GUARDIAN CAPITAL™

ANNUAL MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE

GUARDIAN CANADIAN EQUITY FUND

DECEMBER 31, 2023

This annual management report of fund performance contains financial highlights, but does not contain either the annual financial report or annual financial statements of the investment fund. You can obtain a copy of the annual financial report or annual financial statements at your request, and at no cost, by calling 1-866-383-6546, by writing to us at Guardian Capital LP, Commerce Court West, 199 Bay Street, Suite 2700, P.O. Box 201, Toronto, Ontario, M5L 1E8, or by visiting our website at www.guardiancapital.com/investmentsolutions or SEDAR+ at www.sedarplus.ca.

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

MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION OF FUND PERFORMANCE

Investment Objective and Strategies

The primary objective of the Guardian Canadian Equity Fund (the "Fund") is the achievement of long-term growth of capital while maintaining steady current dividend income, primarily through the investment in common shares or other equity-related investments issued by Canadian companies.

The Manager primarily uses a fundamental, bottom-up approach to security analysis, to identify companies that it believes have the potential for significant long-term capital growth, and invest in the securities of those which can be obtained at a reasonable price. The Fund maintains a large capitalization bias and is diversified by sector, normally investing in at least 8 sector categories of the S&P/TSX Capped Composite Index. The Fund will maintain a Canadian equity focus, however, due to increased global integration and cross-border corporate transactions, may invest up to 10% of its market value in individual foreign equities that have either significant business operations in Canada or are listed on the TSX. The Fund does not invest in securities issued by a corporation in respect of which the majority of revenue is derived from the manufacture or distribution of tobacco-related products.

Risk

The risks associated with investing in the Fund remain as discussed in the prospectus. The Fund may be suitable for investors with a medium tolerance for risk, particularly those who seek diversified exposure to Canadian equity securities with a medium to long-term investment horizon.

Results of Operations

The Fund's net asset value decreased by 12% to $236.4 million at December 31, 2023 from $267.2 at December 31, 2022. Of this change, an increase of $37.7 million was provided by investment performance and a decrease of $68.5 million was attributable to net redemptions.

Series I units of the Fund posted a return of 16.1% for the year. The Fund's benchmark, the S&P/TSX Capped Composite Index, returned 11.8% for the same period. The Fund's return is after the deduction of fees and expenses, unlike the benchmark's return.

Canadian equity markets had a strong year as investors began to anticipate interest rate cuts in 2024. Over 2023, inflation continued to trend down, but remained stubborn and above central bank targets. Economic activity has slowed down, though consumers continue to remain resilient.

The S&P/TSX Composite Index delivered a total return of 11.7%. Information Technology was the best-performing sector, led by strong performance from Celestica and Shopify. Communication Services was the worst performer as interest rates continued to rise during the year.

Central banks in Canada and the US continued to raise rates throughout the year, but then held rates towards year-end as the economy showed signs of slowing. In the US, the Federal Reserve gave notice that they anticipate cutting interest rates by 75bps in 2024. In Canada, the Bank of Canada is monitoring the economy and will be ready to raise rates as necessary. Bond yields remained elevated, with the 10-year Canada bond rising 10bps to finish at 3.19%.

The Fund outperformed its benchmark due to positive stock selection. Overweight allocations in the Industrials and Materials sectors contribution to performance due to positive stock selection. Underweight in the Energy sector also contributed to performance, due to both positive stock selection and sector allocation. The Fund was slightly overweight Information Technology, which detracted from performance during the year due to negative stock selection, but was partially offset by positive sector allocation.

The top contributing securities to performance over the year were SNC-Lavalin, Celestica, and Canadian

Natural Resources. Celestica posted a beat-and-raise fourth quarter, followed by a successful investor day that outlined the company's positive growth expectations for the years ahead. On the other end of the spectrum, Aritzia Inc. was the largest detractor from performance for the year, followed by TC Energy, and Telus Corp. While Aritzia has been a fast grower in recent years, the company has stumbled as growth has slowed. Product line relevance and distribution upgrades are challenges that the company should be able to overcome, but execution risk is high, especially against the slowing consumer backdrop.

The Fund re-initiated its position in Cameco after the Manager deepened their conviction of the upcoming nuclear cycle. The company also enjoys an enhanced competitive position, assuming a successful partial acquisition of Westinghouse. The Fund also added Fairfax, Celestica, Loblaw Companies, and CIBC during the year. Loblaw has been delivering consistently favourable results since the 2021 management change. Despite this, the company's valuation has contracted over the past year to very attractive levels. While traditional defensive sectors like telcos, utilities and pipelines have struggled under the weight of high debt and rising interest rates, Loblaw still has an enviable market position and considerable financial flexibility.

The Fund sold its positions in Onex, BCE Inc. West Fraser Timber, Magna International, National Bank of Canada, CN Rail, Manulife Financial, TC Energy, Aritzia Inc., and Gildan Activewear. Gildan was exited due to the public clash between its former CEO and Board of Directors regarding CEO succession has revealed poor corporate governance practices. Given the Board's selection of a suboptimal candidate as the incoming CEO, and the potential for a proxy fight, the Manager invoked their sell discipline until clarity emerges regarding the company's leadership and strategy going forward.

The Manager integrates ESG considerations into its investment analysis and stewardship activities with the objective of enhancing long-term investment performance. Active engagement and proxy voting are a core part of the Manager's stewardship approach, and the Fund's investment team participates in these activities in a manner suitable to the asset class and Fund. Our investment teams focus on ESG and other factors which they believe could be financially material and/or impact the long-term sustainability of the company. The consideration of ESG issues is one of a number of elements in the portfolio construction process and, may or may not have a material influence on portfolio composition at any given time. For more information, the Manager posts its annual proxy voting reports, along with an annual Responsible Investing Report and its Responsible Investing Policies on its website: https://www.guardiancapital.com/investmentsolutions/

Recent Developments

Due to persistent economic momentum, the impact of central banks' aggressive tightening moves is being felt, but with a lag. While inflation has clearly peaked in Canada and the US, it is still unclear where the longer-term inflation expectations rate will settle. Bond yields and the US dollar backed off their highs during the quarter, as the US Federal Reserve indicated an easing bias looking into 2024. Still, it is not clear whether the US and Canadian economies will fall into recession in 2024. Caution is warranted as the policymakers' determination to bring down inflation could require intentionally guiding the economy into recession.

At the company level, falling inflation and slowing growth have introduced crosscurrents. Falling inflation is simultaneously a headwind for revenue growth and a welcome relief from escalating input costs. As such, companies are increasingly flagging slowing revenues, but resilient earnings are being supported by cost cuts. While the Manager believes the companies held in the Fund's portfolio exhibit strong market positions and pricing power, the short-term impacts from the crosscurrents mentioned above are uncertain, which has led to valuation compression in many areas of the market. Over time, the Manager expects higher-quality companies to overcome these headwinds, making current valuations attractive for long-term investors.

The Fund maintains a strong quality bias and remains diversified across cyclical and defensive companies.

Economic headwinds are expected to affect all portfolio holdings to various degrees; however, the Manager believes that as labour markets and supply chains continue to normalize, multiple companies in the Fund's portfolio should benefit, irrespective of the economic outlook.

Related Party Transactions

Guardian Capital LP, the Manager of the Fund, is considered to be a "related party" of the Fund. The Manager is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Fund and also acts as the portfolio manager, managing the investment portfolio of the Fund. These services are in the normal course of operations and the Fund pays a management fee to the Manager for these services, based on the average Net Asset Value of the Fund, as detailed in the Management Fees section below. The Manager is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Guardian Capital Group Limited, a publicly traded firm listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange.

The Manager also receives an Administration Fee from the Fund, amounting to 0.15% of the average daily net asset value of the Fund, in return for the payment by the Manager of all the variable operating expenses of the Fund. The Independent Review Committee ("IRC") has approved the Manager's Policy for this item and the Manager relies on this approval as a standing instruction from the IRC. The Manager received the Administration Fee and paid Fund expenses in accordance with this Policy during the period.

The Fund may invest some of its available short term cash in money market funds managed by Guardian Capital LP, deemed a related issuer. With respect to investments in related issuers, the Manager has relied on the approval that it has received from the IRC. The approval requires the Manager to comply with its current policy and procedures regarding investments in related issuers and to report periodically to the IRC. The Manager will not duplicate management fees paid to an underlying fund that is a related issuer.

Management Fees

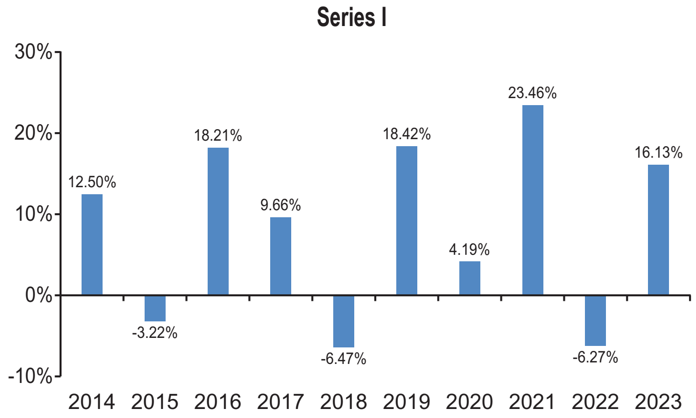
No management fees are payable or collected for Series I units of the Fund.

Past Performance

The bar charts show the Fund’s performance for the annual period from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023, and illustrates how the Fund’s performance has changed from year to year. The chart shows in percentage terms, how much an investment made on the first day of each financial year would have grown or decreased by the last day of that financial year.

Year-by-Year Returns

The bar charts show the Fund’s performance for the interim period from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023, and also illustrates how the Fund’s performance has changed from year to year. The chart shows in percentage terms, how much an investment made on the first day of each financial year would have grown or decreased by the last day of that financial year.



Annual Compound Returns

The tables below shows the historical compound returns of the Fund's Units for the periods indicated, as at December 31, 2023. The returns of a broad based market index are also shown.

	1 Yr	3 Yrs	5 Yrs	10 Yrs
Series I (%)	16.13	10.35	10.64	8.15
S&P/TSX Capped Composite Index (%)	11.75	9.59	11.30	7.62

* Inception date - December 1, 1985.

The S&P/TSX Capped Composite Index is a broad measure of the largest companies listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange, with the relative weighting of each stock capped at 10%.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The following tables show selected key financial information about the Fund and are intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the periods indicated. The information is derived from the Fund's audited annual financial statements.

The Fund's Net Assets per Unit (Series I)

	For the year ended December 31, 2023	For the year ended December 31, 2022	For the year ended December 31, 2021	For the year ended December 31, 2020	For the year ended December 31, 2019
Net Assets per Unit, Beginning of year[1]	$163.39	$191.08	$163.41	$160.55	$144.56
Increase (decrease) from operations per Unit:[1]					
Total revenue	5.06	5.05	4.54	4.15	4.35
Total expenses	(0.38)	(0.41)	(0.38)	(0.37)	(0.34)
Realized gains (losses)	12.53	31.47	19.49	(1.38)	10.25
Unrealized gains (losses)	8.24	(52.66)	15.39	4.09	12.51
Total increase (decrease) from operations per Unit	25.45	(16.55)	39.04	6.49	26.77
Distributions per Unit from:[1] [2]					
Canadian dividends	(5.11)	(4.73)	(4.37)	(3.87)	(4.15)
Capital gains	–	–	(6.29)	–	(6.48)
Return of capital	–	(10.47)	–	–	–
Total Distributions per Unit	(5.11)	(15.20)	(10.66)	(3.87)	(10.63)
Net Assets per Unit, End of year[1]	$184.48	$163.39	$191.08	$163.41	$160.55

[1] Net assets per Unit and distributions per Unit are based on the actual number of units outstanding at the relevant time. The increase (decrease) from operations per Unit is based on the weighted average number of units outstanding over the financial year.

[2] Substantially all distributions were reinvested in additional units of the Fund.

Ratios and Supplemental Data (Series I)

	For the year ended December 31, 2023	For the year ended December 31, 2022	For the year ended December 31, 2021	For the year ended December 31, 2020	For the year ended December 31, 2019
Total net asset value (000's)[1]	$236,388	$267,200	$463,893	$501,757	$497,946
Number of units outstanding[1]	1,281,366	1,635,393	2,427,789	3,070,540	3,101,502
Management expense ratio[2]	0.17%	0.17%	0.17%	0.17%	0.17%
Management expense ratio before waivers and absorptions	0.17%	0.17%	0.17%	0.17%	0.17%
Trading expense ratio[3]	0.05%	0.06%	0.04%	0.08%	0.04%
Portfolio turnover rate[4]	27.87%	34.50%	34.64%	62.74%	41.22%
Net asset value per Unit[1]	$184.48	$163.39	$191.08	$163.41	$160.55

[1] This information is provided as at the end of each year indicated.

[2] The management expense ratio is based on total expenses (excluding commissions, other portfolio transaction costs and withholding taxes) of the Fund and its proportionate share of the total expenses of the Underlying Funds, where applicable, for the stated year and is expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average net asset value during the year.

[3] The trading expense ratio represents total commissions and other portfolio transaction costs of the Fund and its proportionate share of the Underlying Funds' portfolio transaction costs, where applicable, expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average net asset value for the year.

[4] The Fund's portfolio turnover rate indicates how actively its portfolio advisor trades portfolio investments. A portfolio turnover rate of 100% is equivalent to the Fund buying and selling all of the securities in the portfolio once in the course of a year. The higher a fund's portfolio turnover rate in a year, the greater the trading costs payable by the fund in the year, and the greater the chance of an investor receiving taxable capital gains in the year. There is not necessarily a relationship between a high turnover rate and the performance of a fund.

SUMMARY OF INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO

As at December 31, 2023

Portfolio Allocation	% of Net Asset Value
Communication services	1.2%
Consumer discretionary	2.8%
Consumer staples	6.9%
Energy	14.0%
Financials	28.0%
Industrials	16.4%
Information technology	8.9%
Materials	13.0%
Real estate	1.0%
Utilities	4.9%
Short-term securities	2.0%
Other net assets (liabilities)	0.9%
Total	100.0%

Top 25 Holdings	% of Net Asset Value
Bank of Montreal	7.1%
Canadian Natural Resources Limited	6.0%
Royal Bank of Canada	6.1%
Suncor Energy Inc.	5.8%
Agnico Eagle Mines Limited	4.7%
Brookfield Corporation, Class 'A'	4.5%
Canadian Pacific Kansas City Limited	4.1%
CGI Inc., Class 'A'	3.8%
Loblaw Companies Limited	3.5%
Wheaton Precious Metals Corporation	3.4%
Open Text Corporation	3.0%
CCL Industries Inc., Class 'B'	3.0%
SNC-Lavalin Group Inc.	2.9%
Fortis Inc.	2.8%
Restaurant Brands International Inc.	2.8%
Finning International Inc.	2.6%
Fairfax Financial Holdings Limited	2.4%
Element Fleet Management Corporation	2.3%
Cameco Corporation	2.2%
Celestica Inc.	2.1%
Guardian Canadian Short-Term Investment Fund	2.0%
Intact Financial Corporation	2.0%
Maple Leaf Foods Inc.	2.0%
Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce	1.9%
Teck Resources Limited, Class 'B'	1.9%

Top 25 Holdings (as a percentage of NAV)	**84.9%**
Total Net Asset Value:	**$236,388,391**

The Summary of Investment Portfolio may change due to ongoing portfolio transactions of the Fund. A quarterly update is available. If the Fund has invested in other investment funds, the prospectus and other information about the underlying investment funds are available on the internet via www.sedarplus.ca.

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