the above requirements as a part of its B Corp Certification. For more information on the review process, please refer to B Lab's position statement on Companies that Provide Tax Advisory Services and B Corp Certification [here](#).

## **Summary of Company**

PKF Antares ("PKF Antares" or "Firm") is an Accounting, Tax and Advisory firm located in Canada. PKF Antares' tax department, which contributes 20% to its annual revenue, provides expert tax compliance services, tax consulting, and tax planning for SME. PKF Antares charges on a time and material (T&M) basis for majority of the complexity tax cases. The Firm never worked on tax consulting projects on a success fee or a percentage from saved tax amount.

## **PKF Antares' Policies and Practices**

In alignment with the requirements and principles stated in B Lab's position statement for companies that provide tax advisory services, PKF Antares has a philosophy statement for the tax advice that they provide to their clients and their own engagement with governments and tax regulators, which has been shared with all their employees. The philosophy statement reads as follows:

*"As part of that commitment and in recognition of the role that taxes play in contributing to a healthy society, we use our professional judgment to provide advice regarding tax positions with multiple potential interpretations that accurately reflects the income and operations of the client in each jurisdiction for which the client seeks our advice based on the details of the client's income and operations provided to us, and do not advise clients to take a position unless we believe it has at least a reasonable basis for being sustained by applicable tax authorities. If a client takes a tax position despite our advice to the contrary, we reserve the right to resign from the engagement and terminate such client. In accordance with this tax philosophy, we engage with government and tax authorities on a collaborative basis and limit our advocacy activities*



*with such authorities to work for specific clients in need of regulatory compliance assistance We maintain compliance with this policy through regular training of our employees and partners, internal policies on conduct, engagement documentation with our clients, and client retention reviews.”*

PKF Antares is a member of the [Chartered Professional Accountant Canada](#) (CPA Canada). The company also has its own Tax Code of Conduct which establishes minimum expectations to how PKF offers taxation and related advisory services to their clients. These include ensuring:

- The ethical standards of integrity, objectivity and professional behavior are followed.
- Requirements of applicable laws or requirements and other technical standards are complied with.
- Advice offered and tax positions taken are supported by dependable basis.
- Their clients understand their fiscal and legal obligations under the prevailing tax and regulatory system.
- Their clients understand the options available to them and assist them to be as tax competitive as possible (thus creating economic wealth and employment), while also ensuring that they understand the consequences of each option (including potential reputational consequences).
- The teams shall not engage in aggressive tax avoidance schemes and marketing of such techniques to clients.

Before engaging with clients, the reputation of the client and its history of compliance with tax regulations is assessed. Independence and background checks are run to make sure that the client is not engaged in any fraudulent practices or money laundering activities and demonstrates a high level of integrity. They also check that the client is engaged in legitimate business practice only. If a client is unwilling to engage in healthy tax practices, the Firm shall consider options, such as resigning from the account, or if required under any circumstances, may have to report to regulatory authorities.

In order to achieve the aforementioned objectives, the Firm focuses on the continuous professional development of its staff in relation to developments in the tax laws and regulations. The tax team is encouraged to attend formal training for this purpose along with rigorous discussions among the teams themselves to better understand the requirements. The Firm partner assesses each client and the particular matter for tax risk associated with it and uses what can go wrong technique to avoid non-compliance with any regulations.

PKF Antares has never faced any litigation or penalty before from tax advisory services. The company also declares they are not involved in any type of political activity that could be qualified as lobbying or advocacy practices.