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Initial Public Offering

October 29, 2003



## FINANCIAL 15 SPLIT CORP.

**\$400,000,000 (Maximum)**

**16,000,000 Preferred Shares and 16,000,000 Class A Shares**

Financial 15 Split Corp. (the "Company"), a mutual fund corporation incorporated under the laws of the Province of Ontario, is offering up to 16,000,000 Preferred Shares and 16,000,000 Class A Shares (collectively, the "Offering") under this prospectus at a price of \$10.00 per Preferred Share and \$15.00 per Class A Share. The Company will invest primarily in a portfolio of common shares (the "Portfolio") which will include each of the 15 financial services companies listed below (collectively, the "Portfolio Companies"):

*Canadian Issuers*

**Bank of Montreal  
The Bank of Nova Scotia  
Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce  
Royal Bank of Canada  
The Toronto-Dominion Bank**

**National Bank of Canada  
Manulife Financial Corporation  
Sun Life Financial Services of Canada Inc.  
Great-West Lifeco Inc.  
CI Fund Management Inc.**

*U.S. Issuers*

**Bank of America Corp.  
Citigroup Inc.  
JP Morgan Chase & Co.  
Bank One Corp.  
Wells Fargo & Co.**

The Company expects that common shares of a particular Portfolio Company will generally represent no less than 4% and no more than 8% of the net asset value ("Net Asset Value") of the Company. The Portfolio will be rebalanced as necessary from time to time. Up to 15% of the Net Asset Value of the Company may be invested in equity securities of issuers other than the Portfolio Companies. The Company will limit its holdings of U.S. issuers to ensure that its shares will not be foreign property for Canadian tax purposes. The Company may substitute Portfolio Companies in extraordinary circumstances. See "The Portfolio Companies".

To supplement the dividends received on the Portfolio and to reduce risk, the Company will from time to time write covered call options in respect of all or a part of the common shares in the Portfolio. The Portfolio will be managed by Quadravest Capital Management Inc. ("Quadravest"). The common shares that are the subject of call options and the terms of such options will vary from time to time as determined by Quadravest.

### Prices: \$10.00 per Preferred Share and \$15.00 per Class A Share

|   | Price to the Public <sup>(1)</sup> | Agents' Fees | Net Proceeds to the Company <sup>(2)</sup> |
|---|------------------------------------|--------------|--|
| Per Preferred Share . . . . .                   | \$10.00                            | \$0.30       | \$9.70                                     |
| Total Maximum Offering <sup>(3)</sup> . . . . . | \$160,000,000                      | \$4,800,000  | \$155,200,000                              |
| Total Minimum Offering <sup>(4)</sup> . . . . . | \$50,000,000                       | \$1,500,000  | \$48,500,000                               |
| Per Class A Share . . . . .                     | \$15.00                            | \$0.90       | \$14.10                                    |
| Total Maximum Offering <sup>(3)</sup> . . . . . | \$240,000,000                      | \$14,400,000 | \$225,600,000                              |
| Total Minimum Offering <sup>(4)</sup> . . . . . | \$75,000,000                       | \$4,500,000  | \$70,500,000                               |

- (1) The offering prices were established by negotiation between the Company and the Agents (as defined below).
- (2) Before deducting the expenses of issue which are estimated to be \$500,000. Such expenses, together with the Agents' fee, will be paid out of the proceeds of the Offering.
- (3) The Company has granted the Agents an option (the "Over-Allotment Option"), exercisable for a period of 30 days from the closing of the Offering, to offer up to 2,400,000 additional Preferred Shares and 2,400,000 additional Class A Shares on the same terms as set forth above, which additional Preferred Shares and Class A Shares are qualified for sale under this prospectus. If the Over-Allotment Option is exercised in full, the total price to the public under the Offering will be \$460,000,000, the Agents' fee will be \$22,080,000 and the net proceeds to the Company, before expenses of the Offering, will be \$437,920,000. See "Plan of Distribution".
- (4) There will be no closing unless a minimum of 5,000,000 Preferred Shares and 5,000,000 Class A Shares are sold.

#### PREFERRED SHARES

The Company's investment objectives with respect to the Preferred Shares are as follows:

- (a) to provide holders of the Preferred Shares with fixed cumulative preferential monthly cash dividends in the amount of \$0.04375 per Preferred Share to yield 5.25% per annum on the original issue price; and
- (b) on or about December 1, 2008 (the "Termination Date"), to pay the holders of the Preferred Shares the original issue price of those shares.

Based on current market conditions, dividends payable to holders of Preferred Shares are expected to be funded entirely from dividends received on the shares in the Portfolio.

The Preferred Shares have been provisionally rated Pfd-2 by Dominion Bond Rating Service Limited ("DBRS").

#### CLASS A SHARES

The Company's investment objectives with respect to the Class A Shares are as follows:

- (a) to provide holders of Class A Shares with regular monthly cash dividends initially targeted to be \$0.10 per Class A Share to yield 8.0% per annum on the original issue price; and
- (b) on or about the Termination Date, to pay the holders of Class A Shares at least the original issue price of those shares.

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In the opinion of counsel, the Preferred Shares and Class A Shares, if, as and when listed on a prescribed stock exchange, will be qualified investments under the *Income Tax Act* (Canada) for trusts governed by registered retirement savings plans, registered retirement income funds, deferred profit sharing plans (collectively, “Deferred Income Plans”) and registered education savings plans and, provided the Company complies with its investment criteria, will not constitute foreign property to Deferred Income Plans or to certain other persons including registered pension plans.

The Preferred Shares and the Class A Shares (together, a “Unit”) are offered separately, but will be issued only on the basis that there will be an equal number of Preferred Shares and Class A Shares issued. Except as required by law or as provided in this prospectus, holders of Preferred Shares or Class A Shares will not be entitled to vote at any meeting of the Company (see “Shareholder Matters — Acts Requiring Shareholder Approval”) and such holders will not have any voting rights with respect to the shares in the Portfolio from time to time.

The Toronto Stock Exchange (“TSX”) has conditionally approved the listing of the Preferred Shares and the Class A Shares subject to the Company fulfilling all of the requirements of the TSX on or before January 21, 2004, including the distribution of such shares to a minimum number of public holders.

The Preferred Shares and the Class A Shares will be redeemed by the Company on December 1, 2008. The redemption price for each Preferred Share redeemed on that date will be equal to the lesser of (i) \$10.00 and (ii) the Net Asset Value of the Company on that date, divided by the number of Preferred Shares then outstanding. The redemption price for each Class A Share redeemed on that date will be equal to the greater of (i) the Net Asset Value per Unit on that date, minus \$10.00, and (ii) nil.

Although the Company is considered to be a mutual fund under the securities legislation of certain of the provinces of Canada, it has been exempted from certain of the policies or rules of the Canadian securities regulators applicable to conventional mutual funds.

See “Risk Factors” for a discussion of certain factors that should be considered by prospective investors in the Preferred Shares and Class A Shares. **There is currently no market through which the Preferred Shares or the Class A Shares may be sold and purchasers may not be able to resell securities purchased under this prospectus. The Preferred Shares have provisionally been rated Pfd-2 by DBRS.**

CIBC World Markets Inc., BMO Nesbitt Burns Inc., RBC Dominion Securities Inc., TD Securities Inc., Bieber Securities Inc., Canaccord Capital Corp., Desjardins Securities Inc., Dundee Securities Corporation and First Associates Investments Inc. (the “Agents”) conditionally offer the Preferred Shares and Class A Shares, subject to prior sale, on a best efforts basis, if, as and when issued by the Company and accepted by the Agents in accordance with the conditions contained in the agency agreement among the Company, QuadraVest Inc. as the manager of the Company, QuadraVest Capital Management Inc. as the investment manager of the Company and the Agents, and subject to the approval of certain legal matters by Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, on behalf of the Company, and Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, on behalf of the Agents. See “Plan of Distribution”.

Subscriptions for the Preferred Shares and Class A Shares will be received subject to acceptance or rejection in whole or in part, and the right is reserved to close the subscription books at any time. Closing of this Offering is expected to occur on or about November 14, 2003, but no later than December 31, 2003. Proceeds from subscriptions received by the Company will be held in segregated accounts until the minimum amount of the Offering has been obtained. Registrations and transfers of Preferred Shares and Class A Shares will be effected only through the book-based system administered by The Canadian Depositary for Securities Limited. Beneficial owners of Preferred Shares and Class A Shares will not have the right to receive physical certificates evidencing their ownership. See “Plan of Distribution” and “Details of the Offering — Book-Based System”.

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## PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

The following is a summary only and is qualified in its entirety by, and should be read in conjunction with, the more detailed information appearing elsewhere in this prospectus. All dollar amounts in this prospectus are in Canadian currency unless otherwise stated.

### Financial 15 Split Corp.

Financial 15 Split Corp. (the “Company”) is a mutual fund corporation established under the laws of the Province of Ontario on September 26, 2003 that is offering Preferred Shares and Class A Shares pursuant to this prospectus (the “Offering”).

### The Offering

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Offering:</b>                                | The Offering consists of Preferred Shares and Class A Shares. While the Preferred Shares and the Class A Shares are offered separately, they will be issued only on the basis that an equal number of Preferred Shares and Class A Shares (together, a “Unit”) will be issued. |
| <b>Amounts:</b>                                 | Maximum — \$160,000,000 (16,000,000 Preferred Shares)<br>Minimum — \$50,000,000 (5,000,000 Preferred Shares)<br><br>Maximum — \$240,000,000 (16,000,000 Class A Shares)<br>Minimum — \$75,000,000 (5,000,000 Class A Shares)   |
| <b>Prices:</b>                                  | \$10.00 per Preferred Share<br>\$15.00 per Class A Share   |
| <b>Minimum Purchase:</b>                        | 100 Preferred Shares or 100 Class A Shares   |
| <b>Investment Strategy and Use of Proceeds:</b> | The Company will invest the net proceeds of the Offering primarily in a portfolio of common shares (the “Portfolio”) which will include each of the 15 financial services companies listed below (collectively, the “Portfolio Companies”):                                    |

|   | <i>Canadian Issuers</i>        | <i>U.S. Issuers</i>              |
|---|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Bank of Montreal</b>                   | <b>National Bank of Canada</b> | <b>Bank of America Corp.</b>     |
| <b>The Bank of Nova Scotia</b>            | <b>Manulife Financial</b>      | <b>Citigroup Inc.</b>            |
| <b>Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce</b> | <b>Corporation</b>             | <b>JP Morgan Chase &amp; Co.</b> |
| <b>Royal Bank of Canada</b>               | <b>Sun Life Financial</b>      | <b>Bank One Corp.</b>            |
| <b>The Toronto-Dominion Bank</b>          | <b>Services of Canada Inc.</b> | <b>Wells Fargo &amp; Co.</b>     |
|   | <b>Great-West Lifeco Inc.</b>  | <b>CI Fund Management Inc.</b>   |

The Company expects that common shares of a particular Portfolio Company will generally represent no less than 4% and no more than 8% of the net asset value (“Net Asset Value”) of the Company. The Portfolio will be rebalanced as necessary from time to time. Up to 15% of the Net Asset Value of the Company may be invested in equity securities of issuers other than the Portfolio Companies. The Company will limit its holdings of U.S. issuers to ensure that its shares will not be foreign property for Canadian tax purposes. The Company may substitute Portfolio Companies in extraordinary circumstances. See “The Portfolio Companies”.

To supplement the dividends received on the Portfolio and to reduce risk, the Company will from time to time write covered call options in respect of all or a part of the common shares in the Portfolio. The Portfolio will be managed by Quadravest Capital Management Inc. (“Quadravest”). The common shares that are the subject of call options and the terms of such options will vary from time to time as determined by Quadravest.

## Preferred Shares

### Investment Objectives:

The Company's investment objectives with respect to the Preferred Shares are as follows:

- (a) to provide holders of the Preferred Shares with fixed cumulative preferential monthly cash dividends in the amount of \$0.04375 per Preferred Share to yield 5.25% per annum on the original issue price; and
- (b) on or about December 1, 2008 (the "Termination Date"), to pay holders of the Preferred Shares the original issue price of those shares, through the redemption of each Preferred Share held on the Termination Date.

Based on current market conditions, dividends payable to holders of Preferred Shares are expected to be funded entirely from dividends received on the shares in the Portfolio.

### Dividends:

Holders of Preferred Shares will be entitled to receive, as and when declared by the Board of Directors of the Company, fixed cumulative preferential monthly cash dividends in the amount of \$0.04375 per Preferred Share to yield 5.25% per annum on the original issue price. The initial dividend on the Preferred Shares will be payable on December 31, 2003 and, based on an anticipated closing date of November 14, 2003, is expected to be \$0.06760 per Preferred Share.

### Rating:

The Preferred Shares have been provisionally rated Pfd-2 by Dominion Bond Rating Service Limited ("DBRS").

### Retraction:

Preferred Shares may be surrendered at any time for retraction and will be retracted on a monthly basis on the last business day of each month (a "Retraction Date"), provided such shares are surrendered for retraction not less than 10 business days prior to the Retraction Date.

#### *Regular Monthly Retractions*

Holders retracting a Preferred Share will be entitled to receive an amount per Preferred Share equal to the lesser of (a) \$10.00 and (b) 96% of the Net Asset Value per Unit determined as of the Retraction Date less the cost to the Company of the purchase of a Class A Share in the market for cancellation.

Payment for any shares so retracted will be made within 15 days of the Retraction Date.

#### *Special Annual Concurrent Retractions*

Commencing in October 2004, shareholders who concurrently retract a Preferred Share and a Class A Share on the Retraction Date in the month of October in each year will be entitled to receive an amount equal to the Net Asset Value per Unit on that date. Payment for any shares so retracted will be made within 15 days of the October Retraction Date.

## Class A Shares

### Investment Objectives:

The Company's investment objectives with respect to the Class A Shares are as follows:

- (a) to provide holders of Class A Shares with regular monthly cash dividends initially targeted to be \$0.10 per Class A Share to yield 8.0% per annum on the original issue price; and
- (b) on or about the Termination Date, to pay holders of Class A Shares at least the original issue price of those shares, through the redemption of each Class A Share held on the Termination Date.

Holders of the Class A Shares will also be entitled to receive, on the Termination Date, the balance, if any, of the value of the Portfolio remaining after returning the original issue price to the holders of the Preferred Shares and Class A Shares.

### Dividends:

The policy of the Board of Directors of the Company is to pay dividends to the holders of Class A Shares in an amount equal to all net realized capital gains, dividends and option premiums (other than option premiums in respect of options outstanding at year end) earned on the Portfolio in each year (net of expenses, taxes and loss carry-forwards) that are in excess of the dividends paid on the Preferred Shares. Although there can be no assurance that the Company will be able to pay dividends to holders of Class A Shares, the Company will endeavor to declare and pay regular monthly dividends initially targeted to be \$0.10 per Class A Share to yield 8.0% per annum on the original issue price plus, if any amounts remain available for the payment of dividends, a special year-end dividend of such amount on the last day of November in each year.

No regular monthly dividends will be paid in any year on the Class A Shares so long as any dividends on the Preferred Shares are then in arrears or so long as the Net Asset Value per Unit is equal to or less than \$15.00 (calculated as described under "Details of the Offering — Valuation of Assets"). Additionally, no special year-end dividends will be paid if after payment of such a special dividend the Net Asset Value per Unit (calculated as described under "Details of the Offering — Valuation of Assets") would be less than \$25.00.

Based upon the assumptions referred to under "Covered Call Option Writing — Dividend Coverage Ratio — Preferred Shares" below, the proceeds of the Offering available for the purchase of the Portfolio would initially be \$150 million. In order to achieve the Company's initial targeted dividends of \$1.20 per Class A Share per annum, the Company will be required to generate an average annual return on the Portfolio of 8.58% if the value of the Portfolio is maintained intact until the Termination Date. The average annual return necessary to achieve the initial targeted dividends would have to be higher if the value of the Portfolio is reduced and lower if the value of the Portfolio is increased.

### Retraction:

Class A Shares may be surrendered at any time for retraction and will be retracted on a monthly basis on the last business day of each month (a "Retraction Date"), provided such shares are surrendered for retraction not less than 10 business days prior to the Retraction Date.

### *Regular Monthly Retractions*

Holders retracting a Class A Share will be entitled to receive an amount per Class A Share equal to 96% of the Net Asset Value per Unit determined as of the relevant Retraction Date less the cost to the Company of the purchase of a Preferred Share in the market for cancellation.

Payment for any shares so retracted will be made within 15 days of the Retraction Date.

### *Special Annual Concurrent Retractions*

Commencing in October 2004, shareholders who concurrently retract a Preferred Share and a Class A Share on the Retraction Date in the month of October in each year will be entitled to receive an amount equal to the Net Asset Value per Unit on that date. Payment for any shares so retracted will be made within 15 days of the October Retraction Date.

### **General**

**Manager:**

Quadravest Inc. is the Company's manager (the "Manager").

**Investment Manager:**

Quadravest is the Company's investment manager. S. Wayne Finch, the Chief Executive and Chief Investment Officer of Quadravest, has over 20 years of experience in designing and managing investment portfolios, including a number of publicly traded investment vehicles employing investment strategies similar to those proposed by the Company. William C. Thornhill, Vice-Chairman, has over 30 years experience in the financial services industry including senior executive positions with a major financial institution. Laura L. Johnson, a Portfolio Manager and Managing Director, has over 11 years experience in the financial services industry including extensive experience with investment products employing investment strategies similar to those proposed by the Company. Peter F. Cruickshank, the Chief Financial Officer and Managing Director, is a chartered accountant who has spent the last 18 years of his career in the investment industry.

Quadravest is the investment manager of four public mutual fund corporations and four public mutual fund trusts that have completed public offerings with aggregate proceeds in excess of \$1 billion.

Quadravest has taken the initiative in organizing the Company and is a promoter of the Company within the meaning of applicable securities legislation. S. Wayne Finch controls the Manager, which in turn owns all of the voting shares of Quadravest.

**Risk Factors:**

An investment in Preferred Shares or Class A Shares is subject to certain risk factors. There can be no assurance that the Company will be successful in meeting its investment objectives, and the Preferred Shares and Class A Shares may trade in the market at a premium or discount to their proportionate shares of the Company's Net Asset Value. Risk factors include: (i) the Company's lack of operating history and the current absence of a public trading market for the Preferred Shares or Class A Shares; (ii) fluctuations in prevailing interest rates; (iii) fluctuations in the value of the Canadian dollar relative to the U.S. dollar; (iv) the performance of the Portfolio Companies; (v) the impact of a substantial drop in North American equity markets; (vi) liquidity and counterparty risks associated with the writing of covered call options and other risks associated with the Company's

use of derivative instruments; (vii) the fact that the amount of dividends and value of the securities in the Portfolio will be influenced by factors beyond the Company's control; (viii) the Company's reliance on its investment manager, QuadraVest; and (ix) the fact that the Company is relying on the published administrative practice of the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency regarding the manner in which the Company will treat the dispositions of securities and option transactions for tax purposes and that no advance income tax ruling in respect thereof has been requested or received. See "Risk Factors".

**Eligibility for Investment:**

In the opinion of Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, counsel to the Company, and Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, counsel to the Agents, the Preferred Shares and Class A Shares, if, as and when listed on a prescribed stock exchange, will be qualified investments under the *Income Tax Act* (Canada) for trusts governed by registered retirement savings plans, registered retirement income funds, deferred profit sharing plans and registered education savings plans and, provided the Company complies with its investment criteria, will not constitute foreign property for purposes of Part XI of such Act.

**Custodian:**

The Royal Trust Company acts as custodian of the assets of the Company and is responsible for certain aspects of its day-to-day administration.

**Canadian Federal Income Tax Considerations**

**Taxation of the Company:**

At the date of the closing of the Offering, provided that the Preferred Shares or the Class A Shares are listed on a prescribed stock exchange in Canada, the Company will qualify, and intends to continue to qualify, as a mutual fund corporation under the *Income Tax Act* (Canada). As a mutual fund corporation, the Company will be entitled in certain circumstances to capital gains refunds in respect of its net realized capital gains. To the extent that the Company earns income (other than dividends from taxable Canadian corporations and taxable capital gains) including interest or dividends from corporations other than taxable Canadian corporations (such as dividends on shares of U.S. corporations included in the Portfolio), the Company will be subject to income tax on such income and no refund of such tax will be available.

**Taxation of Shareholders Resident in Canada:**

*Dividends:* Dividends other than capital gains dividends ("Ordinary Dividends") received by individuals on the Preferred Shares and Class A Shares will generally be subject to the normal gross-up and dividend tax credit rules for dividends received from a taxable Canadian corporation.

Ordinary Dividends received by corporations (other than specified financial institutions) on the Preferred Shares and Class A Shares will generally be deductible in computing taxable income. Ordinary Dividends received by specified financial institutions on the Preferred Shares and Class A Shares will be deductible in computing taxable income provided certain conditions generally applicable to retractable shares, such as the 10% ownership restriction, are met. Ordinary Dividends received by corporations (other than private corporations and certain other corporations) on the Preferred Shares will (but, in the opinion of counsel, should not on the Class A Shares) be subject to a 10% tax under Part IV.1 of the *Income Tax Act* (Canada) to the extent such dividends are deductible in computing taxable income.

The amount of any capital gains dividend received by a shareholder from the Company will be considered to be a capital gain of the shareholder from the disposition of capital property in the taxation year of the shareholder in which the capital gains dividend is received.

*Dispositions:* A disposition, whether by way of redemption, retraction or otherwise, of a Preferred Share or Class A Share held as capital property will generally result in a capital gain or capital loss to the holder thereof.

### **Summary of Fees and Expenses Payable by the Company**

The following table contains a summary of the fees and expenses payable by the Company. For further particulars, see “Fees and Expenses”.

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Fee payable to the Agents:</b>   | The Agents will receive a fee equal to \$0.30 (3.0%) for each Preferred Share and \$0.90 (6.0%) for each Class A Share sold.  |
| <b>Expenses of Issue:</b>           | The Company will pay the expenses incurred in connection with the Offering, which are estimated to be \$500,000.  |
| <b>Fees payable to the Manager:</b> | The Manager is entitled to an administration fee payable monthly in arrears at an annual rate equal to 0.1% of the Company’s Net Asset Value calculated as at the last valuation date in each month, plus an amount equal to the service fee (the “Service Fee”) payable to dealers.  |
| <b>Fees payable to Quadravest:</b>  | <p>Quadravest is entitled to a base management fee payable monthly in arrears at an annual rate equal to 0.65% of the Company’s Net Asset Value calculated as at the last valuation date in each month.</p> <p>Quadravest is also entitled to an annual performance fee per Unit equal to 20% of the amount by which the total return per Unit for a financial year exceeds 112% of the bonus threshold established for that year. No performance fee may be paid in any year if (i) the Net Asset Value per Unit is less than \$25.00, (ii) the Preferred Shares are rated by DBRS at less than Pfd-2 (or, if DBRS has not rated such shares, then the equivalent rating of another rating agency that has rated such shares shall apply), or (iii) the Company has not earned a total annual return per Unit of at least a base return on a cumulative basis since inception.</p> |
| <b>Operating expenses:</b>          | The Company will pay all ordinary expenses incurred in connection with the operation and administration of the Company, estimated to be \$300,000 per annum. The Company will also be responsible for commissions and other costs of portfolio transactions and any extraordinary expenses of the Company which may be incurred from time to time.  |
| <b>Service Fee:</b>                 | The Manager will pay the Service Fee to each dealer whose clients hold Class A Shares. The Service Fee will be calculated and paid at the end of each calendar quarter and will be equal to 0.50% annually of the value of the Class A Shares held by clients of the dealer. For these purposes, the value of a Class A Share is the Net Asset Value per Unit less \$10.00. No Service Fee will be paid in any calendar quarter if regular dividends are not paid to holders of Class A Shares in respect of each month in such calendar quarter.   |

## THE COMPANY

Financial 15 Split Corp. (the “Company”) is a mutual fund corporation incorporated under the *Business Corporations Act* (Ontario) on September 26, 2003. The principal office address of the Company is 77 King Street West, Suite 4500, Toronto, Ontario M5K 1K7. The website address of the Company is [www.financial15.com](http://www.financial15.com).

Although the Company is considered to be a mutual fund under the securities legislation of certain provinces of Canada, it has been exempted from certain requirements of National Instrument 81-102 Mutual Funds (“NI 81-102”), a policy statement or rule of the Canadian securities regulators governing public mutual funds.

## INVESTMENT INFORMATION

### Investment Objectives

The Company’s investment objectives with respect to the **Preferred Shares** are as follows:

- (a) to provide holders of the Preferred Shares with fixed cumulative preferential monthly cash dividends in the amount of \$0.04375 per Preferred Share to yield 5.25% per annum on the original issue price; and
- (b) on or about December 1, 2008 (the “Termination Date”), to pay holders of the Preferred Shares the original issue price of \$10.00 of those shares, through the redemption of each Preferred Share held on the Termination Date.

Based on current market conditions, dividends payable to holders of the Preferred Shares are expected to be funded entirely from dividends received on the shares in the Portfolio (as defined below).

The Company’s investment objectives with respect to the **Class A Shares** are as follows:

- (a) to provide holders of Class A Shares with regular monthly cash dividends initially targeted to be \$0.10 per Class A Share to yield 8.0% per annum on the original issue price; and
- (b) on or about the Termination Date, to pay holders of Class A Shares the original issue price of \$15.00 of those shares, through the redemption of each Class A Share held on the Termination Date.

Holders of the Class A Shares will also be entitled to receive, on the Termination Date, the balance, if any, of the value of the Portfolio (as defined below) remaining after returning the original issue price to the holders of the Preferred Shares and Class A Shares. Dividends on the Class A Shares are expected to be primarily funded from dividends received on the shares in the Portfolio (as defined below) and from cash realized by the Company from its covered call writing activities.

### Investment Strategy

The Company will invest the net proceeds of the Offering primarily in a portfolio of common shares (the “Portfolio”) which will include each of the 15 financial services companies listed below (collectively, the “Portfolio Companies”):

| <i>Canadian Issuers</i>                   |                                       | <i>U.S. Issuers</i>              |
|---|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Bank of Montreal</b>                   | <b>National Bank of Canada</b>        | <b>Bank of America Corp.</b>     |
| <b>The Bank of Nova Scotia</b>            | <b>Manulife Financial Corporation</b> | <b>Citigroup Inc.</b>            |
| <b>Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce</b> | <b>Sun Life Financial Services</b>    | <b>JP Morgan Chase &amp; Co.</b> |
| <b>Royal Bank of Canada</b>               | <b>of Canada Inc.</b>                 | <b>Bank One Corp.</b>            |
| <b>The Toronto-Dominion Bank</b>          | <b>Great-West Lifeco Inc.</b>         | <b>Wells Fargo &amp; Co.</b>     |
|   | <b>CI Fund Management Inc.</b>        |                                  |

The Company expects that common shares of a particular Portfolio Company will generally represent no less than 4% and no more than 8% of the net asset value (“Net Asset Value”) of the Company. The Portfolio will be rebalanced as necessary from time to time. Up to 15% of the Net Asset Value of the Company may be invested in equity securities of issuers other than the Portfolio Companies. The Company will limit its holdings

of U.S. issuers to ensure that its shares will not be foreign property for Canadian tax purposes. The Company may substitute Portfolio Companies in extraordinary circumstances. See “The Portfolio Companies”.

The Portfolio will be managed by the Company’s investment manager, Quadravest Capital Management Inc. (“Quadravest”). The Company may from time to time, based on Quadravest’s assessment of market conditions, liquidity considerations, the state of the Canadian and U.S. equities markets and economies, maintenance of the rating on the Preferred Shares and other considerations, hold short term debt instruments issued by the government of Canada or a province or short term commercial paper issued by Canadian corporations with a rating of at least R-1 (mid) by Dominion Bond Rating Service Limited (“DBRS”) or the equivalent from another rating organization selected by Quadravest (“Permitted Debt Securities”).

To supplement the dividends earned on the Portfolio and to reduce risk, the Company will from time to time write covered call options in respect of all or a part of the Portfolio. The Company may also use derivatives for hedging purposes as permitted under NI 81-102. The common shares that are the subject of call options and the terms of such options will vary from time to time as determined by Quadravest.

### **Investment Criteria**

The Company is subject to certain investment criteria that, among other things, limit the common shares and other securities the Company may acquire. The Company’s investment criteria may not be changed without the approval of the holders of the Preferred Shares and the Class A Shares by a two-thirds majority vote at a meeting called for such purpose. See “Shareholder Matters — Acts Requiring Shareholder Approval”. The Company’s investment criteria provide that the Company may not:

- (a) purchase equity securities of an issuer unless:
  - (i) such securities are common shares issued by a Portfolio Company or are securities convertible into or exchangeable for or that carry the right to purchase such common shares, or the purchase is permitted under clause (ii) below,
  - (ii) after such purchase, no more than 15% of the Net Asset Value of the Company is invested in equity securities of issuers other than the Portfolio Companies, and
  - (iii) after such purchase, no more than 10% of the Net Asset Value of the Company is invested in the equity securities of that issuer;
- (b) acquire or continue to hold any security that is foreign property under Part XI of the *Income Tax Act* (Canada) (the “Tax Act”) if the cost amount to the Company of all foreign property held by the Company would exceed 30% of the cost amount to the Company of all of its property (or such other amount as is specified under the Tax Act and the Regulations thereunder from time to time);
- (c) purchase debt securities unless such securities are Permitted Debt Securities;
- (d) write a call option in respect of any security unless such security is held by the Company at the time the option is written;
- (e) dispose of a security included in the Portfolio that is subject to a call option written by the Company unless that option has either been terminated or has expired; and
- (f) enter into any arrangement (including the acquisition of securities for the Portfolio and the writing of covered call options in respect thereof) where the main reason for entering into the arrangement is to enable the Company to receive a dividend on such securities in circumstances where, under the arrangement, someone other than the Company bears the risk of loss or enjoys the opportunity for gain or profit with respect to such securities in any material respect.

The Company has also adopted the standard investment restrictions and practices set forth in NI 81-102 to the extent such restrictions and practices are not inconsistent with the foregoing (in which event the foregoing provisions shall prevail).

## THE PORTFOLIO COMPANIES

### Composition

The Company will invest the net proceeds of the Offering primarily in shares of the Portfolio Companies listed above under “Investment Information — Investment Strategy” and may invest up to 15% of the Net Asset Value of the Company in equity securities of issuers other than the Portfolio Companies. The Company will limit its holdings of U.S. issuers to ensure that its shares will not be foreign property for Canadian tax purposes.

### Changes in Composition

Quadravest may change the composition of the Portfolio Companies to respond to mergers, take-over bids, going private transactions, changes in business focus away from the financial services industry, changes in financial condition or other actions affecting the Portfolio Companies as described below. All companies included in the list of Portfolio Companies from time to time will primarily operate in the financial services industry. The approval of holders of the Preferred Shares and Class A Shares is not required for a change in the composition of the Portfolio Companies. The Company shall issue a press release in the event any changes are made by Quadravest to the companies included in the list of Portfolio Companies.

If any Portfolio Company whose shares are held by the Company from time to time makes a special distribution to its securityholders, is a party to or affected by any reorganization, amalgamation, plan of arrangement, securities exchange take-over bid, merger or sale of material assets or any other business combination (a “Business Combination”) or a cash take-over bid is made for the securities of such Portfolio Company, Quadravest on behalf of the Company may take such action as it considers in the best interests of the Company. In taking such action, Quadravest shall consider the guidelines outlined below, provided that such guidelines shall not limit the general discretion conferred upon it with respect to any Portfolio Company.

Upon any subdivision, consolidation, reclassification or other similar change to any of securities in the Portfolio (a “Reclassification”), the securities received in respect of such securities as a result of the Reclassification will, together with any residual, be treated as part of the Portfolio for all purposes relating to the Preferred Shares and the Class A Shares including the prices payable on redemption and retraction of the Preferred Shares and the Class A Shares.

Upon any distribution (an “extraordinary distribution”) by a Portfolio Company in respect of securities in the Portfolio, other than a cash dividend or a stock dividend paid in the ordinary course by a Portfolio Company, such extraordinary distribution will, together with the securities in the Portfolio in respect of which the extraordinary distribution was made, be treated in the same manner as securities received upon a Reclassification. Any other securities or property received by the Company will either be sold, in which case the Company shall use the net proceeds to acquire additional securities for the Portfolio as may be determined by Quadravest, or may be held by the Company.

Upon the implementation of any Business Combination affecting a Portfolio Company, or to which a Portfolio Company is a party, the securities of a Portfolio Company or any successor thereto received in respect of securities in the Portfolio will, together with any residual, be treated in the same manner as securities received as a result of a Reclassification and any other securities, property or cash received in respect of securities in the Portfolio will be treated in the same manner as securities, property or cash received upon any extraordinary distribution by a Portfolio Company in respect of the Portfolio securities.

Any transferable rights issued to the Company pursuant to a rights offering by a Portfolio Company may be exercised or may be sold and the net proceeds of such sale used to purchase additional common shares of one or more Portfolio Companies which will, together with the securities in respect of which such rights were received, be treated in the same manner as securities received as the result of a Reclassification.

In the event of a take-over bid for any of the shares in the Portfolio, Quadravest will, if it determines that such bid is in the best interests of shareholders, tender such shares to such bid.

## Voting Rights in Portfolio Company Securities

Holders of Preferred Shares or Class A Shares will not have any voting rights in respect of the shares of the Portfolio Companies held in the Portfolio. Quadravest will determine whether and how to vote the shares in the Portfolio from time to time.

## Trading History of the Shares of the Portfolio Companies

The following table sets forth the closing market prices of the common shares of the Portfolio Companies in Canadian dollars on the Toronto Stock Exchange (the "TSX") in respect of the Canadian issuers and in U.S. dollars on the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") in respect of the U.S. issuers on the dates indicated below:

|  | Closing Price<br>September 15,<br>2003 | Closing Price as at December 31 <sup>(1)</sup> |         |         |                    |                    |
|--|--|--|---------|---------|--------------------|--------------------|
|  |  | 2002 <sup>(2)</sup>                            | 2001    | 2000    | 1999               | 1998               |
| <b>Canadian Issuers</b>                            |  |  |         |         |                    |                    |
| Bank of Montreal . . . . .                         | \$46.15                                | \$41.69  | \$35.90 | \$39.30 | \$24.65            | \$30.85            |
| The Bank of Nova Scotia . . . . .                  | \$61.60                                | \$52.66  | \$48.96 | \$43.20 | \$31.05            | \$33.75            |
| Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce . . . . .       | \$56.05                                | \$43.52  | \$54.85 | \$46.50 | \$34.50            | \$38.00            |
| Royal Bank of Canada . . . . .                     | \$59.70                                | \$57.85  | \$51.83 | \$50.85 | \$31.75            | \$38.28            |
| The Toronto-Dominion Bank . . . . .                | \$38.78                                | \$34.01  | \$41.08 | \$43.45 | \$38.75            | \$26.90            |
| National Bank of Canada . . . . .                  | \$35.50                                | \$32.30  | \$29.70 | \$26.60 | \$18.50            | \$24.80            |
| Great-West Lifeco Inc. . . . .                     | \$41.15                                | \$37.25  | \$34.30 | \$37.15 | \$23.35            | \$26.00            |
| Manulife Financial Corporation . . . . .           | \$42.57                                | \$34.39  | \$41.60 | \$46.95 | \$18.45            | n/a <sup>(3)</sup> |
| Sun Life Financial Services of Canada Inc. . . . . | \$30.50                                | \$26.71  | \$33.95 | \$40.00 | n/a <sup>(4)</sup> | n/a                |
| CI Fund Management Inc. . . . .                    | \$14.14                                | \$10.00  | \$11.89 | \$16.45 | \$ 7.63            | \$ 3.50            |
| <b>U.S. Issuers</b>                                |  |  |         |         |                    |                    |
| Bank of America Corp. . . . .                      | \$77.00                                | \$69.57  | \$62.95 | \$45.88 | \$50.18            | \$60.13            |
| Citigroup Inc. . . . .                             | \$44.16                                | \$35.19  | \$47.08 | \$47.62 | \$38.95            | \$23.17            |
| JP Morgan Chase & Co. . . . .                      | \$33.97                                | \$24.00  | \$36.35 | \$45.44 | \$51.79            | \$47.33            |
| Bank One Corp. . . . .                             | \$38.50                                | \$36.55  | \$39.05 | \$36.62 | \$32.00            | \$51.06            |
| Wells Fargo & Co. . . . .                          | \$50.04                                | \$46.87  | \$43.47 | \$55.69 | \$40.44            | \$39.94            |

(1) Share prices are adjusted for stock splits.

(2) Last date of trading for 2002 was December 29, 2002.

(3) Issued in September 1999 at \$18.00.

(4) Issued in March 2000 at \$12.50.

## Dividend History of the Shares of the Portfolio Companies

The following table sets forth the dividend history of the common shares of the Portfolio Companies in Canadian dollars in respect of the Canadian issuers and in U.S. dollars in respect of the U.S. issuers on the dates indicated below:

|  | Dividends for the Year Ended December 31 <sup>(1)</sup> |        |        |                    |                    |
|--|---|--------|--------|--------------------|--------------------|
|  | 2002  | 2001   | 2000   | 1999               | 1998               |
| <b>Canadian Issuers</b>                            |   |        |        |                    |                    |
| Bank of Montreal . . . . .                         | \$1.20  | \$1.12 | \$1.00 | \$0.94             | \$0.88             |
| The Bank of Nova Scotia . . . . .                  | \$1.45  | \$1.24 | \$1.00 | \$0.87             | \$0.80             |
| Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce . . . . .       | \$1.60  | \$1.44 | \$1.29 | \$1.20             | \$1.20             |
| Royal Bank of Canada . . . . .                     | \$1.52  | \$1.38 | \$1.14 | \$0.94             | \$0.88             |
| The Toronto-Dominion Bank . . . . .                | \$1.12  | \$1.09 | \$0.92 | \$0.72             | \$0.66             |
| National Bank of Canada . . . . .                  | \$0.98  | \$0.84 | \$0.76 | \$0.70             | \$0.68             |
| Great-West Lifeco Inc. . . . .                     | \$0.95  | \$0.78 | \$0.65 | \$0.53             | \$0.44             |
| Manulife Financial Corporation . . . . .           | \$0.60  | \$0.48 | \$0.40 | n/a                | n/a <sup>(2)</sup> |
| Sun Life Financial Services of Canada Inc. . . . . | \$0.56  | \$0.48 | \$0.12 | n/a <sup>(3)</sup> | n/a                |
| CI Fund Management Inc. . . . .                    | \$0.24  | \$0.04 | \$0.03 | \$0.02             | \$0.02             |

**Dividends for the Year Ended December 31<sup>(1)</sup>**

|                               | <u>2002</u> | <u>2001</u> | <u>2000</u> | <u>1999</u> | <u>1998</u> |
|-------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| <b>U.S. Issuers</b>           |             |             |             |             |             |
| Bank of America Corp. . . . . | \$2.44      | \$2.28      | \$2.06      | \$1.85      | \$1.59      |
| Citigroup Inc. . . . .        | \$0.70      | \$0.60      | \$0.52      | \$0.41      | \$0.28      |
| JP Morgan Chase & Co. . . . . | \$1.36      | \$1.34      | \$1.23      | \$1.06      | \$0.93      |
| Bank One Corp. . . . .        | \$0.84      | \$0.84      | \$1.26      | \$1.68      | \$1.52      |
| Wells Fargo & Co. . . . .     | \$1.10      | \$1.00      | \$0.90      | \$0.79      | \$0.70      |

- (1) Dividends are adjusted for stock splits, but do not include extraordinary distributions.  
(2) Dividends were not reported until 1999 as shares were not publicly traded until such time.  
(3) Dividends were not reported until 2000 as shares were not publicly traded until such time.

**Summary of the Shares of the Portfolio Companies**

The following table sets forth a summary of the recent closing market prices, annual dividends, dividend yield and average annual total return of the common shares of the Portfolio Companies in Canadian dollars on the TSX in respect of the Canadian issuers and in U.S. dollars on the NYSE in respect of the U.S. issuers:

|  | <u>Closing Price<sup>(1)</sup></u> | <u>Annual Dividend<sup>(2)</sup></u> | <u>Dividend Yield</u> | <u>Average Annual Total Return<sup>(3)</sup></u> |
|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| <b>Canadian Issuers</b>                            |                                    |                                      |                       |  |
| Bank of Montreal . . . . .                         | \$46.15                            | \$1.40                               | 3.03%                 | 13.7%  |
| The Bank of Nova Scotia . . . . .                  | \$61.60                            | \$1.76                               | 2.86%                 | 23.4%  |
| Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce . . . . .       | \$56.05                            | \$1.64                               | 2.93%                 | 17.8%  |
| Royal Bank of Canada . . . . .                     | \$59.70                            | \$1.84                               | 3.08%                 | 17.4%  |
| The Toronto-Dominion Bank . . . . .                | \$38.78                            | \$1.28                               | 3.30%                 | 14.4%  |
| National Bank of Canada . . . . .                  | \$35.50                            | \$1.12                               | 3.15%                 | 16.1%  |
| Great-West Lifeco Inc. . . . .                     | \$41.15                            | \$1.17                               | 2.84%                 | 16.2%  |
| Manulife Financial Corporation . . . . .           | \$42.57                            | \$0.84                               | 1.97%                 | 26.2% <sup>(4)</sup>                             |
| Sun Life Financial Services of Canada Inc. . . . . | \$30.50                            | \$0.68                               | 2.23%                 | 26.9% <sup>(5)</sup>                             |
| CI Fund Management Inc. . . . .                    | \$14.14                            | \$0.40                               | 2.83%                 | 40.3%  |
| <b>U.S. Issuers</b>                                |                                    |                                      |                       |  |
| Bank of America Corp. . . . .                      | \$77.00                            | \$3.20                               | 4.16%                 | 9.70%  |
| Citigroup Inc. . . . .                             | \$44.16                            | \$1.40                               | 3.17%                 | 20.60%   |
| JP Morgan Chase & Co. . . . .                      | \$33.97                            | \$1.36                               | 4.00%                 | 6.20%  |
| Bank One Corp. . . . .                             | \$38.50                            | \$1.00                               | 2.60%                 | -0.30%   |
| Wells Fargo & Co. . . . .                          | \$50.04                            | \$1.80                               | 3.60%                 | 8.80%  |

- (1) As of September 15, 2003.  
(2) Based on the last declared quarterly dividend per share annualized.  
(3) From September 17, 1998 to September 17, 2003, except where indicated otherwise.  
(4) From September 24, 1999 to September 17, 2003.  
(5) From March 23, 2000 to September 17, 2003.

## COVERED CALL OPTION WRITING

### General

A call option is a right, but not an obligation, of the holder of the call option to purchase a security from the seller of the call option at a specified purchase or “strike” price at any time during a specified time period. The Company intends to write call options in respect of certain of the securities held in the Portfolio. The call options may be either exchange traded options or over-the-counter options. As call options will be written only in respect of securities that are in the Portfolio, and the investment criteria of the Company prohibit the sale of securities subject to an outstanding option, the options will be “covered call options” at all times.

By writing call options, the Company will receive option premiums, which are generally paid within one business day of the writing of the option. If at any time during the term of a call option the market price of the underlying securities in the Portfolio is above the strike price, such that the call option is “in-the-money”, the holder of the option may exercise the option and the Company will be obligated to sell the securities to the holder at the strike price per security. Alternatively, the Company may repurchase a call option which is in-the-money by paying the market value of the call option. However, if at expiration of a call option the strike price is greater than the current market price of the underlying security such that the option is “out-of-the-money”, the holder of the option will likely not exercise the option and the option will expire. In each case, the Company will retain the option premium.

The amount of an option premium depends, among other factors, upon the tendency of the price of the underlying security to vary over time (the “volatility”). The higher the volatility, the higher the option premium. In addition, the amount of the option premium will depend upon the difference between the strike price of the option and the market price of the underlying security at the time the option is written. The smaller the positive difference (or the larger the negative difference), the more likely the option will become in-the-money during the term and, accordingly, the greater the option premium.

If a call option is written on a security held in the Portfolio, the amounts that the Company will be able to realize on the security during the term of the call option will be limited to the dividends received during such period plus an amount equal to the sum of the strike price and the premium received from writing the option. In essence, the Company will forego potential returns resulting from any price appreciation of the security underlying the option above the strike price in favour of the certainty of receiving the option premium.

### Option Pricing

Many investors and financial market professionals price call options based on the Black-Scholes Model, a widely used option pricing model. In practice, however, actual option premiums are determined in the marketplace and there can be no assurance that the values generated by the Black-Scholes Model can be attained in the market. Under the Black-Scholes Model (modified to include dividends), the primary factors which affect the option premium received by the seller of a call option are the following:

*The volatility of the price of the underlying security:* the volatility of the price of an underlying security measures the tendency of the price of the security to vary during a specified period. The higher the price volatility, the more likely the price of that security will fluctuate (either positively or negatively) and the greater the option premium. Price volatility is generally measured in percentage terms on an annualized basis, based on price changes during a period of time immediately prior to or “trailing” the date of calculation.

*The difference between the strike price and the market price of the underlying security at the time the option is written:* the smaller the positive difference (or the larger the negative difference), the greater the option premium.

*The term of the option:* the longer the term, the greater the option premium.

*The “risk-free” or benchmark interest rate in the market in which the option is issued:* the higher the risk-free interest rate, the greater the option premium.

*The dividends expected to be paid on the underlying security during the relevant term: the greater the dividends, the lower the option premium.*

The table below illustrates the sensitivity of annualized option premiums from writing call options on a hypothetical portfolio of securities to the average volatility of the individual securities comprising the hypothetical portfolio and to the excess of the strike price over the market price of the underlying securities expressed as a percentage of such market price at the time the options on the securities in the hypothetical portfolio are written (or percentage out-of-the-money). The option premiums are expressed as a percentage of the asset value of the portfolio and have been calculated using a Black-Scholes Model (modified to include dividends) based on the following assumptions:

1. all call options are exercisable at any time during their term and are written at the same percentage out-of-the-money;
2. all securities in the portfolio on which call options may be written are subject to 30 day call options throughout the relevant period (note that this assumption is for illustrative purposes only and is not indicative of the extent to which covered call options will or are intended to be written by the Company);
3. the risk-free or benchmark interest rate is 2.50%; and
4. the average return from the dividends paid on the securities in the portfolio is 3.00% (after the payment of U.S. withholding taxes).

The range of percentage out-of-the-money shown in the table below is based on the range generally expected to be utilized by Quadravest in writing call options.

**Annualized Premiums from Covered Call Option Writing  
(measured as a % return)**

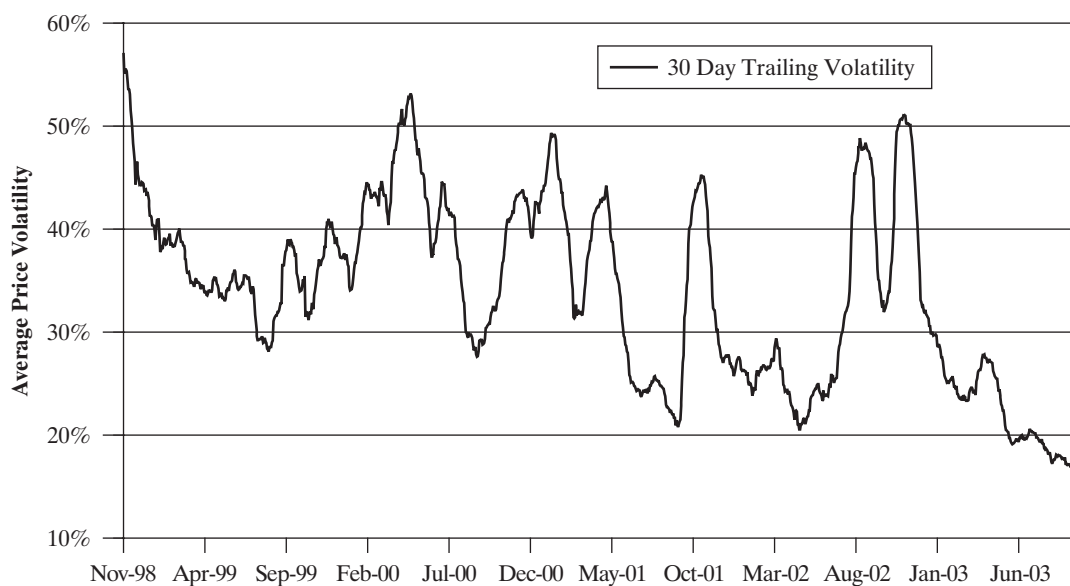
| % Out-Of-the-Money | Average Volatility of the Individual Securities in the Portfolio |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
|--------------------|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
|                    | 12%  | 14%   | 16%   | 18%   | 20%   | 22%   | 24%   | 26%   | 28%   |
| 4% .....           | 2.6%   | 4.2%  | 6.0%  | 8.0%  | 10.2% | 12.4% | 14.7% | 17.1% | 19.6% |
| 2% .....           | 7.2%   | 9.5%  | 12.0% | 14.6% | 17.1% | 19.8% | 22.4% | 25.0% | 27.7% |
| 0% .....           | 16.2%  | 18.9% | 21.7% | 24.4% | 27.1% | 29.9% | 32.6% | 35.4% | 38.1% |

**The information set forth above is provided for illustrative purposes only and should not be construed as a forecast or projection. In practice, actual option premiums are determined in the marketplace and may not necessarily reflect the figures shown in this table. No assurance can be given that the returns shown in this sensitivity analysis will be realized.**

## Volatility History

Illustrated below is the historical average of the trailing 30 day volatility (expressed in percentage terms on an annualized basis) of the shares of the Portfolio Companies based on prices from September 21, 1998 to September 22, 2003.

**Average Price Volatility of the Portfolio Company Securities**



For the same five year period, the average volatility of the individual securities of the Portfolio Companies ranged from a low of 15.4% to a high of 57.2%, with an average of 33.7%.

## Dividend Coverage Ratio — Preferred Shares

A dividend coverage ratio for Preferred Shares is the ratio of the income of the Company available for the payment of dividends on the Preferred Shares to the amount of the dividends required to be paid. The higher the ratio, the more likely it is that the Company will have sufficient income available to pay the dividends. **Based on current market conditions, dividends payable to holders of the Preferred Shares are expected to be funded entirely from dividends received on the shares in the Portfolio.** In addition, if required, the Company will enhance its income by selectively writing covered call options. The chart below provides estimated dividend coverage ratios for the annual dividend requirements on the Preferred Shares, based on the assumptions set out under “— Option Pricing” and the following additional assumptions:

1. the gross proceeds from the Offering are \$150,000,000, which is fully invested on an equally weighted basis in each of the shares of the Portfolio Companies;
2. an equal number of Preferred Shares and Class A Shares are issued;
3. the range of volatility shown in the table encompasses the range of the historical average volatility of the shares of the Portfolio Companies;
4. there are no changes in the value of the U.S. dollar relative to the Canadian dollar throughout the relevant period (note that this assumption is for illustrative purposes only and the Company expects that such currency fluctuations will occur and may have a positive or negative effect on the value of the Portfolio);
5. there are no capital gains or losses on the shares in the Portfolio for the period during which the call options are outstanding (note that this assumption is for illustrative purposes only and the Company

expects that there will be capital gains and losses which may have a positive or negative effect on the value of the Portfolio);

6. annual expenses of the Company (ordinary and extraordinary) are \$300,000 plus the fees payable to Quadravest and the Manager (as defined below) and the service fee payable to dealers described under “Fees and Expenses”; and
7. the holders of the Preferred Shares are entitled to a monthly dividend of \$0.04375 per share (to yield 5.25% per annum on the original issue price).

The range of percentage out-of-the-money shown in the table below is based on the range generally expected to be utilized by Quadravest in writing call options.

#### **Dividend Coverage Ratios for the Preferred Shares**

| % Out-Of-The-Money | Average Volatility of the Individual Securities in the Portfolio |      |      |       |       |       |       |       |       |
|--------------------|--|------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
|                    | 12%  | 14%  | 16%  | 18%   | 20%   | 22%   | 24%   | 26%   | 28%   |
| 4% . . . . .       | 2.0x   | 2.7x | 3.5x | 4.4x  | 5.4x  | 6.3x  | 7.1x  | 8.0x  | 8.8x  |
| 2% . . . . .       | 4.0x   | 5.1x | 6.1x | 7.0x  | 8.0x  | 8.9x  | 9.9x  | 10.8x | 11.8x |
| 0% . . . . .       | 7.6x   | 8.6x | 9.6x | 10.6x | 11.6x | 12.6x | 13.6x | 14.5x | 15.5x |

**The information set forth above is provided for illustrative purposes only and should not be construed as a forecast or projection. No assurance can be given that the returns from call option writing upon which the estimated net income of the Company has been based will be realized.**

#### **Sensitivity Analysis — Class A Shares**

The table below represents an assessment of the sensitivity of the net return to holders of the Class A Shares from dividends and option premiums of the Company (excluding any gains or losses on Portfolio investments, dividend increases or decreases and any amounts paid to close out in-the-money options) to (i) the average volatility of the individual securities that could be included in the Portfolio; and (ii) the excess of the strike price over the market price of the securities expressed as a percentage of such market price at the time the option is written (or percentage out-of-the-money) using a modified Black-Scholes Model. The table is based on the same assumptions set forth above under “— Dividend Coverage Ratio — Preferred Shares”.

The range of percentage out-of-the-money shown in the table below is based on the range generally expected to be utilized by Quadravest in writing call options.

#### **Return (Net of Expenses) on Class A Shares from Dividends and Option Premiums (Annualized %)**

| % Out-Of-The-Money | Average Volatility of the Individual Securities in the Portfolio |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
|--------------------|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
|                    | 12%  | 14%   | 16%   | 18%   | 20%   | 22%   | 24%   | 26%   | 28%   |
| 4% . . . . .       | 3.4%   | 5.9%  | 8.7%  | 11.9% | 15.3% | 18.4% | 21.3% | 24.4% | 27.5% |
| 2% . . . . .       | 10.6%  | 14.3% | 17.9% | 21.1% | 24.4% | 27.7% | 31.0% | 34.4% | 37.8% |
| 0% . . . . .       | 23.2%  | 26.6% | 30.1% | 33.6% | 37.0% | 40.5% | 44.0% | 47.4% | 50.9% |

**The information in the table is provided for illustrative purposes only and should not be construed as a forecast or projection. No assurance can be given that the returns shown in this sensitivity analysis will ever be available or realized.**

## MANAGEMENT OF THE COMPANY

### Directors and Officers of the Company

The following are the names, municipalities of residence, office and principal occupations of the directors and officers of the Company.

| <u>Name and Municipality of Residence</u>                      | <u>Office</u>                                      | <u>Principal Occupation</u>  |
|--|--|--|
| S. Wayne Finch <sup>(1)</sup> . . . . .<br>Brampton, Ontario   | President, Chief Executive Officer<br>and Director | Chief Executive and Chief<br>Investment Officer, Quadravest<br>Capital Management Inc. |
| Laura L. Johnson . . . . .<br>Mississauga, Ontario             | Secretary and Director                             | Portfolio Manager, Quadravest<br>Capital Management Inc.                               |
| Peter F. Cruickshank . . . . .<br>Brampton, Ontario            | Chief Financial Officer and<br>Director            | Chief Financial Officer,<br>Quadravest Capital<br>Management Inc.                      |
| William C. Thornhill . . . . .<br>Mississauga, Ontario         | Director   | Consultant   |
| Michael W. Sharp <sup>(1)</sup> . . . . .<br>Toronto, Ontario  | Director   | Partner, Blake, Cassels &<br>Graydon LLP   |
| John D. Steep <sup>(1)</sup> . . . . .<br>Scarborough, Ontario | Director   | Retired Executive <sup>(2)</sup>   |

(1) Member of the Audit Committee.

(2) Mr. Steep was Senior Vice President Retail Sales & Service with TD Bank between October, 1999 and April, 2002 and was Senior Vice President Metro Toronto Region with Canada Trust from 1995 until October, 1999.

All of the directors and officers of the Company have held the same principal occupation for the five years preceding the date hereof, except as indicated in the notes above and under “— The Investment Manager” below.

### The Manager

Pursuant to an agreement between the Company and Quadravest Inc. dated October 29, 2003 (the “Management Agreement”), Quadravest Inc. (the “Manager”) is the manager of the Company and, as such, is responsible for providing or arranging for administrative services required by the Company including, without limitation, authorizing the payment of operating expenses incurred on behalf of the Company; preparing financial statements and financial and accounting information as required by the Company; ensuring that shareholders are provided with financial statements (including semi-annual and annual financial statements) and other reports as are from time to time required by applicable law; ensuring that the Company complies with regulatory requirements and applicable stock exchange listing requirements; preparing the Company’s reports to shareholders and the Canadian securities regulatory authorities; determining the amount of dividends to be paid by the Company; and negotiating contractual agreements with third-party providers of services, including registrars, transfer agents, auditors and printers.

The Manager is required to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of its office honestly, in good faith and in the best interests of shareholders, and in connection therewith, to exercise the degree of care, diligence and skill that a reasonably prudent manager would exercise in similar circumstances.

The Manager may resign upon 60 days notice to shareholders and the Company or such lesser notice as the Company may accept. If the Manager resigns it may appoint its successor, but its successor must be approved by shareholders unless it is an affiliate of the Manager. If the Manager commits certain events of bankruptcy or insolvency or is in material breach or default of its obligations under the Management Agreement and such breach or default has not been cured within 30 days after notice of same has been given to the Manager, the

Company shall give notice thereof to shareholders and the shareholders may remove the Manager and appoint a successor manager. Except as described above, the Manager cannot be terminated as manager of the Company.

The Manager is entitled to fees for its services under the Management Agreement as described under “Fees and Expenses” and will be reimbursed for all reasonable costs and expenses incurred by it on behalf of the Company. In addition, the Manager and each of its directors, officers, employees and agents will be indemnified by the Company from and against all legal fees, judgments and amounts paid in settlement, actually and reasonably incurred by the Manager or any of its officers, directors, employees or agents in the exercise of its duties as manager, unless those fees, judgments or amounts paid in settlement were incurred as a result of a breach by the Manager of the standard of care described above and provided the Company has reasonable grounds to believe that the action or inaction that caused the payment of the fee, judgment or amount paid in settlement was in the best interests of the Company.

The management services of the Manager under the Management Agreement are not exclusive and nothing in the Management Agreement prevents the Manager from providing similar management services to other investment funds and other clients (whether or not their investment objectives and policies are similar to those of the Company) or from engaging in other activities. For a list of the directors and officers of the Manager, see “— The Investment Manager”.

The principal office address of the Manager is 77 King Street West, Suite 4500, Toronto, Ontario M5K 1K7. The Manager is controlled by S. Wayne Finch.

### **The Investment Manager**

Quadravest will manage the Company’s investment portfolio in a manner consistent with the investment objectives, strategy and criteria of the Company pursuant to an agreement (the “Investment Management Agreement”) between the Company and Quadravest dated October 29, 2003. Investment assets are generally managed by Quadravest to meet specific absolute return objectives rather than taking on the additional risk of targeting relative returns. As a result of the dual focus of absolute returns and capital preservation, Quadravest is able to adopt a more defensive approach in implementing its investment strategies than would be the case if it focussed on relative returns. Quadravest relies on fundamental analysis in managing equity portfolios, such that it focuses on a company’s earnings history, relative price-earnings multiple, cash flow, dividend yield, market position and growth prospects.

The principal office address of Quadravest is 77 King Street West, Suite 4500, Toronto, Ontario M5K 1K7, and its website address is [www.quadravest.com](http://www.quadravest.com). The Manager owns all of the voting shares of Quadravest.

#### *Directors and Officers of Quadravest*

The name and municipality of residence of each of the directors and officers of Quadravest, who also hold similar positions with the Manager, are as set out below.

| <u>Name and Municipality of Residence</u>              | <u>Office</u>  |
|--|--|
| S. Wayne Finch . . . . .<br>Brampton, Ontario          | Chairman, President, Secretary, Chief Executive Officer, Chief Investment Officer and Director |
| Laura L. Johnson . . . . .<br>Mississauga, Ontario     | Portfolio Manager and Managing Director  |
| Peter F. Cruickshank . . . . .<br>Brampton, Ontario    | Chief Financial Officer and Managing Director  |
| William C. Thornhill . . . . .<br>Mississauga, Ontario | Vice-Chairman and Director   |

Wayne Finch is the Chairman and Chief Investment Officer of Quadravest. Mr. Finch has over 20 years of experience in designing and managing investment portfolios. Prior to forming Quadravest in 1997, Mr. Finch was Vice-President at Mulvihill Capital Management Inc. (“Mulvihill”) where he was a portfolio manager of a

number of publicly traded investment vehicles employing investment strategies similar to those proposed by the Company. Mr. Finch was also the portfolio manager for the Canada Trust Everest Dividend Fund from 1994 to 1996. Prior to joining Mulvihill, Mr. Finch was a portfolio manager in the Treasury operations of The Canada Trust Company (“Canada Trust”) where he managed a number of common and preferred share portfolios.

Laura L. Johnson is a Portfolio Manager and Managing Director of Quadravest. Ms. Johnson has over 11 years of experience in the financial services industry including extensive experience with investment products employing investment strategies similar to those proposed by the Company. Prior to forming Quadravest with Mr. Finch, Ms. Johnson was employed in the Structured Finance area at Mulvihill where she worked extensively on investment products employing investment strategies similar to those proposed by the Company. Prior to that, Ms. Johnson held a number of equity and fixed income positions at Mulvihill and its predecessor company, CT Investment Counsel Inc.

Peter F. Cruickshank is the Chief Financial Officer and Managing Director of Quadravest. Mr. Cruickshank is a chartered accountant who has spent the last 18 years of his career in the investment industry. From 1986 to 1999, when he joined Quadravest, he was a director and the chief financial officer of Jones Heward Investment Management Inc.

William C. Thornhill is Vice-Chairman of Quadravest. Prior to joining Quadravest, Mr. Thornhill held a number of senior positions at Canada Trust including Executive Vice-President, Products, Senior Vice-President, Finance, and Vice-President, Treasury and Corporate Investments. Mr. Thornhill has spent over 30 years in the financial services business and has extensive experience in all of its facets including product development, investment management, risk management and mutual funds.

#### *Investment Management Agreement*

The services to be provided by Quadravest pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement will include the making of all investment decisions for the Company and managing the Company’s call option writing, all in accordance with the investment objectives, strategy and criteria of the Company. Decisions as to the purchase and sale of securities comprising the Portfolio and as to the execution of all portfolio and other transactions will be made by Quadravest. In the purchase and sale of securities for the Company and the writing of option contracts, Quadravest will seek to obtain overall services and prompt execution of orders on favourable terms.

Under the Investment Management Agreement, Quadravest is required to act at all times on a basis which is fair and reasonable to the Company, to act honestly and in good faith with a view to the best interests of the shareholders of the Company and, in connection therewith, to exercise the degree of care, diligence and skill that a reasonably prudent portfolio manager would exercise in comparable circumstances. The Investment Management Agreement provides that Quadravest will not be liable in any way for any default, failure or defect in or diminution in the value of any of the securities in the Portfolio if it has satisfied the standard of care, diligence and skill set forth above. Quadravest will incur liability for any breach of this standard of care.

The Investment Management Agreement, unless terminated as described below, will continue in effect until the final redemption of the Preferred Shares and Class A Shares on December 1, 2008 or such later date as the shareholders may approve. The Company may terminate the Investment Management Agreement if Quadravest has committed certain events of bankruptcy or insolvency or is in material breach or default of the provisions of the agreement and such breach has not been cured within 30 days after notice of the breach has been given to Quadravest. Otherwise, Quadravest cannot be terminated as investment manager of the Company.

Except as set out below, Quadravest may not terminate the Investment Management Agreement or assign the same except to an affiliate of Quadravest, without shareholder approval. Quadravest may terminate the Investment Management Agreement if the Company is in material breach or default of the provisions thereof and such breach or default has not been cured within 30 days of notice of the breach or default to the Company or if there is a material change in the fundamental investment objectives, strategy or criteria of the Company.

If the Investment Management Agreement is terminated, the Board of Directors of the Company will promptly appoint a successor investment manager to carry out the activities of Quadravest until a meeting of shareholders of the Company is held to confirm such appointment.

Quadravest is entitled to fees for its services under the Investment Management Agreement as described under “Fees and Expenses” and will be reimbursed for all reasonable costs and expenses incurred by it on behalf of the Company. In addition, Quadravest and each of its directors, officers, employees and agents will be indemnified by the Company from and against all legal fees, judgments and amounts paid in settlement, actually and reasonably incurred by Quadravest or any of its officers, directors, employees or agents in the exercise of its duties as investment manager, unless those fees, judgments or amounts paid in settlement were incurred as a result of a breach by Quadravest of the standard of care described above and provided the Company has reasonable grounds to believe that the action or inaction that caused the payment of the fee, judgment or amount paid in settlement was in the best interests of the Company.

### *Conflicts of Interest*

Quadravest is engaged in a variety of investment management, investment advisory and other business activities. The services of Quadravest under the Investment Management Agreement are not exclusive and nothing in the Investment Management Agreement prevents Quadravest or any of its affiliates from providing similar services to other investment funds and other clients (whether or not their investment objectives, strategies and policies are similar to those of the Company) or from engaging in other activities. Quadravest’s investment decisions for the Company will be made independently of those made for its other clients and independently of its own investments. However, on occasion, Quadravest may make the same investment for the Company and for one or more of its other clients. If the Company and one or more of the other clients of Quadravest are engaged in the purchase or sale of the same security, the transactions will be effected on an equitable basis.

## **DESCRIPTION OF SHARE CAPITAL**

The Company is authorized to issue an unlimited number of Preferred Shares, Class A Shares and Class B Shares of which, before giving effect to the offering of Preferred Shares and Class A Shares under this prospectus, there are issued and outstanding 1,000 Class B Shares. The attributes of the Preferred Shares and Class A Shares are described under “Details of the Offering”.

The holders of Class B Shares are not entitled to receive dividends. The holders of the Class B Shares will be entitled to one vote per share. The Class B Shares are retractable at a price of \$1.00 per share and have a liquidation entitlement of \$1.00 per share. The Class B Shares rank subsequent to the Preferred Shares and prior to the Class A Shares with respect to such nominal liquidation entitlement on the dissolution, liquidation or winding-up of the Company. Quadravest owns all of the issued and outstanding Class B Shares of the Company. See “Principal Shareholder”.

The Company has no current intention of issuing additional Preferred Shares or Class A Shares following completion of the Offering, but is not precluded from doing so in the future. The Company will not issue additional Class B Shares.

## **DETAILS OF THE OFFERING**

### **Valuation of Assets**

The Net Asset Value of the Company will be calculated by The Royal Trust Company (the “Custodian”) as of each Retraction Date (as defined below) and as of the fifteenth day of each month (each, a “Valuation Date”) by subtracting the aggregate amount of the Company’s liabilities from its total assets, which are valued as follows:

- (a) the value of any security which is listed or traded upon a stock exchange is determined by taking the latest available sale price at the time the Net Asset Value is being calculated, or lacking such price, the simple average of the latest available offer price and the latest available bid price on the Valuation Date, all as reported by any means in common use, provided that if such stock exchange is not open for trading on that date, then on the last previous date on which such stock exchange was open for trading;
- (b) if a clearing corporation option or over-the-counter option is written by the Company, the option premium received by the Company will be reflected as a deferred credit which will be valued at an

amount equal to the current market value of the clearing corporation option or over-the-counter option which would have the effect of closing the position; any difference resulting from revaluation shall be treated as an unrealized gain or loss on investment; the deferred credit shall be deducted in arriving at the Net Asset Value;

- (c) the value of any cash on hand or on deposit, prepaid expenses, cash dividends received (or declared to holders of record on a date before the relevant Valuation Date) and interest accrued and not yet received, is deemed to be the face amount thereof unless the Custodian has determined that any such asset is not otherwise worth the face amount thereof, in which case the value thereof is deemed to be such value as the Custodian determines to be the reasonable value thereof;
- (d) the value of any bonds, debentures and other debt obligations will be valued by taking the average of the bid and ask prices on a Valuation Date at such times as the Custodian, in its discretion, deems appropriate. Short term investments, including notes and money market instruments, will be valued at cost plus accrued interest;
- (e) if a Valuation Date is not a business day, then the Company's assets will be valued as if such Valuation Date was the preceding business day;
- (f) if an investment cannot be valued under the foregoing rules or if the foregoing rules are at any time considered by the Custodian to be inappropriate under the circumstances, then notwithstanding the foregoing rules, the Custodian shall make such valuation as it considers fair and reasonable; and
- (g) the value of all assets of the Company quoted or valued in terms of foreign currency, the value of all funds on deposit and contractual obligations payable to the Company in foreign currency and the value of all liabilities and contractual obligations payable by the Company in foreign currency shall be determined using the rate of exchange current at, or as nearly as practicable to, the relevant Valuation Date obtained from the best available sources to the Custodian including, but not limited to, the Custodian or any of its affiliates.

The Net Asset Value per Unit is the amount obtained by dividing the Net Asset Value of the Company as of a particular Valuation Date by the total number of Units outstanding on that date. The Net Asset Value per Unit, as of the most recent Valuation Date, will be provided by QuadraVest to shareholders on request and will be available at any time to shareholders via QuadraVest's website: [www.quadravest.com](http://www.quadravest.com).

### **Certain Provisions of the Preferred Shares**

#### *Dividends*

The Company will pay, as and when declared by the Board of Directors of the Company, a fixed cumulative preferential monthly dividend of \$0.04375 per Preferred Share (to yield 5.25% per annum) to holders of Preferred Shares on the last day of each month (each a "Dividend Payment Date"). The initial dividend on the Preferred Shares is expected to be paid on December 31, 2003 and, based on an anticipated closing date of November 14, 2003, is expected to be \$0.06760 per Preferred Share.

Dividends that are declared by the Board of Directors of the Company will be payable to holders of Preferred Shares of record at 5:00 p.m. (Toronto time) on the applicable Dividend Payment Date. Each holder of Preferred Shares will be mailed annually, no later than February 28, information necessary to enable such shareholder to complete an income tax return with respect to amounts paid or payable by the Company in respect of the preceding calendar year. See "Canadian Federal Income Tax Considerations".

#### *Rating*

The Preferred Shares have been provisionally rated Pfd-2 by DBRS. Preferred shares rated Pfd-2 are of satisfactory credit quality. Generally, Pfd-2 ratings correspond with companies whose senior bonds are rated in the "A" category. A security rating is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold securities and may be subject to revision or withdrawal at any time by DBRS.

### *Payments on Termination*

All Preferred Shares outstanding on the Termination Date will be redeemed by the Company on such date. Immediately prior to the Termination Date, the Company will, to the extent possible, convert the Portfolio to cash and will pay or make adequate provision for all of the Company's liabilities. The Company will, to the extent possible, after receipt of the net cash proceeds of the liquidation of the Portfolio, distribute the original investment amount of \$10.00 per Preferred Share to holders of Preferred Shares through the redemption of the Preferred Shares as soon as practicable after the Termination Date.

### *Retraction Privileges*

Preferred Shares may be surrendered at any time for retraction to Computershare Trust Company of Canada ("Computershare"), the Company's registrar and transfer agent, but will be retracted only as of the last business day of each month (a "Retraction Date"). Preferred Shares surrendered for retraction by a shareholder at least 10 business days prior to a Retraction Date will be retracted and the holder will receive payment the 15<sup>th</sup> day following such Retraction Date (the "Retraction Payment Date"). If a holder of Preferred Shares makes such surrender after 5:00 p.m. (Toronto time) on the 10th business day immediately preceding a Retraction Date, the Preferred Shares will be retracted on the Retraction Date in the following month and the holder will receive payment for the retracted shares as of the Retraction Payment Date in respect of the Retraction Date in the following month.

Except as noted below, holders of Preferred Shares whose shares are surrendered for retraction will be entitled to receive a price per share (the "Preferred Share Retraction Price") equal to the lesser of (i) \$10.00 and (ii) 96% of the Net Asset Value per Unit determined as of such Retraction Date less the cost to the Company of the purchase of a Class A Share in the market for cancellation. For this purpose, the cost of the purchase of a Class A Share will include the purchase price of the Class A Share and commissions and costs, if any, related to the liquidation of any portion of the Portfolio to fund the purchase of the Class A Share. Any declared and unpaid and accrued and unpaid dividends payable on or before a Retraction Date in respect of Preferred Shares tendered for retraction on such Retraction Date will also be paid on the Retraction Payment Date.

Commencing with the October 2004 Retraction Date, shareholders also have an annual retraction right under which they may concurrently retract one Preferred Share and one Class A Share on the October Retraction Date in each year. The price paid by the Company for such a concurrent retraction will be equal to the Net Asset Value per Unit.

As disclosed below under "— Resale of Preferred Shares Tendered for Retraction", if a holder of Preferred Shares tendered for retraction has not withheld his or her consent thereto in the manner provided in the retraction notice delivered to The Canadian Depository for Securities Limited ("CDS") through a participant in the CDS book-based system (a "CDS Participant"), the Company may, but is not obligated to, require the Recirculation Agent (as defined below) to use its best efforts to find purchasers for any Preferred Shares tendered for retraction prior to the relevant Retraction Payment Date pursuant to the Recirculation Agreement (as defined below). In such event, the amount to be paid to the holder of the Preferred Shares on the Retraction Payment Date will be an amount equal to the proceeds of the sale of the Preferred Shares less any applicable commission. Such amount will not be less than the Preferred Share Retraction Price described above. Holders of Preferred Shares are free to withhold their consent to such treatment and to require the Company to retract their Preferred Shares in accordance with their terms.

Subject to the Company's right to require the Recirculation Agent (as defined below) to use its best efforts to find purchasers prior to the relevant Retraction Payment Date for any Preferred Shares tendered for retraction, any and all Preferred Shares which have been surrendered to the Company for retraction are deemed to be outstanding until (but not after) the close of business on the relevant Retraction Date, unless the Preferred Share Retraction Price is not paid on the Retraction Payment Date, in which event such Preferred Shares will remain outstanding.

The retraction right must be exercised by causing written notice to be given within the notice periods prescribed herein and in the manner described under "Details of the Offering — Book-Based System". Such

surrender will be irrevocable upon the delivery of notice to CDS through a CDS Participant, except with respect to those Preferred Shares which are not retracted by the Company on the relevant Retraction Date.

If any Preferred Shares are tendered for retraction and are not resold in the manner described below under “— Resale of Preferred Shares Tendered for Retraction”, the Company has directed the Recirculation Agent (as defined below) to purchase for cancellation on behalf of the Company that number of Class A Shares which equals the number of Preferred Shares so retracted. Any Class A Shares so purchased for cancellation will be purchased in the market.

#### *Resale of Preferred Shares Tendered for Retraction*

The Company has entered into an agreement dated October 29, 2003 (the “Recirculation Agreement”) with CIBC World Markets Inc. and Computershare (the “Recirculation Agent”) whereby the Recirculation Agent has agreed to use its best efforts to find purchasers for any Preferred Shares tendered for retraction prior to the relevant Retraction Payment Date, provided that the holder of the Preferred Shares so tendered has not withheld consent thereto. The Company is not obligated to require the Recirculation Agent to seek such purchasers but may elect to do so. In the event that a purchaser for such Preferred Shares is found in this manner, the notice of retraction shall be deemed to have been withdrawn prior to the relevant Retraction Date and the Preferred Shares shall remain outstanding. The amount to be paid to the holder of the Preferred Shares on the relevant Retraction Payment Date will be an amount equal to the proceeds of the sale of the Preferred Shares less any applicable commission. Such amount will not be less than the applicable Preferred Share Retraction Price.

#### *Priority*

The Preferred Shares rank in priority to the Class A Shares and the Class B Shares with respect to the payment of dividends and the repayment of capital on the dissolution, liquidation or winding-up of the Company.

### **Certain Provisions of the Class A Shares**

#### *Dividends*

The Class A Share conditions provide that the Company may pay dividends on the Class A Shares in such amounts as are determined by the directors in their discretion. The initial policy of the Board of Directors of the Company with respect to the payment of dividends on the Class A Shares is to pay out in each year to holders of Class A Shares all net realized capital gains, dividends and option premiums (other than option premiums in respect of options outstanding at year end) earned on the Portfolio, net of applicable expenses, taxes and any available loss carry-forwards, that are in excess of the amount of dividends paid to holders of Preferred Shares. Although there can be no assurance that the Company will be able to pay dividends to holders of Class A Shares, the initial policy of the Company will be to endeavour to declare and pay regular monthly dividends, initially targeted to be \$0.10 per month to yield a minimum of 8.0% per annum on the original issue price, to holders of Class A Shares plus, if any amounts remain available for the payment of dividends, a special year-end dividend of such amount on the November Dividend Payment Date in each year.

No regular monthly dividends will be paid on the Class A Shares in any month as long as any dividends on the Preferred Shares are then in arrears or so long as the Net Asset Value per Unit is equal to or less than \$15.00 (calculated as described under “Details of the Offering — Valuation of Assets”). Additionally, it is currently intended that no special year-end dividends will be paid if after payment of such a dividend the Net Asset Value per Unit (calculated as described under “Details of the Offering — Valuation of Assets”) would be less than \$25.00.

Based upon the assumptions set forth under “Covered Call Option Writing — Dividend Coverage Ratio — Preferred Shares”, the proceeds of the Offering available for the purchase of the Portfolio would be \$150 million. In order to achieve the Company’s initial targeted dividends of \$1.20 per Class A Share per annum, the Company will be required to generate an average annual return on the Portfolio of 8.58% if the value of the Portfolio is maintained intact until the Termination Date. The average annual return necessary to achieve the initial targeted dividend would have to be higher if the value of the Portfolio is reduced and lower if the value of the Portfolio is increased.

The amount of dividends in any particular month will be determined by the Board of Directors of the Company on the advice of QuadraVest, having regard to the investment objectives of the Company, the net income and net realized capital gains of the Company during the month and in the year to date, the net income and net realized capital gains of the Company anticipated in the balance of the year, the Net Asset Value per Unit and dividends paid in previous monthly periods.

Dividends declared by the Board of Directors of the Company will be payable to holders of Class A Shares of record at 5:00 p.m. (Toronto time) on the applicable Dividend Payment Date. Each holder of Class A Shares will be mailed annually, no later than February 28, information necessary to enable such shareholder to complete an income tax return with respect to amounts paid or payable by the Company in respect of the preceding calendar year. See “Canadian Federal Income Tax Considerations”.

#### *Payments on Termination*

All Class A Shares outstanding on the Termination Date will be redeemed by the Company on such date. Immediately prior to the Termination Date, the Company will, to the extent possible, convert the Portfolio to cash and pay or make provision for all of the Company’s liabilities and will, to the extent possible, distribute to holders of the Preferred Shares the original investment amount for each Preferred Share then outstanding through the redemption of the Preferred Shares and return to holders of Class B Shares their initial investment amount of \$1.00 per share. The Company will thereafter distribute to holders of the Class A Shares, the remaining assets of the Company, if any, as soon as practicable after the Termination Date.

#### *Retraction Privileges*

Class A Shares may be surrendered at any time for retraction to Computershare, but will be retracted only as of a Retraction Date. Class A Shares surrendered for retraction by a shareholder at least 10 business days prior to a Retraction Date will be retracted and the holder will receive payment on or before the Retraction Payment Date. If a holder of Class A Shares makes such surrender after 5:00 p.m. (Toronto time) on the 10<sup>th</sup> business day immediately preceding a Retraction Date, the Class A Shares will be retracted as of the Retraction Date in the following month and the holder will receive payment for the retracted shares on the Retraction Payment Date in respect of the Retraction Date in the following month.

Except as noted below, holders of Class A Shares whose shares are surrendered for retraction will be entitled to receive a retraction price per share (“Class A Share Retraction Price”) equal to 96% of the Net Asset Value per Unit determined as of such Retraction Date less the cost to the Company of the purchase of a Preferred Share in the market for cancellation. For this purpose, the cost of the purchase of a Preferred Share will include the purchase price of the Preferred Share and commissions and costs, if any, related to the liquidation of any portion of the Portfolio to fund the purchase of the Preferred Share. Any declared and unpaid dividends payable on or before a Retraction Date in respect of Class A Shares tendered for retraction on such Retraction Date will also be paid on the Retraction Payment Date.

Commencing with the October 2004 Retraction Date, shareholders also have an annual retraction right under which they may concurrently retract one Class A Share and one Preferred Share on the October Retraction Date in each year. The price paid by the Company for such a concurrent retraction will be equal to the Net Asset Value per Unit.

As disclosed below under “— Resale of Class A Shares Tendered for Retraction”, if the holder of Class A Shares tendered for retraction has not withheld his consent thereto in the manner provided in the retraction notice delivered to CDS through a CDS Participant, the Company may, but is not obligated to, require the Recirculation Agent to use its best efforts to find purchasers for any Class A Shares tendered for retraction prior to the relevant Retraction Payment Date pursuant to the Recirculation Agreement. In such event, the amount to be paid to the holder of the Class A Shares on the Retraction Payment Date will be an amount equal to the proceeds of the sale of the Class A Shares less any applicable commission. Such amount will not be less than the Class A Share Retraction Price. Holders of Class A Shares are free to withhold their consent to such treatment and to require the Company to retract their Class A Shares in accordance with their terms.

Subject to the Company's right to require the Recirculation Agent to use its best efforts to find purchasers prior to the relevant Retraction Payment Date for any Class A Shares tendered for retraction, any and all Class A Shares which have been surrendered to the Company for retraction are deemed to be outstanding until (but not after) the close of business on the relevant Retraction Date, unless the Class A Share Retraction Price is not paid on the Retraction Payment Date, in which event such Class A Shares will remain outstanding.

The retraction right must be exercised by causing written notice to be given within the notice periods prescribed herein and in the manner described under "Details of the Offering — Book-Based System". Such surrender will be irrevocable upon the delivery of notice to CDS through a CDS Participant, except with respect to those Class A Shares which are not retracted by the Company on the relevant Retraction Date.

If any Class A Shares are tendered for retraction and are not resold in the manner described below under "— Resale of Class A Shares Tendered for Retraction", the Company has directed the Recirculation Agent to purchase for cancellation on behalf of the Company that number of Preferred Shares which equals the number of Class A Shares so retracted. Any Preferred Shares so purchased for cancellation will be purchased in the market.

#### *Resale of Class A Shares Tendered for Retraction*

Under the Recirculation Agreement, the Recirculation Agent has agreed to use its best efforts to find purchasers for any Class A Shares tendered for retraction prior to the relevant Retraction Payment Date, provided that the holder of the Class A Shares so tendered has not withheld consent thereto. The Company is not obligated to require the Recirculation Agent to seek such purchasers but may elect to do so. In the event that a purchaser for such Class A Shares is found in this manner, the notice of retraction shall be deemed to have been withdrawn prior to the relevant Retraction Date and the Class A Shares shall remain outstanding. The amount to be paid to the holder of the Class A Shares on the relevant Retraction Payment Date will be an amount equal to the proceeds of the sale of the Class A Shares less any applicable commission. Such amount will not be less than the applicable Class A Share Retraction Price.

#### *Priority*

The Class A Shares rank subordinate to the Preferred Shares and the Class B Shares with respect to the payment of dividends and the repayment of capital on the dissolution, liquidation or winding-up of the Company.

#### **Book-Based System**

Registration of interests in and transfers of the Preferred Shares and Class A Shares will be made only through a book-based system administered by CDS (the "book-entry only system"). On the closing of the Offering, the Company will deliver to CDS certificates evidencing the aggregate Preferred Shares and Class A Shares subscribed for under the Offering. Preferred Shares and Class A Shares must be purchased, transferred and surrendered for retraction or redemption through a CDS Participant. All rights of an owner of Preferred Shares or Class A Shares must be exercised through, and all payments or other property to which such owner is entitled will be made or delivered by, CDS or the CDS Participant through which the owner holds such Preferred Shares or Class A Shares. Upon purchase of any Preferred Shares or Class A Shares, the owner will receive only the customary confirmation. References in this prospectus to a holder of Preferred Shares or Class A Shares means, unless the context otherwise requires, the owner of the beneficial interest in such shares.

The ability of a beneficial owner of Preferred Shares or Class A Shares to pledge such shares or otherwise take action with respect to such owner's interest in such shares (other than through a CDS Participant) may be limited due to the lack of a physical certificate.

An owner of Preferred Shares or Class A Shares who desires to exercise retraction privileges thereunder must do so by causing a CDS Participant to deliver to CDS (at its office in the City of Toronto) on behalf of the owner a written notice of the owner's intention to retract shares, no later than 5:00 p.m. (Toronto time) on the relevant notice date. An owner who desires to retract Preferred Shares or Class A Shares should ensure that the CDS Participant is provided with notice (the "Retraction Notice") of his intention to exercise his retraction

privilege sufficiently in advance of the relevant notice date so as to permit the CDS Participant to deliver notice to CDS by the required time. The Retraction Notice will be available from a CDS Participant or Computershare, the Company's transfer agent and registrar. Any expense associated with the preparation and delivery of Retraction Notices will be for the account of the owner exercising the retraction privilege.

By causing a CDS Participant to deliver to CDS a notice of the owner's intention to retract shares, an owner shall be deemed to have irrevocably surrendered his shares for retraction and appointed such CDS Participant to act as his exclusive settlement agent with respect to the exercise of the retraction privilege and the receipt of payment in connection with the settlement of obligations arising from such exercise.

Any retraction notice which CDS determines to be incomplete, not in proper form or not duly executed shall for all purposes be void and of no effect, and the retraction privilege to which it relates shall be considered for all purposes not to have been exercised thereby. A failure by a CDS Participant to exercise retraction privileges or to give effect to the settlement thereof in accordance with the owner's instructions will not give rise to any obligations or liability on the part of the Company to the CDS Participant or the owner.

The Company has the option to terminate registration of the Preferred Shares or Class A Shares through the book-entry only system, in which case certificates for Preferred Shares or Class A Shares, as the case may be, in fully registered form would be issued to beneficial owners of such shares, or their nominees.

### **Suspension of Retractions or Redemptions**

The Company may suspend the retraction or redemption of Preferred Shares and Class A Shares or payment of retraction or redemption proceeds during any period when normal trading is suspended on one or more stock exchanges on which more than 50% of the equity securities held by the Company are listed, or, with the prior permission of the appropriate securities regulatory authorities, for any period not exceeding 120 days during which the Company determines that conditions exist which render impractical the sale of assets of the Company or which impair the ability of the Company to determine the value of the assets of the Company. The suspension may apply to all requests for retraction received prior to the suspension but as to which payment has not been made, as well as to all requests received while the suspension is in effect. All shareholders making such requests shall be advised by the Company of the suspension and that the retraction will be effected at a price determined on the first Valuation Date following the termination of the suspension. All such shareholders shall have and shall be advised that they have the right to withdraw their requests for retraction. The suspension shall terminate in any event on the first day on which the condition giving rise to the suspension has ceased to exist provided that no other condition under which a suspension is authorized then exists. To the extent not inconsistent with official rules and regulations promulgated by any government body having jurisdiction over the Company, any declaration of suspension made by the Company shall be conclusive.

## **SHAREHOLDER MATTERS**

### **Meetings of Shareholders**

Except as required by law or set out below, holders of Preferred Shares and Class A Shares will not be entitled to receive notice of, to attend or to vote at any meeting of shareholders of the Company.

### **Acts Requiring Shareholder Approval**

The following matters require the approval of the holders of Preferred Shares and Class A Shares by a two-thirds majority vote (other than matters referred to in paragraphs (c), (f) and (g), which require approval of a simple majority vote) at a meeting called and held for such purpose:

- (a) a change in the fundamental investment objectives and strategy of the Company;
- (b) a change in the investment criteria of the Company as described under "Investment Information — Investment Criteria";
- (c) the entering into by the Company of transactions involving derivatives, other than as described in this prospectus and other than the use of derivatives permitted under NI 81-102, as amended from time to time;

- (d) any change in the basis of calculating fees or other expenses that are charged to the Company which could result in an increase in charges to the Company;
- (e) except as described in this prospectus, a change in the investment manager or manager of the Company, other than a change resulting in an affiliate of such person assuming such position;
- (f) a decrease in the frequency of calculating the Net Asset Value or of retraction privileges;
- (g) a change of the auditors of the Company unless such change does not require shareholder approval under NI 81-102 or under an exemption from NI 81-102;
- (h) a termination of the Investment Management Agreement (except as described under “Management of the Company — The Investment Manager — Investment Management Agreement”);
- (i) any merger of the Company for which shareholder approval under NI 81-102 would be required; and
- (j) an amendment, modification or variation in the provisions or rights attaching to the Preferred Shares, Class A Shares or Class B Shares.

Each Preferred Share and Class A Share will have one vote at such a meeting and will not vote separately as a class in respect of any vote taken (except for a vote in respect of the matters referred to in paragraphs (a), (b) and (j) above and any other matters referred to above if a class is affected by the matter in a manner different from the other classes of shares of the Company). Ten per cent of the outstanding Preferred Shares and Class A Shares, respectively, represented in person or by proxy at the meeting will constitute a quorum. If no quorum is present, the holders of Preferred Shares and Class A Shares then present will constitute a quorum at an adjourned meeting.

#### *Deferral of Final Redemption Beyond Termination Date*

Not less than six months nor more than 12 months prior to the Termination Date, the Manager may present a proposal to shareholders providing for a deferral of the final redemption of the Preferred Shares or of the Class A Shares, or both, to a date that is later than the Termination Date. Such proposal may include, without limitation, a proposal (i) to continue the Company beyond the Termination Date, or (ii) to exchange the Preferred Shares or Class A Shares for securities of one or more mutual funds or closed-end investment funds on or after the Termination Date. Holders of each class of shares will be entitled to vote separately as a class on any such proposal, unless the proposal provides for the continuation of only the Class A Shares and that the holders of Preferred Shares will receive \$10.00 per Preferred Share, in which event only holders of Class A Shares will be entitled to vote on the proposal. In the event that a proposal to delay the final redemption beyond the Termination Date is approved, the redemption will be deferred until that later specified date. In the event of the approval of the proposal referred to above, any dissenting shareholder may require the Company to redeem all (but not less than all) of his or her Preferred Shares or Class A Shares on the Termination Date at a price per Preferred Share or per Class A Share equal to the amount such holder would have been entitled to on the Termination Date, in the absence of such proposal.

#### **Reporting to Shareholders**

The Company will deliver (or, if permitted by law, make available) to each shareholder annual and semi-annual financial statements of the Company.

#### **CANADIAN FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS**

In the opinion of Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, counsel to the Company, and Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, counsel to the Agents (as defined below), the following is a summary of the principal Canadian federal income tax considerations generally relevant to investors who, for purposes of the Tax Act, are resident in Canada, deal at arm’s length with the Company, hold their Preferred Shares and Class A Shares as capital property, and are not affiliated with the Company. This summary is based upon the facts set out in this prospectus, the current provisions of the Tax Act, the regulations thereunder, and counsel’s understanding of the current published administrative policies and assessing practices of the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency

(“CCRA”) publicly available prior to the date hereof and relies as to certain factual matters on certificates of an officer of the Company and CIBC World Markets Inc.

This summary is based on the assumptions that:

- (a) the Preferred Shares and Class A Shares will at all times be listed on a prescribed stock exchange in Canada (which currently includes the TSX);
- (b) the Company was not established and will not be maintained primarily for the benefit of non-residents of Canada;
- (c) the issuers of securities in the Portfolio will not be foreign affiliates of the Company or any shareholder;
- (d) the investment objectives and permitted investments will at all relevant times be as set out under “Investment Information — Investment Criteria” and that the Company will at all times comply with such investment objectives and permitted investments; and
- (e) the securities in the Portfolio will not be participating interests in foreign investment entities within the meaning of the Notice of Ways and Means Motion to Amend the Tax Act, tabled in the House of Commons on October 11, 2002.

This summary also takes into account specific proposals to amend the Tax Act announced prior to the date hereof by the Minister of Finance (the “Proposed Amendments”). No assurances can be given that the Proposed Amendments will become law as proposed or at all.

**This summary is not exhaustive of all possible federal income tax considerations and does not take into account or anticipate any changes in law, whether by legislative, governmental or judicial action, other than the Proposed Amendments. This summary does not deal with foreign, provincial or territorial income tax considerations, which may differ from the federal considerations. This summary does not apply to shareholders that are “financial institutions” as defined in section 142.2 of the Tax Act.**

**This summary is of a general nature only and does not constitute legal or tax advice to any particular investor. Prospective investors are advised to consult their own tax advisors with respect to their individual circumstances.**

### **Tax Treatment of the Company**

The Company will qualify, and intends at all relevant times to qualify, as a “mutual fund corporation” as defined in the Tax Act. The Company has informed counsel that it will elect to be a public corporation within the meaning of the Tax Act from the date of its incorporation until the dates its Preferred Shares and Class A Shares first become listed on the TSX. As a mutual fund corporation, the Company is entitled in certain circumstances to a refund of tax paid by it in respect of its net realized capital gains. Also, as a mutual fund corporation, the Company maintains a capital gains dividend account in respect of capital gains realized by the Company and from which it may elect to pay dividends (“capital gains dividends”) which are treated as capital gains in the hands of the shareholders of the Company (see “— Tax Treatment of Shareholders” below).

The Company will be required to include in computing its income all dividends received but will generally be entitled to deduct all dividends received from taxable Canadian corporations whose shares are included in the Portfolio in computing its taxable income. Other dividends received by the Company will, however, be fully taxable. The Company is a “financial intermediary corporation” (as defined in the Tax Act) and, as such, is not subject to tax under Part IV.1 of the Tax Act on dividends received by the Company nor is it generally liable to tax under Part VI.1 on dividends paid by the Company on “taxable preferred shares” (as defined in the Tax Act). As a mutual fund corporation (which is not an “investment corporation” as defined in the Tax Act), the Company will generally be subject to a refundable tax of 33⅓% under Part IV of the Tax Act on taxable dividends received during the year to the extent such dividends are deductible in computing taxable income of the Company. This tax is fully refundable upon payment of sufficient dividends other than capital gains dividends (“Ordinary Dividends”) by the Company.

Premiums received on call options written by the Company (to the extent such call options relate to securities actually owned by the Company at the time the option is written) will constitute capital gains of the Company in the year received, and gains or losses realized upon dispositions of securities of the Company (whether upon the exercise of call options written by the Company or otherwise) will constitute capital gains or capital losses of the Company in the year realized unless the Company is considered to be trading or dealing in securities or otherwise carrying on a business of buying and selling securities or the Company has acquired the securities in a transaction or transactions considered to be an adventure in the nature of trade.

The Company will purchase shares for the Portfolio with the objective of earning dividends thereon over the life of the Company and will write covered call options with the objective of increasing the yield on the Portfolio beyond the dividends received on the Portfolio. In accordance with CCRA's published administrative practice, transactions undertaken by the Company in respect of such options will be treated and reported for purposes of the Tax Act on capital account.

To the extent that the Company earns income (other than dividends from taxable Canadian corporations and taxable capital gains) including interest or dividends from corporations other than taxable Canadian corporations (such as dividends from U.S. corporations included in the Portfolio), the Company will be subject to income tax on such income and no refund will be available in respect thereof.

The Company has advised counsel that it intends to elect in accordance with the Tax Act to have each of its "Canadian securities" (as defined in subsection 39(6) of the Tax Act) treated as capital property. Such an election will ensure that gains or losses realized by the Company on disposition of Canadian securities will be taxed as capital gains or capital losses.

### **Tax Treatment of Shareholders**

Shareholders must include in income Ordinary Dividends received from the Company. For individual shareholders, Ordinary Dividends will be subject to the usual gross-up and dividend tax credit rules with respect to taxable dividends paid by taxable Canadian corporations under the Tax Act. Ordinary Dividends received by a corporation other than a "specified financial institution" (as defined in the Tax Act) will normally be deductible in computing its taxable income.

In the case of a holder that is a specified financial institution, Ordinary Dividends received on a particular class of shares will be deductible in computing its taxable income only if either:

- (a) the specified financial institution did not acquire the shares in the ordinary course of its business, or
- (b) at the time of the receipt of the dividends by the specified financial institution, dividends are received in respect of not more than 10% of the issued and outstanding shares of that class by
  - (i) the specified financial institution, or
  - (ii) the specified financial institution and persons with whom it does not deal at arm's length (within the meaning of the Tax Act).

For these purposes, a beneficiary of a trust will be deemed to receive the amount of any dividend received by the trust and designated to that beneficiary, effective at the time the dividend was received by the trust, and a member of a partnership will be considered to have received that partner's share of a dividend received by the partnership, effective at the time the dividend was received by the partnership.

Ordinary Dividends on Preferred Shares will generally be subject to a 10% tax under Part IV.1 of the Tax Act when such dividends are received by a corporation (other than a "private corporation" or a "financial intermediary corporation", as defined in the Tax Act) to the extent that such dividends are deductible in computing the corporation's taxable income. In the opinion of counsel, Ordinary Dividends on Class A Shares should not be subject to Part IV.1 tax when received by such corporations, however such corporations should consult their own tax advisors in this regard.

A shareholder which is a private corporation for purposes of the Tax Act, or any other corporation controlled directly or indirectly by or for the benefit of an individual (other than a trust) or a related group of individuals (other than trusts) may be liable to pay a 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % refundable tax under Part IV of the Tax Act on

Ordinary Dividends received on Class A Shares or Preferred Shares, to the extent that such dividends are deductible in computing the corporation's taxable income. Where Part IV.1 tax also applies to an Ordinary Dividend received by a particular corporation on the Preferred Shares, the rate of Part IV tax payable by such corporation on such dividend is reduced to 23 $\frac{1}{3}$ %.

The amount of any capital gains dividend received by a shareholder from the Company will be considered to be a capital gain of the shareholder from the disposition of capital property in the taxation year of the shareholder in which the capital gains dividend is received.

The initial policy of the Company is to pay monthly dividends and, in addition, to pay a special year-end dividend to holders of Class A Shares where the Company has net taxable capital gains upon which it would otherwise be subject to tax (other than taxable capital gains in respect of options that are outstanding at year end) or would not otherwise obtain a refund of refundable tax in respect of dividend income. Therefore, a person acquiring shares may become taxable on income and capital gains that accrued before such person acquired shares and on realized capital gains that have not been distributed before such time.

Upon the redemption, retraction or other disposition of a share, a capital gain (or a capital loss) will be realized to the extent that the proceeds of disposition of the share exceed (or are less than) the aggregate of the adjusted cost base of the share and any reasonable costs of disposition. If the holder is a corporation, any capital loss arising on the disposition of a share may in certain circumstances be reduced by the amount of any Ordinary Dividends received on the share. Analogous rules apply to a partnership or trust of which a corporation, partnership or trust is a member or beneficiary.

For purposes of computing the adjusted cost base of each share of a particular class, a shareholder must average the cost of such share with the adjusted cost base of any shares of that class already held as capital property.

One-half of a capital gain is included in computing income as a taxable capital gain and one-half of a capital loss may be deducted against taxable capital gains to the extent and under the circumstances prescribed in the Tax Act. A shareholder that is a Canadian-controlled private corporation will be subject to an additional refundable tax of 6 $\frac{2}{3}$ % of aggregate investment income, which includes an amount in respect of taxable capital gains.

Individuals (other than certain trusts) realizing net capital gains may be subject to an alternative minimum tax under the Tax Act.

Shares will generally qualify as "Canadian securities" for purposes of the election of guaranteed capital gains treatment provided for under certain circumstances under the Tax Act. Investors considering making such an election should consult their own tax advisors.

### **ELIGIBILITY FOR INVESTMENT**

In the opinion of Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP and Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, the Preferred Shares and Class A Shares, if, as and when listed on a prescribed stock exchange, will be qualified investments under the Tax Act for trusts governed by registered retirement savings plans, registered retirement income funds, deferred profit sharing plans (collectively, "Deferred Income Plans") and registered education savings plans and, provided the Company complies with its investment criteria, will not be foreign property for purposes of the tax imposed under Part XI of the Tax Act on Deferred Income Plans and certain other persons including registered pension plans.

### **USE OF PROCEEDS**

The net proceeds from the issue of the Preferred Shares and Class A Shares offered hereby (after payment of the Agents' fee and expenses of the issue) are estimated to be \$118,500,000 (assuming the minimum offering) and \$380,300,000 (assuming the maximum offering and assuming in each case that the Over-Allotment Option (as defined under "Plan of Distribution" below) is not exercised). These net proceeds will be used to invest in the Portfolio or other portfolio assets accordance with the investment objectives, strategy and restrictions of the Company as described under "Investment Information".

## PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

Pursuant to an agreement dated as of October 29, 2003 (the “Agency Agreement”) between Quadravest, the Manager, the Company and CIBC World Markets Inc., BMO Nesbitt Burns Inc., RBC Dominion Securities Inc., TD Securities Inc., Bieber Securities Inc., Canaccord Capital Corp., Desjardins Securities Inc., Dundee Securities Corporation and First Associates Investments Inc. (the “Agents”), the Agents have agreed to offer the Preferred Shares and Class A Shares for sale, as agents of the Company, on a best efforts basis, if, as and when issued by the Company. The offering prices for the Preferred Shares and the Class A Shares were established by negotiation between the Company and the Agents. The Agents will receive a fee equal to \$0.30 (3.0%) for each Preferred Share and \$0.90 (6.0%) for each Class A Share sold and will be reimbursed for out of pocket expenses incurred. The Agents may form a sub-agency group including other qualified investment dealers and determine the fee payable to the members of such group, which fee will be paid by the Agents out of their fee. While the Agents have agreed to use their best efforts to sell the Preferred Shares and Class A Shares offered under this prospectus, the Agents will not be obligated to purchase Preferred Shares and Class A Shares which are not sold.

The Company has granted the Agents an option (the “Over-Allotment Option”) to offer up to 2,400,000 additional Preferred Shares and 2,400,000 additional Class A Shares, which Preferred Shares and Class A Shares are qualified for sale under this prospectus. The Agents may exercise the Over-Allotment Option in whole or in part at any time on or before the close of business on the 30th day following the closing of the Offering and, to the extent the Over-Allotment Option is exercised, the additional Preferred Shares and Class A Shares will be offered by the Agents at the offering price under this prospectus and the Agents will be entitled to receive a fee of \$0.30 (3.0%) for each Preferred Share and \$0.90 (6.0%) for each Class A Share sold.

Proceeds from subscriptions received by the Company will be held in trust in segregated accounts by Computershare until the minimum amount of the Offering has been obtained. In the event that the minimum amount is not obtained, and the closing does not occur, subscription proceeds received from prospective purchasers will be returned promptly without interest or deduction. Under the terms of the Agency Agreement, the Agents may, at their discretion on the basis of their assessment of the state of the financial markets and upon the occurrence of certain stated events, terminate the Agency Agreement. Subscriptions for Preferred Shares and Class A Shares will be received subject to rejection or allotment in whole or in part. The right is reserved to close the subscription books at any time without notice. Closing is expected to occur on November 14, 2003, but no later than December 31, 2003.

The Preferred Shares and Class A Shares have not been and will not be registered under the United States *Securities Act of 1933*, as amended (the “U.S. Securities Act”) and may not be offered or sold within the United States or to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. persons, except in certain transactions exempt from the registration requirements of the U.S. Securities Act. The Agents have agreed that, except as permitted by the Agency Agreement, they will not offer or sell the Preferred Shares or Class A Shares within the United States or to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. persons. Terms used in this paragraph have the meanings given to them by Regulation S under the U.S. Securities Act.

Pursuant to policy statements of certain securities regulators, the Agents may not, throughout the period of distribution, bid for or purchase Preferred Shares and Class A Shares. The foregoing restriction is subject to certain exceptions, on the conditions that the bid or purchase not be engaged in for the purpose of creating actual or apparent active trading in, or raising the price of, the Preferred Shares and Class A Shares. Such exceptions include a bid or purchase permitted under applicable by-laws and rules of the relevant self-regulatory authorities relating to market stabilization and passive market making activities and a bid or purchase made for and on behalf of a customer where the order was not solicited during the period of distribution. Pursuant to the first mentioned exception, in connection with the Offering, the Agents may over-allot or effect transactions which stabilize or maintain the market price of the Preferred Shares and Class A Shares at levels other than those which might otherwise prevail on the open market. In such event, an equal number of Preferred Shares and Class A Shares will be maintained. Such transactions, if commenced, may be discontinued at any time.

## CAPITALIZATION OF THE COMPANY

The capitalization of the Company at October 29, 2003 and at such date as adjusted to give effect to the issue and sale of the Preferred Shares and the Class A Shares offered under this prospectus, is set forth in the table below:

| <u>Share Capital</u>           | <u>Authorized</u> | <u>Outstanding as at<br/>October 29, 2003</u> | <u>To be outstanding<br/>as at<br/>October 29, 2003<br/>after giving effect<br/>to these issues<sup>(1)</sup></u> |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|---|---|
|                                |                   |   | (unaudited)   |
| Preferred Shares . . . . .     | Unlimited         | Nil   | \$160,000,000<br>(16,000,000 shares)  |
| Class A Shares . . . . .       | Unlimited         | Nil   | \$240,000,000<br>(16,000,000 shares)  |
| Class B Shares . . . . .       | Unlimited         | \$ 1,000<br>(1,000 shares)                    | \$1,000<br>(1,000 shares)   |
| Issue Costs . . . . .          |                   | Nil   | \$(19,700,000)  |
| Total Capitalization . . . . . |                   | \$ 1,000                                      | \$380,301,000   |

(1) Assumes the maximum amount of the Offering.

### PRINCIPAL SHAREHOLDER

All of the issued and outstanding Class B Shares of the Company are owned by Quadravest. S. Wayne Finch controls Quadravest indirectly through the Manager. The Class B Shares will be held in escrow by The Royal Trust Company (“Royal Trust”) pursuant to an agreement dated October 29, 2003 (the “Escrow Agreement”) between Quadravest, Royal Trust and the Company and will not be disposed of or dealt with in any manner until all the Preferred Shares and Class A Shares have been retracted or redeemed, except in certain circumstances contemplated by the Escrow Agreement.

### FEES AND EXPENSES

#### Initial Expenses

The expenses of the Offering (including the costs of creating and organizing the Company, the costs of printing and preparing this prospectus, legal expenses of the Company, marketing expenses and legal and other out of pocket expenses incurred by the Agents and certain other expenses) will be paid by the Company out of the gross proceeds of the Offering. In addition, the Agents’ fee will be paid to the Agents from the gross proceeds as described under “Plan of Distribution”.

#### Fees and Other Expenses

Pursuant to the Management Agreement, the Manager is entitled to an administration fee payable monthly in arrears at an annual rate equal to 0.1% of the Company’s Net Asset Value calculated as at the last Valuation Date in each month, plus an amount equal to the service fee (the “Service Fee”) payable to dealers. The Company will also pay any goods and services taxes applicable to this administration fee.

The Manager will pay the Service Fee to each dealer whose clients hold Class A Shares. The Service Fee will be calculated and paid at the end of each calendar quarter and will be equal to 0.50% annually of the value of the Class A Shares held by clients of the dealer. For these purposes, the value of a Class A Share at any time is the Net Asset Value per Unit at such time less \$10.00. No Service Fee will be paid in any calendar quarter if regular dividends are not paid to holders of Class A Shares in respect of each month of such calendar quarter.

Pursuant to the terms of the Investment Management Agreement, Quadravest is entitled to a base management fee payable monthly in arrears at an annual rate equal to 0.65% of the Company’s Net Asset Value calculated as at the last Valuation Date in each month.

Quadravest is also entitled to a performance fee equal to 20% of the total return per Unit of the Company for a financial year (which includes all cash distributions per Unit made during the year and any increase in the Net Asset Value per Unit from the beginning of the year after the deduction on a per Unit basis of all fees, other expenses and distributions) that exceeds 112% of the Bonus Threshold. The “Bonus Threshold”, for any financial year immediately following a year for which a performance fee is payable, is equal to the Net Asset Value per Unit at the beginning of that financial year. The “Bonus Threshold”, for any financial year immediately following a year for which a performance fee is not payable, is equal to the greater of (i) the Net Asset Value per Unit at the end of the immediately prior financial year; and (ii) the Bonus Threshold for the prior year, minus the Adjustment Amount. The “Adjustment Amount” for any financial year is the amount, if any, by which the Net Asset Value per Unit at the end of the immediately prior financial year plus dividends paid in that prior year exceeds the Bonus Threshold for that prior year.

No performance fee may be paid in any year if, at the end of such year, (i) the Net Asset Value per Unit is less than \$25.00; (ii) if the rating on the Preferred Shares is rated by DBRS at less than Pfd-2 (or, if DBRS has not then rated such shares, then the equivalent rating of another rating agency that has rated such shares shall apply); or (iii) if the Company has not earned a total annual return of at least the “Base Return” on a cumulative basis since inception. The Base Return in any year is the greater of 5%; and the annual total return for such year as measured by the Scotia Capital 91-day T-Bill Index (the “T-Bill Index”).

The T-Bill Index reflects income yields available to investors who acquire “risk-free” 91-day Treasury bills. The Manager believes that the T-Bill Index is an appropriate benchmark against which to assess the performance of the total return per Unit as the investment objective of the Company is to achieve targeted returns for the Preferred Shares and the Class A Shares. Although the actual returns may be achieved in part through the capital appreciation of equity securities, the principal objective, as evidenced by the Company’s intention to write covered call options, is to achieve the targeted returns and not to track the performance of an investment in the equity securities. As a result, the Manager believes that the most appropriate benchmark is one that focuses on yield and not on the investment performance of equity securities.

The performance fee, if payable, will be deducted from the amount otherwise payable to the holders of the Class A Shares. The Company will also pay any goods and services taxes applicable to the base management fee or the performance fee.

The Company will pay for all other expenses incurred in connection with the operation and administration of the Company, estimated to be approximately \$300,000 per annum. These expenses are expected to include, without limitation, mailing and printing expenses for periodic reports to shareholders; fees payable to the Custodian for acting as custodian of the assets of the Company and performing certain administrative services under the Custodian Agreement (as defined below); fees payable to Computershare, as registrar and transfer agent with respect to the Preferred Shares and Class A Shares; fees payable to the independent directors of the Company; fees payable to the auditors and legal advisors of the Company; regulatory filing and stock exchange fees (including any such fees payable by the Manager or Quadravest in respect of the services they provide to the Company); and expenditures incurred upon the dissolution of the Company. Such expenses will also include expenses of any action, suit or other proceedings in which or in relation to which the Manager or Quadravest is entitled to indemnity by the Company. See “Management of the Company”. The Company will also be responsible for all commissions and other costs of Portfolio transactions.

#### **INTEREST OF MANAGEMENT AND OTHERS IN MATERIAL TRANSACTIONS**

Quadravest and the Manager will receive the fees described under “Fees and Expenses” for their respective services to the Company and will be reimbursed by the Company for all expenses incurred in connection with the operation and administration of the Company. S. Wayne Finch controls the Manager, which in turn owns all of the voting shares of Quadravest. In accordance with the requirements of the provincial securities regulatory authorities in connection with the Offering, Quadravest and the Manager have each undertaken to file, and have agreed to cause their directors and senior officers to file, insider trading reports as if the Company was not a mutual fund, in accordance with applicable securities legislation in respect of trades made by it or those directors and senior officers in shares of the Company.

The senior officers and directors of the Company have also undertaken to file insider trading reports, as if the Company was not a mutual fund, in accordance with applicable provincial securities legislation, for themselves. The Company has undertaken that it will not elect or appoint any person in the future as a senior officer or director unless such person undertakes to file insider trading reports as if the Company was not a mutual fund, in accordance with applicable provincial securities legislation and to deliver to each applicable provincial securities regulatory authority an undertaking to file insider trading reports in accordance with applicable provincial securities legislation. The foregoing undertakings shall remain in full force until such time as, in the case of the undertaking of Quadravest and the Manager, Quadravest ceases to hold voting shares of the Company; in the case of the undertakings of a director or senior officer of the Company, such person ceases to be a director or officer of the Company; or in each case all of the Preferred Shares and Class A Shares have been redeemed or retracted.

### **MATERIAL CONTRACTS**

The following contracts can reasonably be regarded as material to purchasers of Preferred Shares and Class A Shares:

- (a) the Management Agreement described under “Management of the Company — The Manager”;
- (b) the Investment Management Agreement described under “Management of the Company — The Investment Manager — Investment Management Agreement”;
- (c) the Agency Agreement described under “Plan of Distribution”;
- (d) the Recirculation Agreement described under “Details of the Offering”;
- (e) the Escrow Agreement described under “Principal Shareholder”; and
- (f) the Custodian Agreement described under “Registrar and Transfer Agent, Custodian and Auditors”.

Copies of the foregoing agreements, after they have been signed, may be inspected during business hours at the principal office of the Company during the course of distribution of the Preferred Shares and Class A Shares offered under this prospectus.

### **RISK FACTORS**

The following are certain considerations relating to an investment in Preferred Shares or Class A Shares which prospective investors should consider before purchasing such shares. There can be no assurance that the Company will be successful in meeting its dividend and capital repayment objectives, and the Preferred Shares and Class A Shares may trade in the market at a premium or discount to their proportionate shares of the Company’s Net Asset Value.

#### **Operating History**

The Company is a newly organized investment company with no previous operating history and there is currently no public market for the Preferred Shares or Class A Shares.

#### **Interest Rate Fluctuations**

It is anticipated that the market price of the Preferred Shares and Class A Shares will, at any time, be affected by the level of interest rates prevailing at such time. A rise in interest rates may have a negative effect on the market price of the Preferred Shares and Class A Shares.

#### **Foreign Currency Exposure**

As the Portfolio may, and will generally, include securities and options denominated in U.S. dollars, the Net Asset Value of the Company and the net income of the Company, when measured in Canadian dollars, will be affected by changes in the value of the U.S. dollar relative to the Canadian dollar.

## **Performance of the Portfolio Companies and Other Conditions**

The value of the Portfolio will be influenced by factors which are not within the control of the Company, including the performance of the Portfolio Companies, their dividend payment policies and financial market and economic conditions generally. A substantial drop in the North American equities markets could be expected to have a negative effect on the Company. If such drop were to lead to a significant decline in the value of the Portfolio, the Company could be prohibited from paying regular or special dividends on the Class A Shares.

## **Use of Options and other Derivative Instruments**

The Company is subject to the full risk of its investment position in the shares of the Portfolio Companies, including those shares that are subject to outstanding call options, should the market price of the common shares decline. In addition, the Company will not participate in any gain on the common shares that are subject to outstanding call options above the strike price of the options.

There can be no assurance that a liquid exchange or over-the-counter market will exist to permit the Company to write covered call options on desired terms or to close out option positions should Quadravest desire to do so. In purchasing call options, the Company 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 ability of the Company to close out its positions may also be affected by exchange-imposed daily trading limits on options. If the Company is unable to repurchase a call option which is in-the-money, it will be unable to realize its profits or limit its losses until such time as the option becomes exercisable or expires.

## **Net Asset Value and Distributions**

The Net Asset Value of the Company and the funds available for distribution to shareholders will vary, among other things, according to the value of the common shares in the Portfolio, the dividends paid on those shares and the level of option premiums received. Although many investors and financial market professionals price call options based on the Black-Scholes Model, in practice actual option premiums are determined in the marketplace. There can be no assurance that the Company will be able to achieve its objectives of paying monthly dividends. In addition, a decline in the market price of the shares in the Portfolio may adversely affect the rating on the Preferred Shares, which in turn may have an adverse impact on the market price or demand for such shares. Similarly, a decline in the market price of the shares in the Portfolio may restrict the ability of the Company to pay dividends on the Class A Shares (see “Details of the Offering — Certain Provisions of the Class A Shares”), which in turn may have an adverse impact on the market price or demand for such shares.

## **Reliance on the Investment Manager**

Quadravest will manage the Portfolio in a manner consistent with the investment objectives, strategy and criteria of the Company. The officers of Quadravest who will be primarily responsible for the management of the Portfolio have extensive experience in managing investment portfolios. There is no certainty that such individuals will continue to be employees of Quadravest throughout the term of the Company.

## **Treatment of Proceeds of Disposition and Option Premiums**

In determining its income for tax purposes, the Company will treat gains and losses realized on the disposition of shares in the Portfolio, option premiums received on the writing of covered call options and any losses sustained on closing out options as capital gains and capital losses in accordance with CCRA's published administrative practice. CCRA's practice is not to grant advance income tax rulings on the character of items as capital or income and no advance income tax ruling has been applied for or received from CCRA.

If, contrary to CCRA's published administrative practice, some or all of the transactions undertaken by the Company in respect of options and shares in the Portfolio were treated on income rather than capital account, after-tax returns to holders of Class A Shares and Preferred Shares could be reduced and the Company may be subject to non-refundable income tax in respect of income from such transactions and the Company may be subject to penalty taxes in respect of excessive capital gains dividend elections.

## **LEGAL OPINIONS**

The matters referred to under “Eligibility for Investment” and “Canadian Federal Income Tax Considerations” and certain other legal matters relating to the securities offered under this prospectus will be passed upon by Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, on behalf of the Company, and by Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, on behalf of the Agents.

## **PROMOTER**

Quadravest has taken the initiative in organizing the Company and accordingly is a “promoter” of the Company within the meaning of applicable securities legislation. Quadravest will receive fees from the Company and will be entitled to reimbursement of expenses incurred in relation to the Company as described under “Fees and Expenses”.

## **REGISTRAR AND TRANSFER AGENT, CUSTODIAN AND AUDITORS**

Pursuant to a Registrar and Transfer Agency Agreement dated October 29, 2003, Computershare, at its principal office in Toronto, has been appointed the registrar and transfer agent for the Preferred Shares and the Class A Shares.

Pursuant to an agreement (the “Custodian Agreement”) dated October 29, 2003, Royal Trust is the Custodian of the assets of the Company and is also responsible for certain aspects of the day-to-day administration of the Company, including executing instruments on behalf of the Company, processing retractions, calculating Net Asset Value, net income and net realized capital gains of the Company and maintaining the fund valuation books and records of the Company. Royal Trust will not have any responsibility or liability for any assets of the Company which it does not directly hold or have control over (including through its sub-custodians) including, without limitation, any assets pledged to a counterparty by the Company pursuant to the investment objectives of the Company. The address of the Custodian is 77 King Street West, 11th Floor, Royal Trust Tower, Toronto-Dominion Centre, Toronto, Ontario M5W 1P9 Attention: International Investment Products.

The Custodian is entitled to receive fees from the Company and to be reimbursed for all expenses and liabilities which are properly incurred by the Custodian in connection with the activities of the Company.

The auditors of the Company are PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, 77 King Street West, Toronto, Ontario M5K 1G8.

## **PURCHASER'S STATUTORY RIGHTS**

Securities legislation in several of the provinces of Canada provides a purchaser with the right to withdraw from an agreement to purchase securities within two business days after receipt or deemed receipt of a prospectus and any amendment. In several of the provinces, the securities legislation further provides a purchaser with remedies for rescission or, in some jurisdictions, damages where the prospectus and any amendment contains a misrepresentation or is not delivered to the purchaser, provided such remedies for rescission or damages are exercised by the purchaser within the time limit prescribed by the securities legislation of the purchaser's province. The purchaser should refer to any applicable provisions of the securities legislation of the purchaser's province for the particulars of these rights or consult with a legal advisor.

## **AUDITORS' REPORT**

To the Directors of Financial 15 Split Corp.:

We have audited the statement of financial position of Financial 15 Split Corp. (the Company) as at October 29, 2003. This statement of financial position is the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this statement of financial position based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, this statement of financial position presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as at October 29, 2003 in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Toronto, Canada  
October 29, 2003

PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS LLP  
Chartered Accountants

## **COMPILATION REPORT**

To the Directors of Financial 15 Split Corp.:

We have reviewed, as to compilation only, the accompanying pro forma statement of financial position of Financial 15 Split Corp. (the Company) as at October 29, 2003, which has been prepared for inclusion in the prospectus relating to the issue of Preferred Shares and Class A Shares of the Company. In our opinion, the pro forma statement of financial position has been properly compiled to give effect to the transactions and assumptions described in the notes thereto.

Toronto, Canada  
October 29, 2003

PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS LLP  
Chartered Accountants

**FINANCIAL 15 SPLIT CORP.**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**October 29, 2003**

|   | <b>Actual</b> | <b>Pro Forma</b>        |
|---|---------------|-------------------------|
|   |               | (unaudited)<br>(Note 2) |
| <b>ASSETS</b>   |               |                         |
| Cash .....  | \$1,000       | \$ —                    |
| Investment in portfolio securities .....  | —             | \$380,301,000           |
| Total .....   | \$1,000       | \$380,301,000           |
| <b>LIABILITIES</b>  |               |                         |
| Preferred Shares .....  | \$ —          | \$160,000,000           |
| <b>SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>   |               |                         |
| Shareholders' Equity  |               |                         |
| Class A Shares (Actual — Nil shares; Pro Forma — 16,000,000 shares,<br>net of agency and issue costs) ..... | —             | \$220,300,000           |
| Class B Shares (Actual — 1,000 shares; Pro Forma — 1,000 shares) .....                                      | \$1,000       | \$ 1,000                |
|   | \$1,000       | \$220,301,000           |
| Total Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity .....  | \$1,000       | \$380,301,000           |

Approved by the Board:

(Signed) S. WAYNE FINCH  
 Director

(Signed) PETER F. CRUICKSHANK  
 Director

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement of financial position.*

**FINANCIAL 15 SPLIT CORP.**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**1. ORGANIZATION AND SHARE CAPITAL**

Financial 15 Split Corp. (the Company) was established under the laws of the Province of Ontario by articles of incorporation dated September 26, 2003.

The Company is authorized to issue an unlimited number of Preferred Shares, an unlimited number of Class A Shares and an unlimited number of Class B Shares. On September 26, 2003, the Company issued 1,000 Class B Shares to Quadravest Capital Management Inc. ("Quadravest"), the Company's investment manager, for \$1,000 cash.

**2. PRO FORMA STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

The pro forma statement of financial position gives effect, as at October 29, 2003, to the following transactions:

- (a) The issue of 16,000,000 Preferred Shares for total gross proceeds of \$160,000,000 and the issue of 16,000,000 Class A Shares for total gross proceeds of \$240,000,000.
- (b) The payment of estimated costs relating to the offering of \$19,700,000, which amount is comprised of the fee payable to the agents in the offering of \$19,200,000 and issue costs of \$500,000.
- (c) The completion of the purchase of an investment portfolio at a cost of \$380,301,000 consisting primarily of common shares of the following companies: Bank of Montreal, The Bank of Nova Scotia, Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, Royal Bank of Canada, The Toronto-Dominion Bank, National Bank of Canada, Manulife Financial Corporation, Sun Life Financial Services of Canada Inc., Great-West Lifeco Inc., CI Fund Management Inc., Bank of America Corp., Citigroup Inc., JP Morgan Chase & Co., Bank One Corp. and Wells Fargo & Co.

**3. AGENCY AND CUSTODIAN AGREEMENTS**

The Company has engaged CIBC World Markets Inc., BMO Nesbitt Burns Inc., RBC Dominion Securities Inc., TD Securities Inc., Bieber Securities Inc., Canaccord Capital Corp., Desjardins Securities Inc., Dundee Securities Corporation and First Associates Investments Inc. to offer for sale to the public pursuant to a prospectus dated October 29, 2003 the Preferred Shares and the Class A Shares described in Note 1.

The Company has retained The Royal Trust Company (the "Custodian") under a custody agreement dated October 29, 2003 to act as custodian of the assets of the Company and to be responsible for certain aspects of the Company's day-to-day operations. In consideration for the services provided by the Custodian, the Company will pay the Custodian a monthly fee as set out in the custody agreement.

**4. MANAGEMENT AND INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT AGREEMENTS**

The Company has retained Quadravest Inc. (the "Manager") under a management agreement dated as of October 29, 2003 to act as the manager of the Company and has retained Quadravest under an investment management agreement dated as of October 29, 2003 to act as the investment manager of the Company. Pursuant to such agreements, the Manager is entitled to an administration fee payable monthly in arrears at an annual rate of 0.1% of the net asset value ("Net Asset Value") of the Company calculated as at the last valuation date in each month, plus an amount equal to the service fee (the "Service Fee") discussed below.

Quadravest is entitled to a base management fee payable monthly in arrears at an annual rate of 0.65% of the Net Asset Value of the Company calculated as at the last valuation date in each month.

In addition, Quadravest is entitled to a performance fee equal to 20% of the total return per unit (consisting of one Preferred Share and one Class A Share) of the Company (a "Unit") for a financial year that exceeds 112% of the "Bonus Threshold". The Bonus Threshold, for any financial year immediately following a year for which a performance fee is payable, is equal to the Net Asset Value per Unit at the beginning of that financial year. The Bonus Threshold, for any financial year immediately following a year for which a performance fee is not payable, is equal to the greater of (i) the Net Asset Value per Unit at the end of the immediately prior financial year; and (ii) the Bonus Threshold for the prior year, minus the "Adjustment Amount". The Adjustment Amount for any financial year is the amount, if any, by which the Net Asset Value per Unit at the end of the immediately prior year plus dividends paid in that prior year exceeds the Bonus Threshold for that prior year. No performance fee may be paid in any year if, at the end of such year, (i) the Net Asset Value per Unit is less than \$25.00; (ii) the rating on the Preferred Shares is rated by Dominion Bond Rating Service Limited at less than Pfd-2 (or, if Dominion Bond Rating Service Limited has not rated such shares, then the equivalent ratings of another rating agency that has rated such shares shall apply); or (iii) the Company has not earned an annualized total return of at least the "Base Return" on a cumulative basis since inception. The Base Return in any year is the greater of (i) 5%; and (ii) the annual total return for such year as measured by the Scotia Capital 91-Day T-Bill Index.

The Manager will pay the Service Fee to each dealer whose clients hold Class A Shares. The Service Fee will be calculated and paid at the end of each calendar quarter and will be equal to 0.50% annually of the value of the Class A Shares held by clients of the dealer. For these purposes, the value of a Class A Share is the Net Asset Value per Unit less \$10.00. No Service Fee will be paid in any calendar quarter if regular dividends are not paid to holders of Class A Shares in respect of each month in such calendar quarter.

## CERTIFICATES OF THE COMPANY AND THE PROMOTER

Dated: October 29, 2003

The foregoing constitutes full, true and plain disclosure of all material facts relating to the securities offered by this prospectus as required by Part 9 of the *Securities Act* (British Columbia), by Part 9 of the *Securities Act* (Alberta), by Part XI of *The Securities Act, 1988* (Saskatchewan), by Part VII of *The Securities Act* (Manitoba), by Part XV of the *Securities Act* (Ontario), by Section 63 of the *Securities Act* (Nova Scotia), by Section 13 of the *Securities Act* (New Brunswick), by Part XIV of *The Securities Act* (Newfoundland and Labrador) and by Part II of the *Securities Act* (Prince Edward Island) and the respective regulations thereunder. This prospectus does not contain any misrepresentation likely to affect the value or the market price of the securities to be distributed within the meaning of the *Securities Act* (Quebec) and the regulations thereunder.

(Signed) S. WAYNE FINCH  
President and Chief Executive Officer

(Signed) PETER F. CRUICKSHANK  
Chief Financial Officer

On behalf of the Board of Directors

(Signed) LAURA L. JOHNSON  
Director

(Signed) WILLIAM C. THORNHILL  
Director

QUADRAVEST CAPITAL MANAGEMENT INC.  
As Promoter

(Signed) S. WAYNE FINCH  
President and Chief Executive Officer

## CERTIFICATE OF THE AGENTS

Dated: October 29, 2003

To the best of our knowledge, information and belief, the foregoing constitutes full, true and plain disclosure of all material facts relating to the securities offered by this prospectus as required by Part 9 of the *Securities Act* (British Columbia), by Part 9 of the *Securities Act* (Alberta), by Part XI of *The Securities Act, 1988* (Saskatchewan), by Part VII of *The Securities Act* (Manitoba), by Part XV of the *Securities Act* (Ontario), by Section 64 of the *Securities Act* (Nova Scotia), by Section 13 of the *Securities Act* (New Brunswick), by Part XIV of *The Securities Act* (Newfoundland and Labrador) and by Part II of the *Securities Act* (Prince Edward Island), and the respective regulations thereunder. To the best of our knowledge, this prospectus does not contain any misrepresentation likely to affect the value or the market price of the securities to be distributed within the meaning of the *Securities Act* (Quebec) and the regulations thereunder.

CIBC WORLD MARKETS INC.

(Signed) RONALD W.A. MITCHELL

BMO NESBITT BURNS INC.

RBC DOMINION SECURITIES INC.

(Signed) DAVID R. THOMAS

(Signed) EDWARD V. JACKSON

TD SECURITIES INC.

(Signed) J. DAVID BEATTIE

BIEBER  
SECURITIES INC.

CANACCORD  
CAPITAL CORP.

DESJARDINS  
SECURITIES INC.

DUNDEE  
SECURITIES  
CORPORATION

FIRST ASSOCIATES  
INVESTMENTS INC.

(Signed) GUY  
BIEBER

(Signed) DOUGLAS  
A. DOIRON

(Signed)  
JEAN-PIERRE COLIN

(Signed) DAVID G.  
ANDERSON

(Signed) PATRICK S.  
LEUNG

*FINANCIAL*  *15 SPLIT*