



# **Annual General Meeting Investments Review**

University of Saskatchewan 1999 Academic Pension Plan

October 22, 2018

**Prepared by Aon**

Presentation to the Members of the University of Saskatchewan 1999 Academic Pension Plan

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# Agenda

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- Investment Objectives
- Role of Pension Committee
- Role of Investment Consultant
- Role of Asset Mix
- Asset Mix
- Total Portfolio - Performance
- Total Portfolio - Change in Market Value
- Market Update
- Questions?
- Appendix - Asset Class Overview

# Investment Objectives

## Plan Objectives

*"The purpose of the Fund is to provide for the accumulation of pension benefits to eligible members and to provide members of the Plan with retirement benefits prescribed under the terms thereof."*

## Guiding Risk Philosophy

*"The assets of the Plan should be prudently managed to assist in managing funding volatility and excessive volatility in annual rates of return. The Plan uses a number of investment strategies to achieve the **relative** and **absolute** performance objectives set by the Committee."*

## Dual Investment Objectives

### Benchmark Portfolio

(Performance, net of fees, relative to capital market indices that reflect target asset mix)

### Inflation Targeting

(CPI + 3.45% over 10+ years)

# Role of Pension Committee

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## **Establish, maintain and review investment policies and procedures**

- Investment objectives
- Asset mix / manager structure
- Permitted investments

## **Monitor investment performance versus Plan objectives**

- Overall fund
- Individual managers
- Compliance with investment policy

## **Replace investment managers as required**

# Role of Investment Consultant

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The Investment Consultant's responsibility is to provide strategic advice regarding the Pension Plan's investment policies, investment managers and investment performance issues.

## Quarterly Committee Meetings

- Performance Monitoring
- Compliance Reviews
- Market & Manager Updates
- Investment Trends Amongst Pension Plans & Institutional Investors

## Annual Investment Policy Statement Reviews

- Oversight of Regulatory Requirements
- Working Alongside the Pension Plan's Actuaries
- Discussion and Incorporation of Best Practices

## Annual General Meeting

- Updating the Pension Plan members

## Other Projects

# Role of Asset Mix

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## Fund Purpose - Provide Pension Benefits

- Ensure safety of capital
- Adequate return to support pension promise
  - Target long-term return of CPI + 3.45%

## Asset Mix

- A new de-risking investment strategy was approved in 2017.
- The Asset Mix will adjust dynamically as the financial position of the Plan improves.

## Components

### **Liability-Matching Component (allocation to increase as the Plan's financial improves)**

Long Term Bonds (i.e. investing in bonds with maturities of 10 years or greater)

- Maturity profile is more in line with the liabilities of the Plan

# Role of Asset Mix (Continued)

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## **Growth Component (allocation to decrease as the Plan's financial position improves)**

### Equities

- provide potential for higher returns, but with greater risk
- diversification by region helps reduce risk

### Global Low Volatility Equities

- expected to provide market-like equity returns when markets are strong
- expected to significantly outperform the market when equity markets are weak
- returns are expected to be better than fixed income and real estate but less than traditional equities
- returns are expected to be less volatile than traditional equities and real estate and in line with fixed income

### Canadian Commercial Real Estate

- expected to provide diversification benefits and some inflation protection
- returns are expected to be better than fixed income but less than equities
- returns are expected to be less volatile than equities but more volatile than fixed income

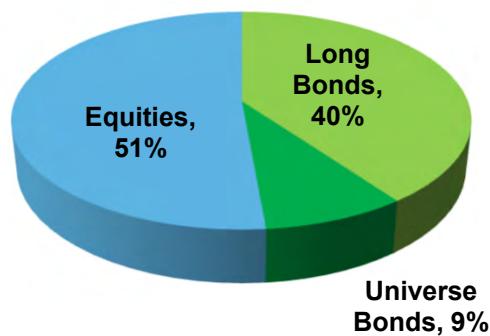


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# Asset Mix

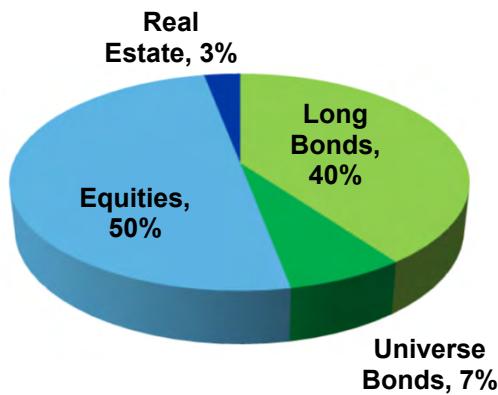
**Target Asset Mix as of June 30, 2017**

Market Value: \$182 million

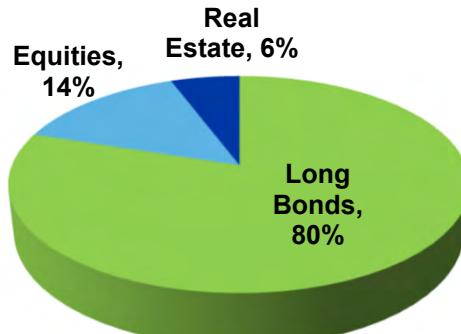


**Target Asset Mix as of June 30, 2018**

Market Value: \$184 million



**Future Target Asset Mix**



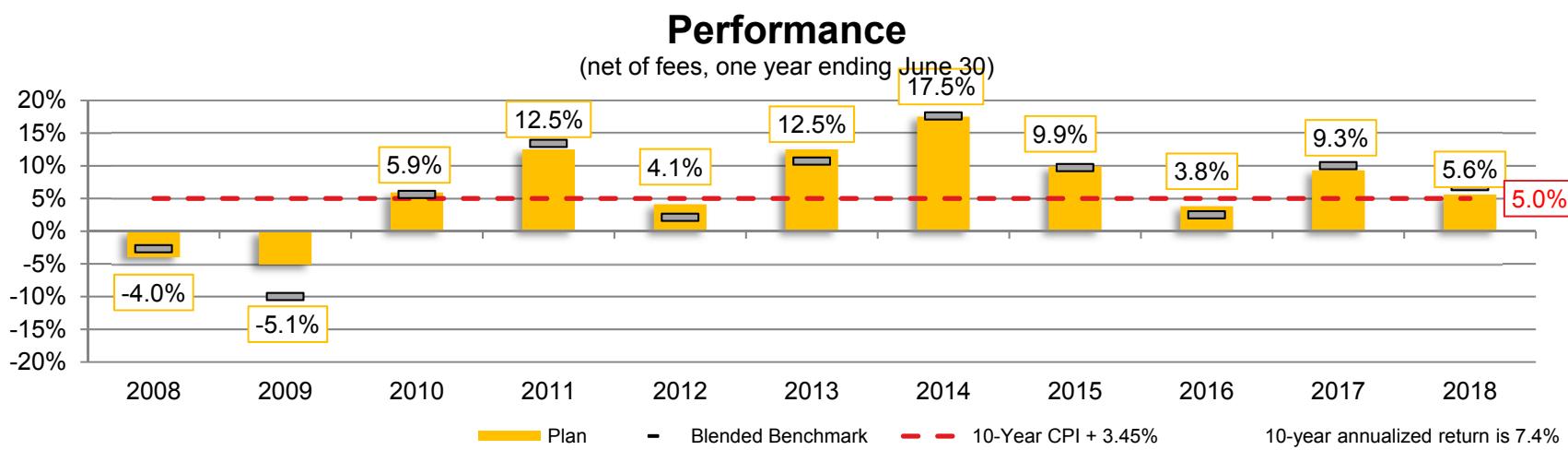
# Total Portfolio - Performance

## Strategy Summary

- Low cost passive management in universe and long bonds, where adding value has proven difficult.
- Active equity manager of about 150 stocks with a Canadian focus, “growth at a reasonable price” investment philosophy and moderate active positioning versus the capital market indices.
- Active global low volatility equity manager primarily investing in companies with attractive dividend yields and positive growth in free cash flow.
- Active real estate manager with a well diversified approach in terms of regional, style and asset exposure in the Canadian real estate market.

## Performance Commentary

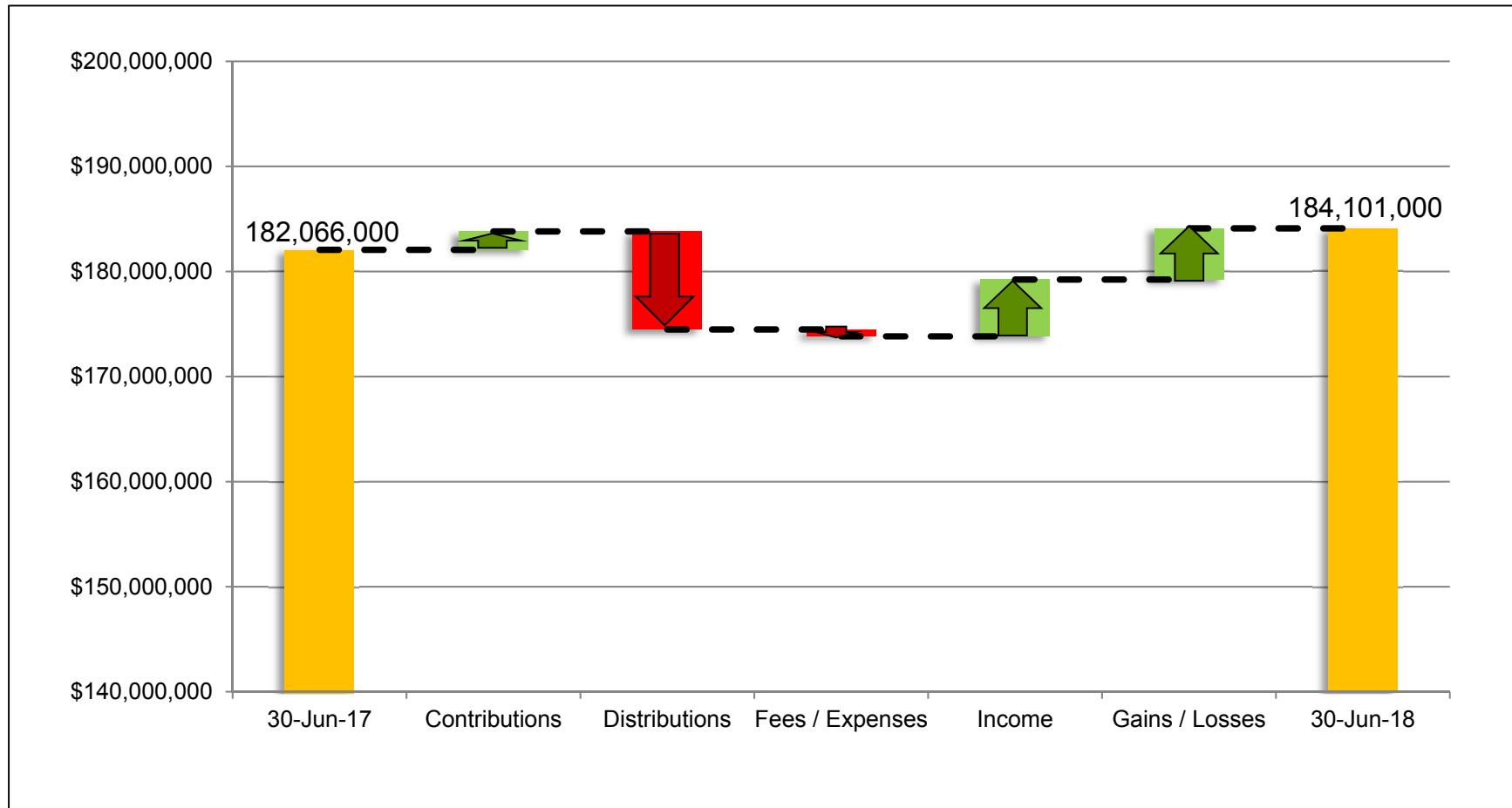
- Long-term annual return target of CPI + 3.45% (5.0%) has been exceeded by 2.4% net of fees over 10 years
- Performance versus a Blended Benchmark of capital market indices has also been positive (net of fees), but by a smaller margin
- Long-term performance has been superior in down markets, as expected given the manager structure
- Majority of value-added performance has come from Canadian and international equities
- Annual management fee is currently about 0.30%



Current Blended Benchmark: 40% FTSE Canada Long Bond, 7% FTSE Canada Universe Bond, 16% S&P/TSX Capped Composite Total Return, 8.5% S&P500 Total Return (CAD), 8.5% MSCI EAFE Net Total Return (CAD), 17% MSCI World Net Total Return, 3% REALpac/IPD Canada Property.

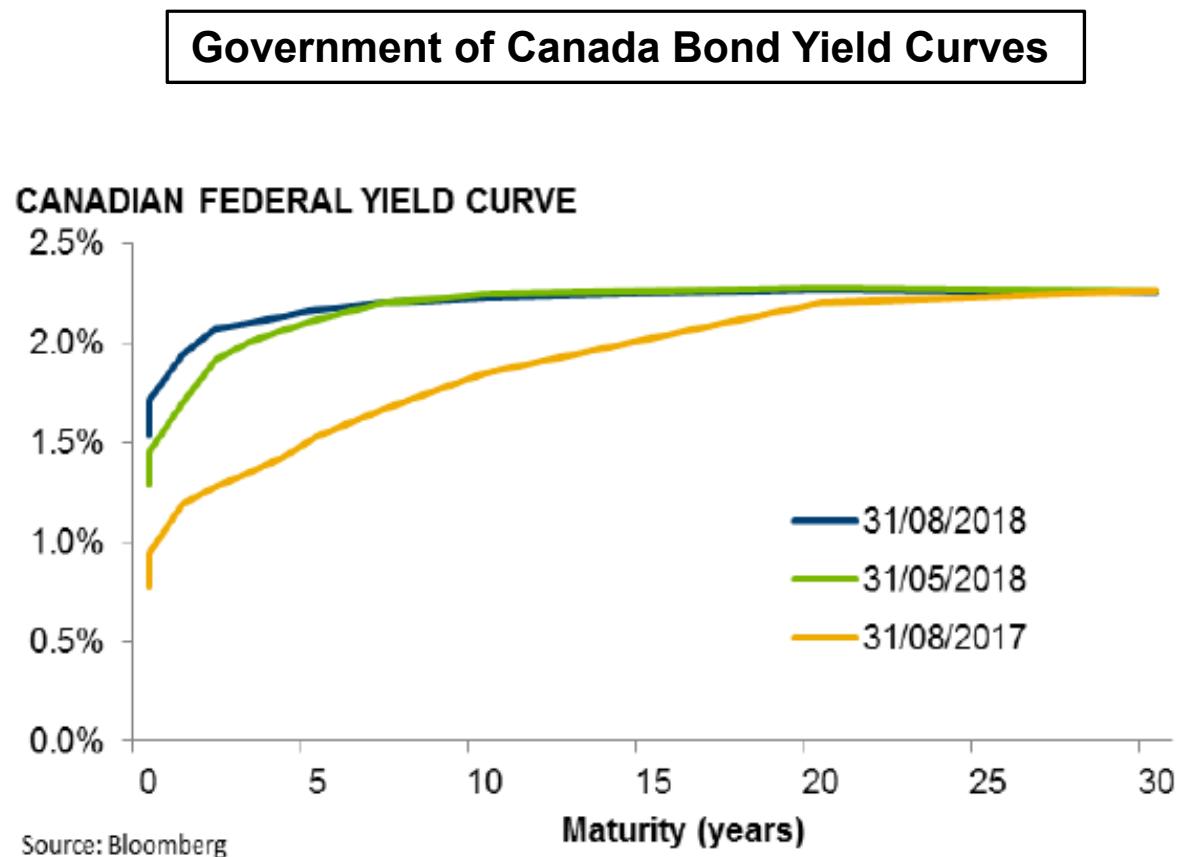
The Blended Benchmark is currently in transition until the allocation to Real Estate is complete.

## Total Portfolio – Change in Market Value



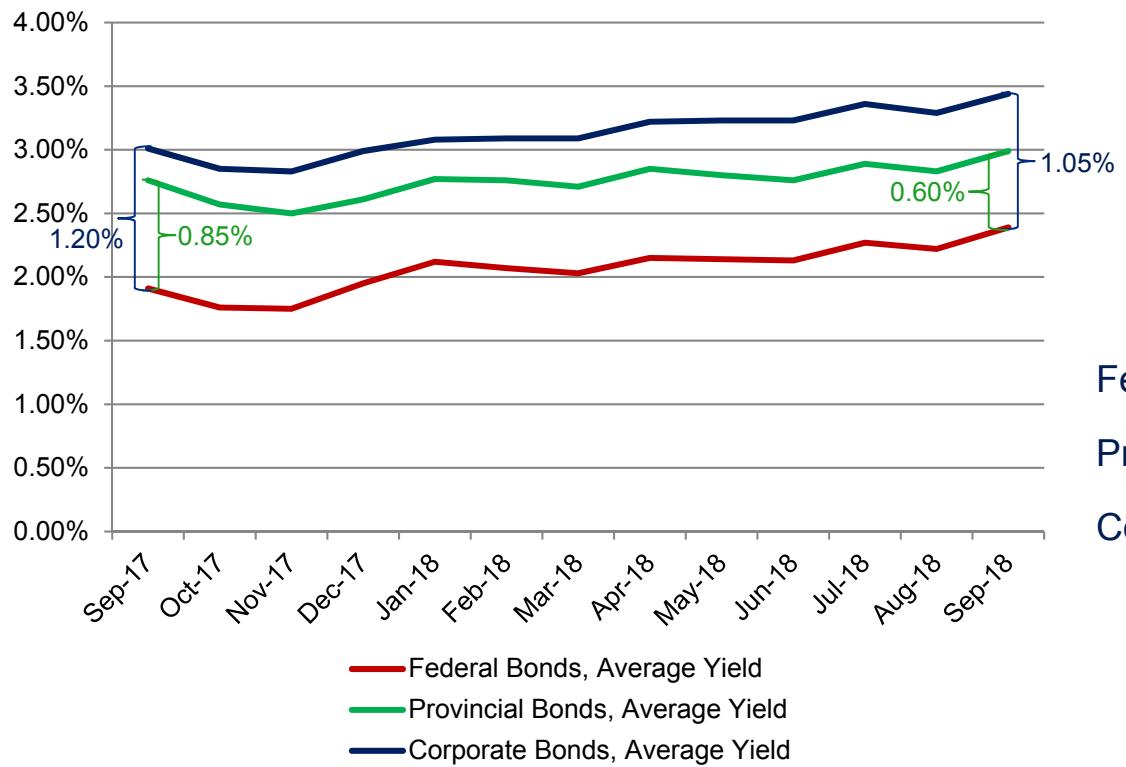
## Market Update

### Yield Curve is the flattest Since the 2008 Crisis



## Market Update (continued)

### Bond Yields Increasing Moderately



1-Year Return to  
Sept. 30, 2018

Federal Bonds	0.71%
Provincial Bonds	2.33%
Corporate Bonds	2.10%

Source: FTSE TMX Global Debt Capital Markets

## Market Update (continued)

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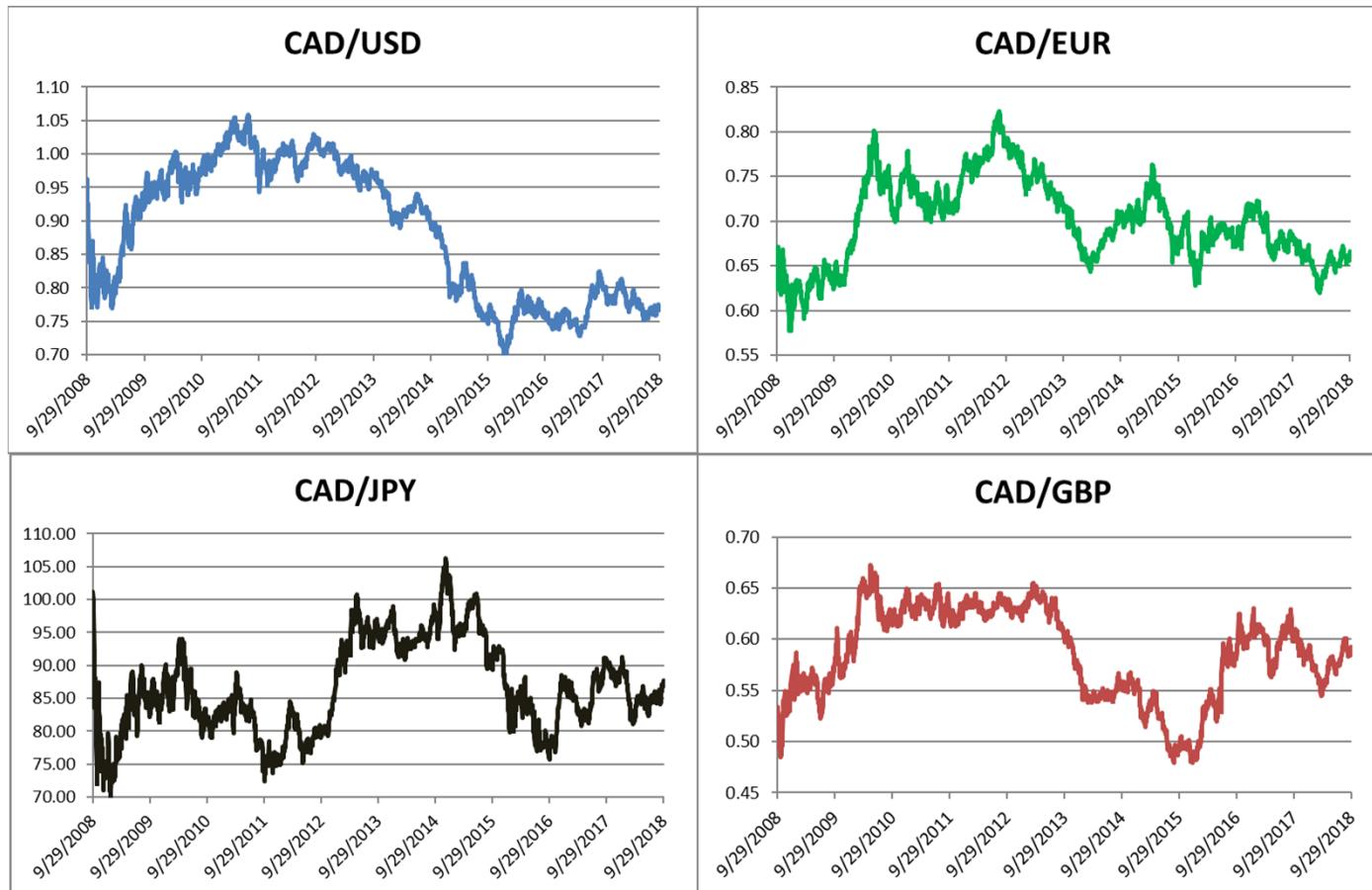
### Oil Continues to Rise



Source: [www.macrotrends.net](http://www.macrotrends.net). West Texas Crude. As of September 28, 2018 in U.S. dollars.

## Market Update (continued)

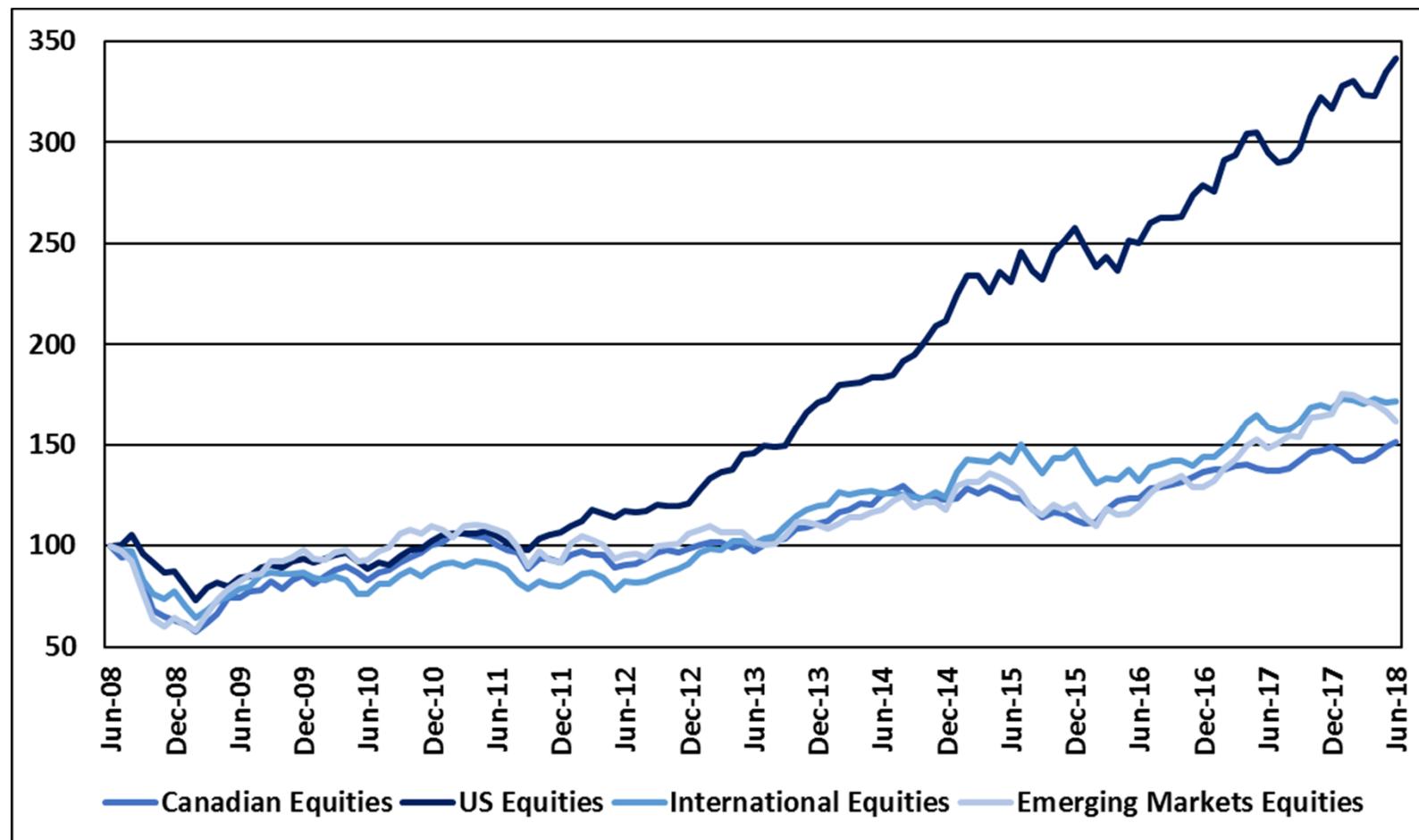
### Canadian Dollar Strength Stagnates



Source: Bank of Canada.

## Market Update (continued)

### U.S. Stock Market Breaks Away



Source: Standard & Poor's. MSCI. Currency: CAD

## Market Update (continued)

### Investing in Cash – Still Negative in Real Terms



Deposit rates have been below inflation rates in Canada since 2013.



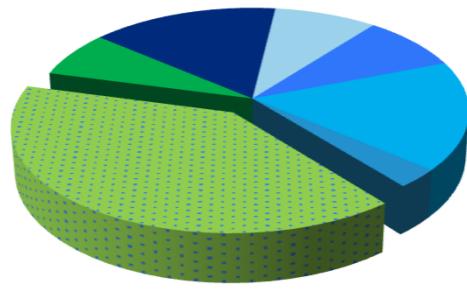
As a result, Canadian investors are losing money in real terms by investing in cash.

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## Appendix – Asset Class Overview

# Canadian Bond Allocation – Long Bonds

## Manager Structure



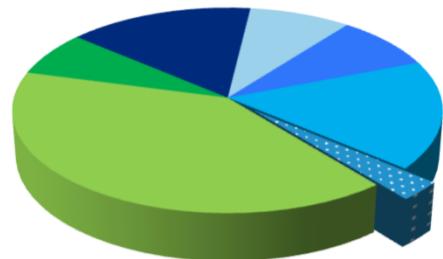
BlackRock Long Bonds, 40%

## BlackRock Long Bonds Strategy Summary

- Index strategy aims to match the performance of the broad Canadian investment grade long bond market
- BlackRock has achieved this goal on a pre-fee basis historically
- BlackRock is the world's largest asset manager
- Current yield is approximately 3.05%
- Annual management fee is approximately 0.036%
- Initial investment was made in June 2017.

# Canadian Real Estate Allocation

## Manager Structure

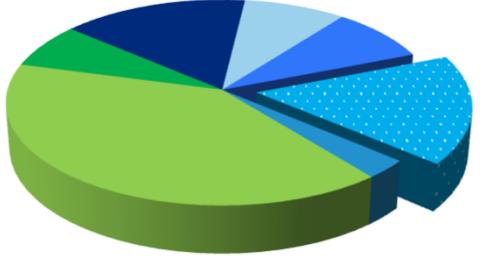


Greystone Real Estate, 3%

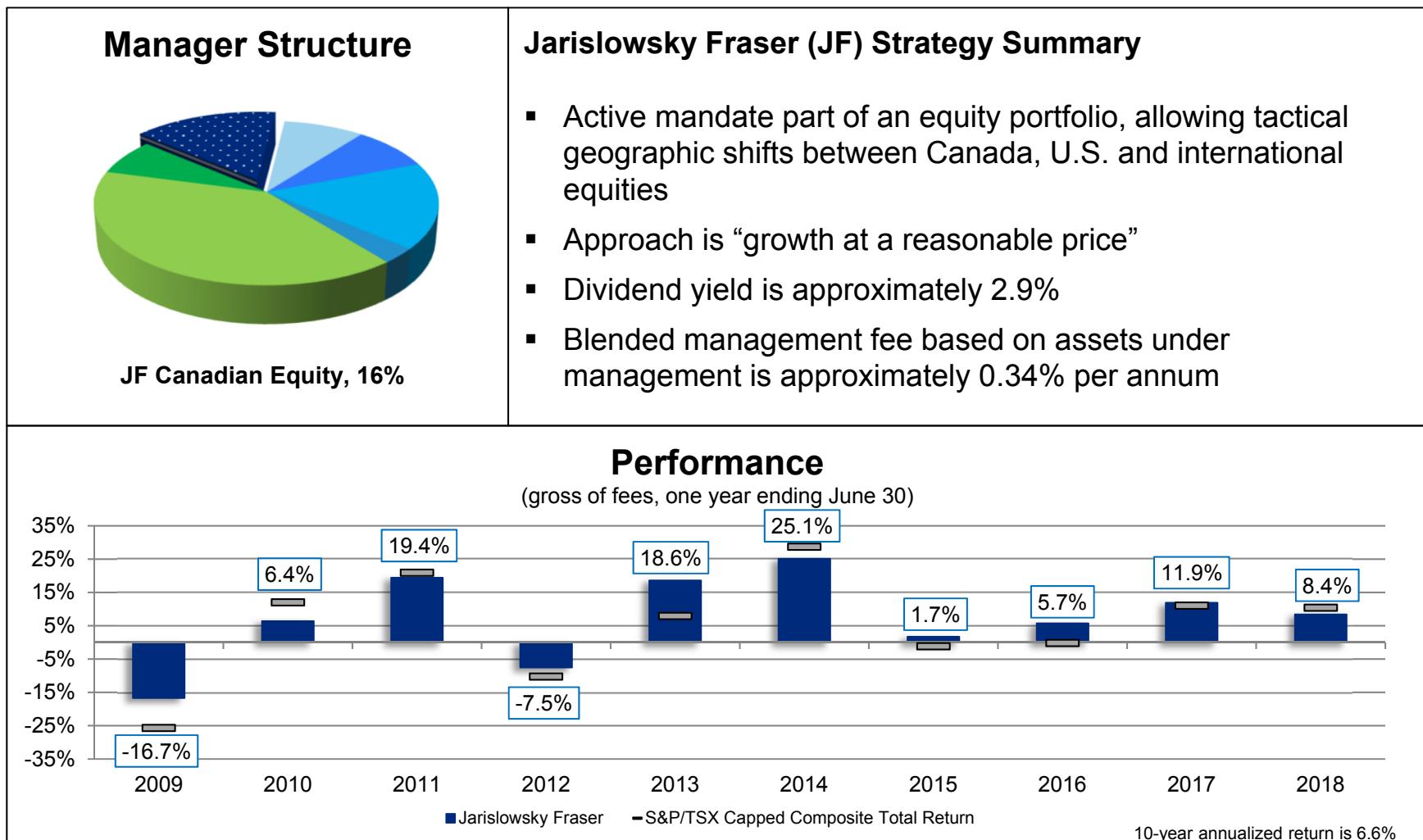
## Greystone Real Estate Strategy Summary

- Active strategy aims to provide predictable income and moderate capital appreciation by investing in a diversified portfolio of Canadian commercial real estate.
- Current 1 year cash dividend return is 2.9%
- Annual management fee is approximately 1.038%
- Initial investment was made in February 2018.

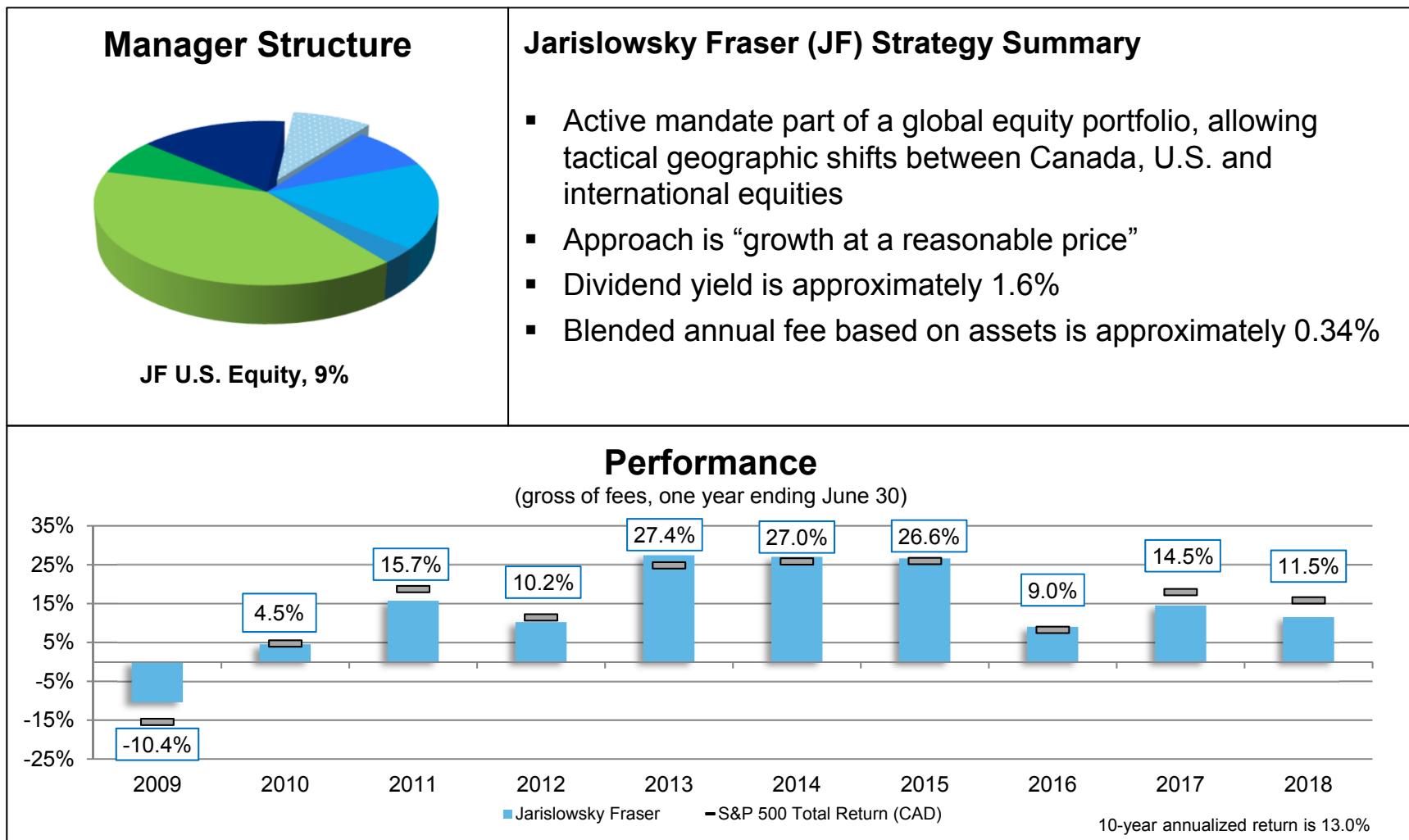
# Global Low Volatility Equity Allocation

<p><b>Manager Structure</b></p>  <p>TDAM Epoch Global Equity, 17%</p>	<p><b>TDAM Epoch Strategy Summary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Active strategy focused on achieving high levels of income through a diversified portfolio of global companies with attractive dividend yields and positive growth in free cash flow</li><li>▪ TDAM is the one of the largest asset managers in Canada</li><li>▪ Current dividend yield is 4.3%, nearly 80% higher than the benchmark</li><li>▪ Annual management fee is approximately 0.760%</li><li>▪ Initial investment was made in February 2018.</li></ul>
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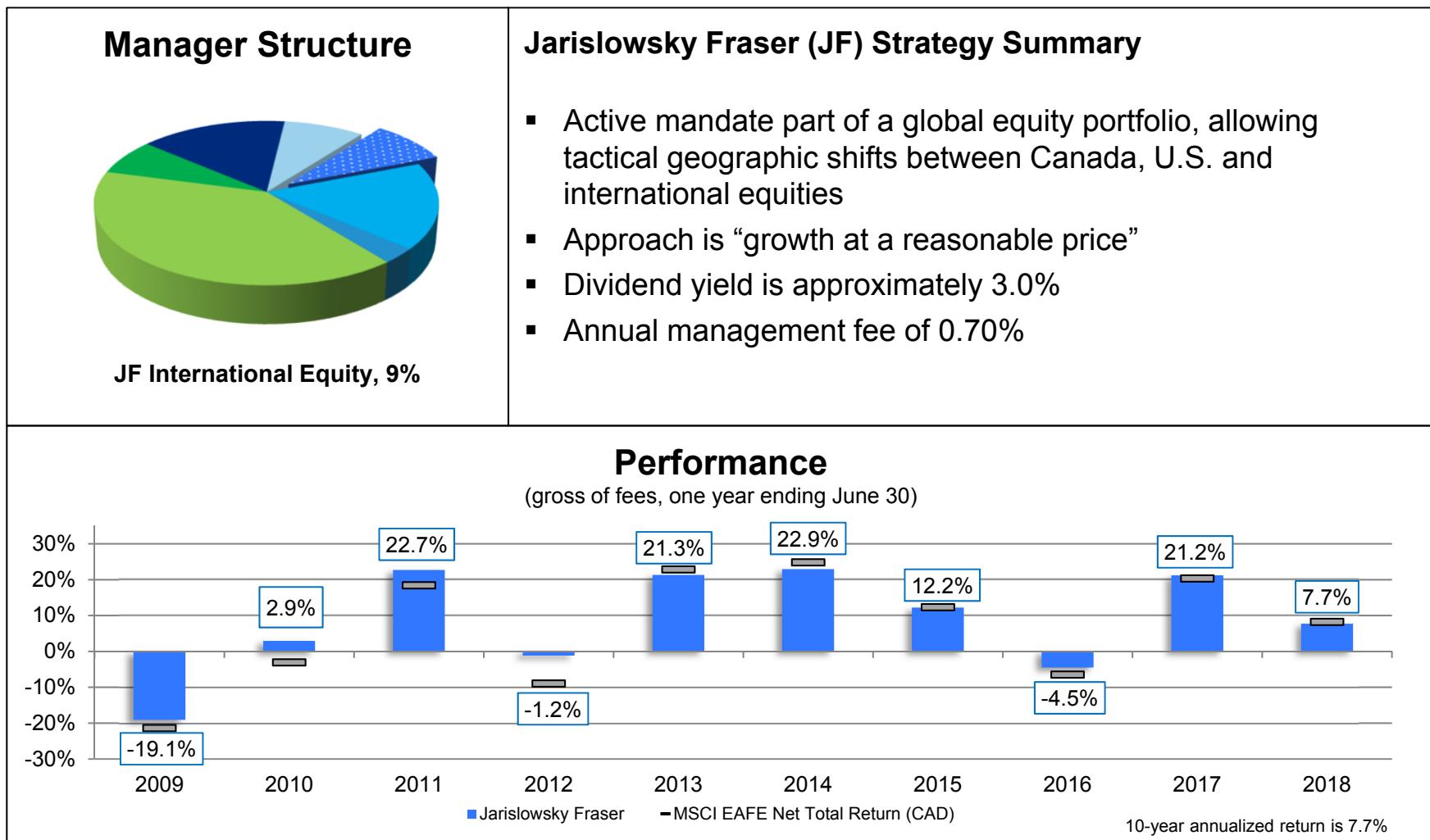
# Canadian Equity Allocation



# U.S. Equity Allocation

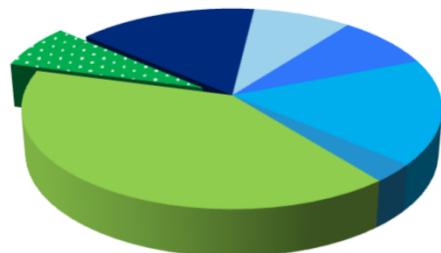


# International Equity Allocation



# Canadian Bond Allocation – Universe Bonds

## Manager Structure



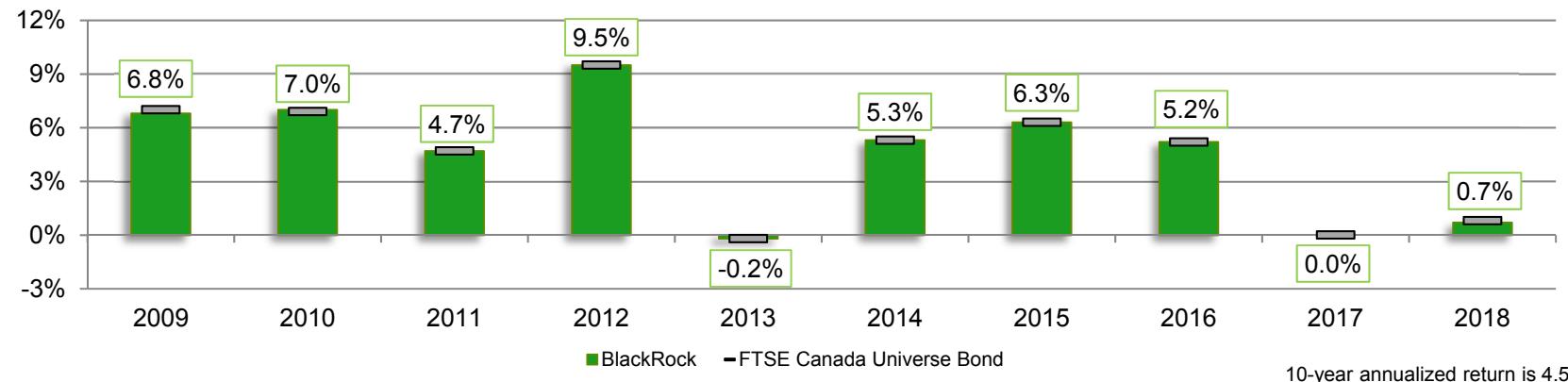
BlackRock Universe Bonds, 7%

## BlackRock Universe Bonds Strategy Summary

- Index strategy aims to match the performance of the broad Canadian investment grade bond market
- BlackRock has achieved this goal on a pre-fee basis
- BlackRock is the world's largest asset manager
- Current yield is 2.69%
- Annual management fee is approximately 0.036%

## Performance

(gross of fees, one year ending June 30)



## Questions?

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