

June 23, 2022

#### **Toronto Investment Board**

#### Presented by:

Ben Homsy, CFA Vice President, Portfolio Manager

Tamsin Wilding, CFA Fixed Income Analyst

# **Our Organization**

- Founded in 1982
- Fully Independent



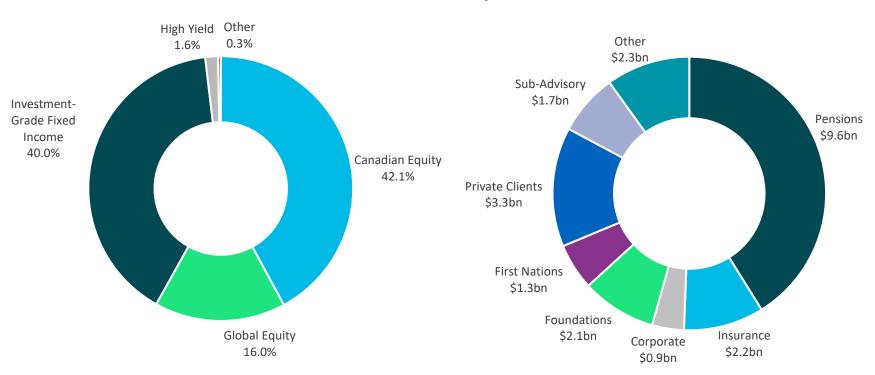
100% employee-owned

Quiet Money.®

- 105 employees / 81 employee-shareholders
- Value-based investment style
- Over \$23 billion assets under management
- Nationwide firm with offices in Vancouver, Calgary and Toronto

# **Assets Under Management**

#### As of March 31, 2022



Canadian Equity and Fixed Income assets under management continue to represent approximately equal shares of our Institutional assets under management

Source: Leith Wheeler Investment Counsel Ltd

#### Fixed Income Investment Team



Jim Gilliland, CFA President & CEO, Head of Fixed Income Prior Experience: Barclays Global Investors (BGI), HSBC Asset Management Years in Industry: 28 Years at Firm: 12



Eric Lam, CFA **Financials** Prior Experience: TD, RBC Years in Industry: 29 Years at Firm: 12



Alexei Konopkine, CFA Consumers Prior Experience: Leith Wheeler Years in Industry: 16 Years at Firm: 16



Sean Greenhalgh, CFA Pipelines, Distribution Prior Experience: RBC, Scotia Bank Years in Industry: 13

Years at Firm: 6



Michelle Zuliani, CFA Infrastructure, Real Estate, CMBS



**Dhruv Mallick, CFA** Crossover & Non-IG Credit Prior Experience: CQS, Barclays Global Investors (BGI), PIMCO Years in Industry: 21 Years at Firm: 6



Ryan Goulding, CFA **Government Strategies** Prior Experience: PH&N, Merrill Lynch Years in Industry: 14 Years at Firm: 5



Tamsin Wilding, CFA Government Strategies Prior Experience: Bank New Zealand, National Australia Bank Years in Industry: 11 Years at Firm: 5



Colin Boese, CFA Crossover & Non-IG Credit Prior Experience: CC&L, Marret Years in Industry: 7 Years at Firm: 5



Ben Homsy, CFA Institutional Portfolio Mgt Prior Experience: Goldman Sachs, JP Morgan Years in Industry: 23 Years at Firm: 7

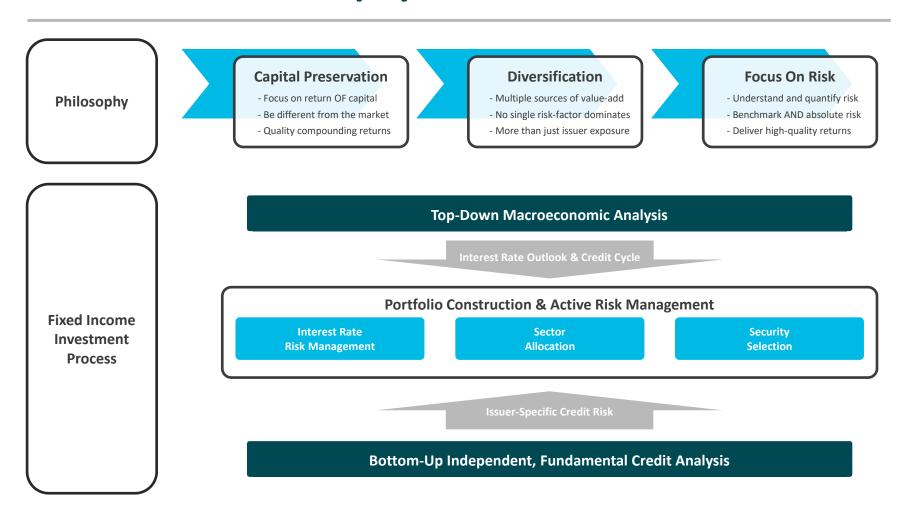


Catherine Heath, CFA Prior Experience: Leith Wheeler Investment Counsel Years in Industry: 21 Years at Firm: 21



Prior Experience: HSBC, RBC Years in Industry: 9 Years at Firm: 2

# **Investment Philosophy & Process**



## Responsible Investing at Leith Wheeler

ESG factors – particularly governance – have always been at the core of our investment culture



Formalized process for assessing corporate bond issuers for ESG factors, augmented using third-party assessment









History supporting key organizations that promote responsible investing, advocate for sound policy and provide education to stakeholders



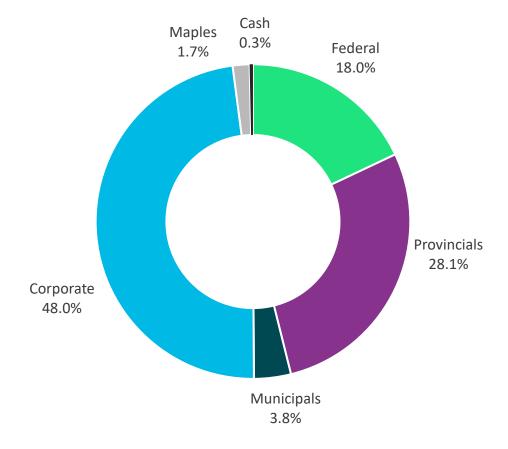






### **Portfolio Overview**

| Portfolio<br>Characteristics<br>As May 31, 2022 | Active<br>Portfolio | Benchmark | Difference |
|---|---------------------|-----------|------------|
| Yield   | 3.84%               | 3.54%     | +0.30%     |
| Duration (Years)                                | 7.40                | 7.44      | -0.04      |





### **Portfolio Overview**

| Assets Under Management (C\$ millions) As at May 31, 2022 | Active  | Inactive |
|---|---------|----------|
| Opening Balance (March 31, 2021)                          | 1,128.6 | 164.4    |
| Net Deposits & Withdrawals                                | +109.1  | -109.3   |
| Investment Returns  | -86.0   | -7.0     |
| Closing Balance   | 1,151.7 | 48.2     |

### **Performance**

| Annualized Performance As at May 31, 2021 | Year to Date | 1 Year | Since<br>Inception <sup>(1)</sup> |
|---|--------------|--------|-----------------------------------|
| Active Portfolio                          | -10.04%      | -8.17% | -1.26%                            |
| Benchmark                                 | -10.28%      | -8.55% | -1.62%                            |
| Value Added                               | +0.24%       | +0.38% | +0.36%                            |

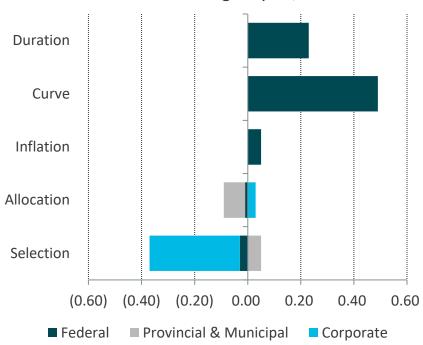
| Inactive Portfolio | -7.45% | -6.10% | -0.17% |
|--------------------|--------|--------|--------|

<sup>(1)</sup> Inception dates for the portfolios were June 29, 2019. There was a portfolio transition period from April 29, 2019 to June 29, 2019 which is not included in the above performance.

#### **Attribution**

# Toronto Investment Board – Active Portfolio

12 Months Ending May 31, 2022



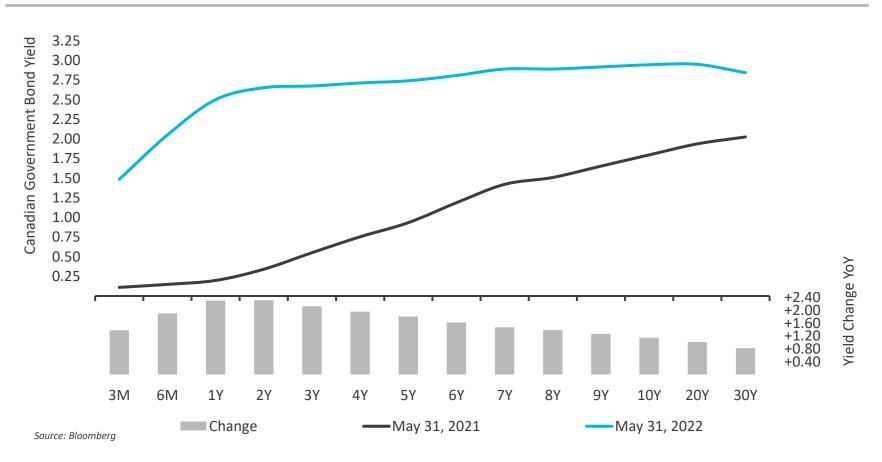
#### What Worked?

- ✓ Underweight duration, especially in shorter term bonds (3-5 year part of the curve)
- ✓ Modest curve flattener
- Provincial security selection (Alberta and Manitoba outperformed)
- ✓ Overweight corporate credit (additional yield)

#### What Didn't Work?

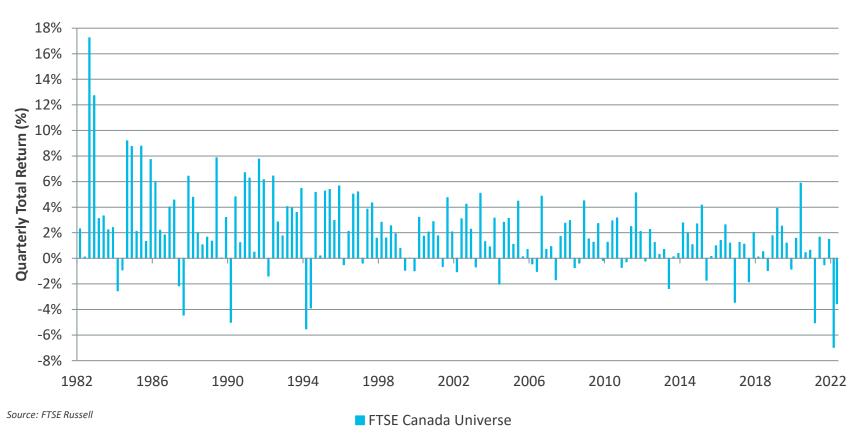
- X Bias towards higher-quality, short-dated corporate bonds
- X Overweight provincial credit

# Interest Rates Prior 12 Months



Rising inflation and aggressive expectations for central banks to tighten monetary policy has pushed yields significantly higher, particularly in short-term bond maturities.

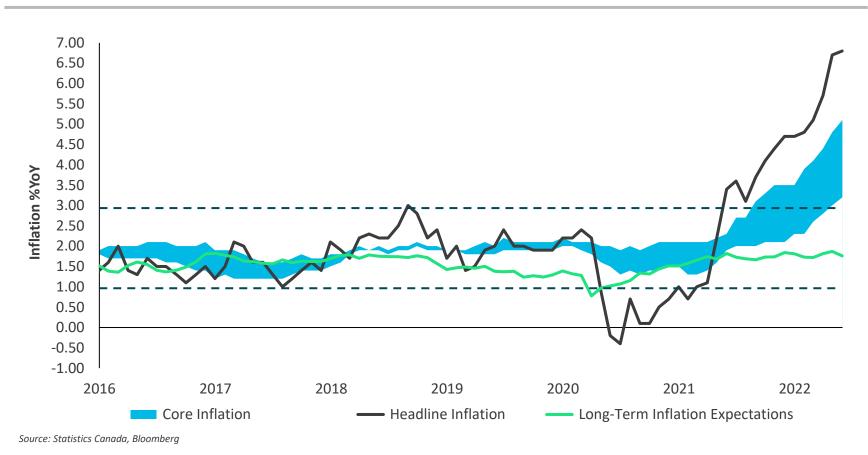
#### **Universe Bond Returns**



Q1-2022 was the worst quarter for the Canadian bond market in the last forty years. Returns in the current quarter-to-date (April & May 2022) have also been sharply negative.



#### **Inflation**



Headline and core inflation measures continue to reach new heights and inflation pressures remain high with pent-up demand and lingering supply chain bottlenecks.



#### Rate Hikes Will Be Painful For Canada

Fig 7 Private non-financial sector debt levels have risen significantly over the past several decades...

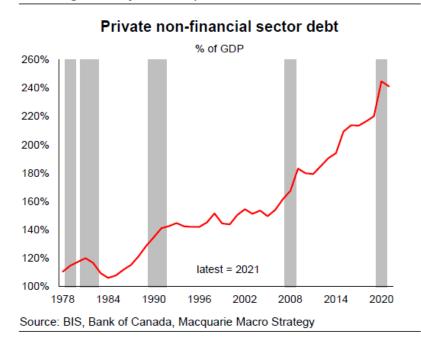
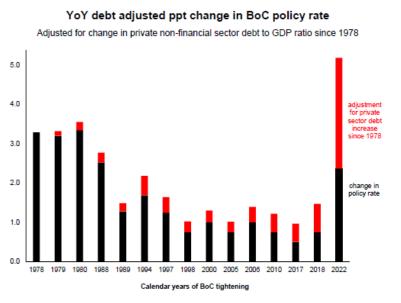


Fig 8 ... adjusting for this, suggests market pricing for 2022 represents the most severe year for rate hikes on record

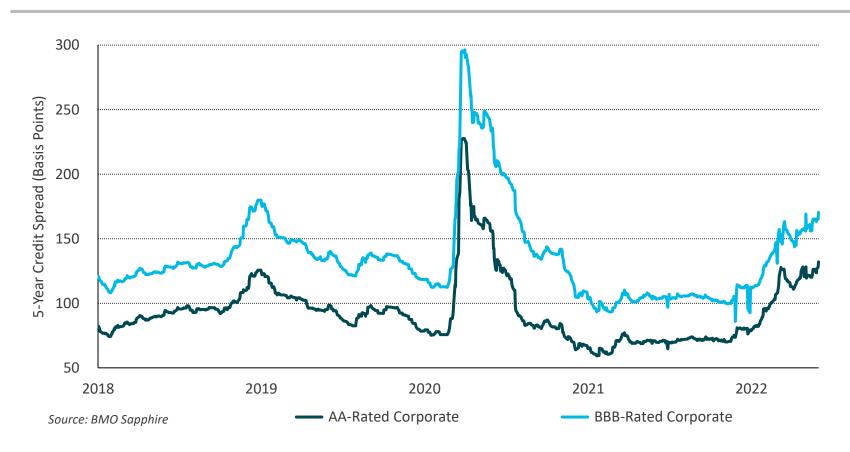


Source: BIS, Bank of Canada, Macquarie Macro Strategy

2022 could prove the most severe year for rate hikes since 1980 once adjusting for private sector debt levels.



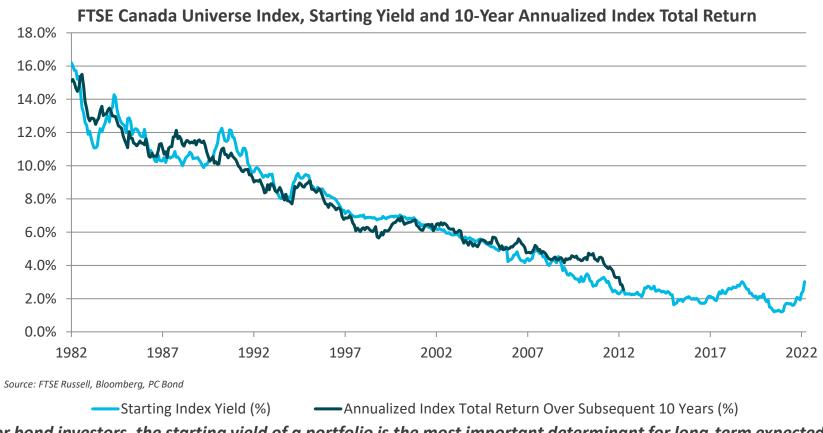
# **Credit Spreads By Quality**



Credit spreads have widened to levels beyond their long-term average as expectations rise for a recession in the next 12 months.



# **Expected Forward Returns From Bonds**



For bond investors, the starting yield of a portfolio is the most important determinant for long-term expected portfolio returns.

#### **Market Outlook**

- Inflation pressures remain high due to supply chain bottlenecks, pent-up demand and high employment as the economy re-opens.
- Inflation should start to abate as the impact of policy tightening takes hold, however the timing of this impact is difficult to predict.
- Central banks are under pressure to stamp out inflation, even if the sharp rise in short-term interest rates triggers a recession.
- Longer-term path of inflation is less certain; however, inflation expectations have remained well anchored to central bank inflation targets despite the recent sharp rise in current inflation measures.
- Credit market valuations are currently cheaper than their long-term average, but at reasonable valuations given the macroeconomic backdrop and potential for a recession and credit event.

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