



long-term
progress

BUILDING ENDURING VALUE

00

FISCAL 2000

REVENUE
(\$ IN MILLIONS)
\$9,100.1

OPERATING EARNINGS
(\$ IN MILLIONS)
\$84.7

BOOK VALUE
(\$ PER SHARE)
\$8.73

March

Empire repurchases 5.5 million Non-Voting Class A shares for \$187 million.

July

Empire sells its 25% investment in Hannaford Bros. Co. for \$1.2 billion.

01

January

The real estate division purchases a 35.7% interest in Genstar Development Partnership for \$29 million.

02

March

Sobeys sells its Serca Foodservice operation to SYSCO for \$411 million.

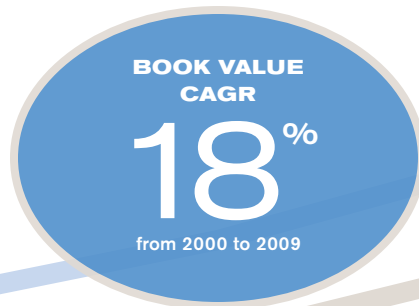
03-04

February 04

Sobeys acquires Commisso's Food Markets for \$61 million and the real estate division acquires Commisso's real estate assets for \$42.5 million.



Empire's ability to build shareholder value is based on investments in the businesses we understand best – food retailing and related real estate. With a focus on meeting the everyday needs of Canadian shoppers, these businesses have helped Empire achieve steady performance, particularly in the recent difficult economic environment. We are confident they will continue to provide abundant opportunity for growth in the years ahead.



REVENUE
(\$ IN MILLIONS)
\$15,015.1

OPERATING EARNINGS
(\$ IN MILLIONS)
\$262.9

BOOK VALUE
(\$ PER SHARE)
\$39.14

05

June

Wajax converts to an income trust. Empire sells 2.875 million units, for a \$25.6 million gain.

September

Empire Theatres acquires 27 movie theatres for \$83 million.

06

March

Crombie REIT completes its initial public offering. Empire sells 44 properties to the REIT for \$468.5 million and retains a 48.3% ownership interest.

August

Sobeys acquires Achille de la Chevrotière Ltée, which included 25 stores in northern Québec and Ontario as well as a distribution centre in Rouyn-Noranda for \$79.2 million.

07

June

Empire acquires the outstanding common shares of Sobeys that it did not own for \$1.06 billion, achieving 100% ownership.

September

Sobeys acquires Thrifty Foods for \$253.6 million. At the time, Thrifty's assets included 20 full-service supermarkets, a distribution centre and a wholesale division on Vancouver Island and the lower mainland of British Columbia.

08

April

Empire sells 61 properties for \$428.5 million to Crombie REIT.

09

April

Empire issued 2,713,000 Non-Voting Class A shares at \$49.75 per share for total net proceeds to Empire of approximately \$129 million. Proceeds from this equity issue, coupled with strong cash generation from Sobeys, helped reduce Empire's ratio of debt to capital to 32.7 percent from 39.8 percent at the start of the fiscal year.

