

# **ANNUAL MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE**

For the period ended December 31, 2024

Meritage Tactical ETF Portfolio

# **Meritage Tactical ETF Growth Portfolio**

### Notes on forward-looking statements

This report may contain forward-looking statements concerning the Portfolio, 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 1-866-603-3601, by writing to us at investments@nbc.ca, by visiting our website at www.nbinvestments.ca, by visiting SEDAR+'s website at www.sedarplus.ca, or by contacting your advisor. You may also contact us using one of these methods to request a copy of the Portfolio's proxy voting policies and procedures, proxy voting disclosure record, or quarterly portfolio disclosure.

### **Management Discussion of Fund Performance**

### **Investment Objective and Strategies**

The Meritage Tactical ETF Growth Portfolio's investment objective is to achieve a combination of income and long-term capital appreciation by making tactical investments primarily in a diverse mix of exchangetraded funds ("ETFs") that are fixed income funds and equity funds. The weighting assigned to equity securities will generally be greater than the weighting assigned to fixed income securities

The target weighting for each asset class in which the Portfolio invests under normal market conditions is the following: 10%-50% of the net assets in Canadian and global fixed income securities; and 50%-90% of the net assets in Canadian and global equity securities. The portfolio manager applies a tactical allocation valuation process in which asset allocation and the choice of Underlying Funds are subject to frequent changes (normally on a quarterly basis) depending on economic and market conditions. When the target asset allocation and the choice of Underlying Funds are modified, the Portfolio is generally rebalanced based on the new targets. The portfolio manager may, in its sole discretion, select the Underlying Funds, allocate assets to the Underlying Funds, change the percentage holding of any Underlying Fund, remove any Underlying Fund or add other Underlying Funds.

### Risks

The global investment risk of the Portfolio 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 Meritage Tactical ETF Growth Portfolio's Advisor Series units returned 13.76% compared to 19.58% for the Portfolio's blended benchmark. The broadbased indices, the Morningstar Canada Large-Mid Index (CAD), the Morningstar U.S. Large Cap Index (CAD) and the Morningstar Canada Liquid Bond Index (CAD), returned 22.89%, 39.55% and 5.33% respectively. Unlike the indices, the Portfolio's performance is calculated after fees and expenses. Please see the *Past Performance* section for the returns of all of the Portfolio's series, which may vary mainly because of fees and expenses.

Certain series of the Portfolio, 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 Portfolio have a meaningful impact on the Portfolio's ability to implement its investment strategy or to fulfill its investment objective.

The Portfolio's net asset value rose by 33.22% over the period, from \$88.78 million as at December 31, 2023 to \$118.27 million as at December 31, 2024.

The growth stemmed mainly from net purchases by unitholders of the Fund and from market fluctuations.

At the beginning of 2024, a climate of cautious optimism had set in. Indeed, while 2023 had just ended with a spectacular rebound, central banks were still faced with the daunting challenge of starting to lower interest rates when inflation was not yet back on target, but several previously flawless recession indicators had already been triggered. Ultimately, optimism prevailed, with inflation continuing to slow, central banks cutting rates and the U.S. economy continuing to exceed all expectations, stock markets enjoyed a spectacular year in 2024. Bonds, for their part, had a lackluster year, posting a performance similar to that of cash.

More specifically, global equities outperformed Canadian bonds for the second year running. Market leadership was firmly in North America, with the S&P 500 and S&P/TSX posting annual returns well above their historical averages, while emerging markets and the EAFE region posted much more modest gains.

On the fixed-income side, the risk-on environment favoured Canadian corporate bonds and high-yield U.S. securities. Conversely, government securities posted more modest annual returns in Canada, but especially in the U.S. Among commodities, the price of oil ended the year virtually unchanged. In addition, the economic and political environment was very favourable for gold, with an annual gain of 27.1% exceeding that of equities. Lastly, the U.S. dollar appreciated strongly during the year, the Greenback being buoyed by the relative outperformance of the U.S. economy and threats of tariffs from the incoming Trump administration.

Given this context, the Meritage Tactical ETF Growth Portfolio underperformed its blended benchmark over the period. The Schwab U.S. Broad Market ETF gained the most value for the Portfolio's overall return over the period. The NBI Liquid Alternatives ETF and the Vanguard S&P Small-Cap 600 ETF detracted value toward the Portfolio's overall return during the period.

### **Recent Developments**

On February 1, 2024, changes were made to the Portfolio in order to optimize it. Given this context, the weighting of the BMO S&P/TSX Capped Composite Index ETF, the Schwab U.S. Broad Market ETF, and the iShares Core MSCI EAFE ETF were all increased. The weightings of the BMO Aggregate Bond Index ETF and the BMO Long Provincial Bond Index ETF were reduced.

Additional changes were made to the Portfolio on May 1, 2024. Given this context, the BMO MSCI Canada Value Index ETF, and the Invesco S&P 500 Equal Weight ETF were added to the Portfolio. Furthermore, the BMO Low Volatility Canadian Equity ETF was removed, and the weighting of the BMO MSCI USA High Quality Index ETF within the Portfolio was reduced. Finally, on November 27, 2024, additional changes were made by adding new positions in the iShares Barclays 3-7 Year Treasury Bond ETF and Vanguard S&P Small-Cap 600 Index ETF while removing a position in the ProShares S&P Dividend Aristocrats ETF.

For 2025, many investment professionals feel the most likely scenario implies that a soft landing will be confirmed in the first half of the year. While this should finally turn the page on four years of major economic disruption linked to the pandemic, investors are nonetheless faced with high valuations, a weakened economy and heightened political uncertainty with Donald Trump's return to the White House considerably muddying the waters.

### **Related Party Transactions**

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

### Trustee, Custodian and Registrar

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

NTC also acts as the Portfolio's custodian, registrar and transfer agent. The Manager pays NTC for its services as custodian based on the assets held by the Portfolio. In addition, a flat fee per transaction is paid to NTC. With respect to the registrar and transfer agent services for the Portfolio, a fixed annual amount is paid to NTC by the Manager.

### Agent for securities lending transactions

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

### Manager

As described in the *Management Fees* section, the Portfolio pays annual management fees to National Bank Investments Inc. (the "Manager") in consideration for management services. The management fees cover mainly the Manager's costs of managing the Portfolio's investments. The Manager is an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of National Bank of Canada (the "Bank"). Since October 29, 2013, the Manager pays the operating expenses of the Portfolio other than its "portfolio costs" (defined below) (the "variable operating expenses"), in exchange for the Portfolio's payment to the Manager of annual fixed-rate administration fees with respect to each series of the Portfolio.

The administration fees are equal to a specified percentage of the net asset value of each series of the Portfolio, calculated and paid in the same manner as the Portfolio'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 Portfolio shall also pay certain portfolio 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 Meritage Portfolios.

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 Portfolio costs.

### **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 Portfolio. A flat fee is payable annually to NBT for its management services.

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

Portfolio securities are offered by National Bank Direct Brokerage (a division of National Bank Financial Inc., an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of the Bank), National Bank Financial Inc. and other affiliated entities. Each month, brokers receive a commission representing a percentage of the average daily value of the securities held by their clients. In addition, when Advisor Series securities are purchased, brokers usually receive a commission, which varies depending on the sales charge option chosen at the time of investment.

#### **Brokerage Fees**

The Portfolio may pay broker's commissions at market rates to a corporation affiliated with National Bank Investments Inc. The brokerage fees paid by the Portfolio for the period are as follows:

	Period ended December 31, 2024
Total brokerage fees	\$22,047.00
Brokerage fees paid to National Bank Financial	\$22,047.00

#### Holdings

As at December 31, 2024, National Bank Investments Inc. held 124.76 Portfolio securities for a value of \$1,855.12, which represented close to than 0.0016% of the net asset value of the Portfolio at that date. Transactions between National Bank Investments Inc. and the Portfolio were carried out in the normal course of business and at the Portfolio's net asset value as at the transaction date.

#### Administrative and Operating Services

NBT provides the Portfolio with certain services, including accounting, reporting and portfolio valuation services. The costs incurred for these services are paid by the Manager to NBT.

### **Management Fees**

The Portfolio pays annual management fees to the Manager in consideration for management, portfolio advisory and administrative services and facilities required by the Portfolio in its day-to-day operations. As the Portfolio invests in underlying funds, the fees and expenses payable in connection with the management of the underlying funds are in addition to those payable by the Portfolio. However, the Manager makes sure that the Portfolio does not pay any management (or operating) fees that, to a reasonable person, would duplicate a fee payable by the underlying fund for the same service.

The management fees are calculated as a fixed percentage of the Portfolio's daily net asset value, are accrued on a daily basis and are paid monthly. The Portfolio is required to pay applicable taxes on the management fees.

Under the heading *Distribution*, expenses include the broker's compensation consisting of the maximum annual trailer fees and sales commissions paid to brokers. Under the heading *Other*, the fees relate mainly to investment management, investment advisory services, general administration and profit. The breakdown of the main services received in consideration for the management fees, as a percentage of the management fees collected from the Portfolio, is as follows:

Series	Management Fees	Distribution	Others <sup>†</sup>
Advisor Series and Series T5*			
Front-end load**	1.40%	71.43%	28.57%
Series F and Series F5	0.40%	_	100.00%
Series Fand Series F5	0.40%	—	100.00%

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

<sup>(\*)</sup> Excluding sales commissions paid on the Advisor Series and Series T5 with the low sales charge option and deferred sales charge option, which are not included in the management fees.

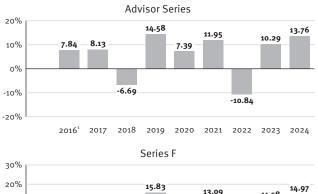
(\*\*) Rate applicable for all investments, including Advisor Series existing before May 14, 2015, systematic investment programs, reinvested distributions and switches.

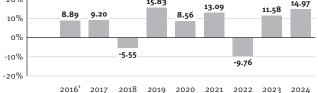
### **Past Performance**

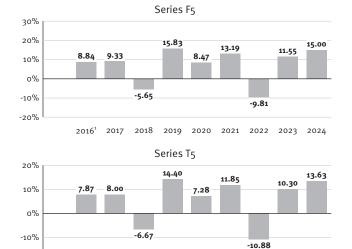
The performance of each series of the Portfolio presented below is calculated as of December 31 of each year. It assumes that all distributions made in the periods shown were reinvested in additional securities and does not take into account sales, redemption charges, distributions, or optional charges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

### **Annual Returns**

The bar charts indicate the performance for each the Portfolio'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>(i)</sup> Returns for the period of March 1, 2016 (commencement of operations) to December 31, 2016.

### **Annual Compounded Performance**

-20%

The following table shows the Portfolio'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 benchmarks:

2016<sup>1</sup> 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024

The blended benchmark (the "Benchmark") is composed of:

- Morningstar® Canada Liquid Bond Index (CAD) (30%)
- Morningstar<sup>®</sup> Canada Large-Mid Index (CAD) (24.5%)
- Morningstar<sup>®</sup> U.S. Large Cap Index (CAD) (24.5%)
- Morningstar<sup>®</sup> Developed Markets ex North America Index (CAD) (14%)
- Morningstar<sup>®</sup> Emerging Markets Large-Mid Index (CAD) (7%)

The broad-based indices are as follows:

- Broad-based index 1: Morningstar<sup>®</sup> Canada Large-Mid Index (CAD)
- Broad-based index 2: Morningstar® U.S. Large Cap Index (CAD)
  Broad-based index 3: Morningstar® Canada Liquid Bond Index (CAD)

#### Meritage Tactical ETF Growth Portfolio

	1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	Since inception
Advisor Series <sup>1</sup>	13.76%	3.81%	6.10%	-	6.02%
Benchmark	19.58%	7.13%	9.07%	-	10.45%
Broad-based index 1	22.89%	9.42%	11.59%	-	12.52%
Broad-based index 2	39.55%	14.60%	17.81%	-	18.63%
Broad-based index 3	5.33%	0.15%	1.33%	-	2.56%
Series F <sup>1</sup>	14.97%	5.00%	7.28%	-	7.20%
Benchmark	19.58%	7.13%	9.07%	-	10.45%
Broad-based index 1	22.89%	9.42%	11.59%	-	12.52%
Broad-based index 2	39.55%	14.60%	17.81%	-	18.63%
Broad-based index 3	5.33%	0.15%	1.33%	-	2.56%
Series F5 <sup>1</sup>	15.00%	4.98%	7.27%	-	7.19%
Benchmark	19.58%	7.13%	9.07%	-	10.45%
Broad-based index 1	22.89%	9.42%	11.59%	-	12.52%
Broad-based index 2	39.55%	14.60%	17.81%	-	18.63%
Broad-based index 3	5.33%	0.15%	1.33%	-	2.56%
Series T51	13.63%	3.76%	6.03%	-	5.95%
Benchmark	19.58%	7.13%	9.07%	-	10.45%
Broad-based index 1	22.89%	9.42%	11.59%	-	12.52%
Broad-based index 2	39.55%	14.60%	17.81%	-	18.63%
Broad-based index 3	5.33%	0.15%	1.33%	-	2.56%

<sup>1</sup>Commencement of operations: March 1, 2016

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

#### **Index Descriptions**

The **Morningstar® Canada Liquid Bond Index** offers diversified exposure to federal debt securities guaranteed by the federal government, to provincial debt securities guaranteed by the provincial government and to corporate debt securities denominated in Canadian dollars in order to maintain liquidity. Small issuances, issuances with limited terms and issuances with credit ratings lower than those of investment-grade securities are excluded from the index.

The **Morningstar® Canada Large-Mid Index** measures the performance of Canadian stock exchanges by targeting 90% of shares, based on their order of importance in terms of market capitalization.

The **Morningstar® U.S. Large Cap Index** measures the performance of U.S. large-cap stocks, which represent 70% of this investment universe.

The **Morningstar® Developed Markets ex North America Index** measures the performance of businesses in developed markets that do not include North America. It covers approximately 97% of the total market capitalization of developped markets that do not include North America.

The **Morningstar® Emerging Markets Large-Mid Index** measures the performance of emerging markets by targeting 90% of shares, based on their order of importance in terms of market capitalization.

# **Financial Highlights**

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

### **Advisor Series**

Net Assets per Unit <sup>(1)</sup>	Comme	Commencement of operations: March			
Accounting Period Ended	2024 December 31	2023 December 31	2022 December 31	2021 December 31	2020 December 31
Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown (4)	13.07	12.01	13.83	12.54	11.83
Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)					
Total revenue	0.33	0.38	0.32	0.33	0.31
Total expenses	(0.23)	(0.23)	(0.22)	(0.23)	(0.20)
Realized gains (losses)	0.48	0.20	0.21	0.57	0.30
Unrealized gains (losses)	1.22	0.90	(1.84)	0.83	0.36
Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) (2)	1.80	1.25	(1.53)	1.50	0.77
Distributions (\$)					
From net investment income (excluding dividends)	_	_	_	_	_
From dividends	0.11	0.16	0.07	0.09	0.10
From capital gains	-	_	0.27	0.12	0.06
Return of capital	_	_	_	_	_
Total Annual Distributions (\$) <sup>(3)</sup>	0.11	0.16	0.34	0.21	0.16
Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$) <sup>(4)</sup>	14.75	13.07	12.01	13.83	12.54

### Ratios and Supplemental Data

Accounting Period Ended	2024 December 31	2023 December 31	2022 December 31	2021 December 31	2020 December 31
Total net asset value (ooo's of \$) <sup>(5)</sup>	27,574	25,628	24,005	28,813	25,971
Number of units outstanding (5)	1,868,005	1,960,200	1,999,796	2,083,886	2,070,471
Management expense ratio (%) <sup>(6)</sup>	1.74	1.94	1.96	1.91	1.83
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (%)	1.78	2.00	2.06	2.06	1.97
Trading expense ratio (%) <sup>(7)</sup>	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.03
Portfolio turnover rate (%) <sup>(8)</sup>	37.10	30.06	46.45	38.61	48.48
Net asset value per unit (\$)	14.76	13.07	12.00	13.83	12.54

### Series F

Net Assets per Unit <sup>(1)</sup>			Commencement of operations: March 1, 20			
Accounting Period Ended	2024 December 31	2023 December 31	2022 December 31	2021 December 31	2020 December 31	
Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown (4)	13.21	12.12	13.93	12.64	11.93	
Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)						
Total revenue	0.35	0.39	0.33	0.33	0.31	
Total expenses	(0.07)	(0.09)	(0.09)	(0.08)	(0.07)	
Realized gains (losses)	0.50	0.20	0.21	0.58	0.31	
Unrealized gains (losses)	1.20	0.87	(1.77)	0.86	0.42	
Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) (2)	1.98	1.37	(1.32)	1.69	0.97	
Distributions (\$)						
From net investment income (excluding dividends)	0.01	0.08	0.02	0.01	0.02	
From dividends	0.24	0.22	0.18	0.24	0.21	
From capital gains	_	_	0.24	0.13	0.06	
Return of capital	_	_	_	_	_	
Total Annual Distributions (\$) <sup>(3)</sup>	0.25	0.30	0.44	0.38	0.29	
Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$) <sup>(4)</sup>	14.92	13.21	12.12	13.93	12.64	

### Ratios and Supplemental Data

Accounting Period Ended	2024 December 31	2023 December 31	2022 December 31	2021 December 31	2020 December 31
Total net asset value (ooo's of \$) <sup>(5)</sup>	46,569	28,071	22,991	23,432	22,814
Number of units outstanding <sup>(5)</sup>	3,119,271	2,125,554	1,897,672	1,682,068	1,804,036
Management expense ratio (%) <sup>(6)</sup>	0.63	0.82	0.85	0.80	0.77
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (%)	0.67	0.88	0.95	0.95	0.91
Trading expense ratio (%) <sup>(7)</sup>	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.03
Portfolio turnover rate (%) (8)	37.10	30.06	46.45	38.61	48.48
Net asset value per unit (\$)	14.93	13.21	12.12	13.93	12.65

### Series F5

let Assets per Unit <sup>(1)</sup>			Comme	encement of opera	ations: March 1,
accounting Period Ended	2024 December 31	2023 December 31	2022 December 31	2021 December 31	2020 December 31
Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown (4)	10.04	9.48	11.38	10.67	10.45
Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)					
Total revenue	0.30	0.29	0.26	0.28	0.26
Total expenses	(0.06)	(0.07)	(0.07)	(0.07)	(0.06)
Realized gains (losses)	0.42	0.16	0.17	0.48	0.26
Unrealized gains (losses)	0.80	0.63	(1.48)	0.68	0.13
Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) (2)	1.46	1.01	(1.12)	1.37	0.59
Distributions (\$)					
From net investment income (excluding dividends)	0.01	0.06	0.01	0.01	0.02
From dividends	0.17	0.17	0.15	0.19	0.18
From capital gains	-	_	0.21	0.10	0.05
Return of capital	0.35	0.27	0.42	0.38	0.35
Total Annual Distributions (\$) (3)	0.53	0.50	0.79	0.68	0.60
Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$) (4)	10.97	10.04	9.48	11.38	10.67

### Ratios and Supplemental Data

Accounting Period Ended	2024 December 31	2023 December 31	2022 December 31	2021 December 31	2020 December 31
Total net asset value (ooo's of \$) <sup>(5)</sup>	2,698	461	500	598	515
Number of units outstanding <sup>(5)</sup>	245,780	45,894	52,772	52,543	48,254
Management expense ratio (%) (6)	0.64	0.84	0.86	0.79	0.76
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (%)	0.67	0.88	0.94	0.92	0.89
Trading expense ratio (%) <sup>(7)</sup>	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.03
Portfolio turnover rate (%) <sup>(8)</sup>	37.10	30.06	46.45	38.61	48.48
Net asset value per unit (\$)	10.98	10.04	9.48	11.38	10.67

## Series T5

Net Assets per Unit <sup>(1)</sup>			Commencement of operations: March 1, 201			
Accounting Period Ended	2024 December 31	2023 December 31	2022 December 31	2021 December 31	2020 December 31	
Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown (4)	9.27	8.85	10.73	10.17	10.05	
Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)						
Total revenue	0.23	0.27	0.24	0.26	0.25	
Total expenses	(0.16)	(0.17)	(0.17)	(0.19)	(0.17)	
Realized gains (losses)	0.33	0.15	0.16	0.46	0.28	
Unrealized gains (losses)	0.84	0.61	(1.41)	0.65	0.19	
Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) (2)	1.24	0.86	(1.18)	1.18	0.55	
Distributions (\$)						
From net investment income (excluding dividends)	-	_	_	_	_	
From dividends	0.07	0.10	0.04	0.06	0.06	
From capital gains	-	_	0.20	0.10	0.05	
Return of capital	0.41	0.35	0.50	0.46	0.44	
Total Annual Distributions (\$) <sup>(3)</sup>	0.48	0.45	0.74	0.62	0.55	
Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$) <sup>(4)</sup>	10.03	9.27	8.85	10.73	10.17	

### Ratios and Supplemental Data

Accounting Period Ended	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
	December 31				
Total net asset value (ooo's of \$) $^{(5)}$	559	522	595	771	806
Number of units outstanding <sup>(5)</sup>	55,725	56,349	67,298	71,811	79,262
Management expense ratio (%) <sup>(6)</sup>	1.81	2.01	2.03	1.97	1.94
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (%)	1.88	2.09	2.15	2.14	2.10
Trading expense ratio (%) <sup>(7)</sup>	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.03
Portfolio turnover rate (%) <sup>(8)</sup>	37.10	30.06	46.45	38.61	48.48
Net asset value per unit (\$)	10.03	9.27	8.84	10.73	10.17

### **Private Series\***

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

(\*) Please note that this Series is offered by way of private placement.

Commencement of operations: March 3, 2016

Accounting Period Ended	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
	December 31				
Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown (4)	13.17	12.08	13.92	12.59	11.87
Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)					
Total revenue	0.34	0.39	0.33	0.35	0.32
Total expenses	(0.07)	(0.07)	(0.07)	(0.07)	(0.06)
Realized gains (losses)	0.49	0.20	0.21	0.57	0.33
Unrealized gains (losses)	1.22	0.86	(1.82)	0.78	0.55
Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) (2)	1.98	1.38	(1.35)	1.63	1.14
Distributions (\$)					
From net investment income (excluding dividends)	0.01	0.09	0.02	0.02	0.02
From dividends	0.26	0.23	0.21	0.23	0.21
From capital gains	-	_	0.26	0.10	0.05
Return of capital	-	_	-	_	-
Total Annual Distributions (\$) <sup>(3)</sup>	0.27	0.32	0.49	0.35	0.28
Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$) (4)	14.87	13.17	12.08	13.92	12.59

#### Ratios and Supplemental Data

Accounting Period Ended	2024 December 31	2023 December 31	2022 December 31	2021 December 31	2020 December 31
Total net asset value (ooo's of \$) (5)	40,867	34,093	29,263	32,136	21,166
Number of units outstanding <sup>(5)</sup>	2,747,496	2,589,468	2,422,279	2,308,553	1,680,438
Management expense ratio (%) (6)	0.58	0.69	0.70	0.66	0.67
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (%)	0.60	0.73	0.78	0.79	0.80
Trading expense ratio (%) <sup>(7)</sup>	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.03
Portfolio turnover rate (%) <sup>(8)</sup>	37.10	30.06	46.45	38.61	48.48
Net asset value per unit (\$)	14.87	13.17	12.08	13.92	12.60

(i) This information is derived from the Portfolio'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.

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

(4) The net assets are calculated in accordance with IFRS.

<sup>(s)</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.

(\*) 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 portfolio's turnover rate indicates how actively the Portfolio's manager manages its portfolio investments. A portfolio turnover rate of 100% is equivalent to the Portfolio buying and selling all of the securities in its portfolio once in the course of the accounting period. The higher a portfolio's turnover rate in an accounting period, the greater the trading costs payable by the Portfolio 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 Portfolio.

### **Summary of Investment Portfolio**

### As of December 31, 2024

### **Portfolio Top Holdings**

% of Net
Asset Value
BMO S&P/TSX Capped Composite Index ETF 23.9
Schwab, US Broad Market ETF 20.0
BMO Aggregate Bond Index ETF 19.2
iShares Core MSCI EAFE ETF
BMO MSCI Canada Value Index ETF 4.9
BMO Long Provincial Bond Index ETF
BMO MSCI USA HIGH QUAL INDX
Schwab
Invesco S&P 500 Equal Weight ETF
VANGUARD S&P SMALL-CAP 600 E 2.7
BMO Corporate Bond Index ETF
NBI Liquid Alternatives ETF 2.0
Franklin FTSE Japan ETF 1.7
Global X US 7-10 Year Treasury Bond Index Corporate
Class ETF 1.4
ISHARES 3-7 YEAR TREASURY BO1.4
iShares, Core MSCI Emerging Markets ETF1.2
100.0

Net asset value......\$118,266,504

### Asset Mix

	% of Net Asset Value
Canadian Equity	
US Equity.	
Fixed Income	
International Equity	
Alternative Investments	0.4
Cash, Money Market and Other Net Assets	

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

The Summary of Investment Portfolio may change due to ongoing portfolio transactions of the Portfolio. A quarterly update is available. Please consult the website www.nbinvestments.ca, or contact your advisor.

The prospectus and other information on the underlying investment funds are available on the website indicated above or on SEDAR+'s website at www.sedarplus.ca.