

### A Focus on "High-Quality Canadian Leaders"

Our Canadian equity management focuses on large cap, blue chip stocks in non-cyclical industries with strong dividends and steady growth. We tend to de-emphasize cyclical industries and diversify assets across different industries to reduce the concentration in sectors exposed to commodity prices.

Canadian equities are prudently divided into three categories to manage risk while allowing for investment in growth opportunities. The companies in the portfolio tend to have steady growth, high returns on invested capital, a dominant position in their market and reduced balance sheet risk.

### PORTFOLIO CONSTRUCTION

- Securities of the Fund are categorized as follows with the holdings limited to the ranges set forth: High-Quality Growth 50%-100%; Cyclical 0%-35%; and Mid to Junior Growth 0%-15%.
- Maximum sector weight of the Fund as defined by the Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS®) is the greater of 25% or Index sector weight plus 15%.
- Maximum market value in a single issuer: 10%.
- The Fund may invest in the JF Special Equity Fund, up to a maximum of 10%.
- The Fund may invest up to 20% in non-Canadian North American equities.

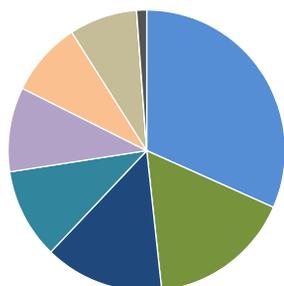
### ANNUALIZED PERFORMANCE (%)

As of June 30, 2019	3 mos.	1 yr	3 yrs	5 yrs	7 yrs	10 yrs	15 yrs
JF Canadian Equity Fund	2.7	5.7	8.6	6.5	10.6	9.0	8.9
S&P/TSX Composite	2.6	3.9	8.4	4.7	8.3	7.8	7.4

### CALENDAR YEAR PERFORMANCE (%)

To December 31 <sup>st</sup>	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
JF Canadian Equity Fund	-6.3	6.4	18.8	-2.5	12.8	22.6	10.1
S&P/TSX Composite	-8.9	9.1	21.1	-8.3	10.6	13.0	7.2

### SECTOR WEIGHTINGS



- Financials 31.6
- Industrials 16.6
- Energy 13.9
- Cons. Stap. 10.4
- Info. Tech. 9.7
- Cons. Disc. 8.6
- Materials 7.9
- Utilities 0.0
- Cash 1.2

Inception Date	April 1, 1997
NAV per Unit	\$32.6996
Quarterly Distribution	\$0.2457150
Fund Size (\$M)	\$4,783.2
Benchmark	S&P/TSX Composite

### PORTFOLIO CHARACTERISTICS

\*5-year period

	Fund	Benchmark
Yield (%)	3.2	3.1
Weighted Avg. Market Cap (\$B)	\$54.0	\$50.2
Turnover (5-yr avg. to 12/31/18)	13.6	-
Sharpe Ratio*	0.7	0.4
Standard Deviation*	8.8	10.6
Upside Capture*	94.8	100.0
Downside Capture*	77.5	100.0
Batting Average*	0.6	-

### TOP 10 HOLDINGS

	% of Fund
Toronto-Dominion Bank	7.6
Canadian National Railway	5.9
Enbridge	5.3
Bank of Nova Scotia	5.1
Royal Bank of Canada	4.8
Alimentation Couche-Tard	4.6
Brookfield Asset Management	4.4
Nutrien	4.4
Manulife Financial	4.2
Open Text	3.8
<b>Total for Top 10</b>	<b>50.0</b>

## MARKET & ECONOMIC REVIEW

The second quarter of the year continued to build on the positive momentum shown by financial markets in the previous quarter. The more dovish stance taken by the world's key central banks implied that the next move in administered rates is likely to be downward. Confronted by weaker data, stubbornly low inflation and further risks to trade, the European Central Bank (ECB), the U.S. Federal Reserve (Fed) and the Bank of Canada all pointed towards further monetary stimulus. Relatively bad economic news, therefore, ended up being good news for the markets.

The one area of concern that remains is the apparent weakness in the manufacturing industry in the U.S., Germany, China and Japan. The fear is that this will lead to job losses and falling consumer confidence, which explains the reversal in central bank sentiment. The trade picture improved somewhat near the end of the quarter, with China and the U.S. at least agreeing to resume talks, although the possibility of the U.S. shifting focus to the eurozone may still be enough to induce volatility.

## PORTFOLIO REVIEW

The Canadian equity portfolio performed reasonably well for the quarter marginally outperforming the S&P/TSX index over the same period.

The main positive contributors were **CCL** (+19%), **CGI** (+10%), **Manulife** (+6%) and **TD Bank** (+7%). CCL, the global labelling company, saw better growth rates during the period with fundamentals pointing to an improved outlook for 2020. TD Bank, the largest over-weighted bank, had better results than others in terms of growth, with contribution from the U.S., and improved credit quality. Manulife continues its bounce back with the tailwind from equity markets, progressing towards improved profitability, as well as excellent fundamentals from its Asian operations.

The top 2 detractors to performance this quarter were **SNC-Lavalin** (-22%) and **Saputo** (-14%). Saputo's underperformance was driven largely by swine fever lowering expectations of dry milk exports to China. SNC-Lavalin suffered as a result of investor capitulation following poor Q2 results announced on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. In June, the board announced management changes and a total reevaluation of all business lines. We expect this will lead to the contraction and/or elimination of part of its business that is causing much of the recent earnings volatility. SNC's value is underpinned by world class concession investments that are growing and top-ranked global design company, Atkins, that was acquired in 2016. At these valuation levels, with no net debt following the sale of part of the Highway 407 ETR, we believe there could be material upside and as a result have added to the position. Some holdings in the Energy sector such as, **ARC Resources** (-28%) and **Vermilion Energy** (-12%) performed poorly, largely because of unfavorable industry dynamics (pipeline approvals, commodity prices, poor sentiment), but damage was limited by our underweight positioning and higher quality companies.

## INVESTMENT STRATEGY

The remainder of 2019 should provide many points for discussion and debate that will have a meaningful impact on how capital markets perform over the coming years. The Federal election in Canada and the U.S. Presidential election in November 2020 will likely cause some volatility in stock markets. Trade will also be a key driver or sticking point.

Central bankers have indicated that they will pour fuel on the glowing embers of the expansion by reducing interest rates in order to keep it going.

In Canada, we have an increasing exposure to Canadian global leaders that operate in non-cyclical industries with secular growth drivers. These companies have strong management teams, balance sheet and cash flow generation providing opportunities for consolidation. This trend increasingly applies to a diverse set of industries, including technology, engineering, packaging and labels, dairy processing, nutrients to name a few.

## 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 your 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, FTSE TMX Global Debt Capital Markets Inc. and eVestment Alliance.