

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 www.cibc.com/mutualfunds or SEDAR+ at www.sedarplus.ca.

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 U.S. Small Companies Fund (referred to as the *Fund*) seeks to provide long-term growth through capital appreciation by investing primarily in smaller U.S. companies, including equity securities of publicly traded companies listed on U.S. stock exchanges.

Investment Strategies: The Fund invests primarily in securities of companies that have sustainable competitive advantages, which are judged to be attractively valued based on fundamental research.

Risk

The Fund is a U.S. small/mid-cap equity fund that is suitable for long term investors who can tolerate medium to high 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 sub-advisor is Kayne Anderson Rudnick Investment Management, LLC (referred to as the *Sub-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 increased by 15% during the period, from \$540,399 as at December 31, 2022 to \$621,788 as at December 31, 2023. Positive investment performance was partially offset by net redemptions of \$37,944, resulting in an overall increase in net asset value.

Class A units of the Fund posted a return of 19.7% for the period. The Fund's benchmark, the Russell 2500 Index (referred to as the benchmark), returned 14.3% for the same period. The Fund's return is after the deduction of fees and expenses, unlike the benchmark's return. See the section *Past Performance* for the returns of other classes of units offered by the Fund.

Capital markets had a good year in 2023, with U.S. equities advancing significantly, particularly in the fourth quarter. Global equities and fixed income markets had positive returns for the year as well.

The period included a brief regional banking crisis that followed the collapse of SVB Financial Group, but investor enthusiasm around artificial intelligence gave a positive boost to markets.

Stock market concentration was a big topic for markets. The "Magnificent Seven" (which is composed of Alphabet Inc., Amazon.com Inc., Apple Inc., Meta Platforms Inc., Microsoft Corp., NVIDIA Corp. and Tesla Inc.) were responsible for most of the outperformance by large growth stocks during 2023. As the year ended, market breadth improved markedly.

October's Consumer Price Index report, issued in November, illustrated that the U.S. Federal Reserve Board had already reached its inflation target. This helped to spark the fourth-quarter stock rebound. A rapid reversal of interest rates, combined with a surprisingly resilient economy, led to an environment that was more supportive of riskier assets, which outperformed at the end of 2023.

Stock selection and overweight exposures to the industrials and consumer discretionary sectors contributed to the Fund's performance. Individual contributors to performance included Lennox International Inc., Watsco Inc. and Bentley Systems Inc. Lennox International's stock benefited from a notable improvement in revenue growth and profitability. It also divested its European commercial heating, ventilation and air conditioning (referred to as *HVAC*) and refrigeration business. Watsco outperformed on better-than-expected HVAC fundamentals, demonstrating a higher gross margin profile. Bentley Systems reported strong results across its geographic segments and software solutions. Demand for its infrastructure software remained strong.

Stock selection in the financials sector significantly detracted from the Fund's performance. An underweight allocation to financials slightly detracted from performance. Individual detractors from performance included Globus Medical Inc., Exponent Inc. and Jack Henry & Associates Inc. Globus Medical announced it was acquiring a spine technology company that was less profitable and viewed more as a sales and marketing driven organization than Globus. Exponent was affected by weak third-quarter results. The Sub-Advisor believes that the company has maintained solid execution in a challenging operating environment. Jack Henry & Associates was negatively impacted by the

regional banking crisis as investors were concerned that smaller banks could face long-lasting profitability challenges.

New holdings added to the Fund included Saia Inc., Choice Hotels International Inc. and Zurn Elkay Water Solutions Corp. The Sub-Advisor believes that Saia's management is actively working on providing consistent high-quality service at a reasonable price. It has made significant headway the past few years with increasing its service levels and reputation. The Sub-Advisor believes Choice Hotels can benefit from its portfolio of franchisees loyal to the Choice Hotels system and its protected position in the U.S. midscale hotel segment. Zurn Elkay benefits from owning and fostering a broad portfolio of specified water management products. In the Sub-Advisor's view, the company has built a reputation for product innovation, superior quality, reliability and customer service across multiple brands and product categories.

The Fund's existing holdings in Jack Henry & Associates, Aspen Technology and Rollins Inc. were increased. The Sub-Advisor believes the reduced mergers-and-acquisition activity that slowed revenue growth at Jack Henry is temporary, and took advantage of lower share prices. The holding in Aspen Technology was increased after a merger reduced the Fund's weighting, as the Sub-Advisor has confidence in the business and its synergies with the new entity. Rollins Inc. is seen as a high-quality business with strong growth over the long term. The Sub-Advisor took advantage of stock price weakness to add to the holding.

The Fund's holdings in Globus Medical and Copart Inc. were eliminated. Globus Medical announced an acquisition that the Sub-Advisor believes has considerable integration risks, as well as the potential to dilute Globus's return on capital. Copart reached a market capitalization that is too large for the Fund's mandate.

W.R. Berkley and Fair Isaac Corp. were trimmed based on valuation, as the stocks were trading at the high end of their historical valuation ranges. SiteOne Landscape Supply Inc. was reduced to fund a new holding. The Fund's holding in Fair Isaac Corp. was trimmed after it had outperformed.

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.

The Manager pays the Fund's operating expenses (other than certain fund costs) in respect of the class of units of the Fund(except class O unit), which may include but are not limited to, operating and administrative costs; regulatory fees; audit, and legal fees and expenses; trustee, safekeeping, custodial, and any agency fees; and investor servicing costs and costs of unitholder reports, prospectuses, Fund Facts, and other reports, in exchange for the Fund paying a fixed rate administration fee (plus applicable GST/HST) to the Manager with respect to those class of units. For class O units, no fixed administration fee will be charged. The Manager pays the Fund's operating expenses (other than certain Fund costs) allocated to Class O units of the Fund. The fixed administration fee payable by the Fund, may, in any particular period, exceed or be lower than the expenses we incur in providing such services to 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 and any portfolio sub-advisors make 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 and any portfolio sub-advisors, 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 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 and any portfolio sub-advisors, 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 and any portfolio sub-advisors, with investment decision-making services for the Fund or relate directly to the execution of portfolio transactions on behalf of the Fund. As per the terms of the portfolio sub-advisory agreements, such soft dollar arrangements are in compliance with applicable laws.

During the period, the Fund did not pay any brokerage commissions or other fees to CIBC WM or 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 ¹ - Class | A Units | | | | | | | Incep | tion da | ate: December 11, 1995 |
|---|-------------|---|----|---|----|--|----|--|---------|--------------------------|
| | | 2023 | | 2022 | | 2021 | | 2020 | | 2019 |
| Net Assets, beginning of period | \$ | 27.68 | \$ | 35.01 | \$ | 29.84 | \$ | 22.49 | \$ | 19.28 |
| Increase (decrease) from operations: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total revenue | \$ | 0.29 | \$ | 0.18 | \$ | 0.19 | \$ | 0.22 | \$ | 0.34 |
| Total expenses | | (0.79) | | (0.74) | | (0.89) | | (0.68) | | (0.63) |
| Realized gains (losses) for the period Unrealized gains (losses) for the period | | 0.87 5.05 | | 0.64 (7.36) | | 1.42 4.41 | | 0.59 7.11 | | 0.45 3.17 |
| Total increase (decrease) from operations ² | \$ | 5.42 | \$ | (7.28) | \$ | 5.13 | \$ | 7.11 | \$ | 3.33 |
| Distributions: | Ψ | 3.42 | Ψ | (7.20) | Ψ | 5.15 | Ψ | 7.24 | Ψ | 3.33 |
| From income (excluding dividends) | \$ | _ | \$ | _ | \$ | _ | \$ | _ | \$ | _ |
| From dividends | · | _ | · | _ | , | _ | , | _ | • | _ |
| From capital gains | | - | | _ | | - | | _ | | - |
| Return of capital | | _ | | | | | | | | |
| Total Distributions ³ | \$ | _ | \$ | - | \$ | _ | \$ | - | \$ | _ |
| Net Assets, end of period | \$ | 33.14 | \$ | 27.68 | \$ | 35.01 | \$ | 29.84 | \$ | 22.49 |
| Ratios and Supplemental Data - Class A | Units | | | | | | | | | |
| | | 2023 | | 2022 | | 2021 | | 2020 | | 2019 |
| Total Net Asset Value (000s) ⁴ | \$ | 40,564 | \$ | 37,577 | \$ | 50,189 | \$ | 40,899 | \$ | 34,758 |
| Number of Units Outstanding ⁴ | | 1,224,149 | | 1,357,842 | | 1,433,605 | | 1,370,756 | | 1,545,594 |
| Management Expense Ratio ⁵ | | 2.48% | | 2.49% | | 2.63% | | 2.60% | | 2.60% |
| Management Expense Ratio before waivers or | | | | | | | | | | |
| absorptions ⁶ | | 2.48% | | 2.53% | | 2.80% | | 2.97% | | 3.07% |
| Trading Expense Ratio ⁷ | | 0.01% | | 0.06% | | 0.00% | | 0.02% | | 0.15% |
| Portfolio Turnover Rate ⁸ | • | 11.05% | | 9.08% | • | 9.35% | • | 20.12% | | 182.06% |
| Net Asset Value per Unit | \$ | 33.14 | \$ | 27.68 | \$ | 35.01 | \$ | 29.84 | \$ | 22.49 |
| The Fund's Net Assets per Unit ¹ - Class | F Units | | | | | | | | Ince | otion date: July 6, 2020 |
| | | 2023 | | 2022 | | 2021 | | 2020 ^a | | , |
| Net Assets, beginning of period | \$ | 11.12 | \$ | 13.90 | \$ | 11.69 | \$ | 10.00 ^b | | |
| Increase (decrease) from operations: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total revenue | \$ | 0.12 | \$ | 0.07 | \$ | 0.08 | \$ | 0.05 | | |
| Total expenses | | (0.18) | | (0.16) | | (0.18) | | (80.0) | | |
| Realized gains (losses) for the period | | 0.35 | | 0.16 | | 0.26 | | 0.17 | | |
| Unrealized gains (losses) for the period | • | 2.06 | | (1.46) | | 1.72 | | 2.06 | | |
| Total increase (decrease) from operations ² Distributions: | \$ | 2.35 | \$ | (1.39) | \$ | 1.88 | \$ | 2.20 | | |
| From income (excluding dividends) | \$ | _ | \$ | _ | \$ | _ | \$ | | | |
| From dividends | Ψ | _ | Ψ | _ | Ψ | _ | Ψ | _ | | |
| From capital gains | | 0.04 | | _ | | _ | | _ | | |
| Return of capital | | _ | | _ | | - | | - | | |
| Total Distributions ³ | | | | | • | | \$ | _ | | |
| Net Assets, end of period | \$ | 0.04 | \$ | | \$ | | - | | | |
| | \$ | 0.04 13.44 | \$ | 11.12 | \$ | 13.90 | \$ | 11.69 | | |
| Ratios and Supplemental Data - Class F | \$ | | | 11.12 | | 13.90 | - | | | |
| Ratios and Supplemental Data - Class F | \$ | | | 11.12 | | 13.90 | - | | | |
| Ratios and Supplemental Data - Class F Total Net Asset Value (000s) ⁴ | \$ Units | 13.44 | \$ | 2022 | \$ | | \$ | 11.69 | | |
| | \$ | 13.44 | | | | 2021 | - | 11.69 2020 ^a | | |
| Total Net Asset Value (000s) ⁴ | \$ Units | 2023 10,196 | \$ | 2022 8,066 | \$ | 2021 1,296 | \$ | 11.69 2020 ^a 186 | | |
| Total Net Asset Value (000s) ⁴ Number of Units Outstanding ⁴ Management Expense Ratio ⁵ Management Expense Ratio before waivers or | \$ Units | 2023 10,196 758,856 1.32% | \$ | 2022 8,066 725,107 1.29% | \$ | 2021 1,296 93,276 1.30% | \$ | 2020° 186 15,920 1.46%* | | |
| Total Net Asset Value (000s) ⁴ Number of Units Outstanding ⁴ Management Expense Ratio ⁵ Management Expense Ratio before waivers or absorptions ⁶ | \$ Units | 2023 10,196 758,856 1.32% | \$ | 2022 8,066 725,107 1.29% | \$ | 2021 1,296 93,276 1.30% | \$ | 2020 ^a 186 15,920 1.46%* | | |
| Total Net Asset Value (000s) ⁴ Number of Units Outstanding ⁴ Management Expense Ratio ⁵ Management Expense Ratio before waivers or absorptions ⁶ Trading Expense Ratio ⁷ | \$ Units | 2023 10,196 758,856 1.32% 0.01% | \$ | 2022 8,066 725,107 1.29% 1.29% 0.06% | \$ | 2021 1,296 93,276 1.30% 1.30% 0.00% | \$ | 2020° 186 15,920 1.46%* 1.48%* | | |
| Total Net Asset Value (000s) ⁴ Number of Units Outstanding ⁴ Management Expense Ratio ⁵ Management Expense Ratio before waivers or absorptions ⁶ | \$ Units | 2023 10,196 758,856 1.32% | \$ | 2022 8,066 725,107 1.29% | \$ | 2021 1,296 93,276 1.30% | \$ | 2020 ^a 186 15,920 1.46%* | | |

| The Fund's Net Assets per Unit1 - Class | O Unit | s | | | Inc | eption | date: October 30, | 201 |
|--|--------|------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|--------|-------------------|-----|
| - | | 2023 | 2022 | 2021 | 2020 | | 2019 | |
| Net Assets, beginning of period | \$ | 44.06 | \$ 54.39 | \$ 45.13 | \$ 33.28 | \$ | 27.77 | |
| Increase (decrease) from operations: | | | | | | | | |
| Total revenue | \$ | 0.47 | \$ 0.47 | \$ 0.23 | \$ 0.28 | \$ | 0.46 | |
| Total expenses | | (0.07) | (0.09) | (0.04) | (0.04) | | (0.09) | |
| Realized gains (losses) for the period | | 1.39 | 0.29 | 0.07 | 0.86 | | 0.68 | |
| Unrealized gains (losses) for the period | | 8.32 | 7.84 | 5.56 | 10.75 | | 4.46 | |
| Total increase (decrease) from operations ² | \$ | 10.11 | \$ 8.51 | \$ 5.82 | \$ 11.85 | \$ | 5.51 | |
| Distributions: | | | | | | | | |
| From income (excluding dividends) | \$ | 0.34 | \$ _ | \$ _ | \$ _ | \$ | _ | |
| From dividends | | _ | _ | _ | _ | | _ | |
| From capital gains | | 0.74 | 0.02 | _ | _ | | _ | |
| Return of capital | | _ | _ | _ | _ | | _ | |
| Total Distributions ³ | \$ | 1.08 | \$ 0.02 | \$ _ | \$ _ | \$ | _ | |
| Net Assets, end of period | \$ | 53.00 | \$ 44.06 | \$ 54.39 | \$ 45.13 | \$ | 33.28 | |
| Ratios and Supplemental Data - Class C | Units | | | | | | | |
| | | 2023 | 2022 | 2021 | 2020 | | 2019 | |
| Total Net Asset Value (000s) ⁴ | \$ | 571,028 | \$ 494,756 | \$ 5,863 | \$ _ | \$ | _ | |
| Number of Units Outstanding ⁴ | | 10,774,923 | 11,229,207 | 107,788 | 1 | | 1 | |
| Management Expense Ratio ⁵ | | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | | 0.00% | |
| Management Expense Ratio before waivers or | | | | | | | | |
| absorptions ⁶ | | 0.00% | 0.01% | 0.34% | 0.00% | | 0.00% | |
| Trading Expense Ratio ⁷ | | 0.01% | 0.06% | 0.00% | 0.02% | | 0.15% | |
| Portfolio Turnover Rate ⁸ | | 11.05% | 9.08% | 9.35% | 20.12% | | 182.06% | |
| Net Asset Value per Unit | \$ | 53.00 | \$ 44.06 | \$ 54.39 | \$ 45.13 | \$ | 33.28 | |

- ^a Information presented is for the period from the inception date to December 31.
- b Initial offering price.
- * Ratio has been annualized.
- ¹ This information is derived from the Fund's audited annual financial statements.
- 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.
- Distributions were paid in cash, reinvested in additional units of the Fund, or both.
- This information is presented as at December 31 of the period(s) shown.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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. For Class O units, the management fee is negotiated with and paid by, or as directed by, unitholders or dealers and discretionary managers on behalf of unitholders. Such Class O management fee will not exceed the Class F unit management fee rate.

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 | 16.17% | 0.00% |
| General administration, investment advice, and profit | 83.83% | 100.00% |

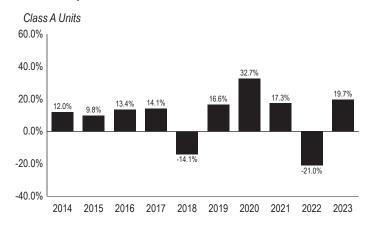
Past Performance

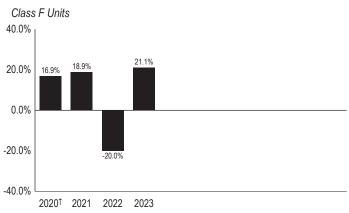
The performance data provided assumes reinvestment of distributions only and does not take into account sales, redemption, distribution, or other optional charges payable by any unitholder that would have reduced returns. Past performance does not necessarily indicate how a fund will perform in the future.

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.

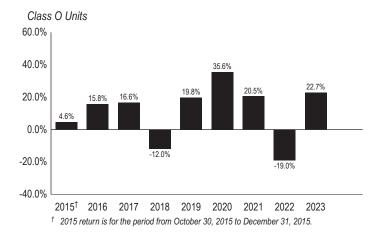
Year-by-Year Returns

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.





[†] 2020 return is for the period from July 6, 2020 to December 31, 2020.



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 benchmark is the Russell 2500 Index.

| | 1 Year (%) | 3 Years (%) | 5 Years (%) | 10 Years* (%) | or Since Inception* (%) | Inception Date |
|--------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Class A units | 19.7 | 3.6 | 11.4 | 8.9 | | December 11, 1995 |
| Russell 2500 Index | 14.3 | 5.4 | 10.9 | 10.7 | | |
| Class F units | 21.1 | 4.8 | | | 8.9 | July 6, 2020 |
| Russell 2500 Index | 14.3 | 5.4 | | | 11.8 | · |
| Class O units | 22.7 | 6.2 | 14.3 | | 11.4 | October 30, 2015 |
| Russell 2500 Index | 14.3 | 5.4 | 10.9 | | 9.6 | |

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

Russell 2500 Index is intended to represent the U.S. small- to mid-capitalization equity market. It measures the performance of the 2,500 smallest companies in the Russell 3000 Index.

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 www.cibc.com/mutualfunds. 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.

| Portfolio Breakdown | % of Net Asset Value |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Industrials | 33.1 |
| Information Technology | 27.4 |
| Consumer Discretionary | 13.2 |
| Financials | 12.5 |
| Health Care | 10.6 |
| Materials | 1.9 |
| Cash | 1.8 |
| Other Assets, less Liabilities | (0.5) |

| Top Positions | % of Net Asset Value |
|---|-------------------------|
| Bentley Systems Inc., Class 'B' | 5.1 |
| Pool Corp. | 4.7 |
| Lennox International Inc. | 4.4 |
| Cooper Cos. Inc. (The) | 4.3 |
| Nordson Corp. | 4.1 |
| Thor Industries Inc. | 4.0 |
| ANSYS Inc. | 4.0 |
| Watsco Inc. | 3.7 |
| Charles River Laboratories International Inc. | 3.6 |
| Equifax Inc. | 3.6 |
| LPL Financial Holdings Inc. | 3.5 |
| Teradyne Inc. | 3.5 |
| W.R. Berkley Corp. | 3.4 |
| Aspen Technology Inc. | 3.3 |
| Rollins Inc. | 3.2 |
| Jack Henry & Associates Inc. | 3.1 |
| Dolby Laboratories Inc., Class 'A' | 3.1 |
| Zebra Technologies Corp., Class 'A' | 3.0 |
| Zurn Water Solutions Corp. | 3.0 |
| Teledyne Technologies Inc. | 2.9 |
| Allegion PLC | 2.9 |
| Saia Inc. | 2.9 |
| SiteOne Landscape Supply Inc. | 2.8 |
| Chemed Corp. | 2.6 |
| Exponent Inc. | 2.6 |

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.



CIBC Mutual Funds CIBC Family of Portfolios

CIBC

CIBC Square 81 Bay Street, 20th Floor Toronto, Ontario M5J 0E7

1 800 465-3863 www.cibc.com/mutualfunds info@cibcassetmanagement.com