# 2023 **INTERIM MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE**

June 30, 2023

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

## **Educators Monitored Aggressive 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, including international conflicts, 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 any potential lingering 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

#### **Results of Operations**

The Fund's net assets increased by 1.3% to \$4.7 million at the end of June 2023, up from \$4.6 million at the end of December 2022.

#### Investment Performance

For the year/period ending June 30, 2023 (*the period*), the Educators Monitored Aggressive Portfolio – Class A Series provided a return of 8.94% versus a Benchmark return of 9.11%. The Benchmark is a weighted composite consisting of 28.5% MSCI EAFE Index C\$, 34.0% S&P 500 Index C\$, 27.5% S&P/TSX Composite Index, and 10.0% FTSE Canada Universe Bond Index (*the Benchmark*).

The Fund underperformed 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.

Most of the portfolio's positive relative contributions compared to the benchmark came from security selection within our underlying fund fulfillments, particularly Canadian equities and international equities. However, the portfolio's overall asset allocation had a negative impact on performance. The Fund experienced solid relative contributions from investments in emerging market debt and global high yield bonds, but this was offset by investments in U.S. and emerging market equities and Canadian small cap stocks. The portfolio's holdings in mortgages (generally seen as a safer and defensive investment) also hurt performance compared to the benchmark when equity prices began rising.

Overall, the portfolio manager will continue with the barbell strategy where we have higher levels of investment compared to the benchmark in safer mortgages and money market investments and use Canadian equities as our main risky asset bet. Domestic stocks are still trading at a discount compared to their historical averages, and earnings expectations have already been toned down to reflect outlook uncertainty. Our barbell strategy should provide some downside protection while also maintaining our exposure to the markets if more optimistic scenarios occur.

## **Recent Developments**

Global economic growth remained generally resilient in the first half of 2023, which has also meant that core inflation is decelerating slower than expected. As a result, central banks around the world have remained laser-focused on their rate-tightening cycle. After a five month pause, since the beginning of 2023 the Bank of Canada (BoC) raised interest rates by 50 basis points, with the overnight rate sitting at 4.75% at the end of the six-month period, followed by another 25 basis point hike in July to 5.0%. U.S. rates are already at 5.25%, with another 100 to 125 basis points of hikes expected by the end of the year.

Looking ahead, the portfolio manager continues to believe that rapidly rising rates will lead to a brief and shallow recession. However, this is likely to take a few more months to realize given current economic conditions and labour market momentum. As seen so far in 2023, developed world equities can still do well in this type of environment, even though some of the high returns in the first half of the year were due to euphoria regarding firms linked to artificial intelligence firms in the U.S. The Fund has responded to this somewhat unusual investment backdrop by keeping a reasonably defensive position and cautiously investing in undervalued opportunities.

## **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 2023 Educators Financial Group did not refer any conflict of interest matters to the Fund's Independent Review Committee (*the 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 for the past five years. Currently Class I units of the Fund are not being offered to purchase by retail investors.

Educators Monitored Aggressive Portfolio – Class A Series – Net Assets per Unit (1)					
Six-months ended June 30	Year ended December 31				

2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
\$9.73	\$10.94	\$10.26	\$10.33	\$9.05	\$10.00
\$0.08	\$0.15	\$0.16	\$0.32	\$0.29	\$0.23
(\$0.10)	(\$0.20)	(\$0.22)	(\$0.19)	(\$0.20)	(\$0.19)
\$0.03	\$0.19	\$1.13	\$0.10	(\$0.08)	\$0.39
\$0.86	(\$1.14)	\$0.53	\$0.02	\$1.34	(\$1.46)
\$0.87	(\$1.00)	\$1.60	\$0.25	\$1.35	(\$1.03)
\$	\$	\$	\$0.08	\$0.06	\$0.01
\$	\$	\$	\$0.04	\$0.03	\$
\$	\$0.23	\$0.94	\$0.21	\$0.10	\$0.27
\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
\$	\$0.23	\$0.94	\$0.33	\$0.19	\$0.28
\$10.60	\$9.73	\$10.94	\$10.26	\$10.33	\$9.05
	2023 \$9.73 \$0.08 (\$0.10) \$0.03 \$0.86 \$0.87 \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	2023 2022   \$9.73 \$10.94   \$0.08 \$0.15   (\$0.10) (\$0.20)   \$0.03 \$0.19   \$0.86 (\$1.14)   \$0.87 (\$1.00)   \$ \$   \$ \$   \$ \$   \$ \$   \$ \$   \$ \$   \$ \$   \$ \$   \$ \$   \$ \$   \$ \$   \$ \$   \$ \$0.23	2023 2022 2021   \$9.73 \$10.94 \$10.26   \$0.08 \$0.15 \$0.16   (\$0.10) (\$0.20) (\$0.22)   \$0.03 \$0.19 \$1.13   \$0.86 (\$1.14) \$0.53   \$0.87 (\$1.00) \$1.60   \$ \$ \$   \$ \$ \$   \$ \$ \$   \$ \$ \$   \$ \$ \$   \$ \$ \$   \$ \$ \$   \$ \$0.23 \$0.94	2023 2022 2021 2020   \$9.73 \$10.94 \$10.26 \$10.33   \$0.08 \$0.15 \$0.16 \$0.32   (\$0.10) (\$0.20) (\$0.22) (\$0.19)   \$0.03 \$0.19 \$1.13 \$0.10   \$0.86 (\$1.14) \$0.53 \$0.02   \$0.87 (\$1.00) \$1.60 \$0.25   \$ \$ \$ \$0.08   \$ \$ \$ \$0.04   \$ \$ \$ \$   \$ \$ \$ \$   \$ \$0.23 \$0.94 \$0.33	2023 2022 2021 2020 2019   \$9.73 \$10.94 \$10.26 \$10.33 \$9.05   \$0.08 \$0.15 \$0.16 \$0.32 \$0.29   (\$0.10) (\$0.20) (\$0.22) (\$0.19) (\$0.20)   \$0.03 \$0.19 \$1.13 \$0.10 (\$0.08)   \$0.86 (\$1.14) \$0.53 \$0.02 \$1.34   \$0.87 (\$1.00) \$1.60 \$0.25 \$1.35   \$ \$ \$ \$0.04 \$0.03   \$ \$0.23 \$0.94 \$0.21 \$0.10   \$ \$ \$ \$ \$   \$ \$0.23 \$0.94 \$0.33 \$0.19

## Ratios and Supplemental Data (based on Net Asset Value)

Six-months	ended June 30	Y	/ear ended	December 3	1	
	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Total Net Asset Value (000's) (4)	\$2,805	\$2,697	\$2,964	\$2,081	\$1,847	\$876
Number of units outstanding (4)	264,730	277,330	270,890	202,844	178,890	96,718
Management expense ratio (5)	1.98%	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%	1.98%	1.99%
Trading expense ratio (7)	%	%	%	%	%	%
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>(8)</sup>	6.64%	33.06%	45.12%	26.93%	24.28%	3.78%
Net Asset Value per unit	\$10.60	\$9.73	\$10.94	\$10.26	\$10.33	\$9.05



## Educators Monitored Aggressive Portfolio – Class I Series – Net Assets per Unit<sup>(1)</sup>

Six-months ender	d June 30	Year ended December 31				
	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Net Assets, beginning of year/period	\$10.19	\$11.26	\$10.35	\$10.41	\$9.10	\$10.00
Increase (decrease) from operations:						
Total revenue	\$0.08	\$0.17	\$0.17	\$0.33	\$0.25	\$0.17
Total expenses, including transaction costs [excluding distributions]	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Realized gains (losses) for the period	\$0.03	\$0.22	\$1.03	\$0.13	\$0.04	\$0.30
Unrealized gains (losses) for the period	\$0.99	(\$1.09)	\$0.61	\$0.23	\$1.47	(\$1.10)
Total increase (decrease) from operations (2)	\$1.10	(\$0.70)	\$1.81	\$0.69	\$1.76	(\$0.63)
Distributions:						
From net investment income (excluding dividends)	\$	\$	\$	\$0.21	\$0.12	\$0.10
From dividends	\$	\$	\$	\$0.10	\$0.14	\$
From capital gains	\$	\$0.24	\$0.97	\$0.21	\$0.10	\$0.30
Return of capital	\$	\$0.01	\$	\$	\$	\$
Total Annual Distributions <sup>(3)</sup>	\$	\$0.25	\$0.97	\$0.52	\$0.36	\$0.40
Net Assets, end of year/period	\$11.22	\$10.19	\$11.26	\$10.35	\$10.41	\$9.10

## Ratios and Supplemental Data (based on Net Asset Value)

Six-months e	nded June 30	Year ended December 31				
	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Total Net Asset Value (000's) (4)	\$435	\$548	\$513	\$269	\$216	\$263
Number of units outstanding (4)	38,747	53,714	45,560	26,012	20,701	28,861
Management expense ratio (5)	%	%	%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (6)	%	%	%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%
Trading expense ratio (7)	%	%	%	%	%	%
Portfolio turnover rate (8)	6.64%	33.06%	45.12%	26.93%	28.24%	3.78%
Net Asset Value per unit	\$11.22	\$10.19	\$11.26	\$10.35	\$10.41	\$9.10



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

Six-months ended	Six-months ended June 30		nded Decen	nber 31	
	2023	2022	2021	2020	
Net Assets, beginning of year/period	\$10.69	\$11.98	\$11.19	\$10.00	
Increase (decrease) from operations:					
Total revenue	\$0.09	\$0.18	\$0.18	\$0.32	
Total expenses, including transaction costs [excluding distributions]	(\$0.09)	(\$0.17)	(\$0.20)	(\$0.11)	
Realized gains (losses) for the period	\$0.04	\$0.21	\$1.24	\$0.21	
Unrealized gains (losses) for the period	\$0.93	(\$1.12)	\$0.52	\$1.22	
Total increase (decrease) from operations (2)	\$0.97	(\$0.90)	\$1.74	\$1.64	
Distributions:					
From net investment income (excluding dividends)	\$	\$	\$	\$0.18	
From dividends	\$	\$	\$	\$0.08	
From capital gains	\$	\$0.25	\$1.03	\$0.23	
Return of capital	\$	\$	\$	\$	
Total Annual Distributions <sup>(3)</sup>	\$	\$0.25	\$1.03	\$0.49	
Net Assets, end of year/period	\$11.67	\$10.69	\$11.98	\$11.19	

## Ratios and Supplemental Data (based on Net Asset Value)

Six-months et	Six-months ended June 30		nded Decen	nber 31	
	2023	2022	2021	2020	
Total Net Asset Value (000's) (4)	\$842	\$721	\$657	\$479	
Number of units outstanding <sup>(4)</sup>	72,170	67,412	54,850	42,795	
Management expense ratio (5)	1.58%	1.59%	1.59%	1.59%	
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (6)	1.58%	1.59%	1.59%	1.59%	
Trading expense ratio (7)	%	%	%	%	
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>(8)</sup>	6.64%	33.06%	45.12%	26.93%	
Net Asset Value per unit	\$11.67	\$10.69	\$11.98	\$11.19	



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

Six-months ended	d June 30	Year e	nded December 31	
	2023	2022	2021	
Net Assets, beginning of year/period	\$8.63	\$9.61	\$10.00	
Increase (decrease) from operations:				
Total revenue	\$0.07	\$0.17	\$0.07	
Total expenses, including transaction costs [excluding distributions]	(\$0.04)	(\$0.08)	(\$0.04)	
Realized gains (losses) for the period	\$0.03	\$0.24	\$0.35	
Unrealized gains (losses) for the period	\$0.85	(\$0.82)	\$0.01	
Total increase (decrease) from operations (2)	\$0.91	(\$0.49)	\$0.39	
Distributions:				
From net investment income (excluding dividends)	\$	\$	\$	
From dividends	\$	\$	\$	
From capital gains	\$	\$0.21	\$0.82	
Return of capital	\$	\$	\$	
Total Annual Distributions <sup>(3)</sup>	\$	\$0.21	\$0.82	
Net Assets, end of year/period	\$9.45	\$8.63	\$9.61	

#### Ratios and Supplemental Data (based on Net Asset Value)

Six-months er	Six-months ended June 30		nded Decembe	er 31
	2023	2022	2021	
Total Net Asset Value (000's) (4)	\$564	\$679	\$465	
Number of units outstanding <sup>(4)</sup>	59,705	78,752	48,362	
Management expense ratio (5)	0.91%	0.91%	0.90%	
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions <sup>(6)</sup>	0.91%	0.91%	0.90%	
Trading expense ratio (7)	%	%	%	
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>(8)</sup>	6.64%	33.06%	45.12%	
Net Asset Value per unit	\$9.45	\$8.63	\$9.61	

(1) This information is derived from the Fund's interim financial report and audited annual financial statements. For financial years 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.

(2) 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.

<sup>(3)</sup> Distributions were either paid in cash or reinvested in additional units of the Fund.

<sup>(4)</sup> This information is provided as at June 30 or December 31 of the year shown.

- <sup>(5)</sup> 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.
- <sup>(6)</sup> 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.
- <sup>(7)</sup> 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.
- <sup>(8)</sup> 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.



#### 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 0.80% 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 17.6% of the total management fees collected from all Series excluding Class I Series, approximately 16.0% of the total management fees collected, 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

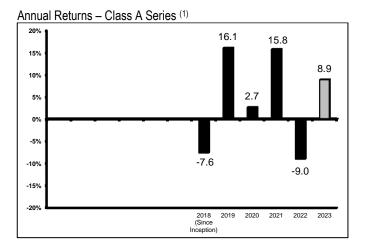
#### General

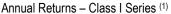
The Fund's performance information shown assumes that all distributions made by the Fund in the period(s) shown were reinvested in additional units of the Fund.

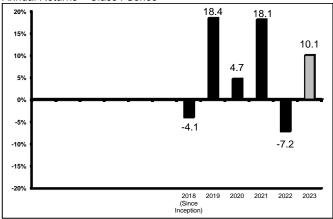
The performance information does not take into account sales, redemption, distribution, or other optional charges that would have reduced returns or performance. The performance of different fund series may vary for a number of reasons, including differences in management fees and expenses. Please remember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

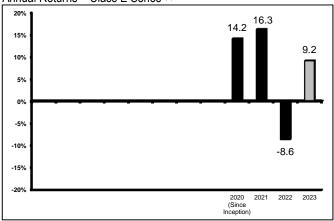
#### Year-by-Year Returns

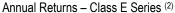
The bar chart shows the Fund's annual performance for each of the years shown and for the six-month period and illustrates how the Fund's performance has changed from year to year. The bar chart shows, in percentage terms, how much an investment made on the first day of each financial period would have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









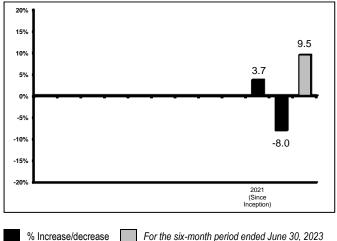




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Annual Returns – Class F Series (3)



The Class A and Class I Series commenced operation January 4, 2018

(1) (2)

The Class E Series commenced operation February 4, 2020 The Class F Series commenced operation May 14, 2021 (3)

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

As at June 30, 2023

Sector Mix	Percentage of Net Asset Value
Canadian Mutual Fund	99.18 %
Net Other Assets (Liabilities)	0.46 %
Cash and Cash Equivalents	0.36 %

## **Top Holdings**

Security Name	Percentage of Net Asset Value
Educators U.S. Equity Fund, Class I	34.66 %
Educators Growth Fund, Class I	25.23 %
HSBC International Equity Pooled Fund	10.97 %
HSBC International Equity Index Fund	10.68 %
HSBC Global High Yield Bond Pooled Fund	3.98 %
HSBC Emerging Markets Debt Fund, Institutional Series	3.53 %
HSBC Mortgage Fund Institution	2.94 %
HSBC Small Cap Growth Fund, Institutional Series	2.72 %
HSBC Emerging Markets Pooled Fund	2.30 %
HSBC Emerging Markets Equity Index Fund	2.17 %

#### Total Net Assets (000's) \$4,646

The summary of investment portfolio of the Fund is as at June 30, 2023 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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