

CANADIAN MT. GOX CLASS ACTION LAUNCHED

TORONTO, March 14, 2014 - The law firm of Charney Lawyers has commenced a national class action lawsuit to secure recovery for all persons in Canada who lost Bitcoins and other currency after the Mt. Gox Bitcoin exchange went offline in February 2014. Charney Lawyers is working in collaboration with Jay Edelson and Steven Woodrow of Edelson PC, the law firm with carriage of the class action suit commenced in the United States. In those proceedings, the plaintiff secured an injunction freezing the defendants' assets and expediting discovery.

Mt. Gox is an online exchange for Bitcoin, a digital form of currency. Mt. Gox agreed in its terms of service to hold all monetary sums and Bitcoins deposited by a user into his or her account in that user's name and on their behalf.

Since February 7, 2014, Mt. Gox users have not been able to make withdrawals from the exchange in Bitcoin or in any other currency. On February 24, 2014, Mt. Gox announced that it had discovered a loss of approximately 750,000 Bitcoins held in trust for users of the exchange, and on February 25, 2014, the exchange went offline.

It is estimated that the Bitcoins held by Mt. Gox on behalf of its users equals approximately \$465 million in US currency, millions of which belong to Canadian users. No explanation has been forthcoming as to how much currency which was not in Bitcoin was held by Mt. Gox at the time of its shutdown nor what happened to all of the currency that was to be held in trust.

The lawsuit seeks damages arising from the shutdown of the Mt. Gox Bitcoin exchange against Mt. Gox KK (which also operates as Mt. Gox Co. Ltd.), Tibanne KK, MtGOX Inc., and Mt. Gox North America Inc. Mark Karpeles and Jed McCaleb are the sole personal owners of Mt. Gox KK and have also been named as defendants in the class action.

Mizuho Bank, Ltd., one of the largest banks in Japan, has been named as a defendant because all non-Bitcoin currency that was transferred from users' personal bank accounts into the Mt. Gox exchange was being held in an account with Mizuho Bank.

"We do not understand why Mt. Gox or Mr. Karpeles cannot explain the whereabouts of the currency used to purchase the Bitcoins and the currency recovered from the sale of Bitcoins in Mt. Gox," said Ted Charney. "Where is the money?"

The national class action was commenced today on behalf of all Canadians who paid Mt. Gox a fee to trade Bitcoins and/or who had Bitcoins or any other currency stored on the Mt. Gox exchange when it went offline. The lawsuit claims \$500 million in compensation.

Ted Charney is a well-known Toronto litigation lawyer with extensive experience in litigating class action lawsuits.

Any Canadian resident who was a Mt. Gox user is encouraged to register at:

www.mtgoxclassaction.ca

For more information, please contact:

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