## 2022

# INTERIM MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE

June 30, 2022

Offered by Educators Financial Group Portfolio Manager: HSBC Global Asset Management (Canada) Limited, Toronto, Ontario

**Educators Monitored Growth Portfolio** 





This interim management report of fund performance contains financial highlights but does not contain either the interim financial report or annual financial statements of the investment fund. You can get a copy of the interim financial report or annual financial statements at your request, and at no cost, by calling 1.800.263.9541, by writing to us at Educators Financial Group, 2225 Sheppard Ave. East, Suite 1105, Toronto, Ontario, M2J 5C2, or by visiting our website at www.educatorsfinancialgroup.ca or SEDAR at www.sedar.com.

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

#### **Caution Regarding Forward-looking Statements**

This report may contain forward-looking statements about the Fund, including its strategy, risks, expected performance and condition. Forward-looking statements include statements that are predictive in nature, that depend upon or refer to future events or conditions, or that include words such as "expects", "anticipates", "intends", "plans", "believes", "estimates" or negative versions thereof and similar forward-looking expressions.

In addition, any statement that may be made concerning future performance, strategies or prospects, and possible future Fund action, is also a forward-looking statement. Forward-looking statements are based on current expectations and projections about future general economic, political and relevant market factors, such as interest rates, foreign exchange rates, equity and capital markets, and the general business environment, in each case assuming no changes to applicable tax or other laws or government regulation. Expectations and projections about future events are inherently subject to, among other things, risks, and uncertainties, some of which may be unforeseeable. Accordingly, assumptions concerning future economic and other factors may prove to be incorrect at a future date.

Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance, and actual events and results could differ materially from those expressed or implied in any forward-looking statements made by the Fund. Any number of important factors could contribute to these digressions, including, but not limited to, general economic, political and market factors in North America and internationally, interest and foreign exchange rates, global equity and capital markets, business competition, technological change, changes in government regulations, unexpected judicial or regulatory proceedings, and catastrophic events, including the potential impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the Fund and/or its operations.

It should be stressed that the above-mentioned list of factors is not exhaustive. You are encouraged to consider these and other factors carefully before making any investment decisions and you are urged to avoid placing undue reliance on forward-looking statements. Further, you should be aware of the fact that the Fund has no specific intention of updating any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, prior to the release of the next Management Report of Fund Performance unless required by applicable law.



#### MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION OF FUND PERFORMANCE

#### Risk

The impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic on the financial performance of the Fund's investments will depend on future developments, including the duration and spread of the outbreak and related advisories and restrictions. This public health crisis and the impact of COVID-19 on the financial markets and the overall economy are highly uncertain and cannot be predicted. If the financial markets and/or the overall economy are impacted for an extended period, the Fund's future investment results may be materially affected.

#### **Results of Operations**

The Fund's net assets decreased by 4.6% to \$16.7 million at the end of June 2022, down from \$17.5 million at the end of December 2021.

#### Investment Performance

For the year/period ending June 30, 2022 (the 'period'), the Educators Monitored Growth Portfolio – Class A Series provided a negative return of 12.73% versus a Benchmark return of negative 14.01%. The Benchmark is a weighted composite consisting of 20.0% MSCI EAFE Index C\$, 25.0% S&P 500 Index C\$, 30.0% S&P/TSX Composite Index, 22.5% FTSE Canada Universe Bond Index, and 2.5% FTSE Canada Short Term Bond Index (the "Benchmark").

The Fund outperformed its blended Benchmark over the period. Unlike the Benchmark, the Fund's return is net of fees and expenses paid by the Fund. Detailed performance is provided under the heading "Past Performance" in this report. Investors cannot invest in the Benchmark without incurring fees, expenses and commissions which are not reflected in Benchmark returns.

The Fund outperformed its Benchmark throughout this volatile period, primarily due to better-than-index returns from its Canadian and U.S. equity holdings. The portfolio manager's tactical asset allocation decisions had a modestly positive impact on performance compared to the Benchmark, mainly due to the Fund's allocations in short-duration mortgages. The portfolio manager continued this position from last year to protect against the chance that central banks would start an aggressive policy tightening cycle of raising rates, which turned out to be the case.

Within the equity segment of the Fund, the portfolio manager's preference for Canadian over foreign stocks contributed to performance, although this impact was reduced after a poor showing from Canadian equities in the second quarter. During a challenging period for non-government fixed-income assets, the Fund's allocations in global high-yield bonds and emerging market bonds had a negative impact on performance compared to the index's relative returns. The Fund's holdings in international equities, Canadian small cap equities, and Canadian bonds also underperformed.

The portfolio manager has moved to a more cautious allocation of assets in response to intensifying macro risks. Although the portfolio manager continues to prefer equities to fixed-income assets, this is mainly expressed through the Fund's holdings in Canadian equity markets, where valuations are more attractive than those in other jurisdictions. The portfolio manager also believes that the Canadian equity market's exposure to companies in the energy and materials sectors can be advantageous in light of surging commodity prices.

Compared to the Benchmark, the Fund has a modestly higher weight in U.S. equities and is broadly underweight in other global equities. Within fixed-income, the Fund continues to have a lower-than-Benchmark position in government bonds and emerging market bonds, and an overweight position in money market securities and mortgages.

#### **Recent Developments**

The first six months of 2022 were characterized by moderating economic growth, high inflation, and interest rate hikes by central banks. The war in Ukraine and COVID-19 have also disrupted supply chains, causing commodity prices to surge. Investment markets have been battered by these adverse shocks and there is a fair level of uncertainty about what happens next.

On balance, the portfolio manager sees Canadian investors weathering the current volatility better than most based on several positive factors, namely, a strong job market, solid corporate earnings, and robust commodity prices. The Canadian employment picture is particularly encouraging, with approximately 0.8 jobs per unemployed person, a level not seen in recent history. These factors support the portfolio manager's view that Canada is not facing the prospects of a recession in the near-term.

Globally, the risk of recession has undoubtedly grown as interest rates rise towards restrictive levels and inflation squeezes consumer incomes. However, risks are higher for Europe versus the U.S., where the underlying strength of consumer demand and labour market growth is greater.

Overall, the portfolio manager expects global growth to be moderate, but remains positive, as they do not believe a global activity contraction is likely, as long as corporate earnings and labour markets remain strong. However, since the beginning of the year, inflation has increased and broadened out around the world, as external factors have caused prices to surge for energy and food items. This higher inflation may persist as long as supply-chain issues and rising wages continue to linger.

#### **Related Party Transactions**

Pursuant to the Fund's investment strategies included in the Fund's Simplified Prospectus, the Fund may invest in other mutual funds and for the period has invested in various HSBC Funds which are





funds managed by the Fund's Portfolio Manager. Please refer to the "Top Holdings" in the Summary of Investment Portfolio section of this report.

In the first six months of 2022 Educators Financial Group did not refer any conflict of interest matters to the Fund's Independent Review Committee (IRC)

and accordingly, did not rely upon any recommendation of the IRC in respect of any related party transactions.

Educators Financial Group is the Manager and Trustee of the Fund. Educators Financial Group is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation ("OSSTF"). OSSTF may from time to time invest in units of the Fund.

#### FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The following tables show selected key financial information about the Fund and are intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the six-month period and the past years since inception. Currently Class I units of the Fund are not being offered to purchase by retail investors.

Educators Monitored Growth Portfolio - Class A Series - Net Assets per Unit (1)

Six months ende	ed June 30	Ye	ar ended Dec	ember 31	
	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Net Assets, beginning of year/period	\$10.93	\$10.32	\$10.24	\$9.10	\$10.00
Increase (decrease) from operations:					
Total revenue	\$0.06	\$0.17	\$0.31	\$0.28	\$0.26
Total expenses, including transaction costs [excluding distributions]	(\$0.10)	(\$0.22)	(\$0.19)	(\$0.20)	(\$0.19)
Realized gains (losses) for the period	\$	\$0.97	\$0.17	\$0.10	\$0.42
Unrealized gains (losses) for the period	(\$1.36)	\$0.42	\$0.05	\$1.02	(\$1.39)
Total increase (decrease) from operations (2)	(\$1.40)	\$1.34	\$0.34	\$1.20	(\$0.90)
Distributions:					
From net investment income (excluding dividends)	\$	\$	\$0.06	\$0.04	\$0.04
From dividends	\$	\$	\$0.05	\$0.05	\$
From capital gains	\$	\$0.75	\$0.11	\$0.08	\$0.24
Return of capital	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Total Annual Distributions (3)	\$	0.75	\$0.22	\$0.17	\$0.28
Net Assets, end of year/period	\$9.54	\$10.93	\$10.32	\$10.24	\$9.10

Six mor	nths ended June 30	Year ended December 31			
	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Total Net Asset Value (000's) (4)	\$13,098	\$13,863	\$11,502	\$10,452	\$4,260
Number of units outstanding (4)	1,373,039	1,268,197	1,114,540	1,020,525	468,052
Management expense ratio (5)	1.98%	1.98%	1.98%	1.98%	1.99%
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (6)	1.98%	1.98%	1.98%	1.98%	1.99%
Trading expense ratio (7)					
Portfolio turnover rate (8)	4.64%	33.12%	13.28%	15.13%	7.46%
Net Asset Value per unit	\$9.54	\$10.93	\$10.32	\$10.24	\$9.10



Educators Monitored Growth Portfolio – Class I Series – Net Assets per Unit (1)

Six months ende	ed June 30	Ye	ember 31		
	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Net Assets, beginning of year/period	\$11.26	\$10.48	\$10.39	\$9.19	\$10.00
Increase (decrease) from operations:					
Total revenue	\$0.07	\$0.17	\$0.32	\$0.26	\$0.18
Total expenses, including transaction costs [excluding distributions]	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Realized gains (losses) for the period	\$	\$1.00	\$0.18	\$0.09	\$0.27
Unrealized gains (losses) for the period	(\$1.41)	\$0.47	\$0.14	\$1.17	(\$0.93)
Total increase (decrease) from operations (2)	(\$1.34)	\$1.64	\$0.64	\$1.52	(\$0.48)
Distributions:					
From net investment income (excluding dividends)	\$	\$	\$0.17	\$0.10	\$0.12
From dividends	\$	\$	\$0.14	\$0.14	\$
From capital gains	\$	\$0.83	\$0.11	\$0.09	\$0.25
Return of capital	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Total Annual Distributions (3)	\$	0.83	\$0.42	\$0.33	\$0.37
Net Assets, end of year/period	\$9.92	\$11.26	\$10.48	\$10.39	\$9.19

Six month	Six months ended June 30		ear ended Dec	cember 31	
	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Total Net Asset Value (000's) (4)	\$971	\$1,048	\$965	\$801	\$596
Number of units outstanding (4)	97,872	93,008	92,124	77,062	64,535
Management expense ratio (5)	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (6)	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%
Trading expense ratio (7)					
Portfolio turnover rate (8)	4.64%	33.12%	13.28%	15.13%	7.46%
Net Asset Value per unit	\$9.92	\$11.26	\$10.48	\$10.39	\$9.19



Educators Monitored Growth Portfolio – Class E Series – Net Assets per Unit (1)

Six months ended June 30		Ye	ar ended December 31
	2022	2021	2020
Net Assets, beginning of year/period	\$11.90	\$11.23	\$10.00
Increase (decrease) from operations:			
Total revenue	\$0.07	\$0.19	\$0.31
Total expenses, including transaction costs [excluding distributions]	(\$0.09)	(\$0.19)	(\$0.11)
Realized gains (losses) for the period	\$	\$1.08	\$0.22
Unrealized gains (losses) for the period	(\$1.47)	\$0.45	\$1.05
Total increase (decrease) from operations (2)	(\$1.49)	\$1.53	\$1.47
Distributions:			
From net investment income (excluding dividends)	\$	\$	\$0.14
From dividends	\$	\$	\$0.10
From capital gains	\$	\$0.87	\$0.12
Return of capital	\$	\$	\$
Total Annual Distributions (3)	\$	0.87	\$0.36
Net Assets, end of year/period	\$10.40	\$11.90	\$11.23

Six months	Six months ended June 30		Year ended Decemb		
	2022	2021	2020		
Total Net Asset Value (000's) (4)	\$2,190	\$2,196	\$1,775		
Number of units outstanding (4)	210,517	184,563	158,043		
Management expense ratio (5)	1.59%	1.59%	1.59%		
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (6)	1.59%	1.59%	1.59%		
Trading expense ratio (7)					
Portfolio turnover rate (8)	4.64%	33.12%	13.28%		
Net Asset Value per unit	\$10.40	\$11.90	\$11.23		



Educators Monitored Growth Portfolio – Class F Series – Net Assets per Unit (1)

Six months ended	June 30	Year ended December 31	
	2022	2021	
Net Assets, beginning of year/period	\$9.68	\$10.00	
Increase (decrease) from operations:			
Total revenue	\$0.06	\$0.17	
Total expenses, including transaction costs [excluding distributions]	(\$0.04)	(\$0.04)	
Realized gains (losses) for the period	\$	\$0.55	
Unrealized gains (losses) for the period	(\$1.20)	(\$0.01)	
Total increase (decrease) from operations (2)	(\$1.18)	\$0.67	
Distributions:			
From net investment income (excluding dividends)	\$	\$	
From dividends	\$	\$	
From capital gains	\$	\$0.71	
Return of capital	\$	\$	
Total Annual Distributions (3)	\$	\$0.71	
Net Assets, end of year/period	\$8.49	\$9.68	

Si	x months ended June 30	Year e	ended December 31
	2022	2021	
Total Net Asset Value (000's) (4)	\$462	\$410	
Number of units outstanding (4)	54,372	42,372	
Management expense ratio (5)	0.85%	0.84%	
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorption	ns <sup>(6)</sup> 0.85%	0.84%	
Trading expense ratio (7)			
Portfolio turnover rate (8)	4.64%	33.12%	
Net Asset Value per unit	\$8.49	\$9.68	

<sup>(1)</sup> This information is derived from the Fund's interim financial report and audited annual financial statements.

- (3) Distributions were either paid in cash or reinvested in additional units of the Fund.
- (4) This information is provided as at June 30 and December 31 of the year shown.
- Management expense ratio is based on total expenses (excluding distributions, 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 period.
- (6) The management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions shows what the management expense ratio of the Fund would have been if Educators Financial Group had not charged a lesser amount for its management fee.
- 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 period.
- The Fund's portfolio turnover rate indicates how actively the Fund's portfolio manager manages its portfolio investments. A portfolio turnover rate of 100% is equivalent to the Fund buying and selling all of the securities in its portfolio once in the course of the year. The higher a fund's portfolio turnover rate in a year, the greater the trading costs payable by the fund in the year, and the greater the chance of an investor receiving taxable capital gains in the year. There is not necessarily a relationship between a high turnover rate and the performance of a fund.

For financial year beginning after January 1, 2014, the financial highlights were derived from the Fund's financial statements prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS").

All references to "Net Assets" or "Net Assets per Unit" in these financial highlights are references to net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units determined in accordance with IFRS as presented in the financial statements of the Fund.

Net assets and distributions are based on the actual number of units outstanding at the relevant time. The increase/decrease from operations is based on the weighted average number of units outstanding over the financial period. This table is not intended to be a reconciliation of beginning to ending net assets per unit.



#### **Management Fees**

Educators Financial Group is the Manager-Trustee, promoter, and principal distributor of the Fund, and is responsible for the day-to-day management and administration of the Fund.

The Manager-Trustee monitors and evaluates the performance of the Fund and pays for the investment management services of the portfolio manager, as well as all administrative services required by the Fund. As compensation for these services, Educators Financial Group is entitled to receive a fee, payable monthly and calculated daily, based on the Net Asset Value of the Fund, at the annual rate of 1.75% for the Class A Series, 1.40% for the Class E Series and 0.75% for the Class F Series. The Class I Series is identical in all aspects to the Class A Series, except that there is no management fee payable by the Fund in respect of the Class I units.

The Fund is responsible for paying any applicable tax owing on its management fee.

Approximately 16.2% of the total management fees collected from all Series were used to pay for portfolio management services, with the remainder of the fees being allocated to custodial services, marketing, technology, and Manager-Trustee operating expenses.

#### **PAST PERFORMANCE**

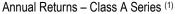
#### General

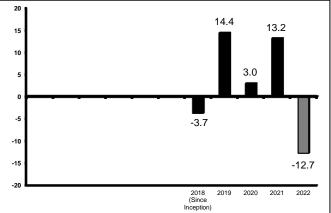
The Fund's performance information shown assumes that all distributions made by the Fund in the period(s) shown were reinvested in additional units of the Fund.

The performance information does not take into account sales, redemption, distribution, or other optional charges that would have reduced returns or performance. The performance of different fund series may vary for a number of reasons, including differences in management fees and expenses. Please remember that how the Fund has performed in the past does not necessarily indicate how it will perform in the future.

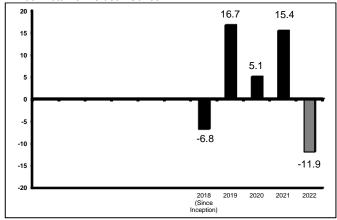
#### Year-by-Year Returns

The bar chart shows the Fund's annual performance since inception for each of the years shown and for the six-month period, and illustrates how the Fund's performance has changed from year to year. The bar chart shows, in percentage terms, how much an investment made on the first day of each financial period would have grown or decreased by the last day of each financial period.

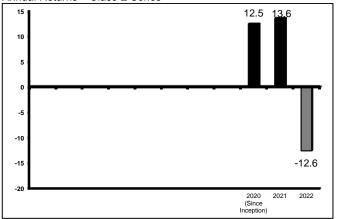




#### Annual Returns - Class I Series (1)



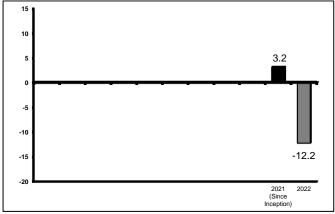
#### Annual Returns - Class E Series (2)







#### Annual Returns - Class F Series (3)



- The Class A and Class I Series commenced operation January 4, 2018
- (2) The Class E Series commenced operation February 4, 2020
- (3) The Class F Series commenced operation May 14, 2021

% Increase/decrease For the six-month period ended June 30, 2022

### SUMMARY OF INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO (Based on Net Asset Value)

As at June 30, 2022

Sector Mix	Percentage of Net Asset Value
Canadian Mutual Funds	99.50 %
Net Other Assets	0.38 %
Cash and Cash Equivalents	0.12 %

**Top Holdings** 

Security Name	Percentage of Net Asset Value
Educators Growth Fund, Class I	30.98 %
Educators U.S. Equity Fund, Class I	13.08 %
HSBC U.S. Equity Index Fund	12.55 %
Educators Bond Fund, Class I	10.43 %
HSBC International Equity Pooled Fund	7.15 %
HSBC International Equity Index Fund	7.02 %
HSBC Global High Yield Bond Pooled Fund	4.78 %
HSBC Mortgage Fund, Institutional Series	4.11 %
HSBC Emerging Markets Debt Fund, Institutional	3.87 %
Series	
HSBC Small Cap Growth Fund, Institutional Series	2.07 %
HSBC Emerging Markets Pooled Fund	1.70 %
HSBC Emerging Markets Equity Index Fund	1.67 %
HSBC Global Inflation Linked Bond Pooled Fund	0.09 %
Total Net Assets (000's)	\$16,722

The summary of investment portfolio of the Fund is as at June 30, 2022 and may change due to the Fund's ongoing portfolio transactions. Updates are available quarterly. Information about the holdings of the HSBC Funds owned by the Fund is contained in their simplified prospectus, annual information form and fund facts documents available on SEDAR at www.sedar.com.

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