



Imperial Equity High Income Pool

Annual Financial Statements

for the financial year ended December 31, 2019

Statements of Financial Position (in 000s, except per unit amounts)

As at December 31, 2019 and 2018 (note 1)

	December 31, 2019	December 31, 2018
Assets		
Current assets		
Investments (non-derivative financial assets) † (notes 2 and 3)	\$ 1,023,537	\$ 950,992
Cash including foreign currency holdings, at fair value	90	122
Dividends receivable	2,491	3,222
Receivable for portfolio securities sold	—	530
Receivable for units issued	322	274
Total Assets	1,026,440	955,140
Liabilities		
Current liabilities		
Payable for portfolio securities purchased	—	7,429
Payable for units redeemed	431	589
Total Liabilities	431	8,018
Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Units (note 5)	\$ 1,026,009	\$ 947,122
Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Units per Class		
Class A	\$ 891,133	\$ 839,353
Class W	\$ 134,876	\$ 107,769
Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Units per Unit (note 5)		
Class A	\$ 13.62	\$ 12.09
Class W	\$ 14.37	\$ 12.27

† Securities Lending

The tables that follow indicate the Pool had assets involved in securities lending transactions outstanding as at December 31, 2019 and 2018.

	Aggregate Value of Securities on Loan (\$000s)	Aggregate Value of Collateral for Loan (\$000s)
December 31, 2019	26,664	28,013
December 31, 2018	18,967	19,954

Collateral Type* (\$000s)

	i	ii	iii	iv
December 31, 2019	—	28,013	—	—
December 31, 2018	—	19,954	—	—

* See note 2j for Collateral Type definitions.

Organization of the Fund (note 1)

The Pool was established on February 1, 1991 (*Date Established*).

	Inception Date
Class A	November 24, 2003
Class W	October 19, 2018

Imperial Equity High Income Pool

Statements of Comprehensive Income (in 000s, except per unit amounts)

For the periods ended December 31, 2019 and 2018 (note 1)

	December 31, 2019	December 31, 2018
Net Gain (loss) on Financial Instruments		
Interest for distribution purposes	\$ 9,024	\$ 6,570
Dividend revenue	24,615	26,717
Other changes in fair value of investments and derivatives		
Net realized gain (loss) on sale of investments and derivatives	26,157	48,203
Net realized gain (loss) on foreign currency (notes 2f and g)	28	9
Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of investments and derivatives	133,597	(138,533)
Net Gain (loss) on Financial Instruments	193,421	(57,034)
Other Income		
Foreign exchange gain (loss) on cash	(18)	(9)
Securities lending revenue ±	24	72
	6	63
Expenses (note 6)		
Management fees ±±	2,817	2,836
Audit fees	9	7
Custodial fees	33	33
Independent review committee fees	2	5
Legal fees	5	5
Regulatory fees	30	34
Transaction costs ±±±	395	765
Unitholder reporting costs	384	396
Withholding taxes (note 7)	22	30
Other expenses	17	21
	3,714	4,132
Expenses waived/absorbed by the Manager	(1,580)	(1,606)
	2,134	2,526
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Units (excluding distributions)	191,293	(59,497)
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Units per Class (excluding distributions)		
Class A	\$ 168,752	\$ (52,208)
Class W	\$ 22,541	\$ (7,289)
Average Number of Units Outstanding for the period per Class		
Class A	66,616	75,602
Class W	9,007	8,056
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Units per Unit (excluding distributions)		
Class A	\$ 2.53	\$ (0.68)
Class W	\$ 2.50	\$ (0.91)

± Securities Lending Revenue (note 2j)

	December 31, 2019	December 31, 2018
	(in 000s)	(in 000s)
	% of Gross securities lending revenue	% of Gross securities lending revenue
Gross securities lending revenue	\$ 32 100.0	\$ 99 100.0
Interest paid on collateral	—	—
Withholding taxes	—	—
Agent fees - Bank of New York Mellon Corp. (The)	8 25.0	27 27.3
Securities lending revenue	\$ 24 75.0	\$ 72 72.7

±± Maximum Chargeable Annual Management Fee Rates (note 6)

Class A	0.25%
Class W	0.25%

±±± Brokerage Commissions and Fees (notes 8 and 9)

	2019	2018
Brokerage commissions and other fees (\$000s)		
Total Paid	395	765
Paid to CIBC World Markets Inc.	102	93
Paid to CIBC World Markets Corp.	—	—
Soft dollars (\$000s)		
Total Paid	236	480
Paid to CIBC World Markets Inc. and CIBC World Markets Corp.	61	60

Service Provider (note 9)

The amounts paid by the Pool (including all applicable taxes) to CIBC Mellon Trust Company for custodial fees, and to CIBC Mellon Global Securities Services Company (*CIBC GSS*) for securities lending, fund accounting and reporting, and portfolio valuation (all net of absorptions) for the periods ended December 31, 2019 and 2018 were as follows:

	2019	2018
(\$000s)	10	31

Imperial Equity High Income Pool

**Statements of Changes in Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Units
(in 000s)**

For the periods ended December 31, 2019 and 2018 (note 1)

	Class A Units		Class W Units	
	December 31, 2019	December 31, 2018	December 31, 2019	December 31, 2018
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Units (excluding distributions)	\$ 168,752	\$ (52,208)	\$ 22,541	\$ (7,289)
Distributions Paid or Payable to Holders of Redeemable Units ‡				
From net investment income	(28,125)	(30,136)	(3,876)	(498)
Return of capital	(35,424)	(41,893)	—	—
	(63,549)	(72,029)	(3,876)	(498)
Redeemable Unit Transactions				
Amount received from the issuance of units	98,383	138,277	34,063	121,448
Amount received from reinvestment of distributions	56,868	64,700	3,573	467
Amount paid on redemptions of units	(208,674)	(293,875)	(29,194)	(6,359)
	(53,423)	(90,898)	8,442	115,556
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Units	51,780	(215,135)	27,107	107,769
Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Units at Beginning of Period	839,353	1,054,488	107,769	—
Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Units at End of Period	\$ 891,133	\$ 839,353	\$ 134,876	\$ 107,769
Redeemable Units Issued and Outstanding (note 5)				
As at December 31, 2019 and 2018				
Balance - beginning of period	69,398	76,244	8,784	—
Redeemable units issued	7,333	10,348	2,478	9,248
Redeemable units issued on reinvestments	4,229	4,890	258	37
	80,960	91,482	11,520	9,285
Redeemable units redeemed	(15,515)	(22,084)	(2,137)	(501)
Balance - end of period	65,445	69,398	9,383	8,784

‡ Net Capital and Non-Capital Losses (note 7)

As at December 2019, the Pool had net capital and non-capital losses (in \$000s) for income tax purposes available to be carried forward as follows:

	Total Non-Capital Losses that Expire in: 2029 to 2039
Total Net Capital Losses	29,254
	—

Imperial Equity High Income Pool

Statements of Cash Flows (in 000s)

For the periods ended December 31, 2019 and 2018 (note 1)

	December 31, 2019	December 31, 2018
Cash Flows from Operating Activities		
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Units from Operations (excluding distributions)	\$ 191,293	\$ (59,497)
Adjustments for:		
Foreign exchange loss (gain) on cash	18	9
Net realized (gain) loss on sale of investments and derivatives	(26,157)	(48,203)
Net change in unrealized (appreciation) depreciation of investments and derivatives	(133,597)	138,533
Purchase of investments	(939,171)	(996,550)
Proceeds from the sale of investments	1,019,481	1,013,229
Dividends receivable	731	(350)
	112,598	47,171
Cash Flows from Financing Activities		
Amount received from the issuance of units	132,398	259,451
Amount paid on redemptions of units	(238,026)	(299,645)
Distributions paid to unitholders	(6,984)	(7,360)
	(112,612)	(47,554)
Increase (Decrease) in Cash during the Period	(14)	(383)
Foreign exchange loss (gain) on cash	(18)	(9)
Cash (Bank Overdraft) at Beginning of Period	122	514
Cash (Bank Overdraft) at End of Period	\$ 90	\$ 122
Interest received	\$ 9,024	\$ 6,570
Dividends received, net of withholding taxes	\$ 25,324	\$ 26,337

Imperial Equity High Income Pool

Schedule of Investment Portfolio As at December 31, 2019

Security	Number of Shares	Average Cost (\$000s)	Fair Value (\$000s)	% of Net Assets
CANADIAN EQUITIES				
Communication Services				
Rogers Communications Inc., Class 'B'	163,514	10,709	10,543	
Shaw Communications Inc., Class 'B'	423,920	10,772	11,170	
TELUS Corp.	552,755	19,582	27,793	
		41,063	49,506	4.8%
Consumer Discretionary				
Magna International Inc.	94,315	5,950	6,715	
Restaurant Brands International Inc.	181,420	16,127	15,018	
Spin Master Corp.	145,141	7,759	5,739	
		29,836	27,472	2.7%
Energy				
Canadian Natural Resources Ltd.	505,122	18,648	21,215	
Cenovus Energy Inc.	435,160	5,216	5,744	
Enbridge Inc.	735,438	32,709	37,971	
Keyera Corp.	528,298	16,932	17,973	
Pembina Pipeline Corp.	494,133	13,699	23,783	
Suncor Energy Inc.	704,474	35,588	29,982	
TC Energy Corp.	184,865	12,630	12,785	
		135,422	149,453	14.6%
Financials				
Bank of Montreal	293,688	29,065	29,557	
Bank of Nova Scotia	320,514	20,686	23,510	
Brookfield Asset Management Inc., Class 'A'	580,789	30,396	43,577	
Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce	132,160	11,884	14,281	
Great-West Lifeco Inc.	163,026	5,014	5,422	
Intact Financial Corp.	117,236	13,581	16,462	
Manulife Financial Corp.	247,686	6,042	6,529	
Royal Bank of Canada	444,600	33,493	45,683	
Sun Life Financial Inc.	156,124	7,188	9,244	
Toronto-Dominion Bank (The)	772,160	47,378	56,236	
		204,727	250,501	24.4%
Industrials				
Brookfield Business Partners L.P.	248,954	11,612	13,376	
Canadian National Railway Co.	174,405	18,355	20,487	
Canadian Pacific Railway Ltd.	60,128	15,056	19,904	
Cargojet Inc.	26,828	2,230	2,772	
NFI Group Inc.	182,131	9,079	4,854	
Waste Connections Inc.	144,269	14,932	17,017	
		71,264	78,410	7.6%
Information Technology				
Constellation Software Inc.	5,590	6,620	7,050	
Kinaxis Inc.	30,498	2,771	3,051	
		9,391	10,101	1.0%
Materials				
Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.	241,809	14,120	19,340	
Barrick Gold Corp.	471,043	10,209	11,361	
ERO Copper Corp.	32,881	698	776	
Nutrien Ltd.	342,380	22,202	21,286	
Teck Resources Ltd., Class 'B'	362,378	10,654	8,161	
		57,883	60,924	5.9%
Real Estate				
Allied Properties REIT	426,988	18,776	22,233	
Boardwalk REIT	511,161	20,530	23,478	
Canadian Apartment Properties REIT	865,728	18,844	45,892	
Choice Properties REIT	3,549,010	27,715	49,367	
Colliers International Group Inc.	63,087	5,630	6,378	
CT REIT	1,396,613	18,714	22,541	
FirstService Corp.	124,604	13,039	15,064	
Granite REIT, Stapled Units	607,385	27,040	40,075	
H&R REIT	861,081	9,152	18,169	
Minto Apartment REIT	311,160	7,097	7,203	
RioCan REIT	1,405,937	27,180	37,623	
		193,717	288,023	28.1%
Utilities				
Brookfield Infrastructure Partners L.P.	387,064	19,883	25,105	
Brookfield Renewable Partners L.P.	132,987	5,993	8,019	
Northland Power Inc.	584,093	13,948	15,888	
		39,824	49,012	4.8%
TOTAL CANADIAN EQUITIES		783,127	963,402	93.9%

Imperial Equity High Income Pool

Schedule of Investment Portfolio As at December 31, 2019 (cont'd)

Security	Number of Shares	Average Cost (\$000s)	Fair Value (\$000s)	% of Net Assets			
INTERNATIONAL EQUITIES							
United States							
Brookfield Property Partners L.P.	1,054,335	29,941	25,019				
		29,941	25,019	2.5%			
TOTAL INTERNATIONAL EQUITIES		29,941	25,019	2.5%			
TOTAL EQUITIES		813,068	988,421	96.4%			
TOTAL INVESTMENTS BEFORE SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS		813,068	988,421	96.4%			
Security	Coupon Rate (%)	Maturity Date	Additional Details	Par Value	Average Cost (\$000s)	Fair Value (\$000s)	% of Net Assets
SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS							
Government of Canada	1.64%	2020/01/23	Treasury Bill	16,475,000	16,403	16,459	
Government of Canada	1.66%	2020/02/20	Treasury Bill	650,000	647	648	
Government of Canada	1.65%	2020/03/19	Treasury Bill	14,375,000	14,311	14,324	
Government of Canada	1.64%	2020/04/02	Treasury Bill	3,700,000	3,684	3,685	
TOTAL SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS					35,045	35,116	3.4%
Less: Transaction costs included in average cost					(492)		
TOTAL INVESTMENTS					847,621	1,023,537	99.8%
Other Assets, less Liabilities						2,472	0.2%
TOTAL NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO HOLDERS OF REDEEMABLE UNITS						1,026,009	100.0%

Supplemental Schedule to Schedule of Investment Portfolio

Offsetting Arrangements (note 2d)

The Pool may enter into various master netting arrangements or other similar agreements that do not meet the criteria for offsetting in the Statements of Financial Position but still allow for the related amounts to be set off in certain circumstances, such as bankruptcy or the termination of the contracts.

As at December 31, 2019 and 2018, the Pool did not enter into any arrangements whereby the financial instruments were eligible for offset.

Interests in Underlying Funds (note 4)

As at December 31, 2019 and 2018, the Pool had no investments in underlying funds where the ownership exceeded 20% of each underlying fund.

Imperial Equity High Income Pool

Financial Instrument Risks

Investment Objective: Imperial Equity High Income Pool (the *Pool*) seeks to generate a high level of current cash flow by investing primarily in income producing securities including Canadian income trusts, preferred shares, common shares, and fixed income securities.

Investment Strategies: The Pool uses a fundamental approach to invest primarily in dividend paying securities that can provide a consistent long-term income stream and capital preservation.

Significant risks that are relevant to the Pool are discussed here. General information on risk management and specific discussion on concentration, credit, currency, interest rate, liquidity, and other price/market risk can be found in note 2 of the financial statements.

In the following risk tables, Net Assets is defined as meaning "Net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units".

Concentration Risk as at December 31, 2019 and 2018

The Schedule of Investment Portfolio presents the securities held by the Pool as at December 31, 2019.

The following table presents the investment sectors held by the Pool as at December 31, 2018, and groups the securities by asset type, industry sector, geographic region, or currency exposure:

As at December 31, 2018

Portfolio Breakdown	% of Net Assets
Canadian Equities	
Communication Services	5.3
Consumer Discretionary	0.8
Consumer Staples	0.9
Energy	14.1
Financials	26.9
Industrials	7.2
Information Technology	0.4
Materials	7.6
Real Estate	25.3
Utilities	2.6
International Equities	
Bermuda	1.0
United States	3.0
Short-Term Investments	5.3
Other Assets, less Liabilities	(0.4)
Total	100.0

Credit Risk

Credit ratings represent a consolidation of the ratings provided by various outside service providers and are subject to change, which could be material.

See the Schedule of Investment Portfolio for counterparties related to over-the-counter derivative contracts, where applicable.

As at December 31, 2019 and 2018, the Pool invested in debt securities with the following credit ratings:

Debt Securities by Credit Rating (note 2b)	% of Net Assets	
	December 31, 2019	December 31, 2018
'AAA'	3.4	4.9
'AA'	—	0.4
Total	3.4	5.3

Currency Risk

The tables that follow indicate the currencies to which the Pool had significant exposure as at December 31, 2019 and 2018, based on the market value of the Pool's financial instruments (including cash and cash equivalents) and the underlying principal amounts of forward foreign currency contracts, as applicable.

As at December 31, 2019

Currency (note 2m)	Total Currency Exposure* (\$000s)	% of Net Assets
USD	97	—
GBP	2	—

* Amounts reflect the carrying value of monetary and non-monetary items (including the notional amount of forward foreign currency contracts, if any).

As at December 31, 2018

Currency (note 2m)	Total Currency Exposure* (\$000s)	% of Net Assets
USD	942	0.1
GBP	3	—

* Amounts reflect the carrying value of monetary and non-monetary items (including the notional amount of forward foreign currency contracts, if any).

The table that follows indicates how net assets as at December 31, 2019 and 2018 would have decreased or increased had the Canadian dollar strengthened or weakened by 1% in relation to all foreign currencies. This analysis assumes that all other variables remain unchanged. In practice, the actual results may differ from this analysis and the difference could be material.

	December 31, 2019	December 31, 2018
Impact on Net Assets (\$000s)	1	9

Interest Rate Risk

As at December 31, 2019 and 2018, the majority of the Pool's financial assets and liabilities are non-interest bearing and short-term in nature; accordingly, the Pool is not subject to significant amounts of risk due to fluctuations in the prevailing levels of market interest rates.

Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Pool will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities. The Pool is exposed to daily cash redemptions of redeemable units. The Pool maintains sufficient cash on hand to fund anticipated redemptions.

With the exception of derivative contracts, where applicable, all of the Pool's financial liabilities are short-term liabilities maturing within 90 days after the period end.

For pools that hold derivative contracts with a term-to-maturity that exceeds 90 days from the period end, further information related to those contracts can be referenced in the derivative schedules following the Schedule of Investment Portfolio.

Other Price/Market Risk

The table that follows indicates how net assets as at December 31, 2019 and 2018 would have increased or decreased had the value of the Pool's benchmark(s) increased or decreased by 1%. This change is estimated based on the historical correlation between the return of Class A units of the Pool as compared to the return of the Pool's benchmark(s), using 36 monthly data points, as available, based on the monthly net returns of the Pool. This analysis assumes that all other variables remain unchanged. The historical correlation may not be representative of the future correlation and, accordingly, the impact on net assets could be materially different.

Benchmark	Impact on Net Assets (\$000s)	
	December 31, 2019	December 31, 2018
S&P/TSX Composite Dividend Index	9,126	29,702
70% S&P/TSX Composite Dividend Index	10,754	28,827
30% S&P/TSX Capped REIT Index		

Fair Value Measurement of Financial Instruments

The following is a summary of the inputs used as at December 31, 2019 and 2018 in valuing the Pool's financial assets and financial liabilities, carried at fair value:

As at December 31, 2019

Classification	Level 1 (i) (\$000s)	Level 2 (ii) (\$000s)	Level 3 (iii) (\$000s)	Total (\$000s)
Financial Assets				
Short-Term Investments	—	35,116	—	35,116
Equities	988,421	—	—	988,421
Total Financial Assets	988,421	35,116	—	1,023,537

(i) Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets

(ii) Significant other observable inputs

(iii) Significant unobservable inputs

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As at December 31, 2018

Classification	Level 1 (i) (\$000s)	Level 2 (ii) (\$000s)	Level 3 (iii) (\$000s)	Total (\$000s)
Financial Assets				
Short-Term Investments	–	49,733	–	49,733
Equities	901,259	–	–	901,259
Total Financial Assets	901,259	49,733	–	950,992

(i) Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets

(ii) Significant other observable inputs

(iii) Significant unobservable inputs

Transfer of assets between Level 1 and Level 2

Financial assets and liabilities transferred from Level 1 to Level 2 are the result of securities no longer being traded in an active market.

For the periods ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, there were no transfers of financial assets and liabilities from Level 1 to Level 2.

Financial assets and liabilities transferred from Level 2 to Level 1 are the result of securities now being traded in an active market.

For the periods ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, there were no transfers of financial assets and liabilities from Level 2 to Level 1.

Reconciliation of financial asset and liability movement – Level 3

The Pool did not hold any Level 3 investments at the beginning of, during, or at the end of either reporting period.

Notes to Financial Statements

As at and for the periods as disclosed in the financial statements (note 1)

1. Organization of the Funds and Financial Reporting Periods

The Imperial Pools consist of Imperial Money Market Pool, Imperial Short-Term Bond Pool, Imperial Canadian Bond Pool, Imperial Canadian Diversified Income Pool, Imperial International Bond Pool, Imperial Equity High Income Pool, Imperial Canadian Dividend Income Pool, Imperial Global Equity Income Pool, Imperial Canadian Equity Pool, Imperial U.S. Equity Pool, Imperial International Equity Pool, Imperial Overseas Equity Pool, and Imperial Emerging Economies Pool (individually, a *Pool*, and collectively, the *Pools*).

The Income Generation Portfolios consist of Conservative Income Portfolio, Balanced Income Portfolio and Enhanced Income Portfolio (individually, a *Portfolio*, and collectively, the *Portfolios*).

Each of the Imperial Pools and Income Generation Portfolios (individually, a *Fund*, and collectively, the *Funds*) is a mutual fund trust organized under the laws of Ontario and governed by a declaration of trust (*Declaration of Trust*). The address of the Funds' registered office is 18 York Street, Suite 1300, Toronto, Ontario.

Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (*CIBC*) is the manager (the *Manager*) of the Funds and CIBC Trust Corporation is the trustee (the *Trustee*) of the Funds. Each Fund may issue an unlimited number of classes of units and an unlimited number of units of each class. As at the date of these financial statements, each of the Pools offer Class A units for sale and the Imperial Equity High Income Pool, Imperial Canadian Dividend Income Pool and the Imperial Global Equity Income Pool offer Class W units for sale, the Conservative Income Portfolio offers Class T3 and Class T4 units, Balanced Income Portfolio offers Class T4 and Class T5 units, and Enhanced Income Portfolio offers Class T5 and Class T6 units for sale.

The date upon which each Fund was established by Declaration of Trust (*Date Established*) and the date upon which units of each Fund was first sold to the public (*Inception Date*) are reported in footnote *Organization of the Fund* on the Statements of Financial Position.

The Schedule of Investment Portfolio of each Fund is as at December 31, 2019. The Statements of Financial Position of each of the Funds are as at December 31, 2019 and 2018. The Statements of Comprehensive Income, Statements of Changes in Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Units, and Statements of Cash Flows of each of the Funds are for the annual periods ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, except for Funds established during either year, in which case the information presented is from the Date Established or the Inception Date to December 31, 2019 and 2018.

These financial statements were approved for issuance by the Manager on March 5, 2020.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

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

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis using the historical cost convention. However, each Fund is an investment entity and primarily all financial assets and financial liabilities are measured at fair value in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards. Accordingly, the Funds' accounting policies for measuring the fair value of investments and derivatives are consistent with those used in measuring the Net Asset Value for transactions with unitholders. In applying International Financial Reporting Standards (*IFRS*), these financial statements include estimates and assumptions made by management that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income, and expenses during the reporting periods. However, existing circumstances and assumptions may change due to market changes or circumstances arising beyond the control of the Funds. Such changes are reflected in the assumptions when they occur.

These financial statements have been presented in Canadian dollars, which is the Funds' functional currency (unless otherwise noted).

a) Financial Instruments

Classification and recognition of financial instruments

Under IFRS 9 Financial Instruments, the Funds classify financial assets into one of three categories based on the entity's business model for managing financial assets and the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial assets. Those categories are:

- *Amortized Cost* - Assets held within a business model whose objective is to collect cash flows and where the contractual cash flows of the assets are solely payments of principal and interest (SPPI criterion). Amortization of the asset is calculated utilizing the Effective Interest Rate Method.
- *Fair Value Through Other Comprehensive Income (FVOCI)* - Financial assets such as debt instruments that meet the SPPI criterion and are held within a business model with objectives that include both collecting the associated contractual cash flows and selling financial assets. Gains and Losses are reclassified to Profit or Loss upon de-recognition for debt instruments but remain in Other Comprehensive Income for equity instruments.
- *Fair Value Through Profit or Loss (FVTPL)* - A financial asset is measured at FVTPL unless it is measured at Amortized Cost or FVOCI. Derivative contracts are measured at FVTPL. For all instruments classified as FVTPL, the gains and losses are recognized in Profit or Loss.

Financial Liabilities are classified at FVTPL when they meet the definition of held-for-trading (HFT) or when they are designated as FVTPL on initial recognition using the fair value option.

The Manager has assessed the business models of the Funds and has determined that the Funds' portfolio of financial assets and financial liabilities are managed and performance is evaluated on a fair value basis in accordance with the Funds' risk management and investment strategies; therefore, classification and measurement of financial assets is FVTPL.

All Funds have contractual obligations to distribute cash to the unitholders. As a result, each Fund's obligation for net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units represents a financial liability and is presented at the redemption amount.

b) Risk Management

The Funds' overall risk management approach includes formal guidelines that govern the extent of exposure to various types of risk, including diversification within asset classes and limits on the exposure to individual investments and counterparties. In addition, derivative financial instruments may be used to manage certain risk exposures. The Manager also has various internal controls to oversee the Funds' investment activities, including monitoring compliance with the investment objectives and strategies, internal guidelines, and securities regulations. Please refer to each Fund's *Supplemental Schedule to Schedule of Investment Portfolio* for specific risk disclosures.

Fair value of financial instruments by using valuation techniques

Financial instruments are valued at their fair value, which is defined as 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. Refer to note 3a to 3f for valuation of each specific type of financial instrument held by the Funds. The fair value of financial assets and liabilities traded in active markets are based on quoted market prices at the close of trading on the reporting date. The Funds use 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 price that is most representative of fair value based on the specific facts and circumstances.

For financial assets and financial liabilities that are not traded in an active market, fair value is determined using valuation techniques.

The Funds classify fair value measurement within a hierarchy, which gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are:

Level 1: Quoted prices (unadjusted) 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 liability, either directly or indirectly; and

Level 3: Inputs are unobservable for the asset or liability.

If inputs are used to measure an asset's or liability's fair value, the classification within the hierarchy is based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Each Fund's fair value hierarchy classification of its assets and liabilities is included in the *Supplemental Schedule to Schedule of Investment Portfolio*.

The carrying values of all non-investment assets and liabilities approximate their fair values due to their short-term nature. 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, 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 Manager is responsible for performing the fair value measurements included in the financial statements of a Fund, including the Level 3 measurements. The Manager obtains pricing from third-party pricing vendors and the pricing is reviewed daily. At each financial reporting date, the Manager reviews and approves all Level 3 fair value measurements. The Funds also have a Valuation Committee that meets quarterly to perform detailed reviews of the valuations of investments held by the Funds, which includes discussion on Level 3 measurements.

Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that a counterparty to a financial instrument, such as a fixed income security or a derivative contract, will fail to discharge an obligation or commitment that it has entered into with the Funds. The value of fixed income securities and derivatives as presented on the Schedule of Investment Portfolio includes consideration of the creditworthiness of the issuer and, accordingly, represents the maximum credit risk exposure of the Funds. Certain Funds may invest in short-term fixed income securities issued or guaranteed primarily by the Government of Canada or any Canadian provincial government, obligations of Canadian chartered banks or trust companies, and commercial paper with approved credit ratings. The risk of default on these short-term fixed income securities is considered low and these securities primarily have credit ratings of 'A-1 (Low)' or higher (as rated by S&P Global Ratings, a division of S&P Global, or equivalent rating from another rating service).

The bond ratings noted in the Funds' 'Financial Instruments Risk' under sub-section 'Credit Risk' represent ratings collected and disseminated by recognized third party vendors. These ratings utilized by the Manager, while obtained from vendors skilled and recognized for bond rating services, may not be the same as those used directly by the portfolio advisor or portfolio sub-advisors. Ratings used by the portfolio advisor or portfolio sub-advisors could be higher or lower than those used for risk disclosure in the financial statements in compliance with their investment policy guidelines.

The Funds may engage in securities lending transactions. The credit risk related to securities lending transactions is limited by the fact that the value of cash or securities held as collateral by the Funds in connection with these transactions is at least 102% of the fair value of the securities loaned. The collateral and loaned securities are marked to market on each business day. Further information regarding the collateral and securities on loan can be found in the footnotes to the Statements of Financial Position and in note 2j.

Currency risk

Currency risk is the risk that the value of an investment will fluctuate due to changes in foreign exchange rates. Mutual funds may invest in securities denominated or traded in currencies other than the funds' reporting currency.

Interest rate risk

Prices of fixed income securities generally increase when interest rates decline and decrease when interest rates rise. This risk is known as interest rate risk. Prices of longer-term fixed income securities will generally fluctuate more in response to interest rate changes than would shorter-term securities. Due to the nature of short-term fixed income securities with a remaining term-to-maturity of less than one year, these investments are not generally exposed to a significant risk that their value will fluctuate in response to changes in the prevailing levels of market interest rates.

Liquidity risk

The Funds are exposed to daily cash redemptions of redeemable units. Generally, the Funds retain sufficient cash and cash equivalent positions to maintain adequate liquidity. However, liquidity risk also involves the ability to sell an asset for cash easily and at a fair price. Some securities are illiquid due to legal restrictions on their resale, the nature of the investment, or simply a lack of interested buyers for a particular security or security type. Certain securities may become less liquid due to changes in market conditions, such as interest rate changes or market volatility, which could impair the ability of a Fund to sell such securities quickly or at a fair price. Difficulty in selling securities could result in a loss or lower return for a Fund.

Other price/market risk

Other price/market risk is the risk that the value of investments will fluctuate as a result of changes in market conditions. Several factors can influence market trends, such as economic developments, changes in interest rates, political changes, and catastrophic events. All investments are exposed to other price/market risk.

c) Investment Transactions, Income Recognition, and Recognition of Realized and Unrealized Gains and Losses

- i) Interest for distribution purposes shown on the Statements of Comprehensive Income represents the coupon interest received by the Fund accounted for on an accrual basis. The Funds do 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.
- ii) Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date.
- iii) Investment transactions are recorded on a trade date basis. Securities that are exchange-traded are recorded at fair value established by the last traded market price when that price falls within that day's bid-ask spread. Debt securities are recorded at fair value, established by the last traded price on the over-the-counter market (*OTC*) when that 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 price that is most representative of fair value based on the specific facts and circumstances. Unlisted securities are recorded at fair value using fair valuation techniques established by the Manager in establishing a fair value.
- iv) Realized gains and losses on investments and unrealized appreciation or depreciation of investments are calculated using the average cost, excluding transaction costs, of the related investments.
- v) Other income is the sum of income, excluding transaction costs, other than that which is separately classified on the Statements of Comprehensive Income.

d) Offsetting

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount reported in the Statements of Financial Position, if there is a currently enforceable legal 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.

Where applicable, additional information can be found in the table *Offsetting Arrangements* as part of the Supplemental Schedule to Schedule of Investment Portfolio. This supplemental schedule discloses the OTC derivatives which are subject to offsetting.

e) Portfolio Securities

The cost of securities of a Fund is determined in the following manner: securities are purchased and sold at a market-traded price to arrive at a value for the position traded. The total purchased value represents the total cost of the security to the Fund. When additional units of the same security are purchased, the cost of those additional units is added to the total security cost. When units of the same security are sold, the proportionate cost of the units of the security sold is deducted from the total security cost. If there is a return of capital paid by a security, the amount of this return of capital is deducted from the total security cost. This method of tracking security cost is known as "average cost" and the current total for any one security is referred to as the "adjusted cost base" or "ACB" of the security. Transaction costs incurred in portfolio transactions are excluded from the average cost of investments and are recognized immediately in net income and are presented as a separate expense item in the financial statements.

The difference between the fair value of securities and their average cost, excluding transaction costs, represents the unrealized appreciation (depreciation) in value of the portfolio investments. The applicable period change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of investments is included on the Statements of Comprehensive Income.

Short-term investments on the Schedule of Investment Portfolio are presented at their amortized cost which approximates the fair value. Accrued interest for bonds is disclosed separately on the Statements of Financial Position.

f) Foreign Exchange

The value of investments and other assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies is translated into Canadian dollars, which is the Funds' functional and presentation currency at the current rates prevailing on each valuation date (unless otherwise indicated).

Purchases and sales of investments, income, and expenses are translated into Canadian dollars, which is the Funds' functional and presentation currency at the foreign exchange rates prevailing on the dates of such transactions. Foreign currency translation gains (losses) on investments and income transactions are included in Net realized gain (loss) on foreign currency on the Statements of Comprehensive Income.

g) Forward Foreign Currency Contracts

The Funds may enter into forward foreign currency contracts for either hedging or non-hedging purposes where such activity is consistent with their investment objectives and as permitted by the Canadian securities regulatory authorities.

Notes to Financial Statements

Changes in the fair value of forward foreign currency contracts are included in derivative assets or derivative liabilities on the Statements of Financial Position and are recorded as an Increase (Decrease) in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of investments and derivatives during the applicable period on the Statements of Comprehensive Income.

The gain or loss arising from the difference between the value of the original forward foreign currency contract and the value of such contract at close or delivery is realized and recorded as Net realized gain (loss) on foreign currency for Funds that use the forward foreign currency contracts for hedging or as Derivative income (loss) for Funds that do not use the forward foreign currency contracts for hedging.

h) Futures Contracts

The Funds may enter into futures contracts for either hedging or non-hedging purposes where such activity is consistent with their investment objectives and as permitted by the Canadian securities regulatory authorities.

The margin deposits with brokers relating to futures contracts are included in Margin on the Statements of Financial Position. Any change in the margin requirement is settled daily and included in Receivable for portfolio securities sold or Payable for portfolio securities purchased on the Statements of Financial Position.

Any difference between the settlement value at the close of business on each valuation date and the settlement value at the close of business on the previous valuation date is recorded as Derivative income (loss) on the Statements of Comprehensive Income.

i) Options

The Funds may enter into options contracts for either hedging or non-hedging purposes where such activity is consistent with their investment objectives and as permitted by the Canadian securities regulatory authorities.

Premiums paid for purchased call and put options are included in derivative assets and subsequently measured at fair value on the Statements of Financial Position. When a purchased option expires, the Fund will realize a loss in the amount of the cost of the option. For a closing transaction, the Fund will realize a gain or loss depending on whether the proceeds are greater or less than the premium paid at the time of purchase. When a purchased call option is exercised, the cost of the security purchased is increased by the premium paid at the time of purchase.

Premiums received from writing options are included in derivative liabilities and subsequently measured at fair value on the Statements of Financial Position as initial reductions in the value of investments. Premiums received from writing options that expire unexercised are recorded as realized gains and reported as Net gain (loss) on sale of investments and derivatives on the Statements of Comprehensive Income. For a closing transaction, if the cost of closing the transaction exceeds the premium received, the Fund will record a realized loss or, if the premium received at the time the option was written is greater than the amount paid, the Fund will record a realized gain and is reported as Net gain (loss) on sale of investments and derivatives. If a written put option is exercised, the cost for the security delivered is reduced by the premiums received at the time the option was written.

j) Securities Lending

A Fund may lend portfolio securities in order to earn additional revenue, which is disclosed on the Statements of Comprehensive Income. The loaned assets of any one Fund are not permitted to exceed 50% of the fair value of the assets of that Fund (excluding collateral debt for the loaned securities). The minimum allowable collateral is 102% of the fair value of the loaned securities as per the requirements of National Instrument 81-102 – *Investment Funds*. Collateral can consist of the following:

- i) Cash.
- ii) Qualified securities.
- iii) Irrevocable letters of credit issued by a Canadian financial institution that is not the counterparty, or an affiliate counterparty, of the pool in the transaction, if evidences of indebtedness of the Canadian financial institution that are rated as short-term debt by an approved credit rating organization have an approved credit rating.
- iv) Securities that are immediately convertible into securities of the same issuer, class, or type, and the same term, as the securities loaned.

The fair value of the loaned securities is determined on the close of any valuation date and any additional required collateral is delivered to the Pool on the next business day. The securities on loan continue to be included on the Schedule of Investment Portfolio, and are included in the total value on the Statements of Financial Position in Investments (non-derivative financial assets) at fair value. Where applicable, a Fund's securities lending transactions are reported in footnote *Securities Lending* on the Statements of Financial Position.

National Instrument 81-106 – *Investment Fund Continuous Disclosure* requires a reconciliation of the gross income amount generated from the securities lending transactions of the Funds to the revenue from securities lending disclosed in the Funds' Statements of Comprehensive Income. The gross amount generated from securities lending includes interest paid on collateral, withholding taxes deducted, the fees paid to the Funds' lending agent and the securities lending revenue received by the Funds. Where applicable, the reconciliation can be found in the footnotes to the Funds' Statements of Comprehensive Income.

k) Multi-Class Structured Funds

The realized and unrealized capital gains or losses, income, and common expenses (other than class-specific operating expenses and management fees) of the Fund are allocated on each valuation date to the unitholders in proportion to the respective prior day's net asset value, which includes unitholder trades dated for that day, of each class of units at the date on which the allocation is made. All class-specific operating expenses and management fees do not require allocation. All class-specific operating expenses are paid by the Manager and are collected from the Funds on a recoverable basis.

l) Loans and Receivables, Other Assets and Liabilities

Loans and Receivables, other assets and liabilities are recorded at cost, which approximates their fair value, with the exception of Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Units which are presented at the redemption value.

m) Legend of Abbreviations

The following is a list of abbreviations (foreign currency translation and others) that may be used in the Schedule of Investment Portfolio:

Currency Abbreviations

AED	– United Arab Emirates Dirham	JPY	– Japanese Yen
ARS	– Argentine Peso	KES	– Kenyan Shilling
AUD	– Australian Dollar	KRW	– South Korean Won
BRL	– Brazilian Real	MAD	– Morocco Dirham
CAD	– Canadian Dollar	MXN	– Mexican Peso
CHF	– Swiss Franc	MYR	– Malaysian Ringgit
CLP	– Chilean Peso	NOK	– Norwegian Krone
CNY	– Chinese Renminbi	NZD	– New Zealand Dollar
COP	– Colombian Peso	PHP	– Philippine Peso
CZK	– Czech Koruna	PLN	– Polish Zloty
DKK	– Danish Krone	RON	– Romanian Leu
EGP	– Egyptian Pound	RUB	– Russian Ruble
EUR	– Euro	SEK	– Swedish Krona
GBP	– British Pound	SGD	– Singapore Dollar
GEL	– Georgian Lari	THB	– Thai Baht
HKD	– Hong Kong Dollar	TRY	– New Turkish Lira
HUF	– Hungarian Forint	TWD	– Taiwan Dollar
IDR	– Indonesian Rupiah	USD	– United States Dollar

ILS – Israeli Shekel
 INR – Indian Rupee

ZAR – South African Rand

Other Abbreviations

ADR – American Depositary Receipt
 CVO – Contingent Value Obligations
 ELN – Equity Linked Note

ETF – Exchange-Traded Fund
 GDR – Global Depositary Receipt Securities
 NVDR – Non-Voting Depositary Receipt

n) 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 is calculated by dividing the Increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units (excluding distributions), as reported on the Statements of Comprehensive Income, by the weighted average number of units in issue during the related period.

3. Valuation of Investments

The valuation date (*Valuation Date*) for a Fund is any day when the Manager's head office is open for business. The Manager may, at its discretion, establish other Valuation Dates.

The fair value of the investments or assets of a Fund is determined as follows:

a) Cash and Other Assets

Cash, accounts receivable, dividends receivable, distributions receivable, and interest receivable are valued at fair value or at their recorded cost, plus or minus any foreign exchange between recognition of the asset by the Fund and the current Valuation Date, which approximates fair value.

b) Bonds, Debentures, and Other Debt Obligations

Bonds, debentures, and other debt obligations are fair valued using the last traded price provided by a recognized vendor upon the close of trading on a Valuation Date, whereby the last traded price falls within that day's bid-ask spread. If the last traded price does not fall within that day's bid-ask spread, then the Manager will determine the price that is most representative of fair value based on the specific facts and circumstances.

c) Listed Securities, Unlisted Securities, and Fair Value Pricing of Foreign Securities

Any security that is listed or traded on a securities exchange is fair valued using the last traded price, whereby the last traded price falls within that day's bid-ask spread or, if there is no traded price on that exchange or the last traded price does not fall within that day's bid-ask spread and in the case of securities traded on an OTC market, at the fair value as determined by the Manager as an appropriate basis for valuation. In such situations, a fair value will be determined by the Manager to establish current value. If any securities are inter-listed or traded on more than one exchange or market, the Manager will use the principal exchange or market for the fair value of such securities.

Units of each mutual fund in which a Fund invests will be valued at fair value using the most recent net asset value quoted by the Trustee or Manager of the mutual fund on the Valuation Date.

Unlisted securities are fair valued using the last traded price quoted by a recognized dealer, or the Manager may determine a price that more accurately reflects the fair value of these securities if the Manager feels the last traded price does not reflect fair value.

Fair value pricing is designed to avoid stale prices and to provide a more accurate fair value, and may assist in the deterrence of harmful short-term or excessive trading in the Fund. When securities listed or traded on markets or exchanges that close prior to North or South American markets or exchanges are valued by the Manager at their fair market value, instead of using quoted or published prices, the prices of such securities used to calculate the Fund's net assets or net asset value may differ from quoted or published prices of such securities.

d) Derivatives

Long positions in options, debt-like securities, and listed warrants are valued at fair value using the last traded price as established on either their principal trading exchange or by a recognized dealer in such securities, whereby the last traded price falls within that day's bid-ask spread and the credit rating of each counterparty (as rated by S&P Global Ratings, a division of S&P Global) meets or exceeds the minimum designated rating.

When any option is written by any Fund, the premium received by the Fund will be reflected as a liability that will be valued at an amount equal to the current fair value of the option that would have the effect of closing the position. Any difference resulting from revaluation shall be treated as an unrealized gain or loss on investment; the liability shall be deducted in arriving at the net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units of the Fund. The securities that are the subject of a written option, if any, will be valued in the manner described above for listed securities.

Futures contracts, forward contracts, or swaps will be valued at fair value of the gain or loss, if any, that would be realized on the Valuation Date if the position in the futures contracts, forward contracts, or swaps were to be closed out.

Margin paid or deposited in respect of futures contracts and forward contracts will be reflected as an account receivable and margin consisting of assets other than cash will be noted as held as collateral.

Other derivatives and margin are fair valued in a manner that the Manager determines to represent their fair value.

e) Restricted Securities

Restricted securities purchased by any Fund will be fair valued in a manner that the Manager determines to represent their fair value.

f) Other Investments

All other investments of the Funds will be fair valued in accordance with the laws of the Canadian securities regulatory authorities, where applicable.

The value of any security or other property of a Fund for which a market quotation is not readily available or where the market quotations do not properly reflect the fair value of such securities will be determined by the Manager by valuing the securities at their fair value. In such situations, fair value will be determined using the fair valuation technique that most accurately reflects the fair value as established by the Manager.

4. Interest in Underlying Funds

The Funds may invest in other investment funds (*Underlying Funds*). Each Underlying Fund invests in a portfolio of assets to generate returns in the form of investment income and capital appreciation for its unitholders. Each Underlying Fund finances its operations primarily through the issuance of redeemable units, which are puttable at the unitholder's option and entitle the unitholder to a proportionate share of the underlying fund's net assets. The Fund's interests in Underlying Funds held in the form of redeemable units, are reported in its Schedule of Investments at fair value, which represents the Funds' maximum exposure on those investments. The Funds' interests in underlying funds as at the prior year period ends are presented in the Financial Instruments Risks - Concentration Risk section in the Supplemental Schedule to Schedule of Investment Portfolio. Distributions earned from Underlying Funds are included in "Investment Income" in the Statements of Comprehensive Income. The total realized and change in unrealized gains (losses) arising from Underlying Funds are also included in the Statements of Comprehensive Income. The Funds do not provide any additional significant financial or other support to Underlying Funds.

Where applicable, the table "Interests in Underlying Funds" presented as part of the Supplemental Schedule to Schedule of Investment Portfolio, provides additional information on the Funds' investments in Underlying Funds where the ownership interest exceeds 20% of each Underlying Fund.

5. Redeemable Units Issued and Outstanding

Each Fund is permitted to have an unlimited number of classes of units and may issue an unlimited number of units of each class. The outstanding units represent the capital of a Fund. Each unit has no par value and the value of each unit is the net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units per unit next determined. Settlement of the cost for units issued is completed as per security regulations in place at the time of issue. Distributions made by a Fund and reinvested by unitholders in additional units also constitute issued redeemable units of a Fund.

Units are redeemed at the net assets attributable to holders of a redeemable unit per unit of a Fund. A right to redeem units of a Fund may be suspended with the approval of the Canadian securities regulatory authorities or when normal trading is suspended on a stock, options, or futures exchange within Canada or outside of Canada on which securities or derivatives that make up more than 50% of the value or

Notes to Financial Statements

underlying exposure of the total assets of a Fund, not including any liabilities of a Fund, are traded and when those securities or derivatives are not traded on any other exchange that represents a reasonably practical alternative for a Fund. The Fund is not subject to any externally imposed capital requirements.

The capital received by a Fund is utilized within the respective investment mandate of the Fund. This includes the ability to make liquidity available to satisfy unitholder unit redemption requirements upon the unitholder's request.

Changes in issued and outstanding units for the annual periods ended December 31, 2019 and 2018 can be found on the Statements of Changes in Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Units.

6. Management Fees and Operating Expenses

Management fees are based on the net asset value of the Funds and are calculated daily. Management fees are paid to the Manager in consideration for providing, or arranging for the provision of, management, distribution, and portfolio advisory services. The maximum annual management fee expressed as a percentage of the average net asset value that can be charged by a Fund is reported in footnote *Maximum Chargeable Annual Management Fee Rates* on the Statements of Comprehensive Income.

In addition to the management fees, the Funds are responsible for all expenses relating to the operation and conduct of the business of the Funds, which may include interest, operating, and administrative costs (other than advertising and promotional expenses, which are the responsibility of the Manager), brokerage fees, commissions, spreads, regulatory fees, Independent Review Committee fees, taxes, audit and legal fees and expenses, safekeeping and custodial fees, investor servicing costs, and costs of unitholder reports, prospectuses, and other reports. All such operating expenses are paid by the Manager and recovered from the Funds. The Funds do not pay a fee to the Trustee.

The Manager may recover less than the actual operating expenses paid by the Manager, resulting in the Manager absorbing expenses. The Manager may also charge to a Fund less than the maximum management fee in footnote *Maximum Chargeable Annual Management Fee Rates* on the Statements of Comprehensive Income, resulting in the Manager waiving management fees.

At its sole discretion, the Manager may stop absorbing operating expenses and/or waiving management fees at any time. Operating expenses absorbed and/or management fees waived by the Manager are disclosed on the Statements of Comprehensive Income.

In some cases, the Manager may charge management fees to a Fund that are less than the management fees the Manager is entitled to charge in respect of certain investors in a Fund. The difference in the amount of the management fees will be paid out by the Fund to the applicable investors as a distribution of additional units of the Fund (*Management Fee Distributions*). Management Fee Distributions are negotiable between the Manager and the investor and are dependent primarily on the size of the investor's investment in the Fund. Management Fee Distributions paid to qualified investors do not adversely impact the Fund or any of the Fund's other investors. The Manager may increase or decrease the amount of Management Fee Distributions to certain investors from time to time.

Where a Fund invests in units of an Underlying Fund, the Fund does not pay duplicate management fees on the portion of its assets that it invests in units of the Underlying Fund. In addition, the Fund will not pay duplicate sales fees or redemption fees with respect to the purchase or redemption by it of units of the Underlying Fund. Some of the Underlying Funds held by the Funds may offer Management Fee Distributions. Such Management Fee Distributions of an Underlying Fund will be paid out as required for taxable distribution payments by a Fund. The manager of an Underlying Fund may, in some cases, waive a portion of an Underlying Fund's management fee and/or absorb a portion of an Underlying Fund's operating expenses.

7. Income Taxes and Withholding Taxes

The Funds qualify as mutual fund trusts under the *Income Tax Act* (Canada). No income tax is payable by the Funds on net income and/or net realized capital gains that are distributed to unitholders. In addition, income taxes payable on undistributed net realized capital gains are refundable on a formula basis when units of the Funds are redeemed. Sufficient net income and realized capital gains of the Funds have been, or will be, distributed to the unitholders such that no tax is payable by the Funds and, accordingly, no provision for income taxes has been made in the financial statements. Occasionally, a Fund may pay distributions in excess of the net income and net realized capital gains of the Fund. This excess distribution is called a return of capital and is non-taxable to the unitholder. However, a return of capital reduces the average cost of the unitholder's units for tax purposes, which may result in a capital gain to the unitholder to the extent the average cost becomes less than zero.

Non-capital losses are available to be carried forward for 20 years.

Capital losses for income tax purposes may be carried forward indefinitely and applied against capital gains realized in future years. Where applicable, a Fund's net capital and non-capital losses are reported in footnote *Net Capital and Non-Capital Losses* on the Statements of Changes in Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Units.

The Funds have a taxation year-end of December 15 (except Imperial Money Market Pool, which has a taxation year-end of December 31).

The Funds currently incur 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.

8. Brokerage Commissions and Fees

The total commissions paid by the Funds to brokers in connection with portfolio transactions are reported in footnote *Brokerage Commissions and Fees* on the Statements of Comprehensive Income of each Fund where applicable. In allocating brokerage business to a dealer, consideration may be given by the portfolio advisor or the portfolio sub-advisors of the Funds to the provision of goods and services by the dealer or a third party, other than order execution (referred to in the industry as "soft dollar" arrangements). These goods and services are paid for with a portion of brokerage commissions and assist the portfolio advisor and the portfolio sub-advisors with their investment decision-making services to the Funds or relate directly to executing portfolio transactions on behalf of the Funds. The total soft dollar payments paid by the Funds to brokers are reported in footnote *Brokerage Commissions and Fees* on the Statements of Comprehensive Income of each Fund. In addition, the Manager may enter into commission recapture arrangements with certain dealers with respect to the Fund. Any commission recaptured will be paid to the applicable Fund.

Fixed income and certain other securities are transacted in an OTC market, where participants are dealing as principals. Such securities are generally traded on a net basis and do not normally involve brokerage commissions, but will typically include a "spread" (being the difference between the bid and the offer prices on the security of the applicable marketplace).

Spreads associated with fixed income securities trading and certain other securities are not ascertainable and, for that reason, are not included in the dollar amounts. In addition, the soft dollar amounts only include the value of research and other services supplied by a third party to CIBC Asset Management Inc. (*CAMI*) or the *Portfolio Advisor* and any portfolio sub-advisors, as the value of the services supplied to the Portfolio Advisor and any portfolio sub-advisors by the dealer is not ascertainable. When these services benefit more than one Fund, the costs are allocated among the Funds based on transaction activity or some other fair basis as determined by the Portfolio Advisor and any portfolio sub-advisors.

9. Related Party Transactions

CIBC and its affiliates have the following roles and responsibilities with respect to the Funds and receive the fees described below in connection with their roles and responsibilities. The Funds may hold securities of CIBC. CIBC and its affiliates may also be involved in underwriting or lending to issuers of securities that may be held by the Funds, have purchased or sold securities from or to the Funds while acting as principal, have purchased or sold securities from or to the Funds on behalf of another investment fund managed by CIBC or an affiliate, and also may have been involved as a counterparty to derivative transactions. Management fees payable and other accrued expenses on the Statements of Financial Position are amounts generally payable to a related party of the Fund.

Manager, Trustee, Portfolio Advisor, and certain Portfolio Sub-Advisors of the Funds

CIBC is the Manager, CIBC Trust Corporation is the Trustee, and CAMI is the Portfolio Advisor of each of the Funds.

The Manager also arranges for fund administrative services (other than advertising and promotional, which are the responsibility of the Manager), legal, investor servicing, and costs of unitholder reports, prospectuses, and other reports. The Manager is the registrar and transfer agent for the Funds and provides, or arranges for the provision of, all other administrative services required by the Funds. The dollar amount (including all applicable taxes) of all fund administrative expenses (net of absorptions) that the Manager recovers from a Fund is reported in footnote *Administrative and Other Fund Operating Expenses* on the Statements of Comprehensive Income.

Brokerage Arrangements and Soft Dollars

The Portfolio Advisor generally delegates trading and execution authority to the portfolio sub-advisors. Where applicable, disclosure of the amounts of soft dollars can be found in the *Brokerage Commission and Fees* schedule on the Statements of Comprehensive Income for each Fund.

The Portfolio Advisor and portfolio sub-advisors make decisions, including the selection of markets and dealers and the negotiation of commissions, with respect to the purchase and sale of portfolio securities, certain derivative products and the execution of portfolio transactions. Brokerage business may be allocated by the Portfolio Advisor and portfolio sub-advisors to CIBC World Markets Inc. and/or CIBC World Markets

Corp., each a subsidiary of CIBC. The total commissions paid to related brokers in connection with portfolio transactions are reported in footnote *Brokerage Commissions and Fees* on the Statements of Comprehensive Income of each Fund.

CIBC World Markets Inc. and CIBC World Markets Corp. may also earn spreads on the sale of fixed income and other securities, and certain derivative products to the Funds. Dealers, including CIBC World Markets Inc. and CIBC World Markets Corp., may furnish goods and services, other than order execution, to the Portfolio Advisor and portfolio sub-advisors that process trades through them (referred to in the industry as “soft dollar” arrangements). These goods and services are paid for with a portion of brokerage commissions and assist the Portfolio Advisor and portfolio sub-advisors with their investment decision-making services to the Fund or relate directly to executing portfolio transactions on behalf of the Fund. As per terms of the portfolio advisory and sub-advisory agreements, such soft dollar arrangements are in compliance with applicable laws. Custodial fees directly related to portfolio transactions incurred by a Fund, otherwise payable by the Fund, shall be paid by CAMI, and/or dealer(s) directed by CAMI, up to the amount of the credits generated under soft dollar arrangements from trading on behalf of the Fund, or a portion of the Fund, during that month. The total soft dollar payments paid by the Fund to related brokers are reported in footnote *Brokerage Commissions and Fees* on the Statements of Comprehensive Income of each Fund. In addition, the Manager may enter into commission recapture arrangements with certain dealers with respect to the Funds. Any commission recaptured will be paid to the relevant Fund.

Custodian

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

Service Provider

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

The dollar amount paid by the Funds (including all applicable taxes) to CIBC Mellon Trust Company for custodial fees (net of absorptions) and to CIBC GSS for securities lending, fund accounting and reporting, and portfolio valuation (net of absorptions) for the annual periods ended December 31, 2019 and 2018 is reported in footnote *Service Provider* on the Statements of Comprehensive Income.

10. Hedging

Certain foreign currency denominated positions have been hedged, or partially hedged, by forward foreign currency contracts as part of the investment strategies of certain Funds. These hedges are indicated by a hedging reference number on the Schedule of Investment Portfolio and a corresponding hedging reference number on the Schedule of Derivative Assets and Liabilities Forward Foreign Currency Contracts for those Funds.

11. Collateral on Specified Derivatives

Short-term investments may be used as collateral for futures contracts outstanding with brokers.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Unitholders of

Imperial Money Market Pool
Imperial Short-Term Bond Pool
Imperial Canadian Bond Pool
Imperial Canadian Diversified Income Pool
Imperial International Bond Pool
Imperial Equity High Income Pool
Imperial Canadian Dividend Income Pool
Imperial Global Equity Income Pool
(collectively, the "Funds")

Imperial Canadian Equity Pool
Imperial U.S. Equity Pool
Imperial International Equity Pool
Imperial Overseas Equity Pool
Imperial Emerging Economies Pool
Conservative Income Portfolio
Balanced Income Portfolio
Enhanced Income Portfolio

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the Funds, which comprise the statements of financial position as at December 31, 2019 and 2018, and the statements of comprehensive income, statements of changes in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units and statements of cash flows for the years then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Funds as at December 31, 2019 and 2018, and their financial performance and cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (*IFRSs*).

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 are independent of the Funds in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the Management Report of Fund Performance of the Funds. 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, 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.

We obtained the Management Report of Fund Performance of the Funds prior to the date of this auditor's report. 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 in this auditor's report. 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 IFRSs, 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 each 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 Funds or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Funds' 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 Funds' 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 Funds' 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 Funds 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.



Chartered Professional Accountants
Licensed Public Accountants

Toronto, Canada
March 20, 2020

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