Financial Statements **December 31, 2022 and 2021** (expressed in Canadian dollars)



## Independent auditor's report

To the Unitholders and Trustee of Palos Equity Income 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, 2022 and 2021 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).

#### What we have audited

The Fund's financial statements comprise:

- the statements of financial position as at December 31, 2022 and 2021;
- 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 financial statements, which include significant accounting policies 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 of the Fund. The other information comprises the Management Report of Fund Performance and the information, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon, included in the annual report.

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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 of the Fund, 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 of the Fund 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, 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.



- 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.

Pricewaterhouse Coopers LLP

Montréal, Quebec March 29, 2023

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> CPA auditor, public accountancy permit No. A124829

Statements of Financial Position

As at December 31, 2022 and 2021

(expressed in Canadian dollars)

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Assets		
<b>Current assets</b> Investments at fair value through profit or loss (FVTPL) Cash Accrued income receivable Subscription receivable Prepaid expenses	26,643,435 107,456 100,952 - -	29,594,503 469,162 78,817 5,950 2,164
	26,851,843	30,150,596
Liabilities		
<b>Current liabilities</b> Distributions payable Accrued liabilities Management fees payable	17,069 66,675 -	375,698 46,070 658
	83,744	422,426
Net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units	26,768,099	29,728,170
Net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units		
<b>per series</b> Series A Series F	20,332,452 6,435,647	22,004,759 7,723,411
	26,768,099	29,728,170
Net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units per series per unit Series A Series F	6.51 7.05	7.24 7.77

### Approved by the Manager, Palos Management Inc.

(s) Philippe Marleau, Director

## Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss)

## For the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021

#### (expressed in Canadian dollars)

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
Income Dividend income Interest income for distribution purposes Net realized gain on sale of investments Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of investments		653,414 148,041 428,539 (3,095,559) (1,865,565)	544,599 119,027 3,197,818 2,356,208 6,217,652
<b>Expenses</b> Management fees Administration and other professional fees Legal fees Audit fees Transaction cost Bank charges and interest Trustee fees Independent review committee fees Withholding tax expense	7	419,297 92,965 64,687 49,366 44,004 24,782 13,834 12,001 768 721,704	419,164 95,216 68,464 50,400 51,379 18,872 13,834 12,001 1,462 730,792
Increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units		(2,587,269)	5,486,860
Increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units per series Series A Series F		(1,963,651) (623,618) (2,587,269)	3,903,744 1,583,116 5,486,860
Increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units per unit Series A Series F	9	(0.63) (0.66)	1.39 1.62

## Statements of Changes in Net Assets Attribuable to Holders of Redeemable Units

## For the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021

(expressed in Canadian dollars)

	Net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units, beginning of year \$	Proceeds from redeemable units issued \$	Redemption of redeemable units \$	Distributions to holders of redeemable units* \$	Reinvestment of distribution to holders of redeemable units \$	Increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units \$	Net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units, end of year \$
<b>December 31, 2022</b> Series A Series F	22,004,759 7,723,411	1,771,394 450,410	(1,431,581) (1,093,524)	(310,700) (92,848)	262,231 71,816	(1,963,651) (623,618)	20,332,452 6,435,647
	29,728,170	2,221,804	(2,525,105)	(403,548)	334,047	(2,587,269)	26,768,099
December 31, 2021 Series A	17,923,956 7,251,553	1,581,179 477,540	(1,139,303) (1,423,775)	(1,542,506) (731,226)	1,277,689 566,203	3,903,744 1,583,116	22,004,759 7,723,411
Series F	25,175,509	2,058,719	(2,563,078)	(2,273,732)	1,843,892	5,486,860	29,728,170

\* Detailed distributions to unitholders

	From net investment income \$	From net realized gains on investments and derivatives \$	From return of capital \$	Total distributions to unitholder \$
December 31, 2022 Series A Series F		133,357 46,706	177,343 46,142	310,700 92,848
		180,063	223,485	403,548
<b>December 31, 2021</b> Series A Series F		1,542,506 731,226 2,273,732		1,542,506 731,226 2,273,732

Statements of Cash Flows

For the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021

(expressed in Canadian dollars)

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Cash provided by (used in)		
<b>Operating activities</b> Increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to holders of		
redeemable units Adjustments for non-cash items	(2,587,269)	5,486,860
Net realized gain on sale of investments Net change in unrealized (appreciation) depreciation	(428,539)	(3,186,824)
of investments Foreign exchange on cash Change in non-cash balances	3,095,559 (899)	(2,367,202) (13,546)
Increase in accrued income receivable Decrease in prepaid expenses	(22,135) 2,164	(17,982) 37
Increase in accrued liabilities Decrease in management fees payable	20,605 (658)	3,677 (423)
Proceeds from sale of investments Purchase of investments	20,489,786 (20,205,738)	20,646,728 (20,831,728)
Cash provided by (used in) operating activities	362,876	(280,403)
<b>Financing activities</b> Proceeds from issuance of redeemable units Amount paid on redemption of redeemable units Distributions paid to holders or redeemable units, net of reinvested distributions	2,227,754 (2,525,105) (428,130)	2,057,218 (2,563,078) (72,747)
Cash used in financing activities	(725,481)	(578,607)
Decrease in cash during the year Foreign exchange gain on cash	(362,605) 899	(859,010) 13,546
Cash – Beginning of year	469,162	1,314,626
Cash – End of year	107,456	469,162
Supplemental information * Interest paid Interest received Dividends received, net of withholding taxes	729 119,646 644,997	1,095 121,890 521,786
* Included as a part of cash flows from operating activities		

\* Included as a part of cash flows from operating activities

### Schedule of Investment Portfolio

### As at December 31, 2022

(expressed in Canadian dollars)

Description	Currency	Number of shares	Average cost \$	Fair value \$
Investments owned (99.53%)				
Equities (96.24%)				
<b>Basic material (7.51%)</b> Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. Arizona Metals Corp Firs Quantum Minerals Ltd. K92 Mining Inc. Nutrien Ltd. Teck Resources Ltd. Wheaton Precious Metals Corp.	CAD CAD CAD CAD CAD CAD CAD	4,061 26,900 10,500 33,300 2,662 8,050 7,200	246,608 107,455 221,654 233,786 213,385 273,636 340,610	285,732 115,939 297,045 255,411 263,139 411,919 380,880
		-	1,637,134	2,010,065
<b>Communications (3.37%)</b> Shopify Inc. TELUS Corp.	CAD CAD	6,050 23,640 _	346,380 616,625	284,411 617,713
		-	963,005	902,124
<b>Consumer, cyclical (4.03%)</b> ADENTRA Inc. Canadian Tire Corp Ltd. Pet Valu Holdings Ltd. Pollard Banknote Ltd.	CAD CAD CAD CAD	11,500 1,880 6,200 12,770	375,047 231,363 193,274 321,151	325,910 266,020 242,606 244,162
		-	1,120,835	1,078,698
<b>Consumer, non-cyclical (4.46%)</b> Dentalcorp Holdings Ltd. Green Thumb Industries Inc. Neighbourly Pharmacy Inc. Park Lawn Corp. Savaria Corp.	CAD CAD CAD CAD CAD	25,600 20,400 9,324 9,950 17,540	259,135 226,993 256,979 280,942 246,771	227,840 244,392 218,088 257,208 245,385
		-	1,270,820	1,192,913
Energy (18.02%) Advantage Energy Ltd. Canadian Natural Resources Ltd. CES Energy Solutions Corp. Freehold Royalties Ltd. Headwater Exploration Inc. Keyera Corp. Parkland Corp. PHX Energy Services Corp. Precision Drilling Corp.	CAD CAD CAD CAD CAD CAD CAD CAD CAD	10,429 9,200 61,000 18,000 38,000 11,820 10,700 21,700 2,550	110,424 419,371 140,509 191,574 204,130 335,860 308,634 137,890 159,158	98,763 691,748 168,360 284,940 224,960 349,754 317,897 168,609 264,461

## Schedule of Investment Portfolio ...continued

## As at December 31, 2022

(expressed in Canadian dollars)

Description	Currency	Number of shares	Average cost \$	Fair value \$
Secure Energy Services Inc. Spartan Delta Corp. Surge Energy Inc. Tamarack Valley Energy Ltd. Topaz Energy Corp. Tourmaline Oil Corp. Trican Well Service Ltd.	CAD CAD CAD CAD CAD CAD CAD	51,900 16,000 23,000 79,000 18,200 6,620 68,900	310,269 85,144 209,533 287,673 328,369 216,051 205,422	364,857 239,200 209,530 352,340 384,566 452,278 252,174
			3,650,011	4,824,437
Financial (29.31%) Alaris Equity Partners Income Bank of Montreal Boardwalk Real Estate Investment Trust Brookfield Asset Management Ltd. Brookfield Corp. BSR Real Estate Investment Trust Crombie Real Estate Investment Trust Dream Industrial Real Estate Investment Trust EQB Inc. Flagship Communities REIT InterRent Real Estate Investment Trust National Bank of Canada Royal Bank of Canada StorageVault Canada Inc. The Bank of Nova Scotia The Toronto-Dominion Bank	CAD CAD CAD CAD USD CAD CAD CAD CAD CAD CAD CAD CAD CAD CA	$\begin{array}{c} 13,500\\ 11,108\\ 5,467\\ 3,000\\ 6,200\\ 13,600\\ 18,260\\ 25,305\\ 4,650\\ 11,600\\ 25,500\\ 6,610\\ 8,540\\ 40,820\\ 13,930\\ 12,399\end{array}$	198,907 1,164,110 212,247 120,500 237,646 221,437 295,698 334,321 216,437 220,783 324,538 421,565 715,023 118,654 972,108 613,583 6,387,557	216,540 1,362,507 270,234 116,310 263,996 239,807 289,604 295,815 263,795 254,931 326,400 603,030 1,087,142 245,736 924,116 1,087,020 7,846,983
Funds (6.59%) BMO Short Corporate Bond Index ETF BMO Short Federal Bond Index ETF	CAD CAD	67,127 67,130	866,912 887,245	874,665 890,144
			1,754,157	1,764,809
Industrial (11.04%) ATS Corp. Badger Infrastructure Solution Canadian National Railway Co. Canadian Pacific Railway Ltd. Cargojet Inc. CCL Industries Inc. GFL Environmental Inc. H2O Innovation Inc. Mullen Group Ltd. NanoXplore Inc. TFI International Inc.	CAD CAD CAD CAD CAD CAD CAD CAD CAD CAD	$\begin{array}{r} 4,900\\ 3,000\\ 2,640\\ 4,415\\ 2,210\\ 3,760\\ 7,200\\ 30,000\\ 19,100\\ 34,200\\ 2,255\end{array}$	212,881 74,717 304,067 214,070 305,352 180,916 229,568 64,852 214,953 130,415 198,987	206,241 79,980 424,618 445,694 257,134 217,478 284,688 77,100 277,905 88,920 305,801

## Schedule of Investment Portfolio ...continued

## As at December 31, 2022

### (expressed in Canadian dollars)

Description	Currency	Number of shares	Average cost \$	Fair value \$
WSP Global Inc.	CAD	1,830	205,043	287,475
			2,335,821	2,953,034
<b>Technology (5.89%)</b> CGI Inc. Constellation Software Inc. Kinaxis Inc. Magnet Forensics Inc. Nuvei Corp. Open Text Corp.	CAD CAD CAD CAD CAD CAD	2,270 125 1,910 8,450 6,960 5,091	210,756 240,269 258,970 274,832 365,752 236,047 1,586,626	264,932 264,245 290,148 313,918 239,494 204,251 1,576,988
<b>Utilities (6.02%)</b> AltaGas Ltd. Brookfield Infrastructure Corp. Brookfield Renewable Partners LP Capital Power Corp. Innergex Renewable Energy Inc. Northland Power Inc.	CAD CAD CAD CAD CAD CAD	9,800 4,175 8,650 6,120 17,100 8,218	226,232 184,011 324,399 211,028 314,383 294,185 1,554,238	229,124 219,897 296,522 283,540 277,020 305,134 1,611,237
Total Equities			22,260,204	25,761,288

## Schedule of Investment Portfolio ...continued

## As at December 31, 2022

### (expressed in Canadian dollars)

Description	Currency	Number of shares/ Nominal value	Average cost \$	Fair value \$
Fixed income (3.10%)				
Basic material (2.08%) Chemtrade Logistics Income Fund, 6.5% / Oct. 31, 2026 / CONV \$15.80 North American Construction Group Ltd., 5.5% /	CAD	250,000	250,000	245,818
June 30, 2028 / CONV \$24.75	CAD	300,000	300,000	312,000
			550,000	557,818
<b>Consumer cyclical (1.01%)</b> Exchange Income Corp. 5.25% / Jan. 15, 2029 / CONV \$59.99	CAD	300,000	300,000	296,700
			850,000	854,518
Warrants (0.01%) Flow Beverage Corp. \$10 / June 29, 2023 The Lion Electric Co. \$2.80 / Dec. 13, 2027 Star Royalties Ltd. \$1 / Feb. 19, 2024 Tidewater Midstream and Infrastructure Ltd. \$1.44 / Aug. 16, 2024	CAD USD CAD CAD	5,220 25,000 85,000 15,000	5,220 7,565 <u>1,500</u>	26 23,678 2,125 <u>1,800</u>
			14,285	27,629
Total investments owned			23,124,489	26,643,435
Commissions and other portfolio transaction costs			(26,425)	
Net investments owned (99.53%)			23,098,064	26,643,435
Other assets, net (0.47%)				124,664
Net assets attribute to holders of redeemable units (100%)				26,768,099

## **1** General information

Palos Equity Income Fund (the Fund) was formed on January 3, 2008 under the laws of the Province of Quebec pursuant to a trust agreement, as amended for the last time on August 26, 2013, between Computershare Trust Company of Canada (the trustee) and Charles Marleau (the settlor). The address of the Fund's registered office is 1 Place Ville-Marie, Suite 1670, Montréal, Quebec, H3B 2B6 Canada. The Fund is an open-ended mutual fund, is qualified as a unit trust and is a registered investment fund under Section 204.4 of the Income Tax Act (Canada).

Series A opened on January 3, 2008, and Series F opened on February 24, 2012.

The Fund acts as an investment holding unit trust for the benefit of unitholders by acquiring, investing in, holding, transferring, disposing of, or otherwise dealing with such investments as the trustee and the investment fund manager determine, at their discretion, in accordance with the investment objectives of the Fund, which are to preserve capital, to provide an attractive and steady stream of income and to deliver trading-enhanced returns.

The investment fund manager and portfolio advisor is Palos Management Inc. (the Manager).

These financial statements have been authorized for issue by the Board of Directors of the Manager on March 24, 2023.

#### 2 Basis of presentation

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) as published by the International Accounting Standards Board.

### 3 Summary of significant accounting policies

#### **Financial instruments**

#### Classification

IFRS 9, Financial Instruments, sets out a classification and measurement model for financial assets to determine whether a financial asset should be classified at amortized cost, at fair value through profit or loss (FVTPL) or fair value through other comprehensive income (FVOCI). This model is based on the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial asset and the business model under which the financial asset is held. The Fund manages its investments in financial assets with the objective of realizing cash flows through both the sale of the assets and income generated from those assets. The Manager makes decisions based on the assets' fair values and manages the assets to realize those fair values.

IFRS 9 requires that an entity recognize a loss allowance for expected credit losses on financial assets which are measured at amortized cost or FVOCI. Financial assets held by the Fund which are measured at FVTPL will not be subject to the recent impairment requirements.

With respect to receivables, the Fund considers both historical analysis and forward-looking information in determining any expected credit loss. As at the statement of financial position dates, all receivables are due to be settled within the short term. The Fund considered 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 obligation in the near term. Given the limited exposure of the Fund to credit risk from financial assets recorded at amortized cost, no loss allowance has been recognized as any such impairment will not have a significant impact on the financial statements.

#### Recognition

Regular-way purchases and sales of financial assets are recognized at their trade date. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred in the statements of comprehensive income (loss). The Fund's investment assets and liabilities are measured at FVTPL, including certain investments in debt securities which have been designated at FVTPL. The Fund's derivative and non-derivative investments are classified as FVTPL upon initial recognition. The Fund's obligation for net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units is classified as a financial liability at the redemption amount, which approximates fair value. The redemption amount is determined as the net difference between total assets and all other liabilities reflect the amount required to be received or paid, discounted, when appropriate, at the contract's effective interest rate. The Fund's accounting policies for measuring the fair value of its investments and derivatives are identical to those used in measuring its net asset value (NAV) for transactions with unitholders.

#### Income recognition

The interest income for distribution purposes shown on the statements of comprehensive income (loss) represents the contractual interest 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 and loans which would be amortized on a straight-line basis. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date.

Realized gain on sale of investments and unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of 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.

#### Fair value measurement

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 financial liabilities traded in active markets (such as publicly traded derivatives and marketable securities) 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.

The fair value of financial assets and financial 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.

#### **Investment entities**

The Fund meets the definition in IFRS 10, Consolidated Financial Statements, for investment entities and accounts for its investments in underlying at FVTPL.

#### Structured entities

The Fund may invest in other investment funds (underlying funds) by holding redeemable shares of the underlying funds which entitle the holder to an appropriate share of the underlying funds' net assets. The Fund does not invest in underlying funds for the purpose of exercising management control. Such investments expose the Fund to the risk that underlying funds may not perform as expected and indirectly to all of the risks applicable to investments in underlying funds.

The carrying value of investments in underlying funds is included in Investment at fair value though profit or loss (FVTPL) in the statement of financial position and also represents the maximum exposure to losses. Changes in fair value of investments in underlying funds are included within net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of investments in the statement of comprehensive income.

#### Classification of redeemable units

The Fund's outstanding redeemable units are in different series which do not have identical features. Consequently, the Fund's outstanding redeemable units are classified as financial liabilities and recorded as net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units, in accordance with the requirements of International Accounting Standard (IAS) 32, Financial Instruments: Presentation.

#### Foreign currency translation

The Fund's subscriptions and redemptions are denominated in Canadian dollars, which is also its functional and presentation currency. Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the exchange rates prevailing at the dates that transactions occur. Foreign currency assets and liabilities denominated in a foreign currency are translated into the functional currency using the exchange rate prevailing at the measurement date. Foreign exchange gains and losses relating to cash and to other financial assets and financial liabilities are presented as net realized gain on sale of investments and net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of investments in the statements of comprehensive income (loss).

#### Offsetting financial assets and financial liabilities

Financial assets and financial liabilities are offset in the Fund's statements of financial position when and only when there is a legally enforceable right to offset the recognized amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis, or to realize the asset and settle the liability simultaneously. The Fund has a legally enforceable right to offset a financial asset and financial liability when such right is enforceable in the normal course of business and in the event of default, insolvency or bankruptcy.

Over-the-counter derivatives, securities lending, repurchase agreements and receivable for investments sold and payable for investments purchased are subject to master netting or similar agreements that do not meet the criteria for offsetting in the statements of financial position as they give a right to set-off that is enforceable only in the event of default, insolvency or bankruptcy.

#### Cash

Cash comprises deposits with financial institutions and bank overdraft.

#### Increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units per unit per series

The increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units per unit of each series is calculated by dividing the increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units of each series by the weighted average number of units outstanding during the year.

#### Taxation

The Fund qualifies as a mutual fund trust under the Income Tax Act (Canada). All of the Fund's net income for tax purposes and sufficient net capital gains realized in any period are required to be distributed to unitholders such that no income tax is payable by the Fund. 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 statements of financial position as a deferred income tax asset.

The Fund currently incurs withholding taxes imposed by certain countries on investment income and capital gains. Such income and gains are recorded on a gross basis and the related withholding taxes are shown as a separate expense in the statements of comprehensive income (loss).

#### New standards, interpretations and amendments not yet adopted

There are no new standards, interpretations or amendments that have not yet been adopted, that would affect the Fund's financial statements.

#### 4 Critical accounting estimates and judgments

The preparation of financial statements requires management to use judgment in applying its accounting policies and to make estimates and assumptions about the future. The following discusses the most significant accounting judgments and estimates that the Manager has made in preparing the financial statements:

a) Classification and measurement of investment and application of the fair value option

In classifying and measuring financial instruments held by the Fund, the Manager is required to make significant judgments about whether or not the business of the Fund is to manage its portfolio of investments and evaluate performance on a fair value basis and that the portfolio of investments is neither held to collect contractual cash flows nor held both to collect contractual cash flows and to sell financial assets. The most significant judgments made include assessing and determining the appropriate business model that enables the decision that the Fund's investments are classified as FVTPL.

#### 5 Risks associated with financial instruments

#### **Risk factors**

The Fund's activities expose it to a variety of risks associated with financial instruments, as follows: credit risk, liquidity risk, market risk (including currency risk, interest rate risk and price risk) and concentration risk. The Fund's overall risk management program seeks to maximize the returns derived for the level of risk to which the Fund is exposed and seeks to minimize potential adverse effects on the Fund's financial performance. All investments result in a risk of loss of capital. These risks are moderated through careful selection of securities and other financial instruments within the Fund's investment guidelines. The risks are measured using a method that reflects the expected impact on the results and net assets attributable to unitholders of the Fund from reasonably possible changes in the relevant risk variables.

#### **Credit risk**

The Fund is exposed to credit risk, which is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation. The majority of the credit risk to which the Fund is exposed arises from its investments in debt securities. In selecting fixed income securities for the Fund, the Manager considers factors such as the debt security's yield, risk of interest rate fluctuation, credit risk, the issuer's capital structure, credit spread and duration. As at December 31, 2022, all investments in fixed income were non-rated (2021 – non-rated).

All portfolio transactions in securities are settled or 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 are received by the broker. The trade will not settle if either party fails to meet its obligation. In addition, the Fund lodges its cash with quality institutions. Credit risk with respect to accrued income receivable is limited as the receivables are derived from a portfolio of diversified investments.

The Fund's maximum exposure to credit risk is equal to the carrying value of the assets presented on the statements of financial position. The Fund does not anticipate any significant losses from the non-performance of counterparties.

#### Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Fund will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities. The Fund is exposed to daily cash redemptions. Financial liabilities that potentially subject the Fund to liquidity risk consist of payable for investments purchased, redemptions payable, distributions payable, accrued liabilities and management fees payable. The Fund's investment approach focuses on investing in highly liquid securities and moderately liquid securities, which are therefore readily saleable to meet liquidity needs.

The Fund may invest in debt securities and unlisted equity investments that are not traded in an active market. As a result, the Fund may not be able to quickly liquidate its investments in these instruments at amounts which approximate their fair values, or be able to respond to specific events such as deterioration in the creditworthiness of any particular issuer. In accordance with the Fund's policy, the Manager monitors the Fund's liquidity position on a daily basis. The tables below analyze the Fund's financial liabilities into relevant maturity groupings based on the remaining period to the contractual maturity date. The amounts in the tables are the contractual undiscounted cash flows.

			2022
Financial liabilities	On demand	< 3 months	Total
	\$	\$	\$
Distributions payable	26,768,099	17,069	17,069
Accrued liabilities		66,675	66,675
Redeemable units		-	26,768,099
			2021
Financial liabilities	On demand	< 3 months	Total
	\$	\$	\$
Distributions payable Accrued liabilities Management fees payable Redeemable units	- - 29,728,170	375,698 46,070 658	375,698 46,070 658 29,728,170

Redeemable units are redeemable on demand at the holder's option. However, the Manager does not expect that the contractual maturity disclosed above will be representative of the actual cash outflows, as holders of these instruments typically retain them for a longer period.

#### Market risk

The Fund's investments are subject to market risk which is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. To monitor the risk, the Fund's Manager uses stress testing to examine the impact that abnormally large swings in market factors and periods of prolonged inactivity might have on trading portfolios. The stress testing is designed to identify key risks and ensure that the losses from abnormal events are not above the Fund's risk tolerance.

The following tables include sensitivity analyses that show how the net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units would have been affected by a reasonably possible change in the relevant risk variable at each reporting date. In practice, the actual results may differ and the difference could be material.

a) Currency risk

The Fund invests in monetary assets denominated in currencies other than Canadian dollar. These investments result in currency risk, which is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates.

The table below indicates the foreign currencies to which the Fund had significant exposure as at December 31, 2022 and 2021, in Canadian dollars. The table also illustrates the potential impact on the net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units if the Canadian dollar had strengthened or weakened by 5% in relation to each of the other currencies, with all other variables held constant. The monetary exposure presents the impact on cash and the non-monetary exposure presents the impact on investments. Non-monetary items are investments in equity securities and are classified based on the currency in which they were purchased.

	Exposure			Impact if CAD strengthened or weakened by 5% in relation to other currencies		
Currency	Monetary \$	Non- monetary \$	Total \$	Monetary \$	Non- monetary \$	Total \$
<b>December 31, 2022</b> US dollar	(113,120)	518,416	405,296	(5,656)	25,921	20,265
% of Net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units	(0.4)	1.9	1.5	0.0	0.1	0.1

	Exposure			Impact if CAD strengthened or weakened by 5% in relation to other currencies		
Currency	Monetary \$	Non- monetary \$	Total \$	Monetary \$	Non- monetary \$	Total \$
<b>December 31, 2021</b> US dollar	(22,717)	1,043,757	1,021,040	(1,136)	52,188	51,052
% of Net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units	(0.1)	3.5	3.4	-	0.2	0.2

b) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The Fund holds securities with fixed interest rates that expose the Fund to fair value interest rate risk. The Fund also holds cash that is subject to variable interest rates which exposes the Fund to cash flow interest rate risk.

The Fund mitigates interest rate risk by monitoring interest rates and the maturities of its portfolio of interest-bearing financial instruments. The following table summarizes the Fund's exposure to interest rate risk. It includes the Fund's interest-bearing financial assets at fair value, categorized by the earlier of contractual interest rate reset dates or maturity dates. The table also illustrates the potential impact on the net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units if the prevailing levels of market interest rates changed by 1%, assuming a parallel shift in the yield curve with all other variables held constant.

Terms to maturity	2022 \$	2021 \$
1–5 years 5–10 years	245,818 608,700	634,736 628,050
Total	854,518	1,262,786
Impact on net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units	26,750	29,103
Impact on net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units (%)	0.1%	0.1%

#### c) Price risk

Price risk is the risk that the value of an investment will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices, whether those changes are caused by factors specific to the individual investment or its issuer, or by factors affecting all securities traded in the market. The Fund is exposed to price risk through its equity investment portfolio, which includes a variety of common shares in a wide range of industries. Other assets and liabilities are monetary items that are short term in nature, and as such are not subject to price risk.

As at December 31, 2022, the expected increase or decrease in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units of the Fund if the S&P/TSX composite index had increased or decreased by 5%, with all other variables held constant, would amount to \$1,318,850 and would represent 4.9% of the net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units of the Fund (2021 - \$1,346,550 representing 4.5%).

## Notes to Financial Statements

### December 31, 2022 and 2021

(expressed in Canadian dollars)

#### **Concentration risk**

Concentration risk arises as a result of the concentration of exposure within the same category, whether it is geographical location, product type, industry sector or counterparty type. The following is a summary of the Fund's concentration risk by market segment over the total investments market value:

	% of portfolio		
Market segment	2022	2021	
Basic materials	7.5	7.4	
Communications	3.4	3.9	
Consumer, cyclical	4.1	6.4	
Consumer, non-cyclical	4.4	6.5	
Energy	18.1	10.8	
Financial	29.5	31.0	
Funds	6.6	6.2	
Industrial	11.1	12.9	
Technology	5.9	5.0	
Utilities	6.1	5.5	
Bonds	3.2	4.3	
Warrants	0.1	0.1	
	100.0	100.0	
	9	% of portfolio	
Market segment	2022	2021	
Bonds	3.2	4.2	
Common stock	96.2	95.3	
Warrants	0.1	0.1	
Other net assets	0.5	0.4	

#### Fair value measurement

The carrying amounts of accrued income receivable, subscription receivable, prepaid expenses, accrued liabilities and management fees payable approximate their fair values due to the short-term nature of these financial instruments.

The following table provides an analysis of financial instruments that are measured subsequent to initial recognition at fair value, grouped into levels 1 to 3 based on the degree to which the fair value is observable:

- Level 1 Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at the measurement date;
- Level 2 Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or li ability, either directly (i.e. as prices) or indirectly (i.e. derived from prices); and
- Level 3 Valuation techniques that include inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

				2022
	Level 1 \$	Level 2 \$	Level 3 \$	Total \$
Assets				
Equity	25,761,288	-	-	25,761,288
Fixed income	07.000	854,518	-	854,518
Warrants	27,629	-	-	27,629
	25,788,917	854,518	-	26,643,435
				2021
	Level 1* \$	Level 2 \$	Level 3 \$	Total \$
Assets				
Equity	28,316,745	_	_	28,316,745
Fixed income	20,010,740	1,262,786	-	1,262,786
Warrants	14,972	-	-	14,972
	28,331,717	1,262,786	-	29,594,503

\* The comparative figures previously reported as at December 31, 2021 have been adjusted in the table above in order to conform to the December 31, 2022 financial statement presentation. The corporate bonds have been reclassified from Level 1 to Level 2. The impact is isolated to the disclosures noted here.

All fair value measurements above are recurring. Fair values are classified as Level 1 when the related security or derivative is actively 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, the 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.

There was no change in levels during the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021.

Equities and convertible bonds

The Fund's equity and convertible bond positions are classified as Level 1 when the security is actively traded and a reliable price is observable. All equities and convertible bonds are classified as Level 1 investments.

Bonds and short-term investments

Corporate bonds are valued using models with inputs including interest rate curves, credit spreads and volatilities. The inputs that are significant to valuation are generally observable, and therefore the Fund's bonds and short-term investments have been classified as Level 2.

#### 6 Redeemable units

During the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, the number of units issued, redeemed and outstanding were as follows:

	Redeemable units – Beginning of year	Redeemable units issued	Redemption of redeemable units	Reinvestments of units	Redeemable units – End of year
<b>December 31, 2022</b> Series A Series F	3,038,038 994,079	255,512 58,525	(209,866) (149,901)	40,048 10,156	3,123,732 912,859
<b>December 31, 2021</b> Series A Series F	2,808,470 1,042,356	215,255 60,548	(161,867) (181,497)	176,180 72,672	3,038,038 994,079

#### **Capital structure**

Units issued and outstanding are considered to be the capital of the Fund. The Fund does not have any specific capital requirements.

The Fund is authorized to issue an unlimited number of redeemable unit series, as well as an unlimited number of redeemable units within each series. Each series unit enables its bearer to participate equally in the allocations the Fund completes for the given series. Unit fractions may also be issued.

The Fund is composed of more than one redeemable unit series; each redeemable unit series may feature different structures regarding management fees, performance fees and brokerage. As a result, each redeemable unit entitles its holder to one vote and to participate equally in the allocations the Fund completes and, in the case of Fund liquidation, in the allocation of the redeemable unit series' net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units after all current liabilities have been paid.

Notes to Financial Statements **December 31, 2022 and 2021** 

(expressed in Canadian dollars)

#### 7 Related party transactions

#### Management fees and performance fees

The Manager provides management and advisory services to the Fund in accordance with the agreement. In return for these services, the Manager is paid a management fee and a performance fee. The Series A units of the Fund are subject to a monthly management fee equal to 1/12 of 1.5% of the NAV of the Series A units. The Manager will pay a trailer fee of 0.75% out of the management fees collected from the Fund with respect to Series A units.

Series F is similar to Series A, but no trailer fee is included in the management fee. Series F charges a monthly management fee of 1/12 of 0.75% of the NAV of Series F.

Based on the agreement amended and restated on August 26, 2013, the performance fee is 20% of the amount by which the Fund outperforms its benchmark, the S&P/TSX Composite Index. Performance fees are paid annually.

The total management fees and performance fees for the year ended December 31, 2022 amounted to \$419,297 and nil respectively (2021– \$419,164 and nil respectively), with nil in outstanding fees due to the Manager as at December 31, 2022 (2021– \$658).

The Manager may waive or absorb the operation of management fees of the Fund. The decision to do so is reviewed regularly and is determined at the sole discretion of the Manager. During the year, the Manager did not waive any fees (2021– did not waive any fees).

#### **Independent Review Committee fees**

The total remuneration paid to members of the Independent Review Committee during the year ended December 31, 2022 amounted to \$12,001 (2021– \$12,001) and consisted only of fixed fees.

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2022 and 2021

(expressed in Canadian dollars)

#### 8 Brokerage commissions and soft dollars

The total commissions paid by the Fund to brokers in connection with portfolio transactions for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, together with other transaction charges, are disclosed in the statements of comprehensive income of the Fund. Brokerage business is allocated to brokers based on the best net result for the Fund. Subject to these criteria, preference may be given to brokerage firms which provide (or pay for) certain services (arrangements referred to as "soft dollar"), which may include investment research, analysis and reports, and databases or software in support of these services. The ascertainable soft dollar value received as a percentage of total brokerage commissions paid during the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021 is disclosed below.

	2022	2021
Soft dollars	\$5,234	\$5,637
Percentage of total transaction costs (%)	12%	11%

# 9 Increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units per series per unit

The increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units per series per unit for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021 is calculated as follows:

	Increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units per series \$	Weighted average of redeemable units outstanding during the year	Increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units per unit \$
<b>December 31, 2022</b> Series A Series F	(1,963,651) (623,618)	3,096,748 944,443	(0.63) (0.66)
<b>December 31, 2021</b> Series A Series F	3,903,744 1,583,116	2,813,689 974,276	1.39 1.62

Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2022 and 2021

(expressed in Canadian dollars)

### 10 Taxes

The Fund qualifies as a mutual fund trust under the Income Tax Act (Canada).

All or substantially all of the net income for tax purposes and net taxable capital gains realized in any period, after use of loss carry-forwards, are distributed to unitholders such that no income taxes are payable by the Fund.

Capital and non-capital losses determined for tax purposes as at December 31, 2022 were nil (2021 – nil).