



# **BRIDGEHOUSE**

*Independent Platform*

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**Brandes Greystone Lazard Sionna Morningstar**

2017 Interim Management Report  
of Fund Performance

Brandes Canadian Equity Fund





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## BRANDES CANADIAN EQUITY FUND

*This interim management report of fund performance contains financial highlights but does not contain the complete interim or annual financial statements of the Fund. The interim or annual financial statements are in a separate booklet. You may obtain a copy of the interim or annual financial statements at your request, and at no cost, by calling toll-free 1.888.861.9998, by writing to us at Bridgehouse Asset Managers, 20 Bay Street, Suite 400, Toronto, ON, M5J 2N8, or by visiting our website: [www.bridgehousecanada.com](http://www.bridgehousecanada.com) or the SEDAR website: [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com).*

*You may also contact us using one of these methods to request a copy of the Fund's proxy voting policies and procedures, proxy voting disclosure record, or quarterly portfolio disclosure relating to the Fund.*

### MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION OF FUND PERFORMANCE

#### Results of Operations from January 1, 2017 to June 30, 2017

##### **Markets & Effect**

In the United States, higher-than-expected earnings growth and low volatility propelled the S&P 500 Index to new all-time closing highs. Market returns in the first half of the year have been largely driven by growth sectors like technology and health care, which accounted for approximately 60% of the S&P 500 Index returns. Non-U.S. market stocks rebounded in the first half of 2017, with major markets including France, Germany and the Netherlands posting double-digit returns. The Japanese market gained 6.6%, however, stronger economic conditions were partially offset by volatility in the value of the yen.

Emerging markets advanced 14.7% for the first half of the year. Brandes LP believes there is still ample opportunity in the asset class, with valuations remaining attractive relative to developed market equities, especially the United States.

##### **Performance**

The Fund's Series A units outperformed its benchmark, gaining 5.9% versus a gain of 0.7% for the S&P/TSX Composite Index (the "Index").

The Fund returns are after the deduction of fees and expenses while the benchmark returns do not include any costs of investing. See the "Past Performance" section for the returns of the other series, which may vary because of differences in management fees and expenses or timing of series introduction.

Holdings in the communications equipment industry contributed to overall performance, while holdings in biotechnology detracted from returns. The Fund's holding in the Brandes Global Equity Fund contributed to performance during the period.

##### **Asset Mix**

Over the recent reporting period, the Fund's asset mix did not change significantly. At June 30, 2017, Canadian equities made up 50.1%, global equities represented 29.6%, primarily invested in units of the Brandes Global Equity Fund, and approximately 20.3% was in cash and other net assets.

The Fund's most significant industry exposure change was a decrease in holdings in communications equipment to 1.1% from 5.1% at December 31, 2016.

In line with its bottom-up investment philosophy, Brandes LP continues to build the portfolio on a company-by-company basis. Brandes LP only compares the Fund to the Index in the course of ensuring that it remains appropriately diversified. As a result, the Fund's industry weightings were quite different from the Index during the period. For example, at June 30, 2017, the Fund's largest industry exposure was in the insurance industry, which comprised 10.1% of the Fund's portfolio, versus 6.7% for the Index.

Typically less than 5% of the Fund is allocated to any one security, at the time of purchase. Therefore, the addition or deletion of an individual security will generally not constitute a substantial change to the portfolio.

As of May 12, 2014, the fund may invest up to 49% of the Fund's total assets in foreign equity securities.

##### **Flows & Fees**

The Fund's Net Asset Value increased to \$50.6 million at June 30, 2017, from \$44.1 million at December 31, 2016. Of this change, an increase of \$2.7 million was due to positive performance (net of investment income), and an increase of \$3.8 million was due to inflows.

For Series A units, the annualized management expense ratio ("MER") at June 30, 2017 is 2.72%, unchanged from December 31, 2016.

## Recent Developments

There are no known changes at this time to the strategic positioning of the Fund, the manager, or portfolio sub-advisor.

On May 15, 2017, Bridgehouse announced that it intends to re-designate current investors in Series K to Series A, Series L to Series A, Series M to Series F and will eliminate Series K, Series L, Series M. The change is expected to be implemented on or about July 7, 2017. In anticipation of the Series re-designations, Series K, Series L and Series M will be closed to new purchases as of July 4, 2017.

### **International Financial Reporting Standards**

The International Accounting Standards Board ("IASB") issued IFRS 9 to replace IAS 39, "Financial Instruments—Recognition and Measurement". In December 2014, the IASB made further changes to the standard. With these amendments, IFRS 9 is now complete. IFRS 9 is to be applied retrospectively and it is effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2018. The Manager continues to assess the impact of IFRS 9.

IFRS 15 "Revenue from Contracts with Customers" was issued in May 2014 and is effective for years beginning on or after January 1, 2018, to be applied retrospectively or on a modified retrospective basis. IFRS 15 clarifies revenue recognition principles, provides a robust framework for recognizing revenue and cash flows arising from contracts with customers and enhances qualitative and quantitative disclosure requirements. IFRS 15 does not apply to insurance contracts, financial instruments and other related contractual rights and obligations and lease contracts. The Funds are assessing the impact of this standard. The Funds do not intend to early adopt this standard.

## Related Party Transactions

### **Manager and Portfolio Advisor**

The Fund is managed and advised by Brandes Investment Partners & Co., operating as Bridgehouse Asset Managers ("Bridgehouse") which provides (or arranges for) investment management, distribution, marketing and promotion of the Fund. Bridgehouse receives a monthly management fee based on the daily average net assets of each series of the Fund. In addition, Bridgehouse is entitled to be reimbursed by the Fund for certain operating expenses.

Brandes Investment Partners L.P. ("Brandes LP") continued to be the Manager's portfolio sub-advisor in respect of the Fund. Bridgehouse pays Brandes LP an investment management fee to provide the Fund with investment management services. Bridgehouse and Brandes LP are affiliates.

## Forward-Looking Statements

This document may contain forward-looking statements relating to anticipated future events, results, performance, decisions, circumstances, opportunities, risks or other matters. Forward-looking statements are statements that are predictive in nature, depend upon or refer to future events or conditions, or that include words such as "may", "will", "should", "could", "expect", "anticipate", "intend", "plan", "believe", or "estimate" or other similar expressions. These statements require us to make assumptions and are subject to inherent risks and uncertainties. Our predictions and other forward-looking statements may not prove to be accurate, or a number of factors could cause actual events, results, performance, etc. to differ materially from the targets, expectations, estimates or intentions expressed or implied in the forward-looking statements. These factors could include, among others, market and general economic conditions, interest rates, regulatory and statutory developments, the effects of competition in the geographic and business areas in which the Fund may invest, and the risks detailed from time to time in the Fund's simplified prospectus. Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance. For these reasons, it is important that readers do not place undue reliance on our forward-looking statements and should be aware that the Fund may not update any forward-looking statements whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

## Benchmark Index

**S&P/TSX Composite Index:** This index tracks the performance of some of the largest and most widely held Canadian stocks listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange.

## FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 2017 AND PERIODS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012 TO 2016

The following tables show selected key financial information about the Fund and are intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the six months ended June 30, 2017 and for the past five periods ended December 31, as applicable. In the year a fund or series is established, 'period' represents inception to December 31 of that year. In all other cases, 'period' represents year ended December 31. Inception date for Series D and K is May 12, 2014.

### The Fund's Net Assets per Unit (\$) (note 1)

		Increase (decrease) from operations						Distributions			Net assets, end of period
		Net assets, beginning of period	Total revenue	Total expenses	Realized gains (losses) for the period	Unrealized gains (losses) for the period	Total increase (decrease) from operations (note 2)	From net investment income excluding dividends	From dividends	Total annual distribution (note 3)	
Series A	2017	20.47	0.15	(0.29)	0.84	0.50	1.20	-	-	-	21.68
	2016	16.96	0.59	(0.49)	2.47	0.88	3.45	-	(0.10)	(0.10)	20.47
	2015	16.53	0.41	(0.47)	1.52	(0.96)	0.50	-	-	-	16.96
	2014	14.67	0.43	(0.42)	2.17	(0.35)	1.83	-	-	-	16.53
	2013	9.98	0.42	(0.34)	0.83	3.79	4.70	-	-	-	14.67
	2012	7.83	0.23	(0.24)	0.02	2.17	2.18	-	-	-	9.94
Series D	2017	13.38	0.10	(0.13)	0.58	0.10	0.65	-	-	-	14.23
	2016	11.04	0.38	(0.23)	1.66	0.24	2.05	-	(0.12)	(0.12)	13.38
	2015	10.64	0.35	(0.21)	0.81	(1.08)	(0.13)	-	-	-	11.04
	2014	10.00	0.25	(0.08)	0.81	(0.34)	0.64	-	-	-	10.64
Series F	2017	18.71	0.15	(0.16)	0.81	0.30	1.10	-	-	-	19.92
	2016	15.52	0.58	(0.27)	2.20	0.81	3.32	-	(0.33)	(0.33)	18.71
	2015	14.97	0.41	(0.25)	1.35	(0.98)	0.53	-	-	-	15.52
	2014	13.25	0.45	(0.23)	1.95	(0.31)	1.86	-	(0.12)	(0.12)	14.97
	2013	8.92	0.42	(0.18)	0.82	3.27	4.33	-	-	-	13.25
2012	6.92	0.21	(0.13)	0.01	2.02	2.11	-	-	-	8.88	
Series I	2017	31.24	0.23	-	1.30	0.79	2.32	-	-	-	33.53
	2016	25.72	0.92	-	3.95	1.47	6.34	-	(0.84)	(0.84)	31.24
	2015	24.40	0.64	-	2.24	(1.55)	1.33	-	-	-	25.72
	2014	21.06	0.38	-	3.51	(4.59)	(0.70)	-	-	-	24.40
	2013	13.94	0.61	-	1.33	5.17	7.11	-	-	-	21.06
	2012	10.65	0.34	-	0.05	2.86	3.25	-	-	-	13.89
Series K	2017	13.28	0.10	(0.15)	0.58	0.12	0.65	-	-	-	14.10
	2016	10.91	0.36	(0.27)	2.20	1.23	3.52	-	(0.03)	(0.03)	13.28
	2015	10.58	0.28	(0.24)	0.89	(0.75)	0.18	-	-	-	10.91
	2014	10.00	0.26	(0.14)	0.85	(0.53)	0.44	-	-	-	10.58
Series L	2017	20.78	0.14	(0.18)	0.67	1.17	1.80	-	-	-	22.11
	2016	17.14	0.60	(0.31)	2.70	1.00	3.99	-	(0.23)	(0.23)	20.78
	2015	16.56	0.60	(0.30)	1.47	(1.05)	0.72	-	-	-	17.14
	2014	14.57	0.46	(0.29)	2.15	(0.33)	1.99	-	-	-	16.56
	2013	9.83	0.43	(0.24)	0.92	3.63	4.74	-	-	-	14.57
	2012	7.64	0.02	(0.15)	0.53	6.53	6.93	-	-	-	9.80
Series M	2017	14.62	0.11	(0.09)	0.62	0.25	0.89	-	-	-	15.60
	2016	11.97	0.40	(0.16)	2.23	1.28	3.75	-	(0.12)	(0.12)	14.62
	2015	11.48	0.35	(0.14)	0.90	(1.24)	(0.13)	-	-	-	11.97
	2014	10.04	0.19	(0.13)	1.72	(0.18)	1.60	-	-	-	11.48
	2013	6.74	0.14	(0.12)	0.93	4.63	5.58	-	-	-	10.04
	2012	5.22	-	(0.08)	0.64	3.32	3.88	-	-	-	6.71

1. The financial information presented in the Net Assets per Unit table is derived from the Fund's audited annual financial statements. The Fund adopted International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS") commencing January 1, 2014. This information for the years up to 2012 is stated under Canadian GAAP. The 2013 numbers have been restated for comparative purposes to comply with IFRS 13, which came into effect January 1, 2014. An explanation of the differences and reconciliation can be found in the notes to the financial statements.

2. Net Assets per Unit of a series is based on the number of units outstanding for that series at the relevant time. The Increase (Decrease) from Operations per Unit of a series is based on the weighted average number of units outstanding for that series during the period.

3. Distributions per Unit of a series are based on the number of units outstanding for the series on the record dates for the distributions. Distributions were paid in cash/reinvested in additional units of the Fund or both.

## Ratios and Supplemental Data

		Net asset value (\$000) (note 4)	Number of units outstanding (000) (note 4)	Management expense ratio (MER) (%) (note 5)	MER before waivers or absorption (%) (note 5)	Portfolio turnover rate (%) (note 6)	Trading expense ratio (%) (note 7)	Net asset value per unit
Series A	2017	40,830	1,883	2.72	2.89	11.42	0.05	21.68
	2016	38,550	1,883	2.72	2.89	26.93	0.04	20.47
	2015	36,448	2,150	2.72	2.88	20.25	0.04	16.96
	2014	42,491	2,571	2.72	2.87	19.00	0.04	16.53
	2013	47,754	3,255	2.72	2.87	30.21	0.05	14.67
	2012	37,036	3,710	2.68	2.87	26.93	0.08	9.98
Series D	2017	810	57	1.92	2.09	-	-	14.23
	2016	421	31	1.92	2.08	-	-	13.38
	2015	437	40	1.92	2.06	-	-	11.04
	2014	-	-	1.93	5.34	-	-	10.64
Series F	2017	4,233	213	1.62	1.81	-	-	19.92
	2016	2,476	132	1.63	1.77	-	-	18.71
	2015	2,435	157	1.63	1.76	-	-	15.52
	2014	2,286	153	1.63	1.75	-	-	14.97
	2013	1,945	147	1.63	1.74	-	-	13.25
	2012	1,264	142	1.62	1.76	-	-	8.92
Series I	2017	173	5	0.00	0.00	-	-	33.53
	2016	157	5	0.00	0.00	-	-	31.24
	2015	1	-	0.00	0.00	-	-	25.72
	2014	1	-	0.00	0.00	-	-	24.40
	2013	1	-	0.00	0.00	-	-	21.06
	2012	1	-	0.00	0.00	-	-	13.94
Series K	2017	3,797	269	2.20	2.64	-	-	14.10
	2016	1,967	148	2.20	2.60	-	-	13.28
	2015	237	22	2.20	2.52	-	-	10.91
	2014	57	5	2.21	2.81	-	-	10.58
Series L	2017	2	-	1.70	1.75	-	-	22.11
	2016	6	-	1.69	1.74	-	-	20.78
	2015	4	-	1.70	1.83	-	-	17.14
	2014	1	-	1.86	1.90	-	-	16.56
	2013	1	-	2.03	2.03	-	-	14.57
	2012	1	-	1.89	1.89	-	-	9.83
Series M	2017	772	49	1.20	1.23	-	-	15.60
	2016	512	35	1.19	1.22	-	-	14.62
	2015	113	9	1.20	1.24	-	-	11.97
	2014	1	-	1.20	1.24	-	-	11.48
	2013	1	-	1.46	1.46	-	-	10.04
	2012	-	-	1.47	1.47	-	-	6.74

- The financial information presented in the Ratios and Supplemental Data table is derived from the Fund's Net Asset Value and is provided as at June 30, 2017 and December 31 of the previous years shown.
- The management expense ratio ("MER") is calculated as the total management fees and operating expenses paid by each series of the Fund, including GST/HST and interest and excluding commissions and other portfolio transaction costs, as a percentage of the average daily Net Asset Value of each series of the Fund on an annualized basis. Any management fee distributions paid by a series of the fund that effectively reduced management fees payable by some unitholders are not deducted from expenses to determine the overall MER of that series. The Manager, at its sole discretion, waives management fees or absorbs expenses. Such waivers and absorptions can be terminated at any time. The MERs of the Fund are shown both with and without the waiver and absorptions.
- Portfolio turnover rate is calculated at the Fund level based on the lesser of purchases or proceeds of sales of securities for the period, excluding cash, short term notes and bonds having maturity dates at acquisition of one year or less, divided by the average value of the portfolio securities for the period. The Fund's portfolio turnover rate indicates how actively the Fund's portfolio advisor manages its portfolio investments. A portfolio turnover rate of 100% is equivalent to the Fund buying and selling all of the securities in its portfolio once in the course of the year. The higher a Fund's portfolio turnover rate in a year, the greater the trading costs payable by the Fund in the year, and the greater the chance of an investor receiving taxable capital gains in the year. There is not necessarily a relationship between a high turnover rate and the performance of a Fund.
- The trading expense ratio represents total commissions and other portfolio transaction costs expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average Net Asset Value of the Fund. The trading expense ratio is calculated at the Fund level and applies to all series of the Fund.

## MANAGEMENT FEES

Bridgehouse Asset Managers, the Manager, provides or arranges for investment management, distribution, marketing and promotion of the Fund. In consideration for the services provided, Bridgehouse Asset Managers receives a monthly management fee based on the daily average Net Asset Value of Series A, Series D, Series F, Series K, Series L and Series M. Management fees for Series I are negotiated and paid directly by the unitholders of Series I, not by the Fund.

For the six months ended June 30, 2017, the Fund paid Bridgehouse Asset Managers management fees of \$556,047. Bridgehouse uses these management fees to pay for commission payments to registered brokers and dealers and general investment management expenses. The breakdown (commission payments / investment management, administration and other) as a proportion of the management fee for each Series are:

- Series A (43% / 57%)
- Series D (15% / 85%)
- Series F (0% / 100%)
- Series I (0% / 100%)
- Series K (44% / 56%)
- Series L (24% / 76%)
- Series M (0% / 100%)

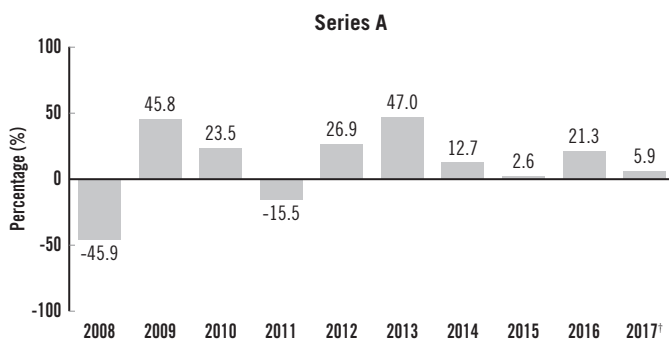
Commission payments represent cash commissions paid by Bridgehouse Asset Managers to registered brokers and dealers during the period and includes upfront deferred sales charge and trailing commissions. This amount may, in certain circumstances, exceed 100% of the fees earned by the Bridgehouse Asset Managers during the period. For new Funds or Series the amount presented may not be indicative of longer term operating periods.

## PAST PERFORMANCE

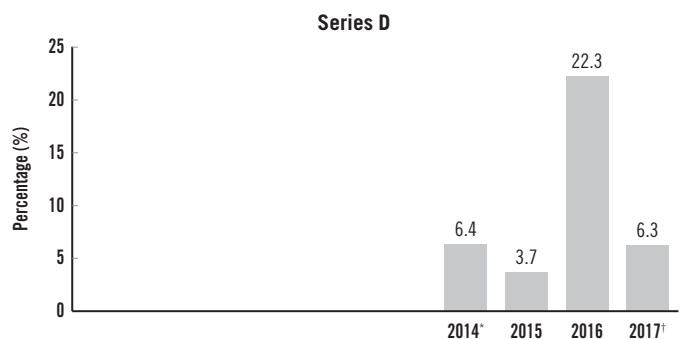
This section shows the historical performance for each series of the Fund for the six months ended June 30, 2017 and each of the previous annual periods ended December 31. Historical performance is based on the change in Net Asset Value per unit, assuming reinvestment of all distributions. Management fees and operating expenses have been taken into account before calculating performance, except in the case of Series I units where the management fee is calculated outside of the Fund. Historical performance does not take into account the potential impact on returns of purchases, redemptions, distribution fees or other optional charges or income taxes payable by an investor. Keep in mind that past performance does not necessarily indicate how the Fund will perform in the future.

### Year-by-Year Returns (%)

The bar chart shows the Fund's annual performance for each of the years shown. The bar chart shows how the performance of each series of the Fund has changed from year to year. It illustrates in percentage terms how much an investment in each series of the Fund made on January 1 of each year, or on the inception dates, would have grown or decreased by the last day of each financial year. 2017 data presented below is for the six-month period ended June 30, 2017.

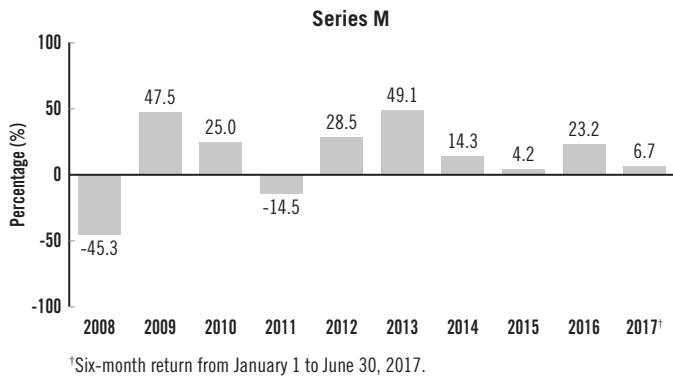
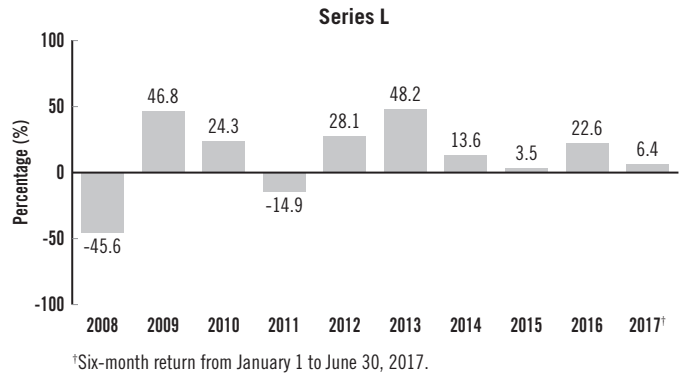
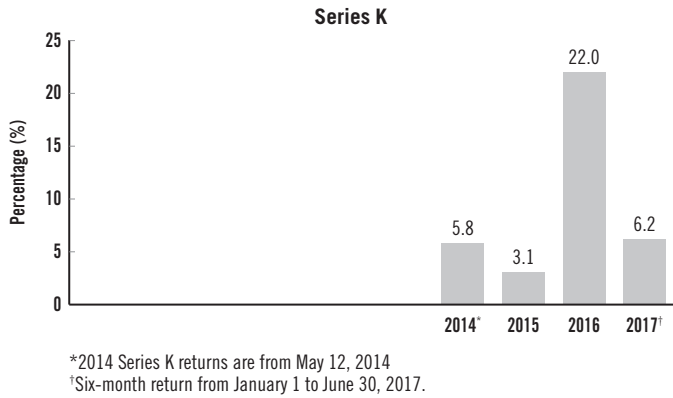
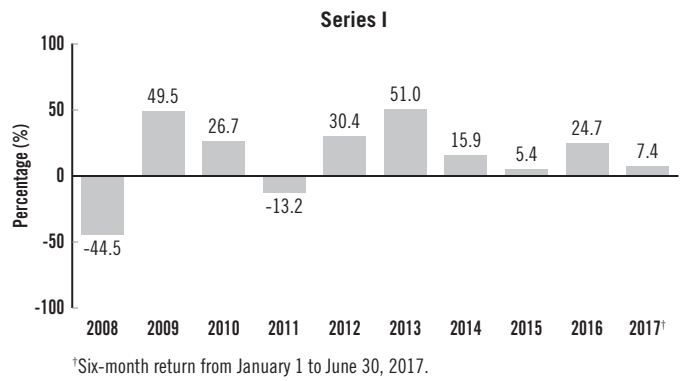
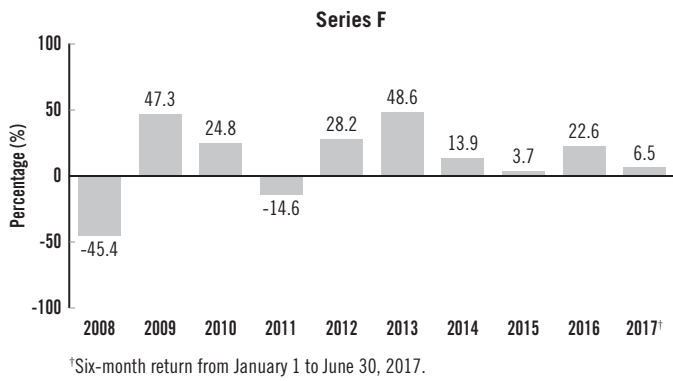


<sup>†</sup>Six-month return from January 1 to June 30, 2017.



\*2014 Series D returns are from May 12, 2014  
<sup>†</sup>Six-month return from January 1 to June 30, 2017.





## SUMMARY OF INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO AS AT JUNE 30, 2017

### Top 25 Positions

The portfolio does not contain any short positions. The investment portfolio may change due to ongoing portfolio transactions of the investment fund. An updated listing is available on a quarterly basis.

Security	Fund (%)
1. Brandes Global Equity Fund Series I	26.7
2. Cash & Cash Equivalents	20.2
3. Corby Spirit and Wine Limited <sup>1</sup>	5.5
4. E-L Financial Corporation Ltd.	5.5
5. Dorel Industries Inc. Cl. B Sub. Voting	4.9
6. Algoma Central Corporation	3.2
7. Fairfax Financial Holdings Limited	3.0
8. Norbord Inc.	2.9
9. Granite Real Estate Investment Trust	2.6
10. Chesapeake Energy Corporation <sup>2</sup>	2.2
11. Velan Inc.	2.1
12. WestJet Airlines, Ltd.	2.0
13. Cameco Corporation	2.0
14. High Liner Foods Inc.	1.9
15. Celestica Inc. Sub. Voting	1.8
16. Manulife Financial Corporation	1.6
17. HNZ Group, Inc.	1.3
18. Shaw Communications Inc. 2.54% Series B Preferred	1.3
19. EXFO, Inc.	1.1
20. TransCanada Corporation 1.95% Series 4 Preferred	1.1
21. Emera Incorporated 2.26% Series B Preferred	1.1
22. BCE Inc. 2.55% Series AN Preferred	1.0
23. TELUS Corporation	1.0
24. Novilion Therapeutics Inc.	0.8
25. Western Forest Products Inc.	0.8
<b>% of Fund</b>	<b>97.6</b>
<b>Total Number of Companies<sup>†</sup></b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Total Net Asset Value (\$MM)</b>	<b>\$51</b>

<sup>†</sup> Includes the Brandes Global Equity Fund but excludes its individual holdings

<sup>1</sup> 4.72% in Corby Spirit and Wine Limited Cl. B & 0.80% in Corby Spirit and Wine Limited Cl. A

<sup>2</sup> 1.62% in Chesapeake Energy Corporation & 0.57% in Chesapeake Energy Corporation Preferred

The prospectus and other information about the underlying investment funds held in the portfolio are available on the internet at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com) and also at [www.bridgehousecanada.com](http://www.bridgehousecanada.com)

### Asset Mix

Asset Class	Fund (%)
Canadian Equity	50.1
Global Equity	29.6
Cash & Cash Equivalent	20.2
Other Net Assets	0.1
<b>% of Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>

### Industry Exposure

Industry	Fund (%)
<b>Equities</b>	
Insurance	10.1
Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels	6.0
Beverages	5.5
Household Durables	4.9
Paper & Forest Products	3.7
Airlines	3.3
Marine	3.2
Equity Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs)	2.6
Machinery	2.1
Media	2.1
Diversified Telecommunications Services	2.0
Food Products	1.9
Electronic Equipment, Instruments & Components	1.8
Communications Equipment	1.1
Electric Utilities	1.1
Pharmaceuticals	0.8
Capital Markets	0.5
Food & Staples Retailing	0.3
Biotechnology	0.0
<b>Mutual Funds (Foreign Property)</b>	<b>26.7</b>
Cash & Cash Equivalent	20.2
Other Net Assets	0.1
<b>% of Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Total Number of Industries</b>	<b>20</b>

### Country Exposure

Country	Fund (%)
Canada	50.1
United States	2.9
Global Mutual Fund	26.7
Cash & Cash Equivalent	20.2
Other Net Assets	0.1
<b>% of Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Total Number of Countries</b>	<b>3</b>

<sup>†</sup>The Brandes Global Equity Fund is the largest holding in the Fund at 26.7%. This information is presented as though the Brandes Canadian Equity Fund directly held the stocks owned by the Brandes Global Equity Fund

Note: Rounding to one decimal place may result in individual figures totalling more or less than 100%





Bridgehouse Funds are managed by Bridgehouse Asset Managers® and are available through registered dealers.

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