# **Pinnacle Program Funds**

### **Annual Information Form**

# Respecting Class A and Class F Units and Class I Units (where noted) of:

## **Money Market Fund**

Pinnacle Short Term Income Fund

#### **Bond Funds**

Pinnacle Income Fund Pinnacle High Yield Income Fund Pinnacle American Core-Plus Bond Fund (Class I units available)

#### **Real Estate Fund**

Pinnacle Global Real Estate Securities Fund (Class I units available)

#### **Balanced Fund**

Pinnacle Strategic Balanced Fund

### **Canadian Equity Funds**

Pinnacle Canadian Value Equity Fund

Pinnacle Canadian Mid Cap Equity Fund (formerly Pinnacle Canadian Mid Cap Value Equity Fund)

Pinnacle Canadian Growth Equity Fund

Pinnacle Canadian Small Cap Equity Fund (Class I units available)

### **Foreign Equity Funds**

Pinnacle American Value Equity Fund (Class I units available)

Pinnacle American Mid Cap Value Equity Fund (Class I units available)

Pinnacle American Large Cap Growth Equity Fund

Pinnacle American Mid Cap Growth Equity Fund (Class I units available)

Pinnacle International Equity Fund (Class I units available)

Pinnacle International Small to Mid Cap Value Equity Fund (Class I units available)

Pinnacle Global Equity Fund (Class I units available)

No securities regulatory authority has expressed an opinion about these units. It is in an offence to claim otherwise.

The Pinnacle Program Funds and the units they offer under this annual information form are not registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. Units of the Funds may be offered and sold in the United States only in reliance on exemptions from registration.

December 22, 2008

NAME, FORMATION AND HISTORY OF THE FUNDS	1
INVESTMENT RESTRICTIONS AND PRACTICES	7
Self-Dealing Restrictions for Dealer-Managed Funds	8
Related Party Investments	8
DESCRIPTION OF UNITS OF THE FUNDS	9
Distribution Rights	9
Redemption Rights	9
Liquidation Rights	9
Voting Rights.	10
HOW UNITS ARE VALUED	10
Calculation of Net Asset Value	10
Valuation of Portfolio Securities and Liabilities	11
PURCHASES AND SWITCHES OF UNITS	12
REDEMPTION OF UNITS	13
TAX TREATMENT OF YOUR INVESTMENT	14
Tax Treatment of the Funds	15
Tax Treatment of Unitholders	16
Tax Deferred Plans	17
Alternative Minimum Tax	17
HOW THE FUNDS ARE MANAGED AND ADMINISTERED	17
ScotiaMcLeod's Roles	17
Portfolio Advisors	19
Brokerage Arrangements.	27
Registrar and Transfer Agent	29
Custodian of Portfolio Securities	29
Auditor	29
Fund Governance	29
Securities Lending, Repurchase and Reverse Repurchase Transactions	31
Policies on Derivatives	32
Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures	32

OTHER STATUTORY INFORMATION ABOUT THE FUNDS	39
Principal Holders of Securities	39
Material Contracts	39
Legal and Administrative Proceedings	42

# NAME, FORMATION AND HISTORY OF THE FUNDS

This is the Annual Information Form of the Pinnacle Short Term Income Fund, Pinnacle Income Fund, Pinnacle High Yield Income Fund, Pinnacle American Core-Plus Bond Fund, Pinnacle Global Real Estate Securities Fund, Pinnacle Strategic Balanced Fund, Pinnacle Canadian Value Equity Fund, Pinnacle Canadian Mid Cap Equity Fund, Pinnacle Canadian Growth Equity Fund, Pinnacle Canadian Small Cap Equity Fund, Pinnacle American Value Equity Fund, Pinnacle American Mid Cap Value Equity Fund, Pinnacle American Large Cap Growth Equity Fund, Pinnacle American Mid Cap Growth Equity Fund, Pinnacle International Equity Fund, Pinnacle International Small to Mid Cap Value Equity Fund and Pinnacle Global Equity Fund (in this document we refer to these funds individually as a "Fund" or collectively as the "Funds").

ScotiaMcLeod, a division of Scotia Capital Inc., is the manager and the trustee ("ScotiaMcLeod", "we" or "us") of the Funds. The head office and principal place of business of the Funds is the head office of ScotiaMcLeod, Scotia Plaza, 40 King Street West, P.O. Box 4085, Station "A", Toronto, Ontario M5W 2X6. ScotiaMcLeod can also be contacted via telephone toll-free, at 1-800-530-0197 (416-506-8404 in Toronto) or via email through ScotiaMcLeod's website at www.scotiamcleod.com. Information regarding ScotiaMcLeod can be obtained on ScotiaMcLeod's website at www.scotiamcleod.com.

The following chart describes the manner in which each Fund was created:

Name of Fund	Jurisdiction	Creation and Amendments
Pinnacle Short Term Income Fund	Ontario	September 3, 1997
		Declaration of Trust
		January 17, 2000
		Portfolio advisor changed from Scotia Investment Management Ltd. to RT Capital Management Inc. (now UBS Global Asset Management (Canada) Co.)
		April 22, 2005 and April 16, 2007
		Declaration of Trust amended and restated by Master Declaration of Trust and Supplemental Trust Indenture
		October 3, 2005
		Portfolio advisor changed from UBS Global Asset Management (Canada) Co. to Scotia Cassels Investment Counsel Limited
		December 22, 2008
		Master Declaration of Trust and Supplemental Trust Indenture amended and restated to establish Class A, Class F and Class I units and re-designate all existing units as Class A units

Name of Fund	Jurisdiction	Creation and Amendments
Pinnacle Income Fund	Ontario	September 3, 1997
		• Declaration of Trust
		April 22, 2005 and April 16, 2007
		<ul> <li>Declaration of Trust amended and restated by Master Declaration of Trust and Supplemental Trust Indenture</li> </ul>
		October 1, 2007
		<ul> <li>Portfolio advisor changed name from YMG Capital Inc. to Fiera Capital Inc.</li> </ul>
		December 22, 2008
		<ul> <li>Master Declaration of Trust and Supplemental Trust Indenture amended and restated to establish Class A, Class F and Class I units and re-designate all existing units as Class A units</li> </ul>
Pinnacle High Yield Income Fund	Ontario	September 3, 1997
		• Declaration of Trust
		April 22, 2005 and April 16, 2007
		<ul> <li>Declaration of Trust amended and restated by Master Declaration of Trust and Supplemental Trust Indenture</li> </ul>
		December 22, 2008
		<ul> <li>Master Declaration of Trust and Supplemental Trust Indenture amended and restated to establish Class A, Class F and Class I units and re-designate all existing units as Class A units</li> </ul>
Pinnacle American Core-Plus Bond Fund	Ontario	January 28, 2002
		• Declaration of Trust
		April 22, 2005 and April 16, 2007
		<ul> <li>Declaration of Trust amended and restated by Master Declaration of Trust and Supplemental Trust Indenture</li> </ul>
		November 1, 2007
		<ul> <li>Portfolio advisor changed from Delaware Investment Advisers to Logan Circle Partners, L.P.</li> </ul>
		December 22, 2008
		Master Declaration of Trust and Supplemental Trust Indenture amended and restated to establish Class A, Class F and Class I units and re-designate all existing units as Class A units

Name of Fund	Jurisdiction	Creation and Amendments
Pinnacle Global Real Estate Securities	Ontario	January 28, 2002
Fund		• Declaration of Trust
		April 22, 2005 and April 16, 2007
		Declaration of Trust amended and restated by Master Declaration of Trust and Supplemental Trust Indenture October 22, 2007
		Portfolio advisor changed from AllianceBernstein Canada, Inc. to Citigroup Alternative Investments LLC
		December 22, 2008
		Master Declaration of Trust and Supplemental Trust Indenture amended and restated to establish Class A, Class F and Class I units and re-designate all existing units as Class A units
Pinnacle Strategic Balanced Fund	Ontario	September 3, 1997
		• Declaration of Trust
		April 22, 2005 and April 16, 2007
		Declaration of Trust amended and restated by Master Declaration of Trust and Supplemental Trust Indenture
		January 16, 2006
		<ul> <li>Portfolio advisor changed from KBSH Capital Management Inc. to Connor, Clark &amp; Lunn Investment Management Ltd.</li> </ul>
		December 22, 2008
		Master Declaration of Trust and Supplemental Trust Indenture amended and restated to establish Class A, Class F and Class I units and re-designate all existing units as Class A units
Pinnacle Canadian Value Equity Fund	Ontario	September 3, 1997
		• Declaration of Trust
		April 22, 2005 and April 16, 2007
		Declaration of Trust amended and restated by Master Declaration of Trust and Supplemental Trust Indenture
		December 22, 2008
		Master Declaration of Trust and Supplemental Trust Indenture amended and restated to establish Class A, Class F and Class I units and re-designate all existing units as Class A units
		February 5, 2009
		Portfolio advisor will change from BonaVista Asset Management Ltd. to Scheer, Rowlett & Associates Investment Management Ltd.

Name of Fund	Jurisdiction	Creation and Amendments
Pinnacle Canadian Mid Cap Equity Fund	Ontario	January 28, 2002
		• Declaration of Trust
		April 22, 2005 and April 16, 2007
		Declaration of Trust amended and restated by Master Declaration of Trust and Supplemental Trust Indenture
		January 2, 2008
		<ul> <li>Portfolio advisor changed from Foyston, Gordon &amp; Payne Inc. to Montrusco Bolton Investments Inc.</li> </ul>
		December 22, 2008
		<ul> <li>Name of Fund changed from Pinnacle Canadian Mid Cap Value Equity Fund to Pinnacle Canadian Mid Cap Equity Fund</li> </ul>
		Master Declaration of Trust and Supplemental Trust Indenture amended and restated to establish Class A, Class F and Class I units and re-designate all existing units as Class A units
Pinnacle Canadian Growth Equity Fund	Ontario	September 3, 1997
		• Declaration of Trust
		April 22, 2005 and April 16, 2007
		<ul> <li>Declaration of Trust amended and restated by Master Declaration of Trust and Supplemental Trust Indenture</li> </ul>
		December 22, 2008
		Master Declaration of Trust and Supplemental Trust Indenture amended and restated to establish Class A, Class F and Class I units and re-designate all existing units as Class A units
Pinnacle Canadian Small Cap Equity	Ontario	September 3, 1997
Fund		• Declaration of Trust
		December 16, 1997
		Portfolio advisor changed from Ultravest Investment Counsellors Inc. to Acuity Investment Management Inc.
		December 2, 2002
		Portfolio advisor changed from Acuity Investment Management, Inc. to Mawer Investment Management Ltd.

Name of Fund	Jurisdiction	Creation and Amendments
		December 11, 2002
		Amendment to Declaration of Trust to change the name of the Fund from Pinnacle Canadian Small Cap Growth Equity Fund to Pinnacle Canadian Small Cap Equity Fund
		April 22, 2005 and April 16, 2007
		Declaration of Trust amended and restated by Master Declaration of Trust and Supplemental Trust Indenture
		December 22, 2008
		Master Declaration of Trust and Supplemental Trust Indenture amended and restated to establish Class A, Class F and Class I units and re-designate all existing units as Class A units
Pinnacle American Value Equity Fund	Ontario	September 3, 1997
		Declaration of Trust
		April 19, 1999
		Portfolio advisor changed from NWQ Investment Management Company Inc. to Equinox Capital Management, LLC
		December 2, 2002
		Portfolio advisor changed from Equinox Capital Management, LLC to Metropolitan West Capital Management LLC
		April 22, 2005 and April 16, 2007
		Declaration of Trust amended and restated by Master Declaration of Trust and Supplemental Trust Indenture
		December 22, 2008
		Master Declaration of Trust and Supplemental Trust Indenture amended and restated to establish Class A, Class F and Class I units and re-designate all existing units as Class A units
Pinnacle American Mid Cap Value	Ontario	January 28, 2002
Equity Fund		Declaration of Trust
		March 21, 2005
		Portfolio advisor changed from State Street Research and Management Company to BlackRock Financial Management, Inc.
		April 22, 2005 and April 16, 2007
		Declaration of Trust amended and restated by Master Declaration of Trust and Supplemental Trust Indenture

Name of Fund	Jurisdiction	Creation and Amendments
		October 3, 2005
		Portfolio advisor changed from BlackRock Financial Management, Inc. to Integrity Asset Management, LLC
		December 22, 2008
		Master Declaration of Trust and Supplemental Trust Indenture amended and restated to establish Class A, Class F and Class I units and re-designate all existing units as Class A units
Pinnacle American Large Cap Growth	Ontario	January 18, 2001
Equity Fund		Declaration of Trust
		December 2, 2002
		Portfolio advisor changed from Dresdner RCM Global Investors, LLC to American Century Investment Management, Inc.
		April 22, 2005 and April 16, 2007
		Declaration of Trust amended and restated by Master Declaration of Trust and Supplemental Trust Indenture
		December 22, 2008
		Master Declaration of Trust and Supplemental Trust Indenture amended and restated to establish Class A, Class F and Class I units and re-designate all existing units as Class A units
Pinnacle American Mid Cap Growth	Ontario	September 3, 1997
Equity Fund		Declaration of Trust
		April 22, 2005 and April 16, 2007
		Declaration of Trust amended and restated by Master Declaration of Trust and Supplemental Trust Indenture
		December 22, 2008
		Master Declaration of Trust and Supplemental Trust Indenture amended and restated to establish Class A, Class F and Class I units and re-designate all existing units as Class A units
Pinnacle International Equity Fund	Ontario	September 3, 1997
		Declaration of Trust
		March 21, 2005
		Portfolio advisor changed from Bank of Ireland Asset Management (U.S.) Limited to Wellington Management Company, LLP
		April 22, 2005 and April 16, 2007
		Declaration of Trust amended and restated by Master Declaration of Trust and Supplemental Trust Indenture
	_1	

Name of Fund	Jurisdiction	Creation and Amendments
		December 22, 2008
		Master Declaration of Trust and Supplemental Trust Indenture amended and restated to establish Class A, Class F and Class I units and re-designate all existing units as Class A units January 6, 2009
		Portfolio advisor will change from Wellington Management Company, LLP to Thornburg Investment Management, Inc.
Pinnacle International Small to Mid Cap	Ontario	January 28, 2002
Value Equity Fund		Declaration of Trust
		April 22, 2005 and April 16, 2007
		<ul> <li>Declaration of Trust amended and restated by Master Declaration of Trust and Supplemental Trust Indenture</li> </ul>
		November 1, 2007
		<ul> <li>Portfolio advisor changed from The Boston Company Asset Management, LLC to Munder Capital Management</li> </ul>
		December 22, 2008
		<ul> <li>Master Declaration of Trust and Supplemental Trust Indenture amended and restated to establish Class A, Class F and Class I units and re-designate all existing units as Class A units</li> </ul>
Pinnacle Global Equity Fund	Ontario	September 3, 1997
		Declaration of Trust
		April 22, 2005 and April 16, 2007
		<ul> <li>Declaration of Trust amended and restated by Master Declaration of Trust and Supplemental Trust Indenture</li> </ul>
		December 22, 2008
		<ul> <li>Master Declaration of Trust and Supplemental Trust Indenture amended and restated to establish Class A, Class F and Class I units and re-designate all existing units as Class A units</li> </ul>

# INVESTMENT RESTRICTIONS AND PRACTICES

The Funds' simplified prospectus contains detailed descriptions of the investment objectives, investment strategies and risk factors for each of the Funds. In addition, each Fund is subject to certain restrictions and practices contained in securities legislation, including National Instrument 81-102, (the "Instrument") which are designed in part to ensure that the investments of the Funds are diversified and relatively liquid and to ensure the appropriate administration of the Funds. Each Fund is managed in accordance with these restrictions and practices. Certain

Funds requested permission from securities regulatory authorities to deviate from the Instrument and from certain provisions of securities legislation.

# **Self-Dealing Restrictions for Dealer-Managed Funds**

Unless the transaction is approved by the Independent Review Committee, the Funds shall not knowingly make an investment in any class of securities of any issuer, other than those issued or fully and unconditionally guaranteed by the Government of Canada or of a Province (or by an agency thereof):

- (a) for which the Funds' portfolio advisor, or an associate or affiliate of the portfolio advisor, has acted as an underwriter in the distribution of such class of securities of the issuer (except as a member of the selling group distributing five percent or less of the securities underwritten) for a period of at least 60 days following the conclusion of the distribution of the underwritten securities to the public; or
- (b) of which any partner, director, officer or employee of the portfolio advisor or any partner, director, officer or employee of any affiliate or associate of the portfolio advisor is an officer or director, provided that this prohibition shall not apply where any such partner, director, officer or employee does not participate in the formulation of investment decisions made on behalf of the Funds; does not have access prior to implementation of investment decisions made on behalf of the Funds; and does not influence (other than through research, statistical and other reports generally available to clients) the investment decisions made on behalf of the Funds.

Subject to certain conditions, the Funds have received an exemption from the Canadian Securities Administrators ("CSA") to purchase from, or sell to, related dealers that are principal dealers in the Canadian debt securities market, non-government debt securities or government debt securities in the secondary market.

In accordance with the terms and conditions of the exemption, the Funds will maintain policies and procedures with respect to such transactions.

Before a fundamental change is made to the fundamental investment objectives of a Fund, the prior approval of unitholders of such Fund is required. This approval must be given by a resolution passed by at least a majority of the votes cast at a meeting of unitholders of such Fund.

## **Related Party Investments**

The Independent Review Committee has reviewed ScotiaMcLeod's policies and procedures related to investing in securities of related parties and has given its approval, as a standing instruction, for the Funds to invest in such related party securities. Pursuant to this standing instruction and any conditions set out in the standing instruction, the Funds may purchase common shares and other securities of The Bank of Nova Scotia ("Scotiabank").

### **DESCRIPTION OF UNITS OF THE FUNDS**

Each of the Funds is authorized to issue an unlimited number of classes divided into an unlimited number of units (the "Units"). The classes have different fees and are intended for different investors:

- Class A: Class A Units are only available to investors who participate in the Pinnacle Program, through ScotiaMcLeod advisors or as otherwise permitted by ScotiaMcLeod. All of the Funds offer Class A Units.
- Class F: Class F Units are generally available to investors who have fee-based accounts with ScotiaMcLeod. Class F Units may be made available to other investors from time to time. If an investor is no longer eligible to hold Class F Units, ScotiaMcLeod may reclassify the Class F Units as Class A Units. All of the Funds offer Class F Units.
- Class I Units are only available to eligible institutional investors and other qualified investors. Class I Units are currently only available through Scotia Securities Inc. and are not available through ScotiaMcLeod. Class I Units may be made available through ScotiaMcLeod at a later date. If an investor is no longer eligible to hold Class I Units, ScotiaMcLeod may reclassify the Class I Units as Class A Units. Class I Units are offered by Pinnacle American Core-Plus Bond Fund, Pinnacle Canadian Small Cap Equity Fund, Pinnacle American Value Equity Fund, Pinnacle American Mid Cap Value Equity Fund, Pinnacle International Equity Fund, Pinnacle International Small to Mid Cap Value Equity Fund, Pinnacle Global Equity Fund and Pinnacle Global Real Estate Securities Fund.

## **Distribution Rights**

Units of a Fund will generally be entitled to the net income of the Fund, which is all income and capital gains less expenses and losses of the Fund. Each class of a Fund is entitled to its share of net income of the Fund. Distributions will be made at the times set forth in the simplified prospectus in respect of a Fund.

# **Redemption Rights**

Holders of Units of a Fund are entitled to require the Fund to redeem their Units as described under "Redemption of Units".

## **Liquidation Rights**

A class of a Fund will be entitled to a distribution on liquidation equal to that class' share of the net assets of the Fund after adjustment for expenses of the Fund attributable to the class.

## **Voting Rights**

Each unitholder of a Fund is entitled to vote on certain amendments to the Master Declaration of Trust in accordance with such document or where required by securities legislation. A separate class vote is required if a particular class is affected in a manner that is different from other classes. At a unitholder meeting called to vote on these issues, the unitholder will be entitled to one vote per Unit.

The following matters currently require unitholder approval pursuant to securities legislation:

- changing the basis of the calculation of a fee or expense that is charged to a Fund in a way that could result in an increase in charges to the Fund. No unitholder approval will be required if a Fund is at arm's length to the person or company charging the fee or expense and if written notice is sent to all unitholders at least 60 days before the effective date of the change that could result in an increase in charges to the Fund;
- introducing a fee or expense, to be charged to a Fund or directly to its unitholders by the Fund or the manager in connection with holding Units of the Fund, in a way that could result in an increase in charges to the Fund or its unitholders;
- changing the manager of a Fund other than to an affiliate of ScotiaMcLeod;
- changing the fundamental investment objectives of a Fund;
- decreasing the frequency of the calculation of net asset value (for description of net asset value, please see "Calculation of Net Asset Value");
- only in circumstances where the conditions of National Instrument 81-107 have not been complied with, where a Fund undertakes a reorganization with, or transfers its assets to another mutual fund, and the Fund ceases to continue after the reorganization and the transaction results in unitholders of the Fund becoming unitholders of the other mutual fund; and
- where a Fund undertakes a reorganization with, or acquires assets from another mutual fund, continues after such reorganization and the transaction results in the unitholders of the other mutual fund becoming unitholders of the Fund and the transaction would be a significant change to the Fund.

### **HOW UNITS ARE VALUED**

### **Calculation of Net Asset Value**

How much a Fund is worth is called its "**net asset value**". When a Fund calculates its net asset value, it determines the market value of all of its assets and subtracts all of its liabilities. Separate net asset values are calculated for each class of a Fund at the end of each day based on

each class' share of the Fund's net asset value as determined in accordance with the Fund's declaration of trust. The class net asset value per unit is calculated daily by dividing (1) the amount equal to the value of that class' share of assets of a Fund, less that class' share of the common expenses of the Fund and less that classes' specific expenses by (2) the total number of units of that class outstanding at such time. A Unit's net asset value is very important because it is the basis on which Units of the Fund are purchased and redeemed. The class net asset value per Unit of a Fund varies from day to day. However, as the net income of Pinnacle Short Term Income Fund is credited daily to investors, the class net asset value per Unit of such Fund is expected to remain constant at \$10. Each Fund calculates the net asset value of the Units at the close of business on each valuation date. Every day that the Toronto Stock Exchange is open for trading or each other day required for tax, accounting or distribution purposes of each year is a "Valuation Date". In unusual circumstances, calculation of the net asset value per Unit may be suspended, subject to obtaining any necessary regulatory approval.

### Valuation of Portfolio Securities and Liabilities

The net asset value of a Fund must be calculated using the fair value of the Fund's assets and liabilities.

The value of the assets of a Fund are calculated using the following valuation principles:

- 1. the value of any cash on hand or on deposit, bills, demand notes, accounts receivable, prepaid expenses, cash dividends or distributions received (or to be received and declared to shareholders of record on a date as of which the net asset value is being determined) and interest, accrued and not yet received, shall be deemed to be the full amount thereof, unless ScotiaMcLeod has determined that any such amount is not worth the full amount thereof, in which event the value shall be the fair value as determined by ScotiaMcLeod;
- 2. the value of any security which is listed on a stock exchange or traded on an overthe counter market will be (A) the closing sale price on that day or, (B) if there is no such closing price, the average of the bid and the ask price at that time, or (C) if no bid or ask price is available, the price last determined for such security for the purpose of calculating net asset value of the Fund. The value of interlisted securities shall be computed in accordance with directions laid down from time to time by ScotiaMcLeod. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if, in the opinion of ScotiaMcLeod, stock exchange or over-the-counter quotations do not properly reflect the prices which would be received by the Fund upon the disposal of securities necessary to reflect any redemption of Units, the value thereof shall be the fair value of such securities as determined by ScotiaMcLeod. In calculating the value of foreign securities listed on securities exchanges outside of North America, ScotiaMcLeod will place values on such securities which appear to most closely reflect the fair value of such securities at the time of net asset value calculation;

- 3. the value of derivatives will be determined in accordance with applicable securities legislation;
- 4. the value of any restricted security shall be determined in accordance with applicable securities legislation; and
- 5. the value of any security or other asset for which a market quotation is not readily available, will be its fair value on that day determined in such manner as ScotiaMcLeod deems to be appropriate.

For the purpose of any conversion of monies from any other currency to Canadian currency, the current rate of exchange as quoted to such Fund by its bankers as nearly as practicable at the time as of which the net asset value is being computed shall be used.

ScotiaMcLeod has not exercised its discretion to deviate from the valuation principles described above in the last three years.

ScotiaMcLeod will deviate from these valuation principles in circumstances where the above methods do not accurately reflect the fair value of a particular security at any particular time, for example, if trading in a security was halted because of significant negative news about a company.

While National Instrument 81-106 requires investment funds, such as the Funds, to fair value, it does not require investment funds to determine fair value in accordance with the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accounts ("CICA") Handbook. The Funds calculate the net asset value of the securities of the Funds on the basis of the valuation principles set forth in this Annual Information Form. The valuation principles of the Fund differs in some respects from the requirements of the CICA Handbook, which are used for financial reporting purposes. The main differences are that we generally will determine the fair value of (i) securities traded on a stock exchange, by using the closing price on the exchange and (ii) bonds, debentures and other debt obligations, by using the average of bid and ask prices.

### PURCHASES AND SWITCHES OF UNITS

Units of the Funds are offered for sale by ScotiaMcLeod on a continuous basis without any sales commissions or other sales charges payable by you on your purchase. The minimum initial investment for Class A and Class F Units is \$1,000 and the minimum subsequent investment is \$500. For Class I Units, the minimum initial investment is generally \$1,000,000. Only clients of ScotiaMcLeod who participate in the Pinnacle Program, or investors who are otherwise permitted by ScotiaMcLeod, may purchase Class A Units of the Funds. Class F Units are generally available to investors who have fee-based accounts with ScotiaMcLeod. We may make Class F Units available to other investors from time to time. Only eligible institutional investors and other qualified investors, who meet criteria established by ScotiaMcLeod may purchase Class I Units of the Funds. Class I Units are currently only available through Scotia Securities Inc. and are not available through ScotiaMcLeod. Class I Units may be made available through ScotiaMcLeod at a later date.

Units will be issued at the class net asset value per Unit next determined after the receipt by the Fund of the purchase order.

Certain classes of Units may not be available for purchase until a date subsequent to the date of this Annual Information Form.

If the Fund has not received from you within three business days of the Valuation Date payment in full of the purchase price for your order, together with all necessary documents, then under applicable securities regulations and policies, the Fund will be deemed to have received from you and accepted on the next Valuation Date a redemption order for the same number of Units. If the amount of the redemption proceeds exceeds the purchase price of the Units, the surplus will be retained by the Fund. If the redemption proceeds are less than the purchase price, ScotiaMcLeod is required to pay to the Fund the amount of the deficiency. ScotiaMcLeod will be entitled to reimbursement from you of that amount together with any additional costs and expenses of collection.

ScotiaMcLeod may reject a purchase order from you if you've made several purchases and redemptions (including switches) of a Fund within a short period of time, usually 31 days.

No certificates for the Units will be issued.

Switches are permitted from Units of one Fund into Units of another Fund provided the minimum investment requirements are met. The rules applicable to purchases and redemptions of Units also apply to switches. If you switch within 31 days of buying Units, you may have to pay a short-term trading fee.

Reclassifications are permitted from one class of a Fund into another class of the same Fund if you are eligible for that class. The number of Units you receive upon reclassification depends upon the relative net asset value per Unit of the class of Units being exchanged to the class of Units being received. The rules applicable to purchases and redemptions of Units also apply to reclassifications.

### **REDEMPTION OF UNITS**

You may require a Fund to redeem your Units of the Fund by delivering to us a request in writing that a specified dollar amount be redeemed. Units will be redeemed at the net asset value per Unit next determined after the receipt by the Fund of the redemption order. Redemption proceeds will be deposited into your account within three business days of receipt of the documents required to complete the redemption. Upon request, ScotiaMcLeod will mail to you a cheque representing the redemption proceeds or will deposit the proceeds into a designated account, provided that your cheque in payment for the purchase of any of the Units being redeemed has cleared.

If all necessary documents are not received by ScotiaMcLeod within ten business days, under applicable securities regulations and policies, ScotiaMcLeod will be deemed to have received and accepted, as at the tenth business day after the redemption, an order for the purchase of an equal number of Units. If the amount of the purchase price exceeds the

redemption proceeds of the Units, ScotiaMcLeod is required to pay the Fund the amount of the deficiency. ScotiaMcLeod will be entitled to reimbursement from you of that amount together with any additional costs and expenses of collection. If the amount of the purchase price is less than the redemption proceeds, the surplus will be retained by the Fund.

ScotiaMcLeod reserves the right to redeem Units in any Pinnacle Program account at the net asset value thereof if at any time the aggregate net asset value of such Units is less than \$100. ScotiaMcLeod will give 30 days written notice before redeeming such Units.

Each Fund reserves the right to suspend the right of redemption or to postpone the date of payment of redeemed Units: (i) for any period during which normal trading is suspended on any stock exchange, options exchange or futures exchange within or outside Canada on which securities are listed and traded, or on which permitted derivatives are traded, which represent more than 50 percent by value or underlying market exposure of the total assets of the Fund without allowance for liabilities if those securities or specified derivatives are not traded on any other exchange that represents a reasonably practicable alternative for the Fund; or (ii) subject to the consent of the Canadian securities regulators, for any period during which ScotiaMcLeod determines that conditions exist as a result of which disposal of the assets owned by the Fund is not reasonably practicable or it is not reasonably practicable to determine fairly the value of its assets. In the case of suspension of the right of redemption, you may either withdraw your redemption request or receive payment based on the net asset value per Unit next determined after the termination of the suspension.

A Fund may charge you a short-term trading fee of up to two percent of the amount you redeem or switch, if you redeem or switch your Units within 31 days of buying them. This fee does not apply to the Pinnacle Short Term Income Fund or rebalancing that is part of an automatic rebalancing service offered by ScotiaMcLeod. If securities regulations mandate the adoption of specified policies relating to short-term trading, the Funds will adopt such policies if and when implemented by the securities regulators. If required, these policies will be adopted without amendment to the simplified prospectus or annual information form of the Funds and without notice to you, unless otherwise required by such regulations.

### TAX TREATMENT OF YOUR INVESTMENT

In the opinion of Torys LLP, legal counsel to the Funds, the following summary fairly describes the principal Canadian federal income tax considerations generally relevant to unitholders who, for purposes of the *Income Tax Act* (Canada) (the "**Tax Act**"), are resident in Canada, are individuals, other than a trust, hold their Units as capital property and deal at arm's length with the Funds. This summary is based upon the current provisions of the Tax Act and regulations thereunder, all specific proposals to amend the Tax Act and such regulations publicly announced by, or on behalf of, the Minister of Finance (Canada) (the "**Minister**") prior to the date hereof (the "**Tax Proposals**"), and counsel's understanding of the current published administrative and assessing practices and policies of the Canada Revenue Agency ("**CRA**"). This summary does not take into account or anticipate any other changes in the law, other than the Tax Proposals, whether by legislative, administrative or judicial action, and it does not take

into account provincial, territorial or foreign income tax legislation or considerations, which might differ from the federal considerations.

This summary is not exhaustive of all possible federal income tax considerations. This summary is of a general nature only and does not constitute legal or tax advice to any particular investor. Investors are advised to consult their own tax advisors with respect to their individual circumstances.

Counsel has been advised that each of the Funds qualifies and will continue to qualify as a "mutual fund trust" within the meaning of the Tax Act at all material times.

### **Tax Treatment of the Funds**

Counsel has been advised that the policy of each Fund is to distribute its net income and net realized capital gains for each taxation year to unitholders to such an extent that it is not liable in any year for ordinary tax on its net income and net realized capital gains under Part I of the Tax Act (after taking into account any applicable losses and any capital gains refund to which the Fund is entitled).

Each Fund is required to compute its net income and net realized capital gains in Canadian dollars for purposes of the Tax Act. As a consequence, each Fund which holds foreign currency or foreign currency-denominated investments may realize gains or losses by virtue of changes in the value of foreign currency relative to the Canadian dollar.

Generally, a Fund is required to treat a gain or loss on forward contracts and other derivatives as being on income account for tax purposes rather than being a capital gain or capital loss and will recognize such gain or loss for tax purposes at the time it is realized by the Fund.

The Minister introduced revised Tax Proposals regarding the taxation of investments in foreign investment entities ("FIEs"). These Tax Proposals will apply for taxation years beginning after 2006. In general, these rules may require a Fund, if it invests in a "participating interest" (as defined in the Tax Proposals) of a FIE, to include in income for income tax purposes each year, (i) an amount equal to a prescribed percentage of the Fund's designated cost of its participating interest in the FIE; (ii) if certain conditions are met, any gain on such participating interest for the year on a mark-to-market basis whether or not such gain has been realized; or (iii) if certain other conditions are met, a Fund's proportionate share of the FIE's income (loss) calculated using Canadian tax rules. In limited circumstances, the resulting gain under the mark-to-market regime may be treated on capital account. Accordingly, if these Tax Proposals apply to a Fund, the Fund may be required to include in income amounts that the Fund has not earned or received and you will be taxable on the portion of such amounts payable to you by the Fund as described above.

Recently enacted amendments to the Tax Act significantly change the income tax treatment of most publicly traded trusts and partnerships (other than certain real estate investment trusts) and distributions or allocations, as the case may be, from these entities to their investors. In particular, certain income earned by these entities will be taxed in a manner similar

to income earned by a corporation and distributions or allocations made by these entities to investors will be taxed in a manner similar to dividends from taxable Canadian corporations. This dividend will be deemed as an eligible dividend for the enhanced dividend tax credit if paid or allocated to a resident of Canada. These new rules are effective for the 2007 taxation year for trusts and partnerships that commenced public trading after October 31, 2006, but will be delayed until the 2011 taxation year for trusts and partnerships that were publicly traded prior to November 1, 2006, provided there is no "undue expansion" of the trust or partnership in the intervening period.

## **Tax Treatment of Unitholders**

In computing income for a taxation year for tax purposes, a unitholder of a Fund is required to include the portion of the Fund's net income and the taxable portion of the Fund's net realized capital gains (each computed in Canadian dollars) paid or payable by the Fund to the unitholder in the year (whether or not those amounts are reinvested in Units of the Fund). To the extent that distributions to a unitholder by a Fund in a year, other than as proceeds of disposition, exceed the unitholder's share of the Fund's net income and net realized capital gains, the excess will be a return of capital. A return of capital will not be taxable in the hands of the unitholder, but will reduce the adjusted cost base of the unitholder's Units. If the adjusted cost base of a unitholder's Units would otherwise be less than zero, the negative amount will be deemed to be a capital gain realized by the unitholder from the disposition of the Units and the adjusted cost base of the Units will be increased by the amount of such gain. If the Tax Proposals referred to above are enacted as proposed, the amounts of such distributions may include amounts required to be included in a Fund's income under these proposals. The price of a Unit of a Fund may include income and/or capital gains that the Fund has earned, but not yet realized and/or distributed. If you buy Units of a Fund before it makes a distribution, you will be taxed on that distribution, even though the Fund earned the amount before you owned it. For example, many Funds make their only, or most significant, distribution of capital gains in December. If you buy Units late in the year, you may have to pay tax on the income and capital gains the Fund earned for the whole year. That will mean that you will pay tax on Fund earnings that you had no benefit from

Each Fund will designate, to the extent permitted by the Tax Act and in respect of eligible dividends, the CRA's administrative practice, the portion, if any, of the net income distributed to unitholders as may be reasonably considered to consist of respectively, (i) taxable dividends received by the Fund on securities of taxable Canadian corporations; (ii) eligible dividends and (iii) net taxable capital gains of the Fund. Any such designated amount is deemed for tax purposes to be received or realized by unitholders in the year as a taxable dividend, an eligible dividend and as a taxable capital gain, respectively. The dividend gross-up and tax credit treatment normally applicable to taxable dividends paid by a taxable Canadian corporation and eligible dividends designated by a taxable Canadian corporation will apply to such dividends. Capital gains so designated will be subject to the general rules relating to the taxation of capital gains. In addition, each Fund may similarly make designations in respect of income from foreign sources so that, for the purposes of computing any foreign tax credit to a unitholder, the unitholder is deemed to have paid as tax to the government of a foreign country the portion of the tax paid by the Fund to that country that is equal to the unitholder's share of the Fund's income

from sources in that country. Counsel has been advised that unitholders will be advised each year of the composition of amounts distributed to them.

Unitholders should contact their own tax advisors with respect to the extent to which fees payable by them to ScotiaMcLeod may be deductible.

Upon the actual or deemed disposition of a Unit of a Fund, including the redemption of a Unit on a switch between one Fund and another Fund and including the redemption of Units to fund payment of the Pinnacle Program Fee, a capital gain (or a capital loss) is generally realized to the extent that the proceeds of disposition of the Unit exceed (or are exceeded by) the adjusted cost base to the unitholder of the Unit and any reasonable costs of disposition. Unitholders of a Fund must calculate the adjusted cost base separately for Units of each Fund owned. In general, the adjusted cost base of each Unit of a particular Fund is the total amount paid for all Units of that Fund (including the amount of Fund distributions reinvested in additional Units of that Fund) divided by the total number of Units of that Fund held by the unitholder.

Generally, one-half of a capital gain or capital loss is taken into account in determining taxable capital gains and allowable capital losses. Allowable capital losses may only be deducted against taxable capital gains, subject to detailed rules in the Tax Act.

#### **Tax Deferred Plans**

Counsel has been advised that each of the Funds is, or is expected to be, a "mutual fund trust" for purposes of the Tax Act at all material times. In addition, counsel has been advised that all Funds are registered investments for tax purposes. Units of the Funds are therefore "qualified investments" for trusts governed by registered retirement savings plans, registered retirement income funds, deferred profit sharing plans, registered education savings plans and registered disability savings plans.

It is expected that Units will also be qualified investments for a trust governed by a tax-free saving account ("TFSA") to be effective starting in 2009. In such circumstances, if a TFSA held Units, the amount of distributions paid or payable to the TFSA, any capital gains realized by the TFSA from redeeming or otherwise disposing of these Units, and withdrawals from the TFSA would not be subject to tax under the Tax Act.

### **Alternative Minimum Tax**

Individuals may be subject to alternative minimum tax under the Tax Act in respect of dividends and realized capital gains.

### HOW THE FUNDS ARE MANAGED AND ADMINISTERED

### ScotiaMcLeod's Roles

ScotiaMcLeod, a division of Scotia Capital Inc., is the manager, trustee and principal distributor of each Fund. Scotia Capital Inc. is a subsidiary of Scotiabank.

As manager, ScotiaMcLeod is responsible for providing the services and facilities necessary for the operation of the Funds, as well as all general management and administrative services. ScotiaMcLeod, as manager, may engage third parties to perform certain services on its behalf.

As trustee, ScotiaMcLeod has full control and authority over the assets, business, and affairs of the Funds on the terms outlined in the Master Declaration of Trust.

As principal distributor, ScotiaMcLeod has the exclusive right to distribute and arrange for distribution of Units of the Funds anywhere in Canada where they qualify for sale.

# Directors of Scotia Capital Inc.

The names, municipalities of residence and principal occupations during the preceding five years for each of the directors of Scotia Capital Inc. are as follows:

Name and Municipality of Residence	Position(s) Held	Principal Occupation
Hamish B. Angus Toronto, Ontario	Managing Director and Director	Head of ScotiaMcLeod, Scotia Capital Inc.
Laurent Mareschal Toronto, Ontario	Director	Managing Director and Chief Financial Officer, Scotia Capital
Barbara Frances Mason Toronto, Ontario	President and Director	Executive Vice President, Wealth Management, Canada, The Bank of Nova Scotia
James Michael Durland Oakville, Ontario	Co-Chief Executive Officer and Co- Chairman and Director	Group Head, Global Capital Markets, Scotia Capital Inc.
Stephen Douglas McDonald Toronto, Ontario	Co-Chief Executive Officer and Co- Chairman and Director	Group Head, Global Corporate and Investment Banking, The Bank of Nova Scotia
John Francis Madden Pickering, Ontario	Vice-Chairman and Director	Deputy Chair, Co-Head, Capital Markets Group, Scotia Capital Inc.
Christopher Joseph Hodgson Toronto, Ontario	Director	Group Head, Canadian Banking, The Bank of Nova Scotia
Mary Cecilia Williams Mississauga, Ontario	Managing Director, Secretary and Director	Managing Director and Head of Compliance, Wealth Management, The Bank of Nova Scotia and Scotia Capital Inc.

Name and <b>Municipality of Residence</b>	Position(s) Held	Principal Occupation
Michael Kenneth Warman Milton, Ontario	Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Director	Chief Financial Officer, Scotia Capital Inc.

During the past five years, all of the directors of Scotia Capital Inc. have held their present principal occupations (or other positions with their present employer or its affiliates) with the following exception: Mary Cecilia Williams was employed by Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, serving as Vice President, Business Controls, CIBC Private Wealth Management and Imperial Service from August 2002 to September 2004.

### **Portfolio Advisors**

The portfolio advisors analyze potential investments and make investment decisions. They are responsible for managing the investment portfolios of the Funds. We list the portfolio advisors, the Funds they manage, and details about the individuals at the portfolio advisors who are principally responsible for managing the Funds. The day-to-day investment decisions made by the portfolio advisors are not subject to the approval of ScotiaMcLeod.

Some of the portfolio advisors are registered in the category of international advisor or non-Canadian advisor in Ontario. The name and address of the agent for service for each of these portfolio advisors are available from the Ontario Securities Commission. Notwithstanding registration in Ontario, these portfolio advisors are not fully subject to the requirements of the Securities Act (Ontario). These portfolio advisors are located outside of Canada and all or a substantial portion of their assets may be situated outside of Canada, which may make it difficult for clients to enforce their legal rights against these portfolio advisors.

Scotia Cassels Investment Counsel Limited ("Scotia Cassels"), Toronto, Ontario, is the portfolio advisor of Pinnacle Short Term Income Fund. The individuals providing advice are as follows:

Portfolio Advisor	Current Title	Length of Service with Portfolio Advisor	Principal occupation in the last 5 years
Nicholas Van Sluytman	Senior Fixed Income Trader	19 years	Senior Fixed Income Trader, Scotia Cassels Investment Counsel Limited
Romas Budd, MBA	Managing Director, Fixed Income	18 years	Managing Director, Fixed Income Investments, Scotia Cassels Investment Counsel Limited

Fiera Capital Inc. ("**Fiera**"), Toronto, Ontario, is the portfolio advisor of Pinnacle Income Fund. The individuals providing advice are as follows:

Portfolio Advisor	Current Title	Length of Service with Portfolio Advisor	Principal occupation in the last 5 years
Art Yeates, MBA, CFA	Lead Portfolio Manager	9 years	Lead Portfolio Manager for active core Canadian fixed income investment strategies
Gaetan Dupuis, M.Sc.	Co-Manager	7 years	Co-Manager for active core Canadian fixed income investment strategies

Guardian Capital LP ("Guardian"), Toronto, Ontario, is the portfolio advisor of Pinnacle High Yield Income Fund. The individuals providing advice are as follows:

Portfolio Advisor	Current Title	Length of Service with Portfolio Advisor	Principal occupation in the last 5 years
Steve Kearns	Managing Director	15 years	Managing Director, Guardian Capital LP.  Prior to 2005 - Senior Portfolio Advisor, Guardian Capital LP
Peter Hargrove	Managing Director	13 years	Managing Director, Guardian Capital LP
J. J. Woolverton	Chief Operating Officer	15 years	Chief Operating Officer, Guardian Capital LP

Logan Circle Partners, L.P. ("Logan"), Conshohocken, Pennsylvania, is the portfolio advisor of Pinnacle American Core-Plus Bond Fund. The individuals providing advice are as follows:

Portfolio Advisor	Current Title	Length of Service with Portfolio Advisor	Principal occupation in the last 5 years
Jude T. Driscoll	Founder	1 year	Founder, Logan Circle Partners, L.P.  January 2003 to April 2007 - President & CEO, Delaware Investment Advisers
Ryan K. Brist, CFA	Chief Investment Officer	1 year	Chief Investment Officer, Logan Circle Partners, L.P.  Prior to April 2007 - Co-Head of Fixed Income Department, Delaware Investment Advisers
Tim Rabe, CFA	Portfolio Manager	1 year	Prior to April 2007 - Senior Portfolio Manager, Delaware Investment Advisers

Citigroup Alternative Investments LLC ("Citigroup"), New York, New York, is the portfolio advisor of Pinnacle Global Real Estate Securities Fund. The individuals providing advice are as follows:

Portfolio Advisor	Current Title	Length of Service with Portfolio Advisor	Principal occupation in the last 5 years
Dan Pine	Managing Director and Head, Citigroup Property Investors	4 years	Managing Director and Head, Citigroup Property Investors - Global Real Estate Securities  Prior to 2004 - Senior Vice President, Real Estate Research and Portfolio Management, AllianceBernstein
Corrado Russo	Director and Portfolio Manager	3 years	Director and Property Manager, Citigroup Property Investors  Prior to September 2005 - Portfolio Manager, Empire Life  Prior to 2004 - Senior Equity Analyst, Investors Group Asset Management

Connor, Clark & Lunn Investment Management Ltd. ("CC&L"), Toronto, Ontario, is the portfolio advisor of Pinnacle Strategic Balanced Fund. The individuals providing advice will be as follows:

Portfolio Advisor	Current Title	Length of Service with Portfolio Advisor	Principal occupation in the last 5 years
Gord MacDougall	Co-Head of Fundamental Equities and Head, Client Solutions Team	25 years	Director, Connor, Clark & Lunn Investment Management Ltd.
Martin Gerber	Head of Quantitative Equities	17 years	Director, Connor, Clark & Lunn Investment Management Ltd.
Brian Eby	Co-Head of Fixed Income	10 years	Partner, Connor, Clark & Lunn Investment Management Ltd.
Gary Baker	Co-Head of Fundamental Equities	5 years	Partner, Connor, Clark & Lunn Investment Management Ltd.  Prior to July 2003 – Head of Technology Research, Raymond James Financial
Sophie Lyttelton	Portfolio Manager	7 years	Portfolio Manager, New Star Institutional Managers Ltd. and predecessor companies
Tim Bray	Portfolio Manager	23 years	Director, New Star Institutional Managers Ltd.

and predecessor companies
---------------------------

BonaVista Asset Management Ltd. ("**BonaVista**"), Toronto, Ontario, is the portfolio advisor of Pinnacle Canadian Value Equity Fund until February 5, 2009. The individuals providing advice are as follows:

Portfolio Advisor	Current Title	Length of Service with Portfolio Advisor	Principal occupation in the last 5 years
Terry Bacinello	President and Portfolio Manager	30 years	President and Portfolio Manager, BonaVista Asset Management Ltd.

Scheer, Rowlett & Associates Investment Management Ltd. ("Scheer Rowlett"), Toronto, Ontario, is the portfolio advisor of Pinnacle Canadian Value Equity Fund from February 5, 2009. The individuals providing advice are as follows:

Portfolio Advisor	Current Title	Length of Service with Portfolio Advisor	Principal occupation in the last 5 years
Lloyd E. Rowlett, CFA	President and Portfolio Manager	10 years	President and Portfolio Manager, Scheer Rowlett
Rob Dionne, CFA	Vice President and Portfolio Manager	10 years	Vice President and Portfolio Manager, Scheer Rowlett

Montrusco Bolton Investments Inc. ("Montrusco"), Montreal, Quebec, is the portfolio advisor of Pinnacle Canadian Mid Cap Equity Fund. The individuals providing advice are as follows:

Portfolio Advisor	Current Title	Length of Service with Portfolio Advisor	Principal occupation in the last 5 years
Christian Godin, MSc	Senior Vice President, Canadian Equities & Director of Research	7 years	From January 2006 to present - Senior Vice President, Canadian Equities & Director of Research Prior to January 2006 - Senior Analyst
Peter Harrison, MBA, CFA	Senior Vice President, Canadian Equities	11 years	Senior Vice President, Canadian Equities

Aurion Capital Management Inc. ("Aurion"), Toronto, Ontario, is the portfolio advisor of Pinnacle Canadian Growth Equity Fund. The individuals providing advice are as follows:

Portfolio Advisor	Current Title	Length of Service with Portfolio Advisor	Principal occupation in the last 5 years
Bob Decker	Managing Partner	19 years	Managing Partner, Portfolio Manager, Equities - Aurion Capital Management Inc.
Greg Taylor	Portfolio Manager	9 years	Portfolio Manager, Equities, Aurion Capital Management Inc.
Craig MacAdam	Portfolio Manager	8 years	Portfolio Manager, Equities – Aurion Capital Management Inc.

Mawer Investment Management Ltd. ("Mawer"), Calgary, Alberta, is the portfolio advisor of Pinnacle Canadian Small Cap Equity Fund. The individuals providing advice are as follows:

Portfolio Advisor	Current Title	Length of Service with Portfolio Advisor	Principal occupation in the last 5 years
Craig Senyk	Principal and Director of Portfolio Management	11 years	Principal and Director of Portfolio Management, Mawer Investment Management Ltd.
			Prior to 2005 - Portfolio Manager, Mawer Investment Management Ltd.
Jim Hall	Principal and Portfolio Manager	11 years	Principal, Portfolio Manager and Director, Canadian Equities, Mawer Investment Management Ltd.
Martin Ferguson	Principal and Portfolio Manager	12 years	Principal, Portfolio Manager and Director, Canadian Equities, Small Cap Canadian Equities, Mawer Investment Management Ltd.
Paul Moroz	Analyst	4 years	Equities Analyst, Mawer Investment Management Ltd. Prior to 2004 - Student

Metropolitan West Capital Management, LLC ("Metropolitan"), Newport Beach, California, is the portfolio advisor of Pinnacle American Value Equity Fund. The individuals providing advice are as follows:

Portfolio Advisor	Current Title	Length of Service with Portfolio Advisor	Principal occupation in the last 5 years
Howard Gleicher, CFA	Chief Executive Officer and Chief Investment Officer (Lead Strategist)	11 years	Chief Executive Officer and Chief Investment Officer, Metropolitan West Capital Management, LLC

Portfolio Advisor	Current Title	Length of Service with Portfolio Advisor	Principal occupation in the last 5 years
Gary Lisenbee	President	11 years	President, Metropolitan West Capital Management, LLC
David Graham	Senior Vice President	8 years	Senior Vice President, Metropolitan West Capital Management, LLC

Integrity Asset Management, LLC ("**Integrity**"), Louisville, Kentucky, is the portfolio advisor of Pinnacle American Mid Cap Value Equity Fund. The individuals providing advice are as follows:

Portfolio Advisor	Current Title	Length of Service with Portfolio Advisor	Principal occupation in the last 5 years
Adam I. Friedman	Senior Portfolio Manager	5 years	Portfolio Manager, Integrity Asset Management, LLC
Dan G. Bandi	Chief Investment Officer	5 years	Portfolio Manager, Integrity Asset Management, LLC

American Century Investment Management, Inc. ("American Century"), Kansas City, Missouri, is the portfolio advisor of Pinnacle American Large Cap Growth Equity Fund. The individuals providing advice are as follows:

Portfolio Advisor	Current Title	Length of Service with Portfolio Advisor	Principal occupation in the last 5 years
Gregory Woodhams	Vice President and Senior Portfolio Manager	11 years	Vice President and Senior Portfolio Manager, American Century Investment Management, Inc.
Prescott Legard	Vice President and Portfolio Manager	9 years	Vice President and Portfolio Manager, American Century Investment Management, Inc.

TCW Investment Management Company ("TCW"), Los Angeles, California, is the portfolio advisor of Pinnacle American Mid Cap Growth Equity Fund. The individuals providing advice are as follows:

Portfolio Advisor	Current Title	Length of Service with Portfolio Advisor	Principal occupation in the last 5 years
Husam Nazar	Managing Director, U.S. Equities	13 years	Member of the Small and Mid Cap Growth Equities team since 2000  Senior Portfolio Manager of the TCW Small Cap Growth and TCW SMID Cap Growth strategies  Founded SMID Cap Growth in 2003 and began leading Small Cap Growth in January 2005
R. Brendt Stallings	Group Managing Director, Managing Director and Portfolio Manager	12 years	Group Managing Director, Managing Director and Portfolio Manager, TCW Funds Management, Inc.  Prior to 2005 - Lead Portfolio Manager, Growth and Mid Cap Growth Equities, TCW Funds Management, Inc.

Wellington Management Company, LLP ("Wellington"), Boston, Massachusetts, is the portfolio advisor of Pinnacle International Equity Fund until January 6, 2009. The individuals providing advice are as follows:

Portfolio Advisor	Current Title	Length of Service with Portfolio Advisor	Principal occupation in the last 5 years
James Shakin	Senior Vice President	22 years	Portfolio Manager (Europe), Wellington Management Company
Sean Lenihan	Director	3 years	Prior to joining Wellington in 2005, Sean was a Director and Lead Portfolio Manager with Deutsche Trust Bank in Tokyo
David Barnard	Senior Vice President	12 years	Sub-Portfolio Manager (Japan), Wellington Management Company

Thornburg Investment Management, Inc. ("**Thornburg**"), Santa Fe, New Mexico, is the portfolio advisor of Pinnacle International Equity Fund from January 6, 2009. The individuals providing advice are as follows:

Portfolio Advisor	Current Title	Length of Service with Portfolio Advisor	Principal occupation in the last 5 years
William Fries, CFA	Co-Portfolio Manager and Managing Director	13 years	Portfolio Manager, Thornburg
Wendy Trevisani, MBA	Co-Portfolio Manager and Managing Director	9 years	Portfolio Manager, Thornburg

Munder Capital Management ("**Munder**"), Birmingham, Michigan, is the portfolio advisor of the Pinnacle International Small to Mid Cap Value Equity Fund. The individuals providing advice are as follows:

Portfolio Advisor	Current Title	Length of Service with Portfolio Advisor	Principal occupation in the last 5 years
Daniel B. LeVan, CFA	Director, International Small- Cap Equity	1 year	Director, International Small-Cap Equity, Munder Capital Management  Prior to August 2007 - Senior Vice President and Portfolio Manager, The Boston Company
Remi J. Browne, CFA	Managing Director, International Equity Team	1 year	Managing Director, International Equity Team, Munder Capital Management  Prior to August 2007 - Senior Vice President and Portfolio Manager, The Boston Company
Peter S. Carpenter, CFA	Senior Portfolio Manager	1 year	Senior Portfolio Manager, Munder Capital Management  Prior to August 2007 - Senior Portfolio Manager, The Boston Company

Harding, Loevner Management, L.P. ("Harding"), Somerville, New Jersey, is the portfolio advisor of Pinnacle Global Equity Fund. The individuals providing advice are as follows:

Portfolio Advisor	Current Title	Length of Service with Portfolio Advisor	Principal occupation in the last 5 years
David Loevner	Chief Executive Officer	19 years	Chief Executive Officer, Harding, Loevner Management, L.P.

Portfolio Advisor	Current Title	Length of Service with Portfolio Advisor	Principal occupation in the last 5 years
Simon Hallett	Chief Investment Officer	17 years	Chief Investment Officer, Harding, Loevner Management, L.P.
Ferrill Roll	Portfolio Manager and Analyst	12 years	Portfolio advisor, Harding, Loevner Management, L.P.
Peter Baughan	Portfolio Manager and Analyst	11 years	Portfolio advisor, Harding, Loevner Management, L.P.
Yang Xiang	Portfolio Manager and Analyst	8 years	Portfolio advisor, Harding, Loevner Management, L.P.

Generally, we can end our Portfolio Management Agreements (as defined below) by giving 90 days written notice.

# **Brokerage Arrangements**

The purchase and sale of portfolio securities for a Fund is arranged through registered brokers and dealers selected by the portfolio advisor. Each portfolio advisor is required to seek to obtain prompt execution of orders on the most favourable terms available. If Scotia Capital Inc. is active in the market where the securities trade, and if otherwise consistent with best execution in the opinion of the portfolio advisors, portfolio transactions may from time to time be executed with Scotia Capital Inc. Where purchases of the same security are being made by the portfolio advisor for the Fund and other accounts, the portfolio advisor is required to effect transactions on an equitable basis according to the size of the respective purchase commitments. In circumstances where price and other terms are comparable, brokerage transactions may be allocated to those brokers who provide the Fund with research, informational, statistical and similar services consistent with applicable securities commission guidelines. Since the date of the Funds' last annual information form, the following companies provided such services in exchange for brokerage business:

Alpha Equity Research Haywood Securities

Banc of America/BOE Group Instinct
Bank of America ITG Inc.

Bank of New York Jefferies Securities
Bear Stearns Jennings Capital

Blackmont Capital JP Morgan

Bloomberg Tradebook Lehman Brothers

BMO Nesbitt Burns Lynch, Jones & Ryan
BNY ESI & Co. MacDougall & Mactier

Boston Institutional Services MGI Securities
Brick Securities Merrill Lynch
Bridge Trading Morgan Stanley

Canaccord Capital National Bank Financial

CIBC Wood Gundy Octagon Securities
CIBC World Markets Orion Securities

Citigroup Pacific International Securities

Citigroup Global Markets Inc. Paradigm Capital
Clarus Securities PCS Securities, Inc.
Commission Direct Peters & Company

Credit Suisse First Boston Raymond James & Associates
Desjardins Securities RBC Dominion Securities

Deutsche Bank Research Capital

Dominick & Dominick Rochdale Securities Corp.

Donaldson & Co. Salman Partners

Dundee Securities Salomon Smith Barney

E\*Trade Scotia Capital Inc.

FactSet SG Cowan/Westminster

Fidelity Brokerage Services S&P's Securities, Inc

First Associates Sprott Securities

First Energy Toronto Dominion Securities

Frank Russell Tristone Capital

Fraser Mackenzie Ltd. UBS

Glazer & Co. UBS Securities Canada

Genuity Capital Markets UBS Warburg

Griffiths McBurney Vandam Securities

G-Trade Services Westminster Securities Inc.

Goldman Sachs Westwind Partners

Harris Partners William O'Neill & Co.

Middlefield Securities Wilshire Associates

## **Registrar and Transfer Agent**

International Financial Data Services (Canada) Limited ("**IFDS**"), Toronto, Ontario, is the registrar and transfer agent of the Funds and maintains the register of Units of the Funds at its principal office in Toronto, Ontario.

### **Custodian of Portfolio Securities**

The Custodian for the Funds is State Street Trust Company Canada, Toronto, Ontario.

Where a Fund makes use of futures, over-the-counter options or forward contracts, the Fund may deposit portfolio securities or cash as margin in respect of such transactions with a dealer or with the other party thereto, in any such case in accordance with the policies of Canadian securities authorities.

The Custodian Agreement permits State Street Trust Company Canada to appoint subcustodians. Although no principal sub-custodians have been appointed as of the date of this annual information form, State Street Trust Company Canada may appoint sub-custodians on the same terms and conditions it has with each of the Funds.

### **Auditor**

The independent auditor of all Funds is PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP whose office is located in Toronto, Ontario.

## **Fund Governance**

ScotiaMcLeod, the trustee and manager of the Funds, is responsible for the day-to-day administration and management of the Funds. ScotiaMcLeod has retained the services of an independent investment consulting firm, NT Global Advisors, Inc. to assist in the monitoring of portfolio advisors. Each portfolio advisor is required to operate within the limits of the investment objectives, restrictions and any supplemental guidelines developed from time to time by ScotiaMcLeod.

ScotiaMcLeod complies with National Instrument 81-105 *Mutual Fund Sales Practices*. ScotiaMcLeod has a code of ethics for personal investing (the "Code") which addresses certain potential conflicts of interest with respect to the Funds. In addition, ScotiaMcLeod has adopted guidelines for business conduct, which also addresses certain internal conflicts.

### Short-term Trades

Short-term trading by investors can increase a Fund's expenses, which impacts all investors in the Fund, and can affect the economic interest of long-term investors. Short-term trading can affect a Fund's performance by forcing the portfolio advisor to keep more cash in the Fund than would otherwise be required. To discourage short-term trading, a Fund may charge a fee of 2% of the amount an investor sells or switches, if an investor sells or switches Units within 31 days of buying them. The fee does not apply to Class I Units and may not apply to:

- trade corrections or any other action initiated by ScotiaMcLeod as manager of the Funds or the applicable portfolio advisor;
- automatic rebalancing that is part of the service offered by ScotiaMcLeod;
- optimized and custom portfolios offered by ScotiaMcLeod;
- Pinnacle Short Term Income Fund;
- redemptions that are carried out to accommodate payment of Summit Program fees or Pinnacle Program fees;
- transfers of Units of one Fund between two Scotia Capital Inc. accounts belonging to the same unitholder;
- transactions not exceeding a certain minimum dollar amount, as determined by ScotiaMcLeod from time to time;
- regularly scheduled RIF or LIF payments; and
- regularly scheduled Automatic Withdrawal Plan payments.

IFDS monitors trading within the Funds on a daily basis and provides ScotiaMcLeod with a daily report on short-term trading activity in the Funds.

### *Independent Review Committee*

On May 1, 2007, ScotiaMcLeod appointed an Independent Review Committee ("IRC"), the governance agency for the Funds as contemplated by National Instrument 81-107 *Independent Review Committee for Investment Funds* ("NI 81-107"). The IRC became operational under NI 81-107 on November 1, 2007 and its current members are Eric F. Kirzner, Robert S. Bell and D. Murray Paton. The members of the IRC are independent from, and not associates or affiliates of, ScotiaMcLeod, Scotiabank or any of the Funds' portfolio advisors. The IRC must act in the best interests of the Funds' unitholders.

### The mandate of the IRC is to:

- (a) review a conflict of interest matter, including any related policies and procedures, referred to it by ScotiaMcLeod and make recommendations to ScotiaMcLeod regarding whether the proposed action of ScotiaMcLeod in respect of the conflict of interest matter achieves a fair and reasonable result for the applicable Funds;
- (b) consider and approve, if deemed appropriate, ScotiaMcLeod's decision on a conflict of interest matter that ScotiaMcLeod refers to the IRC for approval; and
- (c) perform such other duties and provide such other recommendations and approvals as may be permitted under applicable securities laws.

NI 81-107 also requires that ScotiaMcLeod have policies and procedures related to conflicts of interest.

Each member of the IRC will receive a fee for each meeting of the IRC attended by the member as well as an annual retainer and will be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred. These fees and expenses will be allocated among the Funds in a manner considered fair and reasonable by ScotiaMcLeod. Details of any consideration paid by the Funds to the IRC members during the most recently completed financial year of the Funds will be available once the current financial year of the Funds has been completed.

# Securities Lending, Repurchase and Reverse Repurchase Transactions

To increase returns, certain Funds may enter into securities lending transactions, repurchase transactions and reverse repurchase transactions in accordance with applicable securities legislation.

In a securities lending transaction, a Fund will loan portfolio securities it owns to a borrower for a fee. The borrower promises to return an equal number of the same securities at a later date. In a repurchase transaction, a Fund sells portfolio securities for cash and agrees to buy them back later at a specified price with the expectation of a profit. In a reverse repurchase agreement, a Fund buys securities for cash at one price and agrees to sell them back to the same party with the expectation of a profit.

ScotiaMcLeod will appoint the Funds' custodian or sub-custodian to act as the agent of the Funds to enter into securities lending transactions, repurchase transactions and reverse repurchase transactions on behalf of the Funds. The agency agreement will provide for the types of transactions that may be entered into by a Fund, types of portfolio assets that may be used, collateral requirements, limits on transaction sizes, permitted counterparties to the transactions and investment of any cash collateral. The agency agreement will provide for, and the agent will develop, policies and procedures which provide that securities lending, repurchase and reverse repurchase transactions will be entered into in accordance with the standard investment restrictions and practices set out above. Further, the agent will:

- ensure that collateral is provided in the form of cash, qualified securities or securities that can be converted into the securities which are the subject of the securities lending, repurchase or reverse repurchase transactions;
- value the loaned or purchased securities and the collateral every day to ensure that the collateral is worth at least 102 percent of the value of the securities;
- invest any cash collateral in accordance with the investment restrictions specified in the agency agreement;
- invest no more than 50 percent of the total assets of a Fund in securities lending or repurchase agreements at any one time; and

• assess the creditworthiness of the counterparties to securities lending, repurchase and reverse repurchase transactions.

The securities lending transactions of a Fund may be terminated by a Fund at any time. Repurchase and reverse repurchase transactions of the Funds will have a maximum term of 30 days.

ScotiaMcLeod and the Custodian of each Fund will review the agency agreement and the agent's policies and procedures on an annual basis to ensure that they comply with applicable laws

ScotiaMcLeod is responsible for managing the risks associated with securities lending, repurchase and reverse repurchase transactions.

### **Policies on Derivatives**

All of the Funds may use derivatives for hedging purposes. Some Funds may also use derivatives to gain exposure to financial markets or invest indirectly in securities or other assets. For information about how the Funds use derivatives, refer to "**About Derivatives**" in the Funds' simplified prospectus.

### **Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures**

Pursuant to the portfolio management agreements between ScotiaMcLeod and each of the portfolio advisors (each a "Portfolio Management Agreement"), ScotiaMcLeod delegates proxy voting responsibility in respect of the securities held by the Funds to each Funds' portfolio advisor. The following is a summary of each of the portfolio advisors' proxy voting policies. The proxy voting policies and procedures in respect of the Funds are available upon request and at no charge by calling 1-800-530-0197 (416-506-8404 in Toronto), or by writing to ScotiaMcLeod at the address on the back cover of this annual information form. Proxy voting records for the most recent period ending June 30 in each year are available upon request and at no charge after August 31 of that year. The proxy voting record is also available at www.scotiamcleod.com.

### Pinnacle Short Term Income Fund

Scotia Cassels has retained the services of a third party consultant with expertise on proxy voting matters to provide proxy voting guidance. Scotia Cassels reviews each proxy, along with the recommendations made by the consultant with respect to proxy issues and may vote in accordance with such recommendations if appropriate and if consistent with its policies and procedures. When a proxy relates to relatively routine matters, such as the regular appointment of auditors and the election of directors, proxies are generally voted in accordance with management's recommendations. When a proxy relates to non-routine matters, such matters are brought to the attention of Scotia Cassels' Chief Investment Officer or a senior Director of Scotia Cassels on a case-by-case basis for consideration and final approval. The Chief Investment Officer or senior Director may determine that communication with management of an issuer is required in order to properly evaluate the matter prior to voting. Scotia Cassels' proxy voting

policies strive to eliminate conflicts of interest between the interests of the firm (and its affiliates and associates) and those of the Fund and its unitholders. For example, when an employee normally responsible for reviewing proxy materials has an interest in the issuer in respect of which the proxy relates, the employee must disclose such interest to a senior Director within Scotia Cassels who will assume responsibility for voting the proxy. If a proxy is for a related issuer, the recommendation of the third party proxy consultant will generally be followed.

### Pinnacle Income Fund

When voting proxies, Fiera considers financial criteria over any other factors. For routine matters, Fiera will generally vote in accordance with the recommendation of management. Fiera will consider takeover bids on a case-by-case basis, using the best interest of unitholders as its primary criterion. All proxies will be delivered by the Fiera Administration Department upon receipt to those portfolio managers designated with responsibility for voting proxies. The Fiera proxy administrator shall vote proxies pursuant to the proxy manager's instructions, date and initial the paper form of proxy. Details of the vote for each proxy shall be recorded in a proxy voting log, accessible by the proxy manager. The paper form of the proxy and proxy voting log shall be retained for a period of two years.

# Pinnacle High Yield Income Fund

Guardian subscribes to a proxy review and voting service which provides a professional review of all proxies issued by the companies held within its Canadian equity portfolios. This service will vote proxies in accordance with Guardian's detailed proxy voting guidelines which are designed to ensure the optimization of long-term value of the investments in respect of which it is voting. Proxy voting decisions in respect of boards of directors, executive compensation, takeover protection and shareholder rights are based on the publication entitled "Corporate Governance Standards" published by the Pension Investment Association of Canada.

### Pinnacle American Core-Plus Bond Fund

Logan retains a third party to record, track, file, and vote all proxy solicitations. The third party will coordinate the proxy process for both registered and beneficial investors, offering a variety of voting options via mail, phone and internet and provides the ability to maintain voting guidelines and vote comments. Logan's Proxy Voting Committee reviews the meeting agenda and internal research to determine how to vote in the best interests of clients and in accordance with the proxy guidelines. Where a material conflict of interest has been identified and the matter is addressed in the proxy guidelines, the proxies shall be voted by the third party in accordance with the proxy guidelines. Where a material conflict of interest has been identified and the matter is not covered in the proxy guidelines, Logan's Chief Operating Officer shall follow the recommendation of the third party, or disclose the conflict to the client and advise the client that its securities will be voted in accordance with the representative's written discretion. In determining how to vote individual proxies, Logan will rely on the third party's opinion and advice on the matter in which proxies or particular matters should be voted for each client, taking into account the best interest of that client and Logan's proxy voting guidelines. Logan, through the third party, shall maintain all records required by applicable law, copies of proxy statements

received, a record of each vote cast, a copy of any written material used as the basis for or created in connection with proxy voting report sent to a client. All proxies will be voted, with the exceptions listed below:

- i. If a client no longer holds the security, Logan will not vote a proxy, as voting would not add value to the client's account; and
- ii. If a proxy is received after a client has terminated Logan's services, Logan will not vote the proxy but will forward it directly to the client.

### Pinnacle Global Real Estate Securities Fund

For routine matters, Citigroup will generally vote in accordance with the recommendation of management, as applicable, unless, in Citigroup's opinion, such recommendation is not in the best interest of the Fund. Non-routine matters involve a variety of issues and may be proposed by management. Voting decisions with respect to non-recurring extraordinary matters generally will be made in support of management, unless, in Citigroup's opinion, such recommendation is not in the best interest of the Fund. On a case-by-case basis, Citigroup will decide non-recurring or extraordinary matters, taking into account the proxy voting policies and factors relevant to each proxy. Citigroup has implemented procedures to deal with conflicts of interest when voting a proxy. Citigroup will be responsible for determining whether each proxy is for a routine matter or not. All proxies identified as "routine" will be voted by Citigroup in accordance with the proxy voting policies. Any proxies that Citigroup determines are not clearly "routine" will be handled according to the provisions of the Fund's governing documents involving conflicts of interests. Citigroup's Compliance Officer will maintain, or have available, written copies of each proxy statement and of each executed proxy.

## Pinnacle Strategic Balanced Fund

CC&L retains the services of an independent proxy review firm for proxy voting guidance. CC&L reviews each proxy, along with the recommendations made by the independent firm, and determines how to vote. CC&L does not distinguish between routine and non-routine matters when reviewing proxies and although CC&L may vote in accordance with the recommendations of management on routine matters, each proxy issue is considered separately and voted in accordance with the best interests of the Fund. Should a conflict of interest arise, CC&L's compliance officer will be involved with the proxy vote to ensure proxies are voted in a Fund's best interest.

## Pinnacle Canadian Value Equity Fund

When a proxy relates to relatively routine matters in respect of the board of directors, BonaVista applies the principle that a strong board is one that embodies the principles of independence, accountability and effectiveness. BonaVista will generally support management's decisions in respect of auditors unless there is knowledge of a conflict of interest. BonaVista's proxy voting policies in respect of executive compensation and takeover protection are based on the principles that compensation and takeover decisions should be tied to long-term corporate performance and the enhancement of long-term shareholder value. In respect of social and

ethical issues, BonaVista reviews each proposal on a case-by-case basis in order to determine the position that best represents the interests of shareholders.

Scheer Rowlett will generally vote in accordance with the recommendation of management for routine matters such as the election of directors and the appointment of auditors. Proposals that give shareholders a greater voice in the affairs of the company are generally supported and measures that seek to limit these rights are opposed. Executive compensation matters will be assessed on a case-by-case basis, as will proposals relating to social, political and environmental issues. Scheer Rowlett will generally oppose proposals, the purpose or effect of which is to entrench management or dilute shareholder ownership. Proposals that would restrict or eliminate anti-takeover measures are supported. Scheer Rowlett's Secretary, Treasurer and Compliance Officer will maintain and have available additional proxy voting information.

## Pinnacle Canadian Mid Cap Equity Fund

Montrusco in its Discretionary Account Management Agreement normally receives authorizations from each client to exercise voting rights over the securities on the client's behalf. Accordingly, the following responsibilities apply:

- i. For each client, there is a clear delineation of the proxy voting responsibilities between Montrusco and the client.
- ii. If Montrusco has proxy voting authority, it takes steps that are reasonable under the circumstances to verify that it actually receives the proxies for which it has voting authority.
- iii. The client who has delegated proxy voting authority to Montrusco may not decide how the proxies are to be voted.
- iv. In voting proxies, Montrusco acts prudently, solely in the interest of clients, and for the exclusive purpose of providing benefits to them. Montrusco will consider those factors that would affected the value of the client's investments and may not subordinate the interests of clients to unrelated objectives, such as social considerations.

Montrusco has contracted with a third party to administer the proxy voting and reporting processes of Montrusco. A member of Montrusco's legal and compliance department will periodically review Montrusco's proxy voting guidelines and make recommendations where required. Documentation of all proxy voting and authorizations will be kept on file for at least seven years.

### Pinnacle Canadian Growth Equity Fund

When voting proxies on behalf of the Fund, Aurion considers the context of the industry in which the issuer operates and the stage of the issuer's lifecycle. Aurion's approach to proxy voting is to insist on transparency and fair dealing. Aurion receives e-mails triggered from the on-line ADP proxy voting system that flags all upcoming proxy voting deadlines. Aurion votes

each proxy with reference to three documents which provide guidelines and are used to develop positions on proxy voting standards: Pension Investment Association of Canada's Corporate Governance Standards (2001), Toronto Society of Financial Analysts Proxy Voting Guidelines (1994) and Canadian Coalition of Good Governance ("CCGG") Guidelines (2003). In cases when there are issues or concerns, Aurion incorporates several approaches to supplement its conclusions; these include direct discussions with the firm involved and/or utilizing the analysis from the CCGG research. Once a voting position is determined, the rationale for non-routine issues is documented. All votes on the proxy ballot are executed electronically.

## Pinnacle Canadian Small Cap Equity Fund

Mawer has adopted a proxy voting guideline with respect to recurring issues. All proxies pertaining to non-routine matters are considered on a case-by-base basis, with the primary objective to maximize the investment return of the Fund, subject to an acceptable level of risk. Mawer's voting decisions are based on its statement of guidelines and procedures on proxy voting and a reasonable judgment of what will serve the best interests of the Fund and its unitholders. Mawer evaluates shareholder and stakeholder proposals on a case-by-case basis. Generally proposals that place arbitrary or artificial constraints on the issuer, its board or management will be voted against. Proxy voting forms are received by Mawer's Proxy Administrator and are logged as received. Proxy voting forms and accompanying documentation are forwarded to the relevant decision maker for direction on how to vote. For each vote the portfolio manager will make an appropriate voting recommendation taking into consideration Mawer's proxy voting policy. The Proxy Administrator receives this direction and votes all proxies for the issuer in question by phone, fax or other appropriate means. Copies of Mawer's proxy forms and voting recommendations are retained on file by the Proxy Administrator.

### Pinnacle American Value Equity Fund

Metropolitan votes proxies in accordance with its written policies and procedures. However, Metropolitan will deviate from its guidelines if it determines that it is in the Fund's and its unitholders' best interests to do so. When a proxy relates to relatively routine matters, proxies are generally voted in accordance with management's recommendations provided they are in the best interests of the Fund and its unitholders. When a material conflict of interest exists between the interests of Metropolitan and the Fund, Metropolitan will vote in accordance with the guidelines when Metropolitan does not have discretion to deviate from those guidelines. Alternatively, Metropolitan will obtain voting direction from an independent third party or disclose the conflict of interest to the Fund and abstain from voting or obtain the Fund's consent prior to voting the securities.

## Pinnacle American Mid Cap Value Equity Fund

In order to facilitate the process of voting proxies, Integrity has retained the services of ISS. To eliminate possible conflicts of interest between Integrity and the Fund, Integrity exclusively uses all of ISS's recommendations for proxy voting purposes, including case-by-case voting issues. When a proxy is in respect of board matters, ISS bases its decisions on the principles of independence of the board and long-term issuer performance.

## Pinnacle American Large Cap Growth Equity Fund

In respect of relatively routine matters, proxies are generally voted in accordance with management's recommendations provided they are in the best interests of the Fund and its unitholders. In cases when the Fund is a significant holder of an issuer's voting securities, management's recommendations will be reviewed with the Fund or an appropriate fiduciary responsible for the Fund. Case-by-case determinations are made by American Century staff, which is overseen by the General Counsel of American Century, in consultation with equity managers. To ensure that conflicts of interest do not affect proxy votes cast for the Fund, American Century's proxy voting personnel regularly catalogue issuers with whom American Century has significant business relationships; all discretionary (including case-by-case) voting in respect of these issuers will be voted by ScotiaMcLeod or an appropriate fiduciary responsible for the Fund.

# Pinnacle American Mid Cap Equity Fund

TCW has established a proxy voting committee to oversee its proxy voting guidelines and procedures. The committee meets at least annually to review these guidelines as well as other proxy voting issues. TCW also retains a third party proxy voting service provider to assist in the management of the proxy voting process. The service provider facilitates TCW's proxy voting in accordance with TCW's guidelines and assists in the maintenance of TCW's proxy voting record. In certain circumstances, such as potential conflicts of interest, the third party service provider may also be requested to help decide certain proxy votes. TCW's proxy voting guidelines cover a range of matters that are frequently presented for shareholder votes, some of which may be considered routine. Depending on the issue, TCW guidelines set out when it will vote in favour of or against a proposal or when a case-by-case evaluation is required. TCW may determine to deviate from the guidelines in its discretion when such deviation is deemed to be in the Fund's best interests. Non-routine matters are evaluated and voted upon on a case-by-case basis, generally following consultation with the appropriate portfolio manager.

## Pinnacle International Equity Fund

Wellington's proxy voting policies and guidelines require Wellington to vote in the best interests of the Fund and its unitholders' so as to maximize economic value. While the proxy voting guidelines set forth general guidelines for voting proxies, each proposal is evaluated on its merits and thus, a vote entered on the Fund's behalf with respect to a particular proposal may differ from Wellington's proxy voting guidelines. Wellington identifies and attempts to resolve all material proxy-related conflicts of interest between the firm and the Fund in the best interest of the Fund. As such, Wellington regularly reviews its voting records to ensure that proxies are voted in accordance with Wellington's proxy policies and procedures. Wellington has a proxy committee that is responsible for the review and approval of the firm's written proxy policies and procedures and its proxy voting guidelines, and for providing advice and guidance on specific proxy votes for individual issuers. If a proxy is identified as presenting a material conflict of interest, the matter must be reviewed by the designated members of the proxy committee, who will resolve the conflict and direct the vote. Any proxy committee member who is himself or

herself subject to the identified conflict will not participate in the decision on whether and how to vote the proxy in question.

Thornburg has adopted a policy on proxy voting which has a general objective of voting securities to seek to enhance the value of the securities or to reduce potential for a decline in the value of the securities. Thornburg's policy does not prescribe voting requirements or specific voting considerations. While voting on all issues presented is considered, Thornburg will not vote on all issues unless specifically directed or required by a client. Thornburg's policy provides for the appointment of a proxy voting coordinator. The proxy voting coordinator's functions include collecting proxy statements, providing portfolio advisors with specific voting instructions from clients and collecting proxy votes. In addition, the proxy voting coordinator will maintain proxy voting records. In any case where Thornburg determines that a proxy vote involves a conflict of interest, and the proxy vote relates to the election of a director in an uncontested election or ratification of selection of independent accountants. Thornburg will vote the proxy in accordance with the recommendation of any proxy voting service it engages. If no such recommendation is available, or if the proxy vote involves any other matters, Thornburg will immediately refer the vote to the client for direction on voting of the proxy. In all cases where such a vote is referred to the client, Thornburg will disclose the conflict of interest to the client.

## Pinnacle International Small to Mid Cap Value Equity Fund

Munder has adopted and implements proxy voting policies and procedures to ensure that Munder votes any proxy or other beneficial interest in an equity security over which Munder has discretionary proxy voting authority prudently and solely in the best interest of its clients and their beneficiaries considering all relevant factors and without undue influence from individuals or groups who may have an economic interest in the outcome of a proxy vote. Munder has retained a third party to review proxies received by client accounts and provide a recommendation on how to vote proxies. Munder will review solicited recommendations from such third party at least monthly as part of its fiduciary duty to ensure that it votes proxies consistent with the best interests of its clients. Munder generally is willing to vote with recommendations of management on matters of a routine administrative nature. Munder is not willing to vote with management on proposals that have the potential for major adverse economic impact on the Fund without independent analysis. Munder believes that such proposals should be carefully analyzed and decided on a case-by-case basis.

## Pinnacle Global Equity Fund

Harding has implemented written proxy voting policies and procedures designed to ensure that proxies are voted, and conflicts resolved, in the best interests of the Fund and its unitholders. Meeting information is obtained from Proxy Edge's and ISS's websites and is maintained in an internal proxy voting database. A proxy voting form, listing agenda items to be voted upon at a meeting, is generated and provided to a designated member of Harding's investment committee. Each vote is cast on a case-by-case basis considering contractual obligations under the Portfolio Management Agreement and other relevant circumstances at the time of the vote. If the investment committee member elects to vote against management on an

item, he or she is required to document the basis for the decision. All voting decisions are recorded in the proxy voting database. A designated member of the investment committee is responsible for the administration and oversight of Harding's proxy voting procedures. Harding's Chief Compliance Officer assists the investment committee in development, implementing and updating proxy voting policies and procedures.

### OTHER STATUTORY INFORMATION ABOUT THE FUNDS

## **Principal Holders of Securities**

As at December 1, 2008 the only person or company owning beneficially, directly or indirectly, or exercising control or direction over more than 10% of the issued and outstanding shares of Scotia Capital Inc. is Scotiabank, which owns 10,260,000 of Scotia Capital Inc.'s common shares, representing 95% of the common shares. ScotiaMcLeod, a division of Scotia Capital Inc., is the manager of the Funds.

As at December 1, 2008 no person or company owns beneficially, directly or indirectly, or exercises control or direction over more than ten percent of the outstanding Class A, Class F or Class I Units of a Fund.

As at December 1, 2008, IRC members in aggregate, did not own beneficially, directly or indirectly, more than ten percent of the outstanding Class A, Class F or Class I Units of a Fund. As at December 1, 2008, IRC members did not own any securities of ScotiaMcLeod or a service provider to the Funds or ScotiaMcLeod, other than common shares of Scotiabank. Such holdings represented less than 1% of the outstanding common shares of Scotiabank.

#### **Material Contracts**

Copies of the Master Declaration of Trust, the master management agreement between Scotia Capital Inc. and each of the Funds (the "Master Management Agreement"), the Portfolio Management Agreements, the Distribution Agreements and the Custodian Agreement (collectively, the "Material Contracts"), are available for inspection at the head office of ScotiaMcLeod during normal business hours.

## Portfolio Management Agreements

The Portfolio Management Agreements between Scotia Capital Inc. and each of the portfolio advisors named above are dated as follows:

Name of Fund	Date of Portfolio Management Agreement
Pinnacle Income Fund	September 3, 1997
Pinnacle High Yield Income Fund	
Pinnacle Canadian Growth Equity Fund	
Pinnacle American Mid Cap Growth Equity Fund	
Pinnacle Global Equity Fund	

Name of Fund	Date of Portfolio Management Agreement
Pinnacle Canadian Value Equity Fund	September 3, 1997 (new Portfolio Management Agreement with Scheer Rowlett is anticipated to be entered into on February 5, 2009)
Pinnacle Canadian Small Cap Equity Fund	December 2, 2002
Pinnacle American Value Equity Fund	
Pinnacle American Large Cap Growth Equity Fund	
Pinnacle International Equity Fund	March 21, 2005 (new Portfolio Management Agreement is anticipated to be entered into on January 6, 2009)
Pinnacle Short Term Income Fund	October 3, 2005
Pinnacle American Mid Cap Value Equity Fund	
Pinnacle Strategic Balanced Fund	January 16, 2006
Pinnacle Global Real Estate Securities Fund	October 22, 2007
Pinnacle International Small to Mid Cap Value Equity Fund	November 1, 2007
Pinnacle American Core-Plus Bond Fund	
Pinnacle Canadian Mid Cap Equity Fund	January 2, 2008

ScotiaMcLeod is responsible for the fees paid to the portfolio advisors. The Portfolio Management Agreements may be terminated by (i) either party giving the other party 90 days prior written notice; (ii) by either party if the other party is in breach of any of the terms of the Portfolio Management Agreements and has not remedied the breach within 30 days of receipt of written notice requiring the breach to be remedied; (iii) immediately in the event of a bankruptcy or winding-up of a party; or (iv) by ScotiaMcLeod if there is a change of legal or de facto control of the portfolio advisor or if there is a change in the key personnel.

The Material Contracts for each Fund, with the exception of the Portfolio Management Agreements, are dated as follows:

Name of Fund	Date of Material Contracts
Pinnacle Short Term Income Fund	September 3, 1997 (Distribution Agreements and Custodian Agreement)
Pinnacle Income Fund	December 22, 2008 (Master Declaration of Trust)
Pinnacle High Yield Income Fund	December 22, 2008 (Master Management Agreement)
Pinnacle Strategic Balanced Fund	December 22, 2008 (Supplemental Trust Indenture)
Pinnacle Canadian Value Equity Fund	
Pinnacle Canadian Growth Equity Fund	
Pinnacle Canadian Small Cap Equity Fund	
nacle Canadian Growth Equity Fund	

Name of Fund	<b>Date of Material Contracts</b>
Pinnacle American Value Equity Fund	
Pinnacle American Mid Cap Growth Equity Fund	
Pinnacle International Equity Fund	
Pinnacle Global Equity Fund	
Pinnacle American Large Cap Growth Equity Fund	January 18, 2001 (Distribution Agreement and Custodian Agreement)
	December 22, 2008 (Master Declaration of Trust)
	December 22, 2008 (Master Management Agreement)
	December 22, 2008 (Supplemental Trust Indenture)
Pinnacle American Core-Plus Bond Fund	January 28, 2002 (Distribution Agreements and Custodian Agreement)
Pinnacle Global Real Estate Securities Fund	December 22, 2008 (Master Declaration of Trust)
Pinnacle Canadian Mid Cap Equity Fund	December 22, 2008 (Master Management Agreement)
Pinnacle American Mid Cap Value Equity Fund	December 22, 2008 (Supplemental Trust Indenture)
Pinnacle International Small to Mid Cap Value Equity Fund	

### Master Declaration of Trust and Supplemental Trust Indentures

Scotia Capital Inc. is signatory to the Master Declaration of Trust as trustee.

ScotiaMcLeod may terminate a Fund at any time by giving each unitholder at least 60 days prior written notice. During this 60 day period, and with the approval of the Ontario Securities Commission, the right of unitholders of the Fund to require payment for their Units may be suspended.

Each Fund is established by a supplemental trust indenture ("**Supplemental Trust Indenture**") which incorporates by reference the Master Declaration of Trust which Scotia Capital Inc. is a signatory to as trustee.

### Master Management Agreement

The Master Management Agreement is negotiated between Scotia Capital Inc. and each of the Funds. The Master Management Agreement may be terminated by ScotiaMcLeod giving the Funds 90 days prior written notice or such shorter number of days as ScotiaMcLeod and the Funds may agree. The Master Management Agreement may be terminated by the Funds by a resolution passed by two-thirds of the votes cast by unitholders of a Fund at a meeting called for

this purpose. For such a meeting, a quorum of unitholders representing at least one-third of the Units of a Fund is required. Lastly, the Agreement may be terminated immediately in the event of a bankruptcy or winding-up of Scotia Capital Inc. or the Funds.

## Distributorship Agreements

The Distributorship Agreements are between Scotia Capital Inc. and each of the Funds. No fees are payable to ScotiaMcLeod by a Fund under these Agreements. The Distributorship Agreements may be terminated by ScotiaMcLeod giving the Fund 90 days prior written notice or such shorter number of days as ScotiaMcLeod and the Fund may agree. The Distributorship Agreements may also be terminated by a Fund by a resolution passed by two-thirds of the votes cast by unitholders of the Fund at a meeting called for this purpose. For such a meeting, a quorum of unitholders representing at least one-third of Units of the Fund is required. Lastly, the Agreements may be terminated immediately in the event of a bankruptcy or winding-up of Scotia Capital Inc. or the Funds.

### Custodian Agreements

The Custodian Agreement for the Funds is between the Funds and State Street Trust Company Canada.

The Funds pay the Custodian all reasonable fees and expenses for custodial services, including safekeeping and administrative services. The Custodian Agreement may be terminated by either party giving 90 days prior written notice to the other party.

### **Legal and Administrative Proceedings**

There are no ongoing legal and administrative proceedings against ScotiaMcLeod relating to investors in the Funds or the Funds themselves.

### **AUDITORS' CONSENT**

Pinnacle Short Term Income Fund

Pinnacle Income Fund

Pinnacle High Yield Income Fund

Pinnacle American Core-Plus Bond Fund

Pinnacle Global Real Estate Securities Fund

Pinnacle Strategic Balanced Fund

Pinnacle Canadian Value Equity Fund

Pinnacle Canadian Mid Cap Equity Fund (formerly Pinnacle Canadian Mid Cap Value Equity Fund)

Pinnacle Canadian Growth Equity Fund

Pinnacle Canadian Small Cap Equity Fund

Pinnacle American Value Equity Fund

Pinnacle American Mid Cap Value Equity Fund

Pinnacle American Large Cap Growth Equity Fund

Pinnacle American Mid Cap Growth Equity Fund

Pinnacle International Equity Fund

Pinnacle International Small to Mid Cap Value Equity Fund

Pinnacle Global Equity Fund (collectively, the "Funds")

We have read the simplified prospectus and annual information form of the Funds dated December 22, 2008 relating to the sale and issue of mutual fund units of the Funds. We have complied with Canadian generally accepted standards for an auditor's involvement with offering documents.

We consent to the use through incorporation by reference in the above-mentioned simplified prospectus of our report to the unitholders of the Funds on the statements of investment portfolio as at December 31, 2007, the statements of net assets as at December 31, 2007 and 2006, and the statements of operations and changes in net assets for the years then ended. Our report is dated March 7, 2008.

"PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP"

Chartered Accountants, Licensed Public Accountants

Toronto, Ontario

December 22, 2008

# CERTIFICATES OF THE FUNDS, THE PROMOTER AND THE MANAGER

December 22, 2008

Pinnacle Short Term Income Fund Pinnacle Canadian Small Cap Equity Fund Pinnacle Income Fund Pinnacle American Value Equity Fund Pinnacle High Yield Income Fund Pinnacle American Mid Cap Value Equity Fund Pinnacle American Core-Plus Bond Fund Pinnacle American Large Cap Growth Equity Fund Pinnacle Global Real Estate Securities Fund Pinnacle American Mid Cap Growth Equity Fund Pinnacle Strategic Balanced Fund Pinnacle International Equity Fund Pinnacle International Small to Mid Cap Value Equity Fund Pinnacle Canadian Value Equity Fund Pinnacle Canadian Mid Cap Equity Fund (formerly Pinnacle Pinnacle Global Equity Fund

Canadian Mid Cap Value Equity Fund)

Pinnacle Canadian Growth Equity Fund (collectively, the "Funds").

This annual information form, together with the simplified prospectus required to be sent or delivered to a purchaser during the currency of this annual information form and the documents incorporated by reference into the simplified prospectus, constitute full, true and plain disclosure of all material facts relating to the securities offered by the simplified prospectus, as required by the securities legislation of each of the Canadian provinces and territories and do not contain any misrepresentation.

"Stephen Douglas McDonald" "James Michael Durland" "Michael Kenneth Warman"

Stephen Douglas McDonald James Michael Durland Michael Kenneth Warman

Co-Chief Executive Officer Co-Chief Executive Officer Chief Financial Officer

Scotia Capital Inc. Scotia Capital Inc.

#### ON BEHALF OF

the Board of Directors of Scotia Capital Inc., as Promoter, Manager and Trustee of the Funds

"Mary Cecilia Williams"	"Christopher Joseph Hodgson"
Mary Cecilia Williams	Christopher Joseph Hodgson
Director	Director

### CERTIFICATE OF PRINCIPAL DISTRIBUTOR

December 22, 2008

Pinnacle Short Term Income Fund Pinnacle Canadian Small Cap Equity Fund
Pinnacle Income Fund Pinnacle American Value Equity Fund

Pinnacle High Yield Income Fund
Pinnacle American Mid Cap Value Equity Fund
Pinnacle American Core-Plus Bond Fund
Pinnacle Global Real Estate Securities Fund
Pinnacle American Mid Cap Growth Equity Fund

Pinnacle Strategic Balanced Fund Pinnacle International Equity Fund

Pinnacle Canadian Value Equity Fund Pinnacle International Small to Mid Cap Value Equity Fund

Pinnacle Canadian Mid Cap Equity Fund (formerly Pinnacle

Canadian Mid Cap Value Equity Fund)

acle Pinnacle Global Equity Fund

Pinnacle Canadian Growth Equity Fund

(collectively, the "Funds").

To the best of our knowledge, information and belief, this annual information form, the financial statements of the Funds for the financial period ended December 31, 2007 and the auditors' report on those statements, the interim financial statements of the Funds for the interim period ended June 30, 2008, together with the simplified prospectus required to be sent or delivered to a purchaser during the currency of this annual information form, constitute full, true and plain disclosure of all material facts relating to the securities offered by the simplified prospectus and do not contain any misrepresentation.

Scotia Capital Inc., as principal distributor of the Funds

"Michael Kenneth Warman"
Michael Kenneth Warman
Chief Financial Officer

#### PINNACLE PROGRAM FUNDS

Respecting Class A and Class F Units and Class I Units (where noted)

#### **Money Market Fund**

Pinnacle Short Term Income Fund

### **Bond Funds**

Pinnacle Income Fund
Pinnacle High Yield Income Fund
Pinnacle American Core-Plus Bond Fund (Class I units available)

#### **Real Estate Fund**

Pinnacle Global Real Estate Securities Fund (Class I units available)

#### **Balanced Fund**

Pinnacle Strategic Balanced Fund

#### **Canadian Equity Funds**

Pinnacle Canadian Value Equity Fund

Pinnacle Canadian Mid Cap Equity Fund (formerly Pinnacle Canadian Mid Cap Value Equity Fund)

Pinnacle Canadian Growth Equity Fund

Pinnacle Canadian Small Cap Equity Fund (Class I units available)

#### **Foreign Equity Funds**

Pinnacle American Value Equity Fund (Class I units available)

Pinnacle American Mid Cap Value Equity Fund (Class I units available)

Pinnacle American Large Cap Growth Equity Fund

Pinnacle American Mid Cap Growth Equity Fund (Class I units available)

Pinnacle International Equity Fund (Class I units available)

Pinnacle International Small to Mid Cap Value Equity Fund (Class I units available)

Pinnacle Global Equity Fund (Class I units available)

Managed by:

ScotiaMcLeod Scotia Plaza 40 King Street West

P.O. Box 4085, Station "A" Toronto, Ontario M5H 1H1

Toll Free: 1-800-530-0197 (416-506-8404 in Toronto)

Additional information about the Funds is available in the Funds' management reports of fund performance and financial statements. You can get a copy of these documents at your request, and at no cost, by calling toll free 1-800-530-0197, or from your dealer by e-mail through ScotiaMcLeod's website at www.scotiamcleod.com.

These documents and other information about the Funds, such as information circulars and material contracts, are also available on the SEDAR website at <a href="https://www.sedar.com">www.sedar.com</a>, or on the ScotiaMcLeod website at www.scotiamcleod.com.