

### A Prudent Approach to Yield Optimization

Our Bond portfolios are well diversified and composed of high-quality securities that have been thoroughly analyzed by our in-house research team. Bond management is based on three principles: 1) Capital preservation; 2) Yield optimization; 3) Conservative duration management.

Portfolio yield is optimized by a high concentration of non-cyclical corporate bonds. We take a global economic approach to determine the duration of the portfolio. The inherent risk from interest rate volatility is minimized by trading within a defined, conservative duration range.

### PORTFOLIO CONSTRUCTION

- The Fund may be invested up to 100% in corporate issues.
- The Fund will use the same credit rating scale as the benchmark Index.
- The Fund will be invested primarily in bonds with a maturity of ten years or more.
- The average rating of all of the holdings is A or better.
- The maximum aggregate holdings of A or better rated corporate bonds of any one issuer is 10% of the total market value of the Fund.
- The maximum aggregate holdings of BBB rated bonds is 20% of the total market value of the Fund.
- Maximum 20% of the market value can be invested in foreign currency issues of Canadian borrowers.

### ANNUALIZED PERFORMANCE (%)

As of September 30, 2018

|                                | 3 mos. | 1 yr | 2 yrs | 3 yrs | 4 yrs | Since Inception (04/13) |
|--------------------------------|--------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------------------------|
| JF Long Term Bond Fund         | -2.3   | 3.7  | -0.8  | 3.8   | 4.2   | 3.8                     |
| FTSE TMX Canada Long Term Bond | -2.4   | 3.6  | -1.3  | 3.2   | 4.2   | 3.6                     |

### CALENDAR YEAR PERFORMANCE (%)

To December 31<sup>st</sup>

|                                | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 | 2014 |
|--------------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| JF Long Term Bond Fund         | 6.8  | 4.9  | 2.5  | 16.0 |
| FTSE TMX Canada Long Term Bond | 7.0  | 2.5  | 3.8  | 17.5 |

### REPRESENTATIVE BOND HOLDINGS

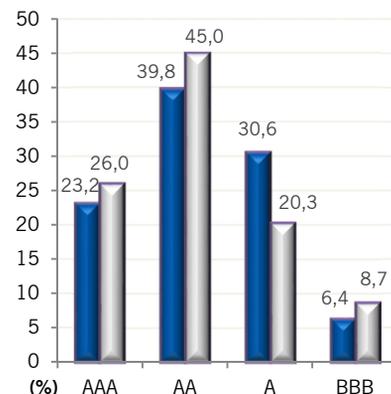
|                      | Coupon/Maturity |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Great-West Lifeco    | 6.67%, 03/21/33 |
| Fortis Alberta       | 6.22%, 10/31/34 |
| Government of Canada | 5.75%, 06/01/29 |
| Province of Ontario  | 6.50%, 03/08/29 |
| Province of Quebec   | 6.00%, 10/01/29 |

|                        |                                      |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Inception Date         | April 30, 2013                       |
| NAV per Unit           | \$8.7436                             |
| Quarterly Distribution | \$0.067937                           |
| Fund Size (\$M)        | \$5.6                                |
| Benchmark              | FTSE TMX Canada Long Term Bond Index |

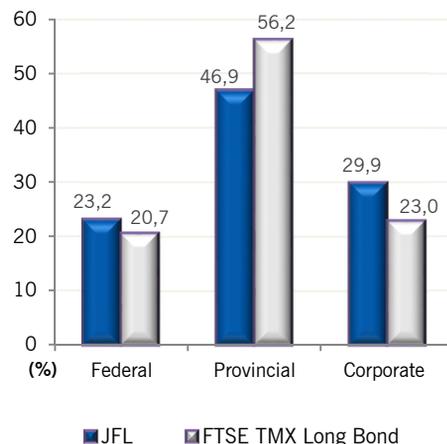
### PORTFOLIO CHARACTERISTICS

|                       | Fund | Benchmark |
|-----------------------|------|-----------|
| Yield to Maturity (%) | 3.2  | 3.3       |
| Duration (yrs)        | 14.6 | 14.6      |
| Term (yrs)            | 22.0 | 22.8      |

### CREDIT QUALITY



### SECTOR MIX



## MARKET & ECONOMIC REVIEW

The Canadian bond market posted one of its weakest quarters in recent years, as global interest rates rose in response to decent economic growth and continued central bank interest rate increases in Canada and the US.

After lagging the US Federal Reserve in its program to normalize interest rates, the Bank of Canada raised its target interest rate by 0.25% to 1.5%, matching the Federal Reserve's 0.25% increase. The European Central Bank (ECB) is likely keen to also move rates higher as it remains stuck in negative territory (-0.4%). It has already announced that it will phase out its asset purchase program by yearend. The Bank of Japan has allowed more flexibility around its yield control target and as a result its ten-year government bond yield rose from 0.02% to 0.12%. All together it is clear that central banks are unwinding the unprecedented liquidity expansion of the past decade.

## PORTFOLIO REVIEW

The Fund outperformed the FTSE/TMX Long-Term Bond Index's return of -2.4%. A positive contributor to the performance in the quarter was the shorter duration of the portfolio, reducing its downside resulting from the increase in interest rates experienced during the quarter. Our overweight in corporate credit was a detraction to performance with our higher quality long corporate spreads widening relative to weaker quality BBB corporate bonds in the third quarter. Specifically, higher-quality long corporate spreads struggled to perform given the flatness of the government curve with the 10- to 30-year yield curve approaching zero.

Canadian and U.S. 10-year government yields rose approximately 0.3% in the quarter. Most of the interest rate increase was attributable to the rise in real yields which reflected increased expectations for economic growth rather than rising inflation expectations. Growth expectations for Canada remain subdued due to the extreme leverage in the household sector and the sensitivity to higher interest rates. Corporate bonds recovered some of their underperformance earlier in the year. Their performance was consistent with the improved growth scenario and some late in the quarter stability in the emerging markets. Issuance remains robust with year-to-date levels likely to be close to record highs.

With the technical and fundamental backdrop for Canadian yields lining up following the meaningful sell-off in yields, we reduced the Fund's underweight position in duration to neutral towards the latter portion of the quarter. The Fund continues to maintain a higher credit quality bias and made small adjustments in the quarter towards that endpoint.

## INVESTMENT STRATEGY

The Bank of Canada raised rates in July, while the U.S. Federal Reserve waited until near quarter end. Central banks are trying to be reasonably transparent in terms of the pace of rate increases, while the general trend continues upward.

Most of the interest rate increase was attributable to the rise in real yields which reflected increased expectations for economic growth rather than rising inflation expectations. Overall, our growth expectations for Canada remain subdued due to the extreme leverage in the household sector and the concomitant sensitivity to higher interest rates. Markets have priced in some of this divergence in growth expectations with the US as the real yields in Canada are almost 0.3% lower. Our expectation is for a continued rise in short term interest rates globally, but we believe there is a limited amount of room for long term interest rates to rise particularly in Canada.

## INVESTMENT TEAM

Jarislowsky Fraser has a team-based approach that anchors a culture of collaborative decision-making. The Investment Strategy Committee (ISC), our central risk and investment oversight body, oversees the entire investment process to ensure that investment decisions adhere to the firm's long-standing philosophy and process.

The Bank of Nova Scotia (BNS) is the parent company of Jarislowsky, Fraser Limited. BNS securities held in the portfolio are related securities.

Returns for the JF Pooled Funds have been calculated using the net asset value (NAV), are gross of management fees and in Canadian dollars. Complete Investment Policy guidelines are available upon request. JF Pooled Funds are only available to Canadian residents. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. Future returns are not guaranteed. Investment return and principal value of an investment in the fund will fluctuate so that an investor's shares when redeemed may be worth more or less than their original cost. This document is prepared by Jarislowsky, Fraser Limited (JFL) and is provided for information purposes only, it is not intended to convey investment, legal, tax or individually tailored investment advice. All opinions and estimates contained in this report constitute JFL's judgment as of the time of writing and are provided in good faith. All data, facts and opinions presented in this document may change without notification. No use of the Jarislowsky, Fraser Limited name or any information contained in this report may be copied or redistributed without the prior written approval of JFL.

Source: TD Securities, S&P, Bloomberg and FTSE TMX Global Debt Capital Markets Inc.