## **Annual Management Report of Fund Performance**

for the financial year ended December 31, 2024

All figures are reported in Canadian dollars unless otherwise noted.

This annual management report of fund performance contains financial highlights but does not contain the complete annual financial statements of the investment fund. You can get a copy of the annual financial statements at your request, and at no cost, by calling toll-free at <u>1-800-465-3863</u>, by emailing us at <u>info@cibcassetmanagement.com</u>, by writing to us at CIBC Square, 81 Bay Street, 20th floor, Toronto, Ontario, M5J 0E7, or by visiting our website at <u>www.cibc.com/mutualfunds</u> or SEDAR+ at <u>www.sedarplus.ca</u>.

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

## Management Discussion of Fund Performance

## **Investment Objective and Strategies**

Investment Objective: CIBC Conservative ETF Portfolio (the *Portfolio*) seeks to achieve a combination of income and some long-term capital growth by investing primarily in a diverse mix of fixed income and equity mutual funds that employ passive investment strategies (that may include exchange-traded funds).

Investment Strategies: The Portfolio invests primarily in fixed income and equity exchange-traded funds that employ passive investment strategies. The Portfolio has a long-term strategic asset mix of 60% fixed income securities and 40% equity securities. The asset allocation will generally be maintained within ranges of no more than 15% above or below the target weighting of each asset class depending on the portfolio advisor's view of economic conditions and relative value of income and equity securities.

## Risk

The Portfolio is a Canadian fixed income balanced fund that is suitable for medium term investors who can tolerate low investment risk.

For the period ended December 31, 2024, the Portfolio's overall level of risk remained as discussed in the simplified prospectus.

## **Results of Operations**

CIBC Asset Management Inc. (*CAMI* or the *Portfolio Advisor*) is the portfolio advisor of the Portfolio. The commentary that follows provides a summary of the results of operations for the period ended December 31, 2024. All dollar figures are expressed in thousands, unless otherwise indicated.

The Portfolio's net asset value increased by 45% during the period, from \$46,466 as at December 31, 2023 to \$67,385 as at December 31, 2024. Net sales of \$15,561 and positive investment performance resulted in an overall increase in net asset value.

Class A units of the Portfolio posted a return of 10.0% for the period. The Portfolio's primary benchmark, the Morningstar<sup>®</sup> Canada Core Bond Index<sup>™</sup> (the *primary benchmark*), returned 3.9% for the same period. The Portfolio's blended benchmark, as described in the *Annual Compound Returns* section under *Past Performance*, returned 11.4% for the same period. The blended benchmark closely reflects the asset classes the Portfolio invests in, and provides a more useful comparative to the Portfolio's performance. The Portfolio's return is after the deduction of fees and expenses, unlike the primary and blended benchmarks' returns. See the section *Past Performance* for the returns of other classes of units offered by the Portfolio.

The Portfolio has target allocations of 38% Canadian fixed income securities, 22% global fixed income securities, 15% U.S. equities, 12% international equities, 10.5% Canadian equities and 2.5% emerging markets equities.

The Bank of Canada (the *BoC*) and the U.S. Federal Reserve Board (the *Fed*) lowered interest rates several times during the period as inflation continued to normalize. The Fed's first interest-rate cut was in September, with cuts totalling 1.00% by the end of the year. The BoC first lowered interest rates in June, with cuts totalling 1.75% by the end of 2024.

Futures markets were pricing in two or three more interest-rate cuts by the BoC in 2025, with one cut being fully priced in by the end of March. In the U.S., futures markets were pricing in only one or two interest-rate cuts by the Fed in 2025, with the first cut being fully priced in by mid-June.

The yield curve steepened as both the Canadian and U.S. yield curves (the difference in yield between two-year and 30-year government bonds) went from being deeply inverted to being positive. The Canadian yield curve ended the year at 1.26% and the U.S. yield curve at 0.76%.

Corporate bonds continued to outperform, as credit spreads (the difference in yield between corporate bonds and government bonds with similar maturity) narrowed, reflecting strong demand and better-than-anticipated profitability. High-yield spreads also narrowed, and the sector outperformed the broad Canadian bond market.

The Canadian bond market outperformed relative to the U.S., with the difference in yield between 10-year Canadian and U.S. government bonds reaching 1.34% in December compared to 0.77% at the end of 2023. This was partly a result of the weaker economic conditions in Canada relative to the U.S., uncertain trade policies from the new U.S. Administration and higher risks of reaccelerating inflation in the U.S.

Global fixed income markets generated modest gains in 2024 but were outpaced by equity markets, which benefited from a better-thanexpected global economy. The U.S. labour market displayed resilience, and consumer confidence stabilized as recession concerns eased. U.K. gilts underperformed due to the Bank of England's cautious approach to lowering interest rates and fiscal concerns about the country's federal budget.

Near the end of 2024, the U.S. Federal Open Market Committee increased its core inflation forecast for 2025, albeit to a still moderate 2.5%. The U.S. presidential election saw former President Donald Trump win his bid for re-election. His administration's policy outlook and enactments, as well as political rhetoric, continued to influence markets for the remainder of 2024.

International equities rose strongly in the first three quarters of 2024, with a slight decline in the fourth quarter. Value-oriented stocks outperformed their growth counterparts. The European Central Bank lowered three key interest rates by 1.00% over the course of the year, based on the outlook for inflation.

The Canadian equity market generated a robust gain over the period. Nine sectors recorded positive returns, with information technology and financials leading the way, returning 37.7% and 25.0%, respectively. In contrast, the communication services and real estate sectors faced challenges, posting returns of -26.5% and -6.9%, respectively.

Globally diverging inflation and monetary policy affected emerging market equities, driven primarily by domestic conditions rather than large global events. In China, consumer and business confidence remained depressed, labour and housing markets were weak, and deflationary pressures persisted.

Active conflicts in Ukraine and the Middle East, as well as trade tensions between the U.S. and China, were central concerns. Politics in Latin America, Europe and Africa impacted fiscal and monetary policies around the world.

CIBC U.S. Equity Index ETF was the most significant contributor to the Portfolio's performance, followed by CIBC Canadian Equity Index ETF and CIBC International Equity Index ETF.

## **Recent Developments**

The level of geopolitical risk disrupted the global economy and financial markets in unprecedented and unpredictable ways. This has resulted in significant volatility and uncertainty in financial markets. It is unclear what further actions may be taken by governments and the resulting impact on global economies, businesses and financial markets. Inflation has increased in many markets across the globe, leading central banks to raise interest rates in order to counter rapidly rising prices. These factors may adversely affect the Portfolio's performance. The Manager continues to monitor ongoing developments and the impact to investment strategies.

## **Related Party Transactions**

Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (*CIBC*) and its affiliates have the following roles and responsibilities with respect to the Portfolio, and receive the fees described below in connection with their roles and responsibilities.

### Manager

CIBC is the Portfolio's manager (the *Manager*). The Portfolio holds units of other mutual funds (the *Underlying Funds*), which may also be managed by CIBC or its affiliates. CIBC will receive management fees with respect to the Portfolio's day-to-day business and operations, calculated based on the net asset value of each respective class of units of the Portfolio as described in *Management Fees* section. From time to time, CIBC may invest in units of the Portfolio.

## Trustee

CIBC Trust Corporation (*CIBC Trust*), a wholly-owned subsidiary of CIBC, is the Portfolio's trustee (the *Trustee*). The Trustee holds title to the Portfolio's property (cash and securities) on behalf of its unitholders.

## Portfolio Advisor

The portfolio advisor provides, or arranges to provide, investment advice and portfolio management services to the Portfolio. CAMI, a whollyowned subsidiary of CIBC, is the Portfolio's portfolio advisor.

## Distributor

Dealers and other firms will sell the units of the Portfolio to investors. These dealers and other firms will include CIBC's related dealers such as the principal distributor, CIBC Securities Inc. (*CIBC SI*), the CIBC Investor's Edge discount brokerage division of CIBC Investor Services Inc. (*CIBC ISI*), the CIBC Imperial Investor Service division of CIBC ISI, and the CIBC Wood Gundy division of CIBC World Markets Inc. (*CIBC WM*). CIBC SI, CIBC ISI, and CIBC WM are wholly-owned subsidiaries of CIBC.

CIBC may pay trailing commissions to these dealers and firms, in connection with the sale of units of the Portfolio. These dealers and other firms may pay a portion of these trailing commissions to their advisors who sell units of the Portfolio to investors.

## Brokerage Arrangements and Soft Dollars

The Portfolio Advisor purchases and sells units of the Underlying Funds on behalf of the Portfolio and, as a result, the Portfolio does not incur any sales charges or brokerage commissions with respect to execution of portfolio transactions of the Underlying Funds.

Decisions that the Portfolio Advisor may make as to brokerage transactions, including the selection of markets and dealers and the negotiation of commissions, would be based on elements such as price, speed of execution, certainty of execution, and total transaction costs.

CIBC WM and CIBC World Markets Corp. may also earn spreads on the sale of securities to the Portfolio. A spread is the difference between the bid and ask prices for a security in the applicable marketplace, with respect to the execution of portfolio transactions. The spread will differ based upon various factors such as the nature and liquidity of the security.

Dealers, including CIBC WM and CIBC World Markets Corp., may furnish goods and services, other than order execution, to the Portfolio Advisor in partial exchange for processing trades through them (referred to in the industry as "soft dollar" arrangements). These goods and services are paid for with a portion of the brokerage commissions and assist the Portfolio Advisor with investment decision-making services for the Portfolio or relate directly to the execution of trades on behalf of the Portfolio.

During the period, the Portfolio paid brokerage commissions and other fees of \$10,584 to CIBC WM; the Portfolio did not pay any brokerage commissions or other fees to CIBC World Markets Corp. Spreads associated with fixed income and other securities are not ascertainable and, for that reason, cannot be included when determining these amounts.

## Portfolio Transactions

The Portfolio may enter into one or more of the following transactions (*Related Party Transactions*) in reliance on the standing instructions issued by the IRC:

- invest in or hold equity securities of CIBC or issuers related to a portfolio sub-advisor;
- invest in or hold non-exchange-traded debt securities of CIBC or an issuer related to CIBC, with terms-to-maturity of 365 days or more, issued in a primary offering and in the secondary market;
- make an investment in the securities of an issuer for which CIBC WM, CIBC World Markets Corp., or any affiliate of CIBC (the *Related Dealer* or *Related Dealers*) acts as an underwriter during the offering of the securities or at any time during the 60-day period following the completion of the offering of such securities (in the case of a "private placement" offering, in accordance with the exemptive relief order granted by the Canadian securities regulatory authorities and in accordance with the policies and procedures relating to such investment);
- purchase equity or debt securities from or sell them to a Related Dealer, where it is acting as principal;
- undertake currency and currency derivative transactions where a Related Dealer is the counterparty;
- purchase securities from or sell securities to another investment fund or a managed account managed by the Manager or an affiliate; and
- engage in in-specie transfers by receiving portfolio securities from, or delivering portfolio securities to, a managed account or another investment fund managed by the Manager or an affiliate, in respect of a purchase or redemption of units in the fund, subject to certain conditions.

At least annually, the IRC reviews the Related Party Transactions for which they have issued standing instructions. The IRC is required to advise the Canadian securities regulatory authorities, after a matter has been referred or reported to the IRC by the Manager, if it determines that an investment decision was not made in accordance with a condition imposed by securities legislation or the IRC in any Related Party Transactions requiring its approval.

## Custodian

CIBC Mellon Trust Company is the Portfolio's custodian (the *Custodian*). The Custodian holds all cash and securities for the Portfolio 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 Portfolio including record-keeping and processing of foreign exchange transactions. The Custodian may hire

sub-custodians for the Portfolio. The fees and spreads for services of the Custodian directly related to the execution of portfolio transactions by the Portfolio are paid by CAMI and/or the dealer(s) directed by CAMI, up to the amount of the credits generated under soft dollar arrangements from trading on behalf of the Portfolio during that month. All other fees and spreads for the services of the Custodian are paid by the Manager, in return for receiving a fixed administration fee from the Portfolio. CIBC owns a 50% interest in the Custodian.

## Service Provider

The Custodian also provides certain services to the Portfolio, including securities lending, fund accounting and reporting, and portfolio valuation. The Manager receives a fixed administration fee from the Fund, in return, the Manager pays certain operating expenses which includes custodial fees (including all applicable taxes) and the fees for fund accounting, reporting, and fund valuation (including all applicable taxes) to CIBC Mellon Trust Company. Where applicable, securities lending fees are applied against the revenue received by the Fund.

## **Financial Highlights**

The following tables show selected key financial information about the Portfolio and are intended to help you understand the Portfolio's financial performance for the period ended December 31.

| The Portfolio's Net Assets per Unit <sup>1</sup> - Class A Units Inception date: July 31, 20 |    |        |    |        |    |        |    |        |    |        |
|--|----|--------|----|--------|----|--------|----|--------|----|--------|
|  |    | 2024   |    | 2023   |    | 2022   |    | 2021   |    | 2020   |
| Net Assets, beginning of period  | \$ | 11.08  | \$ | 10.31  | \$ | 11.61  | \$ | 11.28  | \$ | 10.60  |
| Increase (decrease) from operations:   |    |        |    |        |    |        |    |        |    |        |
| Total revenue  | \$ | 0.27   | \$ | 0.27   | \$ | 0.20   | \$ | 0.26   | \$ | 0.27   |
| Total expenses   |    | (0.11) |    | (0.11) |    | (0.13) |    | (0.15) |    | (0.14) |
| Realized gains (losses) for the period   |    | 0.11   |    | 0.05   |    | (0.29) |    | 0.16   |    | 0.10   |
| Unrealized gains (losses) for the period   |    | 0.83   |    | 0.76   |    | (1.03) |    | 0.17   |    | 0.57   |
| Total increase (decrease) from operations <sup>2</sup>                                       | \$ | 1.10   | \$ | 0.97   | \$ | (1.25) | \$ | 0.44   | \$ | 0.80   |
| Distributions:   |    |        |    |        |    |        |    |        |    |        |
| From income (excluding dividends)  | \$ | 0.13   | \$ | 0.13   | \$ | 0.05   | \$ | 0.07   | \$ | 0.09   |
| From dividends   |    | 0.03   |    | 0.03   |    | 0.03   |    | 0.03   |    | 0.03   |
| From capital gains   |    | -      |    | -      |    | -      |    | -      |    | _      |
| Return of capital  |    | -      |    | _      |    | _      |    | _      |    | -      |
| Total Distributions <sup>3</sup>   | \$ | 0.16   | \$ | 0.16   | \$ | 0.08   | \$ | 0.10   | \$ | 0.12   |
| Net Assets, end of period  | \$ | 12.02  | \$ | 11.08  | \$ | 10.31  | \$ | 11.61  | \$ | 11.28  |

#### **Ratios and Supplemental Data - Class A Units**

|  | 2024         | 2023         | 2022         | 2021         | 2020         |  |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--|
| Total Net Asset Value (000s) <sup>4</sup>  | \$<br>54,483 | \$<br>37,677 | \$<br>31,706 | \$<br>36,432 | \$<br>28,595 |  |
| Number of Units Outstanding <sup>4</sup>   | 4,533,282    | 3,400,261    | 3,074,975    | 3,136,738    | 2,534,116    |  |
| Management Expense Ratio <sup>5</sup>      | 1.11%        | 1.11%        | 1.26%        | 1.33%        | 1.33%        |  |
| Management Expense Ratio before waivers or |              |              |              |              |              |  |
| absorptions <sup>6</sup>                   | 1.22%        | 1.22%        | 1.27%        | 1.33%        | 1.33%        |  |
| Trading Expense Ratio <sup>7</sup>         | 0.03%        | 0.13%        | 0.09%        | 0.01%        | 0.01%        |  |
| Portfolio Turnover Rate <sup>8</sup>       | 5.68%        | 20.25%       | 104.49%      | 9.27%        | 19.84%       |  |
| Net Asset Value per Unit                   | \$<br>12.02  | \$<br>11.08  | \$<br>10.31  | \$<br>11.61  | \$<br>11.28  |  |

## The Portfolio's Net Assets per Unit<sup>1</sup> - Class F Units

Inception date: July 31, 2017

|  |             |             |              |             | -  | •      |
|--|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|----|--------|
|  | 2024        | 2023        | 2022         | 2021        |    | 2020   |
| Net Assets, beginning of period                        | \$<br>11.92 | \$<br>11.09 | \$<br>12.47  | \$<br>11.92 | \$ | 11.05  |
| Increase (decrease) from operations:                   |             |             |              |             |    |        |
| Total revenue  | \$<br>0.29  | \$<br>0.28  | \$<br>0.25   | \$<br>0.29  | \$ | 0.29   |
| Total expenses   | (0.02)      | (0.02)      | (0.03)       | (0.06)      |    | (0.07) |
| Realized gains (losses) for the period                 | 0.12        | 0.03        | (0.42)       | 0.13        |    | 0.07   |
| Unrealized gains (losses) for the period               | 0.79        | 0.81        | (0.60)       | 0.19        |    | 0.57   |
| Total increase (decrease) from operations <sup>2</sup> | \$<br>1.18  | \$<br>1.10  | \$<br>(0.80) | \$<br>0.55  | \$ | 0.86   |
| Distributions:   |             |             |              |             |    |        |
| From income (excluding dividends)                      | \$<br>0.22  | \$<br>0.22  | \$<br>0.09   | \$<br>-     | \$ | -      |
| From dividends   | 0.04        | 0.06        | 0.06         | -           |    | -      |
| From capital gains                                     | -           | -           | -            | -           |    | -      |
| Return of capital                                      | -           | -           | _            | _           |    | -      |
| Total Distributions <sup>3</sup>                       | \$<br>0.26  | \$<br>0.28  | \$<br>0.15   | \$<br>_     | \$ | _      |
| Net Assets, end of period                              | \$<br>12.95 | \$<br>11.92 | \$<br>11.09  | \$<br>12.47 | \$ | 11.92  |

## **Ratios and Supplemental Data - Class F Units**

|  | 2024        | 2023        | 2022        | 2021        | 2020        |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total Net Asset Value (000s) <sup>4</sup>  | \$<br>1,530 | \$<br>887   | \$<br>1,167 | \$<br>-     | \$<br>-     |
| Number of Units Outstanding <sup>4</sup>   | 118,138     | 74,414      | 105,215     | 1           | 1           |
| Management Expense Ratio <sup>5</sup>      | 0.22%       | 0.22%       | 0.34%       | 0.47%       | 0.51%       |
| Management Expense Ratio before waivers or |             |             |             |             |             |
| absorptions <sup>6</sup>                   | 0.34%       | 0.34%       | 0.37%       | 0.48%       | 0.51%       |
| Trading Expense Ratio <sup>7</sup>         | 0.03%       | 0.13%       | 0.09%       | 0.01%       | 0.01%       |
| Portfolio Turnover Rate <sup>8</sup>       | 5.68%       | 20.25%      | 104.49%     | 9.27%       | 19.84%      |
| Net Asset Value per Unit                   | \$<br>12.95 | \$<br>11.92 | \$<br>11.09 | \$<br>12.47 | \$<br>11.92 |

#### The Portfolio's Net Assets per Unit<sup>1</sup> - Class O Units

Inception date: July 31, 2017

|  | 2024        | 2023        | 2022         | 2021        | 2020        |
|--|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| Net Assets, beginning of period                        | \$<br>11.10 | \$<br>10.33 | \$<br>11.63  | \$<br>11.29 | \$<br>10.61 |
| Increase (decrease) from operations:                   |             |             |              |             |             |
| Total revenue  | \$<br>0.27  | \$<br>0.27  | \$<br>0.27   | \$<br>0.25  | \$<br>0.29  |
| Total expenses   | -           | _           | (0.01)       | -           | -           |
| Realized gains (losses) for the period                 | 0.11        | 0.05        | (0.06)       | 0.16        | 0.10        |
| Unrealized gains (losses) for the period               | 0.84        | 0.72        | (0.33)       | 0.18        | 0.58        |
| Total increase (decrease) from operations <sup>2</sup> | \$<br>1.22  | \$<br>1.04  | \$<br>(0.13) | \$<br>0.59  | \$<br>0.97  |
| Distributions:   |             |             |              |             |             |
| From income (excluding dividends)                      | \$<br>0.23  | \$<br>0.22  | \$<br>0.13   | \$<br>0.21  | \$<br>0.21  |
| From dividends   | 0.05        | 0.05        | 0.06         | 0.04        | 0.05        |
| From capital gains                                     | -           | _           | -            | -           | -           |
| Return of capital                                      | -           | -           | -            | -           | -           |
| Total Distributions <sup>3</sup>                       | \$<br>0.28  | \$<br>0.27  | \$<br>0.19   | \$<br>0.25  | \$<br>0.26  |
| Net Assets, end of period                              | \$<br>12.04 | \$<br>11.10 | \$<br>10.33  | \$<br>11.63 | \$<br>11.29 |
|  |             |             |              |             |             |

#### **Ratios and Supplemental Data - Class O Units**

| Total Net Asset Value (000s) <sup>4</sup><br>Number of Units Outstanding <sup>4</sup><br>Management Expense Ratio <sup>5</sup> | 0004         |             |             |             |             |  |
|--|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--|
| Number of Units Outstanding <sup>4</sup>   | 2024         | 2023        | 2022        | 2021        | 2020        |  |
|  | \$<br>11,372 | \$<br>7,902 | \$<br>6,207 | \$<br>590   | \$<br>566   |  |
| Management Expense Ratio⁵  | 944,587      | 712,030     | 601,218     | 50,782      | 50,072      |  |
|  | 0.11%        | 0.12%       | 0.11%       | 0.00%       | 0.00%       |  |
| Management Expense Ratio before waivers or   |              |             |             |             |             |  |
| absorptions <sup>6</sup>   | 0.11%        | 0.12%       | 0.11%       | 0.01%       | 0.00%       |  |
| Trading Expense Ratio <sup>7</sup>   | 0.03%        | 0.13%       | 0.09%       | 0.01%       | 0.01%       |  |
| Portfolio Turnover Rate <sup>8</sup>   | 5.68%        | 20.25%      | 104.49%     | 9.27%       | 19.84%      |  |
| Net Asset Value per Unit   | \$<br>12.04  | \$<br>11.10 | \$<br>10.33 | \$<br>11.63 | \$<br>11.29 |  |

<sup>1</sup> This information is derived from the Portfolio's audited annual financial statements.

<sup>2</sup> Net assets and distributions are based on the actual number of units outstanding at the relevant time. The total increase (decrease) from operations is based on the weighted average number of units outstanding during the period.

<sup>3</sup> Distributions were paid in cash, reinvested in additional units of the Portfolio, or both.

<sup>4</sup> This information is presented as at December 31 of the period(s) shown.

<sup>5</sup> Management expense ratio is based on the total expenses of the Portfolio (excluding commissions and other portfolio transaction costs), incurred by or allocated to a class of units for the period shown, expressed as an annualized percentage of the daily average net asset value of that class during the period. The management expense ratio includes the fees attributable to exchange traded funds, where applicable.

<sup>6</sup> The decision to waive management fees and/or fixed administration fees is at the discretion of the Manager. The practice of waiving management fees and/or fixed administration fees may continue indefinitely or may be terminated at any time without notice to unitholders. The management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions includes the fees attributable to exchange traded funds, where applicable.

<sup>7</sup> The trading expense ratio represents total commissions and other portfolio transaction costs before income taxes expressed as an annualized percentage of the daily average net asset value during the period. Spreads associated with fixed income securities trading are not ascertainable and, for that reason, are not included in the trading expense ratio calculation. The trading expense ratio includes the fees attributable to exchange traded funds, where applicable.

<sup>8</sup> The portfolio turnover rate indicates how actively the portfolio advisor and/or portfolio sub-advisor manages the portfolio investments. A portfolio turnover rate of 100% is equivalent to the Portfolio buying and selling all of the securities in its portfolio once in the course of the period. The higher a portfolio turnover rate in a period, the greater the trading costs payable by the Portfolio in the period, and the greater the chance of an investor receiving taxable capital gains in the year. There is not necessarily a relationship between a high turnover rate and the performance of the Portfolio.

#### **Management Fees**

The Portfolio, either directly or indirectly, pays CIBC an annual management fee to cover the costs of managing the Portfolio. Management fees are based on the Portfolio's net asset value and are calculated daily and paid monthly. Management fees are paid to CIBC in consideration for providing, or arranging for the provision of, management, distribution, and portfolio advisory services. Advertising and promotional expenses, office overhead expenses and trailing commissions are paid by CIBC out of the management fees received from the Portfolio. The Portfolio is required to pay applicable taxes on the management fees paid to CIBC. Refer to the Simplified Prospectus for the annual management fee rate for each class of units. For Class O units, the management fee is negotiated with and paid by, or as directed by, unitholders or dealers and discretionary managers on behalf of unitholders. Such Class O management fee will not exceed the Class F unit management fee rate.

For the period ended December 31, 2024, 100% of the management fees collected from the Portfolio was attributable to general administration and investment advice.

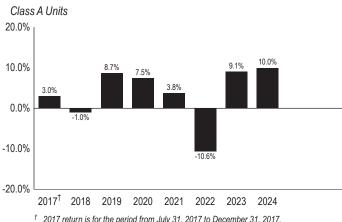
## Past Performance

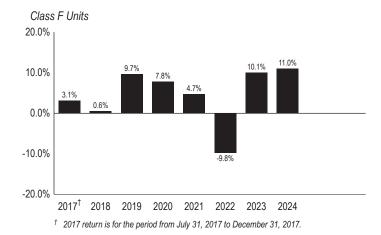
The performance data provided assumes reinvestment of distributions only and does not take into account sales, redemption, distribution, or other optional charges payable by any unitholder that would have reduced returns. Past performance does not necessarily indicate how a fund will perform in the future.

The Portfolio's returns are after the deduction of fees and expenses, and the difference in returns between classes of units is primarily due to differences in the management expense ratio. See the Financial Highlights section for the management expense ratio.

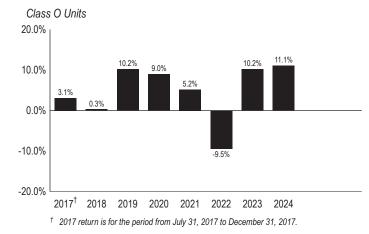
## Year-by-Year Returns

These bar charts show the annual performance of each class of units of the Portfolio for each of the periods shown, and illustrate how the performance has changed from period to period. These bar charts show, in percentage terms, how an investment made on January 1 would have increased or decreased by December 31, unless otherwise indicated.





<sup>†</sup> 2017 return is for the period from July 31, 2017 to December 31, 2017.



## Annual Compound Returns

This table shows the annual compound return of each class of units of the Portfolio for each indicated period ended on December 31, 2024. The annual compound total return is also compared to the Portfolio's benchmark(s).

The Portfolio's primary benchmark is the Morningstar<sup>®</sup> Canada Core Bond Index<sup>TM</sup>.

The Portfolio's blended benchmark (Blended Benchmark) is comprised of the following:

- 30% Morningstar<sup>®</sup> Canada Core Bond Index<sup>TM</sup>
- 22% Morningstar® Global ex-Canada Core Bond Index (Hedged to CAD)
- 15% Morningstar<sup>®</sup> US Target Market Exposure Index<sup>TM</sup>
- 12% Morningstar<sup>®</sup> Developed Markets ex-North America Target Market Exposure Index<sup>TM</sup>

- 10.5% Morningstar<sup>®</sup> Canada Domestic Index<sup>™</sup>
- 8% Morningstar® Canada 1-5 YR Core Bond Index™
- 2.5% Morningstar<sup>®</sup> Emerging Markets Target Market Exposure Index<sup>TM</sup>

| Class and Benchmark(s)                                       | 1 Year<br>(%) | 3 Years<br>(%)    | 5 Years<br>(%) | 10 Years*<br>(%) | or Since Inception*<br>(%) | Inception Date |
|--|---------------|-------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| Class A units  | 10.0          | 2.4               | 3.7            |                  | 3.9                        | July 31, 2017  |
| Morningstar <sup>®</sup> Canada Core Bond Index <sup>™</sup> | 3.9           | (0.7)             | 0.6            |                  | 1.8                        |                |
| Blended Benchmark  | 11.4          | 3.3               | 4.9            |                  | 5.4                        |                |
| Class F units  | 11.0          | 3.3               | 4.5            |                  | 4.8                        | July 31, 2017  |
| Morningstar <sup>®</sup> Canada Core Bond Index <sup>™</sup> | 3.9           | (0.7)             | 0.6            |                  | 1.8                        |                |
| Blended Benchmark  | 11.4          | 3.3               | 4.9            |                  | 5.4                        |                |
| Class O units  | 11.1          | 3.5               | 4.9            |                  | 5.1                        | July 31, 2017  |
| Morningstar <sup>®</sup> Canada Core Bond Index <sup>™</sup> | 3.9           | (0.7)             | 0.6            |                  | 1.8                        |                |
| Blended Benchmark  | 11.4          | `3.3 <sup>´</sup> | 4.9            |                  | 5.4                        |                |

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

**Morningstar**<sup>®</sup> **Canada Core Bond Index**<sup>TM</sup> measures the performance of fixed-rate, investment-grade CAD denominated securities with maturities greater than one year. It is market-capitalization weighted.

**Morningstar**<sup>®</sup> **Canada Domestic Index**<sup>TM</sup> includes large-, mid- and small-cap stocks representing the largest 97% of the Canadian equity market by market capitalization. Stocks are weighted by local float-adjusted market capitalization.

**Morningstar**<sup>®</sup> **Developed Markets ex-North America Target Market Exposure Index**<sup>TM</sup> is a rule-based, float market capitalization-weighted index that targets large- and mid-cap stocks listed in developed markets outside North America, representing 85% of the market by float-adjusted market capitalization.

**Morningstar**<sup>®</sup> **Emerging Markets Target Market Exposure Index**<sup>TM</sup> is a rule-based, float market capitalization-weighted index that targets largeand mid-cap stocks listed in emerging markets, representing 85% of the market by float-adjusted market capitalization.

**Morningstar<sup>®</sup> US Target Market Exposure Index**<sup>TM</sup> is a rule-based, float market capitalization-weighted index that targets large- and mid-cap U.S. stocks representing 85% of the market by float-adjusted market capitalization.

Morningstar® Canada 1-5 YR Core Bond Index<sup>™</sup> measures the performance of fixed-rate, investment-grade CAD-denominated securities with maturities between one and five years. It is market-capitalization weighted. This Index does not incorporate Environmental, Social, or Governance (ESG) criteria.

Morningstar® Global ex-Canada Core Bond Index (Hedged to CAD) measures the performance of fixed-rate, investment-grade denominated securities with maturities greater than one year issued by developed market countries, excluding CAD denominated bonds. Foreign currency exposure is hedged back to Canadian dollars.

A discussion of the Portfolio's relative performance compared to its benchmark(s) can be found in Results of Operations.

## Summary of Investment Portfolio (as at December 31, 2024)

The Portfolio invests in units of its Underlying Funds. You can find the prospectus and additional information about the Underlying Funds by visiting <a href="http://www.sedarplus.ca">www.sedarplus.ca</a>.

The summary of investment portfolio may change due to ongoing portfolio transactions of the investment fund. A quarterly update is available by visiting <u>www.cibc.com/mutualfunds</u>. The Top Positions table shows the Portfolio's 25 largest positions. If the fund holds fewer than 25 positions in total, all positions are shown.

|                                       | % of Net Asset |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| Portfolio Breakdown                   | Value          |
| Canadian Bond Investment Funds        | 37.4           |
| International Bond Investment Funds   | 21.9           |
| International Equity Investment Funds | 14.6           |
| U.S. Equity Investment Funds          | 14.6           |
| Canadian Equity Investment Funds      | 10.3           |
| Cash                                  | 1.4            |
| Other Assets, less Liabilities        | (0.2)          |

| Top Positions                                     | % of Net Asset<br>Value |
|---|-------------------------|
| CIBC Canadian Bond Index ETF                      | 29.9                    |
| CIBC Global Bond ex-Canada Index ETF (CAD-Hedged) | 21.9                    |
| CIBC U.S. Equity Index ETF                        | 14.6                    |
| CIBC International Equity Index ETF               | 12.2                    |
| CIBC Canadian Equity Index ETF                    | 10.3                    |
| CIBC Canadian Short Term Bond Index ETF           | 7.5                     |
| CIBC Emerging Markets Equity Index ETF            | 2.4                     |
| Cash  | 1.4                     |
| Other Assets, less Liabilities                    | (0.2                    |

CIBC Conservative ETF Portfolio is not sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by Morningstar, Inc. or any of its affiliates (all such entities, collectively, "Morningstar Entities"). The Morningstar Entities make no representation or warranty, express or implied, to the owners of the CIBC Conservative ETF Portfolio or any member of the public regarding the advisability of investing in ETF Portfolios generally or in CIBC Conservative ETF Portfolio in particular or the ability of the Morningstar® Canada Core Bond Index<sup>™</sup>, Morningstar® Global ex-Canada Core Bond Hedged CAD Index<sup>™</sup>, Morningstar® Canada Domestic Index<sup>™</sup>, Morningstar® US Target Market Exposure Index<sup>™</sup>, Morningstar® Developed Markets ex-North America Target Market Exposure Index<sup>™</sup>, and Morningstar® Emerging Markets Target Market Exposure Index<sup>™</sup> (the "Morningstar Indexes") to track general market performance. THE MORNINGSTAR ENTITIES DO NOT GUARANTEE THE ACCURACY AND/OR THE COMPLETENESS OF THE MORNINGSTAR INDEXES OR ANY DATA INCLUDED THEREIN AND MORNINGSTAR ENTITIES SHALL HAVE NO LIABILITY FOR ANY ERRORS, OMISSIONS, OR INTERRUPTIONS THEREIN.

#### A note on forward-looking statements

The management report of fund performance may contain forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements include statements that are predictive in nature, that depend upon or refer to future events or conditions, or that include words such as "expects", "anticipates", "intends", "plans", "believes", "estimates", or other similar wording. In addition, any statements that may be made concerning future performance, strategies, or prospects and possible future actions taken by the fund, are also forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance. These statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties, and other factors that may cause the actual results and achievements of the fund to differ materially from those expressed or implied by such statements. Such factors include, but are not limited to: general economic, market, and business conditions; fluctuations in securities prices, interest rates, and foreign currency exchange rates; changes in government regulations; and catastrophic events.

The above list of important factors that may affect future results is not exhaustive. Before making any investment decisions, we encourage you to consider these and other factors carefully. CIBC does not undertake, and specifically disclaims, any obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future developments, or otherwise prior to the release of the next management report of fund performance.

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