

# **Scotia Balanced Opportunities Fund**

## Annual Management Report of Fund Performance

For the period ended December 31, 2017

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 1-800-268-9269, by writing to us at 1832 Asset Management L.P., 1 Adelaide Street East, 28th Floor, Toronto, ON, M5C 2V9 or by visiting our website at www.scotiafunds.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.

1832 Asset Management L.P. is the manager (the "Manager") of the fund. In this document, "we", "us", "our" and the "Manager" refer to 1832 Asset Management L.P. and the "Fund" refers to Scotia Balanced Opportunities Fund.

The term "net asset value" or "net asset value per unit" in this document refers to the net asset value determined in accordance with Part 14 of National Instrument 81-106 — Investment Fund Continuous Disclosure ("National Instrument 81-106"); while the term "net assets" or "net assets per unit" refers to total equity or net assets attributable to unitholders of the Fund as determined in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS").

## **Caution Regarding Forward-Looking Statements**

Certain portions of this report, including, but not limited to, "Recent Developments", may contain forward-looking statements about the Fund and the underlying funds, as applicable, including statements with respect to strategies, risks, expected performance events and conditions. 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", "projects" and similar forward-looking expressions or negative versions thereof.

In addition, any statement that may be made concerning future performance, strategies or prospects and possible future action by the Fund is also a forward-looking statement. Forward-looking statements are based on current expectations and projections about future general economic, political and relevant market factors, such as interest rates, foreign exchange rates, equity and capital markets, and the general business environment, in each case assuming no changes to applicable tax or other laws or government regulation. Expectations and projections about future events are inherently subject to, among other things, risks and uncertainties, some of which may be unforeseeable. Accordingly, current assumptions concerning future economic and other factors may prove to be incorrect at a future date.

Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and actual results or events could differ materially from those expressed or implied in any forward-looking statements made by the Fund. Any number of important factors could contribute to these digressions, including, but not limited to, general economic, political and market factors in North America and internationally, such as interest and foreign exchange rates, global equity and capital markets, business competition, technological change, changes in government relations, unexpected judicial or regulatory proceedings and catastrophic events. We stress that the above mentioned list of important factors is not exhaustive. Some of these risks, uncertainties and other factors are described in the Fund's simplified prospectus, under the heading "Specific risks of mutual funds".

We encourage you to consider these and other factors carefully before making any investment decisions. Forward-looking statements should not be unduly relied upon. Further, you should be aware of the fact that the Fund has no specific intention of updating any forward-looking statements whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, prior to the release of the next management report of fund performance, and that the forward-looking statements speak only to the date of this management report of fund performance.

## **Investment Objective and Strategies**

The Fund's objective is to obtain capital growth over the long term, while providing modest income. It invests primarily in a broad range of Canadian equity and fixed income securities. It may also invest in equity and fixed income securities from around the world.

The Fund's asset mix will generally vary within the following ranges: 20-80% in equity securities and 20-80% in fixed income securities. The Fund may also invest a portion of its assets in money market instruments. The Fund can invest up to 49% of its assets in foreign securities.

The portfolio advisor determines the asset mix based on its analysis of market conditions and how it expects each asset class to perform. The portfolio advisor actively manages the allocation between equity and fixed income securities to try to maximize returns. It will aggressively pursue opportunities for capital gains or investment income, but will take measures to avoid undue risk or low returns from a particular security. The portfolio advisor uses fundamental analysis to identify long-term investments. This involves evaluating the financial condition and management of each company, as well as its industry and the economy.

## Risk

The risks associated with investing in Fund are as described in the simplified prospectus. Effective November 14, 2017, the Manager

has implemented a new Risk Classification Methodology recently mandated by the Canadian Securities Administrators, which is used to determine the investment risk level of the Fund. There are no changes to the investment risk level, investment objectives or strategies of the Fund as a result of the implementation.

## **Results of Operations**

For the year ended December 31, 2017 (the "period"), the Series A units of the Fund returned 8.9%. Fund returns are reported net of all management fees and expenses for all series, unlike the returns of the Fund's benchmark, which is based on the performance of an index that does not pay fees or incur expenses. Returns for other series of the Fund will be similar to Series A units with any difference in performance being primarily due to different management fees, operating expenses and other expenses that are applicable to that particular series. Please see the "Past Performance" section for the performance of the Fund's other series.

The Fund's broad-based benchmarks, the S&P/TSX Composite Index and FTSE TMX Canada Universe Bond Index, returned 9.1% and 2.5%, respectively, during the same period. In accordance with National Instrument 81-106, we have included a comparison to broad-based indices to help you understand the Fund's performance relative to the general performance of the market, but caution that the Fund's mandate may be significantly different from the indices shown.

The Fund's blended benchmark, 40% MSCI All Country World Index (C\$), 35% FTSE TMX Canada Universe Bond Index and 25% S&P/TSX Composite Index, returned 9.5% during the same period. We have included this comparison, which more closely reflects the market sectors and/or asset classes in which the Fund invests, to provide a more useful comparative to the performance of the Fund.

The Fund tracked the performance of the relevant benchmark as a result of strong performance within its global and Canadian equity value components, while allocation decisions also contributed to performance.

Over the period, a strong market for global equities resulted in record highs across several markets, including Canada. Equity market strength was driven by synchronized global economic growth and robust corporate earnings. Each of the world's forty-five largest economies experienced growth. The expansion particularly benefited from the stability in economic activity in the U.S., China and especially the European Union.

Central bank monetary tightening became more widespread in 2017, as the Bank of Canada, Bank of England, Sveriges Riksbank (Sweden's central bank) and U.S. Federal Reserve Board all took action to reduce bond purchases or increase policy rates. As a result, the year was characterized by rising short-term interest rates and progressively flatter yield curves (meaning there was less difference between short- and long-term interest rates).

Asset mix decisions contributed to the Fund's performance, particularly an underweight allocation to fixed income and overweight allocation to equities. Security selection within the Fund's Cana-

dian equity value component also contributed to performance, as did sector allocation within the global equity component.

Individual contributors included overweight positions in OMV AG in the Energy sector, Geely Automobile Holdings Limited in the Consumer Discretionary sector and Air Canada in the Industrials sector. OMV's stock price increased by about 72%, Geely's stock price appreciated by more than 200% and Air Canada's stock price increased by almost 90%.

Security selection within the Fund's high-yield component detracted from performance. Individual detractors included overweight positions in Materials sector holdings Goldcorp Inc. and Barrick Gold Corporation and in Energy sector holding Cenovus Energy Inc. These stocks declined by about 11.8%, 14.8% and 43%, respectively, over the period.

The Fund's portfolio composition is consistent with the prior year.

The Fund's net asset value increased by 5.6% to \$901.2 million at December 31, 2017, from \$853.4 million at December 31, 2016. This change was composed of investment performance of the Fund of \$74.9 million, net redemptions of \$26.9 million and cash distributions of \$0.2 million. The investment performance of the Fund includes income and expenses which vary year over year. The Fund's income and expenses changed compared to the previous year mainly as a result of fluctuations in average net assets, portfolio activity, changes in the Fund's income earning investments and reduction in management fees.

Certain series of the Fund, as applicable, may make distributions at a rate determined by the Manager from time to time. If the aggregate amount of distributions in such series exceeds the portion of net income and net realized capital gains allocated to such series, the excess will constitute a return of capital. The Manager does not believe that the return of capital distributions made by such series of the Fund have a meaningful impact on the Fund's ability to implement its investment strategy or to fulfill its investment objective.

## **Recent Developments**

 $Management\ Fee\ Change$ 

Effective January 10, 2017, the management fee charged to the following series of the Fund were reduced as follows:

- Series A units from 1.75% to 1.65%;
- Advisor Series units from 1.75% to 1.65%;
- Series D units from 1.25% to 0.90%; and
- Series F units from 0.875% to 0.85%.

#### IFRS 9, Financial Instruments

The final version of IFRS 9, Financial Instruments was issued by the International Accounting Standards Board ("IASB") in July 2014 and will replace IAS 39, Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement, related to the classification and measurement of financial assets and financial liabilities.

IFRS 9 relates to the classification and measurement of financial assets and financial liabilities in the Fund. The new standard is

effective for the Fund for its fiscal year beginning January 1, 2018. The Manager has been evaluating the standard and has currently determined that the impact to the Fund will include additional disclosures related to changes to the classification of certain financial instruments to align with the classifications under IFRS 9. Adoption of the standard will not impact net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units.

## **Related Party Transactions**

The Manager is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Bank of Nova Scotia ("Scotiabank"). Scotiabank also owns, directly or indirectly, 100% of Scotia Securities Inc. and Tangerine Investment Funds Limited, each a mutual fund dealer, and Scotia Capital Inc. (which includes ScotiaMcLeod and Scotia iTRADE), an investment dealer.

On August 4, 2017, Industrial Alliance Insurance and Financial Services Inc. completed its acquisition of HollisWealth including HollisWealth Advisory Services Inc. (collectively, "HollisWealth"), a related party of the Manager. As such, HollisWealth ceased to be a related party.

The Manager, on behalf of the Fund, may enter into transactions or arrangements with other members of Scotiabank or certain other companies that are related or connected to the Manager (each a "related party"). All transactions between the Fund and the related parties are in the normal course of business and are carried out at arm's length terms.

The purpose of this section is to provide a brief description of any transaction involving the Fund and a related party.

### Management Fees

The Manager is responsible for the day-to-day management and operations of the Fund. Certain series of the Fund pay the Manager a management fee for its services as described in the "Management Fee" section later in this document. The management fee is an annualized rate based on the net asset value of each series of the Fund, accrued daily and paid monthly.

#### Fixed Administration Fees and Other Fund Costs

The Manager pays the operating expenses of the Fund, other than Fund Costs, in exchange for the payment by the Fund of a fixed rate administration fee (the "Fixed Administration Fee") to the Manager with respect to each series of the Fund, other than Advisor Series. The expenses charged to the Fund in respect of the Fixed Administration Fee are disclosed in the Fund's financial statements. The Fixed Administration Fee is equal to a specified percentage of the net asset value of a series, calculated and paid in the same manner as the management fees for the Fund. Further details about the Administration Fee can be found in the Fund's most recent simplified prospectus.

Where applicable, the Advisor Series of the Fund paid its proportionate share of the Fund's operating expenses that are common to all Series throughout the period.

In addition, each series of the Fund is responsible for its proportionate share of certain operating expenses ("Other Fund Costs"). Further details about Other Fund Costs can be found in the Fund's most recent simplified prospectus.

The Manager, at its sole discretion, may waive or absorb a portion of a series' expenses. These waivers or absorptions may be terminated at any time without notice.

#### Custodial Services

During the period, Scotiabank, as the custodian of the Fund, earned a fee for providing custody and related services. The custodian held investments of the Fund in safekeeping to ensure that they were used only for the benefit of the investors of the Fund. The custodian fee was paid by the Manager, in exchange for the Fixed Administration Fee received from the Fund.

On October 2, 2017, State Street Trust Company Canada replaced Scotiabank in its capacity as custodian of the Fund.

#### Related Brokerage Commissions

From time to time, the Fund may enter into portfolio securities transactions with Scotia Capital or other related dealers in whom Scotiabank has a significant interest (a "Related Broker"). These Related Brokers may earn commission or spreads on such transactions, which are made on terms and conditions that are comparable to transactions made with non-related brokers.

During the period, the Fund paid \$39,932 in commissions to Related Brokers.

#### Distribution Services

Certain registered dealers through which units of the Fund are distributed are related parties to the Fund and the Manager. The Manager pays to these related parties a trailer commission out of its management fees, representing distribution and servicing fees, based on the amount of assets held in the investors' accounts. These fees are paid on the same basis and at the same rates that the Manager pays to non-affiliated dealers.

## Other Fees

The Manager, or its affiliates, may earn fees and spreads in connection with various services provided to, or transactions with, the Fund, such as banking, custody, brokerage, foreign exchange and derivatives transactions. The Manager, or its affiliates, may earn a foreign exchange spread when unitholders switch between series of funds denominated in different currencies.

#### Independent Review Committee

The Manager has established an independent review committee (the "IRC") in accordance with National Instrument 81-107 — Independent Review Committee for Investment Funds ("NI 81-107") with a mandate to review and provide recommendations or approval, as required, on conflict of interest matters referred to it by the Manager on behalf of the Fund. The IRC is responsible for overseeing the Manager's decisions in situations

where the Manager is faced with any present or perceived conflicts of interest, all in accordance with NI 81-107.

The IRC may also approve certain mergers between the Fund and other funds, and any change of the auditor of the Fund. Subject to any corporate and securities law requirements, no securityholder approval will be obtained in such circumstances, but you will be sent a written notice at least 60 days before the effective date of any such transaction or change of auditor. In certain circumstances, securityholder approval may be required to approve certain mergers.

The IRC has five members, Carol S. Perry (Chair), Brahm Gelfand, Simon Hitzig, D. Murray Paton and Jennifer L. Witterick, each of whom is independent of the Manager.

The IRC prepares and files a report to the securityholders each fiscal year that describes the IRC and its activities for securityholders as well as contains a complete list of the standing instructions. These standing instructions enable the Manager to act in a particular conflict of interest matter on a continuing basis provided the Manager complies with its policies and procedures established to address that conflict of interest matter and reports periodically to the IRC on the matter. This report to the securityholders is available on the Manager's website or, at no cost, by contacting the Manager.

The compensation and other reasonable expenses of the IRC will be paid out of the assets of the Fund as well as out of the assets of the other investment funds for which the IRC may act as the independent review committee. The main components of compensation are an annual retainer and a fee for each committee meeting attended. The chair of the IRC is entitled to an additional fee. Expenses of the IRC may include premiums for insurance coverage, travel expenses and reasonable out-of-pocket expenses.

The Fund received the following standing instructions from the IRC with respect to related party transactions:

• Paying brokerage commissions and spreads to a related party for effecting security transactions on an agency and principal basis on behalf of the Fund;

- Purchases or sales of securities of an issuer from or to another investment fund managed by the Manager;
- Investments in the securities of issuers for which a related underwriter acted as an underwriter during the distribution of such securities and the 60-day period following the completion of such distribution;
- Executing foreign exchange transactions with a related party on behalf of the Fund;
- Purchases of securities of a related party;
- Entering into over-the-counter derivatives on behalf of the Fund with a related party;
- Entering into securities lending transactions with a related party;
- Outsourcing products and services to related parties which can be charged to the Fund;
- Acquisition of prohibited securities as defined by securities regulations;
- Trading in mortgages with a related party.

The Manager is required to advise the IRC of any breach of a condition of the standing instructions. The standing instructions require, among other things, that the investment decision in respect to a related party transaction: (a) is made by the Manager free from any influence by an entity related to the Manager and without taking into account any consideration to any associate or affiliate of the Manager; (b) represents the business judgment of the Manager uninfluenced by considerations other than the best interests of the Fund; and (c) is made in compliance with the Manager's written policies and procedures. Transactions made by the Manager under the standing instructions are subsequently reviewed by the IRC to monitor compliance.

The Fund relied on IRC standing instructions regarding related party transactions during the period.

## **Financial Highlights**

The following tables show selected key financial information about each series of the Fund and are intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the periods indicated. The information on the following tables is based on prescribed regulations and as a result, is not expected to add down due to the increase (decrease) in net assets from operations being based on average units outstanding during the period and all other numbers being based on actual units outstanding at the relevant point in time. Footnotes for the tables are found at the end of the Financial Highlights section.

## The Fund's Net Assets per Unit(1)

		Increase (decrease) from operations:				Distributions:						
				Realized	Unrealized	Total	From net	om net				
	Net			gains	gains	increase	investment					Net
	Assets,			(losses)	(losses)	(decrease)	income		From			Assets,
For the	beginning	Total	Total	for the	for the	from	(excluding	From	capital	Return of	Total	end of
period ended	of period (\$)	revenue	expenses	period	period	operations <sup>(2)</sup>	dividends)	dividends	gains	capital	distributions <sup>(3)</sup>	period (\$) <sup>(1)</sup>
Series A												
Dec. 31, 2017	19.52	0.58	(0.44)	1.26	0.33	1.73	-	(0.26)	(1.05)	-	(1.31)	19.95
Dec. 31, 2016	18.93	0.56	(0.44)	0.55	0.50	1.17	(0.07)	(0.33)	(0.18)	-	(0.58)	19.52
Dec. 31, 2015	19.26	0.61	(0.47)	1.43	(0.74)	0.83	-	(0.09)	(1.08)	-	(1.17)	18.93
Dec. 31, 2014	19.66	0.53	(0.46)	1.89	(0.57)	1.39	_	(0.08)	(1.74)	-	(1.82)	19.26
Dec. 31, 2013	17.92	0.54	(0.41)	1.18	1.49	2.80	_	(0.13)	(0.92)	_	(1.05)	19.66
<b>Advisor Series</b>												
Dec. 31, 2017	19.03	0.58	(0.38)	1.25	0.26	1.71	-	(0.28)	(1.03)	-	(1.31)	19.43
Dec. 31, 2016	18.44	0.52	(0.40)	0.51	0.24	0.87	(0.07)		(0.18)	-	(0.56)	19.03
Dec. 31, 2015	18.78	0.59	(0.54)	1.40	(0.58)	0.87	-	(0.02)	(1.05)	-	(1.07)	18.44
Dec. 31, 2014	19.23	0.52	(0.54)	1.85	(0.46)	1.37	_	(0.05)	(1.70)	_	(1.75)	18.78
Dec. 31, 2013	17.61	0.53	(0.51)	1.16	1.63	2.81	_	(0.13)	(0.90)	_	(1.03)	19.23
Series D												
Dec. 31, 2017	9.50	0.32	(0.12)	0.70	(0.09)	0.81	-	(0.21)	(0.38)	-	(0.59)	9.82
Dec. 31, 2016	9.22	-	(0.14)	-	1.05	0.91	(0.04)	(0.22)	(0.09)	_	(0.35)	9.50
Dec. 31, 2015*	10.00	_	(0.11)	_	0.04	(0.07)	_	(0.15)	(0.49)	_	(0.64)	9.22
* Start date for Series D was March 27.												
Series F												
Dec. 31, 2017	19.71	0.60	(0.23)	1.30	0.21	1.88	-	(0.45)	(1.06)	-	(1.51)	20.13
Dec. 31, 2016	19.12	0.61	(0.23)	0.60	0.63	1.61	(0.10)	(0.49)	(0.19)	-	(0.78)	19.71
Dec. 31, 2015	19.49	0.75	(0.30)	1.78	0.40	2.63	_	(0.29)	(1.10)	-	(1.39)	19.12
Dec. 31, 2014	19.90	0.53	(0.32)	1.91	(0.94)	1.18	_	(0.25)	(1.76)	-	(2.01)	19.49
Dec. 31, 2013	18.13	0.55	(0.27)	1.20	1.60	3.08	_	(0.25)	(0.93)	-	(1.18)	19.90

<sup>(1)</sup> This information is derived from the Fund's audited annual financial statements. The net assets per unit presented in the financial statements may differ from the net asset value calculated for Fund pricing purposes. An explanation of these differences can be found in note 2 of the Fund's financial statements. The net asset value per unit at the end of the period is disclosed in Ratios and Supplemental Data.

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

			Management	MER before			
	Total net asset		expense ratio	waivers or	Trading expense	Portfolio turnover	Net asset value
As at	value (000's) (\$) <sup>(1)</sup>	outstanding <sup>(1)</sup>	("MER") (%) <sup>(2)</sup>	absorptions (%) <sup>(2)</sup>	ratio (%) <sup>(3)</sup>	rate (%) <sup>(4)</sup>	per unit (\$)
Series A							
Dec. 31, 2017	899,155	45,063,650	1.94	1.94	0.07	181.69	19.95
Dec. 31, 2016	852,180	43,650,734	2.05	2.05	0.08	202.11	19.52
Dec. 31, 2015	829,821	43,845,932	2.05	2.05	0.12	170.27	18.93
Dec. 31, 2014	802,895	41,676,750	2.05	2.05	0.15	148.36	19.27
Dec. 31, 2013	712,154	36,231,919	2.05	2.05	0.13	155.50	19.66
Advisor Series							
Dec. 31, 2017	778	40,055	1.85	2.02	0.07	181.69	19.43
Dec. 31, 2016	760	39,926	2.06	3.70	0.08	202.11	19.03
Dec. 31, 2015	1,061	57,542	2.46	2.69	0.12	170.27	18.44
Dec. 31, 2014	2,598	138,373	2.54	2.63	0.15	148.36	18.78
Dec. 31, 2013	2,922	152,004	2.54	2.73	0.13	155.50	19.23
Series D							
Dec. 31, 2017	775	78,962	1.10	1.10	0.07	181.69	9.82
Dec. 31, 2016	22	2,302	1.54	1.54	0.08	202.11	9.50
Dec. 31, 2015	8	818	1.49	1.49	0.12	170.27	9.22
Series F							
Dec. 31, 2017	493	24,509	1.08	1.08	0.07	181.69	20.13
Dec. 31, 2016	346	17,544	1.12	1.12	0.08	202.11	19.71
Dec. 31, 2015	168	8,787	1.13	1.13	0.12	170.27	19.12
Dec. 31, 2014	77	3,934	1.35	3.59	0.15	148.36	19.49
Dec. 31, 2013	17	829	1.27	17.66	0.13	155.50	19.91

 $<sup>^{(1)}</sup>$  This information is provided as at the period end of the years shown.

<sup>(2)</sup> Net assets per unit and distributions per unit are based on the actual number of units outstanding for the relevant series at the relevant time. The increase (decrease) in net assets from operations per unit is based on the weighted average number of units outstanding over the period.

<sup>(3)</sup> Distributions were paid in cash or reinvested in additional units of the Fund.

<sup>(2)</sup> The management expense ratio is based on total expenses (including sales tax, and excluding commissions and other portfolio transaction costs) of each series of the Fund and the underlying funds, where applicable, for the stated period and is expressed as an annualized percentage of the daily average net asset value during the period.

<sup>(3)</sup> The trading expense ratio represents total commissions and other portfolio transaction costs of the Fund and the underlying funds, where applicable, expressed as an annualized percentage of the daily average net asset value of the Fund during the period.

(4) 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 the 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 year. There is not necessarily a relationship between a high turnover rate and the performance of a fund.

#### **Management Fees**

The management fee is an annualized rate based on the net asset value of each series of the Fund, accrued daily and paid monthly. The management fees cover the costs of managing the Fund, arranging for investment analysis, recommendations and investment decision making for the Fund, arranging for distribution of the Fund, marketing and promotion of the Fund and providing or arranging for other services.

The breakdown of services received in consideration of management fees for each series, as a percentage of the management fees, are as follows:

	Management	Dealer	
	fees (%)	compensation (%)	Other† (%)
Series A	1.65	48.6	51.4
Advisor Series	1.65	56.4	43.6
Series D	0.90	30.1	69.9
Series F	0.85	n/a	100.0

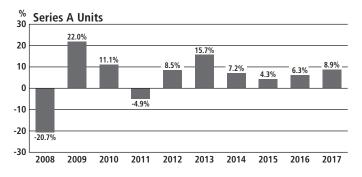
<sup>†</sup> Relates to all services provided by the Manager described above except dealer compensation.

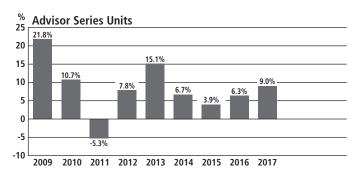
#### **Past Performance**

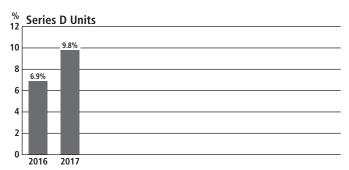
The following shows the past performance for each series and will not necessarily indicate how the Fund will perform in the future. The information shown assumes that all distributions made by each series of the Fund in the periods shown were reinvested in additional units of the relevant series. In addition, the information does not take into account sales, redemption, distribution or other optional charges that would have reduced returns or performance.

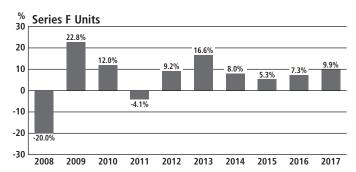
#### Year-by-Year Returns

The following charts show the performance for each series of the Fund and illustrate how performance has varied from year to year. The charts show, in percentage terms, how much an investment held on the first day of each calendar year would have increased or decreased by the last day of each calendar year for that series.









#### **Annual Compound Returns**

The annual compound returns table below compares each series of the Fund's performance to one or more benchmarks. A benchmark is usually an index or a composite of more than one index. Fund returns are reported net of all management fees and expenses for all series, unlike the return of benchmarks which are based on the performance of an index that does not pay fees or incur expenses.

		One Year	Three Years	Five Years	Ten Years	Since Inception
Series A	%	8.9	6.5	8.4	5.2	
Blended Benchmark*	%	9.5	7.5	9.4	6.3	_
S&P/TSX Composite Index	%	9.1	6.6	8.6	4.6	_
FTSE TMX Canada	, •	J	0.0	0.0		
Universe Bond Index	%	2.5	2.6	3.0	4.7	_
Old Blended Benchmark**	%	9.2	7.3	7.8	3.8	_
Advisor Series	%	9.0	6.4	8.1	_	5.3
Blended Benchmark*	%	9.5	7.5	9.4	_	6.5
S&P/TSX Composite Index	%	9.1	6.6	8.6	_	5.1
FTSE TMX Canada						
Universe Bond Index	%	2.5	2.6	3.0	_	4.5
Old Blended Benchmark**	%	9.2	7.3	7.8	-	3.8
Series D	%	9.8	_	_	_	5.4
Blended Benchmark*	%	9.5	_	_	_	5.6
S&P/TSX Composite Index	%	9.1	_	_	_	6.2
FTSE TMX Canada						
Universe Bond Index	%	2.5	_	_	_	1.3
Old Blended Benchmark**	%	9.2	_	-	_	5.5
Series F	%	9.9	7.5	9.3	6.1	_
Blended Benchmark*	%	9.5	7.5	9.4	6.3	_
S&P/TSX Composite Index	%	9.1	6.6	8.6	4.6	_
FTSE TMX Canada						
Universe Bond Index	%	2.5	2.6	3.0	4.7	-
Old Blended Benchmark**	%	9.2	7.3	7.8	3.8	-

- \* The Blended Benchmark is composed of 25% of S&P/TSX Composite Index, 35% of FTSE TMX Canada Universe Bond Index and 40% of MSCI All Country World Index (C\$).
- \*\*The Old Blended Benchmark was composed of 30% of S&P/TSX Composite Index, 35% of FTSE TMX Canada Universe Bond Index and 35% of MSCI All Country World Index (C\$).

#### Index Descriptions

S&P/TSX Composite Index – This index comprises approximately 95% of the market capitalization for Canadian-based, Toronto Stock Exchange listed companies.

FTSE TMX Canada Universe Bond Index — This index is designed to be a broad measure of the Canadian investment-grade fixed income market including Government of Canada bonds, provincial bonds, municipal bonds and corporate obligations.

MSCI All Country World Index (C\$) – This index captures large and mid representation across developed markets and emerging markets.

A discussion of the performance of the Fund as compared to its benchmark(s) is found in the Results of Operations section of this report.

#### **Summary of Investment Portfolio**

The Summary of Investment Portfolio may change due to ongoing portfolio transactions. A quarterly portfolio update is available to the investor at no cost by calling 1-800-268-9269, or by visiting www.scotiafunds.com, 60 days after quarter end, except for December 31, which is the calendar year end, when they are available after 90 days.

By Industry	% of net asset value(1)
Financials	16.9
Provincial Bonds	11.0
Information Technology	10.4
Industrials	8.8
Corporate Bonds	8.1
Energy	7.7
Materials	7.0
Consumer Discretionary	6.4
Health Care	5.5
Federal Bonds	5.3
Consumer Staples	4.9
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2.4
Telecommunication Services	2.3
Utilities	1.4
Real Estate	1.4
Other Net Assets (Liabilities)	0.6

## **Top 25 Holdings**

Issuer	% of net asset value <sup>(1)</sup>
Royal Bank of Canada	2.4
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2.4
Toronto-Dominion Bank, The	2.3
Province of Ontario 2.60% Jun 02, 2027	1.9
Bank of Nova Scotia, The	1.5
Province of Quebec 2.75% Sep 01, 2027	1.3
Province of Quebec 3.00% Sep 01, 2023	1.1
Canadian National Railway Company	1.1
Province of Ontario 2.85% Jun 02, 2023	1.0
Manulife Financial Corporation	1.0
Bank of Montreal	1.0
Suncor Energy, Inc.	1.0
Apple Inc.	0.9
Canadian Government Bond 1.00% Sep 01, 2022	0.9
Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce	0.9
Government of Canada 5.00% Jun 01, 2037	0.9
Canadian Pacific Railway Limited	0.8
Enbridge Inc.	0.8
Canadian Natural Resources Ltd.	0.7
Exxon Mobil Corporation	0.7
Province of Quebec 3.50% Dec 01, 2022	0.7
TELUS Corporation	0.7
Johnson & Johnson	0.6
Alphabet Inc., Class C	0.6
Magna International Inc.	0.6

<sup>(1)</sup> Based on the net asset value, therefore, weightings presented in the Schedule of Investments will differ from the ones disclosed above.

