

Horizons Tactical Absolute Return Bond ETF (HARB, HARB.J, HARB.U:TSX)







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#### A Message from the CEO

As we mark an end to 2022, it's a time to reflect on the year that was for us, our industry and our investors.

While global uncertainty and inflationary pressures resulted in market volatility, Canada's ETF industry continued to grow. As at year-end on December 31, 2022, Canada's ETF industry saw more than \$35 billion in year-to-date inflows.

At Horizons ETFs, our assets under management swelled from approximately \$20.7 billion at the beginning of 2022 to nearly \$23 billion as at December 31, 2022. We continue to solidify our position as one of Canada's top ETF providers, with more than \$4 billion in ETF inflows this year.

We are proud to continue our longstanding commitment to bringing innovative ETFs to market and serving investors' needs. This year alone we have launched five new ETFs.

In February, Horizons ETFs launched the Horizons Carbon Credits ETF ("**CARB**"). CARB is Canada's first ETF that provides exposure solely to carbon credits through the ownership of carbon credit futures: a nascent asset class, CARB, offers investors the potential to benefit from the growing global effort to regulate and reduce carbon emissions.

In another Canadian first, in May, we launched the Horizons Copper Producers Index ETF ("**COPP**"), providing exposure to companies involved in copper ore mining, one of the most in-demand metals today. Copper is a critical component of electrical infrastructure, electric vehicles, and equipment and has an important role in helping achieve a global low-carbon energy future.

In August, we launched the Horizons Canadian Utility Services High Dividend ETF ("**UTIL**"). With UTIL, investors can gain exposure to three major segments of the utility services sector: utilities, pipelines and communications. These segments have historically functioned as defensive industries, offering investors relative stability and consistent dividends, even during periods of volatility and bear markets.

Finally, in September, we expanded our BetaPro ETF suite with the launch of the BetaPro Equal Weight Canadian Bank 2x Daily Bull ETF ("**HBKU**") and the BetaPro Equal Weight Canadian Bank -2x Daily Bear ETF ("**HBKD**"), which offer leveraged and inverse leverage exposure to Canada's "Big Six" banks.

At Horizons ETFs, "Innovation is Our Capital" has long been our motto, and we believe this has allowed us to be nimble enough to adapt while anticipating investor needs. No matter what is next on your horizon, we are confident that our suite of innovative ETFs will be able to help you reach your financial goals.

As always, we thank you for your continued support and hope you're staying safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

Jasmit Bhandal

Interim President & CEO of Horizons ETFs Management (Canada) Inc.





#### MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE

This annual management report of fund performance for Horizons Tactical Absolute Return Bond ETF ("HARB" or the "ETF"), a corporate class of shares (a "Corporate Class") of Horizons ETF Corp. (the "Company"), contains financial highlights and is included with the audited annual financial statements ("financial statements" or "annual financial statements") for the investment fund. You may request a copy of the investment fund's unaudited interim or audited annual financial statements, interim or annual management report of fund performance, current proxy voting policies and procedures, proxy voting disclosure record or quarterly portfolio disclosures, at no cost, by calling (toll free) 1-866-641-5739, or (416) 933-5745, by writing to Horizons ETFs Management (Canada) Inc. ("Horizons Management" or the "Manager"), at 55 University Avenue, Suite 800, Toronto, Ontario, M5J 2H7, by visiting our website at www.horizonsetfs.com or through SEDAR at www.sedar.com.

This document may contain forward-looking statements relating to anticipated future events, results, circumstances, performance, or expectations that are not historical facts but instead represent our beliefs regarding future events. By their nature, forward-looking statements require us to make assumptions and are subject to inherent risks and uncertainties. There is significant risk that predictions and other forward-looking statements will not prove to be accurate. We caution readers of this document not to place undue reliance on our forward-looking statements as a number of factors could cause actual future results, conditions, actions or events to differ materially from the targets, expectations, estimates or intentions expressed or implied in the forward-looking statements.

Actual results may differ materially from management expectations as projected in such forward-looking statements for a variety of reasons, including but not limited to market and general economic conditions, interest rates, regulatory and statutory developments, the effects of competition in the geographic and business areas in which the ETF may invest and the risks detailed from time to time in the ETF's simplified prospectus. New risk factors emerge from time to time and it is not possible for management to predict all such risk factors. We caution that the foregoing list of factors is not exhaustive, and that when relying on forward-looking statements to make decisions with respect to investing in the ETF, investors and others should carefully consider these factors, as well as other uncertainties and potential events, and the inherent uncertainty of forward-looking statements. Due to the potential impact of these factors, the Manager does not undertake, and specifically disclaims, any intention or obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, unless required by applicable law.

## **Management Discussion of Fund Performance**

#### **Investment Objective and Strategy**

HARB seeks to provide positive absolute returns with low volatility over a market cycle regardless of market conditions or general market direction. The ETF will tactically take long and short positions in North American and global debt instruments and derivatives across the credit spectrum. In respect of the Dividend Series Shares, the ETF will also seek to provide consistent income.

The ETF consists of three series of exchange traded fund shares: (i) a total return series of exchange traded fund shares offered for sale in Canadian dollars (the "Total Return Series Shares"); (ii) a dividend series of exchange traded fund shares offered for sale in Canadian dollars (the "Dividend Series Shares"); and (iii) an unhedged total return series of exchange traded fund shares offered for sale in U.S. dollars (the "USD Unhedged Total Return Series Shares", and together with the Total Return Series Shares and Dividend Series Shares, the "ETF Shares"). Each ETF Share of a series represents an equal, undivided interest in the portion of the ETF's assets attributable to that series. In respect of the Dividend Series Shares, the ETF's investment objective will also seek to provide consistent income.

To achieve the ETF's investment objective, the ETF's sub-advisor, DMAT Capital Management Inc. ("DMAT" or the "Sub-Advisor") employs a variety of strategies based on the investment cycle at the time of investment. Some of the strategies



include, but are not limited to, the following: long/short high yield bond strategies to hedge default risk and hedge interest rate risk, long positions in investment grade bonds/short positions in government bonds to hedge interest rate risk, long positions in short duration high yield bonds and investment grade bonds/short positions in government bonds and Credit Default Swap Index swaps to produce positive yield without capital losses from rising interest rates, and positions in long duration government bonds to mitigate market risk.

The ETF trades primarily in North American and global debt instruments across the credit spectrum including, but not limited to, cash and cash equivalents, government debt, convertible bonds, government agency securities, inflation-linked bonds, investment grade corporate debt, high yield corporate debt, preferred shares, limited recourse capital notes, fixed income derivatives, private debt and other income-producing instruments.

The Sub-Advisor has full flexibility with regards to duration positioning and seeks to provide optimal exposure through changing market conditions. Investment grade corporate debt securities may be of issuers located in Canada, the United States, Europe or Japan. High yield corporate debt securities will vary by quality, liquidity and duration, and will be primarily of issuers located in Canada or the United States, with the intention of creating interest income and capital gains from narrowing credit spreads. The ETF could, at times, primarily be exposed to very short-term government debt, such as U.S. Treasury securities (cash equivalents) and, to a lesser extent, cash. The Sub-Advisor has full flexibility and discretion regarding portfolio exposure, credit risk and yield.

The ETF may be exposed to multiple foreign currencies. The Sub-Advisor will choose tactically whether to hedge the foreign currency exposure of the Total Return Series Shares and the Dividend Series Shares. The USD Unhedged Total Return Series Shares will not hedge any non-U.S. dollar exposure back to the U.S. dollar.

Please refer to the ETF's most recent prospectus for a complete description of HARB's investment restrictions.

#### Risk

The Manager performs a review of the ETF's risk rating at least annually, as well as when there is a material change in the ETF's investment objective or investment strategies. The current risk rating for the ETF is: medium.

Risk ratings are determined based on the historical volatility of the ETF as measured by the standard deviation of its performance against its mean. The risk categorization of the ETF may change over time and historical volatility is not indicative of future volatility. Generally, a risk rating is assigned to the ETF based on a rolling 10-year standard deviation of its returns, the return of its Underlying Index, or of an applicable proxy. In cases where the Manager believes that this methodology produces a result that is not indicative of the ETF's future volatility, the risk rating may be determined by the ETF's category. Risk ratings are not intended for use as a substitute for undertaking a proper and complete suitability or financial assessment by an investment advisor.

The Manager, as a summary for existing investors, is providing the list below of the risks to which an investment in the ETF may be subject. Prospective investors should read the ETF's most recent prospectus and consider the full description of the risks contained therein before purchasing shares.

The risks to which an investment in the ETF is subject are listed below and have not changed from the list of risks found in the ETF's most recent prospectus. A full description of each risk listed below may also be found in the most recent prospectus. The most recent prospectus is available at www.horizonsetfs.com or from www.sedar.com, or by calling Horizons ETFs Management (Canada) Inc. at (toll free) 1-866-641-5739, or at (416) 933-5745.



- Investment and trading risks in general
- General economic and market conditions
- Market risk
- Fixed income securities risk
- Specific issuer risk
- Legal and regulatory risk
- Exchange traded funds risk
- Reliance on historical data risk
- Corresponding net asset value risk
- Designated broker/dealer risk
- · Cease trading of securities risk
- Exchange risk
- Early closing risk
- No assurance of meeting investment objectives
- Tax-related risks
- Securities lending, repurchase and reverse repurchase transaction risk
- Reliance on key personnel
- Distributions risk
- Conflicts of interest
- Possible effect of performance fee
- Securities believed to be undervalued or incorrectly valued risk
- · Liquidity risk
- No ownership interest
- Absence of an active market for the ETF shares and lack of operating history risk
- Redemption price

- Fluctuations in NAV and market price of the ETF shares risk
- Restrictions on certain shareholders
- Highly volatile markets
- Market disruptions risk
- Cyber security risk
- No guaranteed return
- Derivatives risk and counterparty risk
- Futures trading risk
- Margin trading risk; short sales risk
- Hedging
- Interest rate risk
- Foreign currency risk
- Emerging markets risk
- Credit risk
- Income trust investments risks
- Foreign stock exchange risk
- High yield bond risk and risks of other lower rated investments
- Call risk
- Risk of difference between quoted and actionable market price
- Commodity price volatility risk
- Alternative mutual fund risk
- Leverage risk
- Fund corporation and multi-class/series structure risk
- Aggressive investment technique risk
- Short selling risk

#### **Results of Operations**

For the year ended December 31, 2022, the Total Return Series Shares, the Dividend Series Shares, and the U.S. Dollar Series Shares of the ETF, which trade on the TSX under the symbols HARB, HARB, and HARB, returned -5.12%, -5.20%, and -5.91%, respectively. This compares to a return of -11.73% for the Solactive Canadian Select Universe Bond Index (the "Index") for the same period.

The Index is designed to measure the performance of the Canadian investment-grade bond market (government and corporate) by selecting a representative group of bonds from the available universe.

#### **General Market Review**

Fixed income markets in 2022 were impacted by significant volatility. Throughout the year, data exhibited either record or near record swings across a variety of metrics. The 10-year Treasury yield traded in a nearly 300 basis point range, increasing from approximately 1.50% to 4.40% including a nearly 100 basis point rally late in the year. The MOVE Index, a gauge of U.S. Treasury volatility, began the year at 75 range, spiked to over 160 in the third quarter and ended the year around 125. This is considerably elevated versus its long-term average of around 50.



The underlying cause of this volatility can be traced to the unprecedented moves higher in inflation coming out of the Covid-19 pandemic and the U.S. Federal Reserve's actions. The U.S. Federal Reserve originally assumed that inflation was transitory but after this proved to be incorrect, hiked interest rates rapidly. Supply chain problems caused inflation of goods to spike and a large decline in the labour force accelerated wage growth. On top of this, the Russian invasion of Ukraine war drove oil above US\$120 a barrel and gasoline prices to record highs.

By the fourth quarter, inflation was on a sustained path downward in the goods sector but services prices were sticky. Real wage growth remained elevated but negative and unemployment rate failed to exceed 4%, despite the U.S. Federal Reserve raising rates by 450 basis points.

Not surprisingly, the U.S. Dollar surged higher as the U.S. Federal Reserve hiked rates rapidly. This exacerbated inflation in Europe and Asia, despite much weaker growth than in the U.S.

Once inflation began to show signs of peaking, the yield curve moved to an aggressive inverted posture, with the 2-10-year curve inverting by nearly 90 basis points at one point. This implies that rapid rate cuts could occur shortly after the rate hikes stop, a view in conflict with the U.S. Federal Reserve rhetoric and the likely path of inflation. This positioning suggests that the rate volatility of 2022 is likely to continue in 2023, which will impact both equity and credit markets.

#### Portfolio Review

In 2022, the ETF generally avoided both Investment Grade and High Yield credit in favour of holding government bonds. The ETF held a small allocation of higher quality, shorter duration High Yield bonds and during rallies, hedged this position with a short position in High Yield index derivatives.

Duration was actively managed throughout 2022 with a range of roughly negative 2-years to plus 18-years. For the most part, duration was kept well below benchmark levels at 2-3 years, as yields moved higher with the U.S. Federal Reserve.

The ETF also had long exposure to oil during 2022, especially early in the Russian invasion of Ukraine. As oil rose, so did inflation, so being long on oil acted as a hedge against rising bond yields.

While the Sub-Advisor actively managed duration, the allocation to credit products remained very small and did not change materially throughout the year. This will change at some point as the economic cycle evolves but as of now it is unlikely to be early in 2023. The primary approach in 2022 was to keep duration short, avoid credit exposure and take advantage of shorter-term trading opportunities in the Treasury market when bonds became oversold.

#### Outlook

In the Sub-Advisor's view, many decades there has rarely been a set of economic circumstances similar to those entering 2023. The uncertainty of how inflation, the economy, labour market, oil, and U.S. Federal Reserve policy will play out is higher than anytime in the last 50 years. The yield curve is implying a U.S. Federal Reserve policy that is opposite to their public statements and inconsistent with the unemployment rate and wage data. Equity and credit markets are priced benignly and the street consensus is for a soft landing.

If the shape of the yield curve is proven to be correct, the Sub-Advisor expects that there will be a material economic slowdown, more negative quarters of gross domestic product resulting in a recession, much weaker earnings than equities and credit markets are currently implying, and much higher financial market volatility. If equity and credit



markets are correct, then inflation likely doesn't decline quickly, oil moves higher, wages and employment don't decline, and bond yields move higher, not lower. This also implies that the next move by the U.S. Federal Reserve after pausing is for more hikes, not cuts. This scenario is not priced into markets and would lead to material wealth destruction.

In the Sub-Advisor's view, the current market position and consensus view has a very low probability of coming to fruition. Recognizing that uncertainty is unusually high the Sub-Advisor favours the deeper-than-implied recession scenario currently suggested by the yield curve. This scenario does not favour a bounce back in equities and tighter credit spreads.

However, there is also reasonable probability that the economy holds in for longer than expected, inflation doesn't fall quickly, and employment markets stay stubbornly strong. Combined with a weaker U.S. Dollar as the U.S. Federal Reserve pauses, which could push oil higher. This will reprice the bond market, create continual market volatility, and ultimately lead to a deeper recession. This is not the Sub-Advisor's base case but is highly plausible.

The Sub-Advisor expects to continue to avoid credit spread exposure for at least the first half of 2023 and expects to see much lower bond yields before a period of new economic expansion. The timing of this is highly uncertain, as usual and active management of duration and credit exposure will continue to be essential.

#### Other Operating Items and Changes in Net Assets Attributable to Holders of ETF Shares

For the year ended December 31, 2022, the ETF generated gross comprehensive income (loss) from investments and derivatives (which includes changes in the fair value of the ETF's portfolio) of (\$2,041,573). This compares to \$2,155,083 for the year ended December 31, 2021. The ETF incurred management, operating and transaction expenses of \$744,924 (2021 – \$609,810) of which \$70,921 (2021 – \$124,447) was either paid or absorbed by the Manager on behalf of the ETF. The waiving and/or absorption of such fees and/or expenses by the Manager may be terminated at any time, or continued indefinitely, at the discretion of the Manager. The ETF distributed \$83,206 to shareholders during the year (2021 - \$79,480).

#### **Recent Developments**

There have been no recent market developments of particular note, aside from the normal fluctuations of the markets, that are expected to have an undue influence on the portfolio of the ETF when compared to its benchmark.

#### **Presentation**

The attached financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS") as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board. Any mention of total net assets, net assets, net asset value or increase (decrease) in net assets in the financial statements and/or management report of fund performance is referring to net assets or increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable shares as reported under IFRS.

#### **Related Party Transactions**

There were no related party portfolio transactions during the current reporting period. Certain services have been provided to the ETF by related parties, and those relationships are described below.



#### Manager and Investment Manager

The manager and investment manager of the Company and of the ETF is Horizons ETFs Management (Canada) Inc., 55 University Avenue, Suite 800, Toronto, Ontario, M5J 2H7, a corporation incorporated under the laws of Ontario.

Any management fees paid to the Manager (described in detail on page 17) are related party transactions, as the Manager is considered to be a related party to the ETF. The management fees are disclosed in the statements of comprehensive income in the attached financial statements of the ETF. The management fees payable by the ETF as at December 31, 2022 and 2021, are disclosed in the statements of financial position.



## **Financial Highlights**

The following tables show selected key financial information about the ETF and are intended to help you understand the ETF's financial performance since it effectively began operations on December 7, 2020. This information is derived from the ETF's audited annual financial statements and the current audited annual financial statements. Please see the front page for information on how you may obtain the ETF's annual or interim financial statements.

### The ETF's Net Assets per Share

V (1)		2224	
Year (1)	2022	2021	2020
Net assets, beginning of year	\$ 10.20	10.03	10.00
Increase (decrease) from operations:			
Total revenue	0.18	0.23	0.01
Total expenses	(0.09)	(0.10)	(0.01)
Realized gains (losses) for the year	(0.51)	0.12	0.07
Unrealized losses for the year	(0.11)	_	(0.04)
Total increase (decrease) from operations (2)	(0.53)	0.25	0.03
Total annual distributions (3)	_	_	_
Net assets, end of year (4)	\$ 9.69	10.20	10.03
Dividend Series Shares			
Year (1)	2022	2021	2020
Net assets, beginning of year	\$ 9.69	10.03	10.00
Increase (decrease) from operations:			
Total revenue	0.17	0.22	0.01
Total expenses	(80.0)	(0.09)	(0.01)
Realized gains (losses) for the year	(0.50)	(0.01)	0.07
Unrealized losses for the year	(80.0)	(0.03)	(0.04)
Total increase (decrease) from operations (2)	(0.49)	0.09	0.03
Distributions:			
From return of capital	(0.48)	(0.50)	_
Total annual distributions (3)	(0.49)	(0.50)	
	(0.48)	(0.50)	
Net assets, end of year (4)	\$ 8.73	9.69	10.03



#### **USD Unhedged Total Return Series Shares**

Year <sup>(1)</sup>	2022	2021
Net assets, beginning of year	\$ 10.49	10.00
Increase from operations:		
Total revenue	0.19	0.16
Total expenses	(0.09)	(0.09)
Realized gains for the year	0.15	0.50
Unrealized losses for the year	(0.10)	-
Total increase from operations (2)	0.15	0.57
Total annual distributions (3)	-	_
Net assets, end of year (Cdn\$ shares) (4)	\$ 10.57	10.49
Net assets, end of year (US\$ shares) (4)	\$ 7.81	8.29

<sup>1.</sup> This information is derived from the ETF's audited annual financial statements.

<sup>2.</sup> Net assets per share and distributions are based on the actual number of shares outstanding at the relevant time. The increase (decrease) from operations is based on the weighted average number of shares outstanding over the financial period.

<sup>3.</sup> Distributions, if any, were paid in cash, reinvested in additional shares of the ETF, or both.

<sup>4.</sup> The Financial Highlights are not intended to act as a continuity of the opening and closing net assets per share.



## **Ratios and Supplemental Data**

#### **Total Return Series Shares**

Year (1)		2022	2021	2020
Total net asset value (000's)	\$	59,324	47,917	23,068
Number of shares outstanding (000's)		6,125	4,700	2,300
Management expense ratio (2)(4)		0.91%	0.93%	0.90%
Management expense ratio excluding proportion of expenses from underlying investment funds	S	0.91%	0.92%	0.90%
Management expense ratio excluding performance fees (2)		0.91%	0.93%	0.90%
Management expense ratio excluding performance fees and				
security borrowing costs		0.91%	0.93%	0.90%
Management expense ratio excluding performance fees,				
security borrowing costs and proportion of expenses from				
underlying investment funds		0.91%	0.92%	0.90%
Management expense ratio before waivers and absorptions (2)	)	1.00%	1.19%	1.53%
Trading expense ratio (3)(4)		0.02%	0.06%	0.00%
Trading expense ratio excluding proportion of costs from underlying investment funds		0.02%	0.06%	0.00%
Portfolio turnover rate (5)		1144.87%	1093.11%	51.84%
Net asset value per share, end of year	\$	9.69	10.20	10.03
Closing market price	\$	9.66	10.21	10.04

#### **Dividend Series Shares**

Dividend Series Shares				
Year <sup>(1)</sup>		2021	2021	2020
Total net asset value (000's)	\$	1,747	1,454	2,006
Number of shares outstanding (000's)		200	150	200
Management expense ratio (2)(4)		0.91%	0.92%	0.90%
Management expense ratio excluding proportion of expenses from underlying investment funds	S	0.91%	0.91%	0.90%
Management expense ratio excluding performance fees (2)		0.91%	0.92%	0.90%
Management expense ratio excluding performance fees and security borrowing costs		0.91%	0.92%	0.90%
Management expense ratio excluding performance fees, security borrowing costs and proportion of expenses from underlying investment funds		0.91%	0.91%	0.90%
Management expense ratio before waivers and absorptions (2)	2)	1.05%	1.20%	1.53%
Trading expense ratio (3)(4)		0.02%	0.06%	0.00%
Trading expense ratio excluding proportion of costs from underlying investment funds		0.02%	0.06%	0.00%
Portfolio turnover rate (5)		1144.87%	1093.11%	51.84%
Net asset value per share, end of year	\$	8.73	9.69	10.03
Closing market price	\$	8.75	9.69	10.04



#### **USD Unhedged Total Return Series Shares**

Year (1)		2021	2021
Total net asset value (000's)	\$	18,347	14,943
Number of shares outstanding (000's)		1,735	1,425
Management expense ratio (2)(4)		0.91%	1.22%
Management expense ratio excluding proportion of expense	S		
from underlying investment funds		0.91%	1.21%
Management expense ratio excluding performance fees (2)		0.91%	0.92%
Management expense ratio excluding performance fees and			
security borrowing costs		0.91%	0.92%
Management expense ratio excluding performance fees, security borrowing costs and proportion of expenses from			
underlying investment funds		0.91%	0.90%
Management expense ratio before waivers and absorptions (2	2)	1.05%	1.51%
Trading expense ratio (3)(4)		0.02%	0.04%
Trading expense ratio excluding proportion of costs from			
underlying investment funds		0.02%	0.04%
Portfolio turnover rate (5)		1144.87%	1093.11%
Net asset value per share, end of year (Cdn\$ shares)	\$	10.57	10.49
Net asset value per share, end of year (US\$ shares)		7.81	8.29
Closing market price (US\$ shares)		7.77	8.28

- 1. This information is provided as at December 31 of the year/period shown.
- 2. Management expense ratio is based on total expenses, including sales tax, (excluding commissions and other portfolio transaction costs) for the stated period and is expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average net asset value during the year/period. Out of its management fees, and waivers and absorptions, as applicable, the Manager pays for such services to the ETF as investment manager compensation and marketing. The Manager, at it's discretion, may waive and/or absorb a portion of the fees and/or expenses otherwise payable by the ETF. The waiving and/or absorption of such fees and/or expenses by the Manager may be terminated at any time, or continued indefinitely, at the discretion of the Manager.
- 3. The trading expense ratio represents total commissions and other portfolio transaction costs expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average net asset value during the year/period.

  Transaction costs related to the purchase and/or sale of fixed income securities are typically imbedded in the price of those transactions and are therefore not included in the trading expense ratio.
- 4. The ETF's management expense ratio (MER) and trading expense ratio (TER) include and estimated proportion of the MER and TER for any underlying investment funds held in the ETF's portfolio during the year/period.
- 5. The ETF's portfolio turnover rate indicates how actively the ETF trades its portfolio investments. A portfolio turnover rate of 100% is equivalent to the ETF buying and selling all of the securities in its portfolio once in the course of a year. The higher an ETF's portfolio turnover rate in a year, 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 an ETF.



#### **Management Fees**

The Manager provides, or oversees the provision of, administrative services required by the ETF including, but not limited to: negotiating contracts with certain third-party service providers, such as portfolio managers, custodians, registrars, transfer agents, auditors and printers; authorizing the payment of operating expenses incurred on behalf of the ETF; arranging for the maintenance of accounting records for the ETF; preparing reports to shareholders and to the applicable securities regulatory authorities; calculating the amount and determining the frequency of distributions by the ETF; preparing financial statements, income tax returns and financial and accounting information as required by the ETF; ensuring that shareholders are provided with financial statements and other reports as are required from time to time by applicable law; ensuring that the ETF complies with all other regulatory requirements, including the continuous disclosure obliga¬tions of the ETF under applicable securities laws; administering purchases, redemptions and other transactions in shares of the ETF; and dealing and communicating with shareholders of the ETF. The Manager provides office facilities and personnel to carry out these services, if not otherwise furnished by any other service provider to the ETF. The Manager also monitors the investment strategies of the ETF to ensure that the ETF complies with its investment objectives, investment strategies and investment restrictions and practices.

In consideration for the provision of these services, the Manager receives a monthly management fee at the annual rate of 0.75%, plus applicable sales taxes, of the net asset value of the ETF's shares, calculated and accrued daily and payable monthly in arrears.

The Sub-Advisor is compensated for its services out of the management fees without any further cost to the ETF. Any expenses of the ETF which are waived or absorbed by the Manager are paid out of the management fees received by the Manager.

The table below details, in percentage terms, the services received by the ETF from the Manager in consideration of the management fees paid during the year.

Marketing	Portfolio management fees, general administrative costs and profit	Waived/absorbed expenses of the ETF
6%	83%	11%

#### **Performance Fees**

The ETF shall pay to the Manager a performance fee (the "Performance Fee"), if any, equal to 10% of the amount by which the performance of the ETF, at any date on which the Performance Fee is payable, (i) exceeds the greater of: (a) the initial net asset value per ETF Share; and (b) the highest net asset value per ETF Share previously utilized for the purposes of calculating a Performance Fee that was paid (the "High Water Mark") and (ii) is greater than an annualized hurdle rate (the "Hurdle Rate") that will begin at 3%, and will increase or decrease with each increase or decrease in the Bank of Canada overnight rate, provided that the Hurdle Rate will always be no less than 3% and no greater than 5%.

The Performance Fee shall be calculated and accrued daily and shall be payable at least quarterly in arrears on dates determined by the Manager, together with applicable taxes. The ETF accrued \$nil in performance fees for the year ended December 31, 2022 (2021 – \$30,007), and is disclosed in the statement of comprehensive income. Performance fees payable to the Manager as at December 31, 2022 were \$nil (2021 - \$15,729) and are included in accrued operating expenses on the statements of financial position, where applicable.

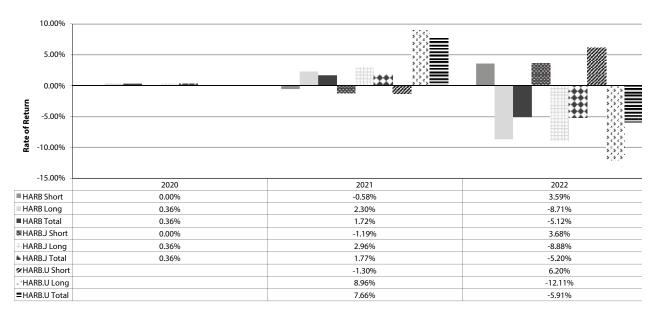


#### **Past Performance**

Commissions, management fee, expenses and applicable sales taxes all may be associated with an investment in the ETF. Please read the prospectus before investing. The indicated rates of return are the historical total returns including changes in share value and reinvestment of all distributions, and do not take into account sales, redemptions, distributions or optional charges or income taxes payable by any investor that would have reduced returns. An investment in the ETF is not guaranteed. Its value changes frequently and past performance may not be repeated. The ETF's performance numbers assume that all distributions, if any, are reinvested in additional shares of the ETF. If you hold this ETF outside of a registered plan, income and capital gains distributions that are paid to you increase your income for tax purposes whether paid to you in cash or reinvested in additional shares. The amount of the reinvested taxable distributions is added to the adjusted cost base of the shares that you own. This would decrease your capital gain or increase your capital loss when you later redeem from the ETF, thereby ensuring that you are not taxed on this amount again. Please consult your tax advisor regarding your personal tax situation.

#### **Year-by-Year Returns**

The following chart presents the ETF's performance for the periods shown, and illustrates how the performance has changed from period to period. In percentage terms, the chart shows how much an investment made on the first day of the financial period would have grown or decreased by the last day of the financial period.



The ETF effectively began operations on December 7, 2020.



## Past Performance (continued)

#### **Annual Compound Returns**

The following table presents the ETF's total return for the period from inception and for the periods shown ended December 31, 2022, along with a comparable market index. The table is used only to illustrate the effects of the compound growth rate and is not intended to reflect future values of the ETF or future returns on investments in the ETF.

	1 Year	Since Inception
Horizons Tactical Absolute Return Bond ETF - Total Return Series	-5.12%	-1.54%
Long	-8.71%	-4.19%
Short	3.59%	2.65%
Horizons Tactical Absolute Return Bond ETF - Dividend Series	-5.20%	-1.55%
Long	-8.88%	-3.90%
Short	3.68%	2.35%
Horizons Tactical Absolute Return Bond ETF - USD Unhedged Total Return Series	-5.91%	0.76%
Long	-12.11%	17.71%
Short	6.20%	-16.95%
Solactive Canadian Select Universe Bond Index		
Total Return and Dividend Series	-11.73%	-6.46%
USD Unhedged Total Return Series	-11.73%	-9.65%

The ETF effectively began operations on December 7, 2020.



# **Summary of Investment Portfolio** As at December 31, 2022

Asset Mix	N	et Asset Value	% of ETF's Net Asset Value
U.S. Fixed Income Securities	\$	44,704,154	56.29%
Canadian Fixed Income Securities		769,392	0.97%
Credit Default Swaps*		423,233	0.53%
Currency Forward Hedge*		415,770	0.52%
Cash and Cash Equivalents		28,731,703	36.18%
Margin Deposits		4,042,385	5.09%
Other Assets less Liabilities		243,644	0.31%
Short Positions			
Futures Contracts-Interest Rate Hedge*		86,740	0.11%
	\$	79,417,021	100.00%

Sector Mix	N	et Asset Value	% of ETF's Net Asset Value
Government Bonds	\$	41,018,134	51.65%
Corporate Bonds		4,455,412	5.61%
Credit Default Swaps*		423,233	0.53%
Currency Forward Hedge*		415,770	0.52%
Cash and Cash Equivalents		28,731,703	36.18%
Margin Deposits		4,042,385	5.09%
Other Assets less Liabilities		243,644	0.31%
Short Positions			
Futures Contracts-Interest Rate Hedge*		86,740	0.11%
	\$	79,417,021	100.00%

<sup>\*</sup> Positions in credit default swaps, forwards and futures contracts are disclosed as the gain/(loss) that would be realized if the contracts were closed out on the date of this report.



## **Summary of Investment Portfolio** (continued)

As at December 31, 2022

	% of ETF's
Top Holdings*	Net Asset Value
Long Positions	
United States Treasury Bond	51.65%
Cash and Cash Equivalents	36.18%
Tenet Healthcare Corp.	1.91%
Delta Air Lines Inc.	1.42%
Bausch Health Cos. Inc.	0.71%
Kontoor Brands Inc.	0.70%
MicroStrategy Inc.	0.61%
1375209 BC Ltd.	0.26%
Short Positions	
U.S. 5-Year Treasury Note Futures	0.11%

The summary of investment portfolio may change due to the ongoing portfolio transactions of the ETF. The most recent interim and annual reports are available at no cost by calling toll free 1-866-641-5739, or (416) 933-5745, by writing to us at Horizons ETFs Management (Canada) Inc., 55 University Avenue, Suite 800, Toronto, Ontario, M5J 2H7, or by visiting our website at www.horizonsetfs.com or through SEDAR at www.sedar.com.

<sup>\*</sup> Note all of the Top Holdings, excluding Cash and Cash Equivalents and futures positions, represent the aggregate debt instruments of that issuer in the ETF's portfolio.



#### MANAGER'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL REPORTING

The accompanying audited annual financial statements ("financial statements") of Horizons Tactical Absolute Return Bond ETF (the "ETF") are the responsibility of the manager to the ETF, Horizons ETFs Management (Canada) Inc. (the "Manager"). They have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board using information available and include certain amounts that are based on the Manager's best estimates and judgements.

The Manager has developed and maintains a system of internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that all assets are safeguarded and to produce relevant, reliable and timely financial information, including the accompanying financial statements.

These financial statements have been approved by the Board of Directors of the Manager and by the Board of Directors of Horizons ETF Corp., and have been audited by KPMG LLP, Chartered Professional Accountants, Licensed Public Accountants, on behalf of shareholders. The independent auditor's report outlines the scope of their audit and their opinion on the financial statements.

Jasmit Bhandal Director

Horizons ETFs Management (Canada) Inc.

Thomas Park Director

Horizons ETFs Management (Canada) Inc.



#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

#### To the Shareholders of Horizons Tactical Absolute Return Bond ETF (the "ETF")

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of the ETF, which comprise the statements of financial position as at December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021, the statements of comprehensive income, changes in financial position and cash flows for the years then ended, December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies (hereinafter referred to as the "financial statements").

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the ETF as at December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the years then ended, December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021, in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.

#### **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the "Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements" section of our auditor's report.

We are independent of the ETF in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information. Other information comprises:

• the information included in the Management Report of Fund Performance filed with the relevant Canadian Securities Commissions.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not and will not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information identified above and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit and remain alert for indications that the other information appears to be materially misstated.

We obtained the information included in the Management Report of Fund Performance filed with the relevant Canadian Securities Commissions as at the date of this auditor's report. If, based on the work we have performed on this other information, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact in the auditor's report.

We have nothing to report in this regard.



#### Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the ETF's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the ETF or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the ETF's financial reporting process.

#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

#### We also:

• Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the ETF's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ETF's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the ETF to cease to continue as a going concern.



- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.
- Provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

Chartered Professional Accountants, Licensed Public Accountants

The engagement partner on the audit resulting in this auditor's report is Ziad Said.

Toronto, Canada

KPMG LLP

March 10, 2023



## **Statements of Financial Position**

As at December 31,

		2022		2021
Assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	28,731,703	\$	4,742,748
Investments		45,473,546		57,680,148
Margin deposits (note 11)		4,042,385		1,275,275
Amounts receivable relating to accrued income		317,939		235,694
Derivative assets (note 3)		927,175		461,710
Total assets		79,492,748		64,395,575
Liabilities				
Accrued management fees		56,325		40,932
Accrued operating expenses		6,307		26,685
Amounts payable relating to securities redeemed		4,313		_
Distribution payable		7,350		6,188
Derivative liabilities (note 3)		1,432		8,052
Total liabilities		75,727		81,857
Total net assets	\$	79,417,021	\$	64,313,718
Total net assets, Total Return Series Shares		59,323,723		47,916,885
Number of redeemable shares outstanding, Total Return Series Shares (note 8)		6,125,000		4,700,000
Total net assets per share, Total Return Series Shares	\$	9.69	\$	10.20
Total net assets, Dividend Series Shares		1,746,618		1,453,784
Number of redeemable shares outstanding, Dividend Series Shares (note 8)		200,000		150,000
Total net assets per share, Dividend Series Shares	\$	8.73	\$	9.69
Total net assets, USD Unhedged Total Return Series Shares		18,346,680		14,943,049
Number of redeemable shares outstanding, USD Unhedged Total Return Series Shares (note 8)		1,735,000		1,425,000
Total net assets per share, USD Unhedged Total Return Series Shares (Cdn\$ shares)	\$	10.57	Ś	10.49
Total net assets per share, USD Unhedged Total Return Series Shares (US\$	7	10.57	7	10.47

(See accompanying notes to financial statements)

Approved on behalf of the Board of Directors of Horizons ETF Corp.:

Jasmit Bhandal Director Kevin S. Beatson Director



## **Statements of Comprehensive Income** For the Years Ended December 31,

	2022	2021
Income		
Interest income for distribution purposes	\$ 1,333,494 \$	1,041,913
Net realized gain (loss) on sale of investments and derivatives	(5,718,568)	1,489,238
Net realized gain (loss) on foreign exchange	3,129,001	(356,148)
Net change in unrealized depreciation of investments and derivatives	(902,068)	(29,443)
Net change in unrealized appreciation of foreign exchange	116,568	9,523
	(2,041,573)	2,155,083
Expenses (note 9)		
Management fees	616,915	387,009
Performance fees	_	30,007
Audit fees	13,489	11,535
Independent Review Committee fees	447	912
Custodial and fund valuation fees	28,109	28,325
Legal fees	26,985	73,302
Securityholder reporting costs	15,239	11,077
Administration fees	36,608	31,205
Borrowing fees for securities sold short	_	23
Transaction costs	7,132	32,454
Other expenses	_	3,961
	744,924	609,810
Amounts that were payable by the investment fund		
that were paid or absorbed by the Manager	(70,921)	(124,447)
	674,003	485,363
Increase (decrease) in net assets for the year	\$ (2,715,576) \$	1,669,720
Increase (decrease) in net assets, Total Return Series Shares	\$ (2,879,723) \$	858,679
Increase (decrease) in net assets per share, Total Return Series Shares	 (0.53)	0.25
Increase (decrease) in net assets, Dividend Series Shares	\$ (86,630) \$	14,906
Increase (decrease) in net assets per share, Dividend Series Shares	(0.49)	0.09
Increase (decrease) in net assets, USD Unhedged Total Return Series Shares Increase (decrease) in net assets per share, USD Unhedged Total Return Series	\$ 250,777 \$	796,135
HICIEASE (MECIEASE) III HEL ASSELS DEL SHATE, OSIA OTTUEGNEGI TOTAL DELL'ILLI SELLES		



## **Statements of Changes in Financial Position** For the Years Ended December 31,

		2022		2021
Total net assets at the beginning of the year	\$	64,313,718	\$	25,074,185
Increase (decrease) in net assets		(2,715,576)		1,669,720
Redeemable share transactions				
Proceeds from the issuance of securities of the investment fund		38,433,712		68,158,402
Aggregate amounts paid on redemption of securities of the investment fund		(20,531,627)		(30,509,109)
Distributions:				
Return of capital		(83,206)		(79,480)
Total net assets at the end of the year	\$	79,417,021	\$	64,313,718
Total net assets at the beginning of the year, Total Return Series Shares	\$	47,916,885	\$	23,068,251
Increase (decrease) in net assets, Total Return Series Shares		(2,879,723)		858,679
Redeemable share transactions				
Proceeds from the issuance of securities of the investment fund		30,639,361		50,856,789
Aggregate amounts paid on redemption of securities of the investment fund		(16,352,800)		(26,866,834)
Total net assets at the end of the year, Total Return Series Shares	\$	59,323,723	Ś	47,916,885
Total net assets at the beginning of the year, Dividend Series Shares Increase (decrease) in net assets, Dividend Series Shares	\$	1,453,784 (86,630)	\$	2,005,934 14,906
Redeemable share transactions				
Proceeds from the issuance of securities of the investment fund		688,668		2,670,821
Aggregate amounts paid on redemption of securities of the investment fund		(225,998)		(3,158,397)
Securities issued on reinvestment of distributions		-		-
Distributions:				
Return of capital		(83,206)		(79,480)
Total net assets at the end of the year, Dividend Series Shares	\$	1,746,618	\$	1,453,784
Total net assets at the beginning of the year, USD Unhedged Total Return Series Shares	\$	14,943,049	\$	_
Increase in net assets, USD Unhedged Total Return Series Shares		250,777		796,135
Redeemable share transactions				
Proceeds from the issuance of securities of the investment fund		7,105,683		14,630,792
Aggregate amounts paid on redemption of securities of the investment fund		(3,952,829)		(483,878)
Total net assets at the end of the year, USD Unhedged Total Return Series Shares	\$	18,346,680	\$	14,943,049
	•	-,,	•	,,



## **Statements of Cash Flows**

For the Years Ended December 31,

	2022	2021
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Increase (decrease) in net assets for the year	\$ (2,715,576) \$	1,669,720
Adjustments for:		
Net realized loss (gain) on sale of investments and derivatives	5,718,568	(1,489,238)
Net realized loss on currency forward contracts	(3,629,626)	(733,368)
Net change in unrealized depreciation of investments and derivatives	902,068	29,443
Net change in unrealized appreciation of foreign exchange	(116,909)	(9,274)
Purchase of investments	(520,875,508)	(465,872,926)
Proceeds from the sale of investments	529,619,015	431,713,171
Margin deposits	(2,767,110)	(1,275,275)
Amounts receivable relating to accrued income	(82,245)	(156,974)
Accrued expenses	(4,985)	52,781
Net cash from (used in) operating activities	6,047,692	(36,071,940)
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Amount received from the issuance of shares	38,433,712	68,660,177
Amount paid on redemptions of shares	(20,527,314)	(31,010,884)
Distributions paid to shareholders	(82,044)	(73,292)
Net cash from (used in) financing activities	17,824,354	37,576,001
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents during the year	23,872,046	1,504,061
Effect of exchange rate fluctuations on cash and cash equivalents	116,909	9,274
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	4,742,748	3,229,413
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	\$ 28,731,703 \$	4,742,748
Interest received, net of withholding taxes	\$ 1,251,249 \$	884,939



## **Schedule of Investments**

As at December 31, 2022

So constant	Par Value/ Shares/ Notional/	Average	Fair
Security	Contracts	Cost	Value
U.S. FIXED INCOME SECURITIES (56.29%)			
Government Bonds (51.65%) United States Treasury Bond, 1.50%, 2024/02/29	5,000,000	\$ 6,326,647	\$ 6,529,215
United States Treasury Bond, 4.00%, 2052/11/15	10,000,000	14,251,519	13,683,863
United States Treasury Bond, 4.13%, 2032/11/15	15,000,000	20,769,357	20,805,056
Officed States freasury Bolid, 4.15%, 2032/11/13	13,000,000	41,347,523	41,018,134
Corporate Bonds (4.64%)		41,347,323	41,010,134
Delta Air Lines Inc., Callable, 3.75%, 2029/10/28	1,000,000	1,257,711	1,127,874
Kontoor Brands Inc., Callable, 4.13%, 2029/11/15	500,000	624,750	554,196
MicroStrategy Inc., Callable, 4.13%, 2028/06/15	500,000	645,667	485,050
Tenet Healthcare Corp., Callable, 6.13%, 2028/10/01	1,250,000	1,668,348	1,518,900
Terret Treattricare Corp., Canable, 0.1370, 2020, 10701	1,230,000	4,196,476	3,686,020
		4,150,470	3,000,020
TOTAL U.S. FIXED INCOME SECURITIES		45,543,999	44,704,154
CANADIAN FIXED INCOME SECURITIES (0.97%) Corporate Bonds (0.97%)			
1375209 BC Ltd., Callable, 9.00%, 2028/01/30	153,000	447,568	202,760
Bausch Health Cos. Inc., Callable, 6.13%, 2027/02/01	250,000	318,662	233,812
Bausch Health Cos. Inc., 11.00%, 2028/09/30	272,000	646,113	289,049
Bausch Health Cos. Inc., Callable, 14.00%, 2030/10/15	54,000	87,098	43,771
		1,499,441	769,392
TOTAL CANADIAN FIXED INCOME SECURITIES		1,499,441	769,392
DERIVATIVES (1.16%) Treasury Bond Futures (0.11%) Short Positions (0.11%)			
U.S. 5-Year Treasury Note Futures March 2023 at US\$107.93. Notional Value (US\$21,650,000)	(200)	-	86,740
Credit Default Swaps (0.53%)  Receive on Default Event of Markit CDX.NA.HY38-5Y 06/20/2027, Pay 5.00%, Quarterly	1,980,000	407,928	423,233
Currency Forwards (0.52%)			
Currency forward contract to buy C\$51,858,600 for US\$38,000,000 maturing February 9, 2023		-	417,202



## Schedule of Investments (continued)

As at December 31, 2022

Security	Par Value/ Shares/ Notional/ Contracts	Average Cost	Fair Value
Currency forward contract to buy US\$400,000 for C\$542,920 maturing February 9, 2023			(1,432)
			415,770
TOTAL DERIVATIVES		407,928	925,743
Transaction Costs		(656)	
TOTAL INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO (58.42%)		\$ 47,450,712	\$ 46,399,289
Cash and cash equivalents (36.18%)			28,731,703
Margin deposits (5.09%)			4,042,385
Other assets less liabilities (0.31%)			243,644
TOTAL NET ASSETS (100.00%)			\$ 79,417,021



For the Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021

#### A. ETF INFORMATION (NOTE 1)

The following table lists specific information about the ETF, the tickers under which the Cdn\$ Shares and US\$ Shares (if applicable), as described in note 1, trade on the Toronto Stock Exchange (the "TSX"), the functional and presentation currency of the ETF in either Canadian ("CAD") or U.S. ("USD") dollars, and the effective start of operations of the ETF.

ETF Name	TSX Ticker(s)	Reporting Currency	Effective Start of Operations
Horizons Tactical Absolute Return Bond ETF	HARB, HARB.J, HARB.U	CAD	December 7, 2020

#### **Investment Objective**

HARB seeks to provide positive absolute returns with low volatility over a market cycle regardless of market conditions or general market direction. The ETF will tactically take long and short positions in North American and global debt instruments and derivatives across the credit spectrum. In respect of the Dividend Series Shares, the ETF will also seek to provide consistent income.

#### **B. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS RISK (NOTE 5)**

#### (a) Market risks

#### (i) Currency risk

As at December 31, 2022 and 2021, the ETF Total Return Series Shares and Dividend Series Shares did not have any material net exposure to foreign currencies due to the ETF's hedging strategies. The below table indicates the foreign currencies to which the USD Unhedged Total Return Series Shares had significant exposure as at December 31, 2022, and 2021, in Canadian dollar terms and the potential impact on the USD Unhedged Total Return Series Shares net assets (including the underlying principal amount of future or forward currency contracts, if any), as a result of a 1% change in these currencies relative to the Canadian dollar:

December 31, 2022	Financial Instruments	Currency Forward and/ or Futures Contracts	Total	Impact on Net Asset Value
Currency	(\$000's)	(\$000's)	(\$000's)	(\$000's)
U.S. Dollar	66,544	(50,900)	15,644	156
Total	66,544	(50,900)	15,644	156
As % of Net Asset Value of the USD Unhedged Total Return Series Shares	83.8%	-64.1%	19.7%	0.2%



For the Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021

December 31, 2021	Financial Instruments	Currency Forward and/ or Futures Contracts	Total	Impact on Net Asset Value
Currency	(\$000's)	(\$000's)	(\$000's)	(\$000's)
U.S. Dollar	59,484	(45,285)	14,199	142
Total	59,484	(45,285)	14,199	142
As % of Net Asset Value of the USD Unhedged Total Return Series Shares	92.5%	-70.4%	22.1%	0.2%

#### (ii) Interest rate risk

The following table summarizes the ETF's exposure to interest rate risk, including the ETF's assets categorized by the remaining term to maturity:

Investments	Less than 1 year	1 - 3 years	3 - 5 years	> 5 years	Non-interest bearing	Total
As at	(\$000's)	(\$000's)	(\$000's)	(\$000's)	(\$000's)	(\$000's)
December 31, 2022	_	6,564	242	38,948	18,359	64,113
December 31, 2021	_	19,009	7,957	30,950	_	57,916

The percentage of the ETF's net assets exposed to interest rate risk as at December 31, 2022, was 80.7% (December 31, 2021 - 90.1%). The amount by which the net assets of the ETF would have increased or decreased, as at December 31, 2022, had the prevailing interest rates been lowered or raised by 1%, assuming a parallel shift in the yield curve, with all other variables remaining constant, was \$3,269,774 (December 31, 2021 - \$2,490,381). The ETF's interest rate sensitivity was determined based on portfolio weighted duration. In practice, actual results may differ from this sensitivity analysis.

#### (iii) Market price risk

The table below shows the estimated impact on the ETF of a 1% increase or decrease in the a broad-based market index, based on historical correlation, with all other factors remaining constant, as at the dates shown. In practice, actual results may differ from this sensitivity analysis and the difference could be material.

Underlying Index	December 31, 2022	December 31, 2021
Solactive Canadian Select Universe Bond Index	\$322,193	\$320,823



For the Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021

#### (b) Credit risk

The ETF's credit risk exposure by designated rating of the invested portfolio as at December 31, 2022, and 2021, is listed as follows:

Debt or Derivative Securities by Credit Rating	Percentage of Net Asset Value (%)		
	December 31, 2022	December 31, 2021	
AAA	51.8%	73.4%	
А	-	0.1%	
ВВ	2.1%	3.5%	
В	3.5%	10.5%	
CCC	0.1%	2.6%	
Total	57.5%	90.1%	

Designated ratings are obtained by Standard & Poor's, Moody's and/or Dominion Bond Rating Services. Where more than one rating is obtained for a security, the lowest rating has been used. Credit risk is managed by dealing with counterparties the ETF believes to be creditworthy and by regular monitoring of credit exposures. The maximum exposure to any one debt issuer as of December 31, 2022, was 51.8% (December 31, 2021 - 26.0%) of the net assets of the ETF.

#### C. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENT (NOTE 6)

The following is a summary of the inputs used as at December 31, 2022 and 2021, in valuing the ETF's investments and derivatives carried at fair values:

	December 31, 2022			December 31, 2021			
	Level 1 (\$)	Level 2 (\$)	Level 3 (\$)	Level 1 (\$)	Level 2 (\$)	Level 3 (\$)	
Financial Assets							
Bonds	_	45,473,546	_	-	57,680,148	_	
Futures	86,740	_	-	12,650	-	_	
Currency Forward Contracts	_	417,202	-	-	449,060	_	
Credit Default Swaps	_	423,233	-	-	-	_	
Total Financial Assets	86,740	46,313,981	-	12,650	58,129,208	_	
Financial Liabilities							
Currency Forward Contracts	_	(1,432)	_	-	(8,052)	_	
Total Financial Liabilities	-	(1,432)	-	-	(8,052)	_	
Net Financial Assets and Liabilities	86,740	46,312,549	-	12,650	58,121,156	_	



For the Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021

There were no significant transfers made between Levels 1 and 2 as a result of changes in the availability of quoted market prices or observable market inputs during the years shown. In addition, there were no investments or transactions classified in Level 3 for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021.

#### D. SECURITIES LENDING (NOTE 7)

As at December 31, 2022 and 2021, the ETF was not participating in any securities lending transactions. The ETF did not earn any income from securities lending transactions for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021.

#### E. REDEEMABLE SHARES (NOTE 8)

For the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, the number of ETF Shares issued by subscription, the number of ETF Shares redeemed, the total and average number of ETF Shares outstanding was as follows:

Series of Shares	Year	Beginning Units Outstanding	Shares Issued	Shares Redeemed	Ending Shares Outstanding	Average Shares Outstanding
Total Return	2022	4,700,000	3,075,000	(1,650,000)	6,125,000	5,435,068
Series Shares	2021	2,300,000	5,100,000	(2,700,000)	4,700,000	3,500,205
Dividend	2022	150,000	75,000	(25,000)	200,000	174,521
Series Shares 2021	2021	200,000	275,000	(325,000)	150,000	162,466
USD	2022	1,425,000	685,000	(375,000)	1,735,000	1,747,548
Unhedged Total Return Series Shares	2021	-	1,475,000	(50,000)	1,425,000	1,404,134

#### F. BROKER COMMISSIONS, SOFT DOLLARS AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS (NOTE 10)

Brokerage commissions paid to dealers in connection with investment portfolio transactions, soft dollar transactions incurred and amounts paid to related parties of the Manager, if any, for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, were as follow:

Year Ended	Brokerage Commissions Paid	Soft Dollar Transactions	Amount Paid to Related Parties	
December 31, 2022	\$10,459	\$nil	\$nil	
December 31, 2021	\$21,284	\$nil	\$nil	



For the Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021

#### **G. OFFSETTING OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (NOTE 13)**

The following table shows financial instruments that may be eligible for offset, if such conditions were to arise, as at December 31, 2022 and 2021. The "Net" column displays what the net impact would be on the ETF's statements of financial position if all amounts were set-off.

	Α	Amounts Offset (\$)			Amounts Not Offset (\$)		
Financial Assets and Liabilities as at December 31, 2022	Gross Assets (Liabilities)	Gross Assets (Liabilities) Offset	Net Amounts	Financial Instruments	Cash Collateral Pledged		
Derivative assets - currency forwards	417,202	_	417,202	(1,432)	_	415,770	
Derivative assets - credit default swaps	423,233	_	423,233	_	-	423,233	
Total derivative assets	840,435	-	840,435	(1,432)	_	839,003	
Derivative liabilities - currency forwards	(1,432)	_	(1,432)	1,432	_	-	
Derivative liabilities - credit default swaps	_	_	_	_	_	_	
Total derivative liabilities	(1,432)	-	(1,432)	1,432	_	_	

	Amounts Offset (\$)			Amounts N	Net (\$)	
Financial Assets and Liabilities as at December 31, 2021	Gross Assets (Liabilities)	Gross Assets (Liabilities) Offset	Net Amounts	Financial Instruments	Cash Collateral Pledged	
Derivative assets	449,060	_	449,060	(8,052)	_	441,008
Derivative liabilities	(8,052)	_	(8,052)	8,052	-	-

#### H. INTERESTS IN SUBSIDIARIES, ASSOCIATES AND UNCONSOLIDATED STRUCTURED ENTITIES (NOTE 14)

As at December 31, 2022, and 2021, the ETF had material investments in the subsidiaries (Sub), associates (Assc) and unconsolidated structured entities (SE) listed below:

Investee Fund as at December 31, 2022	Place of Business	Туре	Ownership %	Carrying Amount
Horizons High Interest Savings ETF	Canada	SE	0.70%	\$10,006,000
Horizons USD Cash Maximizer ETF	Canada	SE	1.09%	\$8,315,727



#### **Notes to Financial Statements**

For the Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021

#### 1. REPORTING ENTITY

Horizons ETF Corp. (the "Company") is a mutual fund corporation established on October 10, 2019, under the federal laws of Canada. The authorized capital of the Company includes an unlimited number of non-cumulative, redeemable, non-voting classes of shares (each, a "Corporate Class" or "ETF"), issuable in an unlimited number of series, and one class of voting shares designated as "Class J Shares". Each Corporate Class is a separate investment fund having specific investment objectives and is specifically referable to a separate portfolio of investments. These financial statements (the "financial statements") as at and for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, comprise the Company and its whollyowned entities and are presented on the basis outlined below. ETF-specific information and the investment objectives for each ETF in the Company are disclosed in the ETF-specific notes information to the financial statements of each ETF. Each ETF is a separate Corporate Class and currently consists of a single series of exchange traded fund shares ("ETF Shares") of the applicable Corporate Class of the Company.

Each ETF is offered for sale on a continuous basis by the Company's prospectus in ETF Shares which trade on the Toronto Stock Exchange ("TSX") in Canadian dollars ("Cdn\$ Shares") and, where applicable, in U.S. dollars ("US\$ Shares"). Subscriptions for US\$ Shares can be made in either U.S. or Canadian dollars. An investor may buy or sell shares of the ETF on the TSX through a registered broker or dealer in the province or territory where the investor resides. Investors are able to trade shares of the ETF in the same way as other securities traded on the TSX, including by using market orders and limit orders and may incur customary brokerage commissions when buying or selling shares.

Horizons ETFs Management (Canada) Inc. ("Horizons Management" or the "Manager" or the "Investment Manager") is the manager and investment manager of the Company and of each Corporate Class. The Investment Manager is responsible for implementing each ETF's investment strategies. The address of the Company's registered office is: c/o Horizons ETFs Management (Canada) Inc., 55 University Avenue, Suite 800, Toronto, Ontario, M5J 2H7.

#### **Investment Objective**

The purpose of each ETF is to invest the net assets attributable to that ETF in accordance with its investment objectives, as defined in the Company's prospectus. The investment objective for each ETF is set out in note A in the ETF-specific notes information.

#### 2. BASIS OF PREPARATION

#### (i) Statement of compliance

The ETF's financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS") as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board. Any mention of total net assets, net assets value or increase (decrease) in net assets is referring to net assets or increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable shares as reported under IFRS.

These financial statements were authorized for issue on March 10, 2023, by the Board of Directors of the Company.

#### (ii) Basis of measurement

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis except for financial instruments at fair value though profit or loss, which are measured at fair value.



For the Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021

#### 3. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounting policies set out below have been applied consistently to all periods presented in these financial statements.

#### (a) Financial instruments

#### (i) Recognition, initial measurement and classification

The ETF is subject to IFRS 9, Financial Instruments ("IFRS 9") for the classification and measurement requirements for financial instruments, including impairment of financial assets and hedge accounting.

IFRS 9 requires financial assets to be classified based on the ETF's business model for managing the financial assets and contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial assets. The standard includes three principal classification categories for financial assets: measured at amortized cost, fair value through other comprehensive income, and fair value through profit or loss ("FVTPL"). IFRS 9 requires classification of debt instruments, if any, based solely on payment of principal and interest, and business model tests.

The ETF's financial assets and financial liabilities are managed and its performance is evaluated on a fair value basis. The contractual cash flows of the ETF's debt securities, if any, consist solely of principal and interest, however, these securities are neither held in held-to-collect, or held-to-collect-and-sell business models in IFRS 9.

Financial assets and financial liabilities at FVTPL are initially recognized on the trade date, at fair value (see below), with transaction costs recognized in the statements of comprehensive income. Other financial assets and financial liabilities are recognized on the date on which they are originated at fair value.

The ETF classifies financial assets and financial liabilities into the following categories:

- · Financial assets mandatorily classified at FVTPL: debt securities, equity investments and derivative financial instruments
- · Financial assets at amortized cost: all other financial assets
- Financial liabilities classified at FVTPL: derivative financial instruments and securities sold short, if any
- · Financial liabilities at amortized cost: all other financial liabilities

## (ii) Fair value measurement

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date in the principal or, in its absence, the most advantageous market to which the ETF has access at that date. The fair value of a liability reflects its non-performance risk.

Investments are valued at fair value as of the close of business on each valuation date, as defined in the ETF's prospectus ("Valuation Date") and based on external pricing sources to the extent possible. Investments held that are traded in an active market through recognized public stock exchanges, over-the-counter markets, or through recognized investment dealers, are valued at their closing sale price. However, such prices may be adjusted if a more accurate value can be obtained from recent trading activity or by incorporating other relevant information that may not have been reflected in pricing obtained from external sources. Short-term investments, including notes and money market instruments, are valued at amortized cost which approximates fair value.



For the Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021

Investments held that are not traded in an active market, including some derivative financial instruments, are valued using observable market inputs where possible, on such basis and in such manner as established by the Manager. Derivative financial instruments are recorded in the statements of financial position according to the gain or loss that would be realized if the contracts were closed out on the Valuation Date. Margin deposits, if any, are included in the schedule of investments as margin deposits. See also the summary of fair value measurements in note 6.

Fair value policies used for financial reporting purposes are the same as those used to measure the net asset value ("NAV") for transactions with shareholders.

The fair value of other financial assets and liabilities approximates their carrying values due to the short-term nature of these instruments.

## (iii) Offsetting

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount presented in the statements of financial position when there is a legally enforceable right to offset the recognized amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis, or to realize the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Income and expenses are presented on a net basis for gains and losses from financial instruments at FVTPL and foreign exchange gains and losses.

#### (iv) Specific instruments

#### Cash

Cash consists of cash on deposit.

#### **Credit default swaps**

Credit default swaps, if any, are valued by estimating future default probabilities using market standard models. The principal input into the model is the credit curve. Credit spreads are observed directly from broker data or third party vendors. The significant model inputs are observable in the marketplace or set in the contract and recorded as a derivative assets and/or liabilities in the statement of financial position and as a net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of investments and deriviatives in the statement of comprehensive income. When credit default swaps are closed out or mature, realized gains or losses on the swaps are recognized and are included in the statements of comprehensive income

#### Redeemable shares

The Company has made significant judgments when determining the classification of each ETF's redeemable securities as financial liabilities in accordance with IAS 32 – Financial Instruments – Presentation ("IAS 32").

Each ETF's redeemable shares are classes in the Company. The classes will not participate pro rata in the residual net assets of the Company in the event of the Company's liquidation and they do not have identical features. Consequently, each ETF's outstanding redeemable shares are classified as financial liabilities in accordance with the requirements of IAS 32.



For the Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021

#### **Futures contracts**

Futures contracts are valued at the current market value thereof on the Valuation Date. The value of these futures contracts is the gain or loss that would be realized if, on the Valuation Date, the positions were to be closed out and recorded as derivative assets and/or liabilities in the statements of financial position and as a net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of investments and derivatives in the statements of comprehensive income.

When the futures contracts are closed out or mature, realized gains or losses on futures contracts are recognized and are included in the statements of comprehensive income in net realized gain (loss) on sale of investments and derivatives.

## **Derivative agreements**

In order to achieve its investment objective, the ETF may enter into derivative agreements (the "Derivative Agreements") with one or more bank counterparties (each a "Counterparty"). The value of these derivative agreements is the gain or loss that would be realized if, on the Valuation Date, the agreements were to be closed out. That value is recorded as a derivative asset and/or derivative liability in the statements of financial position and included in the net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of investments and derivatives in the statements of comprehensive income.

When these derivative contracts are closed out or mature, realized gains or losses on the derivative agreements are recognized and are included in the statements of comprehensive income in net realized gain (loss) on sale of investments and derivatives.

#### (b) Investment income

Investment transactions are accounted for as of the trade date. Realized gains and losses from investment transactions are calculated on a weighted average cost basis. The difference between fair value and average cost, as recorded in the financial statements, is included in the statements of comprehensive income as part of the net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of investments and derivatives. Interest income for distribution purposes from investments in bonds and short-term investments, if any, represents the coupon interest received by the ETF accounted for on an accrual basis. Dividend income, if any, is recognized on the ex-dividend date. Distribution income from investments in other funds or ETFs, if any, is recognized when earned.

Income from derivatives is shown in the statements of comprehensive income as net realized gain (loss) on sale of investments and derivatives; net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of investments and derivatives; and, interest income for distribution purposes, in accordance with its nature.

Income from securities lending, if any, is included in "Securities lending income" on the statements of comprehensive income and is recognized when earned. Any securities on loan continue to be displayed in the schedule of investments and the market value of the securities loaned and collateral held is determined daily (see note 7).

If the ETF incurs withholding taxes imposed by certain countries on investment income and capital gains, such income and gains are recorded on a gross basis and the related withholding taxes are shown as a separate expense in the statements of comprehensive income.



For the Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021

#### (c) Foreign currency

Transactions in foreign currencies, if any, are translated into the ETF's reporting currency using the exchange rate prevailing on the trade date. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the reporting date are translated at the year-end exchange rate. Foreign exchange gains and losses, if any, are presented as "Net realized gain (loss) on foreign exchange", except for those arising from financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss, which are recognized as a component within "Net realized gain (loss) on sale of investments and derivatives" and "Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of investments and derivatives" in the statements of comprehensive income.

#### (d) Cost basis

The cost of portfolio investments is determined on an average cost basis.

## (e) Increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable shares per share

The increase (decrease) in net assets per share in the statements of comprehensive income represents the change in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable shares from operations divided by the weighted average number of shares of the ETF outstanding during the reporting year.

#### (f) Shareholder transactions

The value at which shares of the ETF are issued or redeemed is determined by dividing the net asset value of the ETF by the total number of shares outstanding of the ETF on the applicable Valuation Date. Amounts received on the issuance of shares and amounts paid on the redemption of shares are included in the statements of changes in financial position. Orders for subscriptions or redemptions are only permissible on valid trading days, as defined in the ETF's prospectus.

## (g) Amounts receivable (payable) relating to portfolio assets sold (purchased)

In accordance with the ETF's policy of trade date accounting for sale and purchase transactions, sales/purchase transactions awaiting settlement represent amounts receivable/payable for securities sold/purchased, but not yet settled as at the reporting date.

#### (h) Net assets attributable to holders of redeemable shares per share

Net assets attributable to holders of redeemable shares per share is calculated by dividing the ETF's net assets attributable to holders of redeemable shares by the number of shares of the ETF outstanding on the Valuation Date.

#### (i) Transaction costs

Transaction costs are incremental costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition, issue or disposal of an investment, which include fees and commissions paid to agents, advisors, brokers and dealers, fees incurred in conjunction with the ETF's derivative agreements, levies by regulatory agencies and securities exchanges, and any applicable transfer taxes and duties. Transaction costs are expensed and are included in "Transaction costs" in the statements of comprehensive income.



For the Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021

#### 4. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS

In preparing these financial statements, the Manager has made judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of accounting policies and the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. Actual results may differ from these estimates. Estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to estimates are recognized prospectively.

The ETF may hold financial instruments that are not quoted in active markets, including derivatives. The determination of the fair value of these instruments is the area with the most significant accounting judgements and estimates that the ETF has made in preparing the financial statements. See note 6 for more information on the fair value measurement of the ETF's financial instruments.

#### 5. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS RISK

In the normal course of business, the ETF's investment activities expose it to a variety of financial risks. The Manager seeks to minimize potential adverse effects of these risks for the ETF's performance by employing professional, experienced portfolio advisors, by daily monitoring of the ETF's positions and market events, and periodically may use derivatives to hedge certain risk exposures. To assist in managing risks, the Manager maintains a governance structure that oversees the ETF's investment activities and monitors compliance with the ETF's stated investment strategies, internal guidelines and securities regulations.

Please refer to the Company's most recent prospectus for a complete discussion of the risks attributed to an investment in the shares of the ETF. Significant financial instrument risks that are relevant to the ETF are discussed below and an analysis thereof is included in note B of the ETF-specific notes information.

#### (a) Market risks

Market risk is the risk that changes in market prices, such as interest rates, equity prices, foreign exchange rates and credit spreads (not relating to changes in the obligor's/issuer's credit standing) will affect the ETF's income or the fair value of its holdings of financial instruments. The objective of market risk management is to manage and control market risk exposures within acceptable parameters, while optimizing the return.

## (i) Currency risk

Currency risk is the risk that financial instruments which are denominated in currencies other than the ETF's reporting currency will fluctuate due to changes in exchange rates and adversely impact the ETF's income, cash flows or fair values of its investment holdings.

#### (ii) Interest rate risk

The ETF may be exposed to the risk that the fair value of future cash flows of its financial instruments will fluctuate as a result of changes in market interest rates. In general, the value of interest-bearing financial instruments will rise if interest rates fall, and conversely, will generally fall if interest rates rise. There is minimal sensitivity to interest rate fluctuation on cash and cash equivalents invested at short-term market rates since those securities are usually held to maturity and are short term in nature.



For the Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021

#### (iii) Market price risk

Other market price risk is the risk that the value of financial instruments will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices (other than those arising from interest rate risk or currency risk), whether caused by factors specific to an individual investment, its issuer, or all factors affecting all instruments traded in a market or market segment.

The ETF is subject to other market risks that will affect the value of its investments, including general economic and market conditions, as well as developments that impact specific economic sectors, industries or companies. The ETF will normally lose value on days when the securities comprising the Underlying Index declines. The ETF intends to remain fully invested regardless of market conditions.

#### (b) Credit risk

Credit risk on financial instruments is the risk of a financial loss occurring as a result of the default of a counterparty on its obligation to the ETF. It arises principally from debt securities held, and also from derivative financial assets, cash and cash equivalents, and other receivables.

The ETF's maximum credit risk exposure as at the reporting date is represented by the respective carrying amounts of the financial assets in the statements of financial position, including any positive mark-to-market of the ETF's Derivative Agreement(s). This amount is included in "Derivative assets" (if any) in the statements of financial position. The credit risk related to any one Derivative Agreement is concentrated in the Counterparty to that particular Derivative Agreement.

Credit risk is managed by dealing with counterparties the Manager believes to be creditworthy and which meet the designated rating requirements of National Instrument 81-102 ("NI 81-102").

#### (c) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the ETF will encounter difficulty in meeting the obligations associated with its financial liabilities that are settled by delivering cash or another financial asset. The ETF's policy and the Investment Manager's approach to managing liquidity is to ensure, as far as possible, that it will always have sufficient liquidity to meet its liabilities when due, under both normal and stress conditions, including estimated redemptions of shares, without incurring unacceptable losses or risking damage to the ETF's reputation. Generally, liabilities of the ETF are due within 90 days. Liquidity risk is managed by investing the majority of the ETF's assets in investments that are traded in an active market and can be readily disposed. The ETF aims to retain sufficient cash and cash equivalent positions to maintain liquidity; therefore, the liquidity risk for the ETF is considered minimal.

#### 6. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENT

IFRS 13, Fair Value Measurement ("IFRS 13") requires a classification of fair value measurements of the ETF's investments based on a three level fair value hierarchy and a reconciliation of transactions and transfers within that hierarchy. The hierarchy of fair valuation inputs is summarized as follows:

- Level 1: securities that are valued based on quoted prices in active markets.
- Level 2: securities that are valued based on inputs other than quoted prices that are observable, either directly as
  prices, or indirectly as derived from prices.
- Level 3: securities that are valued with significant unobservable market data.



For the Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021

Changes in valuation methods may result in transfers into or out of an investment's assigned level. The fair value hierarchy classification of the ETF's assets and liabilities and additional disclosures relating to transfers between levels is included in note C in the ETF-specific notes information.

#### 7. SECURITIES LENDING

In order to generate additional returns, the ETF is authorized to enter into securities lending agreements with borrowers deemed acceptable in accordance with NI 81-102. Under a securities lending agreement, the borrower must pay the ETF a negotiated securities lending fee, provide compensation to the ETF equal to any distributions received by the borrower on the securities borrowed, and the ETF must receive an acceptable form of collateral in excess of the value of the securities loaned. Although such collateral is marked to market, the ETF may be exposed to the risk of loss should a borrower default on its obligations to return the borrowed securities and the collateral is insufficient to reconstitute the portfolio of loaned securities. Revenue, if any, earned on securities lending transactions during the period is disclosed in the ETF's statements of comprehensive income.

The aggregate closing market value of securities loaned and collateral received, if any, as at December 31, 2022 and 2021, and a reconciliation of the securities lending income for the years then ended, if any, as presented in the statements of comprehensive income are presented in note D of the ETF-specific notes information.

#### 8. REDEEMABLE SHARES

The authorized capital of the Company includes an unlimited number of non-cumulative, redeemable, non-voting Corporate Classes, issuable in an unlimited number of series, including the ETF Shares, and one class of voting shares designated as "Class J Shares". Each Corporate Class is a separate investment fund having specific investment objectives and is specifically referable to a separate portfolio of investments. Each ETF of the Company is a separate Class.

Each ETF Share entitles the owner to one vote at meetings of shareholders of the applicable Corporate Class to which they are entitled to vote. Each shareholder is entitled to participate equally with all other shares of the same Corporate Class or series of Corporate Class with respect to all payments made to shareholders, other than management fee rebates, including dividends and distributions and, on liquidation, to participate equally in the net assets of the applicable Corporate Class remaining after satisfaction of any outstanding liabilities that are attributable to ETF Shares of the Corporate Class.

The redeemable shares issued by the ETF provide an investor with the right to require redemption for cash at a value proportionate to the investor's share in the ETF's net assets at each redemption date. The ETF's objectives in managing the redeemable shares are to meet the ETF's investment objective, and to manage liquidity risk arising from redemptions. The ETF's liquidity risk arising from redeemable shares is discussed in note 5.

On any valid trading day, as defined in the ETF's prospectus, shareholders of the ETF may redeem: (i) ETF Shares for cash at a redemption price per ETF Share equal to 95% of the closing price for the ETF Shares in the applicable currency on the TSX on the effective day of the redemption, subject to a maximum redemption price per ETF Share equal to the net asset value per ETF Share on the effective day of redemption; or (ii) at the sole discretion of the Manager, a prescribed number of shares ("PNS") or a whole multiple PNS for cash in the applicable currency equal to the net asset value of that number of ETF Shares in such currency next determined following the receipt of the redemption request, less any applicable redemption charge as determined by the Manager in its sole discretion; or (iii) at the sole discretion of the Manager, a PNS or a whole multiple PNS in exchange for securities and cash in the applicable currency equal to the net asset value of that number of ETF Shares in such currency following the receipt of the redemption request, provided that a securities redemption may be subject to redemption charges at the sole discretion of the Manager.



For the Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021

Shares of the ETF are issued or redeemed on a daily basis at the net asset value per share that is determined as at 4:00 p.m. (Eastern Time) each business day.

If, in any taxation year, the Company would otherwise be liable for tax on net realized capital gains, the Company intends to pay, to the extent possible, by the last day of that year, a special capital gains dividend to ensure that the Company will not be liable for income tax on such amounts under the Tax Act (after taking into account all available deductions, credits and refunds). Such distributions may be paid in the form of ETF Shares of the relevant ETF and/or cash which is automatically reinvested in ETF Shares of the relevant ETF. Any such distributions payable in ETF Shares or reinvested in ETF Shares of that ETF. Immediately following payment of such a special distribution in ETF Shares or reinvestment in ETF Shares, the number of ETF Shares of that ETF outstanding will be automatically consolidated such that the number of ETF Shares of that ETF outstanding immediately prior to such distribution, except where there are non-resident shareholders to the extent tax is required to be withheld in respect of the distribution.

Please consult the ETF's most recent prospectus for a full description of the subscription and redemption features of the ETF Shares.

A summary table of the number of shares issued by subscription, the number of shares redeemed, the total and average number of shares outstanding during the relevant reporting periods is disclosed in note E of the ETF-specific notes information.

#### 9. EXPENSES AND OTHER RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

#### **Management fees**

The Manager provides, or oversees the provision of, administrative services required by the ETF including, but not limited to: negotiating contracts with certain third-party service providers, such as portfolio managers, custodians, registrars, transfer agents, auditors and printers; authorizing the payment of operating expenses incurred on behalf of the ETF; arranging for the maintenance of accounting records for the ETF; preparing reports to shareholders and to the applicable securities regulatory authorities; calculating the amount and determining the frequency of distributions by the ETF; pre¬paring financial statements, income tax returns and financial and accounting information as required by the ETF; ensuring that shareholders are provided with financial statements and other reports as are required from time to time by applicable law; ensuring that the ETF complies with all other regulatory requirements, including the continuous disclosure obliga¬tions of the ETF under applicable securities laws; administering purchases, redemptions and other transactions in shares of the ETF; and dealing and communicating with shareholders of the ETF. The Manager provides office facilities and personnel to carry out these services, if not otherwise furnished by any other service provider to the ETF. The Manager also monitors the investment strategies of the ETF to ensure that the ETF complies with its investment objectives, investment strategies and investment restrictions and practices.

In consideration for the provision of these services, the Manager receives a monthly management fee at the annual rate of 0.75%, plus applicable sales taxes, of the net asset value of the ETF's shares, calculated and accrued daily and payable monthly in arrears.

The Sub-Advisor is compensated for its services out of the management fees without any further cost to the ETF. Any expenses of the ETF which are waived or absorbed by the Manager are paid out of the management fees received by the Manager.



For the Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021

The table below details, in percentage terms, the services received by the ETF from the Manager in consideration of the management fees paid during the year.

Marketing	Portfolio management fees, general administrative costs and profit	Waived/absorbed expenses of the ETF
6%	83%	11%

#### **Performance Fees**

The ETF shall pay to the Manager a performance fee (the "Performance Fee"), if any, equal to 10% of the amount by which the performance of the ETF, at any date on which the Performance Fee is payable, (i) exceeds the greater of: (a) the initial net asset value per ETF Share; and (b) the highest net asset value per ETF Share previously utilized for the purposes of calculating a Performance Fee that was paid (the "High Water Mark") and (ii) is greater than an annualized hurdle rate (the "Hurdle Rate") that will begin at 3%, and will increase or decrease with each increase or decrease in the Bank of Canada overnight rate, provided that the Hurdle Rate will always be no less than 3% and no greater than 5%.

The Performance Fee shall be calculated and accrued daily and shall be payable at least quarterly in arrears on dates determined by the Manager, together with applicable taxes. The ETF accrued \$nil in performance fees for the year ended December 31, 2022 (2021 – \$30,007), and is disclosed in the statement of comprehensive income. Performance fees payable to the Manager as at December 31, 2022 were \$nil (2021 - \$15,729) and are included in accrued operating expenses on the statements of financial position, where applicable.

#### 10. BROKER COMMISSIONS, SOFT DOLLARS AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Brokerage commissions paid on securities transactions may include amounts paid to related parties of the Manager for brokerage services provided to the ETF.

Research and system usage related services received in return for commissions generated with specific dealers are generally referred to as soft dollars.

In addition to the information contained in note F of the ETF-specific notes information, the management fees paid to the Manager described in note 9 are related party transactions, as the Manager is considered to be a related party to the ETF. The management fees payable by the ETF as at December 31, 2022 and 2021, are disclosed in the statements of financial position.

Fees paid to the Independent Review Committee are also considered to be related party transactions. Both the management fees and fees paid to the Independent Review Committee are disclosed in the statements of comprehensive income.

The ETF may invest in other ETFs managed by the Manager or its affiliates, in accordance with the ETF's investment objectives and strategies. Such investments, if any, are disclosed in the schedule of investments.

#### 11. COLLATERAL WITH FUTURES COMMISSION MERCHANTS

The ETF may maintain accounts with Futures Commission Merchants ("FCMs") to conduct futures trading activities. The futures trading activities, where applicable, are typically, but not limited to, fixed income and currency futures for the



For the Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021

purposes of hedging. The FCMs require the maintenance of minimum margin deposits. These requirements are met by the collateral from the ETF held at the FCMs. Collateral held with FCMs is included as part of "Margin deposits" in the statements of financial position. The collateral held with FCMs as at December 31, 2022 and 2021 is as follows:

As at	Collateral Held With FCMs	
December 31, 2022	\$4,042,385	
December 31, 2021	\$1,275,275	

#### 12. INCOME TAX

The Company qualifies and intends at all relevant times to qualify as a "mutual fund corporation" as defined in the Tax Act. Although the Company may issue any number of classes, in any number of series, it will be required (like any other mutual fund corporation with a multi-class structure) to compute its income and net capital gains for tax purposes as a single entity. All of the Company's revenues, deductible expenses, non-capital losses, capital gains and capital losses in connection with all of its investment portfolios, and other items relevant to its tax position (including the tax attributes of all of its assets), will be taken into account in determining the income (and taxable income) or loss of the Company and applicable taxes payable by the Company as a whole.

As a mutual fund corporation, the Company is entitled, in certain circumstances, to a refund of tax paid by it in respect of its net realized capital gains determined on a formula basis that is based in part on the redemption of the ETF Shares. Also, as a mutual fund corporation, the Company will be entitled to maintain a capital gains dividend account in respect of its net realized capital gains and from which it may elect to pay dividends which are treated as capital gains dividends in the hands of shareholders.

To the extent that the Company earns net income (other than dividends from taxable Canadian corporations and certain taxable capital gains and after available deductions), including in respect of derivative transactions, interest and income paid or made payable to it by a trust resident in Canada, the Company will be subject to income tax on such net income and no refund will be available in respect thereof.

The Company may, at its option, pay special year-end dividends to shareholders in the form of a capital gains dividend where the Company has net taxable capital gains upon which it would otherwise be subject to tax, or in order to recover refundable tax not otherwise recoverable upon payment of regular cash distributions.

The Company will establish a policy to determine how it will allocate income and capital gains in a tax-efficient manner among its Corporate Classes in a way that it believes is fair, consistent and reasonable for all shareholders. The amount of dividends, if any, paid to shareholders will be based on this tax allocation policy, which will be approved by the Company's board of directors.

## 13. TAX LOSSES CARRIED FORWARD

Where the Company has realized a net capital loss in a taxation year, such capital loss cannot be allocated to shareholders but the Company may carry such capital loss back three years or forward indefinitely to offset capital gains realized by the Company. Non-capital losses incurred by the Company in a taxation year cannot be allocated to shareholders of the Company, but may be carried back three years or carried forward twenty years to offset income (including taxable capital gains).



For the Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021

As at December 31, 2022, the Company and its wholly-owned entities had net capital losses and/or non-capital losses, with the year of expiry of the non-capital losses as follows:

Net Capital Losses	Non-Capital Losses	Year of Expiry of the Non-Capital Losses
\$1,326,394,679	\$126,121	2028
	\$1,961,149	2029
	\$5,668,871	2030
	\$3,237,571	2031
	\$3,138,653	2032
	\$153,021,428	2033
	\$230,454,838	2034
	\$447,405,094	2035
	\$74,326,117	2036
	\$266,066,173	2037
	\$118,767,474	2038
	\$191,271,535	2039
	\$1,379,820,461	2040

#### 14. OFFSETTING OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

In the normal course of business, the ETF may enter into various master netting arrangements or other similar agreements that do not meet the criteria for offsetting in the statements of financial position but still allow for the related amounts to be set off in certain circumstances, such as bankruptcy or termination of the contracts. Amounts eligible for offset, if any, are disclosed in note G of the ETF-specific notes information.

#### 15. INTERESTS IN SUBSIDIARIES, ASSOCIATES AND UNCONSOLIDATED STRUCTURED ENTITIES

The ETF may invest in shares or units of other ETFs as part of its investment strategies ("Investee ETF(s)"). The nature and purpose of these Investee ETFs generally, is to manage assets on behalf of third party investors in accordance with their investment objectives, and are financed through the issue of share or units to investors.

In determining whether the ETF has control or significant influence over an Investee ETF, the ETF assesses voting rights, the exposure to variable returns, and its ability to use the voting rights to affect the amount of the returns. In instances where the ETF has control over an Investee ETF, the ETF qualifies as an investment entity under IFRS 10 – *Consolidated Financial Statements*, and therefore accounts for investments it controls at fair value through profit and loss. The ETF's primary purpose is defined by its investment objectives and uses the investment strategies available to it as defined in the ETF's prospectus to meet those objectives. The ETF also measures and evaluates the performance of any Investee ETFs on a fair value basis.

Investee ETFs over which the ETF has control or significant influence are categorized as subsidiaries and associates, respectively. All other Investee ETFs are categorized as unconsolidated structured entities. Investee ETFs may be managed by the Manager, its affiliates, or by third-party managers.



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Investments in Investee ETFs are susceptible to market price risk arising from uncertainty about future values of those Investee ETFs. The maximum exposure to loss from interests in Investee ETFs is equal to the total fair value of the investment in those respective Investee ETFs at any given point in time. The fair value of Investee ETFs, if any, are disclosed in investments in the statements of financial position, listed in the schedule of investments, and further detailed in note H of the ETF-specific notes information.

#### **16. COMPARATIVE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Certain information in the comparative notes to the financial statements for 2021 has been included to conform to the financial statement presentation adopted for 2022.

Manager

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