

SunOpta Inc.
Form SC 13G
February 12, 2019

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 13G

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

SunOpta Inc.

(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock

(Title of Class of Securities)

8676EP108

(CUSIP Number)

December 31, 2018

(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of this Statement)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:

☒ Rule 13d-1(b)
☒ Rule 13d-1(c)

oRule 13d-1(d)

*The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

Persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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names of reporting persons

i.r.s. identification no. of above persons
(entities only)

1.

Ardsley Advisory Partners LP

2. check the appropriate box if a (a) x
group* (b) o
sec use only

3.

citizenship or place of organization

4. **Delaware, United States of America**

number of shares beneficially owned by each reporting person with:

5. sole voting power	0
6. shared voting power	5,112,430
7. sole dispositive power	0
8. shared dispositive power	5,112,430

9. aggregate amount beneficially owned by each reporting person 5,112,430

10. check box if the aggregate amount in row (9) excludes certain shares (See Instructions) o

11. percent of class represented by amount in row (9) 5.85%

12. type of reporting person (See Instructions) PN, IA

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names of reporting persons

i.r.s. identification no. of above persons
(entities only)

1.

Ardley Advisory Partners GP LLC

2. check the appropriate box if a (a) x
group* (b) o
sec use only

3.

citizenship or place of organization

4. **Delaware, United States of America**

number of	5. sole voting power	0
shares		
beneficially	6. shared voting power	5,112,430
owned by		
each	7. sole dispositive power	0
reporting		
person	8. shared dispositive power	5,112,430
with:		
9.	aggregate amount beneficially	
	owned by each reporting	5,112,430
	person	
10.	check box if the aggregate	
	amount in row (9) excludes	o
	certain shares (See	
	Instructions)	
11.	percent of class represented by	5.85%
	amount in row (9)	
12.	type of reporting person (See	PN
	Instructions)	

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names of reporting persons

i.r.s. identification no. of above persons
(entities only)

1.

Philip J. Hempleman

2. check the appropriate box if a (a) x
group* (b) o
sec use only

3.

citizenship or place of organization

4. **United States of America**

number of	5. sole voting power	0
shares		
beneficially	6. shared voting power	5,112,430
owned by		
each	7. sole dispositive power	0
reporting		
person	8. shared dispositive power	5,112,430
with:		
	aggregate amount beneficially	
9.	owned by each reporting	5,112,430
	person	
	check box if the aggregate	
10.	amount in row (9) excludes	o
	certain shares (See	
	Instructions)	
11.	percent of class represented by	5.85%
	amount in row (9)	
12.	type of reporting person (See	IN
	Instructions)	

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names of reporting persons

i.r.s. identification no. of above persons
(entities only)

1.

Ardley Partners I GP LLC

2. check the appropriate box if a (a) x
group* (b) o
sec use only

3.

citizenship or place of organization

4. **Delaware, United States of America**

number of shares beneficially owned by each reporting person with:

5. sole voting power 0

6. shared voting power 5,112,430

7. sole dispositive power 0

8. shared dispositive power 5,112,430

9. aggregate amount beneficially owned by each reporting person 5,112,430

10. check box if the aggregate amount in row (9) excludes certain shares (See Instructions) o

11. percent of class represented by amount in row (9) 5.85%

12. type of reporting person (See Instructions) PN

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names of reporting persons

i.r.s. identification no. of above
persons (entities only)

1.

Ardsley Partners Fund II, L.P.

2. check the appropriate box if a (a) ☒ x
group* (b) ☐ o
sec use only

3.

citizenship or place of organization

4. **Delaware, United States of America**

number of	5. sole voting power	0
shares		
beneficially	6. shared voting power	417,140
owned by		
each	7. sole dispositive power	0
reporting		
person	8. shared dispositive power	417,140
with:		
9.	aggregate amount beneficially owned by each reporting person	417,140
10.	check box if the aggregate amount in row (9) excludes certain shares (See Instructions)	☐ o
11.	percent of class represented by amount in row (9)	0.48%
12.	type of reporting person (See Instructions)	PN

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names of reporting persons

i.r.s. identification no. of above persons
(entities only)

1.

**Ardley Partners Advanced
Healthcare Fund, L.P.**

2. check the appropriate box if a (a) x
group* (b) o
sec use only

3.

citizenship or place of organization

4. **Delaware, United States of America**

number of shares	5. sole voting power	0
beneficially owned by	6. shared voting power	1,644,460
each reporting	7. sole dispositive power	0
person with:	8. shared dispositive power	1,644,460
9.	aggregate amount beneficially owned by each reporting person	1,644,460
10.	check box if the aggregate amount in row (9) excludes certain shares (See Instructions)	o
11.	percent of class represented by amount in row (9)	1.88%
12.	type of reporting person (See Instructions)	PN

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names of reporting persons

i.r.s. identification no. of above persons
(entities only)

1.

**Ardley Partners Renewable Energy
Fund, L.P.**

2. check the appropriate box if a (a) x
group* (b) o
sec use only

3.

citizenship or place of organization

4. **Delaware, United States of America**

number of shares	5. sole voting power	0
beneficially owned by	6. shared voting power	1,240,830
each reporting person with:	7. sole dispositive power	0
	8. shared dispositive power	1,240,830
9.	aggregate amount beneficially owned by each reporting person	1,240,830
10.	check box if the aggregate amount in row (9) excludes certain shares (See Instructions)	o
11.	percent of class represented by amount in row (9)	1.42%
12.	type of reporting person (See Instructions)	PN

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names of reporting persons

i.r.s. identification no. of above persons
(entities only)

1.

Ardsley Duckdive Fund, L.P.

2. check the appropriate box if a (a) x
group* (b) o
sec use only

3.

citizenship or place of organization

4. **Delaware, United States of America**

number of	5. sole voting power	0
shares		
beneficially	6. shared voting power	1,775,000
owned by		
each	7. sole dispositive power	0
reporting		
person	8. shared dispositive power	1,775,000
with:		
	aggregate amount beneficially	
9.	owned by each reporting	1,775,000
	person	
	check box if the aggregate	
10.	amount in row (9) excludes	o
	certain shares (See	
	Instructions)	
11.	percent of class represented by	2.03%
	amount in row (9)	
12.	type of reporting person (See	PN
	Instructions)	

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names of reporting persons

i.r.s. identification no. of above
persons (entities only)

1.

Ardsley Healthcare Fund, L.P.

2. check the appropriate box if a (a) x
group* (b) o
sec use only

3.

citizenship or place of organization

4. **Delaware, United States of
America**

number of 5. sole voting power 0
shares
beneficially 6. shared voting power 35,000
owned by
each 7. sole dispositive power 0
reporting
person 8. shared dispositive power 35,000
with:

9. aggregate amount beneficially
owned by each reporting 35,000
person

10. check box if the aggregate
amount in row (9) excludes o
certain shares (See
Instructions)

11. percent of class represented by 0.04%
amount in row (9)

12. type of reporting person (See PN
Instructions)

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Item 1.

(a) Name of Issuer: **SunOpta Inc.**
(b) Address of **2233 Argentia Road**
Issuer's Principal **Mississauga, Ontario**
Executive Offices: **L5N 2X7, Canada**

Item 2.

(a) Name of Person Filing: **This Schedule 13G (the "Schedule") is being filed with respect to shares of Common Stock (as defined below) of SunOpta Inc. (the "Issuer") which are beneficially owned by Ardsley Advisory Partners LP (the "Advisor"), Philip J. Hempleman ("Hempleman"), Ardsley Advisory Partners GP LLC (the "Advisor General Partner"), Ardsley Partners I GP LLC (the "General Partner"), Ardsley Partners Fund II, L.P. (the "Fund II"), Ardsley Partners Advanced Healthcare Fund, L.P. (the "Advanced Healthcare Fund"), Ardsley Partners Renewable Energy Fund (the "Renewable Energy Fund"), Ardsley Duckdive Fund, L.P. (the "Duckdive Fund"), and Ardsley Healthcare Fund, L.P. (the "Healthcare Fund") (together, the "Reporting Persons"). See Item 4 below.**

(b) Address of Principal Business Office or, if none, Residence: **262 Harbor Drive
Stamford, CT 06902**

(c) Citizenship: **The Advisory General Partner and the General Partner are Delaware limited liability companies. The Advisor, the Fund II, the Advanced Healthcare Fund, the Renewable Energy Fund, the Duckdive Fund and the Healthcare Fund are Delaware limited partnerships. Hempleman is a United States Citizen.**

(d) Title of Class of Securities: **Common Stock**

(e) CUSIP Number: **8676EP108**

Item 3. If this statement is filed pursuant to §§240.13d-1(b) or 240.13d-2(b) or (c), check whether the person filing is a:

- (a) ☐ Broker or dealer registered under section 15 of the Act (15 U.S.C. 78o).
- (b) ☐ Bank as defined in section 3(a)(6) of the Act (15 U.S.C. 78c).
- (c) ☐ Insurance company as defined in section 3(a)(19) of the Act (15 U.S.C. 78c).
- (d) ☐ Investment company registered under section 8 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-8).
- (e) ☒ An investment adviser in accordance with §240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(E);
- (f) ☐ An employee benefit plan or endowment fund in accordance with §240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(F);
- (g) ☐ A parent holding company or control person in accordance with § 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(G);
- (h) ☐ A savings associations as defined in Section 3(b) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813);
- (i) ☐ A church plan that is excluded from the definition of an investment company under section 3(c)(14) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-3);
- (j) ☐ Group, in accordance with §240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(J).

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Item 4. Ownership.

Provide the following information regarding the aggregate number and percentage of the class of securities of the issuer identified in Item 1.

The Information required by Items 4(a) - (c) is set forth in Rows 5-11 of the cover page for each Reporting Person hereto and is incorporated by reference for each Reporting Person. The percentage ownership of the Reporting Persons is based on the 87,375,667 outstanding shares of Common Stock of the Issuer, as disclosed on the Issuer's 10-Q filed with the SEC on November 7, 2018.

Item 5. Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class.

If this statement is being filed to report the fact that as of the date hereof the reporting person has ceased to be the beneficial owner of more than five percent of the class of securities, check the following: o.

Item 6. Ownership of More Than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person.

Not applicable.

Item 7. Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary which Acquired the Security Being Reported on by the Parent Holding Company or Control Person.

Not applicable.

Item 8. Identification and Classification of Members of the Group.

See Exhibit 2

Item 9. Notice of Dissolution of Group.

Not applicable.

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Item 10. Certification.

The following certification shall be included if the statement is filed pursuant to §240.13d-1(b) with respect to Ardsley Advisory Partners LP:

- (a) By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired and are held in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect. x

The following certification shall be included if the statement is filed pursuant to §240.13d-1(c) with respect to Ardsley Advisory Partners GP LLC:

- (b) By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect. x

The following certification shall be included if the statement is filed pursuant to §240.13d-1(c) with respect to Philip J Hempleman :

- (c) By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect. x

The following certification shall be included if the statement is filed pursuant to §240.13d-1(c) with respect to Ardsley Partners I GP LLC.:

- (d) By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect. x

- (e)

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The following certification shall be included if the statement is filed pursuant to §240.13d-1(c) with respect to Ardsley Partners Fund II, L.P.:

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect. x

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The following certification shall be included if the statement is filed pursuant to §240.13d-1(c) with respect to Ardsley Partners Advanced Healthcare Fund, L.P. :

- (f) By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect. x

The following certification shall be included if the statement is filed pursuant to §240.13d-1(c) with respect to Ardsley Partners Renewable Energy Fund, L.P. :

- (g) By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect. x

The following certification shall be included if the statement is filed pursuant to §240.13d-1(c) with respect to Ardsley Duckdiver Fund, L.P.:

- (h) By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect. x

The following certification shall be included if the statement is filed pursuant to §240.13d-1(c) with respect to Ardsley Healthcare Fund, L.P. :

- (i) By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect. x

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SIGNATURE

After reasonable 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.

February 12, 2019

Date

ARDSLEY ADVISORY PARTNERS LP

/s/ Steve Napoli

Signature

Steve Napoli/ Member of its general partner

Name/Title

February 12, 2019

Date

ARDSLEY ADVISORY PARTNERS GP LLC

/s/ Steve Napoli

Signature

Steve Napoli/Member

Name/Title

February 12, 2019

Date

ARDSLEY PARTNERS I GP LLC

/s/ Steve Napoli

Signature

Steve Napoli/Member

February 12, 2019

Date

PHILIP J. HEMPLEMAN

/s/ Steve Napoli*

Signature

Steve Napoli/Attorney-in Fact for Philip J. Hempleman

Name/Title

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February 12, 2019

Date

ARDSLEY PARTNERS FUND II, L.P.

By: Ardsley Partners I GP LLC, General Partner

/s/ Steve Napoli

Signature

Steve Napoli/Member

February 12, 2019

Date

ARDSLEY PARTNERS ADVANCED HEALTHCARE FUND, L.P.

By: Ardsley Partners I GP LLC, General Partner

/s/ Steve Napoli

Signature

Steve Napoli/Member

February 12, 2019

Date

ARDSLEY PARTNERS RENEWABLE ENERGY FUND, L.P.

By: Ardsley Partners I GP LLC, General Partner

/s/ Steve Napoli

Signature

Steve Napoli/Member

February 12, 2019

Date

ARDSLEY DUCKDIVE FUND, L.P.

By: Ardsley Partners I GP LLC, General Partner

/s/ Steve Napoli

Signature

Steve Napoli/Member

ARDSLEY HEALTHCARE FUND, L.P.

By: Ardsley Partners I GP LLC, General Partner

/s/ Steve Napoli
Signature

Steve Napoli/Member

* Executed by Steve Napoli as Attorney-in-Fact for Philip J. Hempleman. The Power of Attorney for Mr. Hempleman is attached as Exhibit 2 to the Statement on Schedule 13G/A with respect to the Common Stock of Vaxgen, Inc., filed on February 15, 2006, and is incorporated herein by reference.

The original statement shall be signed by each person on whose behalf the statement is filed or his authorized representative. If the statement is signed on behalf of a person by his authorized representative other than an executive officer or general partner of the filing person, evidence of the representative's authority to sign on behalf of such person shall be filed with the statement, provided, however, that a power of attorney for this purpose which is already on file with the Commission may be incorporated by reference. The name and any title of each person who signs the statement shall be typed or printed beneath his signature.

NOTE: Schedules filed in paper format shall include a signed original and five copies of the schedule, including all exhibits. *See* §240.13d-7 for other parties for whom copies are to be sent.

Attention: Intentional misstatements or omissions of fact constitute Federal criminal violations (See 18 U.S.C. 1001)