

# FORTIFIED ALPHA ALTERNATIVE FUND



**THINK AHEAD.  
STAY AHEAD.**



# PICTON MAHONEY FORTIFIED ALPHA ALTERNATIVE FUND

MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE (FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023)

This annual management report of fund performance contains financial highlights but does not contain the complete annual financial statements for Picton Mahoney Fortified Alpha Alternative Fund (the "Fund"). If you have not received a copy of the annual financial statements with the management report of fund performance, you may obtain a copy of the annual financial statements, at no cost, by calling 416-955-4108 or toll-free at 1-866-369-4108, by writing to us at Picton Mahoney Asset Management, 33 Yonge Street, Suite 830, Toronto ON M5E 1G4, or by visiting our website at [www.pictonmahoney.com](http://www.pictonmahoney.com) or SEDAR+ at [www.sedarplus.ca](http://www.sedarplus.ca).

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

## INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE AND STRATEGIES

The investment objective of the Picton Mahoney Fortified Alpha Alternative Fund is to provide consistent long-term capital appreciation to unitholders with an attractive risk-adjusted rate of return. The Fund invests globally in long and short positions in equity securities, fixed income securities (including high yield securities, distressed debt, floating rate loans, senior loans and unsecured loans), special purpose acquisition companies, master limited partnerships, derivatives such as options, futures, forward contracts, swaps, commodity derivatives, volatility-linked derivatives, currencies, securities of investment funds, cash and cash equivalents. The Fund may engage in borrowing for investment purposes. Picton Mahoney Asset Management is the manager (the "Manager"), portfolio advisor (the "Portfolio Advisor") and the trustee (the "Trustee") of the Fund.

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.

The strategy is expected to combine the firm's best ideas by deploying the investment expertise of the firm's investment teams including the equity, fixed income, arbitrage and quantitative teams. The low correlation among these components to equity markets will aim to enhance risk-adjusted returns.

The investment strategy of the Fund is global in nature and will have exposure to international markets, including emerging markets. Strategies can be implemented within and across various financial markets 101 including global equity markets, emerging markets, global government and corporate fixed income markets, foreign exchange markets, commodity markets and volatility markets.

The strategy will consist of individual security risk premia strategies implemented primarily through long and short positions across global equity markets and may include global fixed income and other asset classes.

The Manager will seek to obtain exposure to skill-based, alpha processes either directly or indirectly through investment in other funds, including funds for which the Manager is the manager and/or portfolio manager.

Markets as well as some strategies possess the propensity for sharp declines in performance, known as tail risk. The Manager will attempt to mitigate some of these risks through tail-risk hedging strategies. These may be run both internally and externally and may involve allocation to external funds or portfolio managers (i.e., sub-advisers).

The portfolio will be considered in both the strategic and tactical aspects of the portfolio management process. The returns of the Fund should be generally independent of the movements in common stock market or bond market indices. Each component of the portfolio is intended to provide access to a unique return stream, such as risk premia and skill-based investment processes. The Manager will also use a risk-budgeting process to weigh different components of the portfolios.

The Fund may also choose to: i) invest up to 100% of its portfolio in international securities; ii) pairs trade by taking short positions from time to time in securities of one issuer while taking a long position in securities of another issuer in an attempt to gain from the relative valuation differences between the two issuers; iii) invest in fixed income securities; iv) engage in arbitrage strategies, including: a) yield and credit curve arbitrage by combining a long position in an issuer's bond at one maturity with a short position in the bonds of the same issuer at a different maturity; b) fixed income arbitrage by taking offsetting long and short positions in government bonds and investment grade corporate bonds, government agency securities, swap contracts, and futures and options on fixed income instruments that are mathematically, fundamentally, or historically interrelated; c) capital structure arbitrage by combining a long position in an issuer's senior debt with a short position in its junior debt or common equity using a hedge ratio; or d) convertible arbitrage by combining a long position in an issuer's convertible securities with a short position in its common equity. v) take long and short positions in securities impacted by event driven situations, such as mergers, divestitures, restructurings or other issuer events; vi) take long and short positions in private company debt offerings; vii) participate in initial public offerings, secondary offerings, and private financings (including special warrant financings) in existing publicly traded issuers to the extent permitted by securities regulations; viii) invest in private placements by private companies, to the extent permitted by securities regulations; ix) purchase, hold, sell, or otherwise deal in commodity forward contracts, commodity futures, financial futures or options on financial futures, but not physical commodities; x) use derivative instruments, such as options, futures, forward contracts and swaps, cleared and uncleared, for both hedging and non-hedging strategies, in a manner which is consistent with the investment objectives of the Fund and as permitted by securities regulations, including to: a) hedge against losses from changes in the prices of the Fund's investments and from exposure to foreign currencies; b) implement option spreads by purchasing an option on a security and simultaneously selling an option on the same security with the same expiry date; and c) gain exposure to individual securities and markets instead of buying the securities directly; and xi) hold cash and cash equivalents.

The specific strategies that differentiate this Fund from conventional mutual funds include: increased use of derivatives for hedging and non-hedging purposes, increased ability to sell securities short and the ability to borrow cash to use for investment purposes. While these strategies will be used in accordance with the Fund's investment objective and strategies, during certain market conditions they may accelerate the pace at which your investment decreases in value.

# PICTON MAHONEY FORTIFIED ALPHA ALTERNATIVE FUND

MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE (FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023)

The Fund may invest in securities of underlying funds (including underlying funds managed by the Manager or an affiliate or associate of the Manager). The types of underlying funds held by the Fund will be selected with consideration for the underlying fund's investment objectives and strategies, past performance and operational efficiencies. The Fund has also obtained exemptive relief from Canadian securities regulatory authorities to invest in ETFs listed on a Canadian or United States stock exchange that seek to replicate the daily performance of a widely-quoted market index (i) in an inverse multiple of 100%, or (ii) by a multiple of up to 200% or an inverse multiple of up to 200% (in either case, a "Permitted ETF"). In each case: (a) the investment would be made by the Fund in accordance with its investment objective; (b) the Fund would not short sell securities of any Permitted ETF; (c) the aggregate investment by the Fund in Permitted ETFs would not exceed 10% of the Fund's net asset value, taken at market value at the time of purchase; and (d) the Fund would not purchase securities of a Permitted ETF that tracks the inverse of its underlying index (a "Bear ETF") or short sell securities of any issuer if, immediately after such purchase or short sale, more than 20% of the net asset value of the Fund, taken at market value at the time of the transaction, would consist of, in aggregate, securities of Bear ETFs and all securities sold short by the Fund.

## RISK

There is no assurance that the Fund will be able to achieve its total return, capital preservation and distribution investment objectives. There is no assurance that the portfolio will earn any return and no assurances can be given as to the amount of distributions in future years and that the net asset value (the "NAV") of the Fund will appreciate or be preserved. While risks are numerous, we believe the following are the most pertinent ones to be mindful of today:

- 1. Equity Investment Risk** – Equity investments, such as stocks, carry several risks. A number of factors may cause the price of a stock to fall. These include specific developments relating to the company, stock market conditions where the company's securities trade and general economic, financial and political conditions in the countries where the company operates. Since a Fund's unit price is based on the value of its investments, an overall decline in the value of the stocks it holds will reduce the value of the Fund and, therefore, the value of your investment. However, if the price of the stocks in the portfolio increases, your investment will be worth more. Equity funds generally tend to be more volatile than fixed income funds, and the value of their units can vary widely.
- 2. Currency Risk** – The net asset value and unit price of a Fund's units is calculated in Canadian dollars. Most foreign investments are purchased in currencies other than the Canadian dollar. As a result, the value of foreign investments will be affected by the value of the Canadian dollar relative to the value of the foreign currency. If the Canadian dollar rises in value relative to the other currency but the value of the investment otherwise remains constant, the value of the investment in Canadian dollars will have fallen. Similarly, if the value of the Canadian dollar has fallen relative to the foreign currency, the value of the Fund's investment will have increased.
- 3. Liquidity Risk** – Liquidity is a measure of how quickly an investment can be sold for cash at a fair market price. If a Fund cannot sell an investment quickly, it may lose money or make a lower profit, especially if it has to meet a large number of redemption requests. Substantial redemptions

by Unitholders within a short period of time could require the Manager to arrange for the Fund's positions to be liquidated more rapidly than would otherwise be desirable, which could adversely affect the value of the remaining units of the Fund. In general, investments in smaller companies, smaller markets or certain sectors of the economy tend to be less liquid than other types of investments. The less liquid an investment, the more its value tends to fluctuate.

- 4. 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.

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.

For further details relating to risks of investing in the Fund, please refer to the *Specific Investment Risks*, *Investment Risk Classification Methodology*, and *Who Should Invest in the Funds*' sections of the Simplified Prospectus.

## 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.

During the year January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023, the Fund's aggregate exposure reached a low of 76.45% and a high of 143.30% of the Fund's NAV.

# PICTON MAHONEY FORTIFIED ALPHA ALTERNATIVE FUND

## MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE (FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023)

As at December 31, 2023, the Fund's aggregate exposure was 123.88% of the Fund's NAV. The primary source of leverage was cash overdraft and short positions in equity and fixed income securities.

### RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

For the year January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023, the net asset value of the Fund increased by approximately \$238.0 million from \$61.3 million to \$299.3 million. During the same period, performance on the Fund's portfolio increased its assets by \$10.2 million. The Fund also received \$259.5 million in proceeds, had reinvestment of distributions of \$1.6 million, net redemptions of \$29.0 million, and paid distributions totaling \$4.3 million. For the year ended December 31, 2023 the Fund Class A units returned 4.33%, the Fund Class F units returned 5.30%, the Fund Class FT units returned 5.25%, the Fund Class I units returned 6.98%, and the Fund Class ETF units returned 5.34%.

On the whole, 2023 was characterized by markets which exhibited ample sensitivity to the level and direction of interest rates. Despite a swoon in the summer months, the outperformance of U.S. large cap technology stocks continued to be at the forefront as rates falling from their peak spurred a healthy rally into year-end. The Fortified Alpha Alternative Fund, for its part, is designed to produce returns independent of the level or direction of traditional markets, as well as being subject to trends in sectors and themes in the marketplace.

For lengthy segments of the period under review, the Picton Mahoney Fortified Market Neutral strategy contributed the highest level of positive return to the Fund. That said, periods of relative underperformance relative to the other component strategies were observed and frankly, welcomed. To wit, we believe our portfolio construction process of risk-weighting uncorrelated strategies provides ample opportunity for diversification benefits in the Fund, such that no component strategy should be relied upon as a singular return driver. Central to the philosophy of the Fund, we expect the component strategies to produce positive (and uncorrelated) returns over time. With this in mind, the ability to utilize leverage in the alternative fund framework is a tool utilized to achieve diversification benefits, first and foremost, rather than simply torquing returns.

Portfolio risk as measured by standard deviation of daily returns moved progressively lower through the period under review and as at period-end, remains at the lower end of the anticipated long-term range. With this in mind, we are weighing the benefits of increasing leverage to source additional returns (and therefore increased portfolio risk), mindful of the shorter-term costs of financing leverage.

### RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

One of our primary ongoing risk measurements is an assessment of the Fund's "beta footprint", which will note any portfolio sensitivity to PMAM's proprietary nine defined asset classes. We are pleased to note the "footprint" remains negligible at best, which remains a proof statement to the independent and uncorrelated nature of returns the Fund offers investors, seeking diversification of returns beyond traditional portfolio constructs.

For this reason, and on an ongoing basis, we believe the macro environment is less important to the management of the Fortified Alpha Alternative strategy. Importantly, key risk events (such as the failure of some tech-centric regional banks in Q1 and the swoon in U.S. large cap tech stocks in the summer months) did not create any systemic or "grossing down" risk

which required address. We continue to maintain a small risk budget to our tail risk hedging strategies, as a means of ensuring positive returns in an environment of duress which may steer the underlying alpha component strategies off their historical return path for brief periods of time. Over the life of the Fund, we expect this hedging strategy to be a cost, but as is the case with any premium paid for protection, it should be there when you need it.

We are pleased to continue to build upon the track record of the Picton Mahoney Fortified Alpha Alternative Fund. At period-end, the continued accrual of portfolio construction benefits relative to the underlying components demonstrated the value-add in utilizing leverage to access component returns with a low correlation to traditional markets and to each other. We also highlight the fact that some of the component strategies may have lagged their historical return experience (and expectation), which remains a latent / pending source of returns to come.

We continue to believe sourcing returns from non-directional, uncorrelated strategies is the best long-term strategy vis-à-vis portfolio construction imperatives such as risk diversification, lower correlation, and quality of returns and as such, remain confident the Fortified Alpha Alternative Fund can continue to deliver on these objectives.

### RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Picton Mahoney Asset Management is the manager (the "Manager"), portfolio advisor (the "Portfolio Advisor"), and trustee ("the Trustee") of the Fund. The Manager is an investment manager focused on equity and fixed income securities investments with approximately \$9.9 billion of assets under management as of December 31, 2023. As at December 31, 2023, the Manager holds 832 units of Class A, 852 units of Class F, 2,169 units of Class FT, and 2,070 units of Class I of the Fund (December 31, 2022 - 814 units of Class A, 834 units of Class F, 2,063 units of Class FT and 2,026 units of Class I). For the year ended December 31, 2023, the Manager has absorbed \$286,038 of expenses.

### Management Fees

As a result of providing investment and management services, the Manager receives a management fee calculated and accrued daily based on the NAV of the class of units of the Fund, plus applicable taxes, payable on the last day of each calendar quarter. For the year ended December 31, 2023, the Fund incurred management fees of \$1,947,153 (December 31, 2022 - \$174,013). Management fees in respect of Class I units are direct fees negotiated with the investor, paid directly by the investor, and would not exceed the management fee payable on Class A units of the Fund. The Manager uses these management fees to pay for sales and trailing commissions to registered dealers on the distribution of the Fund's shares, investment advice, as well as general administrative expenses relating to Picton Mahoney's role as Manager. The following is a breakdown:

	As a Percentage of Management Fees		
	Annual Rates	Dealer Compensation	General Administration and Investment Advice
Class A units	1.95%	51.57%	48.43%
Class F units	0.95%	-	100.00%
Class FT units	0.95%	-	100.00%
Class ETF units	0.95%	-	100.00%

# PICTON MAHONEY FORTIFIED ALPHA ALTERNATIVE FUND

MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE (FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023)

Out of the management fees that the Manager received from the Fund, the Manager paid trailer commissions of \$33,766 for the year ended December 31, 2023.

## **Performance Fees**

The Manager receives a performance fee in respect of each class of units of the Fund. The performance fee for each class shall be calculated and become a liability of the Fund on each valuation day (the "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 class of units of the Fund, plus applicable taxes. The performance fee in respect of each class of 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 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. 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 1,490,554 (December 31, 2022 – \$155,757). At the Manager's discretion, these fees were waived from the period.

## **Independent Review Committee**

The Fund receives standing instructions (the "SI") from the independent review committee (the "IRC"). The SI constitutes a written approval or recommendation from the IRC that permits the Manager to proceed with specific action(s) set out in the SI on an ongoing basis. The SI is designed to ensure that the Manager's actions are carried out in accordance with the law, the instrument and the Manager's policies and procedures in order to achieve a fair and reasonable result for the Fund. The SI outlines actions related to i) Fees and Expenses; ii) Trade Allocations; iii) Broker Selections; iv) Code of Ethics and Conduct; v) Portfolio Pricing Issues, amongst other things. The Manager must provide the IRC with a written report summarizing each instance where the Manager has relied on the SI. For the year ended December 31, 2023, the IRC did not provide any recommendations to the Manager.

# PICTON MAHONEY FORTIFIED ALPHA ALTERNATIVE FUND

MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE (FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023)

## FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The following table show selected key financial information about the Fund and are intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the past period as applicable.

Class A Units - Net Assets per Unit		
	Dec 31, 2023(\$)	Dec 31, 2022(\$) <sup>(7)</sup>
<b>Net Assets, beginning of period</b>	10.06	10.00
<b>Increase (decrease) from operations:</b>		
Total revenue	0.30	0.20
Total expense	(0.34)	(0.22)
Realized gains (losses)	(0.17)	(0.14)
Unrealized gains (losses)	0.64	0.54
<b>Total increase (decrease) from operations<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>0.43</b>	<b>0.38</b>
<b>Distributions:</b>		
From income	(0.23)	(0.26)
From dividends	-	-
From capital gains	-	-
Return of capital	(0.00)	(0.00)
<b>Total annual distributions<sup>(1)(2)</sup></b>	<b>(0.23)</b>	<b>(0.26)</b>
<b>Net Assets, end of period</b>	<b>10.27</b>	<b>10.06</b>

Class A Units - Ratios/Supplemental Data		
	Dec 31, 2023(\$)	Dec 31, 2022(\$) <sup>(7)</sup>
Total Net Asset Value (\$000's) <sup>(3)</sup>	4,939	1,094
Number of units outstanding (000's) <sup>(3)</sup>	481	109
Management expense ratio <sup>(4)</sup>	3.53%	2.82%
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions	3.67%	3.55%
Trading expense ratio, excluding short dividend and interest expense <sup>(5)</sup>	0.77%	0.74%
Trading expense ratio, including short dividend and interest expense <sup>(5)</sup>	3.73%	3.22%
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>(6)</sup>	162.10%	129.18%
Net Asset Value per unit	10.27	10.06

Class F Units - Net Assets per Unit		
	Dec 31, 2023(\$)	Dec 31, 2022(\$) <sup>(7)</sup>
<b>Net Assets, beginning of period</b>	10.14	10.00
<b>Increase (decrease) from operations:</b>		
Total revenue	0.31	0.20
Total expense	(0.26)	(0.14)
Realized gains (losses)	(0.19)	(0.14)
Unrealized gains (losses)	0.68	0.54
<b>Total increase (decrease) from operations<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>0.54</b>	<b>0.46</b>
<b>Distributions:</b>		
From income	(0.24)	(0.27)
From dividends	-	-
From capital gains	-	-
Return of capital	(0.00)	(0.00)
<b>Total annual distributions<sup>(1)(2)</sup></b>	<b>(0.24)</b>	<b>(0.27)</b>
<b>Net Assets, end of period</b>	<b>10.45</b>	<b>10.14</b>



# PICTON MAHONEY FORTIFIED ALPHA ALTERNATIVE FUND

MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE (FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023)

Class F Units - Ratios/Supplemental Data		
	Dec 31, 2023(\$)	Dec 31, 2022(\$) <sup>(7)</sup>
Total Net Asset Value (\$000's) <sup>(3)</sup>	197,186	31,625
Number of units outstanding (000's) <sup>(3)</sup>	18,876	3,120
Management expense ratio <sup>(4)</sup>	2.62%	1.70%
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions	2.77%	2.75%
Trading expense ratio, excluding short dividend and interest expense <sup>(5)</sup>	0.77%	0.74%
Trading expense ratio, including short dividend and interest expense <sup>(5)</sup>	3.73%	3.22%
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>(6)</sup>	162.10%	129.18%
Net Asset Value per unit	10.45	10.14

Class FT Units - Net Assets per Unit		
	Dec 31, 2023(\$)	Dec 31, 2022(\$) <sup>(7)</sup>
<b>Net Assets, beginning of period</b>	9.89	10.00
<b>Increase (decrease) from operations:</b>		
Total revenue	0.30	0.20
Total expense	(0.29)	(0.15)
Realized gains (losses)	(0.23)	(0.17)
Unrealized gains (losses)	0.79	0.37
<b>Total increase (decrease) from operations<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>0.57</b>	<b>0.25</b>
<b>Distributions:</b>		
From income	(0.51)	(0.32)
From dividends	-	-
From capital gains	-	-
Return of capital	(0.00)	-
<b>Total annual distributions<sup>(1)(2)</sup></b>	<b>(0.51)</b>	<b>(0.32)</b>
<b>Net Assets, end of period</b>	<b>9.91</b>	<b>9.89</b>

Class FT Units - Ratios/Supplemental Data		
	Dec 31, 2023(\$)	Dec 31, 2022(\$) <sup>(7)</sup>
Total Net Asset Value (\$000's) <sup>(3)</sup>	549	20
Number of units outstanding (000's) <sup>(3)</sup>	55	2
Management expense ratio <sup>(4)</sup>	2.62%	1.70%
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions	2.77%	2.72%
Trading expense ratio, excluding short dividend and interest expense <sup>(5)</sup>	0.77%	0.74%
Trading expense ratio, including short dividend and interest expense <sup>(5)</sup>	3.73%	3.22%
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>(6)</sup>	162.10%	129.18%
Net Asset Value per unit	9.91	9.89



# PICTON MAHONEY FORTIFIED ALPHA ALTERNATIVE FUND

MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE (FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023)

Class I Units - Net Assets per Unit		
	Dec 31, 2023(\$)	Dec 31, 2022(\$) <sup>(7)</sup>
<b>Net Assets, beginning of period</b>	10.20	10.00
<b>Increase (decrease) from operations:</b>		
Total revenue	0.31	0.19
Total expense	(0.07)	(0.09)
Realized gains (losses)	(0.14)	(0.18)
Unrealized gains (losses)	0.61	0.17
<b>Total increase (decrease) from operations<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>0.71</b>	<b>0.09</b>
<b>Distributions:</b>		
From income	(0.23)	(0.00)
From dividends	-	-
From capital gains	-	-
Return of capital	(0.00)	-
<b>Total annual distributions<sup>(1)(2)</sup></b>	<b>(0.23)</b>	<b>(0.00)</b>
<b>Net Assets, end of period</b>	<b>10.68</b>	<b>10.20</b>

Class I Units - Ratios/Supplemental Data		
	Dec 31, 2023(\$)	Dec 31, 2022(\$) <sup>(7)</sup>
Total Net Asset Value (\$000's) <sup>(3)</sup>	22	21
Number of units outstanding (000's) <sup>(3)</sup>	2	2
Management expense ratio <sup>(4)</sup>	1.12%	0.79%
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions	1.13%	1.06%
Trading expense ratio, excluding short dividend and interest expense <sup>(5)</sup>	0.77%	0.74%
Trading expense ratio, including short dividend and interest expense <sup>(5)</sup>	3.73%	3.22%
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>(6)</sup>	162.10%	129.18%
Net Asset Value per unit	10.68	10.20

Class ETF Units - Net Assets per Unit		
	Dec 31, 2023(\$)	Dec 31, 2022(\$) <sup>(7)</sup>
<b>Net Assets, beginning of period</b>	10.13	10.00
<b>Increase (decrease) from operations:</b>		
Total revenue	0.31	0.20
Total expense	(0.27)	(0.10)
Realized gains (losses)	(0.20)	(0.17)
Unrealized gains (losses)	0.77	0.50
<b>Total increase (decrease) from operations<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>0.61</b>	<b>0.43</b>
<b>Distributions:</b>		
From income	(0.23)	(0.21)
From dividends	-	-
From capital gains	-	-
Return of capital	(0.00)	(0.00)
<b>Total annual distributions<sup>(1)(2)</sup></b>	<b>(0.23)</b>	<b>(0.21)</b>
<b>Net Assets, end of period</b>	<b>10.45</b>	<b>10.13</b>

# PICTON MAHONEY FORTIFIED ALPHA ALTERNATIVE FUND

MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE (FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023)

<b>Class ETF Units - Ratios/Supplemental Data</b>	<b>Dec 31, 2023(\$)</b>	<b>Dec 31, 2022(\$)<sup>(7)</sup></b>
Total Net Asset Value (\$000's) <sup>(3)</sup>	96,628	28,574
Number of units outstanding (000's) <sup>(3)</sup>	9,250	2,820
Management expense ratio <sup>(4)</sup>	2.62%	1.70%
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions	2.77%	2.72%
Trading expense ratio, excluding short dividend and interest expense <sup>(5)</sup>	0.77%	0.74%
Trading expense ratio, including short dividend and interest expense <sup>(5)</sup>	3.73%	3.22%
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>(6)</sup>	162.10%	129.18%
Net Asset Value per unit	10.45	10.13
Closing Market Price (TSX)	10.45	10.12

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

- (1) Net Assets and distributions are based on the actual number of units outstanding at the relevant time. The increase/decrease from operations is based on the weighted average number of units outstanding over the financial period.
- (2) Distributions were paid in cash, reinvested in additional units of the Fund, or both.
- (3) This information is provided as at the periods shown.
- (4) The management expense ratio ("MER") is based on total expenses (excluding commissions and other portfolio transaction costs) for the stated period and is expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average net asset value during the period. In the period the class is established, the MER is annualized.
- (5) The trading expense ratio ("TER") represents total commissions and other portfolio transaction costs expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average net asset value during the period. In the period the class is established, the TER is annualized. The TER is calculated at the fund level and applies to all classes of the Fund. The Fund's TER is shown both with and without the short dividend expense from equities and interest expense from fixed income securities.
- (6) The Fund's portfolio turnover rate indicates how actively the Fund's portfolio advisor manages its portfolio investments. A portfolio turnover rate of 100% is equivalent to the Fund buying and selling all of the securities in its portfolio once in the course of the year. The higher a fund's portfolio turnover rate in a year, the greater the trading costs payable by the fund in the year, and the greater the chance of an investor receiving taxable capital gains in the year. There is not necessarily a relationship between a high turnover rate and the performance of a fund. Portfolio turnover rate is calculated based on the lesser of the cost of purchases or proceeds of sales divided by the average market value of the portfolio, excluding short-term investments.
- (7) For the period from May 4, 2022 (commencement of operations) to December 31, 2022.

# PICTON MAHONEY FORTIFIED ALPHA ALTERNATIVE FUND

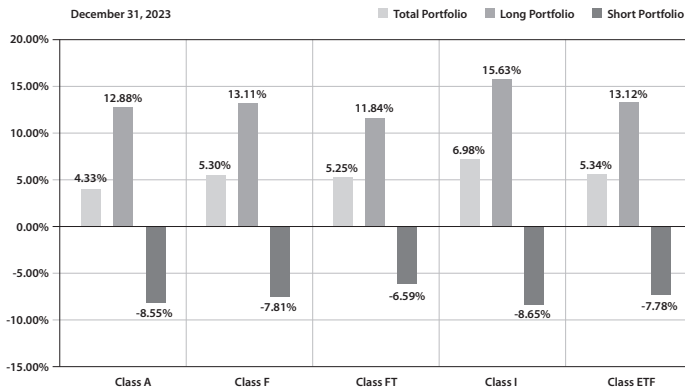
MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE (FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023)

## PAST PERFORMANCE

This section describes the Fund's performance over the past period since inception. The information shown assumes that any distributions made by the Fund were reinvested in additional units of the Fund. All rates of returns are calculated based on the NAV of the particular series of the Fund. Past returns of the Fund do not necessarily indicate how it will perform in the future.

## Year-by-Year>Returns

The following chart indicates the performance of each series of the Fund each year from inception to December 31, 2023. The chart shows, in percentage terms, how much an investment made on the first day of the period would have grown or decreased by the last day of the period.



## ANNUAL COMPOUND RETURNS

The following table presents the compound returns of the units of the Fund for the period indicated to December 31, 2023.

Further discussion of the Fund's performance can be found within the Results of Operations section.

Annual Compound Returns	1 Year	Since Inception
Total portfolio - Class A units	4.33%	3.60%
Long portfolio - Class A units	12.88%	16.52%
Short portfolio - Class A units	-8.55%	-12.92%
Total portfolio - Class F units	5.30%	4.65%
Long portfolio - Class F units	13.11%	16.85%
Short portfolio - Class F units	-7.81%	-12.20%
Total portfolio - Class FT units	5.25%	4.58%
Long portfolio - Class FT units	11.84%	14.28%
Short portfolio - Class FT units	-6.59%	-9.70%
Total portfolio - Class I units	6.98%	6.08%
Long portfolio - Class I units	15.63%	0.61%
Short portfolio - Class I units	-8.65%	5.47%
Total portfolio - Class ETF units	5.34%	5.10%
Long portfolio - Class ETF units	13.12%	15.68%
Short portfolio - Class ETF units	-7.78%	-10.58%
S&P/TSX Composite Index (TR)	11.75%	3.53%

# PICTON MAHONEY FORTIFIED ALPHA ALTERNATIVE FUND

MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE (FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023)

## SUMMARY OF INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2023

Portfolio by Category		Portfolio by Category	
	Percentage of Net Asset Value (%)		Percentage of Net Asset Value (%)
<b>LONG POSITIONS</b>		<b>SHORT POSITIONS</b>	
<b>Canadian Equities</b>	<b>88.2%</b>	<b>Canadian Equities</b>	<b>-33.8%</b>
Investment Funds	31.6%	Index Equivalents	-19.1%
Financials	13.0%	Financials	-3.8%
Industrial	10.0%	Energy	-3.0%
Energy	9.7%	Industrial	-1.5%
Materials	6.3%	Materials	-1.5%
Information Technology	4.3%	Consumer Staples	-1.3%
Real Estate	3.8%	Real Estate	-1.1%
Utilities	3.3%	Utilities	-0.9%
Consumer Discretionary	2.7%	Consumer Discretionary	-0.8%
Consumer Staples	1.7%	Communication Services	-0.7%
Communication Services	1.6%	Information Technology	-0.1%
Health Care	0.2%		
<b>Global Equities</b>	<b>24.8%</b>	<b>Global Equities</b>	<b>-32.3%</b>
United States	21.7%	International Index Equivalents	-16.7%
International	2.0%	United States Equities	-13.4%
International Index Equivalents	1.1%	International Equities	-2.2%
<b>Canadian Debt</b>	<b>34.2%</b>	<b>Canadian Debt</b>	<b>-0.9%</b>
Corporate Bonds	33.8%	Corporate Bonds	-0.9%
Asset-Backed Securities	0.4%		
<b>Global Debt</b>	<b>19.5%</b>	<b>Global Debt</b>	<b>-13.7%</b>
United States Bonds	15.9%	United States Bonds	-13.3%
International Bonds	3.6%	International Bonds	-0.4%
<b>Derivatives</b>	<b>0.5%</b>	<b>Derivatives</b>	<b>-0.4%</b>
<b>Total Long Positions</b>	<b>167.2%</b>	<b>Total Short Positions</b>	<b>-81.1%</b>
		<b>Cash</b>	<b>13.3%</b>
		<b>Other Assets (net)</b>	<b>0.6%</b>
		<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

# PICTON MAHONEY FORTIFIED ALPHA ALTERNATIVE FUND

MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE (FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023)

<b>Top 25 Holdings</b>	
	<b>Percentage of Net Asset Value (%)</b>
<b>LONG POSITIONS</b>	
Picton Mahoney Fortified Arbitrage Plus Alternative Fund	31.5%
Cash	13.3%
Element Fleet Management Corp.	2.2%
Bank of Montreal	2.2%
Sun Life Financial Inc.	1.7%
Royal Bank of Canada 4.500%, 2080-11-24	1.7%
Enbridge Inc.	1.7%
Permian Resources Operating LLC 8.000%, 2027-04-15	1.6%
Toronto-Dominion Bank 7.232%, 2049-12-31	1.5%
Canadian Natural Resources Ltd.	1.5%
Royal Bank of Canada	1.5%
Fairfax Financial Holdings Ltd.	1.4%
Canadian Pacific Kansas City Ltd.	1.3%
Vistra Corp. 8.000%, 2049-12-31	1.3%
Rogers Communications Inc. 5.000%, 2081-12-17	1.3%
Prime Healthcare Services Inc. 7.250%, 2025-11-01	1.3%
Trisura Group Ltd.	1.3%
AutoCanada Inc. 5.750%, 2029-02-07	1.2%
Rogers Communications Inc.	1.2%
National Bank of Canada 7.500%, 2082-11-16	1.2%
<b>SHORT POSITIONS</b>	
iShares S&P/TSX 60 Index ETF	-11.6%
Vanguard Total Stock Market ETF	-10.3%
iShares Core S&P/TSX Capped Composite Index ETF	-7.5%
Invesco QQQ Trust Series 1	-1.5%
SPDR S&P 500 ETF Trust	-1.4%
<b>Total Net Asset Value (\$000)</b>	<b>\$299,325</b>

The Summary of Investment Portfolio may change due to ongoing portfolio transactions. A quarterly update is available on our website at [www.pictonmahoney.com](http://www.pictonmahoney.com).

## CAUTION REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This report may contain forward-looking statements about the Fund, its future performance, strategies and events. Forward-looking statements include words such as “anticipates”, “believe”, “could”, “expect”, “estimate”, “may” or negative versions thereof and similar expressions. By their nature, forward-looking statements make assumptions on future events that are subject to inherent risks and uncertainties. There is significant risk that predictions on the Fund, future events and economic conditions will not prove to be accurate. Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and actual results may differ materially from management projected expectations due to factors such as general market and economic conditions, interest rates and foreign currency fluctuations, changes to regulatory requirements and guidelines, changes in technology, effects of competition in the various business areas and unforeseen natural disasters and catastrophes. As a result of these factors, readers of this document are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these statements and before making any investment decisions should clearly consider these factors, among other factors. All opinions contained in the forward-looking statements are subject to change without notice and are provided in good faith, unless required by applicable law.







**THINK AHEAD.  
STAY AHEAD.**



---

## **PICTON MAHONEY ASSET MANAGEMENT CORPORATE INFORMATION**

### **Corporate Address**

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

33 Yonge Street, Suite. 830  
Toronto, Ontario  
Canada M5E 1G4

Telephone: 416.955.4108

Toll free: 1.866.369.4108

Fax: 416.955.4100

Email: [service@pictonmahoney.com](mailto:service@pictonmahoney.com)

[www.pictonmahoney.com](http://www.pictonmahoney.com)

### **Auditor**

#### **PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP**

18 York Street, Suite 2500  
Toronto, Ontario  
Canada M5J 0B2

### **Fund Administration & Transfer Agent**

#### **Picton Mahoney Funds**

C/O RBC Investor Services Trust,  
Shareholder Services  
155 Wellington Street West, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Toronto, ON  
Canada M5V 3L3