

# ANNUAL MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE

For the period ended December 31, 2019

Canadian Equity Fund

## **NBI Canadian Equity Growth 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.

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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, 500, Place d'Armes, 12th floor, Montreal, Quebec, H2Y 2W3, by visiting our website at [www.nbinvestments.ca](http://www.nbinvestments.ca), by visiting SEDAR's website at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com), or by contacting your advisor. You may also contact us using one of these methods to request a copy of the investment fund's proxy voting policies and procedures, proxy voting disclosure record, or quarterly portfolio disclosure.

## Management Discussion of Fund Performance

### Investment Objective and Strategies

The NBI Canadian Equity Growth Fund aims to provide investors with superior investment returns over the long term, having regard for the safety of capital. The Fund invests in a diversified portfolio of primarily Canadian equities.

The portfolio manager follows a company-focused investment style, seeking companies with strong management, good growth prospects and a solid financial position. Emphasis is placed on paying reasonable prices for the free cash flow growth that companies in the portfolio are expected to achieve. It is expected that investments in foreign securities will not exceed approximately 49% of the Fund's net 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, 2019, the NBI Canadian Equity Growth Fund's Investor Series units returned 24.29% compared to 22.88% for the Fund's benchmark, the S&P/TSX Composite 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 14.84% over the period, from \$810.51 million as at December 31, 2018 to \$930.82 million as at December 31, 2019.

The increase stemmed mainly from unit purchases by investors in the Fund, investments in the Fund by other NBI Funds and market fluctuations.

Buoyed by upbeat economic data from China amid growing optimism over an initial U.S.-China trade deal, the Canadian equity market ended the year on a high note. Along with the rest of the world, the S&P/TSX index reached several all-time highs during the year and posted double digit gains.

The index was mainly driven by the Information Technology and Utilities sectors. In contrast, the Health Care sector shed value thanks to the unimpressive performance of names in the cannabis sector.

Under these circumstances, the Fund outperformed its benchmark. The outperformance of the fund was largely due to stock selection. Stock selection in the United States contributed significantly to outperformance relative to the benchmark. From a sector perspective, stock selection within the Health Care, Consumer Staples and Industrial sectors contributed to the outperformance. Stock selection within Materials, Energy and IT sectors detracted from relative performance.

On an individual security level, the top contributors were Accenture, Aon and Estee Lauder. Pason, Stella Jones and NFI Group were the top security detractors from performance.

The Fund's exposure to Energy, Health Care and Materials decreased over the year, while exposure to Information Technology and Industrials increased.

Within the Financials sector, while the weightings have remained consistent through the year, exposure to Canadian banks was reduced and offset by new positions in Intact Financial and TMX Group.

### Recent Developments

During the year, the Fund initiated positions in Alcon, Danaher, Estee Lauder, Intact Financial, PepsiCo, Premium Brands, Quebecor, SAP, Thermo Fisher, Toromont Industries, and Visa. Towards the end of the year, the Fund initiated positions in First Service Corp, TMX Group and ADP.

Across cycles, the portfolio manager believes her emphasis on companies that consistently grow their free cash flows at above average rates has given the Fund the opportunity to outperform. She continues to do what she has always done: buy businesses that she believes can sustainably grow their free cash flow at high single digits/low double-digit rates through a full cycle. Global growth has continued to slow, but leading indicators are beginning to show signs of bottoming, suggesting that the economy may improve modestly in 2020. She is suspicious that high debt levels globally will continue to make the economy more interest rate sensitive than in the past, which may continue to lead to a lower growth rate of global GDP over a cycle. In addition, very low policy rates may make it more difficult to recover from a recession as the standard central bank stimulus lever of slashing interest rates by 5% or more during a downturn is not currently an option.

As always, the Fund continues to own 30-35 companies that are leaders in their respective niches. The portfolio manager believes each investment will continue to outgrow their peers while showing superior profitability, generating strong free cash flow, and maintaining the balance sheet flexibility necessary to weather difficult economic environments. She has invested through many different cycles and environments in the past and continues to believe that companies with these characteristics, bought at sensible prices, will outperform over time.

On April 30, 2019, the Fund's independent review committee (the "IRC") was reduced to three members when André Godbout resigned as an IRC member. On May 22, 2019, the Fund's IRC was increased to five members when Norman Turnbull and Robert Martin were appointed as IRC members.

### Related Party Transactions

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

#### Trustee, Custodian, and Registrar

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

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

#### Agent for securities lending transactions

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

#### Fund Manager

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### Distribution and Dealer Compensation

NBII acts as principal distributor for the Fund. In this capacity, NBII 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), CABN Investments (a division of NBII) 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 NBII. The brokerage fees paid by the Fund for the period are as follows:

	Period ended December 31, 2019
<b>Total brokerage fees</b>	868,730.00
<b>Brokerage fees paid to National Bank Financial</b>	51,115.00

#### Holdings

As at December 31, 2019, National Bank Investments Inc. held 106.29 Fund securities for a value of \$2,389.29, which represented close to 0.0003% 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.

As at December 31, 2019, National Bank Trust Inc. held 1.00 Fund securities for a value of \$22.55, which represented close to 0.0000% of the net asset value of the Fund at that date. Transactions between National Bank Trust 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.

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

#### Management Fees

The Fund pays annual management fees to the Fund manager for its management services. The fees are calculated based on a percentage of the Fund's daily net asset value before applicable taxes and are paid on a monthly basis. A portion of the management fees paid by the Fund covers maximum annual trailer fees and sales commissions paid to brokers. The remainder of the management fees primarily covers investment management and general administration services. 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>
Investor Series and Series R	2.00%	62.50%	37.50%
Investor-2 Series	1.95%	64.10%	35.90%
Advisor Series*			
Front-end load	2.00%	62.50%	37.50%
Back-end load - 1 to 6 years	2.00%	25.00%	75.00%
Back-end load - 7 years and more	2.00%	62.50%	37.50%
Low load - 1 to 3 years	2.00%	25.00%	75.00%
Low load - 4 years and more	2.00%	50.00%	50.00%
Series F	0.75%	—	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> 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.

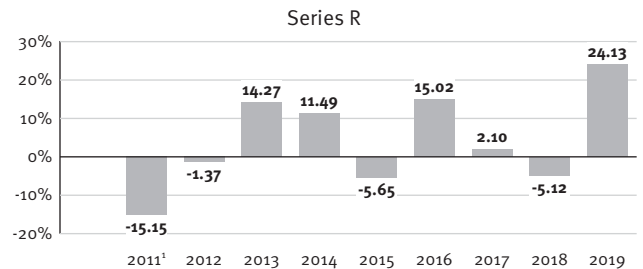
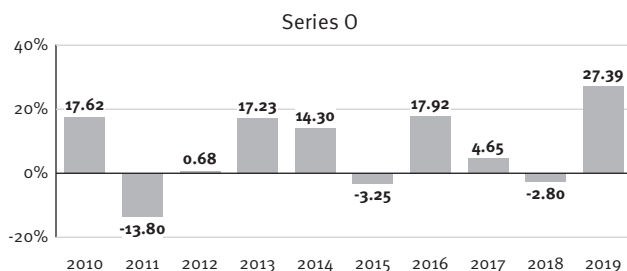
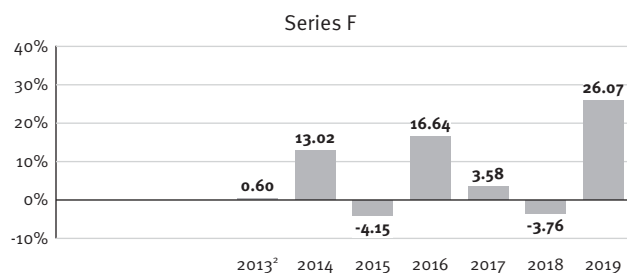
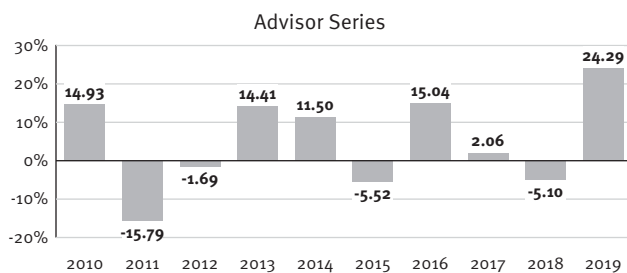
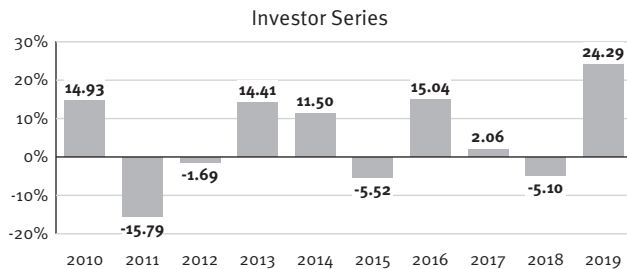
<sup>(\*\*)</sup> There are no management fees paid by the Fund with respect to the Series O. Instead, Series O securityholders pay a negotiated administration fee directly to National Bank Investments.

#### 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, or by June 30, as applicable.



<sup>(1)</sup> Returns for the period from May 27, 2011 (commencement of operations) to December 31, 2011.

<sup>(2)</sup> Returns for the period from December 24, 2013 (commencement of operations) to December 31, 2013.

<sup>(3)</sup> Returns for the period from May 19, 2017 (commencement of operations) to December 31, 2017.

## 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, 2016, compared with the following benchmark:

- S&P/TSX Composite Index (CAD)

### NBI Canadian Equity Growth Fund

	1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	Since inception
<b>Investor Series<sup>1</sup></b>	24.29%	6.38%	5.52%	4.74%	-
Benchmark	22.88%	6.89%	6.28%	6.90%	-
<b>Investor-2 Series<sup>2</sup></b>	24.08%	-	-	-	7.75%
Benchmark	22.88%	-	-	-	9.36%
<b>Advisor Series<sup>3</sup></b>	24.29%	6.38%	5.52%	4.74%	-
Benchmark	22.88%	6.89%	6.28%	6.90%	-
<b>Series F<sup>4</sup></b>	26.07%	7.91%	7.04%	-	8.09%
Benchmark	22.88%	6.89%	6.28%	-	7.13%
<b>Series O<sup>5</sup></b>	27.39%	9.02%	8.13%	7.29%	-
Benchmark	22.88%	6.89%	6.28%	6.90%	-
<b>Series R<sup>5</sup></b>	24.13%	6.34%	5.47%	-	3.92%
Benchmark	22.88%	6.89%	6.28%	-	6.05%

<sup>1</sup>Commencement of operations: September 30, 1987

<sup>2</sup>Commencement of operations: May 19, 2017

<sup>3</sup>Commencement of operations: June 12, 2009

<sup>4</sup>Commencement of operations: December 24, 2013

<sup>5</sup>Commencement of operations: May 27, 2011

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 **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

<sup>(\*)</sup> The Advisor Series was created on June 12, 2009.

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

Commencement of operations: September 30, 1987

Accounting Period Ended	2019 December 31	2018 December 31	2017 December 31	2016 December 31	2015 December 31
<b>Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown</b> <sup>(4)</sup>	46.97	49.63	48.46	42.14	44.60
<b>Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)</b>					
Total revenue	0.90	0.91	1.01	1.12	1.11
Total expenses	(1.41)	(1.32)	(1.26)	(1.23)	(1.18)
Realized gains (losses)	3.44	3.63	3.56	2.58	1.72
Unrealized gains (losses)	8.94	(5.07)	(2.37)	3.79	(4.22)
<b>Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)</b> <sup>(2)</sup>	11.87	(1.85)	0.94	6.26	(2.57)
<b>Distributions (\$)</b>					
From net investment income (excluding dividends)	—	—	—	—	—
From dividends	—	—	—	0.02	—
From capital gains	—	—	—	—	—
Return of capital	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Total Annual Distributions (\$)</b> <sup>(3)</sup>	—	—	—	0.02	—
<b>Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$)</b> <sup>(4)</sup>	58.32	46.97	49.63	48.46	42.14

Ratios and Supplemental Data

Accounting Period Ended	2019 December 31	2018 December 31	2017 December 31	2016 December 31	2015 December 31
Total net asset value (000's of \$) <sup>(5)</sup>	527,536	525,456	755,939	899,114	800,993
Number of units outstanding <sup>(5)</sup>	9,042,809	11,194,692	15,283,691	18,552,101	19,008,621
Management expense ratio (%) <sup>(6)</sup>	2.47	2.47	2.47	2.47	2.46
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (%)	2.47	2.47	2.47	2.47	2.46
Trading expense ratio (%) <sup>(7)</sup>	0.10	0.09	0.15	0.27	0.14
Portfolio turnover rate (%) <sup>(8)</sup>	78.90	70.78	127.96	127.26	83.50
Net asset value per unit (\$)	58.34	46.94	49.46	48.46	42.14

### Investor-2 Series

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

Commencement of operations: May 19, 2017

Accounting Period Ended	2019 December 31	2018 December 31	2017 December 31
<b>Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown</b> <sup>(4)</sup>	9.81	10.35	10.00
<b>Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)</b>			
Total revenue	0.19	0.19	0.13
Total expenses	(0.31)	(0.26)	(0.16)
Realized gains (losses)	0.73	0.74	0.62
Unrealized gains (losses)	1.80	(1.12)	(0.25)
<b>Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)</b> <sup>(2)</sup>	2.41	(0.45)	0.34
<b>Distributions (\$)</b>			
From net investment income (excluding dividends)	—	—	—
From dividends	—	—	—
From capital gains	—	—	—
Return of capital	—	—	—
<b>Total Annual Distributions (\$)</b> <sup>(3)</sup>	—	—	—
<b>Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$)</b> <sup>(4)</sup>	12.16	9.81	10.35

Ratios and Supplemental Data

Accounting Period Ended	2019 December 31	2018 December 31	2017 December 31
Total net asset value (000's of \$) <sup>(5)</sup>	24,698	22,034	26,734
Number of units outstanding <sup>(5)</sup>	2,030,496	2,248,311	2,590,914
Management expense ratio (%) <sup>(6)</sup>	2.61	2.38	2.46
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (%)	2.64	2.40	2.48
Trading expense ratio (%) <sup>(7)</sup>	0.10	0.09	0.15
Portfolio turnover rate (%) <sup>(8)</sup>	78.90	70.78	127.96
Net asset value per unit (\$)	12.16	9.80	10.32

## Series F

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

Commencement of operations: December 24, 2013

Accounting Period Ended	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
	December 31	December 31	December 31	December 31	December 31
<b>Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown</b> <sup>(4)</sup>	12.54	13.06	12.57	10.87	11.37
<b>Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)</b>					
Total revenue	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.29	0.29
Total expenses	(0.17)	(0.16)	(0.15)	(0.15)	(0.14)
Realized gains (losses)	1.02	0.85	1.32	0.79	0.36
Unrealized gains (losses)	1.81	(3.38)	(0.88)	0.98	(1.06)
<b>Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)</b> <sup>(2)</sup>	2.91	(2.44)	0.54	1.91	(0.55)
<b>Distributions (\$)</b>					
From net investment income (excluding dividends)	—	—	—	—	—
From dividends	0.02	—	—	0.11	0.03
From capital gains	—	—	—	—	—
Return of capital	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Total Annual Distributions (\$)</b> <sup>(3)</sup>	0.02	—	—	0.11	0.03
<b>Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$)</b> <sup>(4)</sup>	15.78	12.54	13.06	12.57	10.87

### Ratios and Supplemental Data

Accounting Period Ended	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
	December 31	December 31	December 31	December 31	December 31
Total net asset value (000's of \$) <sup>(5)</sup>	14,620	7,727	1,124	760	332
Number of units outstanding <sup>(5)</sup>	926,257	616,498	86,360	60,472	30,586
Management expense ratio (%) <sup>(6)</sup>	1.04	1.04	1.04	1.04	1.04
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (%)	1.04	1.04	1.04	1.05	1.05
Trading expense ratio (%) <sup>(7)</sup>	0.10	0.09	0.15	0.27	0.14
Portfolio turnover rate (%) <sup>(8)</sup>	78.90	70.78	127.96	127.26	83.50
Net asset value per unit (\$)	15.78	12.53	13.02	12.57	10.87

## Series O

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

Commencement of operations: June 12, 2009

Accounting Period Ended	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
	December 31	December 31	December 31	December 31	December 31
<b>Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown</b> <sup>(4)</sup>	17.71	18.27	17.49	15.19	15.83
<b>Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)</b>					
Total revenue	0.35	0.34	0.36	0.41	0.40
Total expenses	(0.03)	(0.02)	(0.03)	(0.05)	(0.03)
Realized gains (losses)	1.38	1.22	1.85	0.95	0.61
Unrealized gains (losses)	3.03	(2.60)	(0.96)	1.42	(1.51)
<b>Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)</b> <sup>(2)</sup>	4.73	(1.06)	1.22	2.73	(0.53)
<b>Distributions (\$)</b>					
From net investment income (excluding dividends)	—	—	—	—	—
From dividends	0.07	—	0.09	0.43	0.13
From capital gains	—	—	—	—	—
Return of capital	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Total Annual Distributions (\$)</b> <sup>(3)</sup>	0.07	—	0.09	0.43	0.13
<b>Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$)</b> <sup>(4)</sup>	22.47	17.71	18.27	17.49	15.19

### Ratios and Supplemental Data

Accounting Period Ended	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
	December 31	December 31	December 31	December 31	December 31
Total net asset value (000's of \$) <sup>(5)</sup>	361,094	251,866	144,029	77,688	69,912
Number of units outstanding <sup>(5)</sup>	16,066,372	14,229,274	7,910,226	4,441,826	4,601,188
Management expense ratio (%) <sup>(6)</sup>	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (%)	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
Trading expense ratio (%) <sup>(7)</sup>	0.10	0.09	0.15	0.27	0.14
Portfolio turnover rate (%) <sup>(8)</sup>	78.90	70.78	127.96	127.26	83.50
Net asset value per unit (\$)	22.48	17.70	18.21	17.49	15.19

## Series R

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

Commencement of operations: May 27, 2011

Accounting Period Ended	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
	December 31	December 31	December 31	December 31	December 31
<b>Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown</b> <sup>(a)</sup>	6.98	7.83	8.14	7.50	8.45
<b>Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)</b>					
Total revenue	0.13	0.14	0.16	0.20	0.20
Total expenses	(0.21)	(0.21)	(0.21)	(0.22)	(0.22)
Realized gains (losses)	0.48	0.55	0.67	0.44	0.33
Unrealized gains (losses)	1.39	(0.75)	(0.45)	0.55	(0.85)
<b>Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)</b> <sup>(a)</sup>	1.79	(0.27)	0.17	0.97	(0.54)
<b>Distributions (\$)</b>					
From net investment income (excluding dividends)	—	—	—	—	—
From dividends	—	—	—	0.01	0.01
From capital gains	—	—	—	—	—
Return of capital	0.42	0.47	0.49	0.44	0.50
<b>Total Annual Distributions (\$)</b> <sup>(b)</sup>	0.42	0.47	0.49	0.45	0.51
<b>Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$)</b> <sup>(a)</sup>	8.22	6.98	7.83	8.14	7.50

## Ratios and Supplemental Data

Accounting Period Ended	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
	December 31	December 31	December 31	December 31	December 31
Total net asset value (000's of \$) <sup>(c)</sup>	2,875	3,425	5,065	4,742	2,444
Number of units outstanding <sup>(c)</sup>	349,639	490,999	648,734	582,182	325,770
Management expense ratio (%) <sup>(d)</sup>	2.50	2.51	2.51	2.50	2.50
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (%)	2.50	2.51	2.51	2.51	2.50
Trading expense ratio (%) <sup>(e)</sup>	0.10	0.09	0.15	0.27	0.14
Portfolio turnover rate (%) <sup>(f)</sup>	78.90	70.78	127.96	127.26	83.50
Net asset value per unit (\$)	8.22	6.98	7.81	8.14	7.50

<sup>(1)</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. For all series created before 2016, the detailed calculation of the total Increase (Decrease) from Operations as at December 31, 2015 has been adjusted to reflect the proper allocation between the following items: Total revenue, Total expenses, Realized gain (losses) and/or Unrealized gain (losses). It is a non-material correction related to a programming error in the ratio calculation.

<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.

<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. Since calculating an average daily allocation of the trading expenses would take considerable effort, an average monthly allocation has been used instead for the accounting periods prior to 2016.

<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, 2019

### Portfolio Top Holdings

	% of Net Asset Value
Aon PLC	4.9
Quebecor Inc., Class B	4.9
Royal Bank of Canada	4.7
Canadian Pacific Railway Co.	4.7
Cash, Money Market and Other Net Assets	4.6
SAP SE	4.4
Accenture PLC, Class A	4.3
Wolters Kluwer NV	4.2
CAE Inc.	4.1
Baxter International Inc.	3.9
Visa Inc., Class A	3.8
Premium Brands Holdings Corp.	3.6
Automatic Data Processing Inc.	3.5
Stryker Corp.	3.5
Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc.	3.3
Stella-Jones Inc.	3.1
TMX Group Ltd.	3.0
Danaher Corp.	2.8
Intact Financial Corp.	2.8
Morneau Shepell Inc.	2.8
Techtronic Industries Co. Ltd.	2.7
ATS Automation Tooling Systems Inc.	2.6
Stantec Inc.	2.6
Spin Master Corp.	2.5
Bank of Montreal	2.0
	89.3

Net asset value ..... \$930,822,086

### Asset Mix

	% of Net Asset Value
Canadian Equity	53.1
US Equity	21.8
International Equity	20.5
Cash, Money Market and Other Net Assets	4.6

### Sector Allocation

	% of Net Asset Value
Industrials	18.6
Financials	17.4
Information Technology	16.0
Health Care	14.5
Consumer Discretionary	11.6
Consumer Staples	5.5
Communication Services	4.9
Materials	4.1
Real Estate	1.7
Energy	1.1
Cash, Money Market and Other Net Assets	4.6

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 Web site at [www.nbinvestments.ca](http://www.nbinvestments.ca).