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PORTLAND CANADIAN BALANCED FUND  
**INTERIM MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE**

MARCH 31, 2021

PORTFOLIO  
MANAGEMENT TEAM

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## Management Discussion of Fund Performance Portland Canadian Balanced Fund

This management report of fund performance contains financial highlights, but does not contain either interim or annual financial statements of the investment fund. You can get a copy of the interim or annual financial statements at your request, and at no cost, by calling 1-888-710-4242, by writing to us at info@portlandic.com or 1375 Kerns Road, Suite 100, Burlington, ON L7P 4V7 or visiting our website at www.portlandic.com or SEDAR at www.sedar.com.

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

The views of Portland Investment Counsel Inc. (the Manager) contained in this report are as of March 31, 2021 and this report is not intended to provide legal, accounting, tax or specific investment advice. Views, portfolio holdings and allocations may have changed subsequent to this date. For current information, please contact us using the above methods. All references to performance relate to Series F units. The performance of other units may be different from that of the Series F units due to differing fees.

### INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE AND STRATEGIES

The investment objective of the Portland Canadian Balanced Fund (the Fund) is to provide positive long-term total returns, consisting of both income and capital gains by investing primarily in a portfolio of fixed income securities and Canadian equities. The Fund seeks to provide income and capital growth by investing in a diversified portfolio of common equities, preferred shares, income securities and exchange-traded funds (ETFs). The Fund may invest up to 49% in foreign securities in a manner consistent with its investment objective.

### RISK

The overall risk level has not changed for the Fund. Investors should be able to accept a low to medium level of risk and plan to hold for the medium to long term.

### RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

For the six-month period ended March 31, 2021, the Fund's Series F units had a return of 30.9%. For the same period, the Fund's Blended Benchmark (which is a composite consisting of 60% of the return of the MSCI Canada Index and 40% of the return of the iShares Core Canadian Universe Bond Index ETF TR), had a return of 8.7%. For the full period since inception of the Fund on October 31, 2012 to March 31, 2021, the Fund's Series F units had an annualized return of 11.0%. For the same period, the Blended Benchmark had an annualized return of 5.6%. Unlike the Blended Benchmark, the Fund's return is after the deduction of its fees and expenses.

The Fund's net asset value as at March 31, 2021 was \$39.6 million. Asset mix at March 31, 2021 was financials, 35.4%; cash and other net assets (liabilities), 22.9%; communication services, 22.0%; preferred share exchange traded funds, 10.1%; and energy, 9.6%. By geography, assets were invested in securities of issuers based in Canada, 55.9%; United States, 12.3%; United Kingdom, 8.9%; and cash and other net assets (liabilities), 22.9%.

The top three contributors to the Fund's performance during the six-month period ended March 31, 2021 were Citigroup Inc., Lumen Technologies, Inc. and RioCan Real Estate Investment Trust. The first and last of these benefitted from greater investor interest in "re-opening" businesses as COVID-19 vaccinations ramped up in the U.S. and Canada. Lumen, meanwhile, benefitted from a surge in investor interest during the period which the Fund has used as an opportunity to reduce its position on favourable terms.

The only material negative contributor to the Fund's performance during the six-month period ended March 31, 2021 was Shaw Communications, Inc. This position was acquired late in the six-month period following the agreed takeover of Shaw by Rogers Communications Inc. The parties expect to complete the acquisition in about a year.

### RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

As at March 31, 2021, the Fund's common equity investments comprised 67.0% of its net asset value. If we believe that common equity valuations are sufficiently attractive, we are prepared to increase the common equity weight to as high as 90%, with the increment to be funded primarily by reducing the Fund's cash holding. Investment of the cash, together with continued positive performance of the Fund's existing investments, is expected to enhance future Fund performance.

### RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Manager is responsible for the day-to-day operation of and for providing investment management services to the Fund. The Manager receives a fee for providing these services. This is calculated daily based on the net asset value of the Fund and paid monthly. During the six-month periods ended March 31, 2021, the Manager received \$185,671 in management fees from the Fund, net of applicable taxes (March 31, 2020: \$81,532).

Any administrative services paid for or provided by the Manager are charged to the Fund and are grouped and presented by expense type in the statements of comprehensive income. Depending on their nature, some expenditures are allocated to the Fund based on a variety of methods including net asset value or actual costs incurred. During the six-month periods ended March 31, 2021, the Manager was reimbursed \$85,584 for operating expenses incurred on behalf of the Fund, including amounts paid to affiliates, net of applicable taxes (March 31, 2020: \$30,572). The Manager absorbed \$nil of operating expenses during the period ended March 31, 2021, net of applicable taxes (March 31, 2020: \$41,195). Affiliates of the Manager provide administrative services associated with the day-to-day operations of the Fund. These affiliates of the Manager were reimbursed \$477 during the six-month periods ended March 31, 2021 by the Fund for such services (March 31, 2020: \$622).

The Manager and/or its affiliates and key management personnel of the Manager and their family (collectively referred to as Related Parties) may invest in units of the Fund from time to time in the normal course of business. Transactions to purchase or redeem units are made at net asset value per unit. Standing instructions from the independent review committee were not required or obtained for such transactions. As at

March 31, 2021, Related Parties owned 2,841 shares of the Fund (March 31, 2020: 311).

The Board of Directors of the Manager is responsible for reviewing and approving the financial statements and overseeing management's performance of its financial reporting responsibilities.

#### Notes

*Certain statements included in this Management Discussion of Fund Performance constitute forward-looking statements, including those identified by the expressions "anticipate," "believe," "plan," "estimate," "expect," "intend" and similar expressions to the extent they relate to the Fund. These forward-looking statements are not historical facts, but reflect the current expectations of the portfolio management team regarding future results or events of the Fund. These forward-looking statements are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results or events to differ materially from current expectations. The portfolio management team has no specific intention of updating any forward-looking statements whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by securities legislation.*

*Certain research and information about specific holdings in the Fund, including any opinion, is based upon various sources believed to be reliable, but it cannot be guaranteed to be current, accurate or complete. It is for information only, and is subject to change without notice.*

## Summary of Investment Portfolio as at March 31, 2021

## Top 25 Investments\*

	% of Net Asset Value
Cash & Cash Equivalents	22.6%
TC Energy Corp	9.6%
Shaw Communications, Inc.	9.0%
Vodafone Group PLC	8.9%
Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce	7.5%
The Toronto-Dominion Bank	7.3%
The Bank of Nova Scotia	6.9%
Citigroup Inc.	5.9%
Bank of Montreal	5.6%
BMO Laddered Preferred Share Index ETF	5.2%
Lumen Technologies, Inc.	4.1%
iShares S&P/TSX Canadian Preferred Share Index ETF	3.0%
The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation	2.4%
Horizons Active Preferred Share ETF	1.9%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>99.9%</b>

**Total net asset value** **\$39,610,402**

\* Where the Fund holds less than 25 holdings, all investments have been disclosed. There may be other assets and liabilities which are not included, and therefore the summary may not add up to 100%.

The investment portfolio may change due to ongoing portfolio transactions of the investment fund. Quarterly updates are available within 60 days of each quarter end by visiting [www.portlandic.com](http://www.portlandic.com) or contacting us at 1-888-710-4242. The prospectus and other information about the underlying exchange traded funds held in the portfolio are available on the internet at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com) and/or [www.sec.gov/edgar.shtml](http://www.sec.gov/edgar.shtml), as applicable.

## Portfolio Composition

Sector	
Financials	35.4%
Cash & Other Net Assets (Liabilities)	22.9%
Communication Services	22.0%
Exchange Traded Funds	10.1%
Energy	9.6%
Geographic Region	
Canadian Equity	45.8%
Cash & Other Net Assets (Liabilities)	22.9%
Foreign Equity	21.2%
Canadian Preferred	10.1%

*Other Net Assets (Liabilities) refers to cash on hand plus all other assets and liabilities in the Fund excluding portfolio investments.*

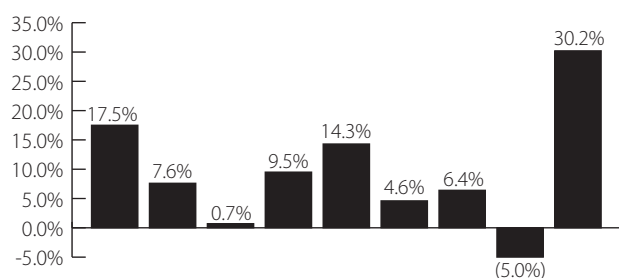
## Past Performance

The past performance information shown in this section is calculated using the net asset value per unit and assumes that all distributions made by the Fund in the periods shown were reinvested in additional securities of the Fund. The past performance information does not take into account sales, redemptions, distribution or other optional charges or income taxes payable by the unitholder that would have reduced returns or performance. Investment funds are not guaranteed, their values change frequently and past performance may not be repeated.

## Year-By-Year Returns

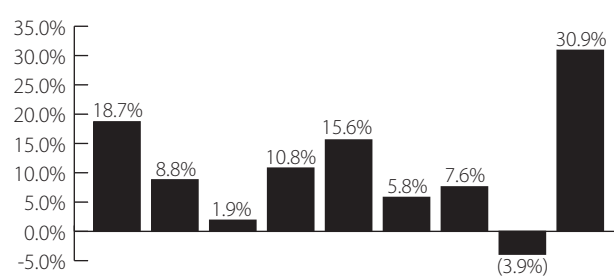
The following bar charts show the performance of each series of the Fund for each of the financial years shown and illustrates how the investment fund's performance has changed from year to year. The charts show in percentage terms how an investment made on the first day of each financial year would have increased or decreased by the last day of each financial year.

Series A Units



2013<sup>1</sup> 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021<sup>2</sup>

Series F Units



2013<sup>1</sup> 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021<sup>2</sup>

1. Return for 2013 represents a partial year starting October 31, 2012 to September 30, 2013.

2. Return for 2021 represents a partial year starting October 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021.

## Management Fees

The Manager is responsible for the day-to-day management and administration of the Fund. The Manager monitors and evaluates the performance of the Fund, pays for the investment management services of the portfolio advisor and arranges for the administrative services required to be provided to the Fund. As compensation for its service, the Manager is entitled to receive a fee, payable monthly, calculated based on the average daily net asset value of the Fund.

Series of Units	Management Fee (%)	Expenses Paid Out of the Management Fee (%)		
		Dealer compensation	General administration, investment advice and profit	Absorbed expenses
Series A	1.75%	51%	49%	-
Series F	0.75%	-	100%	-

## Financial Highlights

The following tables show selected key financial information about the Fund and are intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the past five years. Information for 2021 is presented for the six-month period ended March 31, 2021 and for all other periods, information is as at September 30 of the year shown.

### Series A Units - Net Assets per unit<sup>1</sup>

For the periods ended	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Net assets, beginning of the period	\$14.27	\$15.43	\$15.22	\$15.00	\$13.40	\$12.68
Increase (decrease) from operations:						
Total revenue	0.31	0.49	0.53	0.52	0.48	0.43
Total expenses	(0.21)	(0.39)	(0.42)	(0.42)	(0.41)	(0.37)
Realized gains (losses)	1.95	0.47	0.93	0.48	0.68	0.09
Unrealized gains (losses)	2.05	(0.26)	(0.07)	0.05	0.92	1.04
Total increase (decrease) from operations <sup>2</sup>	4.10	0.31	0.97	0.63	1.67	1.19
Distributions to unitholders:						
From income	-	-	-	-	-	-
From dividends	(0.13)	(0.05)	(0.05)	(0.01)	-	-
From capital gains	(1.30)	(0.37)	(0.60)	(0.46)	(0.30)	(0.45)
Return of capital	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total annual distributions <sup>3</sup>	(1.43)	(0.42)	(0.65)	(0.47)	(0.30)	(0.45)
Net assets, end of period <sup>4</sup>	\$16.96	\$14.27	\$15.43	\$15.22	\$15.00	\$13.40

### Series A Units - Ratios/Supplemental Data

For the periods ended	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Total net asset value	\$14,684,784	\$11,726,441	\$5,776,159	\$4,634,077	\$3,810,804	\$2,525,072
Number of units outstanding	865,807	821,943	374,354	304,451	254,066	188,496
Management expense ratio <sup>5</sup>	2.54%	2.65%	2.83%	2.82%	2.82%	2.82%
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions <sup>5</sup>	2.54%	2.88%	3.34%	3.44%	3.90%	4.79%
Trading expense ratio <sup>6</sup>	0.09%	0.04%	0.02%	0.01%	0.02%	0.06%
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>7</sup>	60.18%	54.44%	54.90%	27.14%	22.59%	73.79%
Net asset value per unit	\$16.96	\$14.27	\$15.43	\$15.22	\$15.00	\$13.40

### Series F Units - Net Assets per unit<sup>1</sup>

For the periods ended	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Net assets, beginning of the period	\$14.81	\$15.95	\$15.72	\$15.49	\$13.78	\$13.06
Increase (decrease) from operations:						
Total revenue	0.32	0.51	0.55	0.54	0.48	0.43
Total expenses	(0.13)	(0.23)	(0.24)	(0.24)	(0.22)	(0.22)
Realized gains (losses)	2.00	0.47	0.98	0.47	0.69	0.19
Unrealized gains (losses)	2.11	0.25	(0.14)	-	1.08	1.21
Total increase (decrease) from operations <sup>2</sup>	4.30	1.00	1.15	0.77	2.03	1.61
Distributions to unitholders:						
From income	-	-	-	-	-	(0.10)
From dividends	(0.29)	(0.17)	(0.17)	(0.15)	(0.12)	-
From capital gains	(1.31)	(0.37)	(0.64)	(0.51)	(0.29)	(0.53)
Return of capital	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total annual distributions <sup>3</sup>	(1.60)	(0.54)	(0.81)	(0.66)	(0.41)	(0.63)
Net assets, end of period <sup>4</sup>	\$17.58	\$14.81	\$15.95	\$15.72	\$15.49	\$13.78

### Series F Units - Ratios/Supplemental Data

For the periods ended	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Total net asset value	\$24,925,618	\$18,204,787	\$6,398,188	\$5,797,339	\$4,360,591	\$3,139,072
Number of units outstanding	1,417,867	1,229,379	401,159	368,836	281,449	227,788
Management expense ratio <sup>5</sup>	1.41%	1.50%	1.69%	1.69%	1.69%	1.69%
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions <sup>5</sup>	1.41%	1.73%	2.20%	2.31%	2.77%	3.66%
Trading expense ratio <sup>6</sup>	0.09%	0.04%	0.02%	0.01%	0.02%	0.06%
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>7</sup>	60.18%	54.44%	54.90%	27.14%	22.59%	73.79%
Net asset value per unit	\$17.58	\$14.81	\$15.95	\$15.72	\$15.49	\$13.78

## Explanatory Notes

1. The information for March 31, 2021 is derived from the Fund's unaudited interim financial statements. For the remaining periods, the information is derived from the Fund's audited annual financial statements prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.
2. Net assets and distributions are based on the actual number of units outstanding at the relevant time. The increase/decrease from operations is based on the weighted daily average number of units outstanding over the financial period.
3. Distributions are paid out in cash/reinvested in additional units of the Fund, or both.
4. This is not a reconciliation of the beginning and ending net assets per unit.
5. The management expense ratio (MER) is based on total expenses (excluding foreign withholding taxes, commissions and other portfolio transaction costs but including management fee distributions paid to certain unitholders in the form of additional units) for the stated period and is expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average net asset value during the period. The Manager may absorb certain expenses otherwise payable by the Fund. The amount of expenses absorbed is determined annually at the discretion of the Manager.

The Fund may hold investments in exchange traded funds (ETFs). The MER is calculated taking into consideration the expenses of the Fund allocated to the series including expenses indirectly attributable to its investment in the ETFs divided by the average daily NAV of the series of the Fund during the period.

Effective April 20, 2020, the management fees decreased from 2.00% and 1.00% to 1.75% and 0.75% on Series A and Series F, respectively. If the change in management fees had been effective since the start of the financial year, the MER after waivers or absorptions would have been 2.56% and 1.43% on Series A and Series F, respectively.

6. The trading expense ratio (TER) represents total commissions and other portfolio transaction costs expressed as an annualized percentage of the daily average net asset value of the Fund during the period.

The TER is calculated taking into consideration the costs attributable to its investment in ETFs.

7. The Fund's portfolio turnover rate indicates how actively the Fund's portfolio advisor manages its portfolio investments. A portfolio turnover rate of 100% is equivalent to a fund buying and selling all of the securities in its portfolio once in the course of the period. The higher a fund'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 fund.

Portfolio turnover rate is calculated based on the lesser of the cumulative cost of purchases or cumulative proceeds of sales divided by the average market value of the portfolio, excluding short-term investments.



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