

# ANNUAL MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE

For the period ended December 31, 2024

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.

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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, 800 Saint-Jacques Street, Transit 44331, Montreal, Quebec, H3C 1A3, by visiting our website at [www.nbinvestments.ca](http://www.nbinvestments.ca), by visiting SEDAR+'s website at [www.sedarplus.ca](http://www.sedarplus.ca), 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 record, or quarterly portfolio 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. The fund may use a responsible investment approach, as described in the fund prospectus, this approach being one of many components of the investment strategies used to help achieve the fund's investment objective.

### Risks

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, 2024, the NBI Corporate Bond Private Portfolio's Advisor Series units returned 6.88% compared to 6.97% 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 rose by 116.88% over the period, from \$429.03 million as at December 31, 2023 to \$930.48 million as at December 31, 2024.

The increase stemmed mainly from a rebalancing of the managed solutions offered by National Bank.

North American bond yields adjusted higher, and the yield curve steepened over the first three months of the year. In the first quarter, the theme in the U.S. was a resilient economy and continued elevated inflation. Softening global growth and inflation added to the view that financial conditions were tight and were working their way through the global economy. The economy was operating in excess supply and inflation continued to move lower giving the Bank more confidence they would be able to achieve their two percent inflation target over time. As a result, the Governing Council said monetary policy no longer needed to be as restrictive. Inflation came down from the highs in 2022 and the breadth of price increases narrowed. Economic data had finally started to fade showing signs that restrictive monetary policy was working to cool the economy. Later in the second quarter the probability of a soft landing increased, requiring interest rate cuts before the end of the year. North American bond yields declined significantly over the third quarter, and yield curves adjusted from being inverted to positively sloped, an environment which we had not seen in over two years. The Federal Reserve came out with a bang to start their interest rate cutting cycle in September by lowering rates 50-basis points which surprised some investors looking for a smaller 25-basis point reduction. The unemployment rate continued to nudge higher, and inflation made further progress towards the Fed's inflation target.

The Bank of Canada continued to reduce its target for the overnight rate during the quarter to 4.25%. Although the quarter saw some turmoil related to fears of a recession, the risk-off tone was brief due to the dovish pivot from central banks. North American bond yields moved higher over the last quarter of the year especially in the U.S. as the incoming administration had promised lower taxes and fiscal spending to boost economic growth. At the end of September, the market was looking for the Fed to lower rates to 3% in 2025 but since the election investors are expecting them to stop in the area of 4%. Higher spending would increase the deficit along with the supply of bonds, and with the U.S. economy already operating above capacity, further stimulus could spark inflation again. Investors are also trying to deal with potential U.S. trade policy where if tariffs are enforced, they could be both inflationary and hurt economic growth. After the Fed lowered rates in December by 25 basis points to 4.50%, they sounded much more cautious on the pace of further cuts in 2025.

The Bank of Canada was very aggressive and cut rates one percent during the quarter to 3.25%. The Bank estimates the neutral level of rates is somewhere between 2.25% and 3.25%, so we are now at the top end of this range. The Canadian economy operated in excess supply throughout the year which allowed headline inflation to fall from 3.4% to 1.9% and core inflation on average fell 90 basis points to 2.7%. The Bank cut rates 175 basis points since June and investors are looking for another 75 basis points in 2025. With expectations that the Bank continues to loosen monetary policy and with the Federal Reserve almost done cutting rates, the Canadian dollar depreciated 6% over the quarter. This trend could continue but there is a limit as a weaker currency could lead to a pickup in inflation. The Bank would also be very concerned if the US imposed tariffs on Canada which would put further pressure on an already soft economy.

In this context, the Fund underperformed the benchmark. Overall, the main generator of performance came from spread management and carry with duration positioning also proving to be a driver for performance. Security selection helped and came mostly from positions within the Financial and Energy sectors.

### Recent Developments

During 2024, the portfolio manager reduced allocation to A's and increased weights in BBB's. He increased weighting to Energy, at the expense of Financials. He has a higher duration relative to the index and a higher running yield. He has an overweight position in financial bonds and underweight positions in industrial and infrastructure issues.

The Bank of Canada began the process of loosening monetary policy, and he expects this to continue in 2024 and 2025. It will not be a straightforward exercise where the Bank cuts at every meeting until they get to a neutral level. He expects stops and starts as the economy is not falling off a cliff and there are still risks to the inflation outlook. The U.S. economy has been more resilient than Canada, but it is also starting to show signs of weakening which will eventually lead to an interest rate cut from the Federal Reserve. Restrictive policy is working in both countries but there are long and variable lags. He expects a heightened level of interest rate volatility as the market transitions to lower rates, which will provide him with trading opportunities. Elevated bond supply and geopolitical events will also contribute to this environment.

Investment grade credit spreads are close to long-term historical averages. His base case is for an economic soft landing, where Canadian growth operates below potential but does not fall into a recession, inflation trends towards target in 2024 and 2025, and the Bank cut rates to neutral over this period. Credit spreads reflect this environment, we have a modest overweight, but we have reduced our exposure over the last year. His focus today is on the high-quality sectors or on names where spreads are attractive. Most of the overweight is now in the short end of the curve. He will continue to actively trade this sector. The yield carry in the portfolio continues to decline and we ended the quarter at 22 basis points.

On May 9, 2024, the Series O was launched for the Fund.

## Related Party Transactions

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

### Trustee

National Bank Trust Inc. (“NBT”), a wholly-owned direct and indirect subsidiary of the Bank, is the Fund’s trustee. In this capacity, it is the legal owner of the Fund’s investments.

### Custodian and Registrar

Natcan Trust Company (“NTC”) acts as registrar for the Fund’s mutual fund series 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. (“NBI”), which is an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of the Bank. Therefore, NBI 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 NBI as consideration for its services.

### Portfolio Manager

The Manager has appointed National Bank Trust Inc. (“NBT”), a direct and indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of the Bank, as the portfolio manager for the Fund. A flat fee is payable annually to NBT for its management 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.

National Bank Savings and Investments Inc. (“NBSI”) 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.

### Holdings

As at December 31, 2024, National Bank Investments Inc. held 102.68 Fund securities for a value of \$1,075.09, which represented close to 0.0001% of the net asset value of the Fund at that date. Transactions between National Bank Investments Inc. and the Fund were carried out in the normal course of business and at the Fund’s net asset value as at the transaction date.

### 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:

- 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 60-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;
- 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);
- Entering into foreign exchange transactions (including both spot transactions and forward transactions) with National Bank of Canada.

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 NBI 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 NBI and without taking into account any consideration relevant to an entity related to NBI. 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, NBI, to National Bank Trust Inc. (“NBT”), a direct and indirect wholly-owned 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          | 0.78%           | 64.10%       | 35.90%              |
| Series F                | 0.45%           | —            | 100.00%             |
| Series N and Series NR* | 0.10%           | —            | 100.00%             |
| Series O                | N/A**           | —            | 100.00%             |

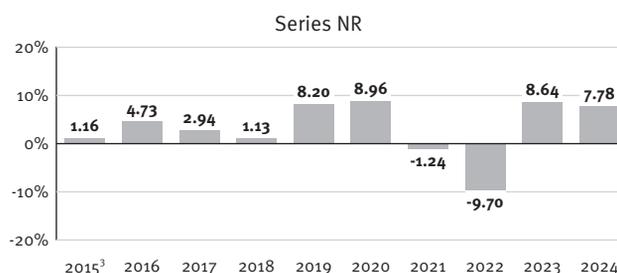
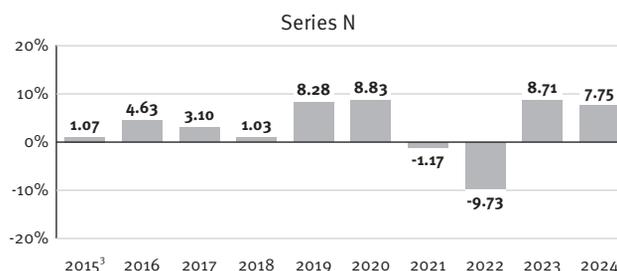
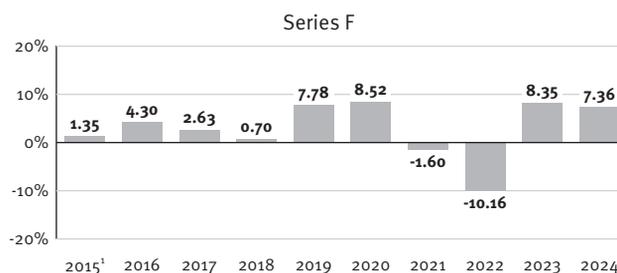
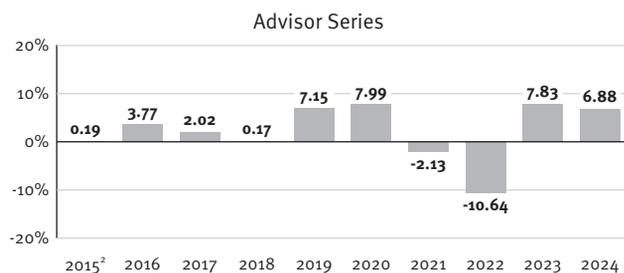
- <sup>(†)</sup> Includes all costs related to management, investment advisory services, general administration and profit.
- <sup>(\*)</sup> For Series N and NR, offered only to investors using the NBI Private Wealth Management service ("PWM"), management fees only cover management of fund investments, 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.
- <sup>(\*\*)</sup> The Series O is only available to selected investors that have been approved and have entered into an O Series units account agreement with National Bank Investments Inc. The criteria for approval may include the size of the investment, the expected level of account activity and the investor's total investments with NBI. No management fees are charged to the Fund with respect to the O Series units. Management fees are negotiated with and paid directly by investors and are in addition to the fixed-rate administration fee. NBI does not pay any commissions or service fees to dealers who sell O Series units. There are no sales charges payable by investors who purchase O Series units.

## 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.

## 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.

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

<sup>(3)</sup> Returns for the period from October 30, 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, 2024, 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 |
|-----------------------------------|--------|---------|---------|----------|-----------------|
| <b>Advisor Series<sup>1</sup></b> | 6.88%  | 0.99%   | 1.71%   | —        | 2.29%           |
| Benchmark                         | 6.97%  | 1.47%   | 2.31%   | —        | 3.11%           |
| <b>Series F<sup>2</sup></b>       | 7.36%  | 1.48%   | 2.22%   | —        | 2.88%           |
| Benchmark                         | 6.97%  | 1.47%   | 2.31%   | —        | 3.16%           |
| <b>Series N<sup>3</sup></b>       | 7.75%  | 1.88%   | 2.61%   | —        | 3.38%           |
| Benchmark                         | 6.97%  | 1.47%   | 2.31%   | —        | 3.19%           |
| <b>Series NR<sup>3</sup></b>      | 7.78%  | 1.88%   | 2.61%   | —        | 3.39%           |
| Benchmark                         | 6.97%  | 1.47%   | 2.31%   | —        | 3.19%           |

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

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

<sup>3</sup>Commencement of operations: October 30, 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.

**Index Description**

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).

## 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  | 2024<br>December 31 | 2023<br>December 31                       | 2022<br>December 31 | 2021<br>December 31 | 2020<br>December 31 |  |
| <b>Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown</b> <sup>(4)</sup> | 9.46                | 9.06                                      | 10.41               | 10.87               | 10.29               |  |
| <b>Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)</b>                        |                     |   |                     |                     |                     |  |
| Total revenue  | 0.42                | 0.38                                      | 0.36                | 0.34                | 0.35                |  |
| Total expenses   | (0.09)              | (0.09)                                    | (0.10)              | (0.12)              | (0.12)              |  |
| Realized gains (losses)  | (0.05)              | (0.75)                                    | (0.11)              | —                   | 0.02                |  |
| Unrealized gains (losses)  | 0.35                | 1.14                                      | (1.18)              | (0.46)              | 0.54                |  |
| <b>Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)</b> <sup>(2)</sup>   | 0.63                | 0.68                                      | (1.03)              | (0.24)              | 0.79                |  |
| <b>Distributions (\$)</b>  |                     |   |                     |                     |                     |  |
| From net investment income (excluding dividends)                       | 0.33                | 0.29                                      | 0.25                | 0.23                | 0.23                |  |
| From dividends   | —                   | —   | —                   | —                   | —                   |  |
| From capital gains   | —                   | —   | —                   | —                   | —                   |  |
| Return of capital  | —                   | —   | —                   | —                   | —                   |  |
| <b>Total Annual Distributions (\$)</b> <sup>(3)</sup>                  | 0.33                | 0.29                                      | 0.25                | 0.23                | 0.23                |  |
| <b>Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$)</b> <sup>(4)</sup>  | 9.77                | 9.46                                      | 9.06                | 10.41               | 10.87               |  |

### Ratios and Supplemental Data

| Accounting Period Ended                                    | 2024<br>December 31 | 2023<br>December 31 | 2022<br>December 31 | 2021<br>December 31 | 2020<br>December 31 |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Total net asset value (ooo's of \$) <sup>(5)</sup>         | 13,385              | 13,578              | 16,672              | 19,139              | 20,369              |
| Number of units outstanding <sup>(5)</sup>                 | 1,369,722           | 1,435,692           | 1,840,211           | 1,839,241           | 1,874,439           |
| Management expense ratio (%) <sup>(6)</sup>                | 0.95                | 1.01                | 1.12                | 1.12                | 1.11                |
| Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (%) | 0.95                | 1.01                | 1.12                | 1.12                | 1.11                |
| Trading expense ratio (%) <sup>(7)</sup>                   | —                   | —                   | —                   | —                   | —                   |
| Portfolio turnover rate (%) <sup>(8)</sup>                 | 59.73               | 95.56               | 40.58               | 25.79               | 30.93               |
| Net asset value per unit (\$)                              | 9.77                | 9.46                | 9.06                | 10.41               | 10.87               |

### Series F / Private Series\*

<sup>(1)</sup> Please note that the Private Series was created on November 28, 2016, and is offered by way of private placement.

| Net Assets per Unit <sup>(1)</sup>                                     |                     | Commencement of operations: May 21, 2015 |                     |                     |                     |  |
|--|---------------------|--|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--|
| Accounting Period Ended  | 2024<br>December 31 | 2023<br>December 31                      | 2022<br>December 31 | 2021<br>December 31 | 2020<br>December 31 |  |
| <b>Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown</b> <sup>(4)</sup> | 9.50                | 9.11                                     | 10.47               | 10.93               | 10.35               |  |
| <b>Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)</b>                        |                     |  |                     |                     |                     |  |
| Total revenue  | 0.42                | 0.38                                     | 0.36                | 0.35                | 0.35                |  |
| Total expenses   | (0.05)              | (0.05)                                   | (0.05)              | (0.06)              | (0.06)              |  |
| Realized gains (losses)  | (0.05)              | (0.79)                                   | (0.12)              | —                   | 0.02                |  |
| Unrealized gains (losses)  | 0.37                | 1.04                                     | (1.23)              | (0.39)              | 0.53                |  |
| <b>Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)</b> <sup>(2)</sup>   | 0.69                | 0.58                                     | (1.04)              | (0.10)              | 0.84                |  |
| <b>Distributions (\$)</b>  |                     |  |                     |                     |                     |  |
| From net investment income (excluding dividends)                       | 0.36                | 0.35                                     | 0.30                | 0.28                | 0.29                |  |
| From dividends   | —                   | —  | —                   | —                   | —                   |  |
| From capital gains   | —                   | —  | —                   | —                   | —                   |  |
| Return of capital  | —                   | —  | —                   | —                   | —                   |  |
| <b>Total Annual Distributions (\$)</b> <sup>(3)</sup>                  | 0.36                | 0.35                                     | 0.30                | 0.28                | 0.29                |  |
| <b>Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$)</b> <sup>(4)</sup>  | 9.82                | 9.50                                     | 9.11                | 10.47               | 10.93               |  |

### Ratios and Supplemental Data

| Accounting Period Ended                                    | 2024<br>December 31 | 2023<br>December 31 | 2022<br>December 31 | 2021<br>December 31 | 2020<br>December 31 |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Total net asset value (ooo's of \$) <sup>(5)</sup>         | 92,622              | 78,755              | 307,830             | 328,017             | 254,270             |
| Number of units outstanding <sup>(5)</sup>                 | 9,436,250           | 8,293,490           | 33,782,847          | 31,339,968          | 23,273,541          |
| Management expense ratio (%) <sup>(6)</sup>                | 0.56                | 0.55                | 0.56                | 0.56                | 0.57                |
| Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (%) | 0.56                | 0.55                | 0.56                | 0.56                | 0.57                |
| Trading expense ratio (%) <sup>(7)</sup>                   | —                   | —                   | —                   | —                   | —                   |
| Portfolio turnover rate (%) <sup>(8)</sup>                 | 59.73               | 95.56               | 40.58               | 25.79               | 30.93               |
| Net asset value per unit (\$)                              | 9.82                | 9.50                | 9.11                | 10.47               | 10.93               |

## Series N

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

Commencement of operations: October 30, 2015

| Accounting Period Ended   | 2024<br>December 31 | 2023<br>December 31 | 2022<br>December 31 | 2021<br>December 31 | 2020<br>December 31 |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown<sup>(4)</sup></b> | 9.60                | 9.20                | 10.56               | 11.02               | 10.45               |
| <b>Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)</b>                       |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |
| Total revenue   | 0.43                | 0.38                | 0.36                | 0.35                | 0.36                |
| Total expenses  | (0.02)              | (0.02)              | (0.02)              | (0.02)              | (0.02)              |
| Realized gains (losses)   | (0.03)              | (0.79)              | (0.12)              | —                   | 0.02                |
| Unrealized gains (losses)   | 0.42                | 1.35                | (1.14)              | (0.44)              | 0.55                |
| <b>Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)<sup>(2)</sup></b>   | 0.80                | 0.92                | (0.92)              | (0.11)              | 0.91                |
| <b>Distributions (\$)</b>   |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |
| From net investment income (excluding dividends)                      | 0.38                | 0.38                | 0.34                | 0.33                | 0.34                |
| From dividends  | —                   | —                   | —                   | —                   | —                   |
| From capital gains  | —                   | —                   | —                   | —                   | —                   |
| Return of capital   | —                   | —                   | —                   | —                   | —                   |
| <b>Total Annual Distributions (\$)<sup>(3)</sup></b>                  | 0.38                | 0.38                | 0.34                | 0.33                | 0.34                |
| <b>Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$)<sup>(4)</sup></b>  | 9.94                | 9.60                | 9.20                | 10.56               | 11.02               |

### Ratios and Supplemental Data

| Accounting Period Ended                                    | 2024<br>December 31 | 2023<br>December 31 | 2022<br>December 31 | 2021<br>December 31 | 2020<br>December 31 |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Total net asset value (ooo's of \$) <sup>(5)</sup>         | 809,135             | 328,115             | 1,090,398           | 975,959             | 866,729             |
| Number of units outstanding <sup>(5)</sup>                 | 81,408,807          | 34,186,974          | 118,571,909         | 92,428,203          | 78,625,785          |
| Management expense ratio (%) <sup>(6)</sup>                | 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 (%) <sup>(7)</sup>                   | —                   | —                   | —                   | —                   | —                   |
| Portfolio turnover rate (%) <sup>(8)</sup>                 | 59.73               | 95.56               | 40.58               | 25.79               | 30.93               |
| Net asset value per unit (\$)                              | 9.94                | 9.60                | 9.20                | 10.56               | 11.02               |

## Series NR

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

Commencement of operations: October 30, 2015

| Accounting Period Ended   | 2024<br>December 31 | 2023<br>December 31 | 2022<br>December 31 | 2021<br>December 31 | 2020<br>December 31 |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown<sup>(4)</sup></b> | 9.00                | 8.66                | 10.03               | 10.59               | 10.11               |
| <b>Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)</b>                       |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |
| Total revenue   | 0.41                | 0.35                | 0.34                | 0.33                | 0.34                |
| Total expenses  | (0.02)              | (0.02)              | (0.02)              | (0.02)              | (0.02)              |
| Realized gains (losses)   | (0.03)              | (0.74)              | (0.11)              | —                   | 0.02                |
| Unrealized gains (losses)   | 0.38                | 1.27                | (1.15)              | (0.43)              | 0.53                |
| <b>Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)<sup>(2)</sup></b>   | 0.74                | 0.86                | (0.94)              | (0.12)              | 0.87                |
| <b>Distributions (\$)</b>   |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |
| From net investment income (excluding dividends)                      | 0.36                | 0.36                | 0.32                | 0.31                | 0.33                |
| From dividends  | —                   | —                   | —                   | —                   | —                   |
| From capital gains  | —                   | —                   | —                   | —                   | —                   |
| Return of capital   | 0.01                | 0.03                | 0.08                | 0.11                | 0.08                |
| <b>Total Annual Distributions (\$)<sup>(3)</sup></b>                  | 0.37                | 0.39                | 0.40                | 0.42                | 0.41                |
| <b>Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$)<sup>(4)</sup></b>  | 9.31                | 9.00                | 8.66                | 10.03               | 10.59               |

### Ratios and Supplemental Data

| Accounting Period Ended                                    | 2024<br>December 31 | 2023<br>December 31 | 2022<br>December 31 | 2021<br>December 31 | 2020<br>December 31 |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Total net asset value (ooo's of \$) <sup>(5)</sup>         | 11,247              | 4,468               | 16,105              | 16,704              | 14,939              |
| Number of units outstanding <sup>(5)</sup>                 | 1,207,712           | 496,262             | 1,860,217           | 1,665,161           | 1,410,914           |
| Management expense ratio (%) <sup>(6)</sup>                | 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 (%) <sup>(7)</sup>                   | —                   | —                   | —                   | —                   | —                   |
| Portfolio turnover rate (%) <sup>(8)</sup>                 | 59.73               | 95.56               | 40.58               | 25.79               | 30.93               |
| Net asset value per unit (\$)                              | 9.31                | 9.00                | 8.66                | 10.03               | 10.59               |

## Series O

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

Commencement of operations: May 9, 2024

| Accounting Period Ended  | 2024<br>December 31 |
|--|---------------------|
| <b>Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown</b> <sup>(4)</sup> | 10.00               |
| <b>Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)</b>                        |                     |
| Total revenue  | 0.30                |
| Total expenses   | —                   |
| Realized gains (losses)  | (0.04)              |
| Unrealized gains (losses)  | 0.48                |
| <b>Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)</b> <sup>(2)</sup>   | 0.74                |
| <b>Distributions (\$)</b>  |                     |
| From net investment income (excluding dividends)                       | 0.27                |
| From dividends   | —                   |
| From capital gains   | —                   |
| Return of capital  | —                   |
| <b>Total Annual Distributions (\$)</b> <sup>(3)</sup>                  | 0.27                |
| <b>Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$)</b> <sup>(4)</sup>  | 10.47               |

### Ratios and Supplemental Data

| Accounting Period Ended                                    | 2024<br>December 31 |
|--|---------------------|
| Total net asset value (000's of \$) <sup>(5)</sup>         | 1                   |
| Number of units outstanding <sup>(5)</sup>                 | 103                 |
| Management expense ratio (%) <sup>(6)</sup>                | —                   |
| Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (%) | —                   |
| Trading expense ratio (%) <sup>(7)</sup>                   | —                   |
| Portfolio turnover rate (%) <sup>(8)</sup>                 | 59.73               |
| Net asset value per unit (\$)                              | 10.47               |

## Series PW\*

<sup>(1)</sup> 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  | 2024<br>December 31 | 2023<br>December 31 | 2022<br>December 31 | 2021<br>December 31 | 2020<br>December 31 |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown</b> <sup>(4)</sup> | 9.51                | 9.11                | 10.50               | 10.96               | 10.40               |
| <b>Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)</b>                        |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |
| Total revenue  | 0.42                | 0.38                | 0.35                | 0.35                | 0.35                |
| Total expenses   | (0.02)              | (0.02)              | (0.02)              | (0.02)              | (0.02)              |
| Realized gains (losses)  | (0.05)              | (0.75)              | (0.10)              | (0.01)              | 0.02                |
| Unrealized gains (losses)  | 0.34                | 1.15                | (1.91)              | (0.56)              | 0.50                |
| <b>Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)</b> <sup>(2)</sup>   | 0.69                | 0.76                | (1.68)              | (0.24)              | 0.85                |
| <b>Distributions (\$)</b>  |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |
| From net investment income (excluding dividends)                       | 0.40                | 0.37                | 0.36                | 0.32                | 0.34                |
| From dividends   | —                   | —                   | —                   | —                   | —                   |
| From capital gains   | —                   | —                   | —                   | —                   | —                   |
| Return of capital  | —                   | —                   | —                   | —                   | —                   |
| <b>Total Annual Distributions (\$)</b> <sup>(3)</sup>                  | 0.40                | 0.37                | 0.36                | 0.32                | 0.34                |
| <b>Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$)</b> <sup>(4)</sup>  | 9.83                | 9.51                | 9.11                | 10.50               | 10.96               |

### Ratios and Supplemental Data

| Accounting Period Ended                                    | 2024<br>December 31 | 2023<br>December 31 | 2022<br>December 31 | 2021<br>December 31 | 2020<br>December 31 |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Total net asset value (000's of \$) <sup>(5)</sup>         | 4,058               | 4,088               | 4,544               | 25,543              | 43,270              |
| Number of units outstanding <sup>(5)</sup>                 | 412,736             | 429,678             | 498,749             | 2,432,295           | 3,946,473           |
| Management expense ratio (%) <sup>(6)</sup>                | 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 (%) <sup>(7)</sup>                   | —                   | —                   | —                   | —                   | —                   |
| Portfolio turnover rate (%) <sup>(8)</sup>                 | 59.73               | 95.56               | 40.58               | 25.79               | 30.93               |
| Net asset value per unit (\$)                              | 9.83                | 9.51                | 9.11                | 10.50               | 10.96               |

## Series PWO\*

<sup>(1)</sup> 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  | 2024        | 2023        | 2022        | 2021        | 2020        |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|  | December 31 |
| <b>Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown</b> <sup>(4)</sup> | 8.96        | 8.58        | 9.89        | 10.34       | 9.81        |
| <b>Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)</b>                        |             |             |             |             |             |
| Total revenue  | 0.40        | 0.36        | 0.33        | 0.33        | 0.33        |
| Total expenses   | (0.01)      | (0.01)      | (0.01)      | (0.01)      | (0.01)      |
| Realized gains (losses)  | (0.04)      | (0.70)      | (0.04)      | (0.01)      | 0.02        |
| Unrealized gains (losses)  | 0.34        | 1.09        | (2.85)      | (0.67)      | 0.50        |
| <b>Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)</b> <sup>(2)</sup>   | 0.69        | 0.74        | (2.57)      | (0.36)      | 0.84        |
| <b>Distributions (\$)</b>  |             |             |             |             |             |
| From net investment income (excluding dividends)                       | 0.38        | 0.35        | 0.36        | 0.32        | 0.34        |
| From dividends   | —           | —           | —           | —           | —           |
| From capital gains   | —           | —           | —           | —           | —           |
| Return of capital  | —           | —           | —           | —           | —           |
| <b>Total Annual Distributions (\$)</b> <sup>(3)</sup>                  | 0.38        | 0.35        | 0.36        | 0.32        | 0.34        |
| <b>Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$)</b> <sup>(4)</sup>  | 9.26        | 8.96        | 8.58        | 9.89        | 10.34       |

## Ratios and Supplemental Data

| Accounting Period Ended                                    | 2024        | 2023        | 2022        | 2021        | 2020        |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|  | December 31 |
| Total net asset value (000's of \$) <sup>(5)</sup>         | 31          | 29          | 26          | 1,581       | 5,341       |
| Number of units outstanding <sup>(5)</sup>                 | 3,353       | 3,213       | 3,085       | 159,766     | 516,704     |
| Management expense ratio (%) <sup>(6)</sup>                | 0.09        | 0.11        | 0.10        | 0.10        | 0.10        |
| Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (%) | 0.09        | 0.12        | 0.10        | 0.10        | 0.10        |
| Trading expense ratio (%) <sup>(7)</sup>                   | —           | —           | —           | —           | —           |
| Portfolio turnover rate (%) <sup>(8)</sup>                 | 59.73       | 95.56       | 40.58       | 25.79       | 30.93       |
| Net asset value per unit (\$)                              | 9.26        | 8.96        | 8.58        | 9.89        | 10.34       |

<sup>(4)</sup> 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.

<sup>(2)</sup> 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.

<sup>(3)</sup> Distributions were paid in cash or reinvested in additional units of the Fund, or both.

<sup>(4)</sup> The net assets are calculated in accordance with IFRS.

<sup>(5)</sup> This information is provided as at the last day of the accounting period shown.

<sup>(6)</sup> 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. The management expense ratio includes, if necessary, the management expenses from its underlying funds, as described in Article 15.2 of Regulation 81-106.

<sup>(7)</sup> 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.

<sup>(8)</sup> 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, 2024

### Portfolio Top Holdings

|  | % of Net<br>Asset Value |
|--|-------------------------|
| Government of Canada, 1.50%, due June 1, 2031                          | 1.7                     |
| Toronto-Dominion Bank/The, 4.68%, due January 8, 2029                  | 1.6                     |
| Toronto-Dominion Bank, 4.21%, due June 1, 2027                         | 1.5                     |
| National Bank of Canada, 5.22%, due June 14, 2028                      | 1.3                     |
| Cash, Money Market and Other Net Assets                                | 1.2                     |
| Fédération des caisses Desjardins, 5.47%,<br>due November 17, 2028     | 1.1                     |
| Health Montreal Collective LP, 6.72%,<br>due September 30, 2049        | 1.1                     |
| Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, 5.00%,<br>due December 7, 2026     | 1.0                     |
| Bank of Montreal, 4.42%, due July 17, 2029                             | 1.0                     |
| Scotiabank, 2.95%, due March 8, 2027                                   | 1.0                     |
| Fédération des caisses Desjardins, Floating, due May 15, 2034          | 0.9                     |
| Manulife Finance (Delaware) LP, Floating,<br>due December 15, 2036     | 0.9                     |
| SNC-Lavalin Innisfree McGill Finance Inc., 6.63%,<br>due June 30, 2044 | 0.9                     |
| Bank of America Corp., Floating, due March 16, 2028                    | 0.8                     |
| Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, 5.30%,<br>due January 16, 2034     | 0.8                     |
| Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, Floating,<br>due December 10, 2030 | 0.8                     |
| Sun Life Financial Inc., Floating, due May 10, 2032                    | 0.8                     |
| Rogers Communications Inc., 6.11%, due August 25, 2040                 | 0.8                     |
| Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, 4.95%,<br>due June 29, 2027        | 0.7                     |
| Royal Bank of Canada, 5.23%, due June 24, 2030                         | 0.7                     |
| Toronto-Dominion Bank, Floating, due October 31, 2030                  | 0.7                     |
| Fédération des caisses Desjardins, Floating,<br>due May 28, 2026       | 0.7                     |
| Government of Canada, 3.25%, due December 1, 2034                      | 0.7                     |
| Rogers Communications Inc., Floating, due December 17, 2081            | 0.7                     |
| Scotiabank, 4.68%, due February 1, 2029                                | 0.6                     |
|  | 24.0                    |

Net asset value ..... \$930,478,654

### Asset Mix

|   | % of Net<br>Asset Value |
|---|-------------------------|
| Canadian Corporate Bonds                | 89.7                    |
| US Bonds                                | 4.0                     |
| Federal Bonds                           | 2.5                     |
| Asset Backed Securities                 | 1.4                     |
| Municipal Bonds                         | 0.5                     |
| Foreign Bonds                           | 0.3                     |
| Provincial Bonds                        | 0.3                     |
| Mortgage Backed Securities              | 0.1                     |
| Cash, Money Market and Other Net Assets | 1.2                     |

### Credit Quality

|     | % of Net<br>Asset Value |
|-----|-------------------------|
| AAA | 5.1                     |
| AA  | 3.5                     |
| A   | 36.0                    |
| BBB | 51.8                    |
| BB  | 3.6                     |

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](http://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.sedarplus.ca](http://www.sedarplus.ca).