# **Annual Management Report of Fund Performance**

for the financial year ended December 31, 2023

All figures are reported in Canadian dollars unless otherwise noted.

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 toll-free at <u>1 800 465-3863</u>, by emailing us at <u>info@cibcassetmanagement.com</u>, by writing to us at CIBC Square, 81 Bay Street, 20th floor, Toronto, Ontario, M5J 0E7, or by visiting our website at <u>www.cibc.com/mutualfunds</u> or SEDAR+ at <u>www.sedarplus.ca</u>.

Unitholders may also contact us using one of these methods to request a copy of the investment fund's interim financial report, proxy voting policies and procedures, proxy voting disclosure record, or quarterly portfolio disclosure.

### Management Discussion of Fund Performance

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

Investment Objective: CIBC Balanced Fund (referred to as the *Fund*) seeks to provide a balanced portfolio of primarily Canadian securities that produce income and capital appreciation by investing primarily in Canadian money market instruments, debt securities, and common and preferred shares.

Investment Strategies: The Fund invests in a combination of equity and fixed income securities issued by governments and corporations. In combination with a strategic asset allocation strategy, uses a bottom-up, fundamental approach to primarily invest in equity securities of highquality companies that are attractively valued from a discount to intrinsic value perspective.

### Risk

The Fund is a Canadian neutral balanced fund that is suitable for medium to long term investors who can tolerate low to medium investment risk.

For the period ended December 31, 2023, the Fund's overall level of risk remained as discussed in the simplified prospectus.

### **Results of Operations**

The Fund's portfolio advisor is CIBC Asset Management Inc. (referred to as *CAMI* or the *Portfolio Advisor*). The commentary that follows provides a summary of the results of operations for the period ended December 31, 2023. All dollar figures are expressed in thousands, unless otherwise indicated.

The Fund's net asset value decreased by 2% during the period, from \$295,434 as at December 31, 2022 to \$289,829 as at December 31, 2023. Net redemptions of \$25,555 were partially offset by positive investment performance, resulting in an overall decrease in net asset value.

Class A units of the Fund posted a return of 7.0% for the period. The Fund's primary benchmarks, the S&P/TSX Composite Index and the FTSE Canada Universe Bond Index (referred to as the *primary benchmarks*), returned 11.8% and 6.7%, respectively, for the same period. The Fund's return is after the deduction of fees and expenses, unlike the primary benchmarks' return. See the section *Past* 

*Performance* for the returns of other classes of units offered by the Fund.

Most major central banks continued to tighten monetary policy, raising interest rates throughout the year. However, the impact of higher interest rates and slower growth in 2023 helped to ease inflationary pressures. Corporate earnings reports indicated consumption of goods and services were still healthy, bringing into question the severity of a potential recession in an environment of high interest rates. Late in 2023, the U.S. Federal Reserve Board shifted its stance, signalling that it might lower interest rates earlier than expected in 2024.

Bank failures occurred at several regional U.S. banks, raising systemic concerns about the health of the economy and the global financial system. This, in part, led to the collapse of Credit Suisse Group AG in Europe.

China's economic reopening after COVID-19 lockdowns early in 2023 did not result in the economic boost that markets had expected, despite growth from a low base in 2022. The travel industry was the exception, showing elevated activity.

In Canada, equity markets rose. Eight of the 11 sectors in the S&P/TSX Composite Index generated positive returns, with information technology, health care and financials being the best sector performers, while communication services, materials and utilities were the worst sector performers.

Despite facing significant volatility, longer-term bond yields ended 2023 modestly lower than where they started. The Canadian yield curve (defined as the difference in two- and 30-year bond yields) continued to invert as short-term interest rates rose while 30-year bond yields declined. Demand for Canadian long-term bonds remained strong, partly given a lack of supply. Canadian bonds outperformed U.S. bonds as the Canadian economy was weaker relative to the U.S. Still, inflation continued to cool in both countries as supply chains normalized post-pandemic.

Corporate bonds outperformed as credit spreads (the yield differential between securities of similar maturity but differing credit quality) tightened, reflecting strong demand for riskier assets, lower new issuance and better-than-anticipated profitability and credit

fundamentals. Nevertheless, corporate bonds faced significant volatility, particularly in the first quarter of the year, following the collapse of several U.S. regional banks. However, regulators quickly stepped in to calm markets.

Stock selection and an underweight exposure to the information technology sector detracted from the Fund's performance. Selection in the consumer discretionary and financials sectors also detracted from performance, as did an overweight sector allocation to financials.

Individual detractors from the Fund's performance included an overweight holding in First Quantum Minerals Ltd. and an underweight holding in Cameco Corp. First Quantum saw its stock underperform as Panama's Supreme Court ruled its revised Concession Contract unconstitutional and mining operations in the country were ceased. The Portfolio Advisor reduced the holding to neutral in December as risks around Panama remained high. The purchase of Cameco for the Fund was delayed until November amid valuation concerns. Therefore, some of its positive performance was not captured. Other notable detractors from the Fund's performance included China Mengniu Dairy Co. Ltd., which was impacted by economic weakness in China, and Dollar General Corp., which reported poor sales and store traffic.

In the Fund's fixed income portfolio, individual detractors from performance included Government of Canada (referred to as *GoC*, 1.50%, 2044/12/01) real return bond, Westcoast Energy Inc. (8.85%, 2025/07/15) and First Quantum (6.88%, 2026/03/01). The GoC bond detracted from performance after the government abruptly ended the bond program, causing the sector to become illiquid and underperform the Canadian bond market. The Westcoast Energy bond was negatively affected by its position on the yield curve. First Quantum performed poorly amid operational disruptions at its mine in Panama.

A slight underweight exposure to the materials sector contributed to the Fund's performance. Stock selection in the health care sector contributed to the Fund's performance.

Individual equity contributors to the Fund's performance included a moderate overweight holding in Constellation Software Inc. The company performed well given its consistent execution on organic growth and margins. In addition, the macroeconomic environment remained supportive of its acquisition model, as the company can acquire smaller companies at an accelerated pace and at attractive valuations. Holdings in NVIDIA Corp. and Netflix Inc. also contributed to performance. NVIDIA reported higher-than-expected orders for data centre graphics processing unit chips, driven by the potential to apply artificial intelligence to improve productivity. Netflix outperformed in response to higher subscriber numbers, the monetization of password sharing and clarity on advertising opportunities.

In the Fund's fixed income portfolio, duration (sensitivity to changes in interest rates) positioning contributed to performance as the Portfolio Advisor took advantage of interest rate volatility. Tactical exposures to U.S. treasury bonds contributed to performance, as did overweight allocations to corporate and high-yield bonds. Individual contributors to performance included holdings in GoC (1.75%, 2053/12/01) and Province of Ontario (2.90%, 2046/12/02 and 3.75%, 2053/12/02). These holdings contributed to performance as the Fund took advantage of interest rate volatility through duration positioning.

Several new equity holdings were added to the Fund. The Portfolio Advisor believes Cargojet Inc. has good long-term fundamentals. Fortis Inc. was added for its diversified asset base, strong balance sheet and potential future dividend growth, in the Portfolio Advisor's opinion. HDFC Bank Ltd. was added as it has experienced double-digit growth supported by its recent merger with its parent company, Housing Development Finance Corp. Ltd. A new bond holding was added in WSP Global Inc. (5.55%, 2030/11/22) as the Portfolio Advisor believes it is a strong investment-grade credit with an attractive yield and new issuance concession.

The Portfolio Advisor increased some of the Fund's existing equity holdings, including American Tower Corp., Canadian Pacific Railway Co. and Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (referred to as *CIBC*). American Tower was increased based on share price weakness, given that the Portfolio Advisor believes the company has a solid business model and defensive end markets. Canadian Pacific Railway was increased as the Portfolio Advisor believes management's forecast is conservative. CIBC was increased based on the Portfolio Advisor's expectation that lower expenses and an expansion of net interest margins will improve the bank's fundamentals over 2023.

An existing bond holding in The Toronto-Dominion Bank (4.34%, 2026/01/27) was increased, retracted from longer-dated bail-in bond by the same issuer, to benefit from the inverted yield curve and to increase the Fund's yield.

Several of the Fund's equity holdings were eliminated, including Lumine Group Inc., Canadian Tire Corp. Ltd. and L'Oréal SA. Lumine Group has singular exposure to the communication services sector and declining organic growth. The Portfolio Advisor believes Canadian Tire faces slower consumer discretionary spending, combined with higher inventory levels and signs of increasing promotional activity. L'Oréal was sold based on its valuation and replaced by Equifax Inc.

The Portfolio Advisor eliminated a bond holding in North West Redwater Partnership/NWR Financing Co. Ltd. (4.15%, 2033/06/01) to shift the Fund to shorter-duration credit, in order to take advantage of higher yields.

Several of the Fund's equity holdings were reduced, including Maple Leaf Foods Inc., TELUS International (CDA) Inc. and NVIDIA. The Portfolio Advisor believes Maple Leaf Foods may experience earnings volatility as a new poultry facility ramps up. Management at TELUS issued a muted forecast. NVIDIA was trimmed as its valuation hit the Portfolio Advisor's target.

Fixed income holding RioCan REIT (2.36%, 2027/03/10) was trimmed to reduce exposure to the real estate sector.

# **Recent Developments**

Effective April 27, 2023, Bryan Houston was appointed Chair of the Independent Review Committee.

The COVID-19 pandemic and the Russia-Ukraine war have disrupted the global economy and financial markets in unprecedented and unpredictable ways. This has resulted in significant volatility and uncertainty in financial markets. It is unclear what further actions may be taken by governments and the resulting impact on global economies, businesses and financial markets. Inflation has increased in many markets across the globe, leading central banks to raise interest rates in order to counter rapidly rising prices. These factors may adversely affect the performance of the Fund. The Manager continues to monitor ongoing developments and the impact to investment strategies.

# **Related Party Transactions**

CIBC and its affiliates have the following roles and responsibilities with respect to the Fund, and receive the fees described below in connection with their roles and responsibilities.

# Manager

CIBC is the Fund's manager (referred to as the *Manager*). CIBC receives management fees with respect to the Fund's day-to-day business and operations, calculated based on the net asset value of each respective class of units of the Fund as described in the section entitled *Management Fees*. The Manager compensates its wholesalers in connection with their marketing activities regarding the Fund. From time to time, CIBC may invest in units of the Fund.

# Trustee

CIBC Trust Corporation, a wholly-owned subsidiary of CIBC, is the Fund's trustee (referred to as the *Trustee*). The Trustee holds title to the Fund's property (cash and securities) on behalf of its unitholders.

# Portfolio Advisor

The portfolio advisor provides, or arranges to provide, investment advice and portfolio management services to the Fund. CAMI, a wholly-owned subsidiary of CIBC, is the Fund's portfolio advisor.

# Distributor

Dealers and other firms sell the units of the Fund to investors. These dealers and other firms include CIBC's related dealers such as the principal distributor, CIBC Securities Inc. (referred to as *CIBC SI*), the CIBC Investor's Edge discount brokerage division of CIBC Investor Services Inc. (referred to as *CIBC ISI*), the CIBC Imperial Investor Service division of CIBC ISI, and the CIBC Wood Gundy division of CIBC World Markets Inc. (referred to as *CIBC WM*). CIBC SI, CIBC ISI, and CIBC WM are wholly-owned subsidiaries of CIBC.

CIBC may pay trailing commissions to these dealers and firms, in connection with the sale of units of the Fund. These dealers and other firms may pay a portion of these trailing commissions to their advisors who sell units of the Fund to investors.

# Brokerage Arrangements and Soft Dollars

The Portfolio Advisor makes decisions, including the selection of markets and dealers and the negotiation of commissions, with respect to the purchase and sale of portfolio securities, certain derivative products and the execution of portfolio transactions. Brokerage business may be allocated by the Portfolio Advisor to CIBC WM and CIBC World Markets Corp., each a subsidiary of CIBC. CIBC WM and CIBC World Markets Corp. may also earn spreads on the sale of fixed income securities and other securities and certain derivative products to the Fund. A spread is the difference between the bid and ask prices for a security in the applicable marketplace, with respect to the execution of portfolio transactions. The spread will differ based upon various factors such as the type and liquidity of the security.

Dealers, including CIBC WM and CIBC World Markets Corp., may furnish goods and services, other than order execution, to the Portfolio Advisor in partial exchange for processing trades through them (referred to in the industry as "soft dollar" arrangements). These goods and services are paid for with a portion of the brokerage commissions and assist the Portfolio Advisor with investment decision-making services for the Fund or relate directly to the execution of portfolio transactions on behalf of the Fund.

During the period, the Fund paid brokerage commissions and other fees of \$7,143 to CIBC WM and \$502 to CIBC World Markets Corp. Spreads associated with fixed income and other securities are not ascertainable and, for that reason, cannot be included when determining these amounts.

# Fund Transactions

The Fund may enter into one or more of the following transactions (referred to as the *Related Party Transactions*) in reliance on the standing instructions issued by the IRC:

- invest in or hold equity securities of CIBC or issuers related to a portfolio sub-advisor;
- invest in or hold non-exchange-traded debt securities of CIBC or an issuer related to CIBC, with terms-to-maturity of 365 days or more, issued in a primary offering and in the secondary market;
- make an investment in the securities of an issuer for which CIBC WM, CIBC World Markets Corp., or any affiliate of CIBC (referred to as a *Related Dealer* or the *Related Dealers*) acts as an underwriter during the offering of the securities or at any time during the 60-day period following the completion of the offering of such securities (in the case of a "private placement" offering, in accordance with the exemptive relief order granted by the Canadian securities regulatory authorities and in accordance with the policies and procedures relating to such investment);
- purchase equity or debt securities from or sell them to a Related Dealer, where it is acting as principal;
- undertake currency and currency derivative transactions where a Related Dealer is the counterparty;
- purchase securities from or sell securities to another investment fund or a managed account managed by the Manager or an affiliate; and
- engage in in-specie transfers by receiving portfolio securities from, or delivering portfolio securities to, a managed account or another investment fund managed by the Manager or an affiliate, in respect of a purchase or redemption of units in the fund, subject to certain conditions.

At least annually, the IRC reviews the Related Party Transactions for which they have issued standing instructions. The IRC is required to advise the Canadian securities regulatory authorities, after a matter has been referred or reported to the IRC by the Manager, if it determines that an investment decision was not made in accordance with a condition imposed by securities legislation or the IRC in any Related Party Transactions requiring its approval.

## Custodian

CIBC Mellon Trust Company is the Fund's custodian (referred to as the *Custodian*). The Custodian holds all cash and securities for the Fund and ensures that those assets are kept separate from any other cash or securities that the Custodian might be holding. The Custodian also provides other services to the Fund including record-keeping and processing of foreign exchange transactions. The fees and spreads for the services of the Custodian directly related to the execution of portfolio transactions by the Fund are paid by CAMI and/or the dealer(s) directed by CAMI, up to the amount of the credits generated under soft dollar arrangements from trading on behalf of the Fund during that month. All other fees and spreads for the services of the Custodian are paid by the Manager and charged to the Fund on a recoverable basis. CIBC owns a 50% interest in the Custodian.

#### Service Provider

CIBC Mellon Global Securities Services Company Inc. (referred to as *CIBC GSS*) provides certain services to the Fund, including securities lending, fund accounting and reporting, and portfolio valuation. Such servicing fees are paid by the Manager and charged to the Fund on a recoverable basis. CIBC indirectly owns a 50% interest in CIBC GSS.

# **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 period ended December 31.

The Fund's Net Assets per Unit <sup>1</sup> - Class	s A Unit	S			Incep	tion d	ate: December 31, 198
i		2023	2022	2021	2020		2019
Net Assets, beginning of period	\$	19.21	\$ 21.56	\$ 20.41	\$ 19.62	\$	17.86
Increase (decrease) from operations:							
Total revenue	\$	0.64	\$ 0.54	\$ 0.71	\$ 0.46	\$	0.67
Total expenses		(0.43)	(0.46)	(0.48)	(0.46)		(0.47)
Realized gains (losses) for the period		0.24	0.24	0.95	1.00		1.00
Unrealized gains (losses) for the period		0.88	(2.67)	0.90	0.40		1.43
Total increase (decrease) from operations <sup>2</sup>	\$	1.33	\$ (2.35)	\$ 2.08	\$ 1.40	\$	2.63
Distributions:							
From income (excluding dividends)	\$	-	\$ -	\$ 0.05	\$ -	\$	-
From dividends		0.20	0.03	0.23	_		0.20
From capital gains		-	-	0.64	0.66		0.63
Return of capital		-	0.03	-	-		-
Total Distributions <sup>3</sup>	\$	0.20	\$ 0.06	\$ 0.92	\$ 0.66	\$	0.83
Net Assets, end of period	\$	20.34	\$ 19.21	\$ 21.56	\$ 20.41	\$	19.62
Ratios and Supplemental Data - Class	A Units						
		2023	2022	2021	2020		2019
Total Net Asset Value (000s) <sup>4</sup>	\$	266,330	\$ 273,038	\$ 352,088	\$ 337,375	\$	341,566
Number of Units Outstanding <sup>4</sup>		13,093,982	14,214,519	16,333,593	16,533,109		17,412,620
Management Expense Ratio <sup>5</sup>		2.15%	2.15%	2.19%	2.27%		2.30%
Management Expense Ratio before waivers of	*						

Management Expense Ratio before waivers or						
absorptions <sup>6</sup>	2.16%	2.23%	2.31%	2.33%	2.34%	
Trading Expense Ratio <sup>7</sup>	0.04%	0.06%	0.04%	0.06%	0.06%	
Portfolio Turnover Rate <sup>8</sup>	72.65%	82.26%	60.84%	67.83%	51.42%	
Net Asset Value per Unit	\$ 20.34	\$ 19.21	\$ 21.56	\$ 20.41	\$ 19.62	

#### The Fund's Net Assets per Unit<sup>1</sup> - Class F Units

Inception date: July 6, 2020

2023		2022		2021		2020 <sup>a</sup>	
\$ 10.01	\$	11.27	\$	10.64	\$	10.00 <sup>b</sup>	
\$ 0.34	\$	0.28	\$	0.37	\$	0.19	
(0.11)		(0.11)		(0.12)		(0.04)	
0.12		(0.16)		0.47		0.04	
0.45		(0.91)		0.46		0.05	
\$ 0.80	\$	(0.90)	\$	1.18	\$	0.24	
\$ -	\$	_	\$	0.04	\$	-	
0.23		0.18		0.25		-	
0.01		_		0.28		0.11	
-		-		-		-	
\$ 0.24	\$	0.18	\$	0.57	\$	0.11	
\$ 10.59	\$	10.01	\$	11.27	\$	10.64	
\$	\$ 10.01   \$ 0.34   (0.11) 0.12   0.45 0.80   \$ 0.80   \$ -   0.23 0.01   - -   \$ 0.24	\$ 10.01 \$   \$ 0.34 \$   (0.11) 0.12 0.45   \$ 0.80 \$   \$ 0.80 \$   \$ 0.80 \$   \$ 0.80 \$   \$ 0.80 \$   \$ 0.80 \$   \$ 0.23 0.01   - - \$   \$ 0.24 \$	\$   10.01   \$   11.27     \$   0.34   \$   0.28     (0.11)   (0.11)   (0.11)     0.12   (0.16)   (0.91)     \$   0.80   \$   (0.90)     \$   -   \$   -     \$   0.23   0.18   0.18     \$   0.24   \$   0.18	\$ 10.01 \$ 11.27 \$   \$ 0.34 \$ 0.28 \$   \$ 0.34 \$ 0.28 \$   (0.11) (0.11) (0.11) (0.11)   0.12 (0.16) (0.91)   \$ 0.80 \$ (0.90) \$   \$ 0.80 \$ 0.90) \$   \$ 0.80 \$ 0.90) \$   \$ 0.80 \$ 0.90) \$   \$ 0.80 \$ 0.18 \$	$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $

#### **Ratios and Supplemental Data - Class F Units**

	2023	2022	2021	2020 <sup>a</sup>	
Total Net Asset Value (000s) <sup>4</sup>	\$ 23,499	\$ 22,396	\$ 404	\$ 183	
Number of Units Outstanding <sup>4</sup>	2,219,639	2,237,108	35,851	17,162	
Management Expense Ratio⁵	0.98%	1.01%	1.01%	1.11%*	
Management Expense Ratio before waivers or absorptions <sup>6</sup>	0.98%	1.12%	1.12%	1.23%*	
Trading Expense Ratio <sup>7</sup>	0.04%	0.06%	0.04%	0.06%	
Portfolio Turnover Rate <sup>8</sup>	72.65%	82.26%	60.84%	67.83%	
Net Asset Value per Unit	\$ 10.59	\$ 10.01	\$ 11.27	\$ 10.64	

<sup>a</sup> Information presented is for the period from the inception date to December 31.

<sup>b</sup> Initial offering price.

Ratio has been annualized.

- <sup>1</sup> This information is derived from the Fund's audited annual financial statements.
- <sup>2</sup> Net assets and distributions are based on the actual number of units outstanding at the relevant time. The total increase (decrease) from operations is based on the weighted average number of units outstanding during the period.
- <sup>3</sup> Distributions were paid in cash, reinvested in additional units of the Fund, or both.
- <sup>4</sup> This information is presented as at December 31 of the period(s) shown.
- <sup>5</sup> Management expense ratio is based on the total expenses of the Fund (excluding commissions and other portfolio transaction costs), incurred by or allocated to a class of units for the period shown, expressed as an annualized percentage of the daily average net asset value of that class during the period. The management expense ratio includes the fees attributable to exchange traded funds, where applicable.
- <sup>6</sup> The decision to waive management fees is at the discretion of the Manager. The practice of waiving management fees may continue indefinitely or may be terminated at any time without notice to unitholders. The management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions includes the fees attributable to exchange traded funds, where applicable.
- <sup>7</sup> The trading expense ratio represents total commissions and other portfolio transaction costs before income taxes expressed as an annualized percentage of the daily average net asset value during the period. Spreads associated with fixed income securities trading are not ascertainable and, for that reason, are not included in the trading expense ratio calculation.
- <sup>8</sup> The portfolio turnover rate indicates how actively the portfolio advisor and/or portfolio sub-advisor manages the 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 period. The higher a portfolio turnover rate in a period, the greater the trading costs payable by the Fund in the period, and the greater the chance of an investor receiving taxable capital gains in the year. There is not necessarily a relationship between a high turnover rate and the performance of the Fund.

#### **Management Fees**

The Fund, either directly or indirectly, pays CIBC an annual management fee to cover the costs of managing the Fund. Management fees are based on the Fund's net asset value and are calculated daily and paid monthly. Management fees are paid to CIBC in consideration for providing, or arranging for the provision of, management, distribution, and portfolio advisory services. Advertising and promotional expenses, office overhead expenses and trailing commissions are paid by CIBC out of the management fees received from the Fund. The Fund is required to pay applicable taxes on the management fees paid to CIBC. Refer to the Simplified Prospectus for the annual management fee rate for each class of units.

The following table shows a breakdown of the services received in consideration of the management fees, as a percentage of the management fees collected from the Fund for the period ended December 31, 2023. These amounts do not include waived fees or absorbed expenses.

	Class A Units	Class F Units
Sales and trailing commissions paid to dealers	12.86%	0.00%
General administration, investment advice, and profit	87.14%	100.00%

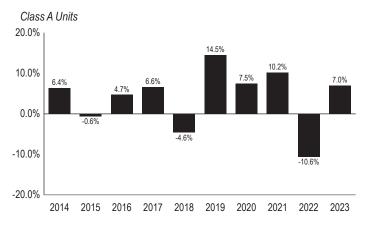
#### **Past Performance**

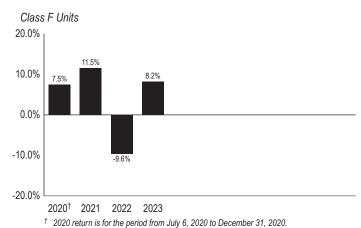
The performance data provided assumes reinvestment of distributions only and does not take into account sales, redemption, distribution, or other optional charges payable by any unitholder that would have reduced returns. Past performance does not necessarily indicate how a fund will perform in the future.

The Fund's returns are after the deduction of fees and expenses, and the difference in returns between classes of units is primarily due to differences in the management expense ratio. See the *Financial Highlights* section for the management expense ratio.

#### Year-by-Year Returns

These bar charts show the annual performance of each class of units of the Fund for each of the periods shown, and illustrate how the performance has changed from period to period. These bar charts show, in percentage terms, how an investment made on January 1 would have increased or decreased by December 31, unless otherwise indicated.





# **Annual Compound Returns**

This table shows the annual compound return of each class of units of the Fund for each indicated period ended on December 31, 2023. The annual compound total return is also compared to the Fund's benchmark(s).

The Fund's primary benchmarks are the S&P/TSX Composite Index and the FTSE Canada Universe Bond Index.

The Fund's blended benchmark (referred to as *Blended Benchmark*) is comprised of the following:

- 50% S&P/TSX Capped Composite Index
- 40% FTSE Canada Universe Bond Index
- 10% MSCI World Index

	1 Year (%)	3 Years (%)	5 Years (%)	10 Years* (%)	or Since Inception* (%)	Inception Date
Class A units	7.0	1.8	5.3	3.9		December 31, 1987
S&P/TSX Composite Index	11.8	9.7	11.3	7.6		
FTSE Canada Universe Bond Index	6.7	(2.8)	1.3	2.4		
Blended Benchmark	10.7	4.6	7.5	6.4		
Class F units	8.2	3.0			4.7	July 6, 2020
S&P/TSX Composite Index	11.8	9.7			12.2	·
FTSE Canada Universe Bond Index	6.7	(2.8)			(2.2)	
Blended Benchmark	10.7	4.6			6.4	

If a class of units has been outstanding for less than 10 years, the annual compound return since inception is shown.

FTSE Canada Universe Bond Index is comprised of marketable Canadian bonds intended to reflect the performance of the broad Canadian investment-grade bond market. Returns are calculated daily and are weighted by market capitalization.

**MSCI World Index** is a free float-adjusted market capitalization index composed of companies representative of the market structure of developed market countries in North America, Europe and the Asia/Pacific region.

**S&P/TSX Capped Composite Index** imposes capped weights of 10% on all of the constituents included in the S&P/TSX Composite. The S&P/TSX Composite covers approximately 95% of the Canadian equities market.

S&P/TSX Composite Index is intended to represent the Canadian equity market and includes the largest companies listed on the TSX.

A discussion of the Fund's relative performance compared to its benchmark(s) can be found in Results of Operations.

#### Summary of Investment Portfolio (as at December 31, 2023)

The summary of investment portfolio may change due to ongoing portfolio transactions of the investment fund. A quarterly update is available by visiting <u>www.cibc.com/mutualfunds</u>. The Top Positions table shows the Fund's 25 largest positions. If the fund holds fewer than 25 positions in total, all positions are shown. Cash and cash equivalents are shown in total as one position.

Portfolio Breakdown	% of Net Asset Value	Top Positions	% of Net Asset Value
Other Equities	22.6	Royal Bank of Canada	1.9
Corporate Bonds	17.0	Bank of Montreal	1.8
Financials	14.7	Canadian Pacific Kansas City Ltd.	1.8
Provincial Government & Guaranteed Bonds	12.3	Province of Ontario, 3.60%, 2028/03/08	1.6
Industrials	7.8	Enbridge Inc.	1.5
Information Technology	7.0	Toronto-Dominion Bank (The)	1.5
Energy	6.9	Shopify Inc., Class 'A'	1.5
Government of Canada & Guaranteed Bonds	5.8	Canadian Natural Resources Ltd.	1.3
Other Bonds	3.8	Cash & Cash Equivalents	1.3
Cash & Cash Equivalents	1.3	Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce	1.3
Canadian Bond Investment Funds	0.7	Constellation Software Inc.	1.3
Other Assets, less Liabilities	0.1	Government of Canada, 1.75%, 2053/12/01	1.2
		Canada 5 Year Bond Future, March 2024	1.2
		Canadian National Railway Co.	1.1
		Brookfield Corp., Class 'A'	1.0
		Bank of Nova Scotia	1.0
		TELUS Corp.	1.0
		Microsoft Corp.	0.9
		Manulife Financial Corp.	0.9
		Intact Financial Corp.	0.9
		Suncor Energy Inc.	0.9
		Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.	0.8

Province of Ontario, 2.90%, 2046/12/02

Province of Ontario, 2.05%, 2030/06/02

Alphabet Inc., Class 'C'

0.8 0.7

0.7

#### A note on forward-looking statements

The management report of fund performance may contain forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements include statements that are predictive in nature, that depend upon or refer to future events or conditions, or that include words such as "expects", "anticipates", "intends", "plans", "believes", "estimates", or other similar wording. In addition, any statements that may be made concerning future performance, strategies, or prospects and possible future actions taken by the fund, are also forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance. These statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties, and other factors that may cause the actual results and achievements of the fund to differ materially from those expressed or implied by such statements. Such factors include, but are not limited to: general economic, market, and business conditions; fluctuations in securities prices, interest rates, and foreign currency exchange rates; changes in government regulations; and catastrophic events.

The above list of important factors that may affect future results is not exhaustive. Before making any investment decisions, we encourage you to consider these and other factors carefully. CIBC does not undertake, and specifically disclaims, any obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future developments, or otherwise prior to the release of the next management report of fund performance.

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