

# FORTIFIED SPECIAL SITUATIONS ALTERNATIVE FUND



THINK AHEAD. STAY AHEAD.

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# MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared by Picton Mahoney Asset Management, the Manager of the Picton Mahoney Fortified Special Situations Alternative Fund (the "Fund"). The Manager is responsible for all of the information and representations contained in these financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with IFRS Accounting Standards and include certain amounts that are based on estimates and judgements. Management maintains appropriate processes to ensure that relevant and reliable financial information is produced.

The financial statements have been audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP. They have audited the financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards to enable them to express to the unitholders their opinion on these financial statements. Their report is set out on the following pages.

#### **Picton Mahoney Asset Management**

Toronto, Ontario March 25, 2024

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Unitholders and Trustee of Picton Mahoney Fortified Special Situations Alternative Fund (the Fund)

#### Our opinion

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Fund as at December 31, 2023 and 2022, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IFRS Accounting Standards).

What we have audited

The Fund's financial statements comprise:

- the statements of financial position as at December 31, 2023 and 2022;
- the statements of comprehensive income (loss) for the years then ended;
- the statements of changes in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units for the years then ended;
- the statements of cash flows for the years then ended; and
- the notes to the financial statements, comprising material accounting policy information and other explanatory information.

#### **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Independence

We are independent of the Fund in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada. We have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

#### Other information

Management is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the 2023 Annual Management Report of Fund Performance.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information identified above and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

#### Responsibilities of management and those charged with governance for the financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with IFRS Accounting Standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Fund or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Fund's financial reporting process.

#### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

• Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Fund's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Fund to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

The engagement partner on the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is Patrizia Ferrari.

Pricewaterhouse Coopers LLP

**Chartered Professional Accountants, Licensed Public Accountants** 

Toronto, Ontario March 25, 2024

# STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at

	December 31, 2023 \$	December 31, 2022 \$
Assets		
Current assets Long positions at fair value* Cash Cash, pledged as collateral Options purchased*	236,288,468 6,094,239 6,771,011 1,549,883	90,933,010 19,886,838 - 131,811
Unrealized gain on foreign exchange forward contracts at fair value Credit default swap agreements at fair value	2,036,211 4,024	10,830
Due from Manager Subscriptions receivable	14,850 141,134	23,850 977,709
Dividends receivable Interest and other receivable	31,327 3,754,680	1,281,822
	256,685,827	113,245,870
Liabilities		
Current liabilities		
Short positions at fair value** Options written** Unrealized loss on foreign exchange	57,123,125 2,329,266	26,081,396 31,227
forward contracts at fair value	-	176,691
Credit default swap agreements at fair value	1,153,230	-
Cash overdraft Management fee payable	23,546,381 83,801	8,181,422 38,518
Performance fee payable	641,750	-
Redemptions payable	616,712	4,840
Accrued liabilities	139,535	66,552
Payable for investments purchased Interest payable	639,206 871,115	362,288
interest payable	87,144,121	34,942,934
Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Units	169,541,706	78,302,936
Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Units per Class		
Class A	2,455,521	2,828,056
Class F	107,633,748	32,183,163
Class I Class FTF	32,823,667 26,628,770	9,567,651 33,724,066
	20,020,770	33,724,000
Number of Redeemable Units Outstanding Class A	201 002	225 751
Class A Class F	281,092 12,037,871	325,751 3,642,371
Class I	3,557,387	1,066,958
Class ETF	2,980,000	3,820,000
Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Units per Unit		
Class A	8.74	8.68
Class F	8.94	8.84
Class I Class ETF***	9.23 8.94	8.97 8.83
Ciass ETI	0.94	0.03
* Long positions, at cost	236,412,710	93,488,618
** Short positions, at cost	(57,781,311)	(26,019,378)
*** Closing Market Price (TSX)	8.99	8.86

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

Approved on behalf of the Manager

David Picton Arthur Galloway

President

# STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)

For the years ended December 31

	2023	2022 \$
Income		
Net gains (losses) on investments and		
derivatives		
Interest for distribution purposes	13,507,907	4,566,674
Dividends	573,098	58,771
Net realized gain (loss) on investments and options	757,955	1,258,177
Net realized gain (loss) on foreign	131,555	1,230,177
exchange forward contracts and credit		
default swap agreements	(1,325,656)	(2,011,250
Change in unrealized appreciation		
(depreciation) on investments, options, foreign exchange forward contracts and		
credit default swap agreements	3,470,365	(2,254,064
Interest and borrowing expense	(4,152,741)	(1,384,894
Dividend expense	(116,796)	
Net gains (losses) on investments and		
derivatives	12,714,132	233,414
Other income		
Foreign currency gain (loss) on cash and		
other assets and liabilities	(372,747)	258,102
Total Income	12,341,385	491,516
Expenses		
Management fees	1,206,421	497,428
Performance fees	757,150	157,120
Transaction costs	702,173	422,795
Administrative fees	117,314	75,258
Securityholder reporting fees	64,512	16,340
Withholding taxes	49,235	39,920
Legal fees	34,036	33,740
Audit fees	23,120	11,815
Independent review committee expense	6,963	9,872
Total expense before manager absorption	2,960,924	1,107,168
Less expenses absorbed by manager Total expense after manager absorption	(27,300)	(38,800
ncrease (Decrease) in Net Assets	2,933,624	1,068,368
Attributable to Holders of Redeemable		
Units	9,407,761	(576,852
manage (Dagwaga) in Nat Accets		
ncrease (Decrease) in Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable		
Units per Class		
Člass A	174,339	(65,826
Class F	5,152,473	(298,095
Class I	1,821,016	31,083
Class ETF	2,259,933	(244,014
ncrease (Decrease) in Net Assets		
Attributable to Holders of Redeemable		
Units per Unit		
Class A	0.52	(0.22
Class F	0.62	(0.15
( less l	0.82	0.03
Class I Class ETF	0.60	(0.09

# **STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS** ATTRIBUTABLE TO HOLDERS OF REDEEMABLE UNITS

For the years ended December 31

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Units at Beginning of Year		
Class A	2,828,056	2,914,655
Class F	32,183,163	6,084,111
Class I	9,567,651	25,475,958
Class ETF	33,724,066	15,182,001
_	78,302,936	49,656,725
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Units		
Class A	174,339	(65,826)
Class F	5,152,473	(298,095)
Class I	1,821,016	31,083
Class ETF	2,259,933	(244,014)
	9,407,761	(576,852)
Proceeds from redeemable units issued Class A Class F Class I Class ETF	1,222,816 95,792,762 22,335,000 14,551,448 133,902,026	1,520,689 34,366,690 9,540,000 25,730,218 71,157,597
Reinvestments of distributions to holders		
of redeemable units Class A	72.020	E2 402
Class F	72,930 3,553,735	53,482 854,874
Class I	1,287,255	704,802
Class ETF	-	-
_	4,913,920	1,613,158
Redemption of redeemable units		
Class A	(1,682,951)	(1,381,400)
Class F	(24,532,533)	(7,281,371)
Class I	(900,000)	(25,479,390)
Class ETF	(22,073,628)	(4,943,775)
_	(49,189,112)	(39,085,936)
Net Increase (Decrease) from		
Redeemable Unit Transactions	89,626,834	33,684,819

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Distributions to Holders of		
Redeemable Units		
From net investment income		
Class A	(159,495)	(210,025)
Class F	(4,510,938)	(1,517,620)
Class I	(1,285,854)	(693,189)
Class ETF	(1,831,054)	(1,967,403)
	(7,787,341)	(4,388,237)
From return of capital		
Class A	(174)	(3,519)
Class F	(4,914)	(25,426)
Class I	(1,401)	(11,613)
Class ETF	(1,995)	(32,961)
	(8,484)	(73,519)
Net Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Attributable to Holders of		
Redeemable Units	91,238,770	28,646,211
Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Units at End of Year		
Class A	2,455,521	2,828,056
Class F	107,633,748	32,183,163
Class I	32,823,667	9,567,651
Class ETF	26,628,770	33,724,066
Net Assets Attributable to Holders of		
Redeemable Units at End of Year	169,541,706	78,302,936

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

For the years ended December 31

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>		
Increase (decrease) in net assets		
attributable to holders of redeemable		
units	9,407,761	(576,852)
Adjustments for:		
Unrealized foreign exchange (gain) loss on cash	324,110	(243,377)
Net realized (gain) loss on	324,110	(243,377)
investments and options	(757,955)	(1,258,177)
Change in unrealized	( , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	( ) /
(appreciation) depreciation on		
investments, options, foreign		
exchange forward contracts and	(2.422.242)	2251261
credit default swap agreements (Increase) decrease in due from	(3,470,365)	2,254,064
manager	9,000	(12,850)
(Increase) decrease in interest and	2,000	(12,030)
other receivables	(2,472,858)	(641,144)
(Increase) decrease in dividends		
receivable	(31,327)	-
Increase (decrease) in interest		4.50.00.5
payable	508,827	160,836
Increase (decrease) in other payable and accrued liabilities	760,016	64,466
Purchase of long positions and	700,010	04,400
repurchase of investments sold		
short	(469,902,656)	(190,588,168)
Proceeds from sale of long		
positions and on investments		
sold short	360,283,554	161,743,159
Net cash generated (used) by operating activities	(105 241 902)	(20,000,042)
operating activities	(105,341,893)	(29,098,043)
Cash Flows from Financing Activities		
Distributions to holders of redeemable		
units, net of reinvested distributions	(2,881,905)	(2,848,598)
Proceeds from redeemable units issued	134,477,287	78,214,788
Amount paid on redemption of		
redeemable units	(48,315,926)	(38,021,389)
Net cash generated (used) by	02 270 455	27.244.004
financing activities	83,279,456	37,344,801

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Unrealized foreign exchange gain (loss)		
on cash	(324,110)	243,377
Net increase (decrease) in cash	(22,062,437)	8,246,758
Cash, beginning of year	11,705,416	3,215,281
Cash, end of year	(10,681,131)	11,705,416
Cash	6,094,239	19,886,838
Cash, pledged as collateral	6,771,011	-
Cash overdraft	(23,546,381)	(8,181,422)
Net Cash (Overdraft)	(10,681,131)	11,705,416
Items Classified as Operating Activities:		
Interest received, net of withholding tax	11,035,049	3,925,530
Dividends received, net of withholding tax	492,536	18,851
Interest and borrowing expense paid	(3,643,914)	(1,224,058)
Dividends paid	(116,796)	-

Net of non-cash transfers and switches of \$261,314 (2022 - \$1,059,707) The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# **SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO**

As at December 31, 2023

CCY*	No. of shares/ units/ Face value	Security Description	Average cost (\$)	Fair value (\$)	CCY*	No. of shares/ units/ Face value	Security Description	Average cost (\$)	Fair value (\$)
	Canadian Equ				CAD CAD	862,000 3,450,000	AltaGas Ltd. 5.250%, 2082-01-11 AltaGas Ltd. 7.350%,	713,468	723,809
	<b>Energy (4.7%</b> 29,250	Cenovus Energy Inc.,					2082-08-17	3,386,804	3,429,906
	24,600	9,	648,306	664,560	CAD	2,000,000	AltaGas Ltd. 8.900%, 2083-11-10	2,000,000	2,094,668
	57,000	Preferred Series 7 Enbridge Inc., Preferred	536,194	547,350	CAD		AutoCanada Inc. 5.750%, 2029-02-07	4,661,550	4,461,458
	142,000	Series 1 Enbridge Inc., Preferred	1,674,097	1,577,613	CAD	2,900,000	Bank of Montreal 7.057%, 2049-12-31	2,868,937	2,896,114
	63,950	Series L Pembina Pipeline Corp.,	3,780,297	3,565,073	CAD	4,190,000	2049-12-31	4,208,800	4,225,322
	5,500	Preferred Series 19 Pembina Pipeline Corp.,	1,323,523	1,442,073	CAD	1,400,000	2082-05-26	1,272,250	1,335,496
		Preferred Series 9	102,867 8,065,284	108,625 7,905,294	CAD	1,400,000	Bank of Montreal 7.325%, 2082-11-26	1,345,750	1,395,047
	Fig dala (1	00()	0,000,20+_	7,505,254	CAD	3,950,000	Bank of Nova Scotia 7.023%, 2082-07-27	3,917,524	3,891,732
		Brookfield Corp., Preferred	738,062	786,538	USD	2,225,000	Bank of Nova Scotia 8.625%, 2082-10-27	3,078,842	3,055,369
	22,175	Element Financial Corp., Preferred Series C Fairfax Financial Holdings	546,847	548,831	USD	1,659,000	Bruce Trail Funding Corporation 16.340%,		
	,	Ltd., Preferred  Manulife Financial Corp.,	754,071	780,871	CAD	2,750,000		2,246,233	2,145,119
		Preferred Toronto-Dominion Bank,	33,324	32,652	CAD	2,300,000	2082-09-09 Cascades Inc. 5.125%,	2,735,197	2,703,167
	,	Preferred Series 22 Toronto-Dominion Bank,	897,471	919,450	CAD	3,900,000		2,263,130	2,285,625
	1,500	Preferred Series 24	<u>101,811</u> 3,071,586	106,941 3,175,283	645	050.000	Income Fund 6.250%, 2027-08-31	3,955,771	3,932,331
	Industrial (1.4	10/)		3,173,203	CAD	250,000	Clarity Trust Note 10.923%, 2025-04-15	250,000	250,000
		Element Fleet Management Corp., Preferred Series E	2,424,198	2,470,080	CAD		Corus Entertainment Inc. 5.000%, 2028-05-11 Corus Entertainment Inc.	1,942,749	1,765,313
			2,424,190	2,470,000		1,272,000	6.000%, 2030-02-28	1,110,407	827,860
	<b>Utilities (0.3%</b> 21,250		E02.0EE	E12.220	CAD	3,800,000	Doman Building Materials Group Ltd. 5.250%, 2026-05-15	3,408,478	3,507,210
	D 15 /o		502,055	512,338	CAD	4,450,000	Enbridge Inc. 5.000%, 2082-01-19	3,637,967	3,800,225
	70,000	Brookfield Office Properties	007.005	0.40.4.00	CAD	2,700,000	Enbridge Inc. 8.495%, 2084-01-15	2,718,125	2,844,676
	15,000		997,935	849,100	CAD	3,750,000	Enbridge Inc. 8.747%, 2084-01-15	3,782,976	4,046,261
		Inc., Preferred Series EE	205,177 1,203,112	153,000 1,002,100	USD	2,300,000	First Quantum Minerals Ltd. 7.500%, 2025-04-01	2,915,860	2,894,501
		Total Canadian Equities - Long	15,266,235	15,065,095	USD	3,400,000	First Quantum Minerals Ltd. 6.875%, 2026-03-01	4,366,160	4,018,981
	Canadian Del				CAD	250,000	Fusion Trust Note 10.923%, 2025-04-15	250,000	250,000
USD		<b>Securities (1.9%)</b> St Lawrence Srt Usd Corp.			CAD	4,448,000	Gibson Energy Inc. 5.250%, 2080-12-22	3,755,600	3,814,699
		0.000%, 2033-05-25	3,372,135	3,303,423	CAD	3,300,000	Gibson Energy Inc. 8.700%, 2083-07-12	3,308,525	3,428,193
CAD	Corporate Bo 994,000	nds (83.1%) Air Canada 4.625%,			USD	1,200,000	Granville Usd Ltd. 0.000%, 2031-07-31	1,584,891	1,583,111
CAD	2,408,000	2029-08-15	877,280	929,452	CAD	4,193,000		4,126,876	4,146,807
		Corp. 5.250%, 2082-01-18	1,939,022	2,008,102	CAD	3,200,000	Intact Financial Corp. 7.338%, 2083-06-30	3,223,188	3,225,415

# SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO

As at December 31, 2023

CCY*	No. of shares/ units/ Face value	Security Description	Average cost (\$)	Fair value (\$)	CCY*	No. of shares/ units/ Face value	Security Description	Average cost (\$)	Fair value (\$)
CAD	2,950,000	Inter Pipeline Ltd. 6.875%,			USD	998,000	Alteryx Inc. 8.750%,		
CAD	1,500,000	2079-03-26 Inter Pipeline Ltd. 6.625%,	2,816,381	2,843,814	USD	868,000	2028-03-15 AmeriGas Partners LP	1,415,683	1,401,662
CAD	2,300,000	2079-11-19 Keyera Corp. 6.875%,	1,402,095	1,420,429	USD	1,950,000	5.875%, 2026-08-20	1,134,515	1,134,099
	, ,	2079-06-13	2,180,028	2,233,272		, ,	5.750%, 2027-05-20	2,503,313	2,503,240
CAD	1,825,000	2081-03-10	1,568,930	1,619,094	USD	1,125,000	2029-07-15	1,359,642	1,384,835
CAD	400,000	Laurentian Bank of Canada 5.300%, 2081-06-15	320,333	304,732	USD	3,700,000	Brookfield Property REIT Inc. 4.500%, 2027-04-01	4,324,040	4,396,964
USD	800,000	Manitoulin USD Ltd. 13.290%, 2027-11-10	1,102,764	1,039,584	USD	1,400,000	CCO Holdings LLC 5.000%, 2028-02-01	1,719,452	1,767,699
CAD	200,000			156,328	USD	1,675,000			
CAD	200,000	Manulife Financial Corp.	144,750		USD	600,000	Cimarex Energy Co. 3.900%,	2,128,097	2,181,031
CAD	2,390,000	4.100%, 2082-03-19 Manulife Financial Corp.	143,000	153,198	USD	1,133,000	2027-05-15 Cleveland-Cliffs Inc. 7.000%,	724,583	697,714
CAD	4,050,000	7.117%, 2082-06-19 Mattamy Group Corp.	2,328,676	2,386,041	USD	300,000	2027-03-15 Cushman & Wakefield US	1,512,416	1,499,218
	, ,	4.625%, 2028-03-01	3,582,093	3,768,609	030	300,000	Borrower LLC 6.750%, 2028-05-15	207.060	394,004
CAD	5,100,000	National Bank of Canada 7.500%, 2082-11-16	5,109,102	5,080,384	USD	1,500,000	Cushman & Wakefield US	387,868	394,004
CAD	2,000,000	Pembina Pipeline Corp. 4.800%, 2081-01-25	1,613,583	1,693,009			Borrower LLC 8.875%, 2031-09-01	1,985,495	2,097,613
CAD	5,525,000	Rogers Communications Inc. 5.000%, 2081-12-17	4,996,312	5,269,054	USD	2,250,000	Energy Transfer LP 8.000%, 2029-04-01	3,164,594	3,089,159
CAD	7,800,000	Royal Bank of Canada 4.500%, 2080-11-24	7,196,001	7,429,211	USD	600,000	Freeport Minerals Corp. 7.125%, 2027-11-01	884,580	824,784
CAD	4,628,000	Secure Energy Services Inc.			USD	1,800,000	Freeport Minerals Corp.		
CAD	140,000	7.250%, 2026-12-30 Secure Energy Services Inc.	4,594,998	4,669,941	USD	1,100,000	9.500%, 2031-06-01 Iron Mountain Inc. 4.875%,	3,070,041	2,832,844
CAD	2,713,000	7.250%, 2026-12-30 Tamarack Valley Energy Ltd.	137,900	141,254	USD	691,000	2029-09-15 Iron Mountain Inc. 5.250%,	1,301,216	1,375,288
USD	3,750,000	7.250%, 2027-05-10 Tervita Corp. 11.000%,	2,606,840	2,668,349	USD	4,500,000	2030-07-15 Permian Resources	819,419	868,367
CAD	, ,	2025-12-01 Toronto-Dominion Bank	5,430,002	5,214,314	035	.,500,000	Operating LLC 8.000%, 2027-04-15	6,246,625	6,156,577
	6,450,000	7.232%, 2049-12-31	6,399,912	6,483,153	USD	3,350,000	Permian Resources	0,240,023	0,130,377
CAD	525,000	Toronto-Dominion Bank 7.283%, 2082-10-31	525,000	525,238			Operating LLC 9.875%, 2031-07-15	4,967,362	4,913,728
USD	1,600,000	Toronto-Dominion Bank 8.125%, 2082-10-31	2,190,089	2,201,090	USD	4,000,000	Prime Healthcare Services Inc. 7.250%, 2025-11-01	5,088,776	5,148,316
CAD	1,914,000		1,515,254	1,641,056	USD	563,000		755,656	734,328
			139,756,403	140,857,123	USD	3,087,000	Splunk Inc. 1.125%,		
		Total Canadian Debt - Long	143,128,538	144,160,546	USD	1,955,000	2027-06-15 Stagwell Global LLC 5.625%,	4,069,764	3,962,650
	Global Equiti	os (0.3%)			USD	948,000	2029-08-15 Tenet Healthcare Corp.	2,280,525	2,374,038
	International	Equities (0.2%)			USD	900,000	6.125%, 2028-10-01	1,186,149	1,247,595
	15,650	Brookfield Renewable Partners LP	324,681	338,197			3.875%, 2043-05-15	1,170,000	1,131,761
		Total Global Equities - Long	324,681	338,197	USD		Vista Outdoor Inc. 4.500%, 2029-03-15	4,038,749	3,962,776
			327,001	330,177	USD	3,325,000	Vistra Corp. 8.000%, 2049-12-31	4,322,839	4,371,262
	Global Debt ( United States	45.3%) Bonds (38.0%)			USD	1,100,000	Vistra Operations Co LLC 4.375%, 2029-05-01	1,279,125	1,355,627
USD	375,000	Alteryx Inc. 1.000%, 2026-08-01	487,816	482,731			1.51 5 101 2027 05 01	64,328,340	64,289,910

# **SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO**

As at December 31, 2023

CCY*	No. of shares/ units/ Face value	Security Description	Average cost (\$)	Fair value (\$)	CCY*	No. of shares/ units/ Face value	Security Description	Average cost (\$)	Fair value (\$)
	International	Bonds (7.3%)			USD	(1,550,000)	Central Garden & Pet Co.		
GBP	600,000	,					4.125%, 2030-10-15	(1,761,495)	(1,861,146)
LICO	1.650.000	2049-12-31	992,910	975,342	USD	(1,300,000)	Chevron Corp. 3.326%, 2025-11-17	(1 700 107)	(1,679,352)
USD	1,650,000	Barclays PLC 6.125%, 2049-12-31	2,025,028	2,083,679	USD	(745,000)	Diversified Healthcare Trust	(1,709,197)	(1,079,332)
GBP	1,350,000		2,023,020	2,003,079	030	(7 13,000)	9.750%, 2025-06-15	(987,837)	(965,199)
		2049-12-31	2,150,929	2,212,859	USD	(857,000)	Embecta Corp. 5.000%,		
USD	2,075,000	,			LICD	(1, 400,000)	2030-02-15	(959,353)	(960,043)
GBP	1,300,000	2049-12-31 Barclays PLC 8.875%,	2,559,576	2,692,078	USD	(1,400,000)	Energizer Holdings Inc. 4.375%, 2029-03-31	(1.594.080)	(1,654,654)
GDI	1,300,000	2049-12-31	2,057,609	2,185,241	USD	(1,200,000)	Hilton Grand Vacations	(1,551,000)	(1,05 1,05 1)
USD	1,800,000		,,	,,			Borrower Escrow LLC		
		7.162%, 2049-12-31	2,277,135	2,285,521	1160	(610,000)	5.000%, 2029-06-01	(1,439,758)	(1,461,693)
		Total Clabal	12,063,187	12,434,720	USD	(618,000)	Matador Resources Co. 6.875%, 2028-04-15	(822,691)	(827,359)
		Total Global Debt - Long	76,391,527	76,724,630	USD	(2,100,000)	Medline Borrower LP	(022,031)	(027,333)
		2021 20119					5.250%, 2029-10-01	(2,470,454)	(2,613,761)
	Options (0.99	%)			USD	(1,300,000)	MGM Resorts International	(1.500.300)	(1.62.4.220)
		<b>Total Purchased Options</b>			USD	(1,250,000)	4.750%, 2028-10-15 Occidental Petroleum Corp.	(1,599,308)	(1,634,329)
		- Refer to Appendix A Transaction Costs	1,354,715	1,549,883	030	(1,230,000)	5.550%, 2026-03-15	(1,684,705)	(1,661,197)
		Total Long Positions	(52,986) 236,412,710	237 838 351	USD	(817,000)	Office Properties Income		
		Total Long Fositions	230,412,710	237,030,331	LICD	(1 300 000)	Trust 4.250%, 2024-05-15	(1,051,134)	(1,021,745)
	SHORT POSIT	TIONS (-35.1%)			USD	(1,300,000)	Olympus Water US Holding Corp. 9.750%, 2028-11-15	(1,760,906)	(1,821,562)
	Canadian De	bt (-3.1%)			USD	(1,500,000)	Organon & Co. 5.125%,	(1,700,500)	(1,021,302)
	Corporate Bo						2031-04-30	(1,668,625)	(1,693,923)
CAD	(1,100,000)	Allied Properties REIT	(054563)	(052.630)	USD	(1,925,000)	Permian Resources		
USD	(1,075,000)	3.394%, 2029-08-15 Canadian Pacific Railway Co.	(954,562)	(952,630)			Operating LLC 7.000%, 2032-01-15	(2,615,415)	(2,620,591)
030	(1,075,000)	2.450%, 2031-12-02	(1,257,182)	(1,315,293)	USD	(1,257,000)		(2,013,113)	(2,020,331)
USD	(1,075,000)	,					2030-04-15	(1,534,646)	(1,526,370)
CAD	(1.150.000)	3.000%, 2041-12-02	(1,170,314)	(1,266,648)	USD	(257,000)	PRA Group Inc. 7.375%,	(224046)	(227.212)
CAD	(1,150,000)	First Capital Real Estate Investment Trust 3.753%,			USD	(1,550,000)	2025-09-01 Prime Security Services	(334,946)	(337,213)
		2027-07-12	(1,043,868)	(1,084,191)	030	(1,550,000)	Borrower LLC 6.250%,		
CAD	(705,000)						2028-01-15	(1,965,273)	(2,033,506)
		Investment Trust 5.354%,	(666 6E0)	(700 207)	USD	(1,300,000)	Range Resources Corp.	(1.001.030)	(1 776 272)
		2028-05-29	(5,092,584)	(708,287)	USD	(432,000)	8.250%, 2029-01-15 Rocket Mortgage LLC	(1,801,930)	(1,776,272)
		Total Canadian	(3,072,301)	(3,327,013)	000	(132,000)	3.875%, 2031-03-01	(467,336)	(501,718)
		Debt - Short	(5,092,584)	(5,327,049)	USD	(736,000)	Rocket Mortgage LLC		
	CL 1	( 2.00()			USD	(1,150,000)	4.000%, 2033-10-15 SM Energy Co. 6.500%,	(809,003)	(825,580)
	Global Equiti	es (-3.9%) Index Equivalents (-3.9%)			030	(1,130,000)	2028-07-15	(1,481,848)	(1,518,763)
		iShares iBoxx \$ High Yield			USD	(1,122,000)	Starwood Property Trust	( ) - ) /	( ) /
	(05,500)	Corporate Bond ETF	(6,755,942)	(6,684,044)		,,,	Inc. 4.375%, 2027-01-15	(1,318,276)	(1,395,857)
		Total Global			USD	(1,250,000)	Sunoco LP 7.000%, 2028-09-15	(1 652 047)	(1 701 647)
		Equities - Short	(6,755,942)	(6,684,044)	USD	(1,300,000)	TransDigm Inc. 4.875%,	(1,653,947)	(1,701,647)
	Global Debt (	-26.7%)				(1,122,122,	2029-05-01	(1,612,327)	(1,604,197)
		Bonds (-25.7%)			USD	(1,300,000)	WESCO Distribution Inc.	(1.761.070)	(1.762.102)
USD		ACCO Brands Corp. 4.250%,					7.250%, 2028-06-15	(1,761,973)	(1,763,103)
		2029-03-15	(1,686,523)	(1,786,801)				(42,556,555)	(43,429,949)
USD	(625,000)		(002 124)	(020 572)		International	Bonds (-1.0%)		
USD	(1,400,000)	6.625%, 2026-07-15 Allied Universal Holdco LLC	(803,124)	(820,572)	USD	(1,300,000)	Shell International Finance		
550	(.,100,000)	9.750%, 2027-07-15	(1,711,747)	(1,810,996)			BV 3.250%, 2025-05-11	(1,720,772)	(1,682,083)
USD	(1,150,000)						Total Global Debt - Short	(44,277,327)	(45,112,032)
		6.625%, 2030-10-01	(1,488,698)	(1,550,800)					

#### **SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO**

As at December 31, 2023

		No. of			
		shares/		Average	Fair
		units/		cost	value
C	CY*	Face value	Security Description	(\$)	(\$)

Options (-1.4%)

**Total Written Options -**

(1,630,442) (2,329,266) Refer to Appendix A Transaction Costs (25,016)**Total Short Positions** (57,781,311) (59,452,391)

Foreign Currency Forward Contracts (1.2%)

Total Currency Hedge -

Refer to Appendix B 2,036,211

Credit Default Swaps (-0.7%)

**Total Credit Default** Swap Agreements -Refer to Appendix C

(1,149,206)

TOTAL INVESTMENT

PORTFOLIO (105.7%) 178,631,399 179,272,965

Other Assets Net of Liabililties (-5.7%) TOTAL NET ASSETS

(9,731,259)

ATTRIBUTABLE TO HOLDERS OF **REDEEMABLE UNITS** (100.0%)

169,541,706

# **APPENDIX A**

**OPTIONS (-0.5%)** 

Issuer	Option Type	Number of Options	Strike \$	Expiry	Average Cost \$	Fair Value \$
CDSOCDX.NA.HY.41V2	Call Option	36,000,000	\$105	January, 2024	129,646	685,795
CDSOCDX.NA.HY.41V2	Call Option	35,000,000	\$105	February, 2024	76,383	343,225
CDSOCDX.NA.HY.41V2	Call Option	18,000,000	\$108	March, 2024	13,074	10,704
iShares iBoxx High Yield Corp. Bond	Call Option	589	\$77	January, 2024	2,835	65,430
iShares iBoxx High Yield Corp. Bond	Call Option	589	\$78	January, 2024	3,625	19,605
iShares iBoxx High Yield Corp. Bond	Call Option	2,689	\$80	February, 2024	10,950	23,581
					236,513	1,148,340
3 Month SOFR	Put Option	285	\$94	December, 2024	85,989	25,836
3 Month SOFR	Put Option	298	\$95	December, 2025	260,029	115,427
CDSOCDX.NA.HY.41V2	Put Option	35,000,000	\$101	February, 2024	235,024	44,997
CDSOCDX.NA.HY.41V2	Put Option	18,000,000	\$92	January, 2024	9,785	2,848
CDSOCDX.NA.HY.41V2	Put Option	18,000,000	\$100	January, 2024	84,392	16,163
CDSOCDX.NA.HY.41V2	Put Option	18,000,000	\$102	March, 2024	107,564	68,143
iShares iBoxx High Yield Corp. Bond	Put Option	3,258	\$73	January, 2024	95,156	15,632
iShares iBoxx High Yield Corp. Bond	Put Option	2,689	\$74	February, 2024	112,235	59,371
iShares Russell 2000 ETF	Put Option	341	\$190	January, 2024	42,246	33,049
S&P E-Mini 1st Week	Put Option	67	\$3,800	February, 2024	11,436	5,080
S&P E-Mini 1st Week	Put Option	34	\$4,450	February, 2024	46,377	14,571
US 10Y Note Futures	Put Option	323	\$103	January, 2024	27,969	426
				_	1,118,202	401,543
Total Purchased Options				-	1,354,715	1,549,883

<sup>\*</sup>CCY denotes local currency of debt security

# **APPENDIX A**

# **OPTIONS (-0.5%)**

Issuer	Option Type	Number of Options	Strike \$	Expiry	Average Cost \$	Fair Value \$
CDSOCDX.NA.HY.41V2	Written Call Option	(36,000,000)	\$104	January, 2024	(195,692)	(1,094,222)
CDSOCDX.NA.HY.41V2	Written Call Option	(35,000,000)	\$105	February, 2024	(125,738)	(496,908)
CDSOCDX.NA.HY.41V2	Written Call Option	(18,000,000)	\$107	March, 2024	(36,845)	(41,417)
iShares iBoxx High Yield Corp. Bond	Written Call Option	(524)	\$76	January, 2024	(13,258)	(115,939)
iShares iBoxx High Yield Corp. Bond	Written Call Option	(2,689)	\$78	February, 2024	(52,923)	(143,601)
					(424,456)	(1,892,087)
3 Month SOFR	Written Put Option	(285)	\$95	December, 2024	(214,473)	(61,068)
3 Month SOFR	Written Put Option	(298)	\$96	December, 2025	(534,420)	(243,133)
CDSOCDX.NA.HY.41V2	Written Put Option	(35,000,000)	\$98	February, 2024	(82,258)	(18,230)
CDSOCDX.NA.HY.41V2	Written Put Option	(36,000,000)	\$96	January, 2024	(53,815)	(11,583)
CDSOCDX.NA.HY.41V2	Written Put Option	(18,000,000)	\$99	March, 2024	(41,005)	(31,188)
iShares iBoxx High Yield Corp. Bond	Written Put Option	(2,386)	\$68	January, 2024	(35,210)	(9,712)
iShares iBoxx High Yield Corp. Bond	Written Put Option	(589)	\$69	January, 2024	(11,680)	(2,517)
iShares iBoxx High Yield Corp. Bond	Written Put Option	(2,689)	\$71	February, 2024	(31,024)	(26,562)
iShares Russell 2000 ETF	Written Put Option	(341)	\$180	January, 2024	(14,650)	(9,218)
S&P E-Mini 1st Week	Written Put Option	(101)	\$4,200	February, 2024	(49,593)	(17,313)
US 10Y Note Futures	Written Put Option	(323)	\$106	January, 2024	(137,858)	(6,655)
					(1,205,986)	(437,179)
Total Written Options					(1,630,442)	(2,329,266)

# **APPENDIX B**

# **FOREIGN EXCHANGE FORWARD CONTRACTS (1.2%)**

Purchased Currency	Sold Currency	Forward Rate	Maturity Date	Fair Value (\$)	Counterparty	Credit Rating
CAD \$50,536,803 CAD \$2,144,920	USD \$36,799,000 GBP \$1,275,000	1.37332 1.68229	2024-02-15 2024-02-08	2,033,729 2,482	Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce	A-1 A-1
Unrealized gain on foreign exchang Net unrealized gain (loss) on foreig	•		r value	2,036,211 2,036,211		

# **APPENDIX C**

# **CREDIT DEFAULT SWAPS (-0.7%)**

Buy/Sell Protection	Referenced Entity	Fixed Rate	Expiry Date	Effective Date	Counterparty	Counterparty Credit Rating	Notional Amount	Fair Value
Buy	iTraxx Europe Subordinated Financials Index	1%	20-Jun-28	04-Aug-23	Goldman Sachs International	A-1	EUR 950,000	4,024 4,024
Buy <b>Total credit de</b>	Markit CDX North America High Yield Index fault swap contracts at fair value	5%	20-Dec-28	29-Sep-23	Goldman Sachs International	A-1	USD 14,652,000	(1,153,230) (1,153,230) <b>(1,149,206)</b>

# **FUND SPECIFIC NOTES**

As at December 31, 2023

# 1. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The following table illustrates the classifications of the Fund's financial instruments within the fair value hierarchy as at December 31, 2023 and December 31, 2022.

ASSETS (LIABILITIES) AT FAIR VALUE AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2023										
	Level 1 \$	Level 2 \$	Level 3 \$	Total \$						
Equities - Long	15,403,292	-	-	15,403,292						
Bonds - Long	-	212,313,939	8,571,237	220,885,176						
Options - Long	1,549,883	-	-	1,549,883						
Forward contracts - Long	-	2,036,211	-	2,036,211						
Credit default swaps - Long	-	4,024	-	4,024						
Exchange Traded Funds - Short	(6,684,044)	-	-	(6,684,044)						
Bonds - Short	-	(50,439,081)	-	(50,439,081)						
Options - Short	(2,329,266)	-	-	(2,329,266)						
Credit default swaps - Short	-	(1,153,230)	-	(1,153,230)						
Total	7,939,865	162,761,863	8,571,237	179,272,965						

ASSETS (LIABILITIES) AT FAIR VALUE AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2022									
	Level 1 \$	Level 2 \$	Level 3 \$	Total \$					
Equities - Long	587,241	-	-	587,241					
Bonds - Long	-	89,261,369	1,084,400	90,345,769					
Options - Long	131,811	-	-	131,811					
Forward contracts - Long	-	10,830	-	10,830					
Bonds - Short	-	(26,081,396)	-	(26,081,396)					
Options - Short	(31,227)	-	-	(31,227)					
Forward contracts - Short	-	(176,691)	-	(176,691)					
Total	687,825	63,014,112	1,084,400	64,786,337					

# 2. RECONCILIATION OF LEVEL 3 FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The following table reconciles the Fund's Level 3 fair value measurements of financial instruments for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022.

	Debt Instruments - Long	Debt Instruments - Short	Total
December 31, 2023	\$	\$	\$
Balance at Beginning of year	1,084,400	-	1,084,400
Investment purchases during the year	7,703,259	-	7,703,259
Proceeds from sales during the year	-	-	-
Transfers in during the year	-	-	-
Transfers out during the year	-	-	-
Net realized gain (loss) on sale of investments	-	-	-
Change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) in value of			
investments	(216,422)		(216,422)
Balance at End of year	8,571,237		8,571,237
Total change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation)			
for assets held as at December 31, 2023			(216,422)

December 31, 2022	Debt Instruments - Long \$	Debt Instruments - Short \$	Total \$
Balance at Beginning of year	-	_	_
Investment purchases during the year	1,102,764	-	1,102,764
Proceeds from sales during the year	-	-	-
Transfers in during the year	-	-	-
Transfers out during the year	-	-	-
Net realized gain (loss) on sale of investments	-	-	-
Change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) in value of			
investments	(18,364)		(18,364)
Balance at End of year	1,084,400	-	1,084,400
Total change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) for assets held as at December 31, 2022			(18,364)

As at December 31, 2023 and 2022, certain securities held long were classified as Level 3. The Fund's long Level 3 securities consist of debt instruments which were measured at the transaction price as determined at the time of purchase. If there was a 5% increase or decrease in the price of level 3 securities, with all other variables held constant, net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units would have increased or decreased, respectively, by approximately \$428,562 as at December 31, 2023 (December 31, 2022 - \$54,220). Transfers between levels on the fair value hierarchy table are deemed to have occurred at the beginning of the reporting period. Transfers between levels on the fair value hierarchy table are deemed to have occurred at the beginning of the reporting period.

December 31, 2023							
Security Name	Fair Value	Valuation Technique	Unobservable Inputs	Reasonable Shift (+)	Reasonable Shift (-)	Change in Valuation (+)	Change in Valuation (-)
Bruce Trail Funding Corporation 16.340%,							
2028-08-31	2,145,119	Private valuation	Broker quote	5%	5%	\$107,256	\$(107,256)
Clarity Trust Note 10.923%, 2025-04-15	250,000	Private valuation	Broker quote	5%	5%	\$12,500	\$(12,500)
Fusion Trust Note 10.923%, 2025-04-15	250,000	Private valuation	Broker quote	5%	5%	\$12,500	\$(12,500)
Manitoulin USD Ltd. 13.290%, 2027-11-10	1,039,584	Private valuation	Broker quote	5%	5%	\$51,979	\$(51,979)
St Lawrence Srt Usd Corp. 0.000%, 2033-05-25	3,303,423	Private valuation	Broker quote	5%	5%	\$165,171	\$(165,171)
Granville Usd Ltd. 0.000%, 2031-07-31	1,583,111	Private valuation	Broker quote	5%	5%	\$79,156	\$(79,156)

December 31, 2022							
Security Name	Fair Value	Valuation Technique	Unobservable Inputs	Reasonable Shift (+)	Reasonable Shift (-)	Change in Valuation (+)	Change in Valuation (-)
Manitoulin USD Ltd. 13.290%, 2027-11-10	1,084,400	Private valuation	Broker quote	5%	5%	\$54,220	\$(54,220)

# 3. OFFSETTING OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

The following table shows the net impact of the Fund's statement of financial position if all set-off rights were exercised.

Financial Assets and Liabilities	Amounts Eligible for Offset				
	Gross Assets / (Liabilities) \$	Financial Instruments \$	Collateral received/paid \$	Net \$	
December 31, 2023					
Derivative assets - Foreign exchange forward contracts	2,036,211	-	-	2,036,211	
Derivative assets - Credit default swaps	4,024	(4,024)	-	-	
Derivative liabilities - Foreign exchange forward contracts	-	-	-	-	
Derivative liabilities - Credit default swaps	(1,153,230)	4,024	1,149,206	-	
December 31, 2022					
Derivative assets - Foreign exchange forward contracts	10,830	(10,830)	-	-	
Derivative liabilities - Foreign exchange forward contracts	(176,691)	10,830	-	(165,861)	

#### **FUND SPECIFIC NOTES (CONTINUED)**

# 4. OTHER PRICE RISK

Using Beta as a measure of the relationship of the Fund's performance against the HFRX Fixed Income-Credit Index (in CAD) (the Index), if the Index were to increase or decrease by 10%, net assets would have increased or decreased by approximately \$471,422 (December 31, 2022 - \$888,862). In practice, the actual results may differ from this sensitivity analysis and the difference could be material.

# **5. CURRENCY RISK**

The currency risk reflects the net impact after taking into consideration the forward contracts. Foreign currencies to which the Fund had exposure as at December 31, 2023 and 2022 were as follows:

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS					
December 31, 2023 Currency	Monetary \$	Non-Monetary	Forward Currency Contracts \$	Total \$	Percentage of Net Assets %
United States Dollar	50,078,522	(1,541,358)	(48,523,161)	14,003	0.0%
European Euro	(47,769)	-	-	(47,769)	0.0%
British Pound	2,475,157	-	(2,143,213)	331,944	0.2%
Net Exposure	52,505,910	(1,541,358)	(50,666,374)	298,178	0.2%

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS					
December 31, 2022 Currency	Monetary \$	Non-Monetary	Forward Currency Contracts \$	Total \$	Percentage of Net Assets %
United States Dollar	27,287,108	587,242	(27,615,236)	259,114	0.3%
European Euro Net Exposure	125,419 <b>27,412,527</b>	587,242	(93,995) <b>(27,709,231)</b>	31,424 <b>290,538</b>	0.0% <b>0.3%</b>

If the Canadian dollar had strengthened or weakened by 5% in relation to all other currencies held in the investment portfolio, net assets would have decreased or increased by approximately \$14,909 (December 31, 2022 - \$14,527). In practice, the actual trading results may differ from this sensitivity analysis and the difference could be material.

# **6. INTEREST RATE RISK**

If the yield curve had shifted in parallel by 1%, with all other variables held constant, net assets will increase or decrease by \$4,001,595 (December 31, 2022 -\$1,980,704). In practice, the actual trading results may differ from this sensitivity analysis and the difference could be material.

As at December 31, 2023 and 2022, the Fund's exposure to debt instruments by maturity were as follows:

Debt Instruments by Maturity Date		December 31, 2023 (\$)	
	Long Positions	<b>Short Positions</b>	Total
Less than 1 year	-	(1,021,745)	(1,021,745)
1-3 years	30,731,300	(7,145,616)	23,585,684
3-5 years	40,171,412	(16,299,600)	23,871,812
Greater than 5 years	149,982,464	(25,972,120)	124,010,344
Total	220,885,176	(50,439,081)	170,446,095

Debt Instruments by Maturity Date		December 31, 2022 (\$)	
	Long Positions	Short Positions	Total
1-3 years	7,841,235	-	7,841,235
3-5 years	25,115,218	(6,320,548)	18,794,670
Greater than 5 years	57,389,316	(19,760,848)	37,628,468
Total	90,345,769	(26,081,396)	64,264,373

# 7. CREDIT RISK

The following table shows debt as a percentage of net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units held under each credit rating. All counterparties to derivative contracts had a credit rating of A- or higher. All cash is held with a financial institution with a minimum of credit rating A+.

December 31, 2023					December 31, 2	022	
Bond Ratings	Net	Long	Short	Bond Ratings	Net	Long	Short
AAA	0.7%	0.7%	0.0%	AAA	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
AA-	-1.0%	0.0%	-1.0%	AA-	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
A+	-1.0%	0.0%	-1.0%	A+	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
A-	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	A-	-0.7%	1.0%	-1.7%
BBB+	2.5%	4.0%	-1.5%	BBB+	1.3%	3.5%	-2.2%
BBB	10.6%	11.6%	-1.0%	BBB	10.6%	11.9%	-1.3%
BBB-	17.6%	18.2%	-0.6%	BBB-	15.4%	19.4%	-4.0%
BB+	12.3%	13.3%	-1.0%	BB+	12.3%	17.3%	-5.0%
BB	15.5%	21.6%	-6.1%	BB	10.9%	13.8%	-2.9%
BB-	15.9%	22.7%	-6.8%	BB-	5.5%	9.5%	-4.0%
B+	10.5%	12.8%	-2.3%	B+	5.9%	8.3%	-2.4%
В	5.6%	8.3%	-2.7%	В	9.4%	14.4%	-5.0%
B-	2.2%	5.8%	-3.6%	B-	2.4%	4.8%	-2.4%
CCC+	-2.2%	0.0%	-2.2%	CCC+	1.2%	2.3%	-1.1%
CCC	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	CCC	0.5%	0.5%	0.0%
NR	11.3%	11.3%	0.0%	NR	7.4%	8.7%	-1.3%

The above credit ratings are obtained and disclosed from the rating services in the following hierarchical order: 1) Standard & Poor's; 2) Moody's; 3) Dominion Bond Rating Service, using first available.

# **8. CONCENTRATION RISK**

The table below summarizes the Fund's concentration risk as a percentage of net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units as at December 31, 2023 and 2022.

Jurisdiction	% o	% of Net Assets			
	December 31, 2023	December	31, 2022		
LONG POSITIONS	141.5	%	116.3%		
Canadian Equities	8.9	%	0.7%		
Energy	4.7%	0.7%			
Financials	1.9%	0.0%			
Industrial	1.4%	0.0%			
Real Estate	0.6%	0.0%			
Utilities	0.3%	0.0%			
Global Equities	0.2	%	0.0%		
International	0.2%	0.0%			
Canadian Debt	85.0	%	69.2%		
Corporate Bonds	83.1%	69.2%			
Asset-Backed Securities	1.9%	0.0%			
Global Debt	45.3	%	46.2%		
United States Bonds	38.0%	32.4%			
International Bonds	7.3%	13.8%			
Derivatives	2.1	%	0.2%		
SHORT POSITIONS	-35.8	%	-33.5%		
Global Equities	-3.9	%	0.0%		
International Index Equivalents	-3.9%	0.0%			
Canadian Debt	-3.1	%	-5.9%		
Corporate Bonds	-3.1%	-5.9%			
Global Debt	-26.7	%	-27.4%		
United States Bonds	-25.7%	-21.6%			
International Bonds	-1.0%	-5.8%			
Derivatives	-2.1	%	-0.2%		

# 9. LIQUIDITY RISK

The table below categorizes the Fund's financial liabilities into relevant maturity groupings based on the remaining period to the contractual maturity date. The amounts in the table are the contractual undiscounted cash flows. Amounts due to holders of redeemable units are disclosed as net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units on the statements of financial position and are due on demand.

December 31, 2023 Financial Liabilities	On Demand \$	< 3 months \$	> 3 months \$	Total \$
Short positions	57,123,125	-	-	57,123,125
Redemptions payable	616,712	-	-	616,712
Accrued liabilities and other payables	-	1,736,201	-	1,736,201
Payable for investments purchased	639,206	-	-	639,206
Derivative liabilities	3,482,496	-	-	3,482,496
Cash overdraft	23,546,381	-	-	23,546,381

December 31, 2022 Financial Liabilities	On Demand \$	< 3 months \$	> 3 months \$	Total \$
Short positions	26,081,396	-	-	26,081,396
Redemptions payable	4,840	-	-	4,840
Accrued liabilities and other payables	-	467,358	-	467,358
Derivative liabilities	207,918	-	-	207,918
Cash overdraft	8,181,422	-	-	8,181,422

# **10. FUND UNIT TRANSACTIONS**

For the years ended December 31

		202	3			202	2	
	Class A	Class F	Class I	Class ETF	Class A	Class F	Class I	Class ETF
Units issued and outstanding,								
beginning of year	325,751	3,642,371	1,066,958	3,820,000	302,866	628,818	2,620,618	1,570,000
Units issued	140,074	10,737,198	2,447,623	1,630,000	162,620	3,710,858	1,004,808	2,800,000
Units reinvested	8,398	399,897	141,509	-	5,966	94,066	76,245	-
Units redeemed	(193,131)	(2,741,595)	(98,703)	(2,470,000)	(145,701)	(791,371)	(2,634,713)	(550,000)
Units issued and outstanding,		-						
end of year	281,092	12,037,871	3,557,387	2,980,000	325,751	3,642,371	1,066,958	3,820,000
Weighted average number of units held during the year	332,427	8,374,108	2,219,260	3,786,055	301,937	2,013,442	1,044,505	2,726,374

# 11. COMMISSIONS

12. TAX LOSS CARRY FORWARDS

As at December 31 (in \$000)

For the years ended (in \$000)

	2023	2022
	2023	2022
Brokerage commissions	702	423
Soft Dollar commissions	88	27

	2023
Net capital losses carry forward	1,682
Non-capital losses carry forward	

# 13. LEVERAGE

During the year ended December 31, 2023, the Fund's aggregate exposure reached a low of 43.02% (year ended December 31, 2022 - 56.85%) and a high of 187.70% (year ended December 31, 2022 - 238.99%) of the Fund's NAV. As at December 31, 2023, the Fund's aggregate exposure was 88.56% (December 31, 2022 - 61.76%) of the Fund's NAV. The primary source of leverage was cash overdraft and short positions in equity and fixed income securities.

As at December 31, 2023 and December 31, 2022

#### 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Picton Mahoney Fortified Special Situations Alternative Fund (the "Fund") is an open-ended mutual fund trust established under the laws of the Province of Ontario pursuant to a trust agreement dated September 19, 2018, as amended and restated as of June 26, 2019, July 7, 2021 and August 17, 2021, and further amended and restated July 8, 2021 (the "Trust Declaration"). The Fund commenced operations on July 8, 2021. Picton Mahoney Asset Management acts as manager (the "Manager"), portfolio advisor (the "Portfolio Advisor"), and trustee (the "Trustee") for the Fund pursuant to the Trust Declaration. The Manager is responsible for the day-to-day business of the Fund, including the management of the Fund's investment portfolio. The address of the Fund's registered office is 33 Yonge Street, Suite 830, Toronto, Ontario, M5E 1G4. The financial statements are presented in Canadian dollars (CAD). These financial statements were authorized for issue by the Manager on March 25, 2024.

On July 8, 2021, 5,001 Class A units, 5,000 Class F units, and 5,000 Class I units of the Fund were issued to the Manager of the Fund, for cash consideration of CAD \$10.00 per unit. These units are not redeemable until an additional \$500,000 has been invested by other investors in the aggregate in the Fund.

The Fund may issue an unlimited number of classes or series and may issue an unlimited number of units of each class or series. The Fund has created Class A, Class F, Class I, and Class ETF units.

Class A units are available to all investors. Class F units are available to investors who are enrolled in a dealer sponsored fee for service or wrap program and who are subject to an annual asset based fee rather than commissions on each transaction or, at the discretion of the Manager, any other investor for whom the Manager does not incur distribution costs. Class I units are available to institutional investors or to other investors on a case-by-case basis, all at the discretion of the Manager. Class ETF units are listed and issued and sold on a continuous basis and will be available to investors that purchase such units on the TSX through a registered broker or dealer in the province or territory where the investor resides.

As at December 31, 2023, the Fund currently has 4 Classes of Units: Class A, Class F, and Class I and Class ETF. As at December 31, 2023, the Manager holds 233 units of Class A, 232 units of Class F, and 831 units of Class I (December 31, 2022 - 220 units of Class A, 220 units of Class F and 785 units of Class I).

The investment objective of the Picton Mahoney Fortified Special Situations Alternative Fund is to maximize total return to unitholders through income and capital appreciation by investing primarily in by investing primarily in event-driven situations in global fixed income while mitigating capital loss through shorting and other hedging strategies.. The Fund invests its assets primarily in North America but can invest up to 100% of its assets globally in long and short positions in high yield bonds, investment grade corporate bonds, government bonds, emerging market bonds, loans, convertible bonds, convertible debentures, preferred shares, options, futures, forward contracts, swaps, swaptions, short-term debt instruments, distressed debt, collateral loan obligations, mortgage-backed securities, asset-backed securities, cash and cash equivalents, equities, ETFs and other mutual funds. The Fund may engage in borrowing for investment purposes.

The Fund is considered an "alternative fund" meaning it has received exemptions from National Instrument 81-102 - Investment Funds ("NI 81-102") to permit it to use strategies generally prohibited by conventional mutual funds, such as the ability to borrow, up to 50% of the Fund's net asset value, cash to use for investment purposes; sell, up to 50% of the Fund's net asset value, securities short (the combined level of cash borrowing and short selling is limited to 50% in aggregate); and leverage up to 300% of the Fund's net asset value.

#### SUMMARY OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies and estimation techniques adopted by the Funds and applied in the preparation of these financial statements. Changes in accounting policy information and disclosures. Effective January 1, 2023, the Fund adopted the following new and amended accounting standards. Disclosure of Accounting Policies — Amendments to IAS 1 and IFRS Practice Statement 2 Effective January 1, 2023, the Fund adopted the IAS 1 amendment with regards to disclosure of material accounting policies. This amendment did not have a material impact on these financial statements. There are no other standards, amendments to standards or interpretations that are effective for annual periods beginning on January 1, 2023 that have a material effect on the financial statements of the Fund.

#### (a) Basis of Preparation

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with those requirements of International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board ("IFRS Accounting Standards"). The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of financial assets and financial liabilities (including derivative financial instruments) at fair value through profit or loss.

#### (b) Classification

#### (i) Assets

The Fund classifies its investments based on both the Fund's business model for managing those financial assets and the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial assets. The portfolio of financial assets is managed and performance is evaluated on a fair value basis. The Fund is primarily focused on fair value information and uses that information to assess the assets' performance and to make decisions. The Fund has not taken the option to irrevocably designate any equity securities as fair value through other comprehensive income. The contractual cash flows of the Fund's debt securities are solely principal and interest, however, these securities are neither held for the purpose of collecting contractual cash flows nor held both for collecting contractual cash flows and for sale. The collection of contractual cash flows is only incidental to achieving the Fund's business model's objective. Consequently, all investments are measured at fair value through profit or loss.

#### (ii) Liabilities

The Fund makes short sales in which a borrowed security is sold in anticipation of a decline in the market value of that security, or it may use short sales for various arbitrage transactions. Short sales are held for trading and are consequently classified as financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss. Derivative contracts that have a negative fair value are presented as liabilities at fair value through profit or loss. As such, the Fund classifies all of its investment portfolio as financial assets or liabilities as fair value through profit or loss. The Fund's policy requires the Manager to evaluate the information about these financial assets and liabilities on a fair value basis together with other related financial information.

#### (c) Fair Value Measurements

The Fund utilizes a three tier hierarchy as a framework for disclosing fair value based on inputs used to value the Fund's investments. The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are as follows:

- Level 1 Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;
- Level 2 Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (i.e., as prices) or indirectly (i.e., derived from prices); and

As at December 31, 2023 and December 31, 2022

• Level 3 - Inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

Fair values are classified as Level 1 when the related security or derivative is actually traded and a quoted price is available. If an instrument classified as Level 1 subsequently ceases to be actively traded, it is transferred out of Level 1. In such cases, instruments are reclassified into Level 2, unless the measurement of its fair value requires the use of significant unobservable inputs, in which case it is classified as Level 3. The Fund's policy is to recognize transfers into and out of the fair value hierarchy levels as of the date of the event or change in circumstances giving rise to the transfer.

#### (d) Valuation of Investments and Derivatives

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The fair value of financial assets and liabilities traded in active markets, which include equities, bonds, options, and warrants are based on quoted market prices at the close of trading on the reporting date. The Fund uses the last traded market price for both financial assets and financial liabilities where the last traded price falls within that day's bid-ask spread. In circumstances where the last traded price is not within the bid-ask spread, the Manager determines the point within the bid-ask spread that is most representative of fair value based on the specific facts and circumstances.

Securities not listed on any recognized public securities exchange are valued in the same manner based on available public quotations from recognized dealers in such securities. If market quotations are not readily available, securities will be valued at fair value as determined in good faith by or under the supervision of the Manager. The cost of investments represents the amount paid for each security and is determined on an average cost basis.

The fair value of financial assets and liabilities that are not traded in an active market, including over-the-counter derivatives, is determined using valuation techniques. The Fund uses a variety of methods and makes assumptions that are based on market conditions existing at each reporting date. Valuation techniques include the use of comparable recent arm's length transactions, reference to other instruments that are substantially the same, discounted cash flow analysis, option pricing models and others commonly used by market participants and which make the maximum use of observable inputs.

Models use observable data, to the extent practicable. However, areas such as credit risk (both own and counterparty), volatilities and correlations require the Manager to make estimates. Changes in assumptions about these factors could affect the reported fair values of financial instruments. The Fund considers observable data to be market data that is readily available, regularly distributed and updated, reliable and verifiable, not proprietary, and provided by independent sources that are actively involved in the relevant market.

Investment fund units held as investments are valued at their respective Net Asset Values on the relevant valuation dates as reported by the investment fund manager, as these values are the most readily and regularly available.

Warrants, options, and futures that are not listed on any recognized public securities exchange are valued using the Black-Scholes model and based on observable market inputs.

Foreign exchange forward contracts are valued on each valuation day based on the difference between the value of the contract on the date the contract originated and the value of the contract on the valuation day.

The difference between fair value and the average cost is shown as the change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments, options and foreign exchange forward contracts.

Other financial assets (held for collection) and other financial liabilities are measured at amortized cost. Under this method, financial assets and liabilities reflect the amount required to be received or paid, discounted, where appropriate at the contract's effective interest rate. Due to their short-term nature, the fair value of other financial assets and financial liabilities carried at amortized cost approximates their carrying amount.

Receivable for investments sold and payable for investments purchased

Receivable for investments sold and payable for investments purchased represent trades that have been contracted for but not yet settled or delivered on the statements of financial position dates. These amounts are recognized initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortized cost. At each reporting date, the Funds measure the loss allowance on receivable for investments sold and payable for investments purchased at an amount equal to the lifetime expected credit losses if the credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition. If, at the reporting date, the credit risk has not increased significantly since initial recognition, the Funds measure the loss allowance at an amount equal to 12-month expected credit losses. Significant financial difficulties of the counterparty, probability that the counterparty will enter bankruptcy or financial reorganization, and default in payments are all considered indicators that a loss allowance may be required. If the credit risk increases to the point that it is considered to be credit impaired, interest income will be calculated based on the gross carrying amount adjusted for the loss allowance. A significant increase in credit risk is defined by the Manager as any contractual payment which is more than 30 days past due or a significant deterioration in a counterparty credit quality. Any contractual payment which is more than 90 days past due is considered credit impaired.

#### (e) Cash

Cash is comprised of cash on demand deposit with a Canadian financial institution and is stated at fair value.

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks and brokers and other short-term investments in an active market with original maturities of three months or less and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown in current liabilities in the statement of financial position.

#### (f) Collateral

Cash collateral provided by the Fund is identified in the Statements of Financial Position as "Cash, pledged as collateral", if any. For collateral other than cash, if the party to whom the collateral is provided has the right by contract or custom to sell or re-pledge the collateral, the Fund classifies that asset in its Statements of Financial Position separately from other assets and identifies the asset as "Investments, pledged as collateral". Where the party to whom the collateral is provided does not have the right to sell or re-pledge, the collateral provided is disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

# (g) Investment Transactions and Income Recognition

Investment transactions are accounted for as of the trade date. Expenses are recorded on an accrual basis. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date. The interest for distribution purposes shown on the statement of comprehensive income represents the coupon interest received by the Fund accounted for on an accrual basis. The Fund does not amortize premiums paid or discounts received on the purchase of fixed income securities except for zero coupon bonds which are amortized on a straight line basis. Realized gains and losses on sale of investments and unrealized appreciation and depreciation in investments are determined on an average cost basis. Average cost does not include amortization of premiums or discounts on fixed income securities with the exception of zero coupon bonds. Income, common expenses and gains (losses) are allocated to each Class of the Fund based on the Class' prorated share of total Net Asset Value. Interest and

As at December 31, 2023 and December 31, 2022

borrowing expense and dividend expense on short sales are included within net gains (losses) on investments and derivatives.

Distributions received from investment fund holdings are recognized by the Fund in the same form in which they were received from the underlying funds and are recognized on the distribution date.

#### (h) Valuation of Fund Units

The Fund's net asset value is calculated at the close of regular trading, normally 4:00pm (Eastern Time), on a day the Toronto Stock Exchange ("TSX") is open (a "Valuation Day"). The net asset value of the Fund will be calculated in Canadian dollars and the units of the Fund are denominated in Canadian dollars.

The Fund's units are divided into the Class A, Class F, Class I, and Class ETF units. Each class is divided into units of equal value. When you invest in the Fund, you are purchasing units of a specific class of the Fund.

A separate net asset value per unit is calculated for each class of units (the "Unit Price"). The Unit Price is the price used for all purchases, switches, reclassifications and redemptions of units of that class (including purchases made on the reinvestment of distributions). The price at which units are issued or redeemed is based on the next applicable Unit Price determined after the receipt of the purchase or redemption order.

The Unit Price of each class of the Fund is calculated by taking the fair value of all the investments and other assets allocated to the class and subtracting the liabilities allocated to that class. This gives us the net asset value for the class. The Unit Price for the class is obtained by dividing the net asset value for the class by the total number of units of the class that investors in a Fund are holding.

Although the purchases and redemptions of units are recorded on a class basis, the assets attributable to all of the class of a Fund are pooled to create one fund for investment purposes.

Each class pays its proportionate share of fund costs in addition to its management fee and performance fee. The difference in fund costs, management fees and performance fees between each class means that each class has a different Unit Price.

Any purchase, switch, reclassification or redemption instruction received after 4:00pm (Eastern Time) on Valuation Day will be processed on the next Valuation Day.

ETF units of the Fund are available for purchase or sale on the TSX through a registered broker or dealer. The cut-off time for ETF units of the Fund is 2:00pm (Eastern Time) on a trading day.

# Foreign Currency Translation

The Fund's functional and presentation currency is Canadian dollars. The fair value of foreign investments and other assets and liabilities are translated into Canadian dollars at the exchange rates prevailing at the close of each valuation day. Purchases and sales of foreign securities and the related income and expenses are translated into Canadian dollars at rates of exchange prevailing on the respective dates of such transactions.

Foreign exchange gains and losses relating to cash and other assets and liabilities are presented as 'Foreign currency gain (loss) on cash and other assets and liabilities' and those relating to other financial assets and liabilities are presented within 'Net realized gain (loss) on investments, options, and foreign exchange forward contracts and 'Change in

unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments, options, and foreign exchange forward contracts.

#### Increase (decrease) in Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Units per Unit

Increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units per unit of each Class of the Fund is determined by dividing the net increase in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units from each Class of Units by the weighted average number of Units outstanding of that Class during the year.

#### (k) Transaction Costs

Transaction costs are incremental costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition, issue or disposal of an investment, which include fees and commissions paid to agents, advisors, brokers and dealers, levies by regulatory agencies and securities exchange, and transfer taxes and duties. Such costs are expensed and included in "Transaction costs" in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

#### **Securities Lending Transactions**

The Fund may enter into securities lending transactions. These transactions involve the temporary exchange of securities as collateral with a commitment to deliver the same securities on a future date. Income is earned from these transactions in the form of fees paid by the counterparty and, in certain circumstances, interest paid on securities held as collateral. Income earned from these transactions is recognized on an accrual basis and included in the Statements of Comprehensive Income.

The Fund has entered into a securities lending program with their custodian, RBC Investor Services Trust. The aggregate market value of all securities loaned by the Fund cannot exceed 50% of the assets of the Fund. The Fund will receive collateral of at least 102% of the value of the securities on loan. Collateral will generally be comprised of cash and obligations of, or guaranteed by, the Government of Canada or a province thereof, or a permitted supranational agency as defined in National Instrument 81-102. Securities lending income reported in the Statements of Comprehensive Income is net of a securities lending charge which the Fund's custodian, RBC Investor Services Trust, is entitled to receive.

#### (m) Leverage

Leverage occurs when the Fund borrows money or securities, or uses derivatives, to generate investment exposure that would otherwise not be possible.

The Fund's aggregate exposure to its sources of leverage is calculated as the sum of the following: (i) the market value of short holdings; (ii) the amount of cash borrowed for investment purposes; and (iii) the notional value of the Fund's derivatives positions, excluding any derivatives used for hedging purposes. The Fund's exposure to leverage must not exceed 300% of the Fund's NAV.

The Fund has received exemptive relief from Canadian securities regulatory authorities from certain investment restrictions set out in NI 81-102 that would restrict the ability of the Fund to leverage their assets through borrowing, short sales and/or derivatives. Investment decisions may be made for the assets of the Fund that exceed the net asset value of the Fund. As a result, if these investment decisions are incorrect, the resulting losses will be more than if investments were made solely in an unleveraged long portfolio as is the case in most conventional equity mutual funds. In addition, leveraged investment strategies can also be expected to increase a Fund's turnover, transaction and market impact costs, interest and other costs and expenses.

As at December 31, 2023 and December 31, 2022

The Fund has also obtained exemptive relief such that the Fund is permitted to engage in short selling transactions and cash borrowing up to a combined maximum of 100% of its net asset value, which is in excess of the short sale and cash borrowing limits provided for both conventional mutual funds and alternative mutual funds in NI 81-102.

#### (n) Structured Entities

A structured entity is an entity that has been designed so that voting or similar rights are not the dominant factor in deciding who controls the entity, such as when any voting rights relate to administrative tasks only and the relevant activities are directed by means of contractual arrangements. Picton Mahoney has determined that all of the underlying funds in which the Fund invests are unconsolidated structured entities. In making this determination, Picton Mahoney evaluated the fact that decision making about the underlying funds' activities is not governed by voting or similar rights held by the Fund and other investors in any underlying funds.

The Fund may invest in underlying funds whose investment objectives range from achieving short- to long-term income and capital growth potential. Underlying funds may use leverage in a manner consistent with their respective investment objectives. Underlying funds finance their operations by issuing redeemable units which are puttable at the holder's option and entitle the holder to a proportionate stake in the respective fund's net assets. The Fund's interests in underlying funds as at December 31, 2023 and December 31, 2022, held in the form of redeemable units, are included at their fair value in the Statement of Financial Position, which represent the Fund's maximum exposure in these underlying funds. The Fund does not provide and has not committed to provide any additional significant financial or other support to the underlying funds. The change in fair value of each of the underlying funds during the periods is included in 'Change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of investments, options, and foreign exchange forward contracts'in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

#### (o) Offsetting

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount reported in the balance sheet when there is a legally enforceable right to offset the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously. The legally enforceable right must not be contingent on future events and must be enforceable in the normal course of business and in the event of default, insolvency or bankruptcy of the company or the counterparty.

#### **CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGMENTS**

These financial statements, include estimates and assumptions by management that affect the reported amounts of certain assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of certain revenue and expenses during the period. Actual results could differ from these estimates. The following discusses the most significant accounting judgments and estimates that the Fund has made in preparing the financial statements.

Fair value measurement of derivatives and securities not quoted in an active market

The Fund may hold financial instruments that are not guoted in active markets, including derivatives. Fair values of such instruments are determined using recognized valuation techniques and may be determined using reputable pricing sources or indicative prices from market makers.

Where no market data is available, the Fund may value positions using its own models, which are based on valuation methods and techniques generally recognized as standard within the industry. The models used to determine fair values are validated and periodically reviewed by the Manager, independent of the party that created them.

Models use observable data, to the extent practicable. However, areas such as credit risk (both own and counterparty), volatilities and correlations require the Manager to make estimates. Changes in assumptions about these factors could affect the reported fair values of financial instruments. The Fund may consider observable data to be market data that is readily available, regularly distributed and updated, reliable and verifiable, not proprietary, and provided by independent sources that are actively involved in the relevant market.

#### **FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS RISKS**

The Fund is exposed to various financial risks, including market risk (which includes currency risk, interest rate risk and price risk), credit risk and liquidity risk. The investment team reviews and rebalances the portfolio on a regular and ongoing basis to maintain the risk reward targets. Portfolios within each strategy are reviewed relative to each other and to their benchmark. Active industry and security allocations are analyzed. All investments may result in a risk of loss of capital.

Please refer to the Fund Specific Notes for details of the Fund's financial instruments risks

#### Price risk:

The Fund trades in financial instruments, taking positions in traded and over-the-counter instruments which may include derivatives. As of December 31, 2023 and December 31, 2022 the Fund held or had exposure to long and short equity positions in publicly traded companies whose securities are actively traded on a recognized public exchange. Equities are susceptible to price risk arising from uncertainties about future prices of those instruments (other than those arising from interest rate risk or currency risk).

Short sales entail certain risks, including the risk that a short sale of a security may expose a Fund to losses if the value of the security increases. A short sale creates the risk of a theoretically unlimited loss, in that the price of the underlying security could theoretically increase without limit, thus increasing the cost to the Fund of buying those securities to cover the short position. In addition, a short sale by a Fund requires the Fund to borrow securities in order that the short sale may be transacted. There is no assurance that the lender of the securities will not require the security to be paid back by a Fund before the Fund wants to do so, possibly requiring the Fund to borrow the security elsewhere or purchase the security on the market at an unattractive price. Moreover, the borrowing of securities entails the payment of a borrowing fee. The borrowing fee may increase during the borrowing period, adding to the expense of the short sale strategy. There is also no guarantee that the securities sold short can be repurchased by a Fund due to supply and demand constraints in the equity markets. Finally, in order to maintain the appropriate ratios between the long portfolio and the short portfolio of a Fund, the Manager may be required to buy or sell short securities at unattractive prices. The maximum risk resulting for financial instruments held long is determined by the fair value of the instrument.

#### Currency risk:

Currency risk is the risk that the cash and securities held by the Fund as well as due to and due from broker balances may be valued in or have exposure to currencies other than the Canadian dollar which is the functional currency of the Fund. The prices of the foreign securities are denominated in foreign currencies which are converted to the Fund's functional currency for determining fair value and, accordingly, each Class Net Asset Value will be affected by fluctuations in the value of such foreign currencies relative to the Canadian dollar. The Fund may enter into forward currency contracts to manage currency risk.

As at December 31, 2023 and December 31, 2022

#### Interest rate risk:

Interest rate risk arises when a fund invests in interest-bearing financial instruments and from the possibility that changes in the prevailing levels of market interest rates will affect future cash flows or fair values of such financial instruments. There is minimal fair value sensitivity to interest rate fluctuations on any cash and cash equivalents invested at short-term market interest rates. Market prices may also be affected by changes in market interest rates. Also, changes in the market interest rate may affect the borrowing expenses of the short positions held by the Fund. Refer to Note 6 within the fund specific notes for the fund exposure.

#### Credit risk:

Credit risk is the risk that the counterparty to a financial instrument will fail to discharge an obligation or commitment that it has entered into with the Fund. All transactions in listed securities are settled/paid for upon delivery using approved brokers. The risk of default is considered minimal, as delivery of securities sold is only made once the broker has received payment. Payment is made on a purchase once the securities have been received by the broker. The trade will fail if either party fails to meet its obligation. However, there are risks involved in dealing with custodians or prime brokers who settle trades and in rare circumstances, the securities and other assets deposited with the custodian or broker may be exposed to credit risk with regard to such parties. In addition, there may be practical problems or time delays associated with enforcing the Fund's rights to its assets in the case of an insolvency of any such party.

The Fund is exposed to credit risk. For other financial assets at amortized cost, the Manager considers both historical analysis and forward looking information in determining any expected credit loss. At December 31, 2023 and December 31, 2022, all receivables for investments sold, dividends receivable, due from manager, due from manager, deposits with brokers for securities sold short, and cash are held with counterparties with a good credit quality and are due to be settled within one week. The Manager considers the probability of default to be close to zero as these instruments have a low risk of default and the counterparties have a strong capacity to meet their contractual obligations in the near term. As a result, no loss allowance has been recognized based on 12-month expected credit losses as any such impairment would be wholly insignificant to the Fund.

In order to monitor the credit quality of the unrated (NR) underlying debt securities, the Manager, on the basis of internal research, prepares its own shadow ratings for the various instruments for which publicly available credit ratings are not available. The Manager reviews the key financial metrics of the issue and structural features of the instruments in order to calculate the implied ratings for each of these investments. The majority of unrated securities have been assessed by the Manager to have credit quality consistent with BBB/Baa rated securities. A BBB/Baa rating is the lowest rating a bond can have and still be considered investment-grade. An investment grade bond is a bond considered to have a relatively low risk of default.

The Fund primarily invests in fixed income securities and is therefore exposed to the credit risk of the underlying fixed income portfolio. Refer to Note 7 within the fund specific notes for the fund exposure.

#### **Liquidity Risk:**

Liquidity risk is the risk that a Fund will not be able to generate sufficient cash availability to execute its payment obligations. The Fund primarily invests in liquid securities that are readily realizable in an active market which is essential if the Fund is required to fund daily redemptions in the course of operations. The Fund from time to time may invest in restricted securities through private placements. However, this type of investment does not constitute a significant percentage of the Fund's Net Asset Value. The Fund may also maintain a cash reserve to accommodate normaltype redemptions. All liabilities of the Fund mature in one year or less. Redeemable units are redeemable on demand at the holder's option. However, the Manager does not expect that the contractual maturity will be representative of the actual cash outflows, as holders of these instruments typically retain them for a longer period.

#### Concentration risk:

Concentration risk arises as a result of the concentration of financial instrument exposures within the same category, whether it is geographic region, asset type or industry sector.

#### Leverage Risk:

The Fund has received exemptive relief from Canadian securities regulatory authorities from certain investment restrictions set out in NI 81-102 that would restrict the ability of the Fund to leverage their assets through borrowing, short sales and/or derivatives. Investment decisions may be made for the assets of the Fund that exceed the net asset value of the Fund. As a result, if these investment decisions are incorrect, the resulting losses will be more than if investments were made solely in an unleveraged long portfolio as is the case in most conventional equity mutual funds. In addition, leveraged investment strategies can also be expected to increase a Fund's turnover, transaction and market impact costs, interest and other costs and expenses.

Pursuant to the terms of the exemptive relief, the Fund's aggregate gross exposure, calculated as the sum of the following, must not exceed three times the Fund's net asset value: (i) the aggregate market value of the Fund's long positions; (ii) the aggregate market value of physical short sales on equities, fixed income securities or other portfolio assets; and (iii) the aggregate notional value of the Fund's specified derivatives positions excluding any specified derivatives used for hedging purposes. If the Fund's aggregate gross exposure exceeds three times the Fund's net asset value, the Fund must, as quickly as is commercially reasonable, take all necessary steps to reduce the aggregate gross exposure to three times the Fund's net asset value or less.

#### **CAPITAL MANAGEMENT**

The capital of a Fund is represented by the issued and outstanding units and the net asset value attributable to participating unitholders. The Manager utilizes the capital of the Fund in accordance with the Fund's investment objectives, strategies and restrictions, as outlined in the Fund's prospectus, while maintaining sufficient liquidity to meet normal redemptions. The Fund does not have any externally imposed capital requirements.

#### REDEEMABLE UNIT TRANSACTIONS

The Fund is permitted to have an unlimited number of Classes of Units having such terms and conditions as the Manager may determine. Additional Classes may be offered in future on different terms, including having different fee and dealer compensation terms and different minimum subscription levels. Each Unit of a Class represents an undivided ownership interest in the Net Asset Value of the Fund attributable to that Class of Units.

Investors may be admitted to the Fund or may acquire additional Units on a daily basis. Units of the Fund are offered at the Class Net Asset Value per Unit calculated as of the applicable Valuation Date. The minimum initial investment in the Fund is \$2,000 for all Classes and the Manager has the discretion to accept a lesser initial subscription, provided, in each case, that the issuance of Units in respect of such subscription shall otherwise be exempt from the prospectus requirements of applicable securities legislation. Subsequent investments are subject to an additional minimum investment of CAD \$500 subject to applicable securities legislation. The capital of the Fund is represented by issued redeemable Units with no par value. The Units are entitled to distributions, if any, and to payment of a proportionate share based on the Fund's Net Asset Value

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per Unit upon redemption. The Fund has no restrictions or specific capital requirements on the subscriptions and redemptions of Units other than as described above. The relevant movements are shown on the Statement of Changes in Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Units and in the Fund Specific Notes of each Fund.

IAS 32, Financial Instrument - Recognition and Measurement, requires that units of an entity that include a contractual obligation for the issuer to repurchase or redeem them for cash or another financial asset be classified as financial liability. The Fund's units have been classified as financial liabilities. The Fund has multiple series of units that carry different management fee rates and therefore do not have identical features. As all units are equally subordinate, the units also would not meet the requirements of IAS 32 and therefore do not meet the conditions to be classified as equity.

Generally, all orders to purchase ETF units directly from a Fund must be placed by a Designated Broker or an "ETF Dealer", which is a registered dealer (that may or may not be a Designated Broker) that has entered into an agreement with us authorizing the dealer to subscribe for, purchase and redeem ETF units from one or more Funds on a continuous basis from time to time. For each Prescribed Number of Units issued, an ETF Dealer must deliver payment consisting of, either: (i) a group of securities or assets representing the constituents of the Fund (a "Basket of Securities") for each Prescribed Number of Units for which the subscription order has been accepted and cash, in an amount sufficient so that the value of the securities and cash received is equal to the aggregate net asset value of the Prescribed Number of Units next determined following the receipt of the subscription order; or (ii) cash only, securities other than Baskets of Securities or a combination of securities other than Baskets of Securities and cash, in an amount sufficient so that the value of the securities and cash received is equal to the aggregate net asset value of the Prescribed Number of Units next determined following the receipt of the subscription order. When you redeem ETF units of a Fund, you receive the proceeds of your sale in cash at a redemption price per unit equal to 95% of the closing trading price on the effective date of the cash redemption request, subject to a maximum redemption price of the applicable net asset value per unit. As unitholders will generally be able to sell ETF units at the market price on the TSX or another exchange or marketplace through a registered broker or dealer subject only to customary brokerage commissions.

# DISTRIBUTIONS

The Fund intends to distribute net income and net realized capital gains, if any, to Unitholders at the end of each taxation year to ensure that the Fund is not liable for income tax under Part I of the Income Tax Act (Canada) (the "Act"), after taking into account any loss carry forwards and capital gains refunds.

All annual distributions paid on Class A, Class F, Class I and Class ETF units will be automatically reinvested in additional units.

# **TAXATION**

The Fund qualifies as a "mutual fund trust" and will be subject to tax in each taxation year under Part I of the Act on the amount of its income for the year, including net realized taxable capital gains, less the portion thereof that it claims in respect of the amount paid or payable to Unitholders in the year. The Fund deducts, in computing its income in each taxation year, the full amount available for deduction in each year and, therefore, provided the Fund makes distributions in each year of its net income and net realized capital gains, it will generally not be liable in such year for any tax on its net income or profit under Part I of the Tax Act. As a result, the Fund does not record income taxes. Since the Fund does not record income taxes, the

tax benefit of capital and non-capital losses has not been reflected in the Statement of Financial Position as a deferred tax asset.

Non-capital losses have expiry periods of up to 20 years and can be offset against future taxable income. Net capital losses can be carried forward indefinitely and offset against future taxable capital gains. For tax loss carry forward information, please refer to Note 12 in the Fund Specific Notes.

The Fund is required to include in income for each taxation year any dividends received by it in a taxation year and all interest that accrues to it to the end of the year, or becomes receivable or is received by it before the end of the year, except to the extent that such interest was included in computing its income for a preceding taxation year. In computing its income, the Fund will take into account any loss carry-forwards, any capital gains refund and all deductible expenses, including management fees.

Gains and losses realized by the Fund on the disposition of securities will generally be reported as capital gains and capital losses. The Fund will elect under section 39(4) of the Tax Act so that all gains or losses realized on the disposition of securities that are "Canadian securities" (as defined in the Tax Act), including Canadian securities acquired in connection with short sales, will be deemed to be capital gains or losses to the Fund. Generally, gains and losses realized by the Fund from derivative securities and in respect of short sales of securities (other than Canadian securities) will be treated as income and losses of the Fund, except where a derivative is used to hedge securities held on capital account provided there is sufficient linkage and subject to detailed rules in the Tax Act. Whether gains or losses realized by the Fund in respect of a particular security (other than a Canadian security) is on income or capital account will depend largely on factual considerations. Losses incurred by the Fund in a taxation year cannot be allocated to unitholders, but may be deducted by the Fund in future years in accordance with the Tax Act.

#### **OPERATING EXPENSES**

The Manager is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Fund. The Fund pays its own operating expenses, other than advertising costs and costs of dealer compensation programs, which are paid by the Manager. Operating expenses include, but are not limited to, brokerage commissions and fees, taxes, audit and legal fees, fees of the members of the Independent Review Committee ("IRC"), costs and fees in connection with the operation of the IRC, safekeeping and custodial fees, interest expenses, operating, administrative and systems costs, investor servicing costs and costs of financial and other reports to investors, as well as prospectuses, annual information forms and fund facts.

With the exception of Class specific expenses, all other expenses are allocated to each Class of the Fund based on the Class' pro-rated share of total Net Asset Value of the Fund. The Manager may from time to time waive any portion of the fees and reimbursement of expenses otherwise payable to it, but no such waiver affects its right to received fees and reimbursement of expenses subsequently accruing to it.

#### Auditor's Fees

For the year ended December 31, 2023, fees paid or payable to PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP ("PwC") and other PwC Network firms for audit services to public interest entity funds managed by the Manager were \$359,092. Fees for other services were \$287,172.

#### 10. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

#### (a) Management Fees

The Manager receives a management fee payable for providing its services to the Fund. The management fee varies for each class of units.

As at December 31, 2023 and December 31, 2022

The management fee is calculated and accrued daily based on a percentage of the net asset value of the class of units of the Fund, plus applicable taxes, and is payable on the last business day of each calendar quarter. This fee differs among the classes of units of the Fund. The annual management fee payable by the Fund to the Manager on Class A units is 1.95% and on Class F units and Class ETF units is 0.95%. The management fee for Class I units of the Fund is negotiated by the investor and paid directly by the investor, and would not exceed the management fee payable on Class A units of the Fund.

#### **Management Fee Distributions**

The Manager may, in its discretion, agree to charge a reduced management fee as compared to the fee that the Manager otherwise would be entitled to receive from the Fund with respect to investments in the Fund by unitholders who hold a minimum amount of units during any period and/or meet other criteria as determined by the Manager from time to time. In such cases, an amount equal to the difference between the management fee otherwise chargeable and the reduced fee payable by the Fund will be distributed regularly by the Fund to those unitholders as "Management Fee Distributions". The Manager reserves the right, in its discretion, to discontinue or change Management Fee Distributions at any time.

#### (b) Performance Fees

The Manager receives a performance fee in respect of each of the Class A units, Class F, and Class ETF units of the Fund. The performance fee for each class shall be calculated and become a liability of the Fund on each Valuation Day and shall be payable at the end of each calendar quarter.

The performance fee is equal to 20% of the amount by which the performance of the applicable class exceeds an annual hurdle rate of return equal to 2%, for each of the Class A units, Class F units, or Class ETF units, plus applicable taxes. The performance fee in respect of each of the Class A units, Class F units, and Class ETF units of the Fund on a particular Valuation Day shall be equal to the product of, (a) 20% of the positive difference between (i) the Unit Price on the Valuation Day; and (ii) the greatest Unit Price on any previous Valuation Day or the Unit Price on the date when the units of the class were first issued, where no performance fee liability has previously arisen in respect of units of the class (the "High Water Mark"); less (iii) the hurdle amount (the "Hurdle Amount") per unit on the Valuation Day; and (b) the number of units outstanding on the applicable Valuation Day on which the performance fee is determined, plus applicable taxes.

The Hurdle Amount per unit is the product of (a) 2% for each calendar year (prorated for the number of days in the year); (b) the Unit Price on the applicable Valuation Day; and (c) the number of days since the most recently determined High Water Mark or the beginning of the current calendar year, whichever is most recent. The Manager may make such adjustments to the Unit Price, the High Water Mark and/or the Hurdle Amount per unit as are determined by the Manager to be necessary to account for the payment of any distributions on units, any unit splits or consolidations or any other event or matter that would, in the opinion of the Manager, impact upon the computation of the performance fee. Any such determination of the Manager shall, absent manifest error, be binding on all unitholders. Investors in Class I units may negotiate a different performance fee than the one described herein or no performance fee at all. Any performance fee for Class I units will be paid directly to the Manager. The Manager reserves the right, in its discretion, to discontinue, decrease or waive the performance fee at any time. For the year ended December 31, 2023, the Fund incurred performance fees of \$757,150 (December 31, 2022 - \$nil.)

#### (c) Fund-on-Fund Fees and Expenses

When the Fund invests in an underlying fund, the underlying fund may pay a management and performance fee and other expenses in addition to the fees and expenses payable by the Fund. The fees and expenses of the underlying fund will have an impact on the management expense ratio of the Fund. However, the Fund will not pay a management or performance fee that, to a reasonable person, would duplicate a fee payable by the underlying fund(s) for the same service. In addition, the Fund will not pay any sales charges, redemption fees or short-term trading fees for its purchase or redemption of units of any underlying fund that is managed by the Manager, or that, in respect of the other underlying funds, to a reasonable person, would duplicate a fee payable by an investor in any underlying fund.

# THINK AHEAD. STAY AHEAD.



# PICTON MAHONEY ASSET MANAGEMENT CORPORATE INFORMATION

### **Corporate Address**

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# Fund Administration & Transfer Agent

#### **Picton Mahoney Funds**

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# Auditor

# PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

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