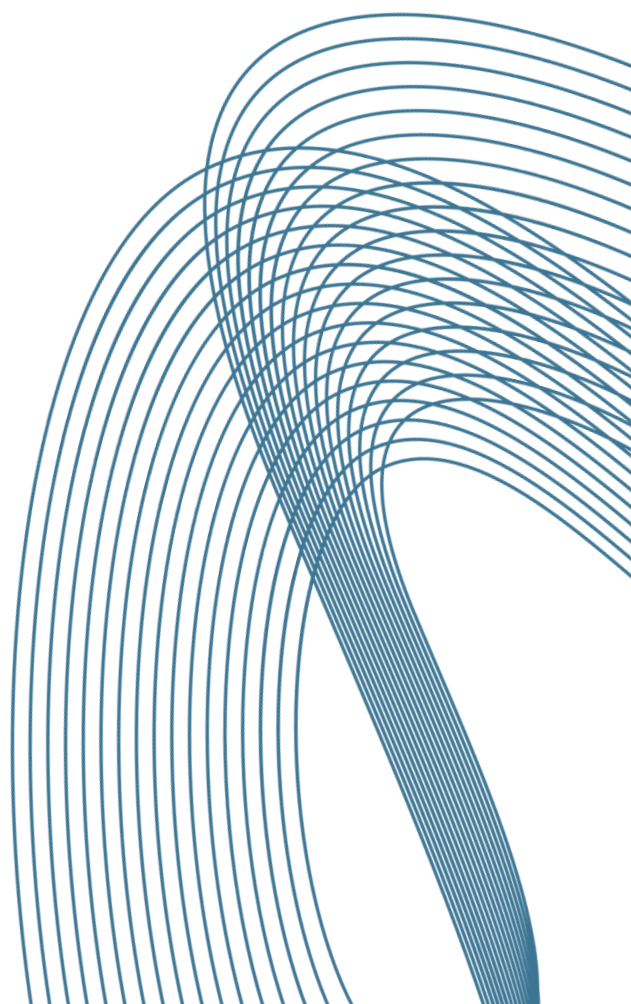


Mount Royal University

Student Investment Fund Performance Report

Fourth Quarter & Full Year 2024



Dear Stakeholders,

The 2024/2025 Student Investment Fund (“SIF” or the “Fund”) team is pleased to present the results of the final quarter and fiscal year ended 2024. The SIF takes a bottom-up, value approach to security selection. The Fund targets investing in securities at attractive valuations, resilient balance sheets, competent management and firms that are committed to delivering stakeholder value through increasing of dividends and conducting share repurchases. The SIF's investment universe is primarily concentrated in TSX60 stocks and is benchmarked (the “Benchmark”) against the TSX60 Total Return Index.

2024 was an overwhelmingly positive year for North American equity markets, and the TSX60 was no exception. During 2024, the TSX60 total return was ~21.0% while the Fund generated a total return of 20.5%. In the U.S., the S&P 500 recorded a ~25% return (~36% in Canadian dollars). Although the first half of the year was somewhat mixed for Canadian markets, strong commodity prices and accommodative interest rate cuts by the Bank of Canada boosted equity performance through the third quarter. The fourth quarter was marked by volatility stemming from the regime change in the United States; however, equities in our portfolio ended the year on a resilient note, gaining just under 4% in capital appreciation

Last winter, the fund was managed by a team of students enrolled in the two-year program, under the valued guidance of our esteemed Professor Allan Dwyer. This year, the SIF program transitioned to a one-year format and was led by a predominantly new cohort of students beginning in the fall, under the mentorship of Professor Elias Foscolos.

The objective of the fund is to:

- (1) Gain hands-on experience in securities valuation, portfolio management, and the associated risks of real-world investment management,
- (2) Research and develop analytical skills in security and portfolio analysis,
- (3) Experiential learning through the application of theory in a professional manner with actual dollars in the financial markets,
- (4) Promote a sense of professionalism, empowerment, independence, teamwork, ethics, and confidence in portfolio management techniques, and
- (5) Provide our client, Mount Royal University, with a stable return on its investment to continue supporting the learning of Bachelor of Business Administration Finance students.

The Fund began the year with a value of \$294,289 and closed at \$442,202 as of December 31, 2024. The increase in portfolio value was driven almost equally by capital appreciation and generous donor contributions totaling \$76,000. This growth underscores the vital role of donor support, including the generosity of Fred and Cheryl Pynn.

The Fund looks forward to the 2025 fiscal year and to welcoming a new group of Student Analysts in the fall.

Sincerely,

Goc Goc Shasi Sengainathan



Mount Royal University
Student Investment Fund

FY24 Overview

The following tables “Exhibit 1” and “Exhibit 2” present the Fund’s performance on a quarterly and annual basis. The Fund’s overall annual return is primarily attributable to strong Q1 and Q3 performances, driven by securities in the Materials and Energy sectors. During the second quarter, the Benchmark, posted a negative return while our portfolio was able to weather the market retracement well marginally outperforming the Benchmark. In the fourth quarter the Fund also posted a modest positive return.

Exhibit 1 – Quarterly Returns

Period	Q1/24	Q2/23	Q3/23	Q4/23	Q1/24	Q2/24	Q3/24	Q4/24
MRU SIF	2.7%	0.7%	(0.7%)	5.7%	7.3%	(1.2%)	9.7%	3.6%
TSX60 Total Return	4.1%	1.5%	(2.5%)	8.8%	6.3%	(1.4%)	11.2%	3.7%

Throughout 2024, the SIF tracked its Benchmark while exhibiting marginally lower monthly volatility. Based on monthly calculators, the Fund recorded a Beta of 0.90 and delivered a modestly positive alpha of approximately 1.5%. This strong relative performance reflects the Fund’s exposure to premier, shareholder-focused companies within the TSX 60 universe.

On an annual basis, the Fund delivered its strongest performance since inception. The third quarter of FY 2024 was a standout, surpassing even the exceptionally strong first quarter and driving the Fund’s robust annual return, despite comparatively slower results in the second and fourth quarters.

Exhibit 2 – Annual Returns

Period	2022	2023	2024
MRU SIF TWRR	3.8%	8.7%	20.5%
TSX60 Total Return	(6.2%)	12.1%	21.0%

During 2024, assets under management (AUM) increased by \$147,912, representing a growth of just over 50%. As previously noted, generous donor contributions—totaling \$76,000—played a key role in this increase. The significant capital inflow in Q1 2024 prompted a thorough review of our holdings to ensure prudent allocation of the new funds, resulting in a reshuffling of the portfolio early in the year. For further details, please refer to Exhibit 3 on the following page.

In the fourth quarter of 2024, AUM rose by \$15,411, or 3.6%. Approximately 20% of this increase was driven by dividends, with the remaining 80% attributed to capital gains. No donor contributions were received during Q4. Additional information can be found in Exhibit 4 on the following page.

Exhibit 3 – Annual Funds Flow

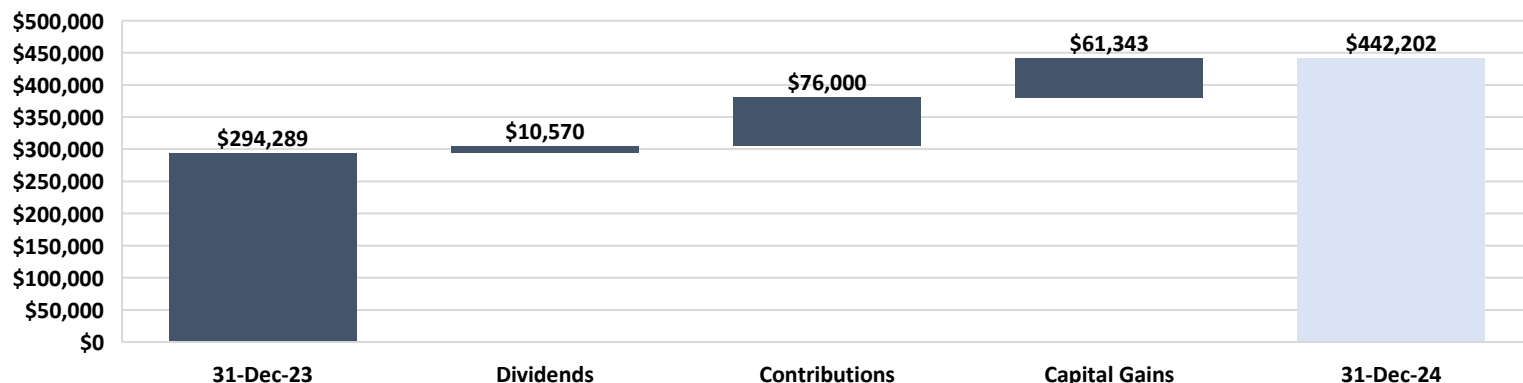
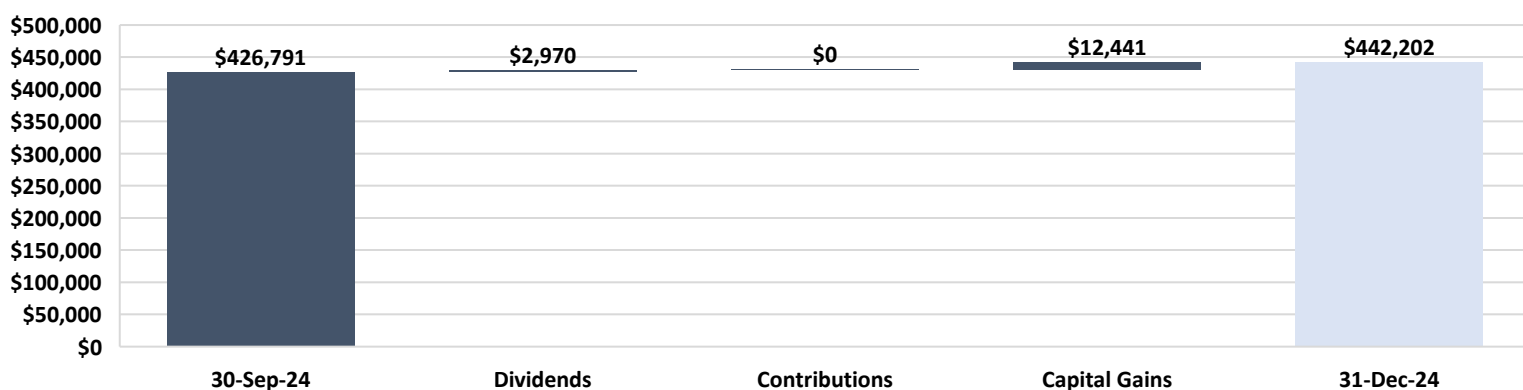


Exhibit 4 – Quarterly Funds Flow



SIF 2024 Performance

Financials

The financial sector had an exceptionally strong year, and the SIF was able to fully take advantage of it. Our security selection was optimal, as we are heavily exposed to select big banks like Royal Bank (TSX: RY) but are not exposed to TD Bank (TSX:TD). The latter of which put a damper on the sector's return. The 25-bps BoC interest rate cut last June lent banks a strong tailwind after an already promising start to the year. Our largest holding, Royal Bank (TSX: RY) continues to be our strongest performer, surging over 8.5% in the first half of the year, and picking up momentum through the year. National Bank (TSX: NA) has been another strong performer, gaining over 30% this year in total return as well. Within our non-bank financial holdings, Intact Financial (TSX: IFC), is Canada's premier insurance company and our main exposure to the insurance industry. Intact has performed exceptionally well this year, as the insurance industry has made substantial profits. The Bank of Canada has been generous regarding interest rate



cuts, with a total of five rate cuts for the year, including two 'jumbo' 50 bps cuts in October and December. This has provided the sector much needed relief after a rough interest rate environment witnessed during 2023.

Energy

Although natural gas saw a tough start to the year, prices gained their footing in the second half. Crude oil prices on the other hand have since had a harder time after a hot start to the year. Consequently, our main exposure to natural gas; Tourmaline Oil (TSX: TOU) has been subject to extreme volatility. After a strong start to the year, crude oil production and supply has found stability, and prices have been in a bearish trend for the entirety of the fiscal second half. Canadian Natural Resources Limited (TSX: CNQ) was outpacing the market for the first half of the year, however the stock gave back the majority of its returns by the end as a result of the falling crude prices. Despite this volatility, we remain confident in our Canadian energy holdings. The LNG Canada project is expected to decrease the basis on natural gas within the Western Canadian Sedimentary Basin, where CNQ will be able to take advantage of this in tandem with the TMX expansion. Finally, with geopolitical tensions in the middle east continuing to escalate, we anticipate crude oil supply may be threatened sometime in the near future.

Basic Materials

Our exposure in the materials sector has benefitted this year from the rallies seen in both the copper and gold markets. World copper demand is usually carried by China, and 2024 has been no exception. On the other hand, copper demand in the EU, Japan, and the US has been weaker. Chinese copper usage suffered late in 2023 on the back of a crumbling housing market but has since rebounded. Copper hit record highs of \$5.20/lb on the COMEX on May 20, lending tailwind to our miners and royalty companies. Since then, copper prices have been volatile, but to the downside. The strong start to the year was mostly diminished by the end, finishing only ~ 4% higher Y/Y. Gold prices on the other hand, have been on an upward trajectory since the beginning of the year. The haven continues to be enticing to investors under the shaky geopolitical landscape we currently find ourselves. One of our biggest losers last year, First Quantum Minerals (TSX: FM) has clawed back some of those losses this year. On the back of commodity price rallies in the company's two key metals gold and copper, the miner has rallied over 70% in 2024. Teck Resources (TSX: TECK.b), although the stock returned most of its first-half gains, finished the year positive as well. Finally, Nutrien Ltd. (TSX: NTR) has been and continues to be on the blunt end of commodity prices. The stock has struggled this year, finishing negative as shrinking margins continue strangling earnings growth.

Information Technologies SIF: +23.3% TSX60: +36.3%

The SIF holdings within Information Technology consist of Constellation Software (TSX: CSU) and CGI Inc. (GIB.A). This sector's growth was primarily driven by the interest rate cuts throughout the year. The appetite for AI innovations has also bolstered the sector. Constellation Software (TSX: CSU), has capitulated on this with its partnership with Boosted.ai this past year. We expect continued growth in the sector, AI development and innovation within the US will create a spillover effect that will increase investor appetite within the Canadian environment as well.

Industrials

The SIF holdings within the Industrial sector consist of Canadian National Railway (TSX: CNR) and Thomson Reuters (TSX: TRI). Canadian National Railway (TSX: CNR) has struggled in the past year after a strong finish to 2023. The stock has remained in a downtrend for almost the entirety of the year, losing over 12% in the process. Thomson Reuters (TSX: TRI), has performed in the complete opposite fashion. Aside from short periods of ranging, the unique company has remained in a seemingly perpetual uptrend. The company is resilient to economic conditions, unlike other industrial names because of the nature of their operations. The company has been successful in capitalizing on and investing in its core business segments and strategy.

Utilities

The Utilities sector finished the year rather lethargically. Our holdings however have fared quite well in comparison, mainly because of our classification of Enbridge (TSX: ENB) as a Utilities holding. As Enbridge is categorized under Utilities rather than Energy, this classification impacts sector attribution and partially explains the sector's relative outperformance. Our other security, Waste Connections Inc (TSX: WCN), had a fantastic year after a relatively quiet 2023. As one of our top performing securities, WCN has returned over 24% in 2024 by consecutively surpassing earnings estimates.

Communication Services

Our current holdings in this sector are BCE Inc. (TSX: BCE). The stock has witnessed devaluation for almost the entirety of 2024. The company has encountered significant challenges due to rising competition in both cable and wirelines, as well as monopolies by larger communication providers. The stock has lost over 35% of its value in the past year but is still a strong dividend play for the portfolio.

Consumer Staples

The Fund's current holdings in this sector are Alimentation Couche-Tard Inc. (TSX: ATD). The stock has seen strong uptrends in the past due to strategic capital investments that have paid off, successfully increasing Free Cash Flow. However, the stock has been volatile for much of the year, returning only around 2% after whipsaws in both directions.

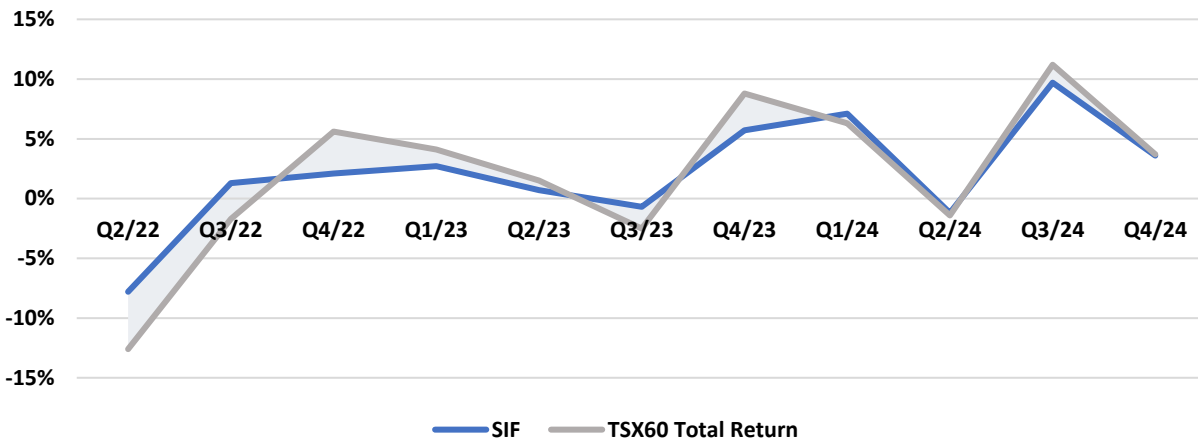
Summary

We remain quite optimistic with our security selection. The Fund's performance in the past year has not only galvanized the belief in our process but has also provided the freedom to re-evaluate certain positions within the portfolio and redistribute capital appropriately. Interest rate cuts by the Bank of Canada have lent quite well to the portfolio in 2024. With five cuts this year, Canadian equities have been afforded ample opportunity for appreciation. Despite the elevated volatility following the change in U.S. political leadership our portfolio has remained resilient.

Portfolio Risk Adjusted Return

As can be observed in Exhibit 5, the Fund generally is less volatile than the TSX60. This lack of volatility is likely due to the underweighting of a key technology company, Shopify Inc. (TSX:SHOP). Despite the Fund underperforming the TSX on an overall basis, on a monthly basis we estimate the portfolio had an equity beta of 0.90 and generated alpha of ~+1.5% in 2024. It has experienced over 40% growth in share price during the fourth quarter.

Exhibit 5 – Benchmarked Performance



Final Commentary

The TSX60 performed exceptionally well in 2024, and The Fund was able to capitalize on these gains through our carefully curated portfolio. The Fund successfully generated alpha during 2024, and we are proud to report one of the best years since the inception of the portfolio.

Exhibit 6 – Portfolio Leaders and Laggards

2024 Leaders	Total Return	2024 Laggards	Total Return
First Quantum Minerals Ltd	70.8%	BCE Inc	(29.9%)
Brookfield Corporation	56.5%	Nutrien Ltd	(10.0%)
Brookfield Asset Management	51.7%	Brookfield Infrastructure Partners LP	2.4%
Weston George Limited	38.0%	Alimentation Couche-Tard	3.1%
Enbridge Inc	37.2%	Canadian National Railway	6.4%

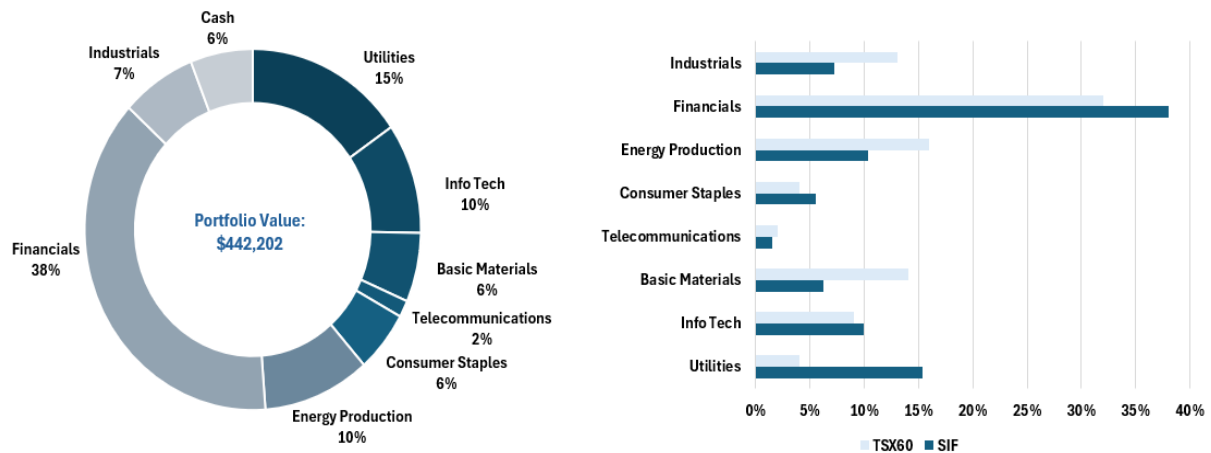
*The values displayed reflect the share price return of each stock from January 2nd to December 31st, 2024, via Refinitiv.

Exhibit 6, highlights the Fund's key Laggards and Leaders in terms of overall performance. The fund's leader in 2024 was First Quantum Minerals, a strong recovery after the sharp loss in value witnessed late in 2023. The company has been recovering from extreme shocks resulting from the conflict surrounding their premier Panamanian asset. This dispute led to a subsequent drop in share price of over 50%. Although the situation in Panama hasn't been completely settled, negotiations have progressed through the year and have continued to appear positive and

productive. In addition, the company still maintains ownership stakes (often 80-100%) in lucrative and healthy producing assets around the world. Brookfield has also had a very strong year, the asset manager offloaded around \$40bn in assets in 2024 alone. Combined with financing, the company now has around \$160bn in deployable capital. Brookfield has deployed \$1bn of the injected capital into share buybacks, which has provided tailwinds for the stock. Combine this with the interest rate cuts throughout the year, and Brookfield has rewarded shareholders handsomely in 2024. Weston George (TSX: WN), has provided The Fund with strong returns this year as well. The majority owner of Loblaws has been afforded the resiliency of consumer grocery spending, as well as the added benefit of policy rate cuts at the Bank of Canada. The company has faced scrutiny recently for perceived price gouging in Loblaws grocery stores because of increased yearly profits and increases in salary in the C-suite. Nonetheless, as a shareholder, The Fund has benefitted from the strong operating performance and value provided by the Weston George group. A staple in Canadian equities, Enbridge has performed phenomenally in the past year, providing over 37% in total return. The company sustains elevated levels of debt due to the nature of the operations and the size and has historically been punished on the market in times of elevated interest rates. The stock struggled in 2023 because of heightened interest rates but has since recovered quite impressively as the policy rate at the Bank of Canada continues to be eased.

Our holdings within the telecommunication sector have been problematic for the past year, with BCE Inc. (TSX: BCE) especially struggling. Earnings growth for BCE has been negative for the past few years, and the company has been struggling to adapt to a rapidly changing sector. BCE has been trading at its lowest price since 2013 and doesn't appear to show signs of reversal. The company pays a strong dividend, but with the current outlook it is a security we will be assessing for divestiture. Another Canadian icon, Nutrien (TSX: NTR) continues to struggle. The stock has underperformed for the past couple of quarters since the volatility afforded by the war in Ukraine began to subside. Nonetheless, the company is one of the largest potash producers and one of the largest fertilizer retailers in the world, so the value proposition remains enticing. Although potash demand is strong in North America, realized margins continue to fall with the price of the commodity and investors have been hesitant since. Nutrien (TSX: NTR) still pays a strong and growing dividend, and although the stock is struggling, we remain confident in our selection. Brookfield Infrastructure Partners recovered slightly after a tough first half. Interest rate easing has contributed mainly to this, as Brookfield's capital structure is heavily debt-laden, particularly on the infrastructure side. The stock ended the year slightly positive, but The Fund is confident there is potential for further upside. Alimentation Couche Tard (TSX: ATD), has been a darling in our portfolio in the past, but as of recently, the company has been embroiled in the drama which has been the proposed 7/11 merger. The company has seen whipsaw action for most of the year, just squeaking out about 3% for the year, but we remain confident in the company, and hopeful regarding the potential merger. Taken altogether, The Fund is quite confident in our security selection, but we continue to assess our positions as the market changes dynamically.

Exhibit 7 – Portfolio Fund Allocation



Note: We have classified Enbridge, (TSX: ENB) one of our larger positions, in the utility sector rather than energy, thus we appear heavily overweight in the utilities sector and underweight in the energy sector.

Exhibit 8 – Portfolio Snapshot

Holdings as of December 2024								
Equity	Symbol	Shares	Book Price	Market Price	Book Value	Market Value	% Gain (Loss)	% Of Portfolio
Financials								
BANK OF MONTREAL	BMO	133	\$132	\$140	\$17,613	\$18,560	5%	4%
BROOKFIELD ASSET MGMT	BAM	378	\$47	\$78	\$17,950	\$29,469	64%	7%
BROOKFIELD CORP	BN	332	\$56	\$83	\$18,486	\$27,430	48%	6%
INTACT FINANCIAL CORP	IFC	103	\$201	\$262	\$20,752	\$26,958	30%	6%
NATIONAL BANK OF CDA	NA	238	\$102	\$131	\$24,345	\$31,188	28%	7%
ROYAL BANK OF CANADA	RY	199	\$133	\$173	\$26,424	\$34,491	31%	8%
Utilities								
ENBRIDGE INC	ENB	580	\$51	\$61	\$29,780	\$35,386	19%	8%
WASTE CONNECTIONS INC	WCN	71	\$187	\$247	\$13,303	\$17,509	32%	4%
Energy Production								
CDN NATURAL RESOURCES LTD	CNQ	540	\$34	\$44	\$18,258	\$23,965	31%	5%
TOURMALINE OIL CORP	TOU	328	\$64	\$67	\$21,060	\$21,819	4%	5%
Industrials								
CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAY	CNR	93	\$160	\$146	\$14,920	\$13,575	-(9%)	3%
BROOKFIELD INFRA PTNR LPU	BIP.UN	329	\$38	\$46	\$12,643	\$15,029	19%	3%
Consumer Staples								
ALIMENTATION COUCHE-TARD INC	ATD	180	\$65	\$80	\$11,672	\$14,350	23%	3%
WESTON GEORGE LIMITED	WN	45	\$157	\$224	\$7,067	\$10,059	42%	2%
Basic Materials								
NUTRIEN LTD	NTR	149	\$80	\$64	\$11,957	\$9,584	-(20%)	2%
FIRST QUANTUM MINERLS LTD	FM	376	\$24	\$19	\$8,954	\$6,967	-(22%)	2%
TECK RESOURCES LTD	TECK.B	180	\$45	\$58	\$8,085	\$10,490	30%	2%
Telecommunications								
BCE INC	BCE	200	\$50	\$33	\$9,969	\$6,664	-(33%)	2%
Information Technology								
CGI INC	GIB.A	139	\$127	\$157	\$17,687	\$21,862	24%	5%
CONSTELLATION SOFTWARE	CSU	5	\$3,286	\$4,445	\$16,428	\$22,225	35%	5%
THOMSON REUTERS CORP	TRI	79	\$159	\$231	\$12,578	\$18,235	45%	4%
Total Equities						\$415,813		94%
Cash						\$5,234		
NBI ALTAMIRA CASHPERFORMER ACCOUNT (NBC)- F						\$21,155		
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents						\$26,389		6%
Portfolio Value as at December 31, 2024						\$442,202		100%

Note: The column indicating '% Gain (Loss)' is the total return achieved by the respective security during the period of January 2nd, 2024 – December 31st, 2024, via Refinitiv.