

# ANNUAL MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE

For the period ended December 31, 2022

Fixed Income Private Portfolio

# **NBI Corporate Bond Private Portfolio**

## Notes on forward-looking statements

This report may contain forward-looking statements concerning the Fund, its future performance, its strategies or prospects or about future events or circumstances. Such forward-looking statements include, among others, statements with respect to our beliefs, plans, expectations, estimates and intentions. The use of the expressions "foresee", "intend", "anticipate", "estimate", "assume", "believe" and "expect" and other similar terms and expressions indicate forward-looking statements.

By their very nature, forward-looking statements imply the use of assumptions and necessarily involve inherent risks and uncertainties. Consequently, there is a significant risk that the explicit or implicit forecasts contained in these forward-looking statements might not materialize or that they may not prove to be accurate in the future. A number of factors could cause future results, conditions or events to differ materially from the objectives, expectations, estimates or intentions expressed in such forward-looking statements. Such differences might be caused by several factors, including changes in Canadian and worldwide economic and financial conditions (in particular interest and exchange rates and the prices of other financial instruments), market trends, new regulatory provisions, competition, changes in technology and the potential impact of conflicts and other international events.

The foregoing list of factors is not exhaustive. Before making any investment decision, investors and others relying on our forward-looking statements should carefully consider the foregoing factors and other factors. We caution readers not to rely unduly on these forward-looking statements. We assume no obligation to update forward-looking statements in the light of new information, future events or other circumstances unless applicable legislation so provides.

This annual management report of fund performance contains financial highlights, but does not contain the complete annual financial statements of the investment fund. You can get a copy of the annual financial statements at your request, and at no cost, by calling 1-888-270-3941 or 514-871-2082, by writing to us at National Bank Investments Advisory Service, 500, Place d'Armes, 12th floor, Montreal, Quebec, H2Y 2W3, by visiting our website at www.nbinvestments.ca, by visiting SEDAR's website at www.sedar.com, or by contacting your advisor. You may also contact us using one of these methods to request a copy of the investment fund's proxy voting policies and procedures, proxy voting disclosure.

## **Management Discussion of Fund Performance**

#### **Investment Objective and Strategies**

The NBI Corporate Bond Private Portfolio's investment objective is to provide long-term capital growth and to generate high current income. The Fund invests, directly or through investments in securities of other mutual funds, in a portfolio consisting primarily of investment grade debt securities of Canadian companies.

The portfolio manager carefully analyzes the credit standing of every security and evaluates risk, relative return and the economic situation when confirming the selection and relative weighting of each holding in the portfolio. This is carried out to identify bonds with attractive return potential. The portfolio manager also takes economic considerations and their impact on interest rates into account. Shorter or longer term issues are favoured, depending on whether interest rates are expected to rise or fall. The Fund may invest approximately 40% of its assets in foreign debt securities.

#### Dicke

The global investment risk of the Fund remains as described in the simplified prospectus or any amendments thereto and Fund Facts.

#### **Results of Operations**

For the twelve-month period ended December 31, 2022, the NBI Corporate Bond Private Portfolio's Advisor Series units returned -10.64% compared to -9.87% for the Fund's benchmark, the FTSE Canada Corporate Bond Index (CAD). Unlike the benchmark, the Fund's performance is calculated after fees and expenses. Please see the *Past Performance* section for the returns of all of the Fund's series, which may vary mainly because of fees and expenses.

Certain series of the Fund, as applicable, may make distributions at a rate determined by the manager. This rate may change from time to time. If the aggregate amount of distributions in such series exceeds the portion of net income and net realized capital gains allocated to such series, the excess will constitute a return of capital. The manager does not believe that the return of capital distributions made by such series of the Fund have a meaningful impact on the Fund's ability to implement its investment strategy or to fulfill its investment objective.

The Fund's net asset value increased by 5.02% over the period, from \$1.367 billion as at December 31, 2021 to \$1.435 billion as at December 31, 2022. The increase stemmed mainly from market fluctuations.

With the Russian invasion of Ukraine, record inflation, and potential recession on the horizon; it's fair to say that 2022 has proven to be challenging on many fronts. For investors, this context has resulted in declines for stocks and bonds in the first half of the year, followed by six months of ups and downs with no clear direction.

In this context of uncertainty and rising rates, global equities performed similarly to traditional Canadian bonds in 2022, although for fixed income, this represents their worst annual performance in history. In terms of leadership, Canadian equities significantly better than their peers, supported in part by generally high commodity prices. On the other hand, the environment was more difficult in emerging markets, held back by slowing global growth, containment in China, strong U.S. dollar, and increasingly restrictive monetary policies.

Within fixed income, segments with longer duration suffered the most; a direct consequence of the substantial rate hikes delivered by most central banks.

Within commodities, despite a wild rise following the announcement of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the price of a barrel of oil ultimately closed in 2022 only slightly higher, slowed by increasingly weak economic growth prospects. For their part, gold prices also ended close to where they started in 2022 despite wild fluctuations. Finally, like most currencies, the Canadian dollar depreciated sharply against the U.S. dollar amid heightened uncertainty.

Under these circumstances, the Fund underperformed its benchmark. From a sector perspective, selection in Communications and Financials sector proved difficult during the year, as well as an overweight positioning in the energy sector. On the other hand, a large underweight position in the infrastructure sector offset some losses from the other three sectors mentioned previously.

Throughout the year, the portfolio manager reduced the Fund's allocation to AA- and BBB-rated securities and increased the weighting in A-rated securities. The portfolio manager also increased the weighting in Financials, at the expense of Industrials and Infrastructure.

#### **Recent Developments**

The portfolio manager has a slightly shorter duration and a higher running yield relative to the benchmark. He has an overweight position in Financial and Real Estate bonds and continues to maintain an underweight in Infrastructure and Industrial issues. Over the last year, he increased the weighting to the 3 to 5 years maturity range and has gone from being underweight that segment, to a slight overweight today.

Inflation will continue to be the key for the direction of bond yields and credit tone. The Bank of Canada and the Federal Reserve were very aggressive in hiking rates in 2022, but he now expects this tightening cycle to end sometime during the first half of 2023. With the overnight rate in Canada at 4.25%, monetary policy is well into restrictive territory and he expects it to hurt domestic demand throughout the year. Inflation has moderated from the highs of last summer but remains well above 2%. Although he expects the Bank to stop hiking this year, he also believes they will have to keep rates elevated for a long period of time before underlying inflation falls back to target. Portfolio duration and curve positioning ended the year close to the index, but he has, and continues to trade the portfolio as he expects the market to be very volatile as participants try to determine the timing of the first interest rate cut. In Canada, the market expects the first interest rate cut to happen before the end of 2023, whereas he expects sticky inflation driven by a tight labor market to make this a 2024 story. Corporate spreads already reflect his base case of a modest recession, but if they tighten to quickly, he will look to take profits or if they widen to reflect a significant slowdown; he will increase our exposure.

On April 30, 2022, the Fund's independent review committee (the "IRC") was reduced to three members when Robert Martin resigned as IRC member. On May 1, 2022, the Fund's IRC was increased to four members when Line Deslandes was appointed as IRC member. However, on September 30, 2022, the Fund's IRC was reduced to three members when Line Deslandes resigned as IRC member.

### **Related Party Transactions**

National Bank of Canada ("the Bank") and its affiliated companies' roles and responsibilities related to the Fund are as follows:

#### Trustee, Custodian, and Registrar

Natcan Trust Company ("NTC"), a direct or indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of the Bank, is the Fund's trustee. In this capacity, it is the legal owner of the Fund's investments.

NTC acts as registrar for the Fund's securities and the names of securityholders. NTC also acts as the Fund's custodian. The fees for NTC's custodial services are based on the standard rates in effect at NTC

#### Agent for securities lending transactions

NTC acts as the agent for securities lending transactions acts on behalf of the Fund in administering securities lending transactions entered into by the Fund. NTC is an affiliate of the Manager.

#### **Fund Manager**

The Fund is managed by National Bank Investments Inc. ("NBII"), which is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Bank. Therefore, NBII provides or ensures the provision of all general management and administrative services required by the Fund's current operations, including investment consulting, the arrangement of brokerage contracts for the purchase and sale of the investment portfolio, bookkeeping and other administrative services required by the Fund.

The Manager pays the operating expenses of the Fund other than its "Fund costs" (defined below) (the "variable operating expenses"), in exchange for the Fund's payment to the Manager of annual fixed-rate administration fees with respect to each series of the Fund.

The administration fees are equal to a specified percentage of the net asset value of each series of the Fund, calculated and paid in the same manner as the Fund's management fees. The variable operating expenses payable by the Manager include, but are not limited to: transfer agency and recordkeeping costs; custodial costs; accounting and valuation fees; audit fees and legal fees; costs of preparing and distributing financial reports, simplified prospectuses, annual information forms, Fund Facts, continuous disclosure material and other securityholder communications; and costs of trustee services relating to registered tax plans, as applicable.

In addition to administration fees, the Fund shall also pay certain Fund costs, namely: taxes (including, but not limited to, GST/HST and income taxes); costs of compliance with any changes to existing governmental or regulatory requirements introduced after August 1, 2013; costs of compliance with any new governmental or regulatory requirements, including any new fees introduced after August 1, 2013; interest and borrowing costs; costs related to external services that were not commonly charged in the Canadian mutual fund industry as at August 1, 2013; Independent Review Committee costs, including compensation paid to IRC members, travel expenses, insurance premiums and costs associated with their continuing education; and variable operating expenses incurred outside of the normal course of business of the Fund.

The Manager may, from time to time and at its sole discretion, decide to absorb a portion of a series' management fees, administration fees or Fund costs.

As described under the heading *Management Fees*, the Fund pays annual management fees to NBII as consideration for its services.

#### **Distribution and Dealer Compensation**

National Bank Financial Inc. ("NBF") acts as principal distributor for the Advisor Series, Series F, Series F5 or Series T5 of the Fund. NBF may receive, depending on the distributed series, a monthly commission representing a percentage of the average daily value of the securities held by its clients.

NBII acts as principal distributor for the Series N and Series NR of the Fund. Trailing commissions are covered by NBI Private Wealth Management's service fees, which are paid directly by investors.

## **Independent Review Committee Approvals and Recommendations**

The Fund followed the standing instructions of its Independent Review Committee with respect to one or more of the following transactions:

- a) Purchasing or holding the securities of a related issuer, in particular, those of National Bank of Canada;
- Investing in the securities of an issuer when an entity related to the manager acts as an underwriter for the placement or at any time during the 6o-day period after the end of the placement;
- Purchasing or selling securities to another investment Fund managed by the manager or a company in the same group;
- d) Purchasing or selling debt securities on the secondary market, through related brokers that are main brokers in the Canadian debt securities market (in accordance with an exemption received from the Canadian Securities Administrators);

e) Entering into foreign exchange transactions (including both spot transactions and forward transactions) with National Bank of

The Manager has implemented policies and procedures to make sure that the conditions applicable to each of the above transactions are met. The applicable standing instructions require that these transactions be carried out in accordance with NBII policies, which specify, in particular, that investment decisions pertaining to these related party transactions must be made free from any influence by an entity related to NBII and without taking into account any consideration relevant to an entity related to NBII. Furthermore, the investment decisions must represent the business judgment of the securities advisor, uninfluenced by considerations other than the best interest of the Fund and must achieve a fair and reasonable result for the Fund.

#### **Registered Plan Trust Services**

NBT receives a fixed amount per registered account for services provided as trustee for registered plans.

#### Administrative and Operating Services

The provision of certain services was delegated by the Fund Manager, NBII, to National Bank Trust Inc. ("NBT"), a wholly-owned indirect subsidiary of the Bank. These include accounting, reporting and portfolio valuation services. The fees incurred for these services are paid to NBT by the Fund manager.

## **Management Fees**

The Fund pays annual management fees to the Fund manager for its management services. The fees are calculated based on a percentage of the Fund's daily net asset value before applicable taxes and are paid on a monthly basis. Under the *Distribution* heading, expenses include the broker's compensation consisting of the maximum annual trailer fees and sales commissions paid to brokers. Under the *Other* heading, the fees relate mainly to investment management, investment advisory services, general administration and profit.

The management fees paid by the Fund only cover management of fund investments, i.e. the fees related to management of fund portfolios constituting the profiles of the NBI Private Wealth Management service ("PWM"). General administration services, trailer fees and sale commissions paid to brokers are covered by the PWM's service fees, which are paid directly by investors. The breakdown of major services provided in consideration of the management fees, expressed as an approximate percentage of the management fees is as follows:

Series	Management Fees	Distribution	Others <sup>†</sup>
Advisor Series	·		
Front-end load	0.93%	69.89%	30.11%
Series F	0.45%	_	100.00%
Series N and Series NR*	0.10%	_	100.00%

<sup>(\*)</sup> Includes all costs related to management, investment advisory services, general administration and profit.

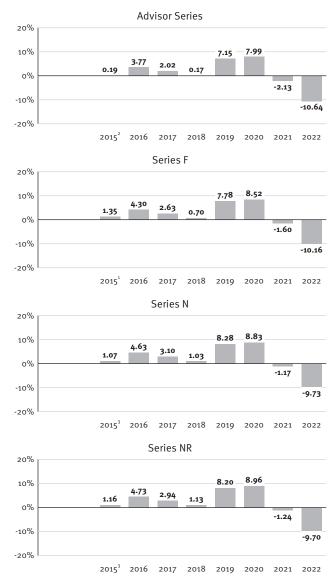
#### **Past Performance**

The performance of each series of the Fund is presented below and calculated as at December 31 of each year. It assumes that all distributions made in the periods shown were reinvested in additional securities and does not take into account sales, redemption charges, distributions, or optional charges that would have reduced returns. Past performance of a series of a Fund does not necessarily indicate how it will perform in the future.

<sup>(°)</sup> For Series N and NR, offered only to investors using the NBI Private Wealth Management service ("PWM"), management fees only cover management of fund investments, i.e. the fees related to management of fund portfolios constituting the PWM profiles. General administration services, trailer fees and sale commissions paid to brokers are covered by the PWM's service fees, which are paid directly by investors.

#### **Annual Returns**

The bar charts indicate the performance for each the Fund's series in existence greater than one year during the years shown, and illustrate how the performance has changed from year to year. They show, in percentage terms, how much an investment made on January 1 (or made commencing from the start of the series) would have grown or decreased by December 31 of that year, in the case of the Annual management report of fund performance, or by June 30, in the case of the Interim management report of fund performance.



<sup>(1)</sup> Returns for the period from May 21, 2015 (commencement of operations) to December 31, 2015.

#### **Annual Compounded Performance**

The following table shows the Fund's annual compound returns for each series in existence greater than one year and for each of the periods ended on December 31, 2022, compared with the following benchmark:

• FTSE Canada Corporate Bond Index (CAD)

#### **NBI Corporate Bond Private Portfolio**

	1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	Since inception
Advisor Series <sup>1</sup>	(10.64)%	(1.89)%	0.27%	-	0.98%
Benchmark	(9.87)%	(1.12)%	1.10%		1.84%
<b>Series F²</b>	(10.16)%	(1.37)%	0.81%	-	1.61%
Benchmark	(9.87)%	(1.12)%	1.10%		1.91%
<b>Series N³</b>	(9.73)%	(0.98)%	1.21%	-	2.07%
Benchmark	(9.87)%	(1.12)%	1.10%		1.95%
<b>Series NR³</b>	(9.70)%	(0.95)%	1.23%	-	2.09%
Benchmark	(9.87)%	(1.12)%	1.10%		1.95%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Commencement of operations: July 14, 2015

A discussion of the Fund's relative performance in comparison to the index (or indices) can be found in the *Results of Operations* Section of this report.

The **FTSE Canada Corporate Bond Index** represents the corporate bond component of the FTSE Canada Universe Bond Index. It includes short-term bonds (1 to 5 years), medium-term bonds (5 to 10 years) and long-term bonds (10 years or more).

<sup>(2)</sup> Returns for the period from July 14, 2015 (commencement of operations) to December 31, 2015.

<sup>(9)</sup> Returns for the period from October 30, 2015 (commencement of operations) to December 31, 2015.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Commencement of operations: May 21, 2015

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Commencement of operations: October 30, 2015

# **Financial Highlights**

The following tables show selected key financial information about the Fund and are intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the accounting periods shown.

## **Advisor Series**

Net Assets per Unit<sup>(1)</sup>

Commencement of operations: July 14, 2015

Accounting Period Ended	2022 December 31	2021 December 31	2020 December 31	2019 December 31	2018 December 31
Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown (4)	10.41	10.87	10.29	9.83	10.06
Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)					
Total revenue	0.36	0.34	0.35	0.36	0.35
Total expenses	(0.10)	(0.12)	(0.12)	(0.11)	(0.11)
Realized gains (losses)	(0.11)	_	0.02	_	(0.01)
Unrealized gains (losses)	(1.18)	(0.46)	0.54	0.42	(0.23)
Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) (2)	(1.03)	(0.24)	0.79	0.67	_
Distributions (\$)					
From net investment income (excluding dividends)	0.25	0.23	0.23	0.24	0.25
From dividends	_	_	_	_	_
From capital gains	_	_	_	_	_
Return of capital	_	_	_	_	_
Total Annual Distributions (\$) (3)	0.25	0.23	0.23	0.24	0.25
Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$) (4)	9.06	10.41	10.87	10.29	9.83

Ratios and Supplemental Data

Accounting Period Ended	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
	December 31				
Total net asset value (ooo's of \$) (5)	16,672	19,139	20,369	17,686	14,872
Number of units outstanding (5)	1,840,211	1,839,241	1,874,439	1,718,285	1,512,504
Management expense ratio (%) (6)	1.12	1.12	1.11	1.11	1.11
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (%)	1.12	1.12	1.11	1.11	1.11
Trading expense ratio (%) (7)	_	_	_	_	_
Portfolio turnover rate (%) (8)	40.58	25.79	30.93	48.17	42.53
Net asset value per unit (\$)	9.06	10.41	10.87	10.29	9.83

# Series F / Private Series\*

Net Assets per  $\mathsf{Unit}^{^{(\!1\!)}}$ 

Commencement of operations: May 21, 2015

Accounting Period Ended	2022 December 31	2021 December 31	2020 December 31	2019 December 31	2018 December 31
Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown (4)	10.47	10.93	10.35	9.88	10.10
Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)					
Total revenue	0.36	0.35	0.35	0.36	0.36
Total expenses	(0.05)	(0.06)	(0.06)	(0.06)	(0.06)
Realized gains (losses)	(0.12)	_	0.02	_	(0.01)
Unrealized gains (losses)	(1.23)	(0.39)	0.53	0.40	(0.19)
Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) (2)	(1.04)	(0.10)	0.84	0.70	0.10
Distributions (\$)					
From net investment income (excluding dividends)	0.30	0.28	0.29	0.29	0.29
From dividends	_	_	_	_	_
From capital gains	_	_	_	_	_
Return of capital	_	_	_	_	_
Total Annual Distributions (\$) <sup>(3)</sup>	0.30	0.28	0.29	0.29	0.29
Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$) (4)	9.11	10.47	10.93	10.35	9.88

Ratios and Supplemental Data

Accounting Period Ended	2022 December 31	2021 December 31	2020 December 31	2019 December 31	2018 December 31
Total net asset value (ooo's of \$) (5)	307,830	328,017	254,270	204,108	139,149
Number of units outstanding (5)	33,782,847	31,339,968	23,273,541	19,728,261	14,083,361
Management expense ratio (%) (6)	0.56	0.56	0.57	0.56	0.56
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (%)	0.56	0.56	0.57	0.56	0.56
Trading expense ratio (%) (7)	_	_	_	_	_
Portfolio turnover rate (%) (8)	40.58	25.79	30.93	48.17	42.53
Net asset value per unit (\$)	9.11	10.47	10.93	10.35	9.88

<sup>(\*)</sup> Please note that the Private Series was created on November 28, 2016, and is offered by way of private placement.

# **Series N**

Net asset value per unit (\$)

Accounting Period Ended	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
-	December 31	December 31	December 31	December 31	December 31
Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown (4)	10.56	11.02	10.45	9.97	10.20
Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)					
Total revenue	0.36	0.35	0.36	0.36	0.36
Total expenses	(0.02)	(0.02)	(0.02)	(0.02)	(0.02)
Realized gains (losses)	(0.12)	_	0.02	_	(0.01)
Unrealized gains (losses)	(1.14)	(0.44)	0.55	0.44	(0.21)
Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) (2)	(0.92)	(0.11)	0.91	0.78	0.12
Distributions (\$)					
From net investment income (excluding dividends)	0.34	0.33	0.34	0.34	0.33
From dividends	_	_	_	_	_
From capital gains	_	_	_	_	_
Return of capital					
Total Annual Distributions (\$) (3)	0.34	0.33	0.34	0.34	0.33
Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$) (4)	9.20	10.56	11.02	10.45	9.97
Ratios and Supplemental Data					
Accounting Period Ended	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
	December 31	December 31	December 31	December 31	December 31
Total net asset value (ooo's of \$) (5)	1,090,398	975,959	866,729	753,285	600,681
Number of units outstanding (5)	118,571,909	92,428,203	78,625,785	72,115,505	60,225,586
Management expense ratio (%) (6)	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (%)	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17
Trading expense ratio (%) (7)	_	_	_	_	_
Portfolio turnover rate (%) <sup>(8)</sup>	40.58	25.79	30.93	48.17	42.53
Net asset value per unit (\$)	9.20	10.56	11.02	10.45	9.97
			Commenc	ement of operatio	ns: October 30
Net Assets per Unit <sup>(1)</sup>	2022 December 21	2021 December 21	2020	2019	2018
Net Assets per Unit <sup>(1)</sup> Accounting Period Ended	December 31	December 31	2020 December 31	2019 December 31	2018 December 31
Net Assets per Unit <sup>(1)</sup> Accounting Period Ended  Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown <sup>(4)</sup>			2020	2019	2018
Net Assets per Unit <sup>(1)</sup> Accounting Period Ended  Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown <sup>(a)</sup> Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)	10.03	<b>December 31</b> 10.59	2020 December 31 10.11	2019 December 31 9.71	2018 December 31 10.00
Net Assets per Unit <sup>(1)</sup> Accounting Period Ended  Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown <sup>(a)</sup> Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) Total revenue	10.03 0.34	10.59 0.33	2020 December 31 10.11	2019 December 31 9.71	2018 December 31 10.00
Net Assets per Unit <sup>(1)</sup> Accounting Period Ended  Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown <sup>(a)</sup> Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) Total revenue Total expenses	0.34 (0.02)	0.33 (0.02)	2020 December 31 10.11 0.34 (0.02)	2019 December 31 9.71 0.35 (0.02)	2018 December 31 10.00 0.35 (0.02)
Net Assets per Unit <sup>(1)</sup> Accounting Period Ended  Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown <sup>(a)</sup> Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) Total revenue Total expenses Realized gains (losses)	0.34 (0.02) (0.11)	0.33 (0.02)	2020 December 31 10.11 0.34 (0.02) 0.02	2019 December 31 9.71 0.35 (0.02)	2018 December 31 10.00 0.35 (0.02) (0.01)
Net Assets per Unit <sup>(1)</sup> Accounting Period Ended  Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown <sup>(a)</sup> Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) Total revenue Total expenses Realized gains (losses) Unrealized gains (losses)	0.34 (0.02) (0.11) (1.15)	0.33 (0.02) (0.43)	2020 December 31 10.11 0.34 (0.02) 0.02 0.53	2019 December 31 9.71 0.35 (0.02) — 0.43	2018 December 31 10.00 0.35 (0.02) (0.01) (0.21)
Net Assets per Unit <sup>(1)</sup> Accounting Period Ended  Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown <sup>(a)</sup> Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)  Total revenue  Total expenses  Realized gains (losses)  Unrealized gains (losses)  Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) <sup>(a)</sup>	0.34 (0.02) (0.11)	0.33 (0.02)	2020 December 31 10.11 0.34 (0.02) 0.02	2019 December 31 9.71 0.35 (0.02)	2018 December 31 10.00 0.35 (0.02) (0.01)
Net Assets per Unit <sup>(1)</sup> Accounting Period Ended  Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown <sup>(a)</sup> Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)  Total revenue  Total expenses  Realized gains (losses)  Unrealized gains (losses)  Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) <sup>(a)</sup> Distributions (\$)	0.34 (0.02) (0.11) (1.15) (0.94)	0.33 (0.02) - (0.43)	2020 December 31 10.11 0.34 (0.02) 0.02 0.53 0.87	2019 December 31 9.71 0.35 (0.02) - 0.43 0.76	2018 December 31 10.00 0.35 (0.02) (0.01) (0.21)
Net Assets per Unit <sup>(1)</sup> Accounting Period Ended  Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown <sup>(a)</sup> Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)  Total revenue  Total expenses  Realized gains (losses)  Unrealized gains (losses)  Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) <sup>(a)</sup> Distributions (\$)  From net investment income (excluding dividends)	0.34 (0.02) (0.11) (1.15)	0.33 (0.02) (0.43)	2020 December 31 10.11 0.34 (0.02) 0.02 0.53	2019 December 31 9.71 0.35 (0.02) — 0.43	2018 December 31 10.00 0.35 (0.02) (0.01) (0.21)
Net Assets per Unit <sup>(1)</sup> Accounting Period Ended  Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown <sup>(a)</sup> Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)  Total revenue  Total expenses  Realized gains (losses)  Unrealized gains (losses)  Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) <sup>(a)</sup> Distributions (\$)  From net investment income (excluding dividends)  From dividends	0.34 (0.02) (0.11) (1.15) (0.94)	0.33 (0.02) - (0.43)	2020 December 31 10.11 0.34 (0.02) 0.02 0.53 0.87	2019 December 31 9.71 0.35 (0.02) - 0.43 0.76	2018 December 31 10.00 0.35 (0.02) (0.01) (0.21)
Net Assets per Unit <sup>(1)</sup> Accounting Period Ended  Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown <sup>(a)</sup> Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)  Total revenue  Total expenses  Realized gains (losses)  Unrealized gains (losses)  Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) <sup>(a)</sup> Distributions (\$)  From net investment income (excluding dividends)	0.34 (0.02) (0.11) (1.15) (0.94)	0.33 (0.02) - (0.43) (0.12)	2020 December 31 10.11 0.34 (0.02) 0.02 0.53 0.87	2019 December 31 9.71 0.35 (0.02) - 0.43 0.76	2018 December 31 10.00 0.35 (0.02) (0.01) (0.21)
Net Assets per Unit <sup>(1)</sup> Accounting Period Ended  Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown <sup>(a)</sup> Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)  Total revenue  Total expenses  Realized gains (losses)  Unrealized gains (losses)  Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) <sup>(a)</sup> Distributions (\$)  From net investment income (excluding dividends)  From dividends  From capital gains  Return of capital	0.34 (0.02) (0.11) (1.15) (0.94)	0.33 (0.02) - (0.43) (0.12)	2020 December 31  10.11  0.34 (0.02) 0.02 0.53  0.87	2019 December 31 9.71 0.35 (0.02) - 0.43 0.76	2018 December 31  10.00  0.35 (0.02) (0.01) (0.21)  0.11  0.33  —
Net Assets per Unit <sup>(1)</sup> Accounting Period Ended  Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown <sup>(4)</sup> Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)  Total revenue  Total expenses  Realized gains (losses)  Unrealized gains (losses)  Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) <sup>(2)</sup> Distributions (\$)  From net investment income (excluding dividends)  From dividends  From capital gains	0.34 (0.02) (0.11) (1.15) (0.94) 0.32  0.08	0.33 (0.02) - (0.43) (0.12) 0.31 - - 0.11	2020 December 31  10.11  0.34 (0.02) 0.02 0.53 0.87  0.33 0.08	2019 December 31  9.71  0.35 (0.02)  - 0.43  0.76  0.33  - 0.06	2018 December 31  10.00  0.35 (0.02) (0.01) (0.21)  0.11  0.33  0.07 0.40
Net Assets per Unit <sup>(1)</sup> Accounting Period Ended  Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown <sup>(4)</sup> Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)  Total revenue Total expenses Realized gains (losses) Unrealized gains (losses) Unrealized gains (losses)  Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) <sup>(2)</sup> Distributions (\$)  From net investment income (excluding dividends) From dividends From capital gains Return of capital  Total Annual Distributions (\$) <sup>(3)</sup> Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$) <sup>(4)</sup>	0.34 (0.02) (0.11) (1.15) (0.94) 0.32  0.08 0.40	0.33 (0.02) - (0.43) (0.12) 0.31 0.11	2020 December 31  10.11  0.34 (0.02) 0.02 0.53 0.87  0.33 0.08 0.41	2019 December 31  9.71  0.35 (0.02)  - 0.43 0.76  0.33  - 0.06 0.39	2018 December 31  10.00  0.35 (0.02) (0.01) (0.21)  0.11  0.33  0.07
Net Assets per Unit <sup>(1)</sup> Accounting Period Ended  Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown <sup>(4)</sup> Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)  Total revenue  Total expenses  Realized gains (losses)  Unrealized gains (losses)  Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) <sup>(2)</sup> Distributions (\$)  From net investment income (excluding dividends)  From dividends  From capital gains  Return of capital  Total Annual Distributions (\$) <sup>(5)</sup> Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$) <sup>(4)</sup> Ratios and Supplemental Data	0.34 (0.02) (0.11) (1.15) (0.94) 0.32  0.08 0.40 8.66	0.33 (0.02) — (0.43) (0.12) 0.31 — 0.11 0.42 10.03	2020 December 31  10.11  0.34 (0.02) 0.02 0.53 0.87  0.33 0.08 0.41 10.59	2019 December 31  9.71  0.35 (0.02)  - 0.43  0.76  0.33  0.06  0.39 10.11	2018 December 31  10.00  0.35 (0.02) (0.01) (0.21)  0.11  0.33  0.07 0.40 9.71
Net Assets per Unit <sup>(1)</sup> Accounting Period Ended  Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown <sup>(4)</sup> Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)  Total revenue  Total expenses  Realized gains (losses)  Unrealized gains (losses)  Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) <sup>(2)</sup> Distributions (\$)  From net investment income (excluding dividends)  From dividends  From capital gains  Return of capital  Total Annual Distributions (\$) <sup>(5)</sup> Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$) <sup>(4)</sup> Ratios and Supplemental Data	0.34 (0.02) (0.11) (1.15) (0.94) 0.32  0.08 0.40	0.33 (0.02) - (0.43) (0.12) 0.31 0.11	2020 December 31  10.11  0.34 (0.02) 0.02 0.53 0.87  0.33 0.08 0.41	2019 December 31  9.71  0.35 (0.02)  - 0.43 0.76  0.33  - 0.06 0.39	2018 December 31  10.00  0.35 (0.02) (0.01) (0.21)  0.11  0.33  0.07 0.40
Net Assets per Unit (1)  Accounting Period Ended  Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown (4)  Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)  Total revenue  Total expenses  Realized gains (losses)  Unrealized gains (losses)  Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) (2)  Distributions (\$)  From net investment income (excluding dividends)  From dividends  From capital gains  Return of capital  Total Annual Distributions (\$) (9)  Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$) (4)	0.34 (0.02) (0.11) (1.15) (0.94) 0.32   0.08 0.40 8.66	0.33 (0.02) — (0.43) (0.12) 0.31 — 0.11 0.42 10.03	2020 December 31  10.11  0.34 (0.02) 0.02 0.53 0.87  0.33 0.08 0.41 10.59	2019 December 31  9.71  0.35 (0.02)  - 0.43  0.76  0.33  0.06  0.39 10.11	2018 December 31  10.00  0.35 (0.02) (0.01) (0.21)  0.11  0.33  0.07  0.40  9.71
Net Assets per Unit <sup>(1)</sup> Accounting Period Ended  Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown <sup>(a)</sup> Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)  Total revenue Total expenses Realized gains (losses) Unrealized gains (losses)  Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) <sup>(a)</sup> Distributions (\$)  From net investment income (excluding dividends) From dividends From capital gains Return of capital  Total Annual Distributions (\$) <sup>(a)</sup> Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$) <sup>(a)</sup> Ratios and Supplemental Data  Accounting Period Ended	0.34 (0.02) (0.11) (1.15) (0.94) 0.32   0.08 0.40 8.66	0.33 (0.02) - (0.43) (0.12) 0.31 0.11 0.42 10.03	2020 December 31  10.11  0.34 (0.02) 0.02 0.53 0.87  0.33 0.08 0.41 10.59	2019 December 31  9.71  0.35 (0.02)  - 0.43  0.76  0.33  - 0.06  0.39 10.11	2018 December 31  10.00  0.35 (0.02) (0.01) (0.21)  0.11  0.33  0.07  0.40  9.71  2018 December 31
Net Assets per Unit <sup>(1)</sup> Accounting Period Ended  Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown <sup>(a)</sup> Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)  Total revenue Total expenses Realized gains (losses) Unrealized gains (losses)  Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) <sup>(a)</sup> Distributions (\$)  From net investment income (excluding dividends) From dividends From capital gains Return of capital  Total Annual Distributions (\$) <sup>(a)</sup> Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$) <sup>(a)</sup> Ratios and Supplemental Data  Accounting Period Ended  Total net asset value (ooo's of \$) <sup>(a)</sup>	0.34 (0.02) (0.11) (1.15) (0.94)  0.32 0.08 0.40 8.66	0.33 (0.02) — (0.43) (0.12) 0.31 — 0.11 0.42 10.03 0.22 December 31 16,704	2020 December 31  10.11  0.34 (0.02) 0.02 0.53 0.87  0.33 0.08 0.41 10.59  2020 December 31 14,939	2019 December 31  9.71  0.35 (0.02)  - 0.43  0.76  0.33  - 0.06  0.39 10.11  2019 December 31  13,728	2018 December 31  10.00  0.35 (0.02) (0.01) (0.21)  0.11  0.33  0.07 0.40 9.71  2018 December 31
Net Assets per Unit (1) Accounting Period Ended  Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown (4) Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) Total revenue Total expenses Realized gains (losses) Unrealized gains (losses) Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) (4) Distributions (\$) From net investment income (excluding dividends) From dividends From capital gains Return of capital Total Annual Distributions (\$) (9) Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$) (4) Ratios and Supplemental Data Accounting Period Ended  Total net asset value (ooo's of \$) (5) Number of units outstanding (9)	0.34 (0.02) (0.11) (1.15) (0.94)  0.320.08 0.40 8.66	0.33 (0.02) — (0.43) (0.12) 0.31 — 0.11 0.42 10.03 0.22 1 December 31 16,704 1,665,161	2020 December 31  10.11  0.34 (0.02) 0.02 0.53 0.87  0.33 0.08 0.41 10.59  2020 December 31 14,939 1,410,914	2019 December 31  9.71  0.35 (0.02)  - 0.43  0.76  0.33  0.06  0.39  10.11  2019 December 31  13,728 1,357,568	2018 December 31  10.00  0.35 (0.02) (0.01) (0.21)  0.11  0.33  0.07 0.40 9.71  2018 December 31  11,750 1,209,758
Net Assets per Unit <sup>(1)</sup> Accounting Period Ended  Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown <sup>(a)</sup> Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)  Total revenue Total expenses Realized gains (losses) Unrealized gains (losses)  Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) <sup>(a)</sup> Distributions (\$)  From net investment income (excluding dividends) From dividends From capital gains Return of capital  Total Annual Distributions (\$) <sup>(a)</sup> Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$) <sup>(a)</sup> Ratios and Supplemental Data Accounting Period Ended  Total net asset value (ooo's of \$) <sup>(a)</sup> Number of units outstanding <sup>(a)</sup> Management expense ratio (%) <sup>(a)</sup>	0.34 (0.02) (0.11) (1.15) (0.94)  0.32 0.08 0.40 8.66	0.33 (0.02) — (0.43) (0.12) 0.31 — 0.11 0.42 10.03 0.42 10.03	2020 December 31  10.11  0.34 (0.02) 0.02 0.53 0.87  0.33 0.08 0.41 10.59  2020 December 31 14,939 1,410,914 0.17	2019 December 31  9.71  0.35 (0.02)  - 0.43 0.76  0.33 0.06 0.39 10.11  2019 December 31 13,728 1,357,568 0.17	2018 December 31  10.00  0.35 (0.02) (0.01) (0.21)  0.11  0.33  0.07  0.40  9.71  2018 December 31  11,750 1,209,758 0.17
Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)  Total revenue  Total expenses Realized gains (losses) Unrealized gains (losses)  Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) (a)  Distributions (\$)  From net investment income (excluding dividends) From dividends From capital gains Return of capital  Total Annual Distributions (\$) (a)  Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$) (a)  Ratios and Supplemental Data  Accounting Period Ended  Total net asset value (ooo's of \$) (s) Number of units outstanding (s) Management expense ratio (%) (s)  Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (%)	0.34 (0.02) (0.11) (1.15) (0.94)  0.32 0.08 0.40 8.66	0.33 (0.02) — (0.43) (0.12) 0.31 — 0.11 0.42 10.03 0.42 10.03 10.67 0.47 0.17	2020 December 31  10.11  0.34 (0.02) 0.02 0.53 0.87  0.33 0.08 0.41 10.59  2020 December 31 14,939 1,410,914 0.17	2019 December 31  9.71  0.35 (0.02)  - 0.43  0.76  0.33  - 0.06  0.39 10.11  2019 December 31  13,728 1,357,568 0.17 0.17	2018 December 31  10.00  0.35 (0.02) (0.01) (0.21)  0.11  0.33  0.07 0.40 9.71  2018 December 31  11,750 1,209,758 0.17 0.17

10.03

10.59

10.11

9.71

8.66

# Series PW\*

 $^{(\circ)}$  Please note that this Series is offered by way of private placement.

Net Assets per Unit<sup>(1)</sup>

Commencement of operations: May 21, 2015

Accounting Period Ended	2022 December 31	2021 December 31	2020 December 31	2019 December 31	2018 December 31
Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown (4)	10.50	10.96	10.40	9.94	10.17
Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)					
Total revenue	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.36	0.36
Total expenses	(0.02)	(0.02)	(0.02)	(0.02)	(0.02)
Realized gains (losses)	(0.10)	(0.01)	0.02	_	(0.01)
Unrealized gains (losses)	(1.91)	(0.56)	0.50	0.48	(0.22)
Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) (2)	(1.68)	(0.24)	0.85	0.82	0.11
Distributions (\$)					
From net investment income (excluding dividends)	0.36	0.32	0.34	0.34	0.34
From dividends	_	_	_	_	_
From capital gains	_	_	_	_	_
Return of capital	_	_	_	_	_
Total Annual Distributions (\$) (3)	0.36	0.32	0.34	0.34	0.34
Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$) (4)	9.11	10.50	10.96	10.40	9.94

Ratios and Supplemental Data

Accounting Period Ended	2022 December 31	2021 December 31	2020 December 31	2019 December 31	2018 December 31
Total net asset value (ooo's of \$) (5)	4,544	25,543	43,270	59,899	67,427
Number of units outstanding (5)	498,749	2,432,295	3,946,473	5,761,578	6,786,356
Management expense ratio (%) (6)	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (%)	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22
Trading expense ratio (%) (7)	_	_	_	_	_
Portfolio turnover rate (%) (8)	40.58	25.79	30.93	48.17	42.53
Net asset value per unit (\$)	9.11	10.50	10.96	10.40	9.94

# **Series PWO\***

Net Assets per  $\mathsf{Unit}^{\scriptscriptstyle{(1)}}$ 

Commencement of operations: May 21, 2015

Accounting Period Ended	2022 December 31	2021 December 31	2020 December 31	2019 December 31	2018 December 31
Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown (4)	9.89	10.34	9.81	9.39	9.62
Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)					
Total revenue	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.34	0.34
Total expenses	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)
Realized gains (losses)	(0.04)	(0.01)	0.02	_	(0.01)
Unrealized gains (losses)	(2.85)	(0.67)	0.50	0.52	(0.23)
Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) (2)	(2.57)	(0.36)	0.84	0.85	0.09
Distributions (\$)					
From net investment income (excluding dividends)	0.36	0.32	0.34	0.34	0.34
From dividends	_	_	_	_	_
From capital gains	_	_	_	_	_
Return of capital	_	_	_	_	_
Total Annual Distributions (\$) <sup>(3)</sup>	0.36	0.32	0.34	0.34	0.34
Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$) (4)	8.58	9.89	10.34	9.81	9.39

Ratios and Supplemental Data

Accounting Period Ended	2022 December 31	2021 December 31	2020 December 31	2019 December 31	2018 December 31
Total net asset value (ooo's of \$) (5)	26	1,581	5,341	10,394	18,615
Number of units outstanding (5)	3,085	159,766	516,704	1,059,691	1,982,821
Management expense ratio (%) (6)	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (%)	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10
Trading expense ratio (%) (7)	_	_	_	_	_
Portfolio turnover rate (%) (8)	40.58	25.79	30.93	48.17	42.53
Net asset value per unit (\$)	8.58	9.89	10.34	9.81	9.39

 $<sup>^{(9)}</sup>$  Please note that this Series is offered by way of private placement.

- (1) This information is derived from the Fund's Annual Audited Financial Statements. The net assets per unit presented in the financial statements might differ from the net asset value calculated for fund pricing purposes. The differences are explained in the notes to the financial statements.
- (2) Net assets and distributions are based on the actual number of units outstanding at the relevant time. The increase or decrease from operations is based on the average number of units outstanding over the accounting period.
- $^{(3)}$  Distributions were paid in cash or reinvested in additional units of the Fund, or both.
- $^{(4)}$  The net assets are calculated in accordance with IFRS.
- $^{(\!g\!)}$  This information is provided as at the last day of the accounting period shown.
- (6) Management expense ratio is based on total expenses including sales taxes for the accounting period indicated (excluding commission, other portfolio transaction costs and withholding taxes) and is expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average net value during the accounting period.
- (7) The trading expense ratio represents total commissions and other portfolio transaction costs expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average net asset value during the accounting period. The trading expense ratio includes, if necessary, the trading expenses from its underlying funds, as described in Article 15.2 of Regulation 81-106.
- (8) The Fund's portfolio turnover rate indicates how actively the Fund portfolio's manager manages its portfolio investments. A portfolio turnover rate of 100% is equivalent to the Fund buying and selling all of the securities in its portfolio once in the course of the accounting period. The higher a Fund's portfolio turnover rate in an accounting period, the greater the trading costs payable by the Fund in the accounting period, and the greater the chance of an investor receiving taxable capital gains in the accounting period. There is not necessarily a relationship between a high turnover rate and the performance of a Fund.

## **Summary of Investment Portfolio**

## As of December 31, 2022

### **Portfolio Top Holdings**

% of N
Asset Valu
Toronto-Dominion Bank, 5.38%, due October 21, 2027
Cash, Money Market and Other Net Assets
Bank of Montreal, 2.37%, due February 3, 20251
Royal Bank of Canada, 1.94%, due May 1, 2025
Scotiabank, 2.16%, due February 3, 2025
Bank of Montreal, 1.55%, due May 28, 2026 1
Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, 2.75%,
due March 7, 2025 1
Scotiabank, 2.49%, due September 23, 2024
Toronto-Dominion Bank/The, 4.68%, due January 8, 2029
Bank of Montreal, 4.71%, due December 7, 2027 1
Royal Bank of Canada, 4.61%, due July 26, 2027 o
Royal Bank of Canada, Floating, due December 23, 2029 o
Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, 2.35%,
due August 28, 2024 0
Fédération des caisses Desjardins, Floating,
due May 26, 2030
Scotiabank, Floating, due July 3, 2024
National Bank of Canada, 5.30%, due November 3, 2025 0
Sun Life Financial Inc., Floating, due November 21, 2033
Wells Fargo & Co., Floating, due April 28, 2025
Bank of Nova Scotia/The, 1.95%, due January 10, 2025
Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, 2.25%,
due January 7, 2027o
Royal Bank of Canada, 2.14%, due November 3, 2031 o
Royal Bank of Canada, Floating, due July 25, 2029
Enbridge Inc., 3.20%, due June 8, 2027 o
Fédération des caisses Desjardins, 4.41%, due May 19, 2027 0
Rogers Communications Inc., 5.00%, due December 17, 2081
26

Net asset value \$1,435,576,707

#### **Asset Mix**

	% of Net
	Asset Value
Canadian Corporate Bonds	88.8
US Bonds	
Federal Bonds	
Provincial Bonds	1.9
Asset Backed Securities	
Municipal Bonds	
Foreign Bonds	0.2
Mortgage Backed Securities	
Derivative Products	
Cash, Money Market and Other Net Assets	1.9
Credit Quality	
•	% of Net
	Asset Value
AAA	

 AA
 5.7

 A
 44.9

 BBB
 45.4

 BB
 2.7

The above table shows the top 25 positions held by the Fund. In the case of a Fund with fewer than 25 positions, all positions are indicated.

The Summary of Investment Portfolio may change due to ongoing portfolio transactions of the investment Fund. A quarterly update is available. Please consult our website at www.nbinvestments.ca.

If this investment Fund invests in other investment funds, please consult the prospectus and other information about the underlying investment funds on the website indicated above or on SEDAR's website at www.sedar.com.