

ANNUAL MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE

For the period ended December 31, 2024

Specialized Fund
NBI Resource Fund

Notes on forward-looking statements

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

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

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

This annual management report of fund performance contains financial highlights, but does not contain the complete annual financial statements of the investment fund. You can get a copy of the annual financial statements at your request, and at no cost, by calling 1-888-270-3941 or 514-871-2082, by writing to us at National Bank Investments Advisory Service, 800 Saint-Jacques Street, Transit 44331, Montreal, Quebec, H3C 1A3, 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 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 Resource Fund aims to achieve capital growth primarily by investing in equities of Canadian natural resource companies and companies that support resource companies.

The portfolio manager analyzes stocks from companies that engage in natural resource activities, such as mining, oil and gas, energy, forest products, water resources and fishing, and companies that support those industries. The portfolio manager uses a combination of growth and value styles and a mix of investment strategies to select investments for the Fund. It is expected that investments in foreign securities will not exceed approximately 30% of the Fund's assets.

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 Resource Fund's Investor Series units returned 14.57% compared to 23.15% for the Fund's blended benchmark. The broad-based index, the S&P/TSX Composite Index (CAD), returned 21.65%. Unlike the indices, 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.

The Fund's net asset value rose by 2.18% over the period, from \$56.86 million as at December 31, 2023 to \$58.10 million as at December 31, 2024.

The price of a barrel of West Texas Intermediate (WTI) oil declined slightly, ending the year down less than 1% at USD 71. During the same period, the S&P/TSX Capped Energy Index increased 15%. From a fundamental perspective, 2024 delivered a balanced energy market. Global oil demand grew by 1.6 million barrels per day (bpd) to 104 million bpd, surpassing the pre-pandemic peak of 100 million bpd. While demand growth slowed to below 2 million bpd, supply growth from the U.S. and the OPEC+ alliance was restrained such that OECD inventories remained unchanged.

The price of gold appreciated 27% in 2024, in line with the return of the S&P/TSX Gold sub-index. In October, gold prices surged to a new record high of USD 2,740 per ounce amid ongoing geopolitical and economic uncertainty and closed the year at USD 2,624 per ounce. In contrast, negative sentiment weighed on the Forest Products subsector amid sluggish housing starts activity, high mortgage rates, and uncertainty surrounding the softwood lumber dispute and related tariffs.

In this context, the Fund underperformed its benchmark.

Positive attribution was driven by security selection in the Oil & Gas Equipment & Services subsector, led by positions in Total Energy Services (+58%), Enerflex (+136%), and CES Energy Solutions (+193%). The Fund's underweight position in the Gold sub-index, and overweight positions in Forest and Paper products detracted from its relative return.

Over the last 12 months, the Fund invested as much as 11.50% of its net assets in securities of Canadian Natural Resources Ltd, 11.00% of its net assets in securities of Cenovus Energy Inc and 10.80% of its net assets in securities of Suncor Energy Inc.

Recent Developments

The Portfolio Manager's strategy for the NBI Resource Fund aims to generate long-term value from profitable companies that measure their performance on a per-share basis. The investment team looks for companies with long-life assets, low costs of production, and good operational execution, including safety. The Portfolio Manager likes companies that grow intrinsically over time without diluting ownership. The investment team also prefers profitable companies that ideally have net cash on their balance sheets or reasonable levels of debt when associated with more predictable and recurring revenue business models.

Consistent with this strategy, during the year the Portfolio Manager undertook the following key transactions:

In the first half of 2024, a position was initiated in Richards Packaging Income Fund, a full-service distributor of packaging containers to small- and medium-sized consumer product businesses in North America.

In the fourth quarter, a position in Enerflex was sold based on valuation. While demand for natural gas compression, processing, and refrigeration systems remains strong, following a gain of 136% in 2024, the Portfolio Manager believes that the current valuation outpaces fundamentals.

In the third quarter, a position held in Teck Resources, a base metals mining company that produces copper and zinc, was exited. The Portfolio Manager's decision was primarily based on valuation, coupled with the belief that ongoing cost pressures and challenges with the ramp-up of operations at Teck's QB2 copper mine in Chile, the company's most valuable asset, are likely to pressure Teck's valuation multiple over the next year.

The Fund's current portfolio strategy is biased toward companies in the Energy and Materials sectors and away from precious metal companies. The Portfolio Manager believes that energy fundamentals and the outlook for other commodities are more supportive for returns. Within the precious metals industry, despite significantly higher bullion prices, the Portfolio Manager continues to view near-term risks for gold producers as elevated given that unit operating and capital costs remain well above pre-pandemic levels. At a time when the costs associated with replacing existing gold production are unprecedented, cash margins could quickly decline if demand falters.

Related Party Transactions

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

Trustee, Custodian, and Registrar

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

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

Agent for securities lending transactions

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

Fund Manager

The Fund is managed by National Bank Investments Inc. ("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 Savings and Investments Inc. (“NBSI”) acts as principal distributor for the Fund. In this capacity, NBSI buys, sells and swaps securities through Bank branches and the National Bank Investments Advisory Service in Canadian provinces and territories, and through external registered representatives. Fund securities are also offered by National Bank Financial Inc. (including its division National Bank Direct Brokerage) and other affiliated entities. Brokers may receive, depending on the distributed series, a monthly commission representing a percentage of the average daily value of the securities held by their clients.

Brokerage Fees

The Fund may pay broker’s commissions at market rates to a corporation affiliated with NBI. The brokerage fees paid by the Fund for the period are as follows:

	Period ended December 31, 2024
Total brokerage fees	\$120,871.00
Brokerage fees paid to National Bank Financial	\$4,340.85

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

NTC 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 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 [†]
Investor Series	1.75%	57.14%	42.86%
Advisor Series*			
Front-end load**	1.75%	57.14%	42.86%
Series F	0.75%	—	100.00%

^(†) Includes all costs related to management, investment advisory services, general administration and profit.

^(*) Excluding sales commissions paid on the Advisor Series with the low sales charge option and deferred sales charge option, which are not paid for out of the management fees.

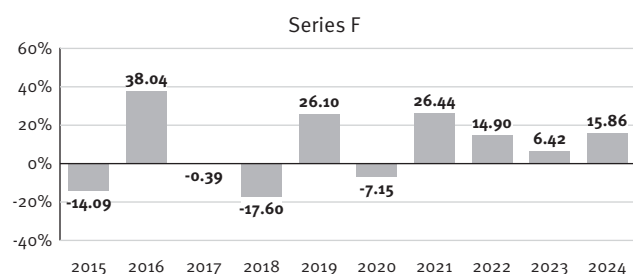
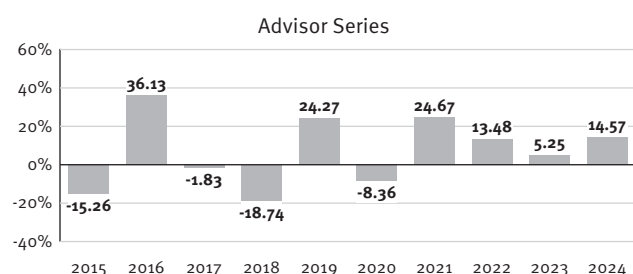
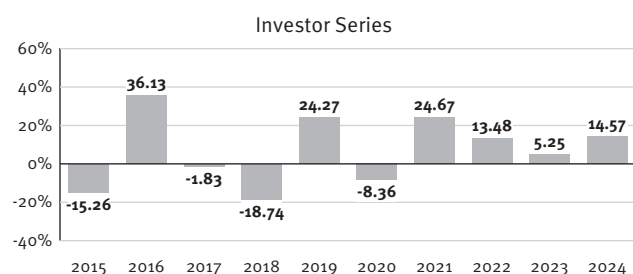
^{(**) Rate applicable for all investments, including Advisor Series existing before May 14, 2015, systematic investment programs, reinvested distributions and switches.}

Past Performance

The 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, or by June 30, as applicable.

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.



⁽ⁱ⁾ Returns for the period from May 21, 2014 (commencement of operations) to December 31, 2014.

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 benchmarks:

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

- S&P/TSX Composite Energy Sector Index (CAD) (50%)
- S&P/TSX Composite Material Sector Index (CAD) (50%)

The broad-based index is the S&P/TSX Composite Index (CAD).

NBI Resource Fund

	1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	Since inception
Investor Series¹	14.57%	11.02%	9.35%	5.98%	—
Benchmark	23.15%	13.86%	12.34%	7.79%	—
Broad-based index	21.65%	8.58%	11.08%	8.65%	—
Advisor Series²	14.57%	11.02%	9.35%	5.98%	—
Benchmark	23.15%	13.86%	12.34%	7.79%	—
Broad-based index	21.65%	8.58%	11.08%	8.65%	—
Series F³	15.86%	12.31%	10.71%	7.40%	—
Benchmark	23.15%	13.86%	12.34%	7.79%	—
Broad-based index	21.65%	8.58%	11.08%	8.65%	—

¹Commencement of operations: November 10, 1989

²Commencement of operations: June 12, 2009

³Commencement of operations: May 21, 2014

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 Descriptions

The **S&P/TSX Composite Energy Sector Index** measures the performance of securities in the Energy sector in Canada. The index is based on the securities' market capitalization. No security can exceed 25% of the total value of the index.

The **S&P/TSX Composite Material Sector Index** measures the performance of securities in the Materials sector in Canada. The index is based on the securities' market capitalization. No security can exceed 25% of the total value of the index.

The **S&P/TSX Composite Index** is a subset of the S&P/TSX and reflects share price fluctuations of a group of companies listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange (TSX) and weighted by market capitalization.

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.

Investor / Advisor* Series

⁽¹⁾ The Advisor Series was created on June 12, 2009.

Net Assets per Unit ⁽¹⁾		Commencement of operations: November 10, 1989			
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⁾	46.53	44.21	38.96	31.25	34.10
Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)					
Total revenue	1.45	1.19	1.47	1.10	0.87
Total expenses	(1.24)	(1.04)	(1.16)	(0.92)	(0.81)
Realized gains (losses)	12.43	5.89	6.14	3.51	0.82
Unrealized gains (losses)	(5.65)	(3.82)	1.40	4.14	(3.78)
Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) ⁽²⁾	6.99	2.22	7.85	7.83	(2.90)
Distributions (\$)					
From net investment income (excluding dividends)	—	—	—	—	—
From dividends	—	—	—	—	—
From capital gains	—	—	—	—	—
Return of capital	—	—	—	—	—
Total Annual Distributions (\$) ⁽³⁾	—	—	—	—	—
Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$) ⁽⁴⁾	53.31	46.53	44.21	38.96	31.25

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⁾	39,358	38,854	40,858	51,757	47,937
Number of units outstanding ⁽⁶⁾	738,253	835,081	924,259	1,328,551	1,533,782
Management expense ratio (%) ⁽⁴⁾	2.19	2.18	2.40	2.47	2.47
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (%)	2.19	2.18	2.40	2.48	2.48
Trading expense ratio (%) ⁽⁷⁾	0.20	0.14	0.21	0.12	0.20
Portfolio turnover rate (%) ⁽⁸⁾	103.16	54.61	90.63	34.49	71.21
Net asset value per unit (\$)	53.31	46.53	44.21	38.96	31.25

Series F

Net Assets per Unit ⁽¹⁾		Commencement of operations: May 21, 2014			
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⁾	15.26	14.34	12.48	9.87	10.63
Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)					
Total revenue	0.48	0.39	0.52	0.36	0.28
Total expenses	(0.22)	(0.18)	(0.18)	(0.13)	(0.13)
Realized gains (losses)	4.12	1.93	1.84	1.07	0.27
Unrealized gains (losses)	(1.92)	(1.26)	(3.28)	1.22	(1.19)
Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) ⁽²⁾	2.46	0.88	(1.10)	2.52	(0.77)
Distributions (\$)					
From net investment income (excluding dividends)	—	—	—	—	—
From dividends	—	—	—	—	—
From capital gains	—	—	—	—	—
Return of capital	—	—	—	—	—
Total Annual Distributions (\$) ⁽³⁾	—	—	—	—	—
Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$) ⁽⁴⁾	17.68	15.26	14.34	12.48	9.87

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⁾	18,739	18,006	18,259	1,894	882
Number of units outstanding ⁽⁶⁾	1,059,942	1,179,849	1,272,965	151,809	89,338
Management expense ratio (%) ⁽⁴⁾	1.09	1.09	1.09	1.10	1.17
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (%)	1.11	1.11	1.12	1.15	1.19
Trading expense ratio (%) ⁽⁷⁾	0.20	0.14	0.21	0.12	0.20
Portfolio turnover rate (%) ⁽⁸⁾	103.16	54.61	90.63	34.49	71.21
Net asset value per unit (\$)	17.68	15.26	14.34	12.48	9.87

- ⁽¹⁾ This information is derived from the Fund's Annual Audited Financial Statements. The net assets per unit presented in the financial statements might differ from the net asset value calculated for fund pricing purposes. The differences are explained in the notes to the financial statements.
- ⁽²⁾ Net assets and distributions are based on the actual number of units outstanding at the relevant time. The increase or decrease from operations is based on the average number of units outstanding over the accounting period.
- ⁽³⁾ Distributions were paid in cash or reinvested in additional units of the Fund, or both.
- ⁽⁴⁾ The net assets are calculated in accordance with IFRS.
- ⁽⁵⁾ This information is provided as at the last day of the accounting period shown.
- ⁽⁶⁾ Management expense ratio is based on total expenses including sales taxes for the accounting period indicated (excluding commission, other portfolio transaction costs and withholding taxes) and is expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average net value during the accounting period. The management expense ratio includes, if necessary, the management expenses from its underlying funds, as described in Article 15.2 of Regulation 81-106.
- ⁽⁷⁾ The trading expense ratio represents total commissions and other portfolio transaction costs expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average net asset value during the accounting period. The trading expense ratio includes, if necessary, the trading expenses from its underlying funds, as described in Article 15.2 of Regulation 81-106.
- ⁽⁸⁾ The Fund's portfolio turnover rate indicates how actively the Fund portfolio's manager manages its portfolio investments. A portfolio turnover rate of 100% is equivalent to the Fund buying and selling all of the securities in its portfolio once in the course of the accounting period. The higher a Fund's portfolio turnover rate in an accounting period, the greater the trading costs payable by the Fund in the accounting period, and the greater the chance of an investor receiving taxable capital gains in the accounting period. There is not necessarily a relationship between a high turnover rate and the performance of a Fund.

Summary of Investment Portfolio

As of December 31, 2024

Portfolio Top Holdings

	% of Net Asset Value
Cenovus Energy Inc.	11.2
Canadian Natural Resources Ltd.	10.7
Suncor Energy Inc.	10.7
Nutrien Ltd.	10.3
Major Drilling Group International Inc.	8.1
Canfor Corp.	8.0
Imperial Oil Ltd.	8.0
Tourmaline Oil Corp.	6.0
Richards Packaging Income Fund	5.4
Winkpak Ltd.	5.2
Pason Systems Inc.	4.9
Western Forest Products Inc.	2.1
Canfor Pulp Products Inc.	1.8
CCL Industries Inc., Class B	1.6
Total Energy Services Inc.	1.6
Labrador Iron Ore Royalty Corp.	1.4
Transcontinental Inc., Class A	1.3
Cash, Money Market and Other Net Assets	0.7
West Fraser Timber Co. Ltd.	0.5
Secure Energy Services Inc.	0.4
Methanex Corp.	0.1
	100.0

Net asset value..... \$58,097,534

Regional Allocation

	% of Net Asset Value
Canada	99.3
Cash, Money Market and Other Net Assets	0.7

Sector Allocation

	% of Net Asset Value
Oil Gas & Consumable Fuels	46.5
Containers & Packaging	13.5
Paper & Forest Products	12.5
Chemicals	10.4
Metals & Mining	9.5
Energy Equipment & Services	6.9
Cash, Money Market and Other Net Assets	0.7

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

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

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