

COGNICASE INC  
Form SC14D1F/A  
December 24, 2002

[QuickLinks](#) -- Click here to rapidly navigate through this document

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on December 24, 2002

---

---

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

---

### SCHEDULE 14D-1F

(RULE 14d-102)

#### TENDER OFFER STATEMENT PURSUANT TO RULE 14d-1(b) UNDER THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 (Amendment No. 2)

---

#### COGNICASE INC.

*(Name of Subject Company (Issuer))*

**Québec, Canada**

*(Jurisdiction of Subject Company's (Issuer's) Incorporation or Organization)*

#### CGI GROUP INC.

*(Bidder)*

**Common Shares, no par value**

*(Title of Class of Securities)*

**192 423 101**

*(CUSIP Number of Class of Securities (if Applicable))*

Jean-René Gauthier, Esq.  
McCarthy Tétrault LLP  
Windsor Tower, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
1170 Peel Street  
Montréal Québec  
Canada H3B4S8  
(514) 397-4299

*(Name, Address (Including Zip Code) and Telephone Number (Including Area Code)  
of Person(s) Authorized to Receive Notices and Communications on Behalf of Bidder)*

Copies to:

Robert J. Grammig, Esq.  
Holland & Knight LLP  
400 North Ashley Drive  
Suite 2300  
Tampa, Florida 33602

Edgar Filing: COGNICASE INC - Form SC14D1F/A

(813) 227-8500

**December 6, 2002(1)**

*(Date Tender Offer First Published, Sent or Given to Security Holders)*

(1)

The Tender Offer was first published in Canada on December 6, 2002.

---

---

---

**PART I**

**INFORMATION REQUIRED TO BE SENT TO SHAREHOLDERS**

**Item 1. Home Jurisdiction Documents**

a.

Offer and Circular dated as of December 6, 2002, including the Letter of Transmittal and Notice of Guaranteed Delivery.(1)

b.

Notice of Change and Variation of the Offer to Purchase dated December 16, 2002, including the Amended Letter of Transmittal and Amended Notice of Guaranteed Delivery.(2)

c.

Notice of Change and Variation of the Offer to Purchase dated December 18, 2002.

**Item 2. Informational Legends**

a.

See the inside cover page of the Offer and Circular dated as of December 6, 2002.(1)

b.

See the inside cover page of the Notice of Change and Variation of the Offer to Purchase dated December 16, 2002.(2)

c.

See the inside cover page of the Notice of Change and Variation of the Offer to Purchase dated December 18, 2002.

---

(1)

Previously filed with the bidder's Schedule 14D-1F (File No. 005-50642) filed December 9, 2002.

(2)

Previously filed with the bidder's Amendment No. 1 to Schedule 14D-1F (File No. 005-50642) filed December 17, 2002.

---

*This document is important and requires your immediate attention. If you are in any doubt as to how to deal with it, you should consult your investment dealer, stockbroker, bank manager, lawyer or other professional advisor.*

*No securities commission or similar authority in Canada has in any way passed upon the merits of the securities offered hereunder and any representation to the contrary is an offence. Information has been incorporated by reference in this Offer and Circular from the documents filed with securities commissions or similar authorities in Canada (the permanent information record in Québec), copies of which may be obtained upon request without charge from the Secretary of CGI Group Inc. at 1130 Sherbrooke Street West, Montreal, Québec H3A 2M8 (514) 841-3200.*

**CGI GROUP INC.**

**NOTICE OF CHANGE AND VARIATION  
OF THE OFFER TO PURCHASE**

all of the outstanding common shares of

**COGNICASE INC.**

on the basis of, at the option of the holder, for each Cognicase Share,

Cdn. \$4.25 cash

or

0.5484 Class A Subordinate Shares of CGI Group Inc.,

or any combination thereof,

subject to the maximum aggregate cash consideration and maximum aggregate share consideration  
(and corresponding pro-ration) set out in the Offer

CGI Group Inc. ("CGI" or the "Offeror") hereby gives notice that it is amending its offer dated December 6, 2002 to purchase all of the outstanding common shares (the "Cognicase Shares") of Cognicase Inc. ("Cognicase"), as amended pursuant to a notice of change and variation dated December 16, 2002 (the "Offer"), to confirm that it has commenced discussions with BCE Inc. ("BCE") on the future of BCE's investment in CGI.

This Notice of Change and Variation should be read in conjunction with the Offer to purchase and accompanying Circular dated December 6, 2002, as amended pursuant to a notice of change and variation dated December 16, 2002.

Questions and requests for assistance may be directed to CIBC World Markets Inc. and Desjardins Securities Inc. (the "Dealer Managers") and to the Depositary, and additional copies of this document, the Letter of Transmittal and the Notice of Guaranteed Delivery may be obtained without charge upon request from those persons at their respective offices shown on the last page of the Letter of Transmittal.

If your Cognicase Shares are registered in the name of a nominee, you should contact your broker, investment dealer, bank, trust company or other nominee for assistance.

---

The Dealer Managers for the Offer are:

**CIBC World Markets Inc. and Desjardins Securities Inc.**

**December 18, 2002**

---

(continued from cover)

**NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS IN THE UNITED STATES**

**THE SECURITIES OFFERED HEREBY HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED BY THE UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION NOR HAS THE UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION PASSED UPON THE ACCURACY OR ADEQUACY OF THE OFFER AND CIRCULAR. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.**

The Offer is by a Canadian issuer that is permitted, under a multijurisdictional disclosure system adopted by the United States, to offer securities pursuant to the Offer and Circular in accordance with the disclosure requirements of Canada. Shareholders should be aware that such requirements are different from those in the United States. The financial statements included or incorporated by reference herein have been prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles and are subject to Canadian auditing and auditor independence standards and, thus, may not be comparable to financial statements of United States companies.

Shareholders should be aware that the acquisition of the securities described herein may have tax consequences both in the United States and in Canada, the home country of the Offeror. Such consequences for investors who are resident in, or citizens of, the United States are not described herein.

The enforcement by Shareholders of civil liabilities under the United States federal securities laws may be adversely affected by the fact that the Offeror is incorporated under the laws of the Province of Québec, Canada, that some of its officers and directors are residents of Canada, that the experts named in the Offer and Circular are residents of Canada, that the Dealer Managers are residents of Canada, and that all or a substantial portion of the assets of the Offeror and said persons are located outside the United States.

Shareholders should be aware that, during the Offer Period, the Offeror or its affiliates, directly or indirectly, may bid for or make purchases of the securities to be distributed or to be exchanged, or of certain related securities, as permitted by applicable laws or regulations of Canada or its provinces or territories.

This tender offer is made for the securities of a foreign issuer and while the offer is subject to the disclosure requirements of Canada, the country in which Cognicase is incorporated or organized, Shareholders should be aware that these requirements are different from those of the United States. Financial statements included herein, if any, have been prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles and thus may not be comparable to financial statements of United States companies.

The enforcement by Shareholders of civil liabilities under the federal securities laws may be affected adversely by the fact that Cognicase is located in a foreign country, and that some or all of its officers and directors are residents of a foreign country.

Investors should be aware that the Offeror or its affiliates, directly or indirectly, may bid for or make purchases of the issuer's securities subject to the Offer, or of the issuer's related securities, during the period of the Offer, as permitted by applicable Canadian laws or provincial laws or regulations.

Investors should be aware that the Offeror or its affiliates, directly or indirectly, may bid for or make purchases of the issuer's securities subject to the Offer, or of the issuer's related securities, or of

2

---

the Offeror's related securities, during the period of the Offer, as permitted by applicable Canadian laws or provincial laws or regulations.

#### FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain statements contained in this document are "forward-looking statements" and are prospective. Such forward-looking statements are subject to risks, uncertainties and other factors which could cause actual results to differ materially from future results expressed or implied by such forward looking statements.

*This document does not constitute an offer or a solicitation to any person in any jurisdiction in which such offer or solicitation is unlawful. The Offer is not being made to, nor will deposits be accepted from or on behalf of, Shareholders in any jurisdiction in which the making or acceptance thereof would not be in compliance with the laws of such jurisdiction. However, the Offeror or its agents may, in their sole discretion, take such actions they may deem necessary to extend the Offer to Shareholders in such jurisdiction.*

#### TO: THE HOLDERS OF COMMON SHARES OF COGNICASE

This Notice of Change and Variation amends and supplements the Offer and Circular dated December 6, 2002, as amended by a notice of change and variation dated December 16, 2002 (the "Original Offer"), of the Offeror pursuant to which the Offeror is offering to purchase, on

## Edgar Filing: COGNICASE INC - Form SC14D1F/A

the terms and subject to the conditions contained therein, all of the issued and outstanding Cognicase Shares (including Cognicase Shares which may become outstanding after the date of the Original Offer upon the exercise of outstanding Options and other Rights). Unless the context otherwise requires, terms denoted by initial capital letters and not defined herein have the meanings set forth in the Original Offer.

Except as otherwise set forth in this Notice of Change and Variation, the terms and conditions previously set forth in the Original Offer continue to be applicable in all respects. This Notice of Change and Variation should be carefully read in conjunction with the Original Offer, the Letter of Transmittal and the Notice of Guaranteed Delivery.

All references to the "Offer" in the Original Offer, the Letter of Transmittal, the Notice of Guaranteed Delivery and this Notice of Change and Variation mean the Original Offer, as hereby amended.

### **1. Relationship with BCE Inc.**

The Offeror amends the Original Offer to confirm that it has commenced discussions with BCE on the future of BCE's investment in CGI.

BCE informed CGI that its prior publicly stated intentions, to dispose of the control block in CGI following the exercise of the put and call rights in 2003 and 2004, is no longer BCE's preferred course of action. Reference is made to the headings "Options Agreement Put Rights of the Majority Shareholders" and " Call Right of BCE" in Schedule "A" to the Circular.

While no final decisions have been made, CGI and BCE have commenced discussions to develop a plan with the following objectives:

- (i) to enhance the value of CGI by ensuring the continuity of CGI's management and CGI's ability to deliver high quality services to its customers; and
- (ii) to realize the maximum value of BCE's investment in CGI.

3

---

BCE has also informed CGI that if BCE were to divest a portion of its investment in CGI, this would be done in an orderly manner.

BCE has confirmed that the existing commercial alliance between BCE and CGI will be maintained, including the various outsourcing and consulting services agreements provided by CGI to the BCE companies.

In order to allow appropriate time for these discussions, CGI's Majority Shareholders have agreed with BCE to defer until April 15, 2003 the exercise date of the Majority Shareholders' put rights agreed upon in the Options Agreement. Except for this deferral, the Options Agreement remains unchanged.

### **2. Time for Acceptance**

The Offer is open for acceptance until the Expiry Time on the Expiry Date, unless extended or withdrawn. Cognicase Shares may be deposited pursuant to the Offer in accordance with the provisions of Section 2 of the Original Offer, "Time for Acceptance".

### **3. Take-Up and Payment for Deposited Cognicase Shares**

If all of the conditions of the Offer are satisfied or waived by the Offeror at or prior to the Expiry Time, the Offeror will be obligated to take-up and pay for the Cognicase Shares validly deposited and not withdrawn under the Offer no later than as required by applicable securities laws as described in Section 7 of the Original Offer, "Payment for Deposited Cognicase Shares".

### **4. Withdrawal of Deposited Cognicase Shares**

All deposits of Cognicase Shares pursuant to the Offer are irrevocable, except as provided in Section 8 of the Original Offer, "Withdrawal of Deposited Cognicase Shares".

### **5. Statutory Rights**

Edgar Filing: COGNICASE INC - Form SC14D1F/A

Securities legislation in certain of the provinces and territories of Canada provides Shareholders with, in addition to any other rights they may have at law, rights of rescission or to damages, or both, if there is a misrepresentation in a circular or notice that is required to be delivered to such Shareholders. However, such rights must be exercised within prescribed time limits. Shareholders should refer to the applicable provisions of the securities legislation of their province or territory for particulars of those rights or consult with a lawyer.

4

---

**APPROVAL AND CERTIFICATES**

The contents of the Offer, the Circular and this Notice of Change and Variation have been approved, and the sending, communication or delivery thereof to the holders of Cognicase Shares has been authorized, by the board of directors of the Offeror. The foregoing together with the documents incorporated therein by reference contains no untrue statement of a material fact and does not omit to state a material fact that is required to be stated or that is necessary to make a statement not misleading in the light of the circumstances in which it was made. In addition, the foregoing does not contain any misrepresentation likely to affect the value or market price of the Cognicase Shares which are the subject of the Offer, as varied by this Notice of Change and Variation.

Dated: December 18, 2002

**CGI GROUP INC.**

(signed) SERGE GODIN  
Chairman of the Board and  
Chief Executive Officer

(signed) ANDRÉ IMBEAU  
Executive Vice-President and  
Chief Financial Officer

On behalf of the Board of Directors

(signed) PAULE DORÉ  
Director

(signed) CLAUDE CHAMBERLAND  
Director

---

**Offices of the Depositary**

**COMPUTERSHARE TRUST COMPANY OF CANADA**

*By Mail*

P.O. Box 7021  
31 Adelaide Street East  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5C 3H2

Attn: Corporate Actions

Toll Free: 1-800-564-6253

*By Hand or Courier*

Montreal

650 de Maisonneuve West  
7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Montreal, Québec

Attn: Corporate Actions

*By Hand or Courier*

Toronto

100 University Avenue  
9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5J 2Y1

Attn: Corporate Actions

**Office of the Dealer Managers in Canada**

Edgar Filing: COGNICASE INC - Form SC14D1F/A

**CIBC WORLD MARKETS INC.**

600 de Maisonneuve Blvd. West  
Suite 3050  
Montreal, Québec  
H3A 3J2

Tel: (514) 847-6300

Facsimile: (514) 847-6430

**DESJARDINS SECURITIES INC.**

1 Complexe Desjardins  
29<sup>th</sup> Floor, South Tower  
Montreal, Québec  
H5B 1J2

Tel: (514) 281-2244

Facsimile: (514) 842-7975

*Any questions and requests for assistance may be directed by Shareholders to the Depositary at its telephone number set out above.*

---

**PART II**

INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED TO BE SENT TO SHAREHOLDERS

The following documents are filed as exhibits to this registration statement:

- 1.1 Press Release dated December 6, 2002.(3)
- 1.2 Form of Advertisement.(3)
- 1.3 Form of Advertisement.(4)
- 1.4 Press Release dated December 18, 2002.
- 1.5 Press Release dated December 23, 2002.
- 2.1 Annual Information Form of the Registrant dated February 15, 2002, for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2001.(1)
- 2.2 Audited Comparative Consolidated Financial Statements of the Registrant and the notes thereto for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2002, together with the auditors' report thereon.(2)
- 2.3 Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Position and Results of Operation of the Registrant for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2002.(2)
- 2.4 Information Circular of the Registrant dated December 12, 2001 in connection with the annual general meeting of shareholders held on January 21, 2002, excluding those portions thereof which appear under the headings "Report of the Human Resources and Corporate Governance Committee on the Remuneration of Directors and Named Executive Officers", "Remuneration of Named Executive Officers Performance Graph" and "Corporate Governance" in the Information Circular (which portions shall be deemed not to have been incorporated by reference).(3)

---

(1) Incorporated by reference to the bidder's Form 6-K (File No. 000-29716) filed January 22, 2002.

(2) Incorporated by reference to the bidder's Form 6-K (File No. 000-29716) filed December 6, 2002.

(3)

Edgar Filing: COGNICASE INC - Form SC14D1F/A

Previously filed as an exhibit to the bidder's Schedule 14D-1F (File No. 005-50642) filed December 9, 2002.

(4)

Previously filed as an exhibit to the bidder's Amendment No. 1 to Schedule 14D-1F (File No. 005-50642) filed December 17, 2002.

---

**PART III**

UNDERTAKINGS AND CONSENT TO SERVICE OF PROCESS

**Item 1. Undertakings.**

- (a) The bidder undertakes to make available, in person or by telephone, representatives to respond to inquiries made by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission staff, and to furnish promptly, when requested to do so by the Commission staff, information relating to this schedule or to transactions in said securities.
- (b) The bidder undertakes to disclose in the United States, on the same basis as it is required to make such disclosure pursuant to applicable Canadian federal and/or provincial or territorial laws, regulations or policies, or otherwise discloses, information regarding purchases of the issuer's securities in connection with the cash tender or exchange offer covered by this schedule. Such information shall be set forth in amendments to this schedule.
- (c) The bidder undertakes to disclose in the United States, on the same basis as it is required to make such disclosure pursuant to applicable Canadian federal and/or provincial or territorial laws, regulation or policy, or otherwise discloses, information regarding purchases of the issuer's or bidder's securities in connection with the offer.

**Item 2. Consent to Service of Process.**

- (a) On December 9, 2002, the bidder filed with the Commission a written irrevocable consent and power of attorney on Form F-X.
  - (b) Any change to the name or address of the registrant's agent for service shall be communicated promptly to the Commission by amendment to Form F-X referencing the file number of the registrant.
- 

**PART IV**

SIGNATURES

By signing this schedule, the bidder consents without power of revocation that any administrative subpoena may be served, or any administrative proceeding, civil suit or civil action where the cause of action arises out of or relates to or concerns any offering made or purported to be made in connection with this filing on Amendment No. 2 to Schedule 14D-1F or any purchases or sales of any security in connection therewith, may be commenced against it in any administrative tribunal or in any appropriate court in any place subject to the jurisdiction of any state or of the United States by service of said subpoena or process upon the registrant's designated agent.

After due inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

CGI GROUP INC.

By: /s/ SERGE GODIN

---

Serge Godin, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer

Date: December 23, 2002

---



**EXHIBIT INDEX**

- 1.1 Press Release dated December 6, 2002.(3)
- 1.2 Form of Advertisement.(3)
- 1.3 Form of Advertisement.(4)
- 1.4 Press Release dated December 18, 2002.
- 1.5 Press Release dated December 23, 2002.
- 2.1 Annual Information Form of the Registrant dated February 15, 2002, for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2001.(1)
- 2.2 Audited Comparative Consolidated Financial Statements of the Registrant and the notes thereto for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2002, together with the auditors' report thereon.(2)
- 2.3 Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Position and Results of Operation of the Registrant for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2002.(2)
- 2.4 Information Circular of the Registrant dated December 12, 2001 in connection with the annual general meeting of shareholders held on January 21, 2002, excluding those portions thereof which appear under the headings "Report of the Human Resources and Corporate Governance Committee on the Remuneration of Directors and Named Executive Officers", "Remuneration of Named Executive Officers Performance Graph" and "Corporate Governance" in the Information Circular (which portions shall be deemed not to have been incorporated by reference).(3)

- 
- (1) Incorporated by reference to the bidder's Form 6-K (File No. 000-29716) filed January 22, 2002.
  - (2) Incorporated by reference to the bidder's Form 6-K (File No. 000-29716) filed December 6, 2002.
  - (3) Previously filed as an exhibit to the bidder's Schedule 14D-1F (File No. 005-50642) filed December 9, 2002.
  - (4) Previously filed as an exhibit to the bidder's Amendment No. 1 to Schedule 14D-1F (File No. 005-50642) filed December 17, 2002.
- 

**QuickLinks**

**PART I INFORMATION REQUIRED TO BE SENT TO SHAREHOLDERS**

**Item 1. Home Jurisdiction Documents**

**Item 2. Informational Legends**

**NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS IN THE UNITED STATES**

**FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS**

**APPROVAL AND CERTIFICATES**

**PART II**

**PART III**

**PART IV**