



### 3 Dividend Aristocrats to Buy in April and Hold for Years

#### Description

Investing in dividend-growth stocks is one of the most powerful and time-proven strategies to build wealth. With this in mind, let's take a look at three dividend aristocrats with yields of 4-7% that you could buy today.

#### **CI Financial Corp.** ([TSX:CIX](#))

CI Financial is one of Canada's leading wealth management and investment fund companies with approximately \$140.9 billion in assets under management as of February 28, 2018.

CI Financial currently pays a monthly dividend of \$0.1175 per share, equating to \$1.41 per share annually, which gives it a yield of about 5.2% at the time of this writing. The company has raised its annual dividend payment each of the last eight years, and its 2.2% hike in May 2017 has it on track for 2018 to mark the ninth consecutive year with an increase.

I think CI Financial's very strong cash-flow-generating ability, including its 7.2% increase in free cash flow (FCF) to \$648.4 million in 2017, and its conservative dividend-payout ratio, including just 56.8% of its FCF in 2017, will allow it to announce another dividend hike in its fiscal 2018 first-quarter earnings release on May 10.

#### **Brookfield Infrastructure Partners L.P.** ([TSX:BIP.UN](#))([NYSE:BIP](#))

[Brookfield](#) is one of the world's largest owners and operators of high-quality, long-life infrastructure assets, including rail tracks, ports, communications towers, electricity transmission lines, natural gas transmission lines, and storage facilities.

Brookfield currently pays a quarterly distribution of US\$0.47 per unit, representing US\$1.88 per unit annually, which gives its NYSE-listed shares a yield of about 4.5% at the time of this writing. The infrastructure giant has raised its annual distribution each of the last eight years, and its 8% hike in February has it on track for 2018 to mark the ninth consecutive year with an increase.

Foolish investors must also note that Brookfield has a long-term distribution-growth target of 5-9%

annually, and I think its very strong financial performance, including its 14.3% increase in funds from operations (FFO) to US\$3.11 per unit in 2017, and its sound payout ratio, including 67.9% of its FFO in 2017, will allow it to easily achieve this growth target into the 2020s.

### Plaza Retail REIT ([TSX:PLZ.UN](#))

Plaza Retail REIT is one of Canada's largest owners and managers of retail real estate with a portfolio of 298 properties across the country that total approximately 7.83 million square feet of gross leasable area.

Plaza currently pays a monthly distribution of \$0.0233 per unit, representing \$0.28 per unit on an annualized basis, which gives it a yield of about 7% at the time of this writing. The REIT has raised its annual distribution for 14 straight years, and its 3.7% hike that took effect in January has it on track for 2018 to mark the 15th straight year with an increase; this will give Plaza the longest active streak for a public REIT in Canada once **Choice Properties REIT** [closes its acquisition](#) of the current leader, **Canadian REIT**, in the second quarter of 2018.

I think Plaza's very strong financial performance, including its 9.1% increase in adjusted funds from operations (AFFO) to \$0.325 per unit in 2017, and the consistent improvement in its payout ratio, including 83.1% of its AFFO in 2017 compared with 87.6% in 2016, will allow it to continue to be one of the REIT industry's best sources of income and distribution growth going forward.

### CATEGORY

1. Dividend Stocks
2. Investing

### TICKERS GLOBAL

1. NYSE:BIP (Brookfield Infrastructure Partners L.P.)
2. TSX:BIP.UN (Brookfield Infrastructure Partners L.P.)
3. TSX:CIX (CI Financial)
4. TSX:PLZ.UN (Plaza Retail REIT)

### PARTNER-FEEDS

1. Msn
2. Newscred
3. Sharewise
4. Yahoo CA

### Category

1. Dividend Stocks
2. Investing

### Date

2025/06/30

### Date Created

2018/04/05

**Author**  
jsolito

default watermark

default watermark