

## ANNUAL MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE

For the period ended December 31, 2023

Global Equity Fund

**NBI U.S. Equity 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, 500, Place d'Armes, 12th floor, Montreal, Quebec, H2Y 2W3, by visiting our website at www.nbinvestments.ca, by visiting SEDAR+'s website at www.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.

## **Management Discussion of Fund Performance**

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

The NBI U.S. Equity Fund's investment objective is to ensure long-term capital growth. The Fund invests directly, or through investments in securities of other mutual funds, in a portfolio comprised mainly of equity securities of U.S. companies.

The portfolio manager analyzes stocks from U.S. companies and in companies conducting business in the U.S. The Fund invests primarily in common shares, but may also invest in preferred shares, bonds and Treasury bills. The portfolio manager uses a mix of strategies in selecting investments for the Fund.

#### 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, 2023, the NBI U.S. Equity Fund's Investor Series units returned 17.17% compared to 22.90% for the Fund's benchmark, the S&P 500 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 48.18% over the period, from \$964.16 million as at December 31, 2022, to \$1.429 billion as at December 31, 2023.

The increase stemmed mainly from unit purchases by investors in the Fund and market fluctuations.

The new year got off to a roaring start on rising hopes for a soft landing for developed economies as inflationary pressures showed continued signs of abating, while China's reopening also fuelled investor optimism at the beginning of the year. A wave of risk aversion then swept up the financial markets in February as hopes for an imminent end to rate hikes and a dovish policy pivot were dashed in the wake of unrelenting signs of resilient growth, an overheated labour market, sticky inflation, and some hawkish central bank rhetoric. However, financial markets ended a tumultuous first quarter on an upbeat note amid growing speculation that policymakers may have to abandon their tightening plans in response to turmoil in the banking sector.

Markets were up to start the second quarter, with both stock and bond markets generating positive results in April. Investors welcomed the strong start to the corporate earnings season, where better-than-expected results helped to overshadow concerns stemming from persistent inflation, further rate hikes, and fears of an economic downturn. Sentiment deteriorated and financial markets relapsed in May on the back of a hawkish repricing of central bank policy expectations, a sluggish global growth landscape, and debt ceiling jitters in the United States. Markets fluctuated but extended their gains in June amid mounting speculation that central banks will relent on the fight against inflation and engineer a soft economic landing.

While recession fears had been building given the Fed's most aggressive tightening cycle in decades, a string of positive economic data surprises and signs of easing inflationary pressures provided a dose of optimism that policymakers may achieve a soft landing. Meanwhile, the cascade of second-quarter corporate earnings results have been stronger-than-expected, which also bolstered investor risk appetite in July. Extreme optimism gave way to growing skepticism in August as investors contemplated the trajectory for monetary policy. Volatility resurfaced and most asset classes ended the month lower. Volatility continued and markets retreated again in September as the "higher-for-longer" interest rate narrative took hold following data that showed ongoing economic resilience in the United States that has translated into elevated and persistent inflation.

Financial markets kicked off the fourth quarter on a sombre note. While unrelenting strength in the U.S. economy underscored the case for restrictive monetary policy for an extended time, escalating geopolitical tensions in the Middle East added to the gloomy mood and saw both stock and bond markets retreat in tandem. November then proved to be a blockbuster month for markets, with investor wagers for a dovish monetary policy pivot sparking a profound market rally. Financial markets ended 2023 on a high note with the Federal Reserve providing its strongest signal yet that it has ended its tightening campaign in December and pointed towards a pivot towards easing in 2024.

In this context, the Fund underperformed its benchmark.

Our relative underperformance was mainly driven by our stock selection in the Consumer Discretionary, Information Technology and Health Care sectors. Partially offsetting these negatives was our security selection in the Financials and Materials sectors as well as our lack of exposure to the Energy and Utilities sectors.

Among the top contributors to performance over the period were Microsoft and Alphabet. Conversely, among the bottom detractors were AutoZone and Johnson & Johnson. The performance was further negatively impacted by not detaining many of the magnificent seven that outperformed over the year, namely Nvidia, Meta, Apple, and Amazon.

Over the period, Microsoft's outperformance was largely driven by AI enthusiasm such as announcements around OpenAI integration, including a new partnership with Salesforce and their Einstein AI product, as well as a strong earnings report which included better than expected results and raised guidance amid a challenging macro spending environment. We continue to stay focused on developments and believe AI will be a complimentary tool to existing platforms such as Search and Office.

Alphabet also contributed positively as the company's progress and releases of AI tools and models were viewed favourably by the market. This included enhancements to Search, Google Docs, Gmail, Maps, and their cloud division. Additionally, Ad sales were further propelled by AI developments. Furthermore, the company is seeing continued growth in their cloud division as AI startups continue to utilize GCP ("Google Cloud Platform"). Additionally, better cost controls helped margins.

During the period, particularly during the second quarter of 2023, AutoZone detracted value as the company reported disappointing quarterly results with a slowdown in their two key divisions. The company cited bad weather slowing down store traffic as well as fewer store openings than anticipated. The stock's underperformance extended throughout the second half of the period, despite the company announcing business results being largely in-line with expectations. The company continues to execute well against high comparisons in the prior period as they open more commercial hubs and continue to invest in labour and IT aiding overall productivity.

As for Johnson & Johnson, the company showed softening in their pharmaceuticals division ex-COVID vaccines, subpar earnings quality, and a soft margin outlook amid inflationary pressures and an upcoming spin-off of their Consumer unit. A significant pending liability related to talc in their baby powder also weighed on the stock as the U.S. appeals court denied an attempt to handle the subsidiary's lawsuits in bankruptcy court.

#### **Recent Developments**

During the period, we did not exit or initiate any new positions in the fund. We did, however, trim our positions in Microsoft while adding to UnitedHealth, CME Group, Sherwin William, Alphabet, Mettler-Toledo, and FactSet Research Systems.

Additionally, during the third quarter of 2023, we opted in to the Johnson & Johnson (JNJ) exchange offer tendering JNJ shares for Kenvue (KVUE), its consumer-products business. KVUE includes brands such as Tylenol, Listerine, and Band-Aid. The stock swap was offered at what we deemed to be an attractive discount to Kenvue's stock price. Our mid to long-term position is subject to continuous monitoring and adjustments as needed.

Our investment horizon is best measured in years, conceivably decades, not months or quarters. Our focus continues to be on identifying what we believe to be high-quality companies with sustainable competitive advantages, operating in industries with high barriers to entry, contributing to durable pricing power.

Beginning on or about April 10, 2023, PineStone Asset Management Inc. jointly acts as portfolio sub-advisor alongside Fiera Capital Corporation for the Fund.

On May 1, 2023, the Fund's independent review committee (the "IRC") was increased to four members when Stéphanie Raymond-Bougie was appointed as an IRC member.

The Series FH and Series H were launched for the Fund on May 29, 2023.

## **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.

#### Portfolio Manager

The Manager has appointed National Bank Trust Inc. ("NBT"), an 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**

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, 2023
Total brokerage fees	54,992.27
Brokerage fees paid to National Bank Financial	-

#### **Holdings**

As at December 31, 2023, National Bank Investments Inc. held 200.59 Fund securities for a value of \$5,761.50, which represented close to 0.0006% 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.

#### **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. 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 <sup>†</sup>
Investor Series	1.75%	57.14%	42.89%
Advisor Series and Series T5*			
Front-end load**	1.75%	28.57%	71.43%
Back-end load - 1 to 6 years	1.75%	28.57%	71.43%
Low load - 1 to 3 years	1.75%	28.57%	71.43%
Low load - 4 years and more	1.75%	57.14%	42.89%
Series H			
Front-end load	1.75%	28.57%	71.43%
Series F, Series FH and Series F5	0.65%	-	100.00%
Series O	N/A***	_	100.00%

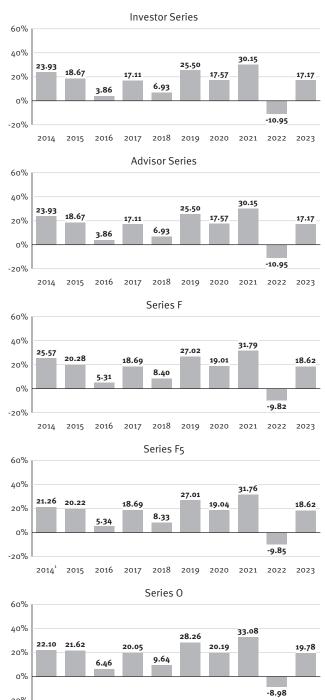
<sup>(</sup>f) Includes all costs related to management, investment advisory services, general administration and profit.

#### **Past Performance**

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

#### **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.



2015

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2021 2022 2023

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

<sup>(\*\*)</sup> Also available under the USD purchase option. Rate applicable for all investments, including Advisor Series existing before May 14, 2015, systematic investment programs, reinvested distributions and switches.

<sup>(\*\*\*)</sup> The Series O is only available to selected investors that have been approved and have entered into an O Series units account agreement with National Bank Investments Inc. The criteria for approval may include the size of the investment, the expected level of account activity and the investor's total investments with NBII. No management fees are charged to the Fund with respect to the O Series units. Management fees are negotiated with and paid directly by investors and are in addition to the fixed-rate administration fee. NBII does not pay any commissions or service fees to dealers who sell O Series units. There are no sales charges payable by investors who purchase O Series units.



 $<sup>^{(1)}</sup>$  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, 2023, compared with the following benchmark:

• S&P 500 Index (CAD)

**NBI U.S. Equity Fund** 

	1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	Since inception
Investor Series¹	17.17%	10.74%	14.91%	14.38%	-
Benchmark	22.90%	11.27%	14.88%	14.48%	
<b>Advisor Series</b> <sup>2</sup>	17.17%	10.74%	14.91%	14.38%	-
Benchmark	22.90%	11.27%	14.88%	14.48%	-
<b>Series F</b> <sup>3</sup>	18.62%	12.13%	16.34%	15.87%	-
Benchmark	22.90%	11.27%	14.88%	14.48%	
<b>Series F5</b> <sup>4</sup>	18.62%	12.11%	16.33%	-	16.12%
Benchmark	22.90%	11.27%	14.88%		15.46%
<b>Series O</b> <sup>4</sup>	19.78%	13.21%	17.47%	-	17.35%
Benchmark	22.90%	11.27%	14.88%		15.46%
Series T5 <sup>4</sup>	17.16%	10.77%	14.92%	-	14.60%
Benchmark	22.90%	11.27%	14.88%		15.46%

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 500 Index** is a float-adjusted market capitalization weighted index composed of 500 companies that measures the performance of the large-cap segment of the U.S. market. It measures the performance of the largest U.S. companies.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Commencement of operations: May 18, 1993 <sup>2</sup>Commencement of operations: June 12, 2009 <sup>3</sup>Commencement of operations: December 24, 2013 <sup>4</sup>Commencement of operations: May 21, 2014

# **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

(\*) The Advisor Series was created on June 12, 2009. Please note that the data presented below is in CAD although the Advisor Series is also available under the USD front-end load purchase option.

Net Assets per Unit<sup>(1)</sup> Commencement of operations: May 18, 1993

			,	, ,
2023 December 31	2022 December 31	2021 December 31	2020 December 31	2019 December 31
53.58	60.17	46.21	39.31	31.33
0.68	0.59	0.51	0.86	0.45
(1.30)	(1.17)	(1.16)	(0.93)	(0.81)
0.92	1.64	0.01	0.03	0.82
8.84	(8.45)	14.74	6.93	7.42
9.14	(7.39)	14.10	6.89	7.88
_	_	_	_	_
_	_	_	_	_
_	_	_	_	_
_	_	_	_	_
_	_	_	_	_
62.78	53.58	60.17	46.21	39.31
	December 31 53.58  0.68 (1.30) 0.92 8.84 9.14	December 31         December 31           53.58         60.17           0.68         0.59           (1.30)         (1.17)           0.92         1.64           8.84         (8.45)           9.14         (7.39)            -            -            -            -            -            -            -            -            -            -            -            -	December 31         December 31         December 31           53.58         60.17         46.21           0.68         0.59         0.51           (1.30)         (1.17)         (1.16)           0.92         1.64         0.01           8.84         (8.45)         14.74           9.14         (7.39)         14.10           -         -         -           -         -         -           -         -         -           -         -         -           -         -         -           -         -         -           -         -         -           -         -         -           -         -         -	December 31         December 31         December 31         December 31           53.58         60.17         46.21         39.31           0.68         0.59         0.51         0.86           (1.30)         (1.17)         (1.16)         (0.93)           0.92         1.64         0.01         0.03           8.84         (8.45)         14.74         6.93           9.14         (7.39)         14.10         6.89           -         -         -         -           -         -         -         -           -         -         -         -           -         -         -         -           -         -         -         -           -         -         -         -           -         -         -         -           -         -         -         -           -         -         -         -           -         -         -         -           -         -         -         -           -         -         -         -           -         -         -         -

Ratios and Supplemental Data

Accounting Period Ended	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
	December 31				
Total net asset value (ooo's of \$) (5)	284,624	196,122	242,294	162,337	118,997
Number of units outstanding (5)	4,533,586	3,660,030	4,026,794	3,511,745	3,026,317
Management expense ratio (%) (6)	2.23	2.23	2.22	2.22	2.22
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (%)	2.24	2.24	2.23	2.22	2.22
Trading expense ratio (%) (7)	_	_	_	0.01	0.02
Portfolio turnover rate (%) (8)	41.54	9.76	_	8.46	8.61
Net asset value per unit (\$)	62.78	53.58	60.17	46.23	39.32

## Series F\*

 $^{(\prime)}$  Please note that the data presented below is in CAD although this Series is also available under the USD purchase option.

Net Assets per Unit <sup>(1)</sup>		Commencer	s: December 24, 201		
Accounting Period Ended	2023 December 31	2022 December 31	2021 December 31	2020 December 31	2019 December 31
Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown (4)	36.90	40.92	31.04	26.22	20.65
Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)					
Total revenue	0.47	0.41	0.34	0.58	0.31
Total expenses	(0.39)	(0.35)	(0.34)	(0.28)	(0.25)
Realized gains (losses)	0.63	1.07	0.01	0.02	0.65
Unrealized gains (losses)	6.10	(4.85)	10.12	4.68	4.32
Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) (2)	6.81	(3.72)	10.13	5.00	5.03

# Total expenses (0.39) (0.35) (0.34) (0.28) (0.25) Realized gains (losses) 0.63 1.07 0.01 0.02 0.65 Unrealized gains (losses) 6.10 (4.85) 10.12 4.68 4.32 Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) 6.81 (3.72) 10.13 5.00 5.03 Distributions (\$) -</t

36.90

40.92

0.16

31.04

26.22

Ratios and Supplemental Data

Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$) (4)

Total Annual Distributions (\$) (3)

Accounting Period Ended	2023 December 31	2022 December 31	2021 December 31	2020 December 31	2019 December 31
Total net asset value (ooo's of \$) (5)	1,037,824	683,914	687,154	409,124	253,981
Number of units outstanding (5)	23,709,561	18,535,304	16,791,441	13,176,055	9,682,232
Management expense ratio (%) (6)	0.99	0.99	0.97	1.01	1.01
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (%)	1.02	1.01	0.99	1.03	1.03
Trading expense ratio (%) (7)	_	_	_	0.01	0.02
Portfolio turnover rate (%) (8)	41.54	9.76	_	8.46	8.61
Net asset value per unit (\$)	43.77	36.90	40.92	31.05	26.23

43.77

## **Series FH**

Net Assets per Unit <sup>(1)</sup>	Commencement of operations: May 29, 2023
Net Assets per unit	Commencement of operations: may 29, 2023

## Ratios and Supplemental Data

Accounting Period Ended	2023	
	December 31	
Total net asset value (ooo's of \$) (5)	5,491	
Number of units outstanding (5)	492,536	
Management expense ratio (%) (6)	0.97	
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (%)	1.00	
Trading expense ratio (%) (7)	_	
Portfolio turnover rate (%) (8)	41.54	
Net asset value per unit (\$)	11.15	

# Series F<sub>5</sub>

Portfolio turnover rate (%) (8)

Net asset value per unit (\$)

Net Assets per Unit <sup>(1)</sup> Accounting Period Ended	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
	December 31				
Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown (4)	23.41	27.54	21.86	19.29	15.87
Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)					
Total revenue	0.29	0.27	0.24	0.41	0.23
Total expenses	(0.24)	(0.23)	(0.22)	(0.20)	(0.18)
Realized gains (losses)	0.40	0.67	0.01	0.01	0.56
Unrealized gains (losses)	3.82	(3.12)	7.09	4.67	3.18
Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) (2)	4.27	(2.41)	7.12	4.89	3.79
Distributions (\$)					
From net investment income (excluding dividends)	_	_	_	_	_
From dividends	_	_	_	0.15	_
From capital gains	_	_	_	_	_
Return of capital	1.17	1.38	1.09	0.82	0.79
Total Annual Distributions (\$) (3)	1.17	1.38	1.09	0.97	0.79
Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$) (4)	26.49	23.41	27.54	21.86	19.29
Ratios and Supplemental Data					
Accounting Period Ended	2023 December 31	2022 December 31	2021 December 31	2020 December 31	2019 December 31
Total net asset value (ooo's of \$) (s)	28,562	18,497	18,393	8,877	2,821
Number of units outstanding (5)	1,077,997	790,140	667,821	405,975	146,205
Management expense ratio (%) (6)	1.01	1.01	0.97	1.01	1.03
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (%)	1.06	1.07	1.03	1.07	1.08
Trading expense ratio (%) (7)	_	_	_	0.01	0.02
Portfolio turnover rate (%) (8)	41.54	9.76	_	8.46	8.61
Net asset value per unit (\$)	26.50	23.41	27.54	21.87	19.29
Net Assets per Unit <sup>(s)</sup> Accounting Period Ended	2023		Comm	encement of oper	ations: May 29
Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown (4)	December 31				
	10.00				
Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)  Total revenue	2.22				
	0.09				
Total expenses	(0.14)				
Realized gains (losses)	(0.04)				
Unrealized gains (losses)  Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) (2)	1.63				
Distributions (\$)	1.54				
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)	11.07				
<del>-</del>	-2007				
Ratios and Supplemental Data  Accounting Period Ended	2023				
nccounting Fellou Ellueu	December 31				
Total net asset value (ooo's of \$) (5)	5				
Number of units outstanding (5)	455				
Management expense ratio (%) (6)	2.21				
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (%)	2.21				
Trading expense ratio (%) (7)	_				

41.54

11.07

Series 0

 $Please \ note \ that \ the \ data \ presented \ below \ is \ in \ CAD \ although \ this \ Series \ is \ also \ available \ under \ the \ USD \ purchase \ option.$ Net Assets per Unit<sup>(1)</sup>

Net Assets per Unit <sup>(1)</sup> Commencement of operations: May 2					
Accounting Period Ended	2023 December 31	2022 December 31	2021 December 31	2020 December 31	2019 December 31
Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown (4)	38.63	42.44	31.88	26.68	20.81
Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)					
Total revenue	0.49	0.42	0.35	0.44	0.30
Total expenses	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)
Realized gains (losses)	0.66	1.11	0.01	0.35	0.63
Unrealized gains (losses)	6.60	(5.47)	10.22	5.94	2.93
Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) (2)	7.74	(3.95)	10.57	6.72	3.85
Distributions (\$)					
From net investment income (excluding dividends)	_	_	_	_	_
From dividends	_	_	_	0.19	_
From capital gains	_	_	_	_	_
Return of capital	_	_	_	_	_
Total Annual Distributions (\$) (3)	_	_	_	0.19	_
Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$) (4)	46.27	38.63	42.44	31.88	26.68

Ratios and Supplemental Data

Accounting Period Ended	2023 December 31	2022 December 31	2021 December 31	2020 December 31	2019 December 31
Total net asset value (ooo's of \$) (5)	69,515	63,915	35,434	29,036	6,787
Number of units outstanding (5)	1,502,334	1,654,548	835,027	910,439	254,247
Management expense ratio (%) (6)	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 (%) (7)	_	_	_	0.01	0.02
Portfolio turnover rate (%) (8)	41.54	9.76	_	8.46	8.61
Net asset value per unit (\$)	46.27	38.63	42.44	31.89	26.69

# Series T<sub>5</sub>

Accounting Period Ended	2023 December 31	2022 December 31	2021 December 31	2020 December 31	2019 December 31
Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown (4)	20.82	24.80	19.92	17.81	14.84
Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)					
Total revenue	0.26	0.24	0.21	0.38	0.21
Total expenses	(0.50)	(0.47)	(0.47)	(0.42)	(0.39)
Realized gains (losses)	0.34	0.63	0.01	0.03	0.49
Unrealized gains (losses)	3.40	(3.05)	5.99	2.94	3.34
Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) (2)	3.50	(2.65)	5.74	2.93	3.65
Distributions (\$)					
From net investment income (excluding dividends)	_	_	_	_	_
From dividends	_	_	_	0.09	_
From capital gains	_	_	_	_	_
Return of capital	1.04	1.24	1.00	0.81	0.74
Total Annual Distributions (\$) (3)	1.04	1.24	1.00	0.90	0.74
Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$) (4)	23.27	20.82	24.80	19.92	17.81

Ratios and Supplemental Data

Accounting Period Ended	2023 December 31	2022 December 31	2021 December 31	2020 December 31	2019 December 31
Total net asset value (ooo's of \$) (5)	2,693	1,713	1,702	1,567	683
Number of units outstanding (5)	115,738	82,267	68,635	78,645	38,356
Management expense ratio (%) (6)	2.23	2.23	2.13	2.26	2.30
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (%)	2.24	2.23	2.14	2.27	2.30
Trading expense ratio (%) (7)	_	_	_	0.01	0.02
Portfolio turnover rate (%) (8)	41.54	9.76	_	8.46	8.61
Net asset value per unit (\$)	23.27	20.82	24.80	19.93	17.81

- (1) This information is derived from the Fund's Annual Audited Financial Statements. The net assets per unit presented in the financial statements might differ from the net asset value calculated for fund pricing purposes. The differences are explained in the notes to the financial statements.
- (2) Net assets and distributions are based on the actual number of units outstanding at the relevant time. The increase or decrease from operations is based on the average number of units outstanding over the accounting period.
- $^{(3)}$  Distributions were paid in cash or reinvested in additional units of the Fund, or both.
- (4) The net assets are calculated in accordance with IFRS.
- $^{(\!g\!)}$  This information is provided as at the last day of the accounting period shown.
- (6) Management expense ratio is based on total expenses including sales taxes for the accounting period indicated (excluding commission, other portfolio transaction costs and withholding taxes) and is expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average net value during the accounting period. 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, 2023

#### **Portfolio Top Holdings**

	% or Net
	Asset Value
Microsoft Corp.	9.3
Alphabet Inc., Class A	
Moody's Corp.	6 <b>.</b> 5
AutoZone Inc.	
UnitedHealth Group Inc.	
MasterCard Inc., Class A	5.1
Lowe's Companies Inc.	
Linde PLC	
PepsiCo Inc.	
Sherwin-Williams Co./The	3.7
TJX Companies Inc.	
Johnson & Johnson	
MSCI Inc.	3.1
Analog Devices Inc.	3.0
CME Group Inc., Class A	
Oracle Corp.	2.9
Adobe Systems Inc.	2.8
Graco Inc.	2 <b>.</b> 8
Carrier Global Corp.	2.7
Factset Research Systems Inc.	
Mettler-Toledo International Inc.	
Otis Worldwide Corp.	2.6
Becton Dickinson and Co.	2.4
Middleby Corp.	
Cash, Money Market and Other Net Assets	
	95.7

#### **Regional Allocation**

	Asset Value
United States	99.0
Cash, Money Market and Other Net Assets	1.0
Sector Allocation	
	% of Net
	Asset Value
Information Technology	28.4
Consumer Discretionary	15.7
Financials	
Health Care	11.3
Industrials	10.3
Materials	
Communication Services	7.1
Consumer Staples	6 <b>.</b> 0
Cash, Money Market and Other Net Assets	1 <b>.</b> 0

% of Net

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.