

# **Core Canadian Dividend Trust**



#### Letter to Unitholders

We are pleased to present the 2016 annual report containing the management report of fund performance and the audited financial statements for Core Canadian Dividend Trust (the "Fund").

After getting off to the worst start since 2009, 2016 ended up being a robust year for most investors with some indices hitting all-time highs. The S&P/TSX Composite Index in Canada was one of the strongest performing markets generating a total return of 21.1 percent, primarily led by strength in the Materials and Energy sectors. In the U.S., the broad market S&P 500 Index rose 11.9 percent while the technology centric NASDAQ Index had a total return of 9.0 percent. Despite various events throughout the year that caused uncertainty for investors, such as the China growth scare at the beginning of 2016, "Brexit" where Great Britain voted in favour to leave the European Union and the election of Donald Trump as President in the U.S., markets quickly stabilized and resumed their uptrend on the anticipation of stronger GDP growth due to more supportive fiscal policies. 2017 is expected to provide continued uncertainty with elections in both France and Germany potentially impacting the state of the European Union, while North Korea continues to test its nuclear and missile capabilities escalating tensions with South Korea and China.

For the year ended December 31, 2016, the annual total return of the Fund, including reinvestment of distributions, was 28.6 percent. The net asset value ("NAV") of the Fund increased 20.7 percent from \$5.71 per unit at December 31, 2015 to \$6.89 per unit at December 31, 2016 after cash distributions of \$0.41 per unit were paid during the year. The net realized gain on options attributable to Strathbridge Selective Overwriting strategy (see "The Fund") amounted to \$0.11 per unit in 2016 as compared to a net realized gain on options of \$0.05 per unit in 2015. For a more detailed review of the operations of the Fund, please see the Results of Operations and the Portfolio Manager Report sections.

We thank all unitholders for their continued support and encourage unitholders to review the detailed information contained within the annual report.

John P. Mulvihill Chairman & CEO

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Strathbridge Asset Management Inc.

#### The Fund

The Fund is a closed-end investment trust designed to provide unitholders with a stable stream of monthly distributions targeted to be 6.5 percent per annum on the net asset value ("NAV") of the Fund and to preserve and grow the NAV. The units are listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange ("TSX") under the ticker symbol CDD.UN.

To accomplish its objectives, the Fund invests in a portfolio ("Core Canadian Dividend Portfolio") consisting of high-quality, large capitalization, dividend-paying Canadian companies across multiple sectors that have an excellent long-term track record of dividend growth and share price appreciation. The Fund may also purchase other issuers listed on the TSX which the Manager believes are consistent with the Fund's investment objectives (provided that after such purchase, no more than an aggregate of 25 percent of the net asset value of the Fund is invested in securities of such other issuers) and invest in public investment funds including exchange-traded funds and other Strathbridge Funds (provided that no more than 15 percent of the net asset value of the Fund may be invested in securities of other Strathbridge Funds) that provide exposure to such securities.

The Fund employs a proprietary investment strategy, Strathbridge Selective Overwriting ("SSO"), to enhance the income generated by the portfolio and to reduce volatility. In addition, the Fund may write cash covered put options in respect of securities in which it is permitted to invest.

The SSO strategy is a quantitative, technical based methodology that identifies appropriate times to write and/or close out option positions compared to writing continuously and rolling options every thirty days. This proprietary process has been developed over many years through various market cycles. The Manager believes the primary benefit to investors is to maximize the total return of the Fund while reducing the level of volatility of the portfolio, thereby increasing the risk-adjusted return.

## Core Canadian Dividend Trust [CDD.UN]

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## Management Report of Fund Performance

This annual management report of fund performance contains the financial highlights for the year ended December 31, 2016 of Core Canadian Dividend Trust (the "Fund"). The annual financial statements of the Fund are attached.

Copies of the Fund's proxy voting policies and procedures, proxy voting disclosure record and quarterly portfolio disclosure may be obtained by calling 1-800-725-7172 toll free, by writing to the Fund at Investor Relations, 121 King Street West, Suite 2600, P.O. Box 113, Toronto, Ontario, M5H 3T9, by email at info@strathbridge.com or by visiting our website at www.strathbridge.com. You can also request semi-annual or annual reports at no cost by using one of the above methods.

## **Investment Objectives and Strategies**

The Fund's investment objectives are to:

- (1) provide unitholders with a stable stream of monthly distributions targeted to be 6.5 percent per annum on the net asset value ("NAV") of the Fund, and
- (2) preserve and grow the NAV.

To achieve its objectives, the Fund invests in a portfolio ("Core Canadian Dividend Portfolio") consisting of high-quality, large capitalization, dividend-paying Canadian companies across multiple sectors that have an excellent long-term track record of dividend growth and share price appreciation. The Fund may also purchase other issuers listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange ("TSX") which the Manager believes are consistent with the Fund's investment objectives (provided that after such purchase, no more than an aggregate of 25 percent of the net asset value of the Fund is invested in securities of such other issuers) and invest in public investment funds including exchange-traded funds and other Strathbridge Funds (provided that no more than 15 percent of the net asset value of the Fund may be invested in securities of other Strathbridge Funds) that provide exposure to such securities.

The Fund employs a proprietary investment strategy, Strathbridge Selective Overwriting ("SSO"), to enhance the income generated by the portfolio and to reduce volatility. In addition, the Fund may write cash covered put options in respect of securities in which it is permitted to invest.

The SSO strategy is a quantitative, technical based methodology that identifies appropriate times to write and/or close out option positions compared to writing continuously and rolling options every thirty days. This proprietary process has been developed over many years through various market cycles. The Manager believes the primary benefit to investors is to maximize the total return of the Fund while reducing the level of volatility of the portfolio, thereby increasing the risk-adjusted return.

#### Risk

Risks associated with an investment in the securities of the Fund are discussed in the Fund's 2016 annual information form, which is available on the Fund's website at www.strathbridge.com or on SEDAR at www.sedar.com. There were no changes to the Fund over the year that materially affected the risks associated with an investment in the securities of the Fund.

#### **Results of Operations**

#### **Distributions**

For the year ended December 31, 2016, cash distributions of \$0.41 per unit were paid to unitholders compared to \$0.43 per unit a year ago.

Since the inception of the Fund in November 2006, the Fund has paid total cash distributions of \$4.78 per unit.

#### **Revenue and Expenses**

The Fund's total revenue was \$0.23 per unit for the year ended December 31, 2016, down from \$0.25 per unit in the prior year. Total expenses were \$0.35 per unit compared to \$0.31 per unit in 2015. The increase in per unit expenses was largely due to higher legal and custodian fees. The Fund had a net realized and unrealized gain of \$1.70 per unit in 2016 as compared to a net realized and unrealized loss of \$0.97 per unit in 2015.

#### **Net Asset Value**

The net asset value per unit of the Fund increased 20.7 percent from \$5.71 per unit at December 31, 2015 to \$6.89 per unit at December 31, 2016. The total net asset value of the Fund decreased \$0.06 million from \$4.43 million at December 31, 2015 to \$4.37 million at December 31, 2016, largely reflecting cash distributions of \$0.31 million and annual redemptions of \$0.97 million, partially offset by an increase in net assets attributable to equity holders of \$1.23 million.

## **Recent Developments**

There were no recent developments pertaining to the Fund during the year ended December 31, 2016.

## **Related Party Transactions**

Strathbridge Asset Management Inc. ("Strathbridge"), as the Investment Manager of the Fund, manages the Fund's investment portfolio in a manner consistent with the investment objectives, strategy and criteria of the Fund pursuant to an Investment Management Agreement made between the Fund and Strathbridge dated October 27, 2006.

Strathbridge is the Manager of the Fund pursuant to a Trust Agreement made between the Fund and Strathbridge dated October 27, 2006. As such, Strathbridge is responsible for providing or arranging for required administrative services to the Fund.

Strathbridge is paid the fees described under the Management Fees section of this report.

During the year, no recommendations or approvals were required to be sought from the Independent Review Committee ("IRC") concerning related party transactions.

## **Independent Review Committee**

National Instrument 81-107 - Independent Review Committee for Investment Funds ("NI 81-107") requires all publicly offered investment funds to establish an IRC to whom the Manager must refer conflict of interest matters for review or approval. NI 81-107 also imposes obligations upon the Manager to establish written policies and procedures for dealing with conflict of interest matters, maintaining records in respect of these matters and providing assistance to the IRC in carrying out its functions. The Chief Compliance Officer, designated by the Manager, is in charge of facilitating the fulfillment of these obligations.

The IRC will prepare, for each financial year, a report to securityholders that describes the IRC and its activities during such financial year and includes, if known, a description of each instance when the Manager acted in a conflict of interest matter for which the IRC did not give a positive recommendation or for which a condition, imposed by the IRC, was not met in its recommendation or approval. Members of the IRC are Robert W. Korthals, Michael M. Koerner and Robert G. Bertram.

## Financial Highlights

The following tables show selected key financial information about the Fund and are intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the past five years. This information is derived from the Fund's audited annual financial statements.

As a result of the adoption of International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS"), for December 31, 2016, 2015, 2014 and 2013, the net assets per unit presented in the financial statements and the net asset value per unit calculated weekly are both valued at closing prices. For the year ended December 31, 2012, the net assets per unit presented in the financial statements differs from the net asset value per unit calculated weekly, primarily as a result of investments being valued at bid prices for financial statements purposes and at closing prices for weekly net asset value purposes.

Years ended December 31	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
THE FUND'S NET ASSETS PER UNIT					
Net Assets, beginning of year <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 5.71	\$ 7.17	\$ 7.30	\$ 6.80	\$ 6.94
INCREASE (DECREASE) FROM OPERATIONS					
Total revenue	0.23	0.25	0.29	0.30	0.29
Total expenses	(0.35)	(0.31)	(0.29)	(0.25)	(0.23)
Realized gain (loss) for the period	0.26	0.21	1.00	0.44	(0.27)
Unrealized gain (loss) for the period	1.44	(1.18)	(0.66)	0.47	0.51
Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations <sup>(2)</sup>	1.58	(1.03)	0.34	0.96	0.30
DISTRIBUTIONS					
Non-taxable distributions	(0.41)	(0.43)	(0.47)	(0.45)	(0.44)
Total Annual Distributions <sup>(3)</sup>	(0.41)	(0.43)	(0.47)	(0.45)	(0.44)
Net Assets, end of year <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 6.89	\$ 5.71	\$ 7.17	\$ 7.30	\$ 6.79

<sup>(1)</sup> All per unit figures presented in 2016, 2015, 2014 and 2013 are referenced to net assets determined in accordance with IFRS and are derived from the Fund's audited financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014. Net assets per unit for the year ended December 31, 2012 were derived from the Fund's audited annual financial statements that were prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles. Net assets per unit is the difference between the aggregate value of the assets (including the valuation of securities at closing prices for the years beginning on or after January 1, 2013 and for 2012 at bid prices) and the aggregate value of the liabilities, divided by the number of units then outstanding.

(3) Distributions to unitholders are based on the number of units outstanding on the record date for each distribution.

<sup>(2)</sup> Total increase (decrease) from operations consists of interest and dividend revenue, realized and unrealized gain (loss), less expenses and is calculated based on the weighted average number of units outstanding during the year. The schedule is not intended to total to the ending net assets as calculations are based on the weighted average number of units outstanding during the year.

## Financial Highlights

Years ended December 31	2016	2015	2014		2013	2012
RATIOS/SUPPLEMENTAL DATA						
Net Asset Value (\$millions) <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 4.37	\$ 4.43	\$ 6.25	\$	7.56	\$ 8.90
Number of units outstanding <sup>(1)</sup>	634,758	774,846	871,946	1	,034,646	1,308,579
Management expense ratio (\$millions)(2)	5.35%	4.50%	3.84%		3.44%	3.16%
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>(3)</sup>	204.44%	163.35%	159.49%		126.26%	120.09%
Trading expense ratio <sup>(4)</sup>	0.28%	0.22%	0.20%		0.22%	0.20%
Net Asset Value per unit <sup>(5)</sup>	\$ 6.89	\$ 5.71	\$ 7.17	\$	7.30	\$ 6.80
Closing market price	\$ 6.57	\$ 5.46	\$ 6.70	\$	6.76	\$ 6.35

- (1) This information is provided as at December 31.
- (2) The management expense ratio ("MER") is the sum of all fees and expenses for the stated period, including harmonized sales tax but excluding transaction fees, divided by the average net asset value. Generally, the MER increases when the Fund becomes smaller in size due to redemptions. The MER for 2015 and 2014 includes the special resolution expense. The MER for 2015 and 2014 excluding the special resolution expense is 4.46% and 3.78% respectively.
- (3) Portfolio turnover rate is calculated based on the lesser of purchases or sales of investments, excluding short-term investments, divided by the average value of the portfolio securities. The Fund employs an option overlay strategy which can result in higher portfolio turnover by virtue of option exercises, when compared to a conventional equity mutual fund.
- (4) Trading expense ratio represents total commissions expressed as a percentage of the daily average net asset value during the year.
- (5) Net asset value per unit is the difference between the aggregate value of the assets including the valuation of securities at closing prices and the aggregate value of the liabilities divided by the number of units then outstanding.

## Management Fees

Strathbridge, as the Investment Manager of the Fund, is entitled to fees under the Investment Management Agreement calculated monthly as 1/12 of 1.00 percent of the net asset value of the Fund at each month end. Services received under the Investment Management Agreement include the making of all investment decisions and writing of covered call options in accordance with the investment objectives, strategy and criteria of the Fund. Strathbridge also makes all decisions as to the purchase and sale of securities in the Fund's portfolio and as to the execution of all portfolio and other transactions.

Strathbridge, as the Manager of the Fund, is entitled to fees under the Trust Agreement calculated monthly as 1/12 of 0.10 percent of the net asset value of the Fund at each month end. Services received under the Trust Agreement include providing or arranging for required administrative services to the Fund.

#### **Past Performance**

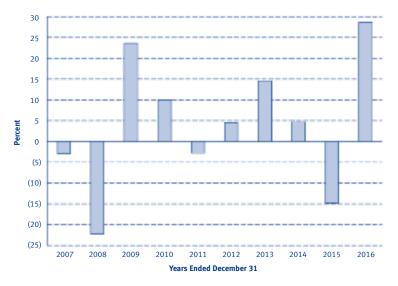
The following chart sets out the Fund's year-by-year past performance. It is important to note that the:

- (1) information shown assumes that all distributions (including deemed distributions based on the intrinsic value of the warrants exercised prior to the expiry date of the warrants) made by the Fund during these periods were reinvested in units of the Fund,
- (2) information does not take into account sales, redemptions, distributions or other optional charges that would have reduced returns, and
- (3) past performance of the Fund does not necessarily indicate how it will perform in the future.

#### Year-By-Year Returns

The following bar chart illustrates how the Fund's annual total return varied from year to year for each of the past ten years. The chart also shows, in percentage terms, how much an investment made on January 1 in each year or the date of inception on November 16, 2006 would have increased or decreased by the end of the fiscal year.

#### **Annual Total Return**



## **Annual Compound Returns**

The following table shows the Fund's historical annual compound return (net of expenses) for the periods ended December 31, 2016 as compared to the performance of the S&P/TSX 60 Index.

(In Canadian Dollars)	One Year	Three Years	Five Years	Ten Years
Core Canadian Dividend Trust	28.57 %	4.66 %	6.54 %	3.17 %
S&P/TSX 60 Index <sup>(1)</sup>	21.36 %	7.92 %	8.99 %	4.86 %

<sup>(1)</sup> The S&P/TSX 60 Index is a capitalization-weighted index based on 60 highly capitalized stocks for which options are listed.

The equity performance benchmark shown here provides an approximate indication of how the Fund's returns compare to a public market index for similar securities. It is important to note that the Fund is not managed in order to match or exceed this index; rather, its objectives are to pay out monthly distributions and preserve and grow the net asset value. As a result, the Fund has, from time to time, maintained cash balances in an effort to provide greater net asset value stability and employs a covered option writing strategy to enhance the income generated by the portfolio and reduce volatility.

The Manager believes that in a flat or downward trending market, a portfolio that is subject to covered call option writing will generally provide higher relative returns and lower volatility than one on which no options are written. However, in a rising market, the use of options may have the effect of limiting or reducing the total returns of the Fund since the premiums associated with writing covered call options may be outweighed by the foregone opportunity of remaining fully invested in the securities comprising the portfolio.

#### Portfolio Manager Report

After getting off to the worst start since 2009, 2016 ended up being a robust year for most investors with some indices hitting all-time highs. The S&P/TSX Composite Index in Canada was one of the strongest performing markets generating a total return of 21.1 percent, primarily led by strength in the Materials and Energy sectors. In the U.S., the broad market S&P 500 Index rose 11.9 percent while the technology centric NASDAQ Index had a total return of 9.0 percent. Despite various events throughout the year that caused uncertainty for investors, such as the China growth scare at the beginning of 2016, "Brexit" where Great Britain voted in favour to leave the European Union and the election of Donald Trump as President in the U.S., markets quickly stabilized and resumed their uptrend on the anticipation of stronger GDP growth due to more supportive fiscal policies. The Bank of Canada stayed on hold in 2016 by maintaining the overnight lending rate at 0.50 percent, while the U.S. Federal Reserve went ahead last December with its highly telegraphed 25 basis point increase in the Federal Funds Target Rate to now sit at 0.75 percent. Despite diverging monetary policies, the Canadian dollar rose by 2.8 percent to end the year at US\$0.74 per Canadian dollar with most of the strength attributed to stronger oil prices as West Texas Intermediate ("WTI") Cushing Crude Oil spot price rose 45 percent to end the year at US\$53.72 per barrel.

The net asset value of the Fund was \$6.89 per unit at December 31, 2016 compared to \$5.71 per unit at December 31, 2015. Cash distributions of \$0.41 per unit were paid during the year. The Fund's units, listed on the TSX as CDD.UN, closed on December 30, 2016 at \$6.57 per unit representing a 4.6 percent discount to the net asset value.

This Fund invests primarily in a universe of fifteen specified stocks, with under or over weights allocations between 4 percent and 10 percent in each security. This core universe is weighted towards the Financials, Utilities and Energy sectors. Materials and Energy stocks were the stalwart performers in 2016 with total returns of 41.0 percent and 35.3 percent respectively. Most sectors including Energy saw a steady uptrend throughout the year while others, such as Materials, were a bit choppier and peaked during the summer months. The gold heavy Materials sector was impacted by a fairly dramatic sell-off in the gold price. After starting the year near US\$1,061, gold price topped US\$1,375 in July but dropped to about US\$1,120 in late December with the dramatic pullback occurring after the U.S. election.

Despite the turnaround in gold, Teck Resources Limited managed to deliver a staggering 405 percent total return in 2016, clearly the best performer within the portfolio. Another great performer was Russel Metals Inc. with a total return of 70.7 percent meanwhile BCE Inc. was our weakest performer with a total return of 13.6 percent.

With the overall market trending higher this year, the Fund reduced its cash position during the year. For 2016, the average cash position was 6.1 percent and ended the year at 7.8 percent.

Volatility peaked early in 2016 shortly after the S&P/TSX 60 Index put in the year low. Since then, volatility has been trending lower in a typical inverse relation to the price movement; the low point was set late in December 2016. Volatility has been below long-term average levels for the past few years which adds to the challenge of overwriting. In 2016, the average level of overwriting activity was 7.8 percent as compared to 7.5 percent in the prior year.

## **Summary of Investment Portfolio**

The composition of the portfolio may change due to ongoing portfolio transactions of the Fund. A quarterly portfolio summary, which includes the percentage of net asset value for each holding, and a monthly portfolio list are available on our website at www.strathbridge.com.

#### **Asset Mix**

December 31, 2016

	% OF NET ASSET VALUE
Financials	63.1 %
Energy	13.8 %
Industrials	11.8 %
Materials	10.7 %
Consumer Discretionary	8.3 %
Cash	7.8 %
Utilities	5.7 %
Telecommunication Services	4.9 %
Other Assets (Liabilities)	(26.1)%
	100.0 %

#### **Portfolio Holdings**

December 31, 2016

	% OF NET ASSET VALUE
Russel Metals Inc.	11.8 %
Manulife Financial Corporation	9.0 %
AGF Management Limited - Class B	8.7 %
National Bank of Canada	8.6 %
Bank of Montreal	8.4 %
Thomson Reuters Corporation	8.3 %
The Bank of Nova Scotia	8.0 %
Teck Resources Limited - Class B	7.9 %
Cash	7.8 %
Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce	6.3 %
Royal Bank of Canada	6.2 %
Canadian Utilities Limited	5.7 %
Enbridge Inc.	5.5 %
The Toronto-Dominion Bank	5.5 %
TransCanada Corporation	5.4 %
BCE Inc.	4.9 %
Imperial Oil Limited	2.9 %
First Quantum Minerals Ltd.	2.8 %
Sun Life Financial Inc.	2.4 %

#### Forward-Looking Statements

This report may contain forward-looking statements about the Fund. Forward-looking statements include statements that are predictive in nature, that depend upon or refer to future events or conditions, or that include words such as "expects", "anticipates", "intends", "plans", "believes", "estimates" or negative versions thereof and similar expressions. In addition, any statement that may be made concerning future performance, strategies or prospects, and possible future Fund action, is also forward-looking. Forward-looking statements are based on current expectations and projections about future events and are inherently subject to, among other things, risks, uncertainties and assumptions about the Fund and economic factors.

Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance, and actual events and results could differ materially from those expressed or implied in any forward-looking statements made by the Fund. Any number of important factors could contribute to any divergence between what is anticipated and what actually occurs, including, but not limited to, general economic, political and market factors, interest and foreign exchange rates, global equity and capital markets, business competition, technology change, changes in government regulations, unexpected judicial or regulatory proceedings, and catastrophic events

The above-mentioned list of important factors is not exhaustive. You should consider these and other factors carefully before making any investment decisions and you should avoid placing undue reliance on forward-looking statements. While the Fund currently anticipates that subsequent events and developments may cause the Fund's views to change, the Fund does not undertake to update any forward-looking statements.

## Management's Responsibility for Financial Reporting

The accompanying financial statements of Core Canadian Dividend Trust (the "Fund") and all the information in this annual report are the responsibility of the management of Strathbridge Asset Management Inc. (the "Manager"), and have been approved by the Fund's Board of Advisors (the "Board").

The financial statements have been prepared by management in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and include certain amounts that are based on estimates and judgments. Management has ensured that the other financial information presented in this annual report is consistent with the financial statements. The significant accounting policies which management believes are appropriate for the Fund are described in Note 3 of the annual financial statements.

The Manager is also responsible for maintaining a system of internal controls designed to provide reasonable assurance that assets are safeguarded and that accounting systems provide timely, accurate and reliable financial information.

The Board meets periodically with management and the independent auditor to discuss internal controls, the financial reporting process, various auditing and financial reporting issues, and to review the annual report, the financial statements and the independent auditor's report. Deloitte LLP, the Fund's independent auditor, has full and unrestricted access to the Board.

John P. Mulvihill

Director

Strathbridge Asset Management Inc.

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March 6, 2017

John D. Germain

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Director

Strathbridge Asset Management Inc.

## To the Unitholders of Core Canadian Dividend Trust

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Core Canadian Dividend Trust, which comprise the statements of financial position as at December 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015, and the statements of comprehensive income, statements of changes in equity and statements of cash flows for the years then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

#### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### **Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained in our audits is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Core Canadian Dividend Trust as at December 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.

Chartered Professional Accountants Licensed Public Accountants

Delvitte LLP

March 6, 2017 Toronto, Ontario

## **Statements of Financial Position**

As at December 31

Note		2016		2015
3,6	\$	5,172,608	\$	4,787,098
		15,171		19,802
		340,897		221,298
		5,528,676		5,028,198
		965,066		554,587
		146,270		_
		33,783		41,777
3,6		5,752		1,637
9		4,983		4,662
		1,155,854		602,663
	\$	4,372,822	\$	4,425,535
	\$	6.8890	\$	5.7115
	3,6	3,6 <b>\$</b> 3,6 9	3,6 \$ 5,172,608 15,171 340,897 5,528,676 965,066 146,270 33,783 3,6 5,752 9 4,983 1,155,854 \$ 4,372,822	3,6 \$ 5,172,608 \$ 15,171 340,897 5,528,676

On behalf of the Manager,

Strathbridge Asset Management Inc.

John P. Mulvihill, Director

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John D. Germain, Director

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## **Statements of Comprehensive Income**

For the years ended December 31

1	lote	2016	2015
NCOME			
Dividend income		\$ 178,337	\$ 215,263
Net realized gain on investments at fair value through profit or loss	7	114,333	141,677
Net realized gain on options at fair value through profit or loss	7	87,272	44,321
Net change in unrealized gain/loss on investments at fair value through profit or loss	7	1,118,790	(1,024,686)
TOTAL INCOME/(LOSS), NET		1,498,732	(623,425)
EXPENSES			
Management fees	9	54,103	62,461
Service fees		19,259	21,676
Administrative and other expenses		57,779	56,639
Transaction fees	10	13,504	12,528
Custodian fees		40,144	34,763
Audit fees		27,820	27,232
Director fees	9	19,500	18,900
ndependent review committee fees	9	6,898	6,918
egal fees		10,228	2,007
Jnitholder reporting costs		8,488	10,332
Harmonized sales tax		14,533	14,738
Subtotal Expenses		272,256	268,194
Special resolution expense	1	_	1,841
TOTAL EXPENSES		272,256	270,035
NCREASE/(DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO EQUITY HOLDERS	11	\$ 1,226,476	\$ (893,460)
NCREASE/(DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO EQUITY HOLDERS			
PER UNIT	11	\$ 1.5836	\$ (1.0250)

## **Statements of Changes in Equity**

For the years ended December 31

	U	nit Capital	Deficit	Total
BALANCE AT JANUARY 1, 2015	\$	8,166,530	\$ (1,917,314)	\$ 6,249,216
Decrease in Net Assets Attributable to Equity Holders		_	(893,460)	(893,460)
Distributions				
Non-taxable distributions		_	(375,634)	(375,634)
Value for units redeemed		(909,426)	354,839	(554,587)
BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2015	\$	7,257,104	\$ (2,831,569)	\$ 4,425,535
ncrease in Net Assets Attributable to Equity Holders		_	1,226,476	1,226,476
Distributions				
Non-taxable distributions		_	(314,123)	(314,123)
Value for units redeemed		(1,312,045)	346,979	(965,066)
BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2016	\$	5,945,059	\$ (1,572,237)	\$ 4,372,822

## **Statements of Cash Flows**

For the years ended December 31

	2016	2015
CASH, BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ 221,298	\$ 83,451
Cash Flows Provided by (Used In) Operating Activities		
ncrease/(Decrease) in Net Assets Attributable to Equity Holders	1,226,476	(893,460)
Adjustments to Reconcile Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Operating Activities		
Net realized gain on investments at fair value through profit or loss	(114,333)	(141,677)
Net realized gain on options at fair value through profit or loss	(87,272)	(44,321)
Net change in unrealized gain/loss on investments at fair value through profit or loss	(1,118,790)	1,024,686
Decrease in dividends receivable and due from brokers - investments	4,631	1,072,252
(Decrease)/increase in accrued liabilities, accrued management fees and due to brokers - investments	138,597	(12,208)
Purchase of investment securities	(9,473,904)	(8,841,484)
Proceeds from disposition of investment securities	10,412,904	9,515,764
	(238,167)	2,573,012
Cash Flows Used In Financing Activities		
Jnitholder distributions	(314,123)	(375,634)
Jnitholder redemptions	(554,587)	(1,166,071)
	(868,710)	(1,541,705)
Net Increase in Cash during the Year	119,599	137,847
CASH, END OF YEAR	\$ 340,897	\$ 221,298
Dividends received	\$ 182,968	\$ 220,289

## **Schedule of Investments**

As at December 31, 2016

	Number of Shares/ (Contracts)	A	verage Cost/ (Proceeds)		Fair Value	% of Net Assets Attributable to Equity Holders
INVESTMENTS						
Canadian Common Shares						
Consumer Discretionary Thomson Reuters Corporation	6,200	\$	334,218	\$	364,312	8.3 %
Energy Enbridge Inc. Imperial Oil Limited TransCanada Corporation	4,300 2,700 3,900		235,838 125,390 231,209		242,950 126,117 236,106	
Total Energy			592,437		605,173	13.8 %
Financials  AGF Management Limited - Class B  Bank of Montreal  Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce  Manulife Financial Corporation  National Bank of Canada  Royal Bank of Canada  Sun Life Financial Inc.  The Bank of Nova Scotia  The Toronto-Dominion Bank	60,900 3,800 2,500 16,400 6,900 3,000 2,000 4,700 3,600		533,459 334,575 254,575 332,543 328,875 235,958 105,204 312,465 197,877		381,843 366,966 273,900 392,124 376,257 272,610 103,100 351,372 238,392	
Total Financials	3,000		2,635,531		2,756,564	63.1 %
Industrials Russel Metals Inc. Materials First Quantum Minerals Ltd. Teck Resources Limited - Class B	20,200 9,100 12,800		468,997 122,821 160,584		516,716 121,485 343,936	11.8 %
Total Materials	12,000	_	283,405		465,421	10.7 %
Telecommunication Services BCE Inc. Utilities Canadian Utilities Limited	3,700 6,900		212,849		214,711	4.9 % 5.7 %
Total Canadian Common Shares		\$	4,784,181	\$	5,172,608	118.3 %
Options		Φ	4,704,101	Φ	3,172,000	110.5 %
Written Covered Call Options (100 shares per contract) BCE Inc January 2017 @ \$58 BCE Inc January 2017 @ \$59 First Quantum Minerals Ltd January 2017 @ \$14 Russel Metals Inc January 2017 @ \$26	(19) (18) (46) (53)	\$	(1,311) (576) (3,634) (3,922)	\$	(1,226) (405) (2,001) (2,120)	
Total Options		\$	(9,443)	\$	(5,752)	(0.1)%
Adjustment for transaction fees			(3,712)			
TOTAL INVESTMENTS		\$	4,771,026	\$	5,166,856	118.2 %
OTHER NET LIABILITIES					(794,034)	(18.2)%
NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO EQUITY HOLDERS				\$	4,372,822	100.0 %

#### 1. Fund Information

Core Canadian Dividend Trust (the "Fund") is a closed-end investment trust established under the laws of the Province of Ontario on October 27, 2006. The Fund began operations on November 16, 2006. The address of the Fund's registered office is 121 King Street West, Suite 2600, Toronto, Ontario.

Strathbridge Asset Management Inc. ("Strathbridge") is the Manager as well as the Investment Manager of the Fund. RBC Investor Services Trust is the Custodian of the Fund.

On January 2, 2015, the Manager announced unitholder approval of a proposal to change the investment restrictions and the investment strategy of the Fund. During 2015, costs of \$1,841 were incurred in relation to this special resolution.

In accordance with the new investment mandate, the Fund invests in a portfolio ("Core Canadian Dividend Portfolio") consisting of high-quality, large capitalization, dividend-paying Canadian companies across multiple sectors that have an excellent long-term track record of dividend growth and share price appreciation. The Fund may also purchase other issuers listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange which the Manager believes are consistent with the Fund's investment objectives (provided that after such purchase, no more than an aggregate of 25 percent of the net asset value of the Fund is invested in securities of such other issuers) and invest in public investment funds including exchange-traded funds and other Strathbridge Funds (provided that no more than 15 percent of the net asset value of the Fund may be invested in securities of other Strathbridge Funds) that provide exposure to such securities.

The Fund employs a proprietary investment strategy, Strathbridge Selective Overwriting ("SSO"), to enhance the income generated by the portfolio and to reduce volatility. In addition, the Fund may write cash covered put options in respect of securities in which it is permitted to invest.

The SSO strategy is a quantitative, technical based methodology that identifies appropriate times to write and/or close out option positions compared to writing continuously and rolling options every thirty days. This proprietary process has been developed over many years through various market cycles. The Manager believes the primary benefit to investors is to maximize the total return of the particular portfolio while reducing the level of volatility of the portfolio, thereby increasing the risk-adjusted return.

These financial statements were approved by the Board of Advisors on March 6, 2017.

### 2. Basis of Presentation

The annual financial statements for the Fund have been prepared in compliance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS") as published by the International Accounting Standards Board.

## 3. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### **Functional and Presentation Currency**

Items included in the financial statements of the Fund are measured in the currency of the primary economic environment in which the Fund operates (the "functional currency"). Based on the guidance provided in International Accounting Standard ("IAS") 21, the Manager has determined that the functional currency is Canadian dollars. The financial statements of the Fund are presented in Canadian dollars which is the Fund's presentation currency.

#### **Financial Instruments**

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis except for the fair valuation of certain financial instruments. Historical cost is generally based on the fair value of the consideration given in exchange for assets. Under IAS 39, the Fund's equity investments are designated at fair value through profit or loss ("FVTPL") at inception and derivative investments are classified as held for trading and measured at FVTPL.

#### Fair Value Measurement

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The fair value of financial assets and liabilities traded in active markets are based on quoted market prices at the close of trading on the reporting date. The Fund uses the last traded market price as its valuation input for financial assets and liabilities if the last traded price falls within the bid-ask spread. In other circumstances where the last traded price is not within the bid-ask spread, the Manager determines the point within the bid-ask spread that is most representative of fair value for financial reporting purposes.

The fair value of financial assets and liabilities that are not traded in an active market is determined by valuation techniques as described in Note 4

#### **Investment Transactions and Income**

Investment transactions are accounted for on a trade date basis. Net realized gain/loss on investments at fair value through profit or loss and net change in unrealized gain/loss on investments at fair value through profit or loss are determined on an average cost basis. Realized gains and losses related to options are included in net realized gain/(loss) on options at fair value through profit or loss. Realized gains and losses relating to written options may arise from:

- (i) Expiration of written options whereby realized gains are equivalent to the premium received,
- (ii) Exercise of written covered call options whereby realized gains or losses are equivalent to the premium received in addition to the realized gain or loss from disposition of the related investments at the exercise price of the option, and
- (iii) Closing of written options whereby realized gains or losses are equivalent to the cost of purchasing options to close the positions, net of any premium received.

Realized gains and losses relating to purchased put options may arise from:

- (i) Expiration of purchased put options whereby realized losses are equivalent to the premium paid,
- (ii) Exercise of purchased put options whereby realized gains or losses are equivalent to the realized gain or loss from disposition of the related investments at the exercise price of the option less the premium paid, and
- (iii) Sale of purchased put options whereby realized gains or losses are equivalent to the sale proceeds, net of any premium paid.

Option premiums received are reflected as deferred credits in investments so long as the options are outstanding. Any difference resulting from revaluation is included in the net change in unrealized gain/loss on investments at fair value through profit or loss. The premiums received on written put options that are exercised are included in the cost of the security purchased.

Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date.

Interest income is measured using the effective interest method and recorded on a daily basis.

#### **Short-Term Investments**

Short-term investments are held for investment purposes and consist primarily of money market instruments with original maturities of 90 days or less.

#### Units

IAS 32, Financial Instruments: Presentation, requires that if all the criteria under paragraph 16A are met, the units (which are puttable instruments) should be classified as equity or if they do not meet all the conditions, they should be classified as financial liabilities. The Fund's units meet the definition of IAS 32 paragraph 16A to be classified as equity.

# Increase/(Decrease) in Net Assets Attributable to Equity Holders per Unit

The increase/(decrease) in net assets attributable to equity holders per unit is calculated by dividing the increase/(decrease) in net assets attributable to equity holders by the weighted average number of units outstanding during the year. Please refer to Note 11 for the calculation.

#### **Taxation**

The Fund is a "mutual fund trust" as defined in the Income Tax Act (Canada) (the "Act"). The Fund is subject to tax in each taxation year under Part I of the Act on the amount of its income for the year, including net realized taxable capital gains, less the portion thereof that it claims in respect of the amount paid or payable to unitholders in the year. Income tax paid by the Fund on any net realized capital gains not paid or payable to unitholders is recoverable by the Fund to the extent and in the circumstances provided in the Act.

Given the investment and distribution policies of the Fund and taking into account expenses, the Fund does not expect to bear any non-refundable income tax.

#### IAS 1 Disclosure Initiative

The Fund has applied amendments to IAS 1 Disclosure Initiative for the first time in the current year. The amendments clarify that an entity need not provide a specific disclosure required by an IFRS if the information resulting from that disclosure is not material, and give guidance on the basis of aggregating and disaggregating information for disclosure purposes. In addition, the amendments reiterate that an entity should consider providing additional disclosures when compliance with the specific requirements in IFRS is insufficient to enable users of financial statements to understand the impact of particular transactions, events and conditions on the Fund's financial position and financial performance.

The application of these amendments has not resulted in any impact on the financial performance or the financial position of the Fund.

#### 4. Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgments

The preparation of financial statements requires the Manager to use judgment in applying accounting policies and to make estimates and assumptions about the future. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. The following discusses the most significant accounting judgments and estimates that the Fund has made in preparing the financial statements.

In classifying and measuring the financial instruments held by the Fund, the Manager has applied the fair value option for financial assets and liabilities under IAS 39, Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement. The fair value option was used as: (i) fair value is readily available via market quotation; (ii) it eliminates or significantly reduces an accounting mismatch; and (iii) financial instruments designated at FVTPL is part of an investment portfolio managed on a fair value basis. As a result, the Fund's equity investments have been designated at FVTPL at inception and the derivative investments have been classified as held for trading by nature and valued at FVTPL.

The Fund may, from time to time, hold financial instruments that are not quoted in active markets. Fair values of such instruments are determined by using valuation models and techniques generally recognized as standard within the investment industry. These valuation methods use observable data as practicable as possible. Observable market data are readily available and supplied by independent sources actively involved in the relevant market. However, areas such as credit risk (both own and counterparty) and its correlations require the Manager to make estimates. Significant changes in assumptions about these factors could adversely affect the reported fair values of financial instruments. Please refer to Note 6 for a further analysis of risks associated with financial instruments.

## 5. Capital Disclosures

IAS 1, Presentation of Financial Statements ("IAS 1"), requires the disclosure of: (i) an entity's objectives, policies and processes for managing capital; (ii) quantitative data and qualitative information about what the entity regards as capital; (iii) whether the entity has complied with any capital requirements; and (iv) if it has not complied, the consequences of such noncompliance. The Fund's objectives, policies and processes are described in Note 1, information on the Fund's units is described in Note 8 and the Fund does not have any externally imposed capital requirements.

#### 6. Risks Associated with Financial Instruments

The Fund is exposed to various types of risks that are associated with its investment strategies, financial instruments and markets in which the Fund invests. The most important risks include credit risk, liquidity risk, market risk (including interest rate risk and price risk), concentration risk and capital risk management.

#### Credit Risk

The Fund is subject to the credit risk that its counterparty (whether a clearing corporation, in the case of exchange traded instruments, or other third party, in the case of over-the-counter instruments) may be unable to meet its obligations. The Fund manages these risks through the use of various risk limits and trading strategies.

The Fund is also exposed to counterparty credit risk on derivative financial instruments. The counterparty credit risk for derivative financial instruments is managed by dealing with counterparties that have a credit rating that is not below the level of approved credit ratings as set out in National Instrument 81-102. During the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, the counterparties to the Fund's derivative financial instruments had a credit rating of A-1 or higher from Standard & Poor's Ratings Services.

The Fund's derivative instruments are subject to offsetting, enforceable netting arrangements and similar agreements. The Fund and its counterparty have elected to settle all transactions on a gross basis; however, each party has the option to settle all open contracts on a net basis in the event of default of the other party. All outstanding derivatives have been presented on a gross basis on the Statement of Financial Position as derivative assets or derivative liabilities, as they do not meet the criteria for offsetting in IAS 32 paragraph 42.

#### **Liquidity Risk**

Liquidity risk is the possibility that investments in the Fund cannot be readily converted into cash when required. To manage this risk, the Fund invests the majority of its assets in investments that are traded in an active market and which can be easily disposed. In addition, the Fund aims to retain sufficient cash and short-term investments to maintain liquidity and to meet its obligations when due.

Cash is required to fund redemptions. Unitholders must surrender units at least 10 business days prior to the last day of the month and receive payment on or before 15 calendar days following the month end valuation date. Therefore the Fund has a maximum of 21 business days to generate sufficient cash to fund redemptions mitigating liquidity issues.

The amounts in the table are the contractual undiscounted cash flows.

	Financial	iber 31, 2016 Liabilities Jemand	•	< 3 months		Total
Redemptions payable	\$	_	\$	965,066	\$	965,066
Due to brokers - investments		_		146,270		146,270
Accrued liabilities		-		33,783		33,783
Derivative liabilities		-		5,752		5,752
Accrued management fees		-		4,983		4,983
	\$	-	\$	1,155,854	\$	1,155,854
	Financial	iber 31, 2015 Liabilities Jemand	;	< 3 months		Total
Redemptions payable	\$	_	\$	554,587	\$	554,587
Accrued liabilities	Ψ	_	Ψ	41,777	¥	41,777
Accrued management fees		_		4,662		4,662

#### Market Risk

**Derivative liabilities** 

The Fund's investments are subject to market risk which is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in the market prices. The following include sensitivity analyses that show how the net assets attributable to equity holders would have been affected by a reasonably possible change in the relevant risk variable at each reporting date. In practice, the actual results may differ and the differences could be material.

\$

1,637

602,663

1,637

602,663

#### (a) Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of a financial instrument. The financial instruments which potentially expose the Fund to interest rate risk are the short-term fixed income securities. The Fund has minimal sensitivity to changes in rates since securities are usually held to maturity and are short-term in nature.

#### (b) Price Risk

Price risk is the risk that the value of financial instruments will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices (other than those arising from interest rate risk), whether caused by factors specific to an individual investment, its issuer, or all factors affecting all instruments traded in a market or segment. The Fund's most significant exposure to price risk arises from its investments in equity securities. Net assets per unit varies as the value of the securities in the Fund varies. The Fund has no control over the factors that affect the value of the securities in the Fund, including factors that affect all the issuers in the investment universe.

The Fund's price risk is managed by taking a long-term perspective and utilizing an option writing program, as well as by the use of purchased put options. Approximately 118 percent (2015 - 108 percent) of the Fund's net assets attributable to equity holders held at December 31, 2016 were publicly traded equities. If equity prices on the exchange increased or decreased by 5 percent as at December 31, 2016, the net assets attributable to equity holders would have increased or decreased by \$0.3 million (2015 - \$0.2 million) respectively or 5.9 percent (2015 - 5.4 percent) of the net assets attributable to equity holders with all other factors remaining constant. In practice, actual trading results may differ and the difference could be material.

The Manager believes that a portfolio that is subject to covered call option writing or purchased put options should provide a degree of protection against falling share prices in a downward trending market.

#### **Concentration Risk**

Concentration risk arises as a result of the concentration of exposures with the same category, whether it is geographical location, product type, industry sector or counterparty type. The following is a summary of the Fund's concentration risk:

	Dec. 31,	Dec. 31,
	2016	2015
Financials	53.3%	59.7%
Energy	11.7%	9.1%
Industrials	10.0%	6.3%
Materials	9.0%	1.7%
Consumer Discretionary	7.0%	9.4%
Utilities	4.8%	6.8%
Telecommunication Services	4.2%	7.0%
	100.0%	100.0%

#### **Capital Risk Management**

Unitholders whose units are redeemed on the December Valuation Date in each year will be entitled to receive a redemption price per unit equal to the net asset value per unit determined as of such Valuation Date. For unitholders whose units are redeemed on any other Valuation Date, the redemption price per unit will be equal to the lesser of: (i) 95 percent of the Market Price; and (ii) 100 percent of the Closing Market Price of the units on the applicable Valuation Date, minus an amount equal to the aggregate of all brokerage fees, commissions and other

costs incurred by the Fund in connection with such payment, including, but not limited to, costs incurred in liquidating securities held in the Fund's portfolio. For such purposes, "Market Price" is the weighted average trading price of the units on the stock exchange on which the units are listed for the ten trading days immediately preceding the applicable Redemption Date, and the "Closing Market Price" means the closing price of the units on the stock exchange on which the Units are listed or, if there was no trade on the relevant date, the average of the last bid and the last asking prices of the units on the stock exchange on which the units are listed.

#### Fair Value Measurement

The Fund classifies fair value of measurement within a hierarchy which gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are:

- Level 1: Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities
- Level 2: Inputs, other than quoted prices in Level 1, that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (i.e. as prices) or indirectly (i.e. derived from prices), and

Level 3: Inputs that are based on unobservable market data.

The classification of an item into the above levels is based on the lowest level of the inputs used that has a significant effect on the fair value measurement of the item. Transfers of items between levels are recognized in the period they occur. The following table illustrates the classification of the Fund's assets and liabilities measured at fair value within the fair value hierarchy as at December 31, 2016 and 2015.

	As at Decen Level 1	ıber	31, 2016 Level 2	Level 3		Total
Canadian Common Shares Options	\$ 5,172,608 (5,752)	\$	- -	\$	_	\$ 5,172,608 (5,752)
	\$ 5,166,856	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 5,166,856
	As at Decen Level 1	ıber	31, 2015 Level 2	Level 3		Total
Canadian Common Shares Options	\$ 4,787,098 -	\$	- (1,637)	\$	-	\$ 4,787,098 (1,637)
	\$ 4,787,098	\$	(1,637)	\$	_	\$ 4,785,461

The carrying values of cash, dividends receivable, due from brokers investments, accrued liabilities, accrued management fees, redemptions payable, and the Fund's obligation for net assets attributable to equity holders approximate their fair values due to their short-term nature.

#### (a) Equities

The Fund's equity positions are classified as Level 1 as equity securities are actively traded and a reliable quoted price is observable.

## (b) Short-Term Investments

Short-term investments are valued at cost plus accrued interest which approximates fair value. The inputs are generally observable and therefore short-term investments are classified as Level 2.

#### (c) Derivative Assets and Liabilities

Derivative assets and liabilities consist of option contracts.

Listed options are classified as Level 1 as the security is traded in a recognized exchange and a reliable price is readily observable.

Fair value of over-the-counter options is determined using the Black-Scholes Model with observable market data as inputs. Over-the-counter option contracts, for which the credit risks are determined not to be significant to fair value, have been classified as level 2

There were no transfers between Level 1 and Level 2 and the Fund did not hold any financial instruments within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy during 2016 and 2015.

#### 7. Financial Instruments by Category

The following tables present the carrying amounts of the Fund's financial instruments by category as at December 31, 2016 and 2015.

	As at December 31, 2016 Financial Instruments at FVTPL					ncial Instrumen		
	Designa	ited at Inceptio	n H	Ield for Trading	a	t Amortized Cos	t	Total
Assets								
Non-derivative financial assets	\$	5,172,608	\$	-	\$	_	\$	5,172,608
Dividends receivable		-		_		15,171		15,171
Cash		-		_		340,897		340,897
	\$	5,172,608	\$	-	\$	356,068	\$	5,528,676
Liabilities								
Redemptions payable	\$	_	\$	_	\$	965,066	\$	965,066
Due to brokers - investments		-		_		146,270		146,270
Accrued liabilities		-		_		33,783		33,783
Derivative liabilities		_		5,752		_		5,752
Accrued management fees		-		_		4,983		4,983
-	\$	-	\$	5,752	\$	1,150,102	\$	1,155,854

		As at Decei	nber	31, 2015					
	Fi	inancial Instrun	ents	at FVTPL	Financial Instruments				
	Designa	ated at Inceptio	n H	Held for Trading	at	<b>Amortized Cos</b>	t	Total	
Assets									
Non-derivative financial assets	\$	4,787,098	\$	_	\$	-	\$	4,787,098	
Dividends receivable		-		_		19,802		19,802	
Cash		-		_		221,298		221,298	
	\$	4,787,098	\$	-	\$	241,100	\$	5,028,198	
Liabilities									
Redemptions payable	\$	-	\$	_	\$	554,587	\$	554,587	
Accrued liabilities		-		_		41,777		41,777	
Accrued management fees		_		_		4,662		4,662	
Derivative liabilities		-		1,637				1,637	
	\$	-	\$	1,637	\$	601,026	\$	602,663	

The following table presents the net gain/(loss) on financial instruments at FVTPL by category for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015.

Net Realized Gain on Financial Instruments at FVTPL		Dec. 31, 2016		Dec. 31, 2015
Designated at Inception	\$	114,333	\$	141,677
Held for Trading		87,272		44,321
		201,605		185,998
Net Change in Unrealized Gain/Loss on Financial Instruments at	<b>FVTPL</b>			
Designated at Inception	1	1,114,600	(1	,024,187)
Held for Trading		4,190		(499)
	1	1,118,790	(1	,024,686)
Net Gain/(Loss) on Financial Instruments at FVTPL	\$1	1,320,395	\$	(838,688)

#### 8. Units

The Fund is authorized to issue an unlimited number of transferable, redeemable trust units of one class, each of which represents an equal, undivided interest in the net assets of the Fund. All units have equal voting rights and privileges.

The Fund endeavours to make monthly distributions of net income and net realized capital gains to unitholders on the last day of each month at an amount targeted to be 6.5 percent per annum of the net asset value of the Fund.

For the year ended December 31, 2016, cash distributions paid to unitholders were \$314,123 (2015 - \$375,634) representing a payment of \$0.41 (2015 - \$0.43) per unit.

During the year ended December 31, 2016, 140,088 (2015 - 97,100) units were redeemed with a total retraction value of \$965,066 (2015 - \$554,587).

During the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, unit transactions are as follows:

	Dec. 31,	Dec. 31,
	2016	2015
Units outstanding, beginning of year	774,846	871,946
Units redeemed	(140,088)	(97,100)
Units outstanding, end of year	634,758	774,846

#### 9. Related Party Transactions

Parties are considered to be related if one party has the ability to control the other party or exercise significant influence over the other party in making financial or operational decisions.

#### (a) Management Fees

Strathbridge, as Manager under the terms of the Trust Agreement and as Investment Manager under terms of the Investment Management Agreement, receives fees payable at annual rates of 0.10 percent and 1.00 percent respectively of the Fund's net asset value, calculated and payable monthly, plus applicable taxes. The Fund is responsible for all ongoing custodian, manager, legal, accounting and audit fees as well as all other expenses incurred by the Custodian and Manager in the ordinary course of business relating to the Fund's operations. Total management fees for the year ended December 31, 2016 were \$54,103 (2015 - \$62,461).

## (b) Advisory Board Fees

Total advisory board fees paid to the external members of the Board of Advisors for the year ended December 31, 2016 were \$19,500 (2015 - \$18.900).

#### (c) Independent Review Committee Fees

Total remuneration paid to the external members of the Independent Review Committee for the year ended December 31, 2016 were \$6,898 (2015 - \$6,918).

## 10. Brokerage Commissions and Soft Dollars

The Manager may select brokerages who charge a commission in soft dollars if they determine in good faith that the commission is reasonable in relation to the order execution and research services utilized. The ascertainable soft dollar value received as a percentage of total transaction fees paid during the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015 is disclosed below:

	Dec. 31,		L	ec. 31,
		2016		2015
Soft Dollars	\$	4,514	\$	4,879
Percentage of Total Transaction Fees		33.4%		38.9%

## 11. Increase/(Decrease) in Net Assets Attributable to Equity Holders per Unit

The increase/(decrease) in net assets attributable to equity holders per unit for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015 is calculated as follows:

	Dec. 31, 2016	Dec. 31, 2015		
Increase/(Decrease) in Net Assets Attributable to Equity Holders	\$ 1,226,476	\$	(893,460)	
Weighted Average Number of Units Outstanding during the Year	774,463		871,680	
Increase/(Decrease) in Net Assets Attributable to Equity Holders per Unit	\$ 1.5836	\$	(1.0250)	

#### 12. Income Taxes

No amount is payable on account of income taxes in 2016 and 2015.

Accumulated non-capital losses of \$0.3 million (2015 - \$0.3 million) and capital losses of approximately \$3.9 million (2015 - \$3.9 million) are available for utilization against realized gains on sale of investments in future years. The capital losses can be carried forward indefinitely. The non-capital losses expire as follows:

Expiration	Amount
Date	(in \$millions)
2029	\$0.2
2031	0.1
Total	\$0.3

#### 13. Future Accounting Policy Changes

In July 2014, the International Accounting Standards Board ("IASB") finalized the reform of financial instruments accounting and issued IFRS 9: Financial Instruments ("IFRS 9") (as revised in 2014), which contains the requirements for: a) the classification and measurement of financial assets and financial liabilities, b) impairment methodology and c) general hedge accounting. IFRS 9 (as revised in 2014) will supersede IAS 39 Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement in its entirety upon its effective date. The new standard, which becomes effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2018, is not expected to have a significant impact on the Fund.

#### **Board of Advisors**

John P. Mulvihill

Chairman & CEO

Strathbridge Asset Management Inc.

John D. Germain

Senior Vice-President & Chief Financial Officer Strathbridge Asset Management Inc.

Michael M. Koerner<sup>1</sup> Corporate Director

Robert W. Korthals<sup>1</sup>

**Corporate Director** 

Robert G. Bertram<sup>1</sup>

Corporate Director

#### Information

#### **Independent Auditor:**

Deloitte LLP Bay Adelaide Centre, East Tower 22 Adelaide Street West, Suite 200 Toronto, Ontario M5H 0A9

#### Transfer Agent:

Computershare Investor Services Inc. 100 University Avenue, 8th Floor Toronto, Ontario M5J 2Y1

#### Units Listed:

Toronto Stock Exchange trading under CDD.UN

#### Custodian:

RBC Investor Services Trust RBC Centre 155 Wellington Street West, 2nd Floor Toronto, Ontario M5V 3L3

Visit our website at www.strathbridge.com for additional information on all Strathbridge Investment Funds.

Investment Funds Managed by Strathbridge Asset Management Inc.

#### **UNIT TRUSTS**

Canadian Utilities & Telecom Income Fund (UTE.UN)
Core Canadian Dividend Trust (CDD.UN)
Low Volatility U.S. Equity Income Fund (LVU.UN)
NDX Growth & Income Fund (NGI.UN)
Top 10 Canadian Financial Trust (TCT.UN)
U.S. Financials Income Fund (USF.UN)

#### **SPLIT SHARES**

Premium Income Corporation (PIC.PR.A/PIC.A) S Split Corp. (SBN.PR.A/SBN) Top 10 Split Trust (TXT.PR.A/TXT.UN) World Financial Split Corp. (WFS.PR.A/WFS)

#### Head Office:

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Independent Review Committee Member





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