

# Interim Management Report of Fund Performance

# June 2023

This Interim Management Report of Fund Performance contains financial highlights but does not contain the complete interim financial statements of the Portfolio. You can request a copy of the interim financial statements, at no cost, by calling 514-350-5050 or toll free 1-888-377-7337 or by writing to us at 2 Complexe Desjardins, East Tower, 31<sup>st</sup> Floor, P. O. Box 1116, Montréal, Québec H5B 1C2, or by visiting our website at fdpgp.ca/en or SEDAR's website at www.sedar.com.

You may also contact us using one of these methods to request a copy of the Portfolio's proxy voting policies and procedures, proxy voting disclosure records and quarterly portfolio disclosure.

## **Performance Analysis**

#### **Investment Objective and Strategies**

The Portfolio seeks to achieve steady income and to ensure invested capital preservation. The Portfolio invests primarily in debt instruments of Canadian and foreign issuers. The Portfolio may also invest in equity securities of Canadian and foreign issuers paying dividends or income. The Portfolio Manager uses a top-down global active short-term management approach, including to set the duration of the portfolio. The implementation of dynamic positioning strategies on the yield curve, the choice of classes of issuers and the selection of securities are based on quantitative and qualitative comparisons, and simulations on interest rates, yield differentials, currencies and volatility.

### Risk

The Portfolio invests primarily in debt securities, both Canadian and foreign. Derivatives may also be used for hedging purposes or to establish market positions. The risks related to investments in the Portfolio remain as set out in the Simplified Prospectus. The risks associated with the Portfolio and its holdings are as follows: credit risk, sector risk, foreign securities risk, large transactions risk, specific issuer risk, currency risk, interest rate risk, derivatives risk, securities lending risk, exchangetraded funds risk, asset-backed and mortgage-backed securities risk, multi-series risk, short selling risk and loss restrictions risk.

#### **Operating Results**

The FDP Canadian Bond Portfolio, Series A posted a net return of 2.4% for the first six-month period of 2023, versus -11.9% for 2022.

The bond market, as measured by the FTSE Canada Universe Bond Index, posted a 2.5% return for the period. The index's positive performance was mainly attributable to more reasonable interest rate increases (the Bank of Canada hiked its key interest rate by 50 basis points [bps] in the first half of the year) that only had little impact on bonds maturing in more than 5 years, along with narrowing credit spreads and lower speculation on yield spreads, which widened.

Both the U.S. Federal Reserve and Bank of Canada continued to tighten their monetary policy and hiked their respective key interest rates to ease persistent inflationary pressure. Central bank measures to cool the economy and curb inflation appear to be working, but stock markets are getting concerned that interest rates will stay high longer than anticipated due to the labour market's sustained strength.

The yield curve inverted in 2022 and remained inverted in 2023. However, both provincial and corporate credit spreads generally narrowed in the first half of 2023, reflecting easing fears of a deep recession and investors' optimism about central banks' ability to tamp down inflation and achieve a soft landing of the economy.

On a relative basis, the FDP Canadian Bond Portfolio added 48 bps in value thanks to its yield curve positioning and an overweight to corporate bonds.

During the period, the Portfolio was overweight to corporate bonds, especially to banking securities. The subsector experienced significant turmoil during the crisis that erupted when U.S. regional banks such as Silicon Valley Bank, as well as Credit Suisse collapsed. The Portfolio manager continues to believe in the soundness of Canadian financial institutions, especially their debt eligible for a bail-in conversion that comprises most of the bank bonds held in the portfolio. The portfolio manager also still favours companies with good credit within the benchmark.

#### **Recent Developments**

There are currently no events to report for 2023.

#### **Description of the Benchmark Index**

The FTSE Canada Universe Bond Index is a benchmark index used to measure the performance of fixed-rate, investment-grade government and corporate bonds.

#### **Related Party Transactions**

The Manager of the FDP Canadian Bond Portfolio is Professionals' Financial – Mutual Funds Inc. The Manager is in charge of the portfolio's research, analyses, selections and transactions. The Investment Committee of Professionals' Financial – Mutual Funds Inc. supervises the execution of the mandates entrusted to the internal managers and to other external managers, as the case may be. With regard to the management of the Portfolio, any transaction between related parties must receive the Independent Review Committee's (IRC) positive recommendation or approval beforehand.

Monthly management fees, calculated daily at an annual percentage of the Portfolio's net assets after deducting the value of interfund investments, are paid to the Manager.

### **Financial Highlights**

The following tables illustrate key financial data concerning the Portfolio. Their purpose is to help you understand its financial results for the past five years and six-month period.

This information comes from the audited annual financial statements and the June 30, 2023 unaudited interim financial statements of the Portfolio. You can obtain the financial statements on the website at www.professionalsf.com.

Portfolio's Distributions and Net Asset	s per	<b>Unit</b> (in dollars)
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Six months ended June 30			Years ended December 31		
2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
10.550	12.183	12.725	12.092	11.602	11.755
0.165	0.312	0.320	0.359	0.364	0.353
(0.057)	(0.118)	(0.130)	(0.136)	(0.131)	(0.126)
(0.227)	(0.934)	(0.073)	0.345	0.361	(0.201)
0.381	(0.702)	(0.464)	0.439	0.130	0.040
0.262	(1.442)	(0.347)	1.007	0.724	0.066
0.118	0.193	0.185	0.223	0.236	0.222
-	-	0.006	-	-	0.001
-	-	0.007	0.157	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-
0.118	0.193	0.198	0.380	0.236	0.223
10.690	10.550	12.183	12.725	12.092	11.602
	2023 10.550 0.165 (0.057) (0.227) 0.381 0.262 0.118  - - 0.118	2023 2022   10.550 12.183   0.165 0.312   (0.057) (0.118)   (0.227) (0.934)   0.381 (0.702)   0.262 (1.442)   0.118 0.193       0.118 0.193       0.118 0.193	2023 2022 2021   10.550 12.183 12.725   0.165 0.312 0.320   (0.057) (0.118) (0.130)   (0.227) (0.934) (0.073)   0.381 (0.702) (0.464)   0.262 (1.442) (0.347)   0.118 0.193 0.185   - - 0.006   - - 0.007   - - -   0.118 0.193 0.185	2023 2022 2021 2020   10.550 12.183 12.725 12.092   0.165 0.312 0.320 0.359   (0.057) (0.118) (0.130) (0.136)   (0.227) (0.934) (0.073) 0.345   0.381 (0.702) (0.464) 0.439   0.262 (1.442) (0.347) 1.007   0.118 0.193 0.185 0.223   - - 0.006 -   - 0.007 0.157 -   - - - -   0.118 0.193 0.185 0.223   - - 0.007 0.157   - - - -   0.118 0.193 0.198 0.380	2023 2022 2021 2020 2019   10.550 12.183 12.725 12.092 11.602   0.165 0.312 0.320 0.359 0.364   (0.057) (0.118) (0.130) (0.136) (0.131)   (0.227) (0.934) (0.073) 0.345 0.361   0.381 (0.702) (0.464) 0.439 0.130   0.262 (1.442) (0.347) 1.007 0.724   0.118 0.193 0.185 0.223 0.236   - - 0.006 - -   0.118 0.193 0.185 0.223 0.236   - - 0.007 0.157 -   - - - - - -   0.118 0.193 0.198 0.380 0.236

<sup>(1)</sup> Net assets and distributions are based on the actual number of units outstanding at the relevant time. The increase or decrease from operations is based on the weighted average number of units outstanding over the financial period.

<sup>(2)</sup> Distributions were reinvested in additional units of the Portfolio.

#### **Ratios and Supplemental Data**

Six months ende	d June 30	June 30 Years ended December 31			mber 31	
Series A (created in 1978)	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Net asset value (in thousands of dollars) <sup>(1)</sup>	280,751	282,423	330,782	349,410	323,896	307,749
Number of units outstanding (thousands) (1)	26,263	26,769	27,150	27,459	26,786	26,526
Management expense ratio (%) (2)	1.067	1.078	1.067	1.071	1.084	1.093
Management expense ratio before waivers and absorptions (%)	1.067	1.078	1.067	1.071	1.084	1.093
Portfolio turnover rate (%) (3)	1,457.35	2,377.81	1,996.46	2,416.18	2,235.60	2,150.70
Trading expense ratio (%) <sup>(4)</sup>	-	-	0.01	-	-	-
Net asset value per unit	10.690	10.550	12.183	12.725	12.092	11.602

<sup>(1)</sup> The information is derived from audited annual financial statements and unaudited interim financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). In compliance with these Standards, net assets per unit presented in the financial statements generally equal the net asset value calculated to establish unit prices.

<sup>(2)</sup> Management expense ratio includes management fees and operating expenses. It excludes income tax withheld on dividend income and transaction costs, and is expressed as a percentage of the daily average annualized net asset value during the period. The management expense ratio takes into consideration the management expense ratios of the underlying funds.

<sup>(3)</sup> The Portfolio's portfolio turnover rate indicates how actively the Portfolio's portfolio manager manages its portfolio investments. A portfolio turnover rate of 100% is equivalent to the Fund buying and selling all of the securities in its portfolio once in the course of the period. The higher a Portfolio's portfolio turnover rate in a period, the greater the trading costs payable by the Fund in the period, and the greater the chance of an investor receiving taxable capital gains in the period. There is not necessarily a relationship between a high turnover rate and the performance of a Portfolio.

<sup>(4)</sup> The trading expense ratio represents total commissions and other portfolio transaction costs expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average net asset value during the period. The trading expense ratio takes into consideration the trading expense ratios of the underlying funds.

## Management Fees

The Portfolio pays management fees to the Manager, Professionals' Financial – Mutual Funds Inc., for service rendered to the unitholders, and investment management and administration services. The annual management fees of 0.85% are calculated daily according to the net assets and paid monthly after deducting the value of interfund investments. For the first six months of the year 2023, the Portfolio paid \$1,392,000 to its Manager.

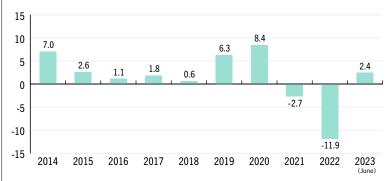
### **Past Performance**

Information on performance presupposes that the Portfolio's distributions during the periods presented have been totally reinvested in additional units of the same series. The returns do not include deductions for sales, transfer, redemption or other optional fees (because there are none) or income taxes payable, and would be lower if they included such items. The Portfolio's past performance is not necessarily indicative of future performance.

### **Annual Performance**

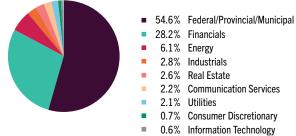
The following bar graphs indicate the Portfolio's annual returns for each year. They show the year-to-year variation in the Portfolio's return. The graphs present, in percentage form, what would have been the upward or downward variation, on the last day of the period, of an investment made on the first day of that period.

#### % Series A (created in 1978)



# **Overview of Portfolio**

### Portfolio Mix



0.1% Cash and Cash Equivalents 

# **Top 25 Portfolio Holdings**

	% of net asset value
Province of Ontario, 2.15%, Jun. 02, 2031	4.3
Government of Canada, 2.00%, Jun. 01, 2032	4.1
Province of Ontario, 2.70%, Jun. 02, 2029	3.4
The Toronto-Dominion Bank, 2.67%, Sep. 09, 2025	3.1
Government of Canada, 1.75%, Dec. 01, 2053	3.1
National Bank of Canada, 2.58%, Feb. 03, 2025	2.5
HSBC Bank Canada, 4.81%, Dec. 16, 2024	2.5
Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, 2.00%, Apr. 17, 2025	2.4
Fédération des caisses Desjardins du Québec, 1.09%, Jan. 21, 2026	2.4
Province of Ontario, 3.50%, Jun. 02, 2043	2.3
Province of Québec, 5.00%, Dec. 01, 2038	2.2
The Bank of Nova Scotia, 1.95%, Jan. 10, 2025	2.2
Government of Canada, 2.75%, Jun. 01, 2033	2.0
The Bank of Nova Scotia, 2.95%, Mar. 08, 2027	2.0
Province of Québec, 3.50%, Dec. 01, 2045	2.0
Pembina Pipeline Corporation, 3.54%, Feb. 03, 2025	1.9
Bank of Montreal, 4.71%, Dec. 07, 2027	1.9
Royal Bank of Canada, 3.37%, Sep. 29, 2025	1.9
Canada Housing Trust No. 1, 1.95%, Dec. 15, 2025	1.6
Province of Ontario, 4.70%, Jun. 02, 2037	1.6
Government of Canada, 1.50%, Jun. 01, 2031	1.6
Province of Ontario, 4.60%, Jun. 02, 2039	1.5
Province of Ontario, 2.65%, Dec. 02, 2050	1.5
Canada Housing Trust No. 1, 1.25%, Jun. 15, 2026	1.5
Province of Québec, 5.00%, Dec. 01, 2041	1.4

This portfolio may change due to continual trading in the Portfolio. An update of this data is available every quarter on our website at fdpgp.ca/en.