

 **TORONTO** Atmospheric Fund



# Doubling our returns

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Vice President  
Impact Investing

# 20 years of experience



*For TAF, every investment decision requires looking at carbon impacts*

- TAF is an arm's length agency of the City of Toronto established in 1992 with a \$23 million endowment from the sale of surplus lands
- Has saved the City more than \$55 million in energy costs while investing more than \$50 million in emission reduction projects
- Quantifiable carbon reductions are a must for all our funding and financing decisions

# An investment eye on carbon



*Eliminating split incentives,  
efficiency guarantees, utility  
delivery model, on-bill  
financing . . .*

- Want to know both the immediate and the “scaled up” emissions impact of the investment
- An innovation investor – looking for new approaches that overcome barriers (financial, technical, social) and accelerate scale-up
- Leverage our knowledge to find ways to address challenges without increasing investment risk

# Double bottom line



*Pass new – but now proven – financing approaches to the market for wider deployment to advance emission reductions*

- We also want a risk appropriate return on investment
- Work with our clients as partners, not adversaries, to structure mutually beneficial deals that address our double bottom line
- Open with our financial “IP” – happy to let others learn from our successes and our struggles

# Carbon disclosure = lower risk



*Steering investment to companies that “get it” on efficiency and clean energy and away from those that are moving blind*

- We believe in transparency in our work and look for it in partners
- Carbon disclosure a sign of confident, competent management that understands that carbon represents a cost
- If you can't quantify emissions, you won't ever be able to reduce them

# Low carbon, not low returns



*Shifting to active selection and not just passive screening – looking for winners, not just lower carbon exposures*

- Now increasing focus on alignment of endowment investments with mandate as well
- Low carbon portfolio doesn't mean sacrificing returns
- And it is great insurance for future, when the pressures to act on climate change are going to rise exponentially

# We're all about partners



*A low-carbon world  
is the finish line and  
the race is on*

- Always looking to work with others to advance new approaches and build momentum
- We bring expertise and experience, especially in piloting new approaches
- Open to new structures and new approaches
- Help us leverage our work – talk to us about how we can work together to leverage low-carbon investing advantages

Stay in touch

[www.toronto.ca/taf](http://www.toronto.ca/taf)

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