

# Simplified *Prospectus*

May 19, 2017

OFFERING SERIES A, D AND I SECURITIES

OF

COUNSEL CANADIAN STRATEGIC PORTFOLIOS

COUNSEL CANADIAN CONSERVATIVE PORTFOLIO

COUNSEL CANADIAN BALANCED PORTFOLIO

COUNSEL CANADIAN GROWTH PORTFOLIO

No securities regulatory authority has expressed an opinion about these securities. It is an offence to claim otherwise. **The mutual funds and the securities of the mutual funds offered under this simplified prospectus are not registered with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission and they are sold in the United States only in reliance on exemptions from registration.**

**COUNSEL | PORTFOLIO SERVICES**

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# Part A: General Disclosure

## *Introduction*

- This simplified prospectus contains selected important information to help you make an informed decision about investing in the mutual funds listed on the cover (individually, each is a “**Fund**”, and collectively, they are referred to as the “**Funds**”).
- It is important that you select the appropriate Funds and series in which to invest in order to properly address your personal circumstances and investment needs.
- This simplified prospectus will help you understand your rights as an investor in the Funds.
- To make this document easier to read and understand, we have used personal pronouns throughout much of the text. References to “**Counsel**”, “**our**”, “**we**” or “**us**” generally refer to Counsel Portfolio Services Inc. in its capacity as manager of the Funds and also in its capacity as trustee of the Funds. References to “**you**” are directed to the reader as a potential or actual investor in the Funds.
- In this document we refer to “**financial advisors**” and “**dealers**”. The financial advisor is the individual with whom you consult for investment advice and the dealer is the company or partnership that employs your financial advisor and may include, at our discretion, a company or partnership that has received an exemption from the dealer registration requirements from the Canadian securities regulators.
- In this document, mutual funds managed by Counsel are referred to collectively as the “**Counsel Funds**” or, each individually, as a “**Counsel Fund**”. Other Counsel Funds are offered under another simplified prospectus.
- This simplified prospectus contains information about each Fund, including the series that comprise each Fund, and the risks of investing in mutual funds generally, as well as the names of the firms responsible for the portfolio management of the Funds.
- This document is divided into two parts:
  - **Part A**, from pages 1 to 40, contains **general information** applicable to all of the Funds offered by Counsel.
  - **Part B**, from pages 41 to 62 contains **specific information** about each of the Funds described in this document.
- Additional information about each Fund is available in the following documents:
  - the annual information form;
  - the most recently filed fund facts;
  - the most recently filed audited annual financial statements;
  - any unaudited interim financial statements filed after the audited annual financial statements;
  - the most recently filed annual management reports of fund performance; and

- any interim management reports of fund performance filed after the annual management reports of fund performance.
- These documents are incorporated by reference into this simplified prospectus, which means that they legally form part of this document just as if they were printed as a part of this document. You can get a copy of these documents, at your request and at no cost, by calling us toll-free at 1-877-625-9885, or from your financial advisor.
- These documents and other information about the Funds are available on our website at [www.counsellservices.com](http://www.counsellservices.com) and are also available on the website of SEDAR at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com).

### *What is a Mutual Fund and What are the Risks of Investing in a Mutual Fund?*

#### What is a Mutual Fund?

- A mutual fund is a pool of money contributed by people with similar investment objectives. Investors share the fund's income and expenses, and also the gains and losses that the fund makes on its investments, in proportion to their investment in the fund.
- In Canada, a mutual fund can be established as a unit trust or as one or more classes of shares of a corporation. The Funds offered under this simplified prospectus have been established as unit trusts and issue units to investors. In this document, reference to a Fund's "**Securities**" means its units. Investors in the Funds are sometimes referred to as "**Securityholders**". Each Fund is comprised of several series of securities.
- Please refer to the front cover of this simplified prospectus, or to the specific information about each of the Funds in Part B, for the series that are available for each Fund pursuant to this document. Some of the Funds may also offer other series of securities under separate simplified prospectuses and related annual information forms, and/or offer series which are only available on an exempt-distribution basis. The different series of securities available under this simplified prospectus are described under the heading "**Purchases, Switches and Redemptions**" starting on page 12. We may offer additional series of securities of the Funds in the future without notice to, or approval of, investors.

#### What are the General Risks of Investing in a Mutual Fund?

- A mutual fund may own many different types of investments, such as stocks, bonds, securities of other mutual funds, derivatives or cash, depending on the fund's investment objectives. The values of these investments vary from day to day, reflecting changes in interest rates, economic conditions, stock market developments and individual company news. As a result, a mutual fund's net asset value ("**NAV**") may go up and down on a daily basis, and this means the value of your investment in a mutual fund may be more, or less, when you redeem it than when you initially purchased it.
- We do not guarantee that the full amount of your original investment in a Fund will be returned to you. Unlike bank accounts or guaranteed investment certificates ("**GICs**"), mutual fund securities are not covered by the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government deposit insurer.
- Under exceptional circumstances, mutual funds may suspend redemptions. Please see the heading "**Redemptions**" on page 18 for more details.

- Mutual funds are subject to a variety of risks. These risks may cause you to lose money on your mutual fund investment. This section provides a list of the risks of investing in mutual funds. The risks that apply to each Fund offered by this simplified prospectus are listed under the sub-heading “**What are the Risks of Investing in the Fund?**” for each Fund described in **Part B**. To the extent that a Fund invests, directly or indirectly, in another mutual fund, the risks of investing in that Fund are similar to the risks of investing in the other mutual fund in which such Fund invests.
- **Capital Depletion Risk** – On occasion, the Funds may designate some of their distributions, in whole or in part, as return of capital. When we return your capital this reduces the amount of your original investment and may result in the return of the entire amount of your original investment. Return of capital that is not reinvested will reduce the NAV of the Fund, which could reduce the Fund’s ability to generate future income. You should not draw any conclusions about the Fund’s investment performance from the amount of this distribution. To the extent that the balance in the capital account becomes, or is at risk of becoming, zero, monthly distributions may be reduced or discontinued without prior notice.
- **Commodity Risk** – A mutual fund may invest in commodities or in companies engaged in commodity-focused industries and may obtain exposure to commodities using derivatives or by investing in exchange-traded funds, the underlying interests of which are commodities. Commodity prices can fluctuate significantly in short time periods, which will have a direct or indirect impact on the value of such a mutual fund.
- **Company Risk** – Equity investments, such as stocks and investments in trusts, and fixed-income investments, such as bonds, carry several risks that are specific to the company that issues the investments. A number of factors may cause the price of these investments to fall. These factors include specific developments relating to the company, conditions in the market where these investments are traded, and general economic, financial and political conditions in the countries where the company operates. While these factors impact all securities issued by a company, the values of equity securities generally tend to change more frequently and vary more widely than fixed-income securities. As a mutual fund’s NAV is based on the value of its portfolio securities, an overall decline in the value of portfolio securities that it holds will reduce the value of the mutual fund and, therefore, the value of your investment.
- **Concentration Risk** – A mutual fund may invest a large portion of its net assets in a small number of issuers, in a particular industry or geographic region, or may use a specific investment style, such as growth or value. A relatively high concentration of assets in, or exposure to a single issuer, or a small number of issuers, may reduce the diversification of a mutual fund and may result in increased volatility in the mutual fund’s NAV. Issuer concentration may also increase the illiquidity of the mutual fund’s portfolio if there is a shortage of buyers willing to purchase those securities.

A mutual fund concentrates on a style or sectors either to provide investors with more certainty about how the mutual fund will be invested or the style of the mutual fund, or because a portfolio manager believes that specialization increases the potential for good returns. If the issuer, industry or region faces difficult economic times or if the investment approach used by such mutual fund is out of favour, the mutual fund will likely lose more than it would if it diversified its investments or style. If a mutual fund’s investment objectives or strategies require concentration, it may continue to suffer poor returns over a prolonged period of time.

- **Convertible Securities Risk** – Convertible securities are fixed-income securities, preferred stocks or other securities that are convertible into common stock or other securities. The market value of convertible securities tends to decline as interest rates increase and, conversely, to increase as interest rates decline. A convertible security’s market value, however, tends to reflect the market price of the issuer’s common stock when that price approaches or exceeds the convertible security’s “conversion price”. The conversion price is defined as the predetermined price at which the convertible security could be exchanged for the associated stock. As the market price of the common stock declines, the price of the convertible security tends to be influenced more by the yield of the convertible security. Thus, it may not decline in price to the same extent as the underlying common stock.

In the event of a liquidation of the issuing company, holders of convertible securities would be paid before the company’s common stockholders but after holders of any senior debt obligations of the company. Consequently, the issuer’s convertible securities generally entail less risk than its common stock but more risk than its senior debt obligations.

- **Credit Risk** – An issuer of a bond or other fixed-income investment, including asset-backed securities, may not be able to pay interest or repay the principal at maturity. The risk of such a failure to pay is known as credit risk. Some issuers have more credit risk than others. Issuers with higher credit risk typically pay higher interest rates than interest rates paid by issuers with lower credit risk because higher credit risk companies expose investors to a greater risk of loss. Credit risk can increase or decline during the term of the fixed-income investment.

Companies, governments and other entities, including special purpose vehicles that borrow money, and the debt securities they issue, are assigned credit ratings by specialized rating agencies such as Dominion Bond Rating Service Limited (“**DBRS**”) and Standard & Poor’s Corporation (“**S&P**”). The ratings are a measure of credit risk and take into account many factors, including the value of any collateral underlying a fixed-income investment. Issuers with low or no ratings typically pay higher yields but can subject investors to substantial losses. Credit ratings are one factor used by the portfolio managers of the mutual funds in making investment decisions. A credit rating may prove to be wrong, which can lead to unanticipated losses on fixed-income investments. If the market perceives that a credit risk rating is too high, then the value of the investments may decrease substantially. A downgrade in an issuer’s credit rating or other adverse news regarding an issuer can reduce a security’s market value.

The difference in interest rates between an issuer’s bond and a government-issued bond that are otherwise identical in all respects except for the credit rating is known as the credit spread. Credit spreads widen if the market determines that a higher return is necessary to compensate for the increased risk of owning a particular fixed-income investment. An increase in credit spread after the purchase of a fixed-income investment decreases the value of that investment.

- **Derivatives Risk** – Some mutual funds may use derivatives to pursue their investment objectives. Generally, a derivative is a contract between two parties whose value is determined with reference to the market price of an asset, such as a currency, commodity or stock, or the value of an index or an economic indicator, such as a stock market index or a specified interest rate (the “**underlying interest**”).

Most derivatives are options, forwards, futures or swaps. An *option* gives the holder the right, but not the obligation, to buy or sell the underlying interest at an agreed price within a certain time period. A call option gives the holder the right to buy; a put option gives the holder the right to sell. A *forward* is a

commitment to buy or sell the underlying interest for an agreed price on a future date. A *future* is similar to a forward, except that futures are traded on exchanges. A *swap* is a commitment to exchange one set of payments for another set of payments.

Some derivatives are settled by one party's delivery of the underlying interest to the other party; others are settled by a cash payment representing the value of the contract.

The use of derivatives carries several risks:

- There is no guarantee that a market will exist for some derivatives, which could prevent the mutual fund from selling or exiting the derivative prior to the maturity of the contract. This risk may restrict the mutual fund's ability to realize its profits or limit its losses.
- It is possible that the other party to the derivative contract ("**counterparty**") will fail to perform its obligations under the contract, resulting in a loss to a mutual fund.
- When entering into a derivative contract, the mutual fund may be required to provide margin or collateral to the counterparty. If the counterparty becomes insolvent, the mutual fund could lose its margin or its collateral or incur expenses to recover it.
- Some mutual funds may use derivatives to reduce certain risks associated with investments in foreign markets, currencies or specific securities. Using derivatives for these purposes is called *hedging*. Hedging may not be effective in preventing losses. Hedging may also reduce the opportunity for gain if the value of the hedged investment rises, because the derivative could incur an offsetting loss. Hedging may also be costly or difficult to implement.
- Securities and commodities exchanges could set daily trading limits on options and futures. Such rule changes could prevent the mutual fund from completing a futures or options transaction, causing the mutual fund to realize a loss because it cannot hedge properly or limit a loss.
- Where a mutual fund holds a long or short position in a future whose underlying interest is a commodity, the mutual fund will always seek to close out its position by entering into an offsetting future prior to the first date on which the mutual fund might be required to make or take delivery of the commodity under the future. There is no guarantee the mutual fund will be able to do so. This could result in the mutual fund having to make or take delivery of the commodity.
- **Emerging Markets Risk** – Emerging markets have the risks described under foreign currency risk and foreign markets risk. In addition, they are more likely to experience political, economic and social instability and may be subject to corruption or have lower business standards. Instability may result in the expropriation of assets or restrictions on payment of dividends, income or proceeds from the sale of a mutual fund's securities. In addition, accounting and auditing standards and practices may be less stringent than those of developed countries, resulting in limited availability of information relating to a mutual fund's investments. Further, emerging market securities are often less liquid and custody and settlement mechanisms in emerging market countries may be less developed, resulting in delays and the incurring of additional costs to execute trades of securities.
- **ETF Risk** – A mutual fund may invest in a fund whose securities are listed for trading on an exchange (an "**exchange-traded fund**" or "**ETF**"). The investments of ETFs may include stocks, bonds, commodities and other financial instruments. Some ETFs, known as index participation units ("**IPUs**"),

attempt to replicate the performance of a widely quoted market index. Not all ETFs are IPU's. While investment in an ETF generally presents the same risks as investment in a conventional mutual fund that has the same investment objectives and strategies, it also carries the following additional risks, which do not apply to investment in conventional mutual funds:

- The performance of an ETF may be significantly different from the performance of the index, assets, or financial measure that the ETF is seeking to track. There are several reasons that this might occur, including that ETF securities may trade at a premium or a discount to their NAV or that ETFs may employ complex strategies, such as leverage, making tracking with accuracy difficult.
- An active trading market for ETF securities may fail to develop or fail to be maintained.
- There is no assurance that the ETF will continue to meet the listing requirements of the exchange on which its securities are listed for trading.

Also, commissions may apply to the purchase or sale of ETF securities. Therefore, investment in ETF securities may produce a return that is different than the change in the NAV of these securities.

- **Foreign Currency Risk** – The NAVs of most mutual funds are calculated in Canadian dollars. Foreign investments are generally purchased in currencies other than Canadian dollars. When foreign investments are purchased in a currency other than Canadian dollars, the value of those foreign investments will be affected by the value of the Canadian dollar relative to the value of the foreign currency. If the Canadian dollar rises in value relative to the other currency but the value of the foreign investment otherwise remains constant, the value of the investment in Canadian dollars will have fallen. Similarly, if the value of the Canadian dollar has fallen relative to the foreign currency, the value of the mutual fund's investment will have increased. Some mutual funds may use derivatives such as options, futures, forward contracts, swaps and customized types of derivatives to hedge against losses caused by changes in exchange rates. Please see the "**Investment Strategies**" section of each Fund description in Part B of this simplified prospectus.
- **Foreign Markets Risk** – The value of an investment in a foreign issuer depends on general global economic factors and specific economic and political factors relating to the country or countries in which the foreign issuer operates. The regulatory environment in some foreign countries may be less stringent than in Canada, including legal and financial reporting requirements. There may be more or less information available with respect to foreign companies. The legal systems of some foreign countries may not adequately protect investor rights. Stock markets in foreign countries may have lower trading volumes and sharper price corrections. Some or all of these factors could make a foreign investment more or less volatile than a Canadian investment.
- **High-Yield Securities Risk** – Funds may be subject to high-yield securities risk. High-yield securities risk is the risk that securities that are rated below investment grade (below "BBB-" by S&P or by Fitch Rating Service Inc., or below "Baa3" by Moody's® Investor's Services, Inc.) or are unrated at the time of purchase may be more volatile than higher rated securities of similar maturity. High-yield securities may also be subject to greater levels of credit or default risk than higher rated securities. The value of high-yield securities can be adversely affected by overall economic conditions, such as an economic downturn or a period of rising interest rates, and high-yield securities may be less liquid and more difficult to sell at an advantageous time or price or to value than higher rated securities. In particular, high-yield securities



are often issued by smaller, less creditworthy companies or by highly leveraged firms, which are generally less able than more financially stable firms to make scheduled payments of interest and principal.

- **Illiquidity Risk** – A mutual fund may hold up to 15% or more of its net assets in illiquid securities. A security is illiquid if it cannot be sold at an amount that at least approximates the amount at which the security is valued. Illiquidity can occur for a number of reasons, including the following: (a) if the securities have sale restrictions; (b) if the securities do not trade through normal market facilities; (c) if there is simply a shortage of buyers; or (d) for other reasons. In highly volatile markets, such as in periods of sudden interest rate changes or severe market disruptions, securities that were previously liquid may suddenly and unexpectedly become illiquid. Illiquid securities are more difficult to sell, and a mutual fund may be forced to accept a discounted price.

Some high-yield debt securities, which may include but are not limited to security types commonly known as high-yield bonds, floating rate debt instruments and floating rate loans, as well as some fixed-income securities issued by corporations and governments in emerging market economies, may be more illiquid in times of market stress or sharp declines. In addition, the liquidity of individual securities may vary widely over time. Illiquidity in these instruments may take the form of wider bid/ask spreads (*i.e.*, significant differences in the prices at which sellers are willing to sell and buyers are willing to buy that same security). Illiquidity may take the form of extended periods for trade settlement and delivery of securities. In some circumstances of illiquidity, it may be more difficult to establish a fair market value for particular securities, which could result in losses to a fund that has invested in these securities.

- **Interest Rate Risk** – Interest rates have an impact on a whole range of investments. Interest rates impact the cost of borrowing for governments, companies and individuals, which in turn impacts overall economic activity. Interest rates may rise during the term of a fixed-income investment. If interest rates rise, then the value of that fixed-income investment generally will fall. Conversely, if interest rates fall, the value of the investment will generally increase.

Longer-term bonds and strip bonds are generally more sensitive to changes in interest rates than other kinds of securities. The cash flow from debt instruments with variable rates may change as interest rates fluctuate.

Changing interest rates can also indirectly impact the share prices of equity securities. When interest rates are high, it may cost a company more to fund its operations or pay down existing debt. This can impair a company's profitability and earnings growth potential, which can negatively impact its share price. Conversely, lower interest rates can make financing for a company cheaper, which can potentially increase its earnings growth potential. Interest rates can also impact the demand for goods and services that a company provides by impacting overall economic activity as described above.

- **Large Transaction Risk** – The securities of some mutual funds are bought by: (a) other mutual funds, investment funds or segregated funds, including the Counsel Funds; (b) financial institutions in connection with other investment offerings; and/or (c) investors who participate in an asset allocation program or model portfolio program. Independently or collectively, these other parties may, from time to time, purchase, hold or redeem a large proportion of a mutual fund's securities.

A large purchase of a mutual fund's securities will create a relatively large cash position in that mutual fund's portfolio. The presence of this cash position may adversely impact the performance of the mutual

fund, and the investment of this cash position may result in significant incremental trading costs, which are borne by all of the investors in the mutual fund.

Conversely, a large redemption of a mutual fund's securities may require the mutual fund to sell portfolio investments so that it can pay the redemption proceeds. This sale may impact the market value of those portfolio investments and result in significant incremental trading costs, which are borne by all of the investors in the mutual fund, and it may accelerate or increase the payment of capital gains distributions or capital gains dividends to these investors.

- **Legislation Risk** – Securities, tax, or other regulators make changes to legislation, rules, and administrative practice. Those changes may have an adverse impact on the value of a mutual fund.
- **Market Risk** – There are risks associated with being invested in the equity and fixed-income markets generally. The market value of a mutual fund's investments will rise and fall based on specific company developments and broader equity or fixed-income market conditions. Market value will also vary with changes in the general economic and financial conditions in the countries where the investments are based.
- **Portfolio Manager Risk** – A mutual fund is dependent on its portfolio manager or sub-advisor to select its investments. A balanced fund or an asset allocation fund is also dependent on its portfolio manager or sub-advisor to decide what proportion of the mutual fund's assets is invested in each asset class. Mutual funds are subject to the risk that poor security selection or asset allocation decisions will cause a mutual fund to underperform relative to its benchmark or other mutual funds with similar investment objectives.
- **Prepayment Risk** – Certain fixed-income securities, including mortgage-backed or other asset-backed securities, can be prepaid before maturity. If a prepayment is unexpected or if it occurs faster than predicted, the fixed-income security may pay less income and its value may decrease. In addition, because issuers generally choose to prepay when interest rates are falling, the mutual fund may have to reinvest this money in securities that have lower rates.
- **Securities Lending, Repurchase and Reverse Repurchase Transaction Risk** – Certain mutual funds are eligible to enter into securities lending, repurchase and reverse repurchase transactions. In a securities lending transaction, the mutual fund lends its securities through an authorized agent to another party (often called a "**counterparty**") in exchange for a fee and a form of acceptable collateral. In a *repurchase transaction*, the mutual fund sells its securities for cash through an authorized agent while, at the same time, it assumes an obligation to repurchase the same securities for cash (usually at a lower price) at a later date. In a *reverse repurchase transaction*, the mutual fund buys securities for cash, while, at the same time, it agrees to resell the same securities for cash (usually at a higher price) at a later date. Set out below are some of the general risks associated with securities lending, repurchase and reverse repurchase transactions:
  - When entering into securities lending, repurchase and reverse repurchase transactions, the mutual fund is subject to the credit risk that the counterparty may go bankrupt or may default under the agreement, and the mutual fund would be forced to make a claim in order to recover its investment.
  - When recovering its investment on a default, a mutual fund could incur a loss if the value of the securities loaned (in a securities lending transaction) or sold (in a repurchase transaction) has increased relative to the value of the collateral held by the mutual fund.

- Similarly, a mutual fund could incur a loss if the value of the portfolio securities it has purchased (in a reverse repurchase transaction) decreases below the amount of cash paid by such mutual fund to the counterparty, plus interest.
- **Series Risk** – A mutual fund may offer more than one series, including series that are sold under different simplified prospectuses. If one series of such a mutual fund is unable to pay its expenses or satisfy its liabilities, then the assets of the other series of that mutual fund will be used to pay the expenses or satisfy the liability. This could lower the investment returns of the other series.
- **Short Selling Risk** – Certain mutual funds are permitted to engage in a limited amount of short selling. A short sale is a transaction in which a mutual fund sells, on the open market, securities that it has borrowed from a lender for this purpose. At a later date, the mutual fund purchases identical securities on the open market and returns them to the lender. In the interim, the mutual fund must pay compensation to the lender for the loan of the securities and provide collateral to the lender for the loan.

Short selling involves certain risks:

- There is no assurance that the borrowed securities will decline in value during the period of the short sale by more than the compensation paid to the lender, and securities sold short may instead increase in value.
- A mutual fund may experience difficulties in purchasing and returning borrowed securities if a liquid market for the securities does not exist at that time.
- A lender may require a mutual fund to return borrowed securities at any time. This may require the mutual fund to purchase such securities on the open market at an inopportune time.
- The lender from whom a mutual fund has borrowed securities, or the prime broker who is used to facilitate short selling, may become insolvent and the mutual fund may lose the collateral it has deposited with the lender and/or the prime broker.
- **Small Company Risk** – A mutual fund may make investments in equities and sometimes fixed-income securities issued by smaller capitalization companies. These investments are generally riskier than investments in larger companies for several reasons. Smaller companies are often relatively new and may not have an extensive track record. This lack of history makes it difficult for the market to place a proper value on these companies. Some of these companies do not have extensive financial resources and, as a result, they may be unable to react to events in an optimal manner. In addition, securities issued by smaller companies are sometimes less liquid, meaning there is less demand for the securities in the marketplace at a price deemed fair by sellers.
- **Tracking Risk** – Certain mutual funds may invest substantially all of their assets in one or more other funds. This occurs where the mutual fund owns securities issued by another fund (an “**Underlying Fund**”).

The performance of a mutual fund that invests in an Underlying Fund may differ from the performance of the fund(s) in which it invests in the following respects:

- The fees and expenses of the mutual fund may differ from the fees and expenses of the fund(s) in which it invests.

- There may be a lag between the date on which the mutual fund issues securities to its investors and the date on which the mutual fund invests in other funds.
- A Fund may invest in more than one Underlying Fund within certain specific weightings. Due to differences in performance between a Fund's underlying holdings, a Fund will diverge from its target weightings. To minimize the impact of transaction costs and thereby the Fund's return, a Fund may not immediately rebalance unless the divergence exceeds certain thresholds.
- Instead of investing in other funds, the mutual fund may hold cash or short-term debt securities in order to satisfy anticipated redemption requests.

## Organization and Management of the Funds

### Manager of the Funds

Counsel Portfolio Services Inc.  
5015 Spectrum Way  
Suite 300  
Mississauga, Ontario L4W 0E4  
tel: 1-877-625-9885  
fax: 1-905-625-6184  
email: [info@counselservices.com](mailto:info@counselservices.com)  
[www.counselservices.com](http://www.counselservices.com)

We manage the overall business of each of the Funds, including selecting the portfolio management team for each Fund's portfolio, providing each Fund with accounting and administration services and promoting sales of each Fund's securities through independent financial advisors in each province (except Quebec) and territory of Canada.

### Trustee of the Funds

Counsel Portfolio Services Inc.  
Mississauga, Ontario

Each Fund is organized as a unit trust. When you invest in a Fund, you are buying units of the trust. The trustee holds actual title to the property (cash and portfolio securities) of each Fund on your behalf.

### Portfolio Manager of the Funds

Counsel Portfolio Services Inc.  
Mississauga, Ontario

Each Fund retains one portfolio manager. Please refer to each Fund's "Fund Details" section in **Part B** of this simplified prospectus for more information.

In our capacity as manager, we have ultimate responsibility for, and directly provide, unless otherwise indicated, portfolio management services to the Funds.

The Funds and Underlying Funds may use sub-advisors appointed by us to provide advice on a portion of or on their entire portfolio. If a sub-advisor has been appointed, they are named in the "Fund Details" in Part B of this simplified prospectus or in the simplified prospectus of the Underlying Fund. The portfolio manager or sub-advisor makes the purchase and sale decisions for securities in a Fund or Underlying Fund's portfolio.

Under securities law, we are required to advise you that there may be difficulty enforcing legal rights against a sub-advisor if the sub-advisor is resident outside Canada and all, or a substantial portion of their respective assets are likely to be located outside of Canada. At present, the Underlying Funds' sub-advisors Franklin Advisers Inc., Mount Lucas Management LP and Wasatch Advisors Inc. are located outside of Canada. International sub-advisors are not fully subject to the requirements of Canadian securities legislation, including proficiency, capital insurance, record keeping, segregation of funds and securities, and statements of account and portfolio. As Manager of the Underlying Funds, we are responsible for the sub-advisors' advice and compliance with the overall investment objectives and strategies of the Underlying Funds, but we do not provide prior approval or review of specific portfolio security investment decisions taken by any sub-advisor.

## Organization and Management of the Funds (cont'd)

<p><b>Custodian</b> Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce ("CIBC") Toronto, Ontario</p>	<p>The custodian has custody of the securities in each Fund's portfolio.</p>
<p><b>Registrar</b> Mackenzie Financial Corporation Toronto, Ontario</p>	<p>The registrar keeps track of the owners of securities of the Funds, processes purchase, switch and redemption orders, and issues investor account statements and annual tax reporting information.</p>
<p><b>Auditor</b> Deloitte LLP Toronto, Ontario</p>	<p>The auditor audits the annual financial statements of each Fund and provides an opinion on whether or not the annual financial statements are fairly presented in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.</p>
<p><b>Securities Lending Agent</b> CIBC Toronto, Ontario</p>	<p>CIBC acts as agent for securities lending transactions for the Funds that engage in securities lending.</p>
<p><b>Counsel Independent Review Committee</b></p>	<p>The mandate of the Counsel Fund's Independent Review Committee ("IRC") is to review, and provide input on, our written policies and procedures that deal with conflict of interest matters in respect of a Fund and to review and, in some cases, approve conflict of interest matters. This includes reviewing a Fund's holdings, purchases and sales of securities of companies related to us. The IRC may also approve certain mergers involving the Funds and any change of the auditor of the Funds. Investor approval will not be obtained in these circumstances, but the affected Fund's investors will be sent a written notice at least 60 days before the effective date of any such merger or change of auditor.</p> <p>The IRC presently consists of the following four members: Robert Hines (Chair), George Hucal, Martin Taylor and Scott Edmonds. Each member of the IRC is independent of us, the Counsel Funds and any party related to us. The IRC prepares, at least annually, a report of its activities for investors. This report is available on our website at <a href="http://www.counsellservices.com">www.counsellservices.com</a> or you may request a copy, at no cost to you, by contacting us at <a href="mailto:info@counsellservices.com">info@counsellservices.com</a>.</p> <p>Additional information about the IRC is available in the annual information form.</p>

### Fund-of-Funds

Under National Instrument 81-102 *Investment Funds* ("NI 81-102"), a mutual fund (a "**Top Fund**") may invest some or all of its assets in an Underlying Fund.

We or the sub-advisors may vote the securities of any Underlying Fund that are owned by a Top Fund if the Underlying Fund is not managed by us. If an Underlying Fund is managed by us or one of our associates or affiliates, we will not vote the securities of any Underlying Fund held by a Top Fund but will instead decide if it is in your best interests for you to vote individually on the matter. Generally, for routine matters, we will decide

that it is not in your best interests for you to vote individually. However, if we decide that it is in your best interests, then we will ask you for instructions on how to vote your proportionate interest of the Underlying Fund securities held by the Top Fund and we will vote accordingly. We will only vote the proportionate interest of the Underlying Fund securities for which we have received instructions.

*Purchases, Switches and Redemptions*

Funds

Each Fund is associated with a specific investment portfolio and specific investment objectives. Each Fund is entitled to the total return (including realized and unrealized gains) on the portfolio assets of that Fund less that portion of management fees, administration fees and fund costs applicable to that Fund. Please refer to “**Fees and Expenses**” on page 24 for further details.

Series of Securities

Each Fund may issue an unlimited number of series of securities and may issue an unlimited number of securities within each series. The Funds may offer new series, or cease to offer existing series, at any time without notification to, or approval from you. The expenses of each series of each Fund are tracked separately and a separate NAV is calculated for each series. Although the money which you and other investors pay to purchase securities of each series, and the expenses of each series, are tracked separately on a series-by-series basis in your Fund’s administration records, the assets of all series of your Fund are combined into a single pool to create one portfolio for investment purposes.

There are currently three (3) series of securities that are offered for sale under this document, namely, Series A, D and I securities, and their respective availability is as listed on the front cover of this document and in Part B for each Fund. Your financial advisor can best assist you with determining the right series for your and any further series eligibility requirements you must meet to qualify to purchase the series.

Minimum Initial and Subsequent Investment Requirements

The minimum initial investment in each of the Series offered under this simplified prospectus is \$1,000. Please note that we reserve the right to increase, decrease, waive or remove the minimum initial investment requirement to purchase any series of the Funds at any time. Additional investments must be at least \$100. However, if you buy securities through a pre-authorized debit plan, each additional investment must be at least \$50. If your investment has been received but the documentation on your purchase is incomplete, we will invest your money in Series A securities of Counsel Money Market (offered under a separate simplified prospectus) so that you will earn daily interest until all documentation is received in good order. Your investment, including interest, will then be switched into the Funds you have selected, without any additional charge, at the NAV of the Fund on the switch date.

The eligibility requirements for each series offered under this simplified prospectus are set out in the following table:

SERIES	SUGGESTED SUITABILITY	ADDITIONAL FEATURES
Series A Securities:	Retail Investors.	None.

SERIES	SUGGESTED SUITABILITY	ADDITIONAL FEATURES
Series D and I Securities:	Permitted with confirmation from your dealer that you have entered into an agreement with your dealer that provides for the payment of a negotiated advisory or asset-based fee, rather than commissions on each transaction.	<p>Series I's management fee is charged directly to you, monthly, through the redemption of securities. Please see "<b>Fees and Expenses Payable Directly by You</b>".</p> <p>Series D's management fee is borne indirectly by you through a management fee charged daily to the applicable Fund. Please see "<b>Fees and Expenses Payable by the Funds</b>".</p> <p>The negotiated advisory or asset-based fee is payable directly to the dealer for the dealer's ongoing financial planning and advice. Dealers who sell Series D and I securities must enter into an agreement with us to accept these pricing options.</p> <p>Subject to you and your dealer providing us with the required authorization, we may periodically deduct (either monthly or quarterly) from your account the negotiable advisory or asset-based fee (plus Goods and Services Tax ("G.S.T.") / Harmonized Sales Tax ("H.S.T.") payable by you to your dealer by redeeming securities of a Fund designated by you in advance and remitted directly to your dealer – see the "<b>Series D and I Securities (Advisory or Asset-Based Fee)</b>" section in the "<b>Fees and Expenses Payable Directly by You</b>" table beginning on page 29 for more information. The redemptions will be taxable transactions to you. See the "<b>Income Tax Considerations</b>" section beginning on page 35 for more information.</p> <p>If an agreement for payment of the advisory or asset-based fee is not entered into with your dealer, we may switch your Series D/I securities into Series A securities of the same Fund.</p>

### Changes in Series Minimum Investment Requirements or Eligibility Conditions

We may change the minimum investment requirements or terms of eligibility for prospective investors in the various series of securities at any time.

In the event that an investor's holdings in a series falls below the required minimum for that series as a result of a redemption of securities, Counsel will provide affected investors with 30 days' prior notice before redeeming your securities.

Counsel may redeem your securities, without notice, if we determine, at our discretion, that:

- you are engaging in inappropriate or excessive short-term trading;
- for purposes of applicable securities law or tax law, you have become a resident of a foreign jurisdiction where such foreign residency may have negative legal, regulatory or tax implications for a Fund; or
- it would be in the best interest of the Fund to do so.

You remain responsible for all tax consequences, costs and losses, if any, associated with the redemption of securities of a Fund upon the exercise by us of our right to switch or redeem.

## Purchases/Switches/Redemptions: Generally

You may purchase, switch (redeem securities of one Fund and purchase securities of another Fund) or redeem securities of a Fund only through your financial advisor. The financial advisor you select is your agent, to provide you with investment recommendations to meet your own risk/return objectives and to place orders to purchase, switch, or redeem on your behalf.

Counsel is not liable for the recommendations given to you by your financial advisor and we are entitled to rely on electronic or other instructions that a financial advisor or dealer provides to us without verifying your instructions. Counsel will not make a determination as to the suitability of a Fund purchase or the appropriateness of the purchase option selected when we receive purchase, redemption or switch instructions from your dealer.

You purchase, switch and redeem Fund securities at their current NAV as determined for each series.

The NAV of each series of securities of each Fund is calculated after the close of business on each business day. A “**business day**” is any day that the Toronto Stock Exchange (“**TSX**”) is open for trading. On each business day, a separate NAV for each series of securities of each Fund is calculated in the following manner:

- **adding** up the series’ proportionate share of the cash, portfolio securities and other assets of the Fund;
- **subtracting** the liabilities applicable to that series (which includes the series’ proportionate share of common liabilities, plus liabilities directly attributable to the series); and
- **dividing** the result (the NAV of the series) by the total number of securities of that series owned by investors.

All of the Funds are valued and can be purchased in Canadian dollars only.

All requests that we receive prior to 4:00 p.m. (EST) on a business day for purchases, switches or redemptions of securities of a series of a Fund will be executed that same business day using that business day’s NAV for the applicable series. Requests we receive after 4:00 p.m. (EST) on a business day will be executed on the following business day using the following business day’s NAV for the applicable series. We may process orders at an earlier time if the TSX closes for trading earlier on a business day. Orders received after that earlier closing time are processed on the next business day.

Please see “**Fees and Expenses**” beginning on page 24 and “**Dealer Compensation**” beginning on page 32 for more information.

## Purchases

You may purchase securities of a Fund by completing an order form and providing it to your dealer. We must receive the appropriate documentation and money within three business days of receiving your purchase order. We are entitled to reject any purchase order, but we can only do so within one business day of receiving it. If we reject an order, we will return immediately to your dealer any monies we have received from you in connection with that order.

## Purchasing Series A Securities:

There are three available purchase options when purchasing Series A securities of a Fund:



- **Sales Charge Purchase Option** – You pay a negotiable fee to your dealer at the time you purchase Series A securities of a Fund.
- **Redemption Charge Purchase Option** – No fee is payable by you to your dealer at the time of purchase; however, a fee may be payable at the time of sale if you redeem your Series A securities of a Fund during the first six (6) years from the date of purchase.
- **Low-Load Purchase Option** – No fee is payable by you to your dealer at the time of purchase; however, a fee may be payable at the time of sale if you redeem your Series A securities of a Fund during the first three (3) years from the date of purchase.

Your choice of purchase option affects the sales charges you, or we, will pay to your dealer, if any, and the amount of sales commissions and other compensation that is paid to your dealer.

See “**Fees and Expenses Payable Directly by You**” beginning on page 29 and “**Dealer Compensation**” on page 32 for more information.

If you do not choose a purchase option when you buy Series A securities of a Fund, you will be deemed to have chosen the Sales Charge Purchase Option.

#### Switches

You can exchange (“**switch**”) your investment among the series of a Fund or from a series of a Fund to a series of another Counsel Fund available through your dealer, provided you meet the eligibility requirements of the new series.

The following table summarizes which switch transactions will be taxable to you, if your securities are held outside a registered plan.

TYPE OF SWITCH		
	Taxable	Non-Taxable
From one series of a Fund to another series of the same Fund, or from one purchase option of a series to another purchase option of the same series of the same Fund		✓
All other switches	✓	

Series C of Counsel Money Market, which is offered under a separate simplified prospectus, is designed to assist you in making investments through Counsel ADR service. By signing the Counsel ADR Client Agreement when you purchase securities of the Fund, you have instructed us, upon settlement of your purchase, to automatically switch your Series C securities of Counsel Money Market and purchase securities of your chosen Funds according to your target allocations. The securities purchased for your chosen portfolio will be under the same purchase option as the Series C securities that you previously held. Please refer to page 19 for a full description of Counsel ADR.

You are permitted to make switches among purchase options in accordance with our policies and procedures. **However, if you do this, you may incur additional sales or redemption charges.** To avoid these charges, securities you bought under the Sales Charge Purchase Option should be switched for other securities to be purchased under the Sales Charge Purchase Option. Similarly, securities you bought under the Redemption Charge Purchase Option should be switched for other securities to be purchased under the Redemption Charge Purchase Option and securities you bought under the Low-Load Purchase Option should be switched for other securities to be purchased under the Low-Load Purchase Option. **You may not switch securities you bought under the Redemption Charge Purchase Option to other securities to be purchased under the Low-Load Purchase Option, and vice versa.** For securities purchased under the Redemption Charge Purchase Option, you may wish to switch your annual free redemption securities to the Sales Charge Purchase Option of a Fund in order not to lose that entitlement since the free redemption securities cannot be carried forward to succeeding years. We will make an automatic switch of the free redemption securities to the Sales Charge Purchase Option securities, provided we receive proper instructions. Please refer to “**Counsel Systematic Transfer/Exchange Program**” on page 22. Your dealer is paid a higher trailing commission on Sales Charge Purchase Option securities. Please refer to “**Matured Security Switches**” on page 23 and “**Trailing Commissions**” on page 33.

If you are switching from securities that you bought under the Low-Load Purchase Option or the Redemption Charge Purchase Option to securities under the Sales Charge Purchase Option of any Fund, a redemption charge may be payable on the switch. If you are switching from securities of a Fund purchased under the Low-Load Purchase Option or the Redemption Charge Purchase Option you will be required to pay a redemption charge on these securities if you redeem them within three (3) or six (6) years, respectively, from their issue date. See the “**Fees and Expenses**” table on page 24.

### Short-Term Trading

We have adopted policies and procedures to detect and deter inappropriate short-term trading and excessive short-term trading.

We define an **inappropriate short-term trade** as a combination of a purchase and redemption (including switches between Counsel Funds) made within 90 days which we believe is detrimental to Fund investors and that may take advantage of certain Funds with investments priced in other time zones or illiquid investments that trade infrequently.

We define **excessive short-term trading** as a combination of purchases and redemptions (including switches between Counsel Funds) that occur with such frequency within a 30-day period that we believe is detrimental to Fund investors.

Inappropriate short-term trading may harm Fund investors who do not engage in these activities by diluting the NAV of their Fund securities as a result of the market timing activities of other investors. Inappropriate and excessive short-term trading may cause a Fund to carry an abnormally high cash balance and/or high portfolio turnover rate, both of which may reduce a Fund’s returns.

All trades that we determine to be inappropriate short-term trades will be subject to a 2% fee. All trades that we determine to be part of a pattern of excessive short-term trading will be subject to a 1% fee. The fees charged will be paid to the applicable Funds. See the “**Inappropriate Short-Term Trading Fee**” and “**Excessive Short-Term Trading Fee**” in the “**Fees and Expenses Payable Directly by You**” table on page 29.

We may take such additional action as we consider appropriate to prevent further similar activity by you. These actions may include the delivery of a warning to you; placing the you/your account on a watch list to monitor your trading activity and the subsequent rejection of further purchases by you if you continue to attempt such trading activity, and/or closure of your account.

In determining whether a short-term trade is inappropriate or excessive, we will consider relevant criteria, including the following:

- *bona fide* changes in investor circumstances or intentions;
- unanticipated financial emergencies;
- the nature of the Counsel Fund;
- past trading patterns;
- unusual market circumstances; and
- an assessment of harm to the Counsel Fund or to us.

The following types of redemptions (including switches) will be exempt from short-term trading fees:

- from an Underlying Fund by a Top Fund in a fund-of-funds program;
- rebalancing of your holdings with Counsel ADR or Counsel Advisor-Directed Income, excluding client-initiated manual rebalancings;
- for systematic withdrawal plans;
- redemptions of securities received on the reinvestment of income or other distributions; and
- redemptions of securities where the proceeds are used to pay management fees for Series I securities and asset-based fees to your dealer for Series D and I securities.

In making these judgments we seek to act in a manner we believe is consistent with your best interests. Your interests and the Counsel Funds' ability to manage its investments may be adversely affected by inappropriate or excessive short-term trading because, among other things, these types of trading activities can dilute the value of Counsel Fund securities, can interfere with the efficient management of a Counsel Fund portfolio and can result in increased brokerage and administrative costs.

While we will actively take steps to monitor, detect and deter inappropriate and excessive short-term trading, we cannot ensure that such trading activity will be completely eliminated. For example, certain financial institutions may offer alternative investment products to the public that are comprised in whole, or in part, of securities of the Counsel Funds. These institutions may open accounts with us on behalf of multiple investors whose identity and trading activity is not normally recorded on our transfer agent system.

**We reserve the right to restrict, reject or cancel, without any prior notice, any purchase or switch order, including transactions that are deemed to represent inappropriate or excessive short-term trading.**

## Redemptions

You may redeem all or any portion of your investment in a Fund on any business day by contacting your financial advisor and providing instructions to proceed with a redemption order or, if you have already made arrangements with your dealer, by electronic means through your dealer. The amount which you will receive for your redemption order is based on the Fund's NAV next calculated after your redemption order has been received in good order.

Under exceptional circumstances, we may be unable to process your redemption order of a Fund. This would most likely occur if normal market trading has been suspended on stock exchanges, options exchanges or futures exchanges within or outside Canada on which more than 50% by value of the Fund's assets, without allowance for liabilities, are listed or posted for trading, and if the Fund's portfolio securities or specified derivatives cannot be traded on any other exchange that represents a reasonably practical alternative to that Fund. During these periods securities of the Fund will also not be issued or switched. If the Fund is an Underlying Fund, securities of the corresponding Top Fund will also not be capable of being redeemed, issued or switched if more than 50% by value of the Top Fund's assets, without allowance for liabilities, consists of holdings in securities of the Underlying Fund, the assets of which are listed on an exchange and cannot be traded on any other exchange that represents a reasonably practical alternative.

You may be required to pay a redemption charge on your securities of a Fund if

- you redeem Series A securities within three (3) years if purchased under the Low-Load Purchase Option;
- you redeem Series A securities within six (6) years if purchased under the Redemption Charge Purchase Option.

The redemption charge is based on a percentage of the purchase amount and declines at the rates shown under “**Redemption Charge Purchase Option**” and “**Low-Load Purchase Option**” in the “**Fees and Expenses Payable Directly by You**” table on page 29.

If you are an investor holding Series A securities of a Fund purchased under the Redemption Charge Purchase Option, you can redeem the following amounts every year without paying a redemption charge (the “**free redemption securities**”):

- up to 10% of the number of securities of a Fund that you purchased under the Redemption Charge Purchase Option which you owned as of December 31 of the previous calendar year other than any reinvested securities (“**annual free redemption securities**”); **plus**
- up to 10% of the number of securities of a Fund that you purchased under the Redemption Charge Purchase Option in the current calendar year before the redemption order; **less**
- any cash distributions from the Fund that you received in the current year.

Low-Load Purchase Option securities are not eligible as free redemption securities.

You cannot carry forward any unused portion of the free redemption securities to another year. If you are redeeming Series A securities of a Fund purchased under the Redemption Charge Purchase Option that were switched from another Fund, please note that our redemption charge rate is based on the purchase date of securities in the original Fund. Please refer to the simplified prospectus and annual information form of the Funds under which the securities were originally purchased to determine whether you are eligible for free redemption securities.

If you participate in the Matured Security Switches program, we will automatically switch your unused free redemption securities to the Sales Charge Purchase Option, see page 23 for more details.

If we change the terms of the free redemption securities program, we will give you 60 days' prior notice.

Due to the costs relating to administering smaller accounts, we may, at any time, redeem your Series A, D or I securities of a Fund if the total value of those securities falls below \$1,000. We will provide you with 30 days' prior notice, during which time, you may make further purchases to increase the value of your securities to prevent that sale.

### *Optional Services*

#### Counsel Advisor-Directed Rebalancing

Counsel Advisor-Directed Rebalancing (“**Counsel ADR**”) is an automatic portfolio rebalancing service that allows you to invest in any number of Funds with specific target fund allocations selected by you, creating your own customized portfolio of investments. We will then rebalance these holdings from time to time, according to your specified intervals, by redeeming securities of the Fund(s) you own that have exceeded the specific target fund allocations selected by you and purchasing securities of those Fund(s) whose target allocations are below your specified target fund allocations. The rebalancing will be based on your chosen intervals and rebalancing range to make sure that your portfolio mix is allocated in line with your initial target instructions.

All Funds in all series are eligible for this service. You may also hold securities of other Funds within the same account, and keep them separate from the Funds you wish to comprise your rebalancing portfolio.

To participate in the Counsel ADR, you must complete and sign a Counsel ADR Client Agreement created specifically for this rebalancing service. By completing the agreement, you are authorizing us to monitor your portfolio and to rebalance it at intervals selected by you (together with the help of your advisor), which can be quarterly, semi-annually, or annually.

In order to facilitate investing in this service, we have created Series C securities of Counsel Money Market which is offered under a separate simplified prospectus. When you enrol in the service, you will have the option of using Series C securities of Counsel Money Market to direct your investment into your selected Funds upon the activation of your portfolio rebalancing service. Series C securities of Counsel Money Market are available for purchase under the Sales Charge Purchase Option, the Redemption Charge Purchase Option and the Low-Load Purchase Option to coincide with your preferred purchase option for the Funds that will comprise your portfolio.

Your rebalancing service is activated once we receive the signed Counsel ADR Client Agreement. If your purchase was into Series C securities of Counsel Money Market, those securities will be switched automatically (at no cost) and allocated amongst the various Funds you have elected to include in your advisor-directed portfolio.

Series C securities of Counsel Money Market are only available for investment to facilitate portfolio construction using Counsel ADR. If you invest in Series C securities of Counsel Money Market and have not submitted the Counsel ADR Client Agreement specifying your target fund allocations and rebalancing preferences within 30 days, your investment will be switched automatically to Series A securities (based on your purchase option) of Counsel Money Market.

Rebalancing will occur at the intervals you specify, provided the current fund allocations are outside a range of anywhere between 0% and 10% (you select the rebalancing range, which must be in increments of 0.5%) above

or below your stated target allocation at the time you enrol in the service. Your portfolio will be rebalanced to within the range you have selected and not to the target allocation.

If you redeem all of your investments in a Fund that was part of your target fund allocation without providing us with an amended Counsel ADR Client Agreement, then, at the time of your next scheduled rebalancing, we will rebalance the remaining Funds in your portfolio and proportionately reallocate your investments amongst the same Funds in your initial target fund allocation (including the redeemed Fund).

You always retain the option of changing your target allocation, rebalancing ranges or rebalancing frequency of your portfolio upon further written instructions to us or through your dealer using an Amendment Form to the Counsel ADR Client Agreement. You may also request a manual rebalancing of your portfolio outside of the scheduled automatic rebalancing period at any time. Be advised that, in some cases, a manual rebalancing may trigger short-term trading fees. Please see page 16 for details of our short-term trading policy.

There are no separate fees or redemption charges for this program. Any other applicable mutual fund charges will apply. There is no minimum investment requirement in Counsel ADR as long as the Fund's minimum is met.

All of the terms and conditions of the service are on the Counsel ADR Client Agreement which is available from your dealer. Counsel ADR is not available for Registered Education Savings Plans.

Rebalancing will be effected by redeeming securities, which may be a taxable transaction to you. See the "**Income Tax Considerations**" section beginning on page 35 for more information.

#### Counsel Advisor-Directed Income

Counsel Advisor-Directed Income ("**ADI**") is an automatic portfolio service that allows you to invest over various time horizon segments and systematically draw income from your investments when needed. With ADI, you can select a Fund for each time horizon segment (generally, long-term, medium-term and short-term time horizon segments) and divide your assets into each segment. Based on your instructions, we will affect the automatic transfer of your assets from one time horizon segment to another. To systematically draw income from your investments, you can set up a systematic withdrawal plan.

To participate in Counsel ADI, you must complete and sign a Counsel ADI Client Agreement Form created specifically for this service. By completing the agreement, you are authorizing us to monitor your overall portfolio and conduct transactions at intervals selected by you (together with the help of your financial advisor), which can be monthly, bi-monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, or annually.

We will affect the automatic transfer of your assets from one time horizon segment to another, based on your instructions as provided on the Counsel ADI Client Agreement Form or any subsequent Counsel ADI Client Agreement Amendment Form(s), by redeeming securities of the Funds you specify and subsequently purchasing securities of other Funds you specify and/or directing the sale proceeds to you.

Securities in all series, except Series A, purchased under the Redemption Charge Purchase Option and Low-Load Purchase Option, are eligible for this service. You may also hold other securities in addition to your Funds within the same account, and keep them separate from the Funds you wish to include as part of your Counsel ADI service.

Your Counsel ADI service is activated once we receive the signed Counsel ADI Client Agreement Form. You can make changes at any time to your Counsel ADI service by completing and submitting the Counsel ADI Client Agreement Amendment Form.

We will affect your ADI instructions by redeeming Fund securities, which may be a taxable transaction to you. Funds paid out to you as part of the ADI service will result from redemptions of securities of Fund(s) in accordance with the instructions contained on the Counsel ADI Client Agreement Form or subsequent amendment(s). These redemptions will result in taxable capital gains or losses. In addition, the Fund(s) in which you invest as part of the Counsel ADI service may make distributions to you, which may be taxable. See the “**Income Tax Considerations**” section beginning on page 35 for more information.

There are no separate fees for this program. Any applicable mutual fund charges will apply. The minimum investment is \$75,000 per account. All of the ADI terms and conditions are contained in the Counsel ADI Client Agreement Form which is available from your dealer. Counsel ADI is not available for Registered Education Savings Plans.

### Counsel Pre-Authorized Debit Plans

You can make regular purchases of most securities of the Funds through a pre-authorized debit plan (“**PAD**”). You can invest weekly, bi-weekly, semi-monthly, monthly, bi-monthly, quarterly, semi-annually or annually. Each investment must be at least \$50 per Fund. Ask your financial advisor for an authorization form to start the plan. There is no administrative charge for this service.

When you enrol in a PAD, your dealer will send you a complete copy of the Fund’s current Fund Facts, along with a PAD form agreement (a “**Form**”) as described below. Upon request, you will also be provided with a copy of the Funds’ simplified prospectus.

You will not receive the Fund Facts when you make any subsequent purchases under the PAD unless you request this at the time of your initial investment, or subsequently send a request. You can also obtain copies of these documents at [www.counsellservices.com](http://www.counsellservices.com) or at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com), from your dealer, by calling us toll-free at **1-877-625-9885** or by e-mailing us at [info@counsellservices.com](mailto:info@counsellservices.com). Your dealer will only send you an updated copy of the Fund Facts annually upon renewal and any amendments if you have requested them.

You have a statutory right to withdraw from an initial purchase of the Funds under the PAD plan, but you do not have a statutory right to withdraw from subsequent purchases of the Fund under the PAD. However, you will continue to have all other statutory rights under securities law, including a right of action for damages or rescission in the event any Fund Facts or document incorporated by reference in any renewal simplified prospectus contains any misrepresentation, whether or not you have requested the Fund Facts.

The Canadian Payments Association has implemented Rule H1, which is intended to protect consumers from unauthorized debits. On PAD enrolment, you must be given the form or disclosure that describes the PAD terms and conditions and investors’ rights. By enrolling in a PAD, you are deemed to

- waive any pre-notification requirements;
- authorize us to debit your bank account;
- authorize us to accept changes from your registered dealer or financial advisor;
- agree to release your financial institution of all liability if your request to stop a PAD is not respected, except where the financial institution is grossly negligent;

- agree that a limited amount of your information will be shared with the financial institution for the purpose of administering your PAD;
- agree that you are fully liable for any charges incurred if the debits cannot be made due to insufficient funds or any other reason for which you may be held accountable; and
- be aware that you have rights and that you can change your instructions at any time, on ten (10) days' advance notice to us, and that you can find out more about your right to cancel your PAD agreement by contacting your financial institution or by visiting [www.cdnpay.ca](http://www.cdnpay.ca).

Notwithstanding the terms of the PAD form agreement, we will endeavour to change or terminate your participation in a PAD at any time before a scheduled investment, as long as we receive at least three (3) business days' notice.

### Counsel Systematic Withdrawal Plan

You can also set up a Systematic Withdrawal Plan (“SWP”) if you have at least \$5,000 in your account. You can choose when to withdraw (weekly, bi-weekly, semi-monthly, monthly, bi-monthly, quarterly, semi-annually or annually) and how much to redeem each time. There is no administrative charge for this program. The program is not available for some types of registered plans. **Please understand that regular withdrawals could eventually eliminate your entire investment if you do not make additional purchases or switches in your account.**

You may change or terminate your SWP at any time before a scheduled withdrawal date as long as we receive at least three (3) business days' written notice.

### Counsel Systematic Transfer/Exchange Program

Our Systematic Transfer/Exchange Program allows you to periodically and systematically switch your investment in one Fund (the “**Starting Fund**”) to another Fund(s) (the “**Target Fund(s)**”) within the same account or a different account. You may switch an amount of your choice to another Fund on a weekly, bi-weekly, semi-monthly, monthly, bi-monthly, quarterly, semi-annual and annual basis and you may make changes to (i) the Target Fund; (ii) the frequency of the switch; and (iii) the amount switched, by providing at least three (3) business days' written notice to us. We will automatically redeem securities of the Starting Fund and use the proceeds to buy securities of the Target Fund within the same series and under the same purchase option. Short-term trading fees do not apply to securities switched through this service; however, you may have to pay a negotiable switch fee to your financial advisor. If you hold your securities in a non-registered account, you may realize a capital gain or loss (see the “**Income Tax Considerations**” section beginning on page 35 for more information). Where the selected switch date is not a business day, the switch will be moved to the next following eligible business day.

This program can also be used to switch your annual free redemption securities (which are only free redemption securities earned as of December 31 of the previous calendar year, other than reinvested securities) from Redemption Charge Purchase Option securities to Sales Charge Purchase Option securities of the same or another Fund, prior to the expiry of your redemption charge schedule, provided we receive new investment instructions to do so. The annual free redemption securities do not include free redemption securities earned on purchases made in the current calendar year before the redemption order. Your dealer is paid a higher trailing commission on Sales Charge Purchase Option securities. Please see “**Redemptions**” beginning on page 18 for more information on the



free redemption securities and see “**Matured Security Switches**” below for switches of unused free redemptions to the same Fund that you are investing in.

You may change or terminate a Counsel Systematic Transfer/Exchange Program at any time before a scheduled investment date, as long as we receive at least three (3) business days’ notice.

### Counsel Dollar-Cost Averaging Service

Our Dollar-Cost Averaging (“**DCA**”) service is a systematic way for you to invest in a Fund or Funds over time. On a weekly, bi-weekly or monthly basis, over a six- or twelve-month period (“**DCA Period**”), equal amounts invested in the Starting Fund (based on your initial instructions which you may change at a later date) will be switched by redeeming securities of the Starting Fund, from time to time, and purchasing securities of the Target Fund(s).

Systematic switches under the DCA service will generally take place between the same purchase options, namely, the Sales Charge Purchase Option, the Redemption Charge Purchase Option or the Low-Load Purchase Option (see “**Switches**” on page 15). Short-term trading fees do not apply to securities switched through this service.

The Starting Fund for the DCA service is Counsel Money Market which is offered under a separate prospectus (excluding Series C securities of Counsel Money Market). We will activate the DCA service once we receive a completed DCA form. We may permit proceeds from the realization of other mutual funds and certain deposit products to be utilized for purposes of the DCA service (as indicated on the DCA form). By completing the DCA form, you authorize us to redeem your securities of the Starting Fund on the frequency and in the amount you specify and to purchase securities of the Target Fund(s) you select.

Your scheduled switches will be made at the applicable NAV on the transaction date. Where the selected switch date is not a business day, the switch will be implemented on the next business day.

At the end of the DCA Period, any distributions paid and reinvested in securities of the Starting Fund (see “**Automatic Reinvestment of Distributions**” on page 24) will be switched automatically by the DCA system into securities of the Target Fund(s) according to the Target Fund’s code. Each Fund has a numerical code assigned to it (“**Fund Code**”). These Fund Codes are used to facilitate electronic transaction processing according to industry standards. If you have more than one Target Fund, the switch will be made to the Target Fund with the lowest Fund Code. If you have more than one DCA and the DCA Periods overlap, the reinvested securities of the Starting Fund will be switched into securities of the Target Fund(s) at the end of the latest DCA Period.

You can terminate the DCA service at any time before a scheduled switch date as long as we receive at least three (3) business days’ notice, or by switching all of the applicable securities out of the Starting Fund.

### Matured Security Switches

Under the Matured Security Switch Program, at each calendar year-end, we will switch any unused free redemption securities and your Matured Securities into Sales Charge Purchase Option securities of the same Fund. Your dealer is paid a higher trailing commission on Sales Charge Purchase Option securities. Ask your financial advisor for an authorization form for this program. There is no administrative charge for this service. “**Matured Security Switches**” means securities purchased on a Redemption Charge Purchase Option or Low-Load Purchase Option that are no longer subject to a redemption charge because the redemption charge schedule has expired. See “**Counsel Systematic Transfer/Exchange Program**” on page 22 for the ability to make switches of unused free redemptions from one Fund to another Fund.

## Automatic Reinvestment of Distributions

From time to time, your Fund may pay distributions to you. We will automatically reinvest those distributions to purchase additional securities for you in the same series of the Fund on which the distribution was paid. You pay no sales charge when these securities are bought. You can also set up a program to have these reinvested securities switched into another Fund or switched from Redemption Charge Purchase Option to Sales Charge Purchase Option of the same or another Fund. Your dealer is paid a higher trailing commission on Sales Charge Purchase Option securities, including these reinvested securities.

If you would prefer to receive your Fund distributions in cash, please write to us instructing us whether to pay you by cheque or by direct deposit to your bank account. If you bought securities under the Redemption Charge Purchase Option, please note that cash distributions from a Fund reduce your free redemption securities. For further details, please see “**Free redemption securities**” as set out in Section 7 and “**How to Redeem Securities**” in the annual information form.

You cannot receive cash distributions on securities held in Counsel-sponsored registered plans; these distributions must be reinvested in additional securities of the Fund.

## Counsel Registered Plans

You can open a registered plan offered by us through your dealer. We currently offer registered retirement savings plans (“**RRSPs**”), registered retirement income funds (“**RRIFs**”), life income funds (“**LIFs**”), locked-in retirement accounts (“**LIRAs**”), locked-in retirement savings plans (“**LRSPs**”), locked-in retirement income funds (“**LRIFs**”), prescribed retirement income funds (“**PRIFs**”), restricted life income funds (“**RLIFs**”), restricted locked-in savings plans (“**RLSPs**”), tax-free savings accounts (“**TFSAs**”) and registered education savings plans (“**RESPs**”), (collectively, the “**Counsel registered plans**”). These Counsel registered plans, along with deferred profit-sharing plans (“**DPSPs**”) and registered disability savings plans (“**RDSPs**”), are collectively referred to as “**registered plans**.” **Please note that purchases of Series D and I are not allowed in RESPs.**

Each Fund will pay an administration fee to the trustee of the Counsel registered plans that invest in the Funds.

The trustee of our Counsel registered plans is B2B Trustco.

Please see “**Income Tax Considerations**” on page 35.

## *Fees and Expenses*

The following tables list the fees and expenses that either the Fund or you may have to pay if you invest in a Fund. You may have to pay some of these fees and expenses directly. Alternatively, a Fund may have to pay some of these fees and expenses directly, which will therefore reduce the value of your investment in that Fund. The Funds pay management fees (except for Series I securities), administration fees, and fund costs. The management fees and administration fees, which are each calculated as a fixed annual percentage of the daily average NAV of each series of each Fund, are paid to us as manager of the Funds.

As shown in the tables below, the annual management fees and administration fees vary by series. You should make a specific request to purchase any applicable lower fee series you are eligible to purchase, or switch your existing securities to any applicable lower fee series you are eligible to purchase, through your dealer. We neither monitor account holdings to determine if you qualify for a lower fee series nor do we review orders received to

determine if those orders should have been placed for a lower fee series, even if you already own securities of one or more of these lower fee series.

We are paid management fees by the Funds to pay for (i) costs of managing the investment portfolio; (ii) providing investment analysis and recommendations; (iii) making investment decisions; (iv) the purchase and sale of the investment portfolio; and (v) providing other services. We also use management fees to fund commission payments and other compensation paid to the dealers and brokers for securities of the Fund bought and held by investors.

The management fees for Series I securities are payable to us directly by each investor. Please see the “**Fees and Expenses Payable Directly by You**” on page 29.

Fees and Expenses Payable by the Funds		
	Annual Management Fee Rate by Series (%) <sup>1</sup> (as applicable)	
Management Fees	A	D
Counsel Canadian Conservative Portfolio	1.85%	0.90%
Counsel Canadian Balanced Portfolio	1.90%	0.95%
Counsel Canadian Growth Portfolio	2.00%	1.00%

<sup>1</sup> Management fees are subject to applicable taxes, including G.S.T. / H.S.T.

### Management Fee Reductions

We may authorize a reduction in the management fee rate that we charge to the Funds with respect to any particular investor’s securities of a Fund. The Fund will pay an amount to you equal to the reduction as a special distribution (“**management expense distribution**”). Management expense distributions are paid first out of net income and net realized capital gains, and thereafter out of capital. For additional details please refer to “**Fees, Expenses and Management Fee Rebates**” in the annual information form for the Funds. The level of reduction in the management fee is negotiable between you and us and will usually be based on the size of your account and the extent of the Fund services provided to you.

We may reduce the management fee rate applicable to investments in Series D and I (the “**Rebateable Investments**”) that you hold in Eligible Accounts, as defined below. If we determine that you are eligible for a management fee rate reduction on your Rebateable Investments, we will calculate it according to the procedure described below.

First, we will determine the total value of your accounts with holdings in the Counsel Funds, other than Series P (offered under a separate simplified prospectus) (the “**Eligible Accounts**”). We may, at our discretion, allow you to include the value of other accounts as part of your Eligible Accounts. However, this will only be considered if you have completed a form notifying us in writing of the additional accounts. This form is available through your dealer. We will then calculate the percentage of the value of your Eligible Accounts within each of the following tiers:

Total Holdings in Eligible Accounts	Management Fee Reduction on Rebateable Investments
the first \$250,000 ( <i>i.e.</i> , value from \$0 - \$250,000)	NIL
the next \$250,000 ( <i>i.e.</i> , value from \$250,001 - \$500,000)	0.05%
the next \$500,000 ( <i>i.e.</i> , value from \$500,001 - \$1,000,000)	0.10%
the next \$1 million ( <i>i.e.</i> , value from \$1,000,001 - \$2,000,000)	0.15%
the next \$1 million ( <i>i.e.</i> , value from \$2,000,001 - \$3,000,000)	0.20%
the next \$2 million ( <i>i.e.</i> , value from \$3,000,001 - \$5,000,000)	0.25%
the remaining value ( <i>i.e.</i> , value over \$5,000,000)	0.30%

Once the percentage value of your Eligible Accounts for each tier is determined, we will then calculate the applicable management fee rate reduction of your Rebateable Investments by multiplying the percentage value of your Eligible Accounts within each tier by the management fee reduction rate in the table above that is applicable to Rebateable Investments in that tier. The management fee rate reduction equals the sum of these amounts.

**We may increase or decrease the amounts shown in the table above, or otherwise modify or eliminate the application of management fee rate reductions to some or all of the Funds, at our sole discretion.**

Here is an example. Suppose that you hold \$200,000 worth of Series D securities of Counsel Canadian Balanced Portfolio and \$600,000 worth of Series A investments in Counsel Canadian Conservative Portfolio (Series A is not a Rebateable Investment). The value of your Eligible Accounts is \$800,000 (*i.e.*, \$200,000 + \$600,000) and your management fee reduction rate would be 0.0531% a year on your Rebateable Investments and this would be applied to the management fee charged on your holdings in Series D securities. The management fee reduction rate of 0.0531% is calculated as follows:

Tier	Allocation	% of Total (A)	Applicable Reduction for Tier (B)	Weighted Fee Reduction (A*B)
the first \$250,000 ( <i>i.e.</i> , value from \$0 - \$250,000)	\$250,000	31.25%	NIL	NIL
the next \$250,000 ( <i>i.e.</i> , value from \$250,001 - \$500,000)	\$250,000	31.25%	0.05%	0.0156%
the next \$500,000 ( <i>i.e.</i> , value from \$500,001 - \$1,000,000)	\$300,000	37.50%	0.10%	0.0375%
Total	\$800,000	100%		0.0531%

For Series D we will pay the management fee reduction to you as a management expense distribution.

For Series I, as discussed under “**Fees and Expenses Payable Directly by You**”, management fees are payable directly to us and are paid by the redemption of securities you hold. We will deduct the management fee reduction to which you are entitled from the management fees owing to us under “**Series I Securities (Management Fees)**”

(found on page 31). This occurs before your securities are redeemed to pay the balance of the management fees on Series I securities to us.

Note that the management fee reduction applies only to the Rebateable Investments held by you, which, as indicated above, are only those investments that you hold in Series D and I which may be considered by us for a reduction in the management fee rate. Such management fee reductions, if applicable, will generally be effected at the end of each calendar quarter for Series D and monthly in arrears for Series I.

### *Fees and Expenses Payable by the Funds*

#### **Administrative Fee**

We pay all operating expenses other than “**Fund Costs**” (see below), in respect of each series of a Fund in exchange for a fixed-rate annual administration fee (the “**Administration Fee**”). Administration fees are paid by each series of a Fund. Administrative Fees are subject to applicable taxes, such as G.S.T./H.S.T. We provide the majority of services for the Funds to operate although we retain third parties to provide certain services.

In exchange for the Administration Fee, the expenses borne by us on behalf of the Funds include: (i) recordkeeping, accounting and fund valuation costs; (ii) custody safekeeping fees (except as noted below); (iii) audit and legal fees, and (iv) the costs of preparing and distributing Fund financial reports, simplified prospectuses, and other investor communications we are required to prepare to comply with applicable laws (other than the costs of complying with any new regulatory requirements, as described in “**Fund Costs**” below).

The Administration Fee is charged separately from the management fee to each series of a Fund. It is calculated as a fixed annual percentage of the daily average NAV of each series of each Fund as follows:

Fund	Series	
	A	D and I
Counsel Canadian Conservative Portfolio	0.25%	0.15%
Counsel Canadian Balanced Portfolio	0.25%	0.15%
Counsel Canadian Growth Portfolio	0.25%	0.15%

## Fees and Expenses Payable by the Funds (cont'd)

<p><b>Fund Costs</b></p>	<p>Each series for each Fund pays “<b>Fund Costs</b>”, which include interest and borrowing costs, taxes (including, but not limited to, G.S.T., H.S.T., income tax and withholding tax), all fees and expenses of the Counsel Funds’ IRC, costs of complying with the regulatory requirement to produce Fund Facts, new fees related to external services that were not commonly charged in the Canadian mutual fund industry and introduced after May 19, 2017, fees and expenses of holding or transacting in securities directly or indirectly in foreign markets and the costs of complying with any new regulatory requirements, including, without limitation, any new fees introduced after May 19, 2017. Interest and borrowing costs and taxes will be charged to each series directly based on usage. Costs of complying with new regulatory requirements will be assessed based on the extent and nature of these requirements. The remaining Fund Costs will be allocated to each series of each Fund based on their net assets relative to the net assets of all series of the Funds. We may allocate Fund Costs among each series of a Fund based on such other method of allocation as we consider fair and reasonable to the Fund.</p> <p>Each member of the IRC is currently entitled to receive an annual retainer of \$7,500 (\$11,000 for the Chair) and a \$1,500 fee for each IRC meeting attended. Members are also entitled to be reimbursed for all reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, including travel and accommodation expenses. We also purchase and maintain insurance liability coverage for the benefit of the IRC members. For the 12-month period ended March 31, 2017, the total amount we expensed in this regard (which does not include the Funds offered under this simplified prospectus because they are new) was \$103,216. All fees and expenses were allocated among the Counsel Funds managed by us in a manner that was fair and reasonable.</p>
<p><b>General Information on Fees / Expenses of All Series</b></p>	<p>We may, at our discretion, reduce Management Fees (see “<b>Management Fee Reductions</b>” on page 25). Management expense ratios (“<b>MERs</b>”) are calculated separately for each series of a Fund and include that series’ management fees, Administration Fees and Fund Costs.</p> <p>Each Fund pays its own brokerage commissions for portfolio transactions and related transaction fees and, for tax purposes, adds this to the cost base or subtracts this from the sale proceeds of its portfolio investments.</p> <p>We will give you 60 days’ written notice of any change to the basis of the calculation of the fees or expenses that are charged to a Fund by an arm’s length party that could result in an increase in charges, or the introduction of a fee or expense to be charged to a Fund by an arm’s length party that could result in an increase in charges.</p>
<p><b>Fund-of-Funds</b></p>	<p>Generally, where Funds invest (directly or indirectly) in Underlying Funds, the fees and expenses payable in connection with the management of the Underlying Fund are in addition to those payable by the Fund. However, there will be no duplication in the payment of management fees and we will not charge duplicate Administration fees in these circumstances. Except in the case of ETFs managed by Mackenzie Financial Corporation (“<b>Mackenzie</b>”) or its affiliates (Mackenzie is also an affiliate of Counsel), there will neither be sales fees nor redemption fees payable by a Fund with respect to the purchase or redemption by it of securities of an Underlying Fund managed by us. In addition, a Fund will not pay sales fees or redemption fees with respect to the purchase or redemption by it of securities of an Underlying Fund that, to a reasonable person, would duplicate a fee payable by you in the Fund.</p> <p>Where Funds invest in ETFs that are not managed by us or our affiliates, the fees and expenses payable in connection with the management of the ETFs are in addition to those payable by the Fund. Where Funds invest in ETFs managed by Mackenzie, we have obtained exemptive relief to permit the Funds to pay normal brokerage and trading expenses in connection with investing in those ETFs.</p>

## Fees and Expenses Payable Directly by You

### Sales Charge Purchase Option

If you purchase Fund securities under the Sales Charge Purchase Option, you will pay a sales charge that you negotiate with your financial advisor and that is payable to your dealer at the time you purchase your securities.

Only Series A securities of the Funds are available under the Sales Charge Purchase Option. The maximum sales charge for Series A securities is 5% of the purchase amount.

There are no sales charges payable on Series D or I securities. Series D and I investors generally will be required to pay their dealer a negotiable advisory or asset-based fee in addition to the management fees payable by the Fund (in the case of Series D) or by you (in the case of Series I).

### Redemption Charge Purchase Option

If you purchase Fund securities under the Redemption Charge Purchase Option, you pay a redemption charge to us at the following rates based on a percentage of the purchase amount if you redeem your Fund securities during the time periods specified.

This purchase option is available for Series A securities and the following redemption charge rates apply:

Period After Purchase	Redemption Charge Rate
First year	6.00%
Second year	5.50%
Third year	5.00%
Fourth year	4.50%
Fifth year	4.00%
Sixth year	3.50%
Thereafter	Nil

Up to 10% of your investment in Fund securities that you purchased under the Redemption Charge Purchase Option may be redeemed in each calendar year without a redemption charge. Securities representing this amount are called your "free redemption securities". Any distributions which you received in cash will be counted towards the 10% free redemption amount. This right is not cumulative if you do not use it in the calendar year that it is earned. Please see "Redemptions" beginning on page 18 for more information on free redemption securities.

Series D and I securities cannot be purchased under the Redemption Charge Purchase Option.

### Low-Load Purchase Option

If you purchase Fund securities under the Low-Load Purchase Option, you pay a redemption charge to us at the following rates based on a percentage of the purchase amount if you redeem your Fund securities during the time periods specified.

This purchase option is available for Series A securities and the following redemption charge rates apply:

Period After Purchase	Redemption Charge Rate
First year	3.00%
Second year	2.50%
Third year	2.00%
Thereafter	nil

Series D and I securities cannot be purchased under the Low-Load Purchase Option.

## *Fees and Expenses Payable Directly by You (cont'd)*

### **Series D and I Securities (Advisory or Asset-Based Fee)**

For Series D and I: Investors generally will be required to pay their dealer a negotiable advisory or asset-based fee in addition to the Series D and I management fees payable by the Fund (in the case of Series D) or by you (in the case of Series I).

The negotiable advisory or asset-based fee rate that you will be charged will be agreed upon between you and your financial advisor up to a maximum annual rate of 1.50% (based on the average daily market value of your investment in Series D and I securities of each Fund over that particular period). Any change to the advisory or asset-based fee rate to be charged shall be effective for the next calculation of fees after we receive written notice of the change from your financial advisor. Advisory or asset-based fees are calculated on your average assets over the time period, which shall be monthly for Series I and either monthly or quarterly for Series D (as determined by us).

For Series D: The agreed upon advisory or asset-based fee may be payable directly to your dealer, or alternatively, subject to your dealer providing the required authorization, we will pay the amount to your dealer by deducting the fees, as well as applicable G.S.T./H.S.T. charges, from your account by selling (redeeming) securities of a Fund that you have designated in advance or, alternatively, proportionately from all of the Funds in your account if so designated by you. If the specified Fund does not have sufficient securities, securities will be redeemed from the Fund with the highest market value in your account at the time. If you have designated that the fees be paid proportionately from all of the Funds in your account and there are insufficient securities to pay the fees, then the amount required is paid by redeeming additional securities from one or more of your Funds as determined by us.

For Series I: The agreed upon advisory or asset-based fee may be payable directly to your dealer, or alternatively, subject to your dealer providing the required authorization, we will pay the amount to your dealer by deducting the fees, as well as applicable G.S.T./H.S.T. charges, from your account by selling (redeeming) securities proportionately from all of the Funds in your account. If there are insufficient securities to pay the fees, then the amount required is paid by redeeming additional securities from one or more of your Funds as determined by us.

We will remit the advisory or asset-based fees (plus G.S.T./H.S.T.) directly to your dealer.

If you decide to terminate your investment in Series D or I securities prior to the last business day of the monthly or quarterly period applicable to your account, then we will calculate any outstanding fees as of the redemption date and we will deduct the fees prior to processing the redemption.



## Fees and Expenses Payable Directly by You (cont'd)

<p><b>Series I Securities (Management Fees)</b></p>	<p>For investments in Series I securities, you pay the management fee directly to us. This is in addition to your advisor or asset based fee discussed above. The management fee rate for each Fund is as follows:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="597 411 1453 611"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="605 422 1019 478">Fund</th> <th data-bbox="1036 422 1445 478">Annual Management Fee Rate by Percentage (%)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="605 489 1019 525">Counsel Canadian Conservative Portfolio</td> <td data-bbox="1036 489 1445 525">0.90%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="605 535 1019 571">Counsel Canadian Balanced Portfolio</td> <td data-bbox="1036 535 1445 571">0.95%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="605 581 1019 617">Counsel Canadian Growth Portfolio</td> <td data-bbox="1036 581 1445 617">1.00%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The management fees in respect of each Fund are calculated based on the average daily market value of your investment in each Fund over that month.</p> <p>We will deduct the fees, as well as applicable G.S.T. / H.S.T., on the final business day of the month by automatically selling (redeeming) the applicable securities from the Funds in your account as described above on page 25. If you hold these securities in a non-registered account, then you may realize a capital gain or loss when your securities are sold.</p> <p>If you decide to terminate your investment in Series I securities prior to the last business day of the month, then we will calculate any outstanding management fees as of the redemption date and we will deduct the fees prior to processing the redemption.</p> <p>We may waive a portion or all of the management fees applicable to your Series I securities.</p>	Fund	Annual Management Fee Rate by Percentage (%)	Counsel Canadian Conservative Portfolio	0.90%	Counsel Canadian Balanced Portfolio	0.95%	Counsel Canadian Growth Portfolio	1.00%
Fund	Annual Management Fee Rate by Percentage (%)								
Counsel Canadian Conservative Portfolio	0.90%								
Counsel Canadian Balanced Portfolio	0.95%								
Counsel Canadian Growth Portfolio	1.00%								
<p><b>Switch Fee</b></p>	<p>0 – 2% of the amount you switch between the Funds, negotiable with your dealer in the circumstances described in the section “<b>Dealer Compensation – Sales Commissions</b>” on page 32.</p>								
<p><b>Inappropriate Short-Term Trading Fee</b></p>	<p>A fee of 2% of the amount switched or redeemed may be charged by a Fund for inappropriate short-term trading. Inappropriate short-term trading is defined as trading within a short period of time (less than 90 days) that we believe is detrimental to Fund investors and which occurs in certain Funds with portfolio securities priced in other time zones or illiquid securities which trade infrequently.</p> <p>For further information about our policies on inappropriate short-term trading, please read “<b>Short-Term Trading</b>” on page 16.</p>								
<p><b>Excessive Short-Term Trading Fee</b></p>	<p>A fee of 1% of the amount switched or redeemed may be charged by a Fund if you invest in a Fund for less than 30 days and your trading is part of a pattern of short-term trading that we believe is detrimental to Fund investors.</p> <p>The short-term trading fees will be paid to the Funds.</p> <p>For further information about our policies on excessive short-term trading, please read “<b>Short-Term Trading</b>” on page 16.</p>								
<p><b>Dishonoured Cheque Fee</b></p>	<p>\$20 per NSF cheque.</p>								

### Impact of Sales Charges

The following table shows the maximum sales charges that you would pay under the different purchase options available to you if you

- made an investment of \$1,000 in Series A securities of a Fund;
- paid the maximum sales charge of 5% under the Sales Charge Purchase Option;
- held that investment for one, three, five or ten years; and
- redeemed your investment immediately before the end of each period.

	At time of Purchase	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
Sales Charge Purchase Option <sup>(1)</sup>	\$50	–	–	–	–
Redemption Charge Purchase Option <sup>(2),(3),(4)</sup>	–	\$60	\$50	\$40	–
Low-Load Purchase Option <sup>(2),(3)</sup>	–	\$30	\$20	–	–

<sup>(1)</sup> Based on a maximum sales charge rate of 5% generally. There is no sales charge to purchase Series D or I securities. However, Series D and I investors generally will be required to pay an advisory or asset-based fee rather than commissions on each transaction.

<sup>(2)</sup> Series D and I securities cannot be purchased under the Low-Load Purchase Option or the Redemption Charge Purchase Option.

<sup>(3)</sup> The redemption charge rates are shown under “Fees and Expenses Payable Directly by You” and are based upon the purchase amount of your investment.

<sup>(4)</sup> Up to 10% of your investment in Series A, securities purchased under the Redemption Charge Purchase Option may be redeemed in each calendar year without a redemption charge. See the “Redemptions” section on beginning on page 18.

## *Dealer Compensation*

### Sales Commissions

If you buy Series A securities under the Sales Charge Purchase Option, you pay your dealer a sales commission at the time of purchase. The maximum amount of the commission for Series A securities is 5% of the amount you invest. The sales commission is negotiable with your financial advisor and payable to your dealer.

There is no sales charge to purchase Series D or I securities. However, if you purchase Series D or I securities, you will generally be required to pay your dealer an advisory or asset-based fee in addition to the management fee payable by the Fund (in the case of Series D) or by you (in the case of Series I). Advisory or asset-based fees (plus G.S.T./H.S.T.) will be deducted periodically, monthly for Series I, and either monthly or quarterly for Series D (as determined by us), from your account by redeeming securities of a Fund designated by you in advance. We will then remit the fee (plus G.S.T./H.S.T.) directly to your dealer. Your dealer can, instead, at its option and upon written advice to us, collect the fee directly from you. See the “**Series D and I Securities (Advisory or Asset-Based Fee)**” section in the “**Fees and Expenses Payable Directly by You**” table on page 29 for more information.

If you buy Series A securities under the Redemption Charge Purchase Option, we pay your dealer a commission of 5% of the amount you invest. That commission is not negotiable. Series D and I securities cannot be purchased under the Redemption Charge Purchase Option.

If you buy Series A securities under the Low-Load Purchase Option, we pay your dealer a commission of 2.5% of the amount you invest. That commission is not negotiable. Series D and I securities cannot be purchased under the Low-Load Purchase Option.

These commissions are not paid (i) when you switch between the Funds and your new Fund securities are issued under the same purchase option as your previous Fund securities, or (ii) when you switch from securities bought under the Redemption Charge Purchase Option or the Low-Load Purchase Option to securities to be purchased under the Sales Charge Purchase Option. In those cases, a switch fee of up to 2% of the amount you switch may be charged, and retained, by your dealer.

The commissions listed above will be paid when you switch from securities bought under the Sales Charge Purchase Option to securities to be purchased under either the Redemption Charge Purchase Option or the Low-Load Purchase Option, including switches within a Fund.

No sales commissions are paid when you receive securities from your reinvested Fund distributions.

### Trailing Commissions

We pay dealers a trailing commission at the end of each month or quarter as a percentage of the value of securities of the series of the Fund in each account held by the dealer's clients as set out in the following table. We also pay trailing commissions to the discount broker for securities you purchase through your discount broker.

Series A trailing commissions are paid out of the management fees collected by us.

No trailing commissions are paid for Series D and I securities of the Funds.

TRAILING COMMISSION ANNUAL RATE (as applicable)					
	Series A				
	Sales Charge Purchase Option	Redemption Charge Purchase Option		Low-Load Purchase Option	
Counsel Canadian Conservative Portfolio	1.00%	Year 1-6 Thereafter	0.50% 1.00%	Year 1-3 Thereafter	0.50% 1.00%
Counsel Canadian Balanced Portfolio	1.00%	Year 1-6 Thereafter	0.50% 1.00%	Year 1-3 Thereafter	0.50% 1.00%
Counsel Canadian Growth Portfolio	1.00%	Year 1-6 Thereafter	0.50% 1.00%	Year 1-3 Thereafter	0.50% 1.00%

We may change the terms of the trailing commission program or cancel it at any time.

### Other Kinds of Dealer Compensation

We pay for marketing materials that we give to dealers to help support their sales efforts. These materials include reports and commentaries on portfolio securities, the markets, Funds and the services we offer to you.

We may share with dealers up to 50% of their costs in marketing the Counsel Funds or in providing educational information about mutual funds generally. For example, we may pay a portion of the costs of a dealer in advertising the availability of the Counsel Funds through the financial advisors of the dealer. We may also pay part of the costs of a dealer in running a seminar to inform you about the Counsel Funds or generally about the benefits of investing in mutual funds. We may also pay for part of the costs of a dealer for a sales communication, conference or seminar that provides educational information about tax or estate planning, based on an exemptive relief from certain securities regulations regarding sales practices, provided we fulfil certain conditions.

We may pay up to 10% of the costs of some dealers to hold educational seminars or conferences for their financial advisors to teach them about, among other things, new developments in the mutual fund industry, financial planning or new financial products. The dealer makes all decisions about where and when the conference is held and who can attend.

We also arrange conferences for financial advisors where we inform them about new developments in the Counsel Funds, our products and services, mutual fund industry matters, financial planning, and investing in securities. We invite dealers to send their financial advisors to our conferences, but the dealer decides which financial advisors attend the conference. The financial advisors must pay their own travel, accommodation and personal expenses for attending our seminars.

We may pay the registration fees of financial advisors of a dealer to attend a conference, seminar or course held by a third party about, among other things, new developments in the mutual fund industry, financial planning, investing in securities, or mutual funds generally. The dealer decides which financial advisor(s) attend(s).

We may also pay up to 10% of the costs of an industry association to hold a conference, seminar or course about new developments in the mutual fund industry, financial planning, investing in securities, or mutual funds generally. The dealer decides which financial advisor(s) attend(s).

We may also provide dealers non-monetary benefits of a promotional nature and of minimal value and may engage in business promotion activities that result in dealers receiving non-monetary benefits.

We may change the terms and conditions of these other kinds of dealer compensation arrangements or discontinue them at any time.

#### Disclosure of Equity Interests

We are a direct subsidiary of IPC Portfolio Services Inc. (“**IPCPSI**”), which is in turn a majority-owned subsidiary of Investment Planning Counsel Inc. (“**IPCI**”), and IPCI is in turn a majority-owned subsidiary of IGM Financial Inc. (“**IGM**”). IGM is a financial services company listed on the TSX. IGM is a majority-owned subsidiary of Power Financial Corporation (“**Power**”). Great-West Lifeco Inc. (“**GWL**”) is also a majority-owned subsidiary of Power. IGM’s activities are principally carried out through IPCI, Mackenzie and Investors Group Inc. As at April 30, 2017, IGM had an equity interest in IPCI of approximately 96.94%. Other indirect, wholly owned or majority-owned subsidiaries of IGM, who are therefore affiliated with us and who, as dealers, may hold, sell and/or recommend securities of the Funds, include IPC Securities, Investors Group Securities Inc. (an investment dealer), IPC Investments and Investors Group Financial Services Inc. (each a mutual fund dealer). Each of the Investors Group companies is wholly owned by Investors Group Inc. Each of the IPC companies is wholly owned or majority-owned by IPCI. GWL’s activities are principally carried out through its subsidiaries, The Great-West Life Assurance Company, London Life Insurance Company and The Canada Life Assurance Company. Other indirectly owned subsidiaries of GWL, who are therefore affiliated with us and who, as dealers, may hold, sell and/or recommend securities of the Funds, include Quadrus Investment Services Ltd. (a mutual fund dealer). Each investment dealer and mutual fund dealer referenced above are, collectively, “**participating dealers.**” From time to time, representatives of any of the participating dealers may own, directly or indirectly, shares of IGM, GWL or Power. As at April 30, 2017, the aggregate equity interests of IPCI owned directly and indirectly by representatives and their respective associates of IPC Securities was 0.37%, and of IPC Investments was 2.38%. As at April 30, 2017, the aggregate percentage of equity interests of IPCI owned directly and indirectly by representatives and their respective associates of the participating dealers was 2.54%.

An equity ownership program has been implemented, which allows qualifying financial advisors (other than financial advisors who are also senior management of IPCI) and their respective associates (each a “**Qualifying Financial Advisor**”) of IPC Securities and IPC Investments to purchase, directly or indirectly, an equity interest in IPCPSI. As at April 30, 2017, the aggregate equity interests of IPCPSI owned directly or indirectly by Qualifying Financial Advisors of IPC Securities was 1.51%, and of IPC Investments was 9.60%. As at April 30, 2017, the aggregate equity interests of IPCPSI owned indirectly by representatives and their respective associates (excluding Qualifying Financial Advisors) through their equity interests in IPCI, was 0.33% for IPC Securities and 2.12% for IPC Investments. As at April 30, 2017, the aggregate equity interests of IPCPSI, owned directly and indirectly, by representatives and their respective associates (including Qualifying Financial Advisors), of IPC Securities was 1.84%, and of IPC Investments was 11.72%. As at April 30, 2017, the aggregate percentage equity interests of IPCPSI owned directly or indirectly by representatives and their respective associates of the participating dealers at such time was 13.37%.

Please refer to the annual information form for additional details on the relevant corporate relationships within the Power Group of Companies.

### *Dealer Compensation from Management Fees*

During the financial year ended December 31, 2016, we paid to dealers who distributed securities of Counsel Funds total cash compensation (sales commissions, trailing commissions and other kinds of cash compensation) representing approximately 42% of the total management fees received from all Counsel Funds in that year. The Funds offered under this Simplified Prospectus are new and, accordingly, no dealer compensation is included in the information provided.

### *Income Tax Considerations*

This is a general summary of certain Canadian federal income tax considerations applicable to you as an investor in the Funds. This summary assumes that you are an individual (other than a trust) resident in Canada and that you hold your securities directly as capital property or within a registered plan. **This summary is not intended to be legal advice or tax advice. We have tried to make this discussion easy to understand. As a result, it may not be technically precise, or cover all the tax consequences that may be relevant to you. Accordingly, you should consult your own tax advisor, having regard to your own particular circumstances when you consider purchasing, switching or redeeming securities of a Fund.**

This summary is based on the current provisions of the *Income Tax Act* (Canada) (the “**Tax Act**”), the regulations under the Tax Act, all proposals for specific amendments to the Tax Act or the regulations that have been publicly announced by the Minister of Finance (Canada) before the date hereof and our understanding of the current published administrative practices and assessing policies of the Canada Revenue Agency. Except for the foregoing, this summary does not take into account or anticipate any change in law, whether by legislative, regulatory, administrative or judicial action. Furthermore, this summary does not take into account provincial, territorial or foreign income tax legislation or considerations.

The Funds are expected to qualify at all material times as a mutual fund trust for the purposes of the Tax Act.

#### How the Funds are Taxed

The following paragraphs describe some of the ways in which mutual funds can earn income:

- Mutual funds can earn income in the form of interest, dividends or income from the investments they make, including in other mutual funds, and can be deemed to earn income from investments in certain foreign entities. All income must be computed in Canadian dollars, even if earned in a foreign currency.
- Mutual funds will realize a capital gain by selling an investment for more than its adjusted cost base (“ACB”). They can also realize a capital loss by selling an investment for less than its ACB. A mutual fund that invests in foreign-denominated securities must calculate its ACB and proceeds of disposition in Canadian dollars based on the conversion rate on the date the securities were purchased and sold, as applicable. As a result, a mutual fund may realize capital gains and losses due to changes in the value of the foreign currency relative to the Canadian dollar.
- Mutual funds can realize gains and losses from using derivatives or engaging in short selling. Generally, gains and losses from derivatives are added to or subtracted from the mutual fund’s income. However, if derivatives are used by a mutual fund as a hedge to limit its gain or loss on a specific capital asset or group of capital assets, then the gains and losses from these derivatives are generally capital gains or capital losses. Generally, gains and losses from short selling are treated as income.

In certain circumstances, a Fund may be subject to loss restriction rules that deny or defer the deduction of certain losses. For example, a capital loss realized by a Fund will be suspended if, during the period that begins 30 days before and ends 30 days after the date on which the capital loss was realized, the Fund or an affiliated person (as defined in the Tax Act) acquires property that is, or is identical to, the property on which the loss was realized and owns that property at the end of the period. As well, the losses of a Fund will be restricted when a person becomes a “majority-interest beneficiary” of the Fund (generally, by holding securities representing more than 50% of the NAV of the Fund), unless the Fund qualifies as an “investment fund” by satisfying certain investment diversification and other conditions.

A Fund will be subject to tax on its net income, including net taxable capital gains, not paid or payable to its investors for the taxation year. The Funds intend to pay sufficient distributions such that after taking into consideration any loss carry forwards and any capital gains refunds for each taxation year, it will not be liable for ordinary income tax under Part I of the Tax Act. However, the Funds may still be required to pay refundable income taxes.

#### Funds that do not qualify as Mutual Fund Trusts

A Fund that does not qualify as a “mutual fund trust” for purposes of the Tax Act, during its initial taxation year is not eligible for the capital gains refund and could be subject to alternative minimum tax for the year, as well as other taxes under the Tax Act. In addition, if one or more “financial institutions”, as defined in the Tax Act, owns more than 50% of the fair market value of the units of such a Fund, that Fund will be a “financial institution” for the purposes of the “mark-to-market” tax rules. In this case, most of the Fund’s investments would be considered mark-to-market property, with the result that

- it will be deemed to have disposed of and re-acquired its mark-to-market property at the end of each taxation year, as well as at such time as it becomes, or ceases to be, a financial institution; and
- the gains and losses from these deemed dispositions will be on income account, not capital account.

The Funds do not yet qualify as “mutual fund trusts” but are expected to qualify or be deemed to qualify throughout their 2017 and later taxation years.

## How You are Taxed on a Fund Investment

How you are taxed on an investment in the Funds depends on whether you hold the investment inside or outside a registered plan.

### *If You Own the Funds Outside a Registered Plan*

#### Distributions

You must include in your income for a taxation year the taxable portion of all distributions (including management expense distributions) paid or payable (collectively, “**paid**”) to you from a Fund during the year, computed in Canadian dollars, whether these amounts were paid to you in cash or reinvested in additional securities. The amount of reinvested distributions is added to the ACB of your securities to reduce your capital gain or increase your capital loss when you later redeem. This ensures that you do not pay tax on the amount again at a later date.

Distributions paid by a Fund may consist of capital gains, ordinary taxable Canadian dividends, foreign source income, other income and/or return of capital.

Generally, foreign source income and other income when distributed are taxable at your marginal taxation rate.

Ordinary taxable Canadian dividends are included in your income subject to the gross-up and dividend tax credit rules. Capital gains distributions will be treated as capital gains realized by you, one-half of which will generally be included in calculating your income as a taxable capital gain. A Fund may make designations in respect of its foreign-source income so that you may be able to claim any foreign tax credits allocated to you by that Fund.

You may receive a return of capital from your Fund. You will not be taxed on a return of capital, but it will reduce the ACB of your securities of that Fund such that when you redeem your securities, you will realize a greater capital gain (or smaller capital loss) than if you had not received the return of capital. If the ACB of your securities is reduced to less than zero, the ACB of your securities will be deemed to be increased to zero and you will be deemed to realize a capital gain equal to the amount of this increase.

When you buy securities of a Fund on or before the record date of a distribution, you will receive the distribution and be subject to tax on the taxable portion of the distribution, if any, even though the Fund may have earned the related income or realized the related gains before you owned the securities.

The higher the portfolio turnover rate of any Fund in a year, the greater the chance that you will receive a capital gains distribution. There is not necessarily a relationship between a high turnover rate and the performance of a Fund.

#### Sales and Redemption Charges and Fees

A sales charge paid on the purchase of securities is not deductible in computing your income but is added to the ACB of your securities. A redemption charge paid on the redemption of securities is not deductible in computing your income but effectively reduces the proceeds of disposition of your securities.

The fees that you pay for Series D and I securities (“**Unbundled Fees**”) consist of advisory fees that you pay to your dealer and, in the case of Series I securities, management fees that you pay to us. To the extent that such fees are collected by redemption of securities, you will realize gains or losses in non-registered accounts. The deductibility of Unbundled Fees, for income tax purposes, will depend on the exact nature of services provided to you and the type of investment held. Fees relating to services provided to registered accounts are not deductible

for income tax purposes, regardless of whether such fees were charged to the registered account. **You should consult with your tax advisor regarding the deductibility of Unbundled Fees paid in your particular circumstance.**

### Switches

You will not realize a capital gain or capital loss when you switch the purchase option under which you hold securities of a Fund.

You will not realize a capital gain or capital loss when you switch between series of the same Fund. The cost of the acquired securities will be equal to the ACB of the securities that you switched.

Other switches involve a redemption of the securities being switched and a purchase of the securities acquired on the switch.

### Redemptions

You will realize a capital gain (capital loss) if any of your securities in a Fund are redeemed. Generally your capital gain (capital loss) will be the amount by which the NAV of the redeemed securities are greater (less) than the ACB of those securities. You may deduct redemption charges and other expenses of redemption when calculating your capital gain (capital loss). Generally, one-half of your capital gain is included in your income for tax purposes as a taxable capital gain and one-half of your capital loss can be deducted against your taxable capital gains, subject to the provisions of the Tax Act.

In certain circumstances, loss restriction rules will limit or eliminate the amount of a capital loss that you may deduct. For example, a capital loss that you realize on a redemption of securities will be deemed to be nil if, during the period that begins 30 days before and ends 30 days after the day of that redemption, you acquired identical securities (including through the reinvestment of distributions or a management expense distribution paid to you) and you continue to own these identical securities at the end of that period. In this case, the amount of the denied capital loss will be added to the ACB of your securities. This rule will also apply where the identical securities are acquired and held by a person affiliated with you (as defined in the Tax Act).

### Calculating Your ACB

Your ACB must be calculated separately for each series of securities that you own in each Fund and must be calculated in Canadian dollars. The total ACB of your securities of a particular series of a Fund is generally equal to:

- the total of all amounts you paid to purchase those securities, including any sales charges paid by you at the time of purchase;

**plus**

- the ACB of any securities of another series of the same Fund that were switched on a tax-deferred basis into securities of the particular series;

**plus**

- the amount of any reinvested distributions on that series;



less

- the return of capital component of distributions on that series;

less

- the ACB of any securities of the particular series that were switched on a tax-deferred basis into securities of another series of the same Fund;

less

- the ACB of any of your securities of that series that have been redeemed.

The ACB of a single security is the average of the total ACB.

For example, suppose you own 500 securities of a particular series of a Fund with an ACB of \$10 each (a total of \$5,000). Suppose you then purchase another 100 securities of the same series of the Fund for an additional \$1,200, including a sales charge. Your total ACB is \$6,200 for 600 securities so that your new ACB of each security of the series of the Fund is \$6,200 divided by 600 securities or \$10.33 per security.

#### Alternative Minimum Tax

Amounts included in your income as distributions of ordinary taxable dividends or capital gains, as well as any capital gains realized by you on the disposition of securities, may increase your liability for alternative minimum tax.

#### Tax Statements and Reporting

Account and tax statements will be sent to you identifying the taxable portion of your distributions, the return of capital component of distributions and redemption proceeds paid to you for each year. Tax statements will not be sent to you if you did not receive distributions or redemption proceeds, or if securities are held in your registered plan. You should keep detailed records of your purchase cost, sales charges, distributions, redemption proceeds and redemption charges in order to calculate the ACB of your securities. You may wish to consult a tax advisor to help you with these calculations.

Generally, you will be required to provide your financial advisor with information related to your citizenship, tax residence and, if applicable, your foreign tax identification number. If you are identified as a U.S. citizen (including a U.S. citizen living in Canada) or a foreign-tax resident, details of your investment in a Fund will generally be reported to the Canada Revenue Agency. The Canada Revenue Agency may provide the information to the relevant foreign tax authorities under exchange-of-information treaties.

#### *If You Own the Funds Inside a Registered Plan*

When securities of a Fund are held in your registered plan, generally neither you nor your registered plan will be taxed on distributions received from the Fund or capital gains realized on the disposition of the securities of the Fund, provided the securities are a qualified investment and are not a prohibited investment for the registered plan. However, a withdrawal from a registered plan may be subject to tax.

The securities of each Fund are expected to be a qualified investment for registered plans at all times. A security of a Fund may be a prohibited investment for your RRSP, RRIF or TFSA even though it is a qualified investment.

If your RRSP, RRIF or TFSA holds a prohibited investment, you become liable to a 50% potentially refundable tax on the value of the prohibited investment and a 100% tax on income and capital gains attributable to, and capital gains realized on, the disposition of the prohibited investment. The 2017 Federal Budget proposed to extend these prohibited investment rules to RESPs and RDSPs effective March 23, 2017.

**You should consult with your own tax advisor regarding the special rules that apply to each type of registered plan, including whether or not a particular security of a Fund would be a prohibited investment for your registered plan. It is your responsibility to determine the tax consequences to you and your registered plan. Neither we nor the Funds assume any liability to you as a result of making the Funds and/or series available for investment within registered plans.**

### *What are Your Legal Rights?*

Securities legislation in some provinces gives you the right to withdraw from an agreement to buy securities of a mutual fund within two (2) business days of receiving the Fund Facts, or to cancel your purchase within forty-eight (48) hours of receiving confirmation of your order.

Securities legislation in some provinces and territories also allows you to cancel an agreement to buy securities of a mutual fund and get your money back, or to make a claim for damages, if (i) the Fund Facts are not sent or delivered to you within the time required under securities legislation; or (ii) the simplified prospectus, annual information form, Fund Facts or financial statements misrepresent any facts about the mutual fund. These rights must usually be exercised within certain time limits.

For more information, refer to the securities legislation of your province or territory or consult your lawyer.

## Part B: Specific Information about Each of the Mutual Funds Described in this Document

### *Introduction to Part B*

Part B provides specific fund descriptions of the Funds in this simplified prospectus. It supplements the general information concerning those Funds that is contained in Part A.

This **Introduction to Part B** explains most of the terms and assumptions that appear in this Part B and the information common to many of the Funds so that we do not have to repeat that information for each Fund.

### *Fund Details*

This section of each Fund's Part B gives you information such as the Fund's type, its start date or when it was first publicly sold to investors, the nature of the securities offered by the Fund (units or shares), the series offered by the Fund, whether securities are qualified investments under the Tax Act for registered plans, and the name of the Fund's sub-advisor(s) (if no sub-advisor is cited, then we are the Fund's portfolio manager).

### *What Does the Fund Invest In?*

#### Investment Objectives and Strategies

Each Fund's Part B describes the Fund's investment objectives and investment strategies. The investment objectives can only be changed with the consent of the investors in the Fund at a meeting called for that purpose. The investment strategies explain how the Fund intends to achieve its investment objectives. As manager of the Counsel Funds, we may change the investment strategies from time to time.

#### Use of Derivatives by the Funds

Some of the Funds may use derivatives such as options, futures, forward contracts, swaps or customized types of derivatives to "**hedge**" against losses caused by changes in securities prices, interest rates, exchange rates or other risks. Derivatives may also be used for "**non-hedging**" purposes, which may include the following: (i) as substitute investments for stocks or a stock market; (ii) to gain exposure to other currencies; (iii) to seek to generate additional income; or (iv) for any other purpose that is consistent with the Fund's investment objectives. When a Fund uses derivatives for hedging or non-hedging purposes, it will only do so as permitted by Canada's securities regulations, as altered by regulatory exemption(s) granted to the Funds, if any.

If a Fund intends to use derivatives as part of its investment strategy, we have indicated in the Fund's description of investment strategies whether derivatives will be used for hedging purposes, non-hedging purposes or both. For more information on derivatives used by a particular Fund for hedging and non-hedging purposes as of the last day of the applicable financial reporting period, please refer to the Fund's most recent financial statements. Please also refer to the explanation of risks which accompany the use of derivatives, under "**Derivatives Risk**" beginning on page 4.

#### The Investment Process for the Counsel Strategic Portfolios

Assessing the appropriate level of risk and properly diversifying your investments are critical components to a successful investment strategy. The Strategic Portfolios use a selection of investments aimed at providing the best

return for your given level of risk. As a portfolio of assets, these portfolios view investments not in isolation but on the basis of how that investment can be expected to influence the risk and return of the whole portfolio. Each of the Strategic Portfolios uses a strategic asset allocation approach.

A strategic asset allocation approach typically aims to manage a portfolio to its neutral asset allocation, as defined by the portfolio manager's long-term risk and return expectations from various asset classes. The portfolio manager may also employ a dynamic process of adapting to current expectations of the future long-term returns of each asset class.

By delivering a strategic asset allocation approach, the objective of Counsel Strategic Portfolios is to help you achieve your financial goals while reducing risk. Other factors that we generally employ in constructing portfolios include the following:

- **Investor Needs and Risk Assessment** – To direct you to the portfolio that best suits your needs, your financial advisor will assist you in identifying your investment objectives, as well as your personal tolerance level to risk. To aid in this endeavour, your advisor may provide a risk assessment questionnaire designed to probe your time horizon, growth and income requirements, and tolerance for risk. You can ask your financial advisor for further information. Such questionnaires may not specifically address all of your specific investment needs.
- **Asset Class Allocation** – We have constructed each of the Portfolios to correspond to a specific category of growth and income needs and risk tolerance. We have assigned a target allocation to the major asset classes: equities, fixed income, and cash, commensurate with the specific objectives of the Counsel Strategic Portfolio. Target allocations are then further divided by type within the major asset classes, as appropriate.
- **Fund Selection** – In order to gain market exposure consistent with the targeted allocations, each of the Counsel Strategic Portfolios invests in a number of other mutual funds, referred to as Underlying Funds. We offer access to a broad array of investment mandates and distinctive approaches to both equity and fixed-income investing. We have constructed distinct portfolios that are diversified by asset class, investment style, geography, and company size to match the allocations corresponding to each portfolio's objectives. The Underlying Funds in which the Funds invest may be changed from time to time, as well as the percentage holding in each Underlying Fund, without notice to you so long as such changes are consistent with the Fund's investment objective.
- **Ongoing Monitoring and Rebalancing** – Left unchecked, market fluctuations can cause the investments in Counsel Strategic Portfolios to stray from their desired asset class allocation weightings. The portfolio manager monitors the allocation of each portfolio, and the investments of each portfolio are rebalanced as required. Similarly, the portfolio manager regularly reviews the broad array of investment options to determine whether any changes to allocations for each portfolio, including any fund substitutions, are required. The Counsel Strategic Portfolios are re-optimized at least annually to determine asset and sub-asset class target weights, as well as Underlying Fund target weights. The Underlying Funds are reviewed each business day to determine if it is appropriate to use existing cash flows to rebalance investments in the Underlying Funds that are most underweight relative to targets, or by paying out redemptions in the Counsel Strategic Portfolios by selling the Underlying Funds that are most overweight.

## Securities Lending, Repurchase and Reverse Repurchase Transactions

Many of the Funds are permitted to engage in securities lending, repurchase and reverse repurchase transactions. Those transactions are described on page 8 of this simplified prospectus. Securities lending, repurchase and reverse repurchase transactions may earn additional income for mutual funds. That income comes from the fees paid by the transaction counterparty and interest paid on the cash or portfolio securities held as collateral.

On any securities lending, repurchase and reverse repurchase transaction, the Funds must

- deal only with counterparties who meet generally accepted creditworthiness standards and who are unrelated to the Fund's portfolio manager, manager or trustee as defined in NI 81-102;
- hold collateral equal to a minimum 102% of the market value of the portfolio securities loaned (for securities lending transactions), sold (for repurchase transactions) or purchased (for reverse repurchase transactions);
- adjust the amount of the collateral on each business day to ensure the value of the collateral relative to the market value of the portfolio securities loaned, sold or purchased remains at or above the minimum 102% limit; and
- limit the aggregate value of all portfolio securities loaned or sold through securities lending and repurchase transactions to no more than 50% of the total assets of the Fund (without including the collateral for loaned securities and cash for sold securities).

## Short Selling

Most of the Funds may engage in a limited amount of short selling in accordance with securities regulations. A short sale is a transaction in which a mutual fund sells, on the open market, securities that it has borrowed from a lender for this purpose. At a later date, the mutual fund purchases identical securities on the open market and returns them to the lender. In the interim, the mutual fund must pay compensation to the lender for the loan of the securities and provide collateral to the lender for the loan. If a Fund engages in short selling, it must adhere to securities regulations. Such regulations include the following conditions:

- (a) the aggregate market value of all securities sold short by the Fund will not exceed 20% of the total net assets of the Fund;
- (b) the aggregate market value of all securities of any particular issuer sold short by the Fund will not exceed 5% of the total net assets of the Fund;
- (c) the Fund will hold cash cover equal to at least 150% of the aggregate market value of all securities sold short;
- (d) the Fund will not deposit collateral with a dealer in Canada unless the dealer is registered in a jurisdiction of Canada and is a member of IIROC; and
- (e) the Fund will not deposit collateral with a dealer outside Canada unless that dealer (i) is a member of a stock exchange that requires the dealer to be subjected to a regulatory audit; and (ii) has a net worth in excess of CDN \$50 million.

## Exemptions from NI 81-102

The Funds are subject to certain restrictions and practices contained in securities legislation, including NI 81-102, which are designed in part to ensure that the investments of mutual funds are diversified and relatively liquid and to ensure the proper administration of mutual funds. We intend to manage the Funds in accordance with these restrictions and practices or to obtain relief from the securities regulatory authorities before implementing any variations. The following provides a description of the exemptions that certain Funds have received from the provisions of NI 81-102, and/or a description of the general investment activity. Please refer to the annual information form for more details on these exemptions.

### ETFs, including Commodity ETFs, and Gold and Silver Products Relief

The Funds have obtained an exemption from the Canadian securities regulatory authorities, which allows them to purchase and hold securities of various types of ETFs. Pursuant to this relief, the Funds may purchase and hold securities of the following ETFs:

- (a) ETFs that seek to provide daily results that replicate the daily performance of a specified widely-quoted market index (the ETF's **Underlying Index**) by a multiple of up to 200% ("**Leveraged Bull ETFs**") or an inverse multiple of up to 200% ("**Leveraged Bear ETFs**");
- (b) ETFs that seek to replicate the daily performance of their Underlying Index by an inverse multiple of up to 100% ("**Inverse ETFs**");
- (c) ETFs that seek to replicate the performance of gold or silver or the value of a specified derivative, the underlying interest of which is gold or silver on an unlevered basis; and
- (d) ETFs that seek to provide daily results that replicate the daily performance of gold or silver or the value of a specified derivative, the underlying interest of which is gold or silver on an unlevered basis by a multiple of up to 200%;

(collectively, the "**Underlying ETFs**")

- (e) ETFs that invest, directly or indirectly through derivatives, in physical commodities, including gold and silver, energy, grains, industrial metals, precious metals other than gold and silver, agriculture or livestock (including but not limited to soy meal, sugar, wheat, cotton, coffee and live cattle) ("**Commodity ETFs**").

Pursuant to this relief, the Funds may also purchase and hold silver, permitted silver certificates and specified derivatives whose underlying interest is silver, or a specified derivative of which the underlying interest is silver on an unlevered basis ("**Silver**").

(Gold, silver, permitted gold certificates and permitted silver certificates are referred to collectively as "**Gold and Silver Products**").

This relief is subject to the following conditions:

- (i) a Fund's investment in securities of an Underlying ETF, securities of a Commodity ETF and/or Silver must be in accordance with its fundamental investment objectives;
- (ii) a Fund may not short sell securities of an Underlying ETF or securities of a Commodity ETF;

- (iii) the securities of the Underlying ETFs and the securities of the Commodity ETFs must be traded on a stock exchange in Canada or the United States;
- (iv) a Fund may not enter into any transaction if, immediately after the transaction, more than 20% of its net assets, taken at market value at the time of the transaction, would consist of, in aggregate, securities of Underlying ETFs, Commodity ETFs and all securities sold short by the Fund;
- (v) a Fund may not purchase Gold and Silver Products if, immediately after the transaction, the market value exposure to gold or silver through the Gold and Silver Products is more than 10% of the NAV of the Fund, taken at market value at the time of the transaction;
- (vi) a Fund may not purchase Gold and Silver Products if, immediately after the transaction, more than 10% of the NAV, in aggregate, of the Fund taken at market value at the time of the transaction would consist of Gold and Silver Products, securities of Underlying ETFs and securities of Commodity ETFs;
- (vii) a Fund may not purchase securities of an Underlying ETF if, immediately after the transaction, more than 10% of the NAV, in aggregate, of the Fund, taken at market value at the time of the transaction, would consist of Gold and Silver Products, securities of Underlying ETFs and securities of Commodity ETFs; and
- (viii) a Fund may not purchase securities of a Commodity ETF if, immediately after the transaction, more than 10% of the NAV, in aggregate, of the Fund, taken at market value at the time of the transaction, would consist of Gold and Silver Products, securities of Underlying ETFs and securities of Commodity ETFs.

#### Underlying ETF Investment Relief

All Funds have received exemptive relief from the prohibitions in NI 81-102 described below to invest in securities of Mackenzie Core Plus Global Fixed Income ETF, Mackenzie Unconstrained Bond ETF, Mackenzie Floating Rate Income ETF, Mackenzie Core Plus Canadian Fixed Income ETF and/or other exchange traded funds managed by Mackenzie or its affiliates (Mackenzie is also an affiliate of Counsel) in the future (each, an “**Underlying Fixed Income ETF**”):

- (a) subsection 2.1(1) of NI 81-102 to permit a Fund to purchase securities of an Underlying Fixed Income ETF or to enter into a specified derivatives transaction with respect to an Underlying Fixed Income ETF even though more than 10% of the net asset value of a Fund will be invested, directly or indirectly, in securities of an Underlying Fixed Income ETF;
- (b) subsection 2.2(1)(a) of NI 81-102 to permit a Fund to purchase a security of an Underlying Fixed Income ETF such that, after the purchase, a Fund would hold securities representing more than 10% of the votes attaching to the outstanding voting securities of an Underlying Fixed Income ETF; or the outstanding equity securities of the underlying ETF (the “**Concentration Restriction**”);
- (c) subsection 2.5(2)(a) of NI 81-102 to permit a Fund to purchase and hold a security of an Underlying Fixed Income ETF that is not offered under a simplified prospectus prepared in accordance with National Instrument 81-101 Mutual Fund Prospectus Disclosure; and

- (d) subsection 2.5(2)(e) of NI 81-102 to permit a Fund to pay brokerage commissions in relation to its purchase and sale of Underlying Fixed Income ETFs on a recognized exchange in Canada.

This approval contains the following conditions:

- (a) the investment in securities of an Underlying Fixed Income ETF is in accordance with the investment objectives of a Fund;
- (b) a Fund is not permitted to sell securities of an Underlying Fixed Income ETF short;
- (c) the Underlying Fixed Income ETF is not a commodity pool governed by National Instrument 81-104 Commodity Pools;
- (d) other than any exemptive relief granted in favour of an Underlying Fixed Income ETF, the Underlying Fixed Income ETF must comply with the requirements of: (i) section 2.3 of NI 81-102 regarding the purchase of physical commodities; (ii) sections 2.7 and 2.8 of NI 81-102 regarding the use of specified derivatives; and (iii) subsections 2.6(a) and (b) of NI 81-102 with respect to the use of leverage;
- (e) in connection with the Concentration Restriction, a Fund shall, for each investment in securities of an Underlying Fixed Income ETF, apply, to the extent applicable, subsections 2.1(3), 2.1(4) and 2.1(5) of NI 81-102 as if those provisions applied to a Fund's investments in securities of the Underlying Fixed Income ETF, and, accordingly, limit a Fund's indirect holdings in securities of an issuer held by one or more Underlying Fixed Income ETFs as required by, and in accordance with, subsections 2.1(3), 2.1(4) and 2.1(5) of NI 81-102; and
- (f) the investment by a Fund in securities of an Underlying Fixed Income ETF is made in compliance with section 2.5 of NI 81-102, with the exception of paragraph 2.5(2)(a) and, in respect only of brokerage fees incurred for the purchase and sale of an Underlying Fixed Income ETF by a Fund, paragraph 2.5(2)(e) of NI 81-102.

#### Cleared Swaps Relief

The Funds have received an exemption from the counterparty credit rating requirements, the counterparty exposure threshold and the custodial requirements set out in NI 81-102 in order to permit the Funds (a) to clear certain swaps, such as interest rate and credit default swaps, entered into with a futures commission merchant that is registered with the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission and/or is a clearing member for purposes of European Market Infrastructure Regulation, and is a member of a clearing corporation (“**Futures Commission Merchant**”) and (b) to deposit cash and other assets directly with the Futures Commission Merchant and indirectly with a clearing corporation, as margin for such swaps.

In the case of Futures Commission Merchants located in Canada, the Futures Commission Merchant must be a member of a self-regulatory organization that is a member of the Canadian Investor Protection Fund. In the case of Futures Commission Merchants located outside of Canada, the Futures Commission Merchant must (i) have a net worth, determined from its most recent audited financial statements, or more than \$50 million and (ii) be a member of a clearing corporation subject to a regulatory audit. In all instances, the amount of margin already held by the applicable Futures Commission Merchant must not exceed 10% of the NAV of the Fund at the time of deposit.



### *What are the Risks of Investing in this Fund?*

The **general investment risks** which apply to investing in mutual funds, including our Funds, are set out on page 2 of **Part A**. The **specific fund risks** for each Fund are set out under the sub-heading “**What are the General Risks of Investing in the Fund?**” for each Fund described in this **Part B**. Those risks are based upon the Fund’s investment objectives and strategies and describe the material risks of investing in that Fund under normal market conditions when considering the Fund’s portfolio as a whole, not each individual investment within the portfolio.

We have classified each of the applicable risks as either “primary”, “secondary” or “low or not a risk”. We consider the primary risks to be the more significant risks in respect of the particular Fund because they occur more frequently and/or because their occurrence will have a more significant impact on the Fund’s value. We consider the secondary risks relatively less significant because they occur less frequently and/or because their occurrence will have a less significant impact on the Fund’s value. Low or not a risk means that we consider the risk to be either very remote or non-existent. **All of the applicable risks should be understood and discussed with your financial advisor before making any investment in a Fund.**

#### Risk Classification Methodology

The investment risk level of each Fund is required to be determined in accordance with a standardized risk classification methodology that is based on the historical volatility of the Fund, as measured by the 10-year standard deviation of the returns of the Fund. As the Funds are new, the Manager calculates the investment risk level of each Fund using a reference index that is expected to reasonably approximate the standard deviation of the Fund. Once a Fund has 10 years of performance history, the methodology will calculate the standard deviation of the Fund using the return history of the Fund rather than that of the reference index. In each case, the Funds are assigned an investment risk rating in one of the following categories: low, low to medium, medium, medium to high, or high risk.

The following chart sets out a description of the reference index used for each Fund:

Counsel Fund	Reference Index
Counsel Canadian Conservative Portfolio	Blend: 60% FTSE/TMX Universe Bond Index, 25% TSX Composite Index, 15% MSCI World Index
Counsel Canadian Balanced Portfolio	Blend: 40% FTSE/TMX Universe Bond Index, 45% TSX Composite Index, 15% MSCI World Index
Counsel Canadian Growth Portfolio	Blend: 20% FTSE/TMX Universe Bond Index, 60% TSX Composite Index, 20% MSCI World Index

Unitholders should know that other types of risks, both measurable and non-measurable, exist. Also, just as historical performance may not be indicative of future returns, historical volatility may not be indicative of future volatility. The risk rating of each Fund set out below is reviewed annually and anytime that it is no longer reasonable in the circumstances. A more detailed explanation of the risk classification methodology used to identify the risk ratings of the Funds is available on request, at no cost, by calling toll-free at **1-877-625-9885** or by writing to Counsel Portfolio Services Inc., 5015 Spectrum Way, Suite 300, Mississauga, Ontario L4W 0E4.

Counsel Fund	Risk Rating
Counsel Canadian Conservative Portfolio	Low
Counsel Canadian Balanced Portfolio	Low to Medium
Counsel Canadian Growth Portfolio	Low to Medium

**A Fund may be suitable for you as an individual component within your entire portfolio, even if the Fund’s risk rating is higher or lower than your personal risk tolerance level. When you choose investments with your financial advisor, you should consider your whole portfolio, investment objectives, time horizon, and personal risk tolerance level.**

### *Who Should Invest in this Fund?*

This section will help you decide, with your financial advisor’s help, whether a Fund is right for you. **This information is only a guide.** In this section, we state the risk rating of the Fund, based on the categories discussed above, and what type of investor should consider an investment in the Fund. For example, you may want to grow your capital over the long term or want to protect your investment and earn income. You may wish to invest outside a registered plan or may wish to invest in a specific region or industry.

### Distribution Policy

This section explains the frequency, amount and composition of distributions that you may receive from a Fund.

### Distributions Rules Applicable to All Series

Each December a Fund may distribute any undistributed net income and any net capital gains for the year to investors who own securities on the distribution record date, but only to the extent required to ensure that the Fund itself will not pay income tax.

The distributions described above will be reinvested, without charge, in additional securities of the series on which they were paid, unless you elect in advance to receive them in cash. You may not elect to receive these distributions in cash if your securities are held in a Counsel-sponsored registered plan.

### *Fund Expenses Indirectly Borne by Investors*

Each Fund pays its own operating expenses, which reduces the Fund’s investment return on your securities. This section will, in future years, contain an example of the amount of expenses which would be payable by the Fund (for each series of the Fund’s securities) on a \$1,000 investment, assuming that the Fund earns a constant 5% per year and the MERs for each series of securities remain the same as the past year, for the complete 10 years shown in the example. Where we have waived a portion of our management fees or absorbed some of the Fund’s operating expenses during the past financial year, the MER would have been higher had we not done so and, consequently, that would have increased the Fund expenses indirectly borne by you. The fees and expenses which you pay directly, and which are not included in the Fund’s MERs, are described in the “**Fees and Expenses**” section on page 24 of this document.

The example table will, in future years, help you to compare the cumulative costs of investing in the Fund with the similar costs of investing in other mutual funds. Please remember that it is only an example and that the Fund’s actual expenses will vary each year.

There is no data provided for fund expenses indirectly borne by investors for any of the Funds because they are new and therefore their expenses are not known.

## COUNSEL CANADIAN CONSERVATIVE PORTFOLIO

### *Fund Details*

Type of Fund	Canadian Fixed Income Balanced
Start Date	May 19, 2017
Securities Offered/ Start Date	Mutual fund trust units: Series A: May 19, 2017 Series D: May 19, 2017 Series I: May 19, 2017
Registered Plan Status	Securities of the Fund are expected to be qualified investments for registered plans.

### *What Does the Fund Invest In?*

#### Investment Objectives

- The Fund seeks to achieve current income and moderate long-term capital growth.
- The Fund invests in securities of a variety of fixed-income and to a lesser extent equity investments (either directly or through underlying investment funds), with a focus on Canadian securities.
- The fundamental investment objective of the Fund cannot be changed without obtaining prior approval of Securityholders at a meeting called for that purpose.

#### Investment Strategies

- The Fund invests its assets in securities of other mutual funds using strategic asset allocation as its principal investment strategy. The Fund's asset class weightings will generally be 50%-70% in fixed-income securities and 30%-50% in equity securities.
- The Underlying Funds in which the Fund invests may be changed from time to time, as well as the percentage holding in each Underlying Fund, without notice to you, so long as such changes are consistent with the Fund's investment objectives. Such Underlying Funds may be managed by us.
- The Fund currently invests in securities of the following Underlying Funds.

*Counsel Canadian Conservative Portfolio (cont'd)*

Underlying Fund	Target Strategic Allocation	Mandate	Investment Strategies and/or Style
Counsel Fixed Income	40.0%	Canadian fixed Income	The fund seeks to achieve a high level of income by investing in a diversified portfolio of money market instruments, primarily Canadian high quality government and corporate bonds, convertibles, income trusts, mortgage securities, as well as dividend-paying common and preferred shares. The fund may invest up to 40% of its assets in foreign securities. Foreign investments will usually be foreign corporate and government bonds.
Counsel Canadian Core Fixed Income	24.0%	Canadian fixed income	The fund seeks to achieve a steady flow of income by investing, either directly or indirectly through other investment funds, primarily in a diversified portfolio of Canadian government and corporate fixed-income securities.
Counsel Canadian Value	12.5%	Canadian value equities	The fund seeks long-term growth of capital, while maintaining a commitment to protection of its capital by investing primarily in Canadian equity securities. It may also invest in Canadian fixed-income securities and equity and fixed-income securities of issuers anywhere in the world, depending on market conditions. The fund's approach to investment selection is value driven. The fund may invest up to 30% of its assets in foreign investments.
Counsel Canadian Growth	12.5%	Canadian growth equities	The fund seeks to achieve long-term capital growth and to provide a reasonable rate of return by investing primarily in Canadian equity securities. It may also invest in Canadian fixed-income securities and equity and fixed-income securities of issuers anywhere in the world, depending on market conditions. The fund's approach to investment selection is growth driven. The fund may invest up to 30% of its assets in foreign investments.
Counsel Global Real Estate	4.0%	Global real estate	The fund seeks long-term capital growth by investing primarily in global real estate stocks and real estate investment trusts that present better than expected returns relative to the risk taken. It may also invest in fixed-income and equity securities of issuers located anywhere in the world.

Underlying Fund	Target Strategic Allocation	Mandate	Investment Strategies and/or Style
Counsel Global Trend Strategy	7.0%	Global equity	The fund seeks to achieve long term capital growth, by taking advantage of global market trends. It will do so by investing primarily in global equity securities either directly or through securities of other mutual funds. Generally, the fund will invest 70% of its assets in equity securities, 20% in a fixed-income credit strategy and 10% in commodities. The fund may invest in short-term debt securities for defensive purposes such as when market conditions are not favourable. In extreme markets where there are no positive momentum markets, then the strategy can be invested in 100% cash.

- The Fund will invest its assets according to the percentages indicated by Target Allocation in the table above and in accordance with the policy of “**Ongoing Monitoring and Rebalancing**” described on page 42.
- The different portfolio management styles and areas of expertise of the Underlying Funds’ sub-advisors are expected to lead to an element of diversification in the Fund’s portfolio. However, as the Underlying Funds’ sub-advisors are independent of one another, there may be some overlap in specific securities, industry sectors, countries or investment themes, as applicable, from time to time.
- Generally, the Fund will not invest more than 30% of its assets in foreign securities or in Underlying Funds that invest primarily in foreign securities.
- The Fund may invest in short-term debt securities, money market funds, or hold cash for operational purposes, including maintaining liquidity, to accommodate redemption requests and to rebalance assets between the Underlying Funds.
- The Fund may invest in securities that are designed to track an index in order to gain broad exposure to a region, industry or sector.
- In accordance with applicable securities regulations or as permitted by the exemptions from these regulations, and as further described in the “**Introduction to Part B – What Does the Fund Invest In?**” section on page 41 of this simplified prospectus, the Fund and the Underlying Funds may use derivatives for hedging and non-hedging purposes as part of their investment strategies.
- The Fund itself does not engage in securities lending, repurchase and reverse repurchase transactions. The Underlying Funds may enter into these transactions as part of their investment strategies. For further information on these transactions and derivatives use, and for further information on the Underlying Funds, please see the simplified prospectus and other information about these Funds on the internet site of SEDAR at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com).

#### *What are the Risks of Investing in the Fund?*

- This Fund has exposure to fixed-income securities, subjecting it to risks including market risk, company risk, credit risk, interest rate risk, and prepayment risk. This Fund also has exposure to equity securities, including

smaller companies and real estate companies, which are generally more volatile than fixed-income investments. A portion of the Fund's exposure is to assets outside of Canada, which means that it is subject to foreign markets risk and foreign currency risk. Any indirect investment in securities, through Underlying Funds, may subject the Fund to tracking risk. These and other risks are described starting on page 2. The following table shows which risks apply to this Fund:

	Primary Risk	Secondary Risk	Low or Not a Risk
Capital Depletion			●
Commodity		●	
Company	●		
Concentration		●	
Convertible Securities			●
Credit	●		
Derivatives		●	
Emerging Markets			●
ETF		●	
Foreign Currency		●	
Foreign Markets		●	
High-Yield Securities		●	
Illiquidity		●	
Interest Rate	●		
Large Transaction		●	
Legislation		●	
Market	●		
Portfolio Manager		●	
Prepayment	●		
Securities Lending, Repurchase and Reverse Repurchase Transaction		●	
Series		●	
Short Selling		●	
Small Company		●	
Tracking	●		

***Who Should Invest in this Fund?***

- You should consider this Fund if you
  - are looking for a low-risk investment;
  - want to invest in equity and fixed-income Canadian securities;
  - want a medium to long-term investment; and
  - can handle the ups and downs of stock and bond markets.

***Distribution Policy***

- See “**Who Should Invest in this Fund? – Distribution Policy**” section on page 48 of this simplified prospectus.
- The Fund will make distributions out of net income and net realized capital gains, if any, annually in December.

***Fund Expenses Indirectly Borne by Investors***

- This information has not been provided because the Fund is new.



## COUNSEL CANADIAN BALANCED PORTFOLIO

### *Fund Details*

Type of Fund	Canadian Neutral Balanced
Start Date	May 19, 2017
Securities Offered/ Start Date	Mutual fund trust units: Series A: May 19, 2017 Series D: May 19, 2017 Series I: May 19, 2017
Registered Plan Status	Securities of the Fund are expected to be qualified investments for registered plans.

### *What Does the Fund Invest In?*

#### Investment Objectives

- The Fund seeks to achieve a balance between long-term capital growth and income.
- The Fund invests in securities of a variety of equity and fixed-income investments (either directly or through underlying investment funds), with a focus on Canadian securities.
- The fundamental investment objective of the Fund cannot be changed without obtaining prior approval of Securityholders at a meeting called for that purpose.

#### Investment Strategies

- The Fund invests its assets in securities of other mutual funds using strategic asset allocation as its principal investment strategy. The Fund's asset class weightings will generally be 30%-50% in fixed-income securities and 50%-70% in equity securities.
- The Underlying Funds in which the Fund invests may be changed from time to time, as well as the percentage holding in each Underlying Fund, without notice to you, so long as such changes are consistent with the Fund's investment objectives. These Underlying Funds may be managed by us.
- The Fund currently invests in securities of the following Underlying Funds.

Underlying Fund	Target Strategic Allocation	Mandate	Investment Strategies and/or Style
Counsel Fixed Income	40.0%	Canadian fixed income	The fund seeks to achieve a high level of income by investing in a diversified portfolio of money market instruments, primarily Canadian high quality government and corporate bonds, convertibles, income trusts, mortgage securities, as well as dividend-paying common and preferred shares. The fund may invest up to 40% of its assets in foreign securities. Foreign investments will usually be foreign corporate and government bonds.

Underlying Fund	Target Strategic Allocation	Mandate	Investment Strategies and/or Style
Counsel Canadian Core Fixed Income	4.0%	Canadian fixed income	The fund seeks to achieve a steady flow of income by investing, either directly or indirectly through other investment funds, primarily in a diversified portfolio of Canadian government and corporate fixed-income securities.
Counsel Canadian Value	21.5%	Canadian value equities	The fund seeks long-term growth of capital, while maintaining a commitment to protection of its capital by investing primarily in Canadian equity securities. It may also invest in Canadian fixed-income securities and equity and fixed-income securities of issuers anywhere in the world, depending on market conditions. The fund's approach to investment selection is value driven. The fund may invest up to 30% of its assets in foreign investments.
Counsel Canadian Growth	21.5%	Canadian growth equities	The fund seeks to achieve long-term capital growth and to provide a reasonable rate of return by investing primarily in Canadian equity securities. It may also invest in Canadian fixed-income securities and equity and fixed-income securities of issuers anywhere in the world, depending on market conditions. The fund's approach to investment selection is growth driven. The fund may invest up to 30% of its assets in foreign investments.
Counsel Global Small Cap	5.0%	Global small cap equities	The fund seeks long-term growth of capital by investing primarily in global small cap equity securities. It may also invest in mutual fund securities, equities and fixed-income securities of issuers located anywhere in the world, depending on market conditions.
Counsel Global Trend Strategy	8.0%	Global equity	The fund seeks to achieve long term capital growth, by taking advantage of global market trends. It will do so by investing primarily in global equity securities either directly or through securities of other mutual funds. Generally, the fund will invest 70% of its assets in equity securities, 20% in a fixed-income credit strategy and 10% in commodities. The fund may invest in short-term debt securities for defensive purposes such as when market conditions are not favourable. In extreme markets where there are no positive momentum markets, then the strategy can be invested in 100% cash.

- The Fund will invest its assets according to the percentages indicated by Target Allocation in the table above and in accordance with the policy of “**Ongoing Monitoring and Rebalancing**” described on page 42.
- The different portfolio management styles and areas of expertise of the Underlying Funds’ sub-advisors are expected to lead to an element of diversification in the Fund’s portfolio. However, as the Underlying Funds’ sub-advisors are independent of one another, there may be some overlap in specific securities, industry sectors, countries or investment themes, as applicable, from time to time.

- Generally, the Fund will not invest more than 30% of its assets in foreign securities or in Underlying Funds that invest primarily in foreign securities.
- The Fund may invest in short-term debt securities, money market funds, or hold cash for operational purposes, including maintaining liquidity, to accommodate redemption requests and to rebalance assets between the Underlying Funds.
- The Fund may invest in securities that are designed to track an index in order to gain broad exposure to a region, industry or sector.
- In accordance with applicable securities regulations or as permitted by the exemptions from these regulations, and as further described in the “**Introduction to Part B – What Does the Fund Invest In?**” section on page 41 of this simplified prospectus, the Fund and the Underlying Funds may use derivatives for hedging and non-hedging purposes as part of their investment strategies.
- The Fund does not engage in securities lending, repurchase and reverse repurchase transactions. The Underlying Funds may enter into these transactions as part of their investment strategies. For further information on these transactions and derivatives use, and for further information on the Underlying Funds, please see the simplified prospectus and other information about these Funds on the internet site of SEDAR at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com).

#### *What are the Risks of Investing in the Fund?*

- This Fund has exposure to fixed-income securities, subjecting it to risks including market risk, company risk, credit risk, interest rate risk, and prepayment risk. This Fund also has exposure to equity securities, including smaller companies and real estate companies, which are generally more volatile than fixed-income investments. A portion of the Fund’s exposure is to assets outside of Canada, which means that it is subject to foreign markets risk and foreign currency risk. Any indirect investment in securities, through Underlying Funds, may subject the Fund to tracking risk. These and other risks are described starting on page 2. The following table shows which risks apply to this Fund:

	Primary Risk	Secondary Risk	Low or Not a Risk
Capital Depletion			●
Commodity		●	
Company	●		
Concentration		●	
Convertible Securities			●
Credit	●		
Derivatives		●	
Emerging Markets			●
ETF		●	
Foreign Currency		●	

	Primary Risk	Secondary Risk	Low or Not a Risk
Foreign Markets		●	
High Yield Securities		●	
Illiquidity		●	
Interest Rate	●		
Large Transaction		●	
Legislation		●	
Market	●		
Portfolio Manager		●	
Prepayment	●		
Securities Lending, Repurchase and Reverse Repurchase Transaction		●	
Series		●	
Short Selling		●	
Small Company		●	
Tracking		●	

### *Who Should Invest in this Fund?*

- You should consider this Fund if you
  - are seeking a low- to medium-risk investment;
  - are looking for a balance between equity and fixed-income Canadian securities;
  - want a medium to long-term investment; and
  - can handle the ups and downs of stock and bond markets.

### *Distribution Policy*

- See “**Who Should Invest in this Fund? – Distribution Policy**” section of this simplified prospectus.
- The Fund will make distributions out of net income and net realized capital gains, if any, annually in December.

### *Fund Expenses Indirectly Borne by Investors*

- This information has not been provided because the Fund is new.

## COUNSEL CANADIAN GROWTH PORTFOLIO

### *Fund Details*

Type of Fund	Canadian Balanced Equity
Start Date	May 19, 2017
Securities Offered/ Start Date	Mutual fund trust units: Series A: May 19, 2017 Series D: May 19, 2017 Series I: May 19, 2017
Registered Plan Status	Securities of the Fund are expected to be qualified investments for registered plans.

### *What Does the Fund Invest In?*

#### Investment Objectives

- The Fund seeks to achieve long-term capital growth with some income.
- The Fund invests in securities of a variety of equity and to a lesser extent fixed-income investments (either directly or through underlying investment funds), with a focus on Canadian securities.
- The fundamental investment objective of the Fund cannot be changed without obtaining prior approval of Securityholders at a meeting called for that purpose.

#### Investment Strategies

- The Fund invests its assets in securities of other mutual funds using strategic asset allocation as its principal investment strategy. The Fund's asset class weightings will generally be 15%-30% in fixed-income securities and 70%-85% in equity securities.
- The Underlying Funds in which the Fund invests may be changed from time to time, as well as the percentage holding in each Underlying Fund, without notice to you, so long as such changes are consistent with the Fund's investment objectives. These Underlying Funds may be managed by us.
- The Fund currently invests in securities of the following Underlying Funds.

Underlying Fund	Target Strategic Allocation	Mandate	Investment Strategies and/or Style
Counsel Canadian Core Fixed Income	20.0%	Canadian fixed income	The fund seeks to achieve a steady flow of income by investing, either directly or indirectly through other investment funds, primarily in a diversified portfolio of Canadian government and corporate fixed-income securities.

Underlying Fund	Target Strategic Allocation	Mandate	Investment Strategies and/or Style
Counsel Canadian Value	26.5%	Canadian value equities	The fund seeks long-term growth of capital, while maintaining a commitment to protection of its capital by investing primarily in Canadian equity securities. It may also invest in Canadian fixed-income securities and equity and fixed-income securities of issuers anywhere in the world, depending on market conditions. The fund's approach to investment selection is value driven. The fund may invest up to 30% of its assets in foreign investments.
Counsel Canadian Growth	26.5%	Canadian growth equities	The fund seeks to achieve long-term capital growth and to provide a reasonable rate of return by investing primarily in Canadian equity securities. It may also invest in Canadian fixed-income securities and equity and fixed-income securities of issuers anywhere in the world, depending on market conditions. The fund's approach to investment selection is growth driven. The fund may invest up to 30% of its assets in foreign investments.
Counsel Global Small Cap	15.0%	Global small cap equities	The fund seeks long-term growth of capital by investing primarily in global small cap equity securities. It may also invest in mutual fund securities, equities and fixed-income securities of issuers located anywhere in the world, depending on market conditions.
Counsel Global Trend Strategy	12.0%	Global equity	The fund seeks to achieve long term capital growth, by taking advantage of global market trends. It will do so by investing primarily in global equity securities either directly or through securities of other mutual funds. Generally, the fund will invest 70% of its assets in equity securities, 20% in a fixed-income credit strategy and 10% in commodities. The fund may invest in short-term debt securities for defensive purposes such as when market conditions are not favourable. In extreme markets where there are no positive momentum markets, then the strategy can be invested in 100% cash.

- The Fund will invest its assets according to the percentages indicated by Target Allocation in the table above and in accordance with the policy of “**Ongoing Monitoring and Rebalancing**” described on page 42.
- The different portfolio management styles and areas of expertise of the Underlying Funds’ sub-advisors are expected to lead to an element of diversification in the Fund’s portfolio. However, as the Underlying Funds’ sub-advisors are independent of one another, there may be some overlap in specific securities, industry sectors, countries or investment themes, as applicable, from time to time.
- Generally, the Fund will not invest more than 30% of its assets in foreign securities or in Underlying Funds that invest primarily in foreign securities.

- The Fund may invest in short-term debt securities, money market funds, or hold cash for operational purposes, including maintaining liquidity, to accommodate redemption requests and to rebalance assets between the Underlying Funds.
- The Fund may invest in securities that are designed to track an index in order to gain broad exposure to a region, industry or sector.
- In accordance with applicable securities regulations or as permitted by the exemptions from these regulations, and as further described in the “**Introduction to Part B – What Does the Fund Invest In?**” section on page 41 of this simplified prospectus, the Fund and the Underlying Funds may use derivatives for hedging and non-hedging purposes as part of their investment strategies.
- The Fund does not engage in securities lending, repurchase and reverse repurchase transactions. The Underlying Funds may enter into these transactions as part of their investment strategies. For further information on these transactions and derivatives use, and for further information on the Underlying Funds, please see the simplified prospectus and other information about these Funds on the internet site of SEDAR at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com).

#### *What are the Risks of Investing in the Fund?*

- This Fund has exposure to fixed-income securities, subjecting it to risks including market risk, company risk, credit risk, interest rate risk, and prepayment risk. This Fund also has exposure to equity securities, including smaller companies and real estate companies, which are generally more volatile than fixed-income investments. A portion of the Fund’s exposure is to assets outside of Canada, which means that it is subject to foreign markets risk and foreign currency risk. Any indirect investment in securities, through Underlying Funds, may subject the Fund to tracking risk. These and other risks are described starting on page 2. The following table shows which risks apply to this Fund:

	Primary Risk	Secondary Risk	Low or Not a Risk
Capital Depletion			●
Commodity		●	
Company	●		
Concentration		●	
Convertible Securities			●
Credit	●		
Derivatives		●	
Emerging Markets			●
ETF		●	
Foreign Currency		●	
Foreign Markets		●	

	Primary Risk	Secondary Risk	Low or Not a Risk
High Yield Securities		●	
Illiquidity		●	
Interest Rate	●		
Large Transaction		●	
Legislation		●	
Market	●		
Portfolio Manager		●	
Prepayment	●		
Securities Lending, Repurchase and Reverse Repurchase Transaction		●	
Series		●	
Short Selling		●	
Small Company		●	
Tracking		●	

### *Who Should Invest in this Fund?*

- You should consider this Fund if you
  - are looking for a low- to medium-risk investment;
  - want to invest in equity and fixed-income Canadian securities;
  - want a medium to long-term investment; and
  - can handle the ups and downs of stock and bond markets.

### *Distribution Policy*

- See “**Who Should Invest in this Fund? – Distribution Policy**” section of this simplified prospectus.
- The Fund will make distributions out of net income and net realized capital gains, if any, annually in December.

### *Fund Expenses Indirectly Borne by Investors*

- This information has not been provided because the Fund is new.



# Simplified *Prospectus*

## COUNSEL CANADIAN STRATEGIC PORTFOLIOS

COUNSEL CANADIAN CONSERVATIVE PORTFOLIO  
COUNSEL CANADIAN BALANCED PORTFOLIO  
COUNSEL CANADIAN GROWTH PORTFOLIO

Additional information about the Funds is available in the Funds' annual information form, fund facts documents, management reports of fund performance and financial statements. These documents are incorporated by reference into this simplified prospectus, which means that they legally form part of this document just as if they were printed as a part of this document.

You can get a copy of these documents, at your request, and at no cost, by calling Counsel toll-free at **1-877-625-9885** or by contacting your dealer.

These documents and other information about the Funds, such as information circulars and material contracts, are also available on Counsel's Internet site at [www.counselservices.com](http://www.counselservices.com) and at the Internet site of SEDAR (the System for Electronic Document Analysis and Retrieval) at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com).

## MANAGER OF THE COUNSEL FUNDS AND PORTFOLIOS

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