



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JANUARY 14, 2026

**ARTIS AND RFA CAPITAL PROVIDE UPDATE ON
ANTICIPATED TIMING OF CLOSING OF ARRANGEMENT**

Artis Real Estate Investment Trust (“**Artis**” or the “**REIT**”) (TSX: AX.UN) and RFA Capital Holdings Inc. (“**RFA**”) announced today that the closing of the previously-announced plan of arrangement (the “**Arrangement**”), pursuant to which RFA will acquire all of the outstanding common units, Series E preferred units and Series I preferred units (collectively, the “**Units**”) of Artis (the “**Transaction**”), is anticipated to occur during the week of February 1, 2026, subject to the continued satisfaction of all closing conditions. Following closing, Artis will become a wholly-owned subsidiary of RFA, and RFA will operate as “RFA Financial”. RFA Financial’s common shares, Series E preferred shares and Series I preferred shares have been conditionally approved to trade on the Toronto Stock Exchange (“**TSX**”) under the ticker symbols “RFA”, “RFA.PR.E” and “RFA.PR.I”, respectively.

“We are pleased to announce that we are on track to close the transaction in the coming weeks,” said Samir Manji, President and CEO of Artis. “This transaction represents a compelling and strategic opportunity for our owners. By combining Artis’s proven real estate portfolio with RFA’s growing banking and mortgage platforms, we are creating a company with multiple avenues for growth, substantial access to capital, and potential for enhanced returns. This provides our unitholders with exposure to Canada’s attractive financial services sector and presents a unique opportunity to participate in the expansion and scaling of a Schedule I bank in Canada. We believe this transaction will create value for our unitholders and appreciate their support as we embark on this exciting new chapter for both Artis and RFA.”

“The closing of this transaction will mark a truly transformative milestone for both organizations,” said Ben Rodney, Chair of Artis’s Board of Trustees and President, CEO and Managing Partner of RFA. “RFA contributes a dynamic banking platform with scalable economics and strong operating momentum. By coming together, we are building a more resilient financial services platform that is poised for growth. For investors, this transaction delivers a compelling combination of scale, diversification, and strategic synergies that position us to generate stronger long-term returns. We look forward to the opportunity that is in front of us and to advancing our shared vision as a unified organization.”

Registered Artis unitholders who have questions or require assistance with submitting their Units in connection with the Transaction may direct their questions to Odyssey Trust Company, which is acting as depositary in connection with the Transaction, by telephone at 1 (587) 885-0960 or by email at corp.actions@odysseytrust.com.

For more information on the Transaction, please see the news releases issued by Artis on September 15, 2025, November 10, 2025, December 11, 2025, and December 18, 2025 along with the REIT’s management information circular dated November 10, 2025 prepared in connection with the Transaction, all of which are available under the Artis’s profile at www.sedarplus.ca and on the REIT’s website at www.artisreit.com.

About Artis

Artis is a diversified Canadian real estate investment trust with a portfolio of industrial, office and retail properties in Canada and the United States. For more information, please visit www.artisreit.com.

About RFA

Founded in 1996, RFA is a Canadian-owned real estate investment firm. RFA specializes in residential mortgage lending and asset management through its subsidiaries: RFA Bank of Canada, a federally regulated Schedule I Bank, RFA Mortgage Corporation, TM Investments and Five Continents Financial. Combined, RFA offers mortgage brokers a one-stop shop with a full suite of competitive Prime, Alternative, Private, Commercial mortgages, and Wealth Management

Cautionary Statement and Forward-Looking Statements

This press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of applicable Canadian securities laws. For this purpose, any statements contained herein that are not statements of historical fact may be deemed to be forward-looking statements. Without limiting the foregoing, the words “outlook”, “objective”, “opportunity”, “potential”, “growth”, “become”, “expects”, “anticipates”, “continue”, “intends”, “estimates”, “projects”, “strategy”, “subject to”, “believes”, “plans”, “seeks”, “commit”, “goal”, “focus”, “target” and similar expressions or variations of such words and phrases suggesting future outcomes or events, or which state that certain actions, events or results “may”, “would”, “should” or “will” occur or be achieved are intended to identify forward-looking statements. In particular, statements regarding the Arrangement, including conditions required to complete the Arrangement, anticipated timing of closing, listing of securities on the TSX, ticker symbols, corporate structure of RFA, business names and the expected benefits to Artis and its unitholders, RFA and its shareholders, and other stakeholders as a result of the Arrangement are or involve forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking information reflects management’s current beliefs and is based on information currently available to management.

Forward-looking statements are based on a number of factors and assumptions which are subject to numerous risks and uncertainties, which have been used to develop such statements, but which may prove to be incorrect. Although Artis believes that the expectations reflected in the forward-looking statements are reasonable, it cannot guarantee future results, levels of activity, performance or achievement since such expectations are inherently subject to significant business, economic, competitive, political and social uncertainties and contingencies. Assumptions have been made regarding, among other things: the general stability of the economic and political environment in which Artis and RFA operate, general stability of the Canadian real estate and mortgage lending industries, treatment under governmental regulatory regimes, securities laws and tax laws, continuity of current Artis and RFA management until closing of the Arrangement, the availability of suitable capital reallocation investment opportunities following closing of the Arrangement, there will be no material delays in obtaining required regulatory approvals in connection with the Arrangement, the continued activity of RFA Bank of Canada as a Schedule I bank, timely and successful integration of the Artis and RFA businesses, the ability of Artis, RFA, the resulting issuer following the Arrangement and their respective service providers to obtain and retain qualified staff, equipment and services in a timely and cost efficient manner, currency, exchange and interest rates, global economic, financial markets and economic conditions, including the imposition of tariffs, in Canada and the United States.

Artis is subject to significant risks and uncertainties which may cause the actual results, performance or achievements of the REIT to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied in these forward-looking statements. Such risk factors include, but are not limited to risk related to: the parties’ ability to satisfy conditions in the arrangement agreement; the occurrence of any event, change or other circumstance that could give rise to the termination of the arrangement agreement; material adverse changes in the affairs of Artis or RFA; the parties’ ability to obtain required consents in order to complete the Arrangement; adverse reactions or changes in business relations resulting from the announcement or completion of the Arrangement; risks related to the diversion of management’s attention

from ongoing business operations while the Arrangement is pending; restrictions imposed on the parties while the Arrangement is pending; completion of tax matters; credit, market, currency, operational, liquidity and funding risks generally and relating specifically to real property ownership, real property asset management and mortgage lending; disruption to supply chains; geographic concentration; current economic conditions including the imposition of tariffs; strategic initiatives; debt financing; interest rate fluctuations; foreign currency; tenants; SIFT rules; availability of suitable capital reallocation investment opportunities; other tax-related factors; changes to accounting principles; illiquidity; competition; reliance on key personnel; delays to the integration of the Artis and RFA lines of business as a result of the Arrangement; financial condition of the resulting issuer following the combination of Artis and RFA under the Arrangement; future property transactions; general uninsured losses; dependence on information technology; cyber security; integration of artificial intelligence; imposition of litigation; environmental matters and climate change; land and air rights leases; public markets; market price of Artis units; changes in legislation; investment eligibility; availability of cash flow; fluctuations in cash dividends/distributions; nature of Artis units; legal rights attaching to Artis common units and Artis preferred units; dilution of securityholders; unitholder liability; failure to obtain additional financing; potential conflicts of interest; and other risks described under the headings “Risk Factors” in the management information circular and Artis’ current Annual Information Form for the year ended December 31, 2024 and “Risks and Uncertainties” in Artis’ Q3-25 Management’s Discussion and Analysis, posted under its profile on SEDAR+ at www.sedarplus.ca.

Artis cannot assure investors that actual results will be consistent with any forward-looking statements and Artis assumes no obligation to update or revise such forward-looking statements to reflect actual events or new circumstances other than as required by applicable securities laws. All forward-looking statements contained in this press release are qualified by this cautionary statement.

For further information, please contact:

For further information please contact Mr. Samir Manji, President and Chief Executive Officer, Ms. Jaclyn Koenig, Chief Financial Officer or Ms. Heather Nikkel, Senior Vice-President – Investor Relations and Sustainability of the REIT at 1.204.947.1250 or Mr. Ben Rodney, President, CEO and Managing Partner, or Ms. Melody Lo, Managing Partner, of RFA at 1.647.330.5963.

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