



# **BRIDGEHOUSE**

**INDEPENDENT PLATFORM**

---

**Brandes   GQG   Lazard   Morningstar   Sionna**

2021 Interim Management Report  
of Fund Performance

Sionna Strategic Income Fund



## SIONNA STRATEGIC INCOME 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, 36 Toronto Street, Suite 850, Toronto, ON, M5C 2C5, 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, 2021 to June 30, 2021

#### **Markets & Effect**

The S&P/TSX Composite Index gained 17.3% in the first half of the year. Seven of the Index's eleven sectors posted double-digit returns as markets continued to price in increased economic activity, hopes for a more robust and permanent re-opening of the economy and the potential for higher inflation. The energy sector climbed 37.0%, largely driven by the rally in the price of crude oil. The "Big Five" Canadian banks were once again the driver of the performance of the financial sector as the overall economic outlook and Canada's re-opening has continued to progress. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) has been in the range of 3-4% in recent months, well above the historic 1-2% targeted inflation rate. This has been driven by increased raw material costs due to commodity price inflation, increased freight costs, higher wage inflation and unprecedented monetary ease.

Just three months ago, Canada was a global laggard in the COVID-19 vaccine roll-out, with just 9.2% of the population having received their first dose. Since the end of the first quarter, Canada has been highly effective in accessing vaccine supply and building out a robust distribution system, which has resulted in 76.9% of the eligible population receiving their first dose and 30.0% of eligible recipients becoming fully vaccinated.

The ongoing progress made on the vaccine roll-out has reduced the spread of COVID-19 and given a new sense of hope that we are just around the corner from a return to normal – something that consumers and small businesses are certainly looking forward to.

#### **Performance**

The Fund's Series A units trailed its benchmark, gaining 7.5% versus a gain of 9.3% for the Sionna Strategic Income Benchmark (the "Blended Benchmark"). (Please see the Benchmark Indices section for a full description).

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 metals & mining made a positive contribution to overall performance, while holdings in IT services detracted from performance for the period.

#### **Asset Mix**

At June 30, 2021, 43.4% was invested in Canadian equities, 24.1% was in global equities, 29.6% was in fixed income, and approximately 2.9% was in cash and other net assets.

The Manager confirms that the Fund did not borrow money during the period.

#### **Flows & Fees**

The Fund's Net Asset Value was \$110.7 million at June 30, 2021, unchanged from December 31, 2020. This was the result of an increase of \$8.2 million due to positive investment performance (net of investment income), and a decrease of \$8.2 million due to net outflows.

For Series A units, the annualized management expense ratio ("MER") at June 30, 2021 is 2.28%, unchanged from December 31, 2020.

#### **Recent Developments**

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

The outbreak of the novel coronavirus, first detected in December 2019, rapidly became a pandemic and resulted in disruptions to the economies of many nations, individual companies and the markets in general. This created closed borders, quarantines, supply chain disruptions and general anxiety, which negatively impacted global markets in an unforeseeable manner. The impact of the novel coronavirus and other such future infectious diseases in certain regions or countries may be greater or less due to the nature or level of their public health responses or due to other factors. Health crises caused by the coronavirus outbreak or future infectious diseases may exacerbate other pre-existing political, social and economic risks in certain countries. The impact of such health crises may be quick, severe and of

unknowable duration. This pandemic and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future could result in continued volatility in the financial markets and lead to increased levels of Fund redemptions, which could have a negative impact on the Funds and could adversely affect a Fund's performance.

## 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.

Sionna Investment Managers Inc. ("Sionna") is the Fund's portfolio sub-advisor in respect of the Canadian Equity portion of the Fund and Brandes Investment Partners, LP ("Brandes LP") is the portfolio sub-advisor in respect of the non-Canadian portion of the Fund. Bridgehouse pays each of Sionna and 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 Indices

**Sionna Strategic Income Benchmark:** This blended benchmark is weighted 45% S&P/TSX Composite Index, 25% MSCI World Index, 20% FTSE Canada Universe Bond Index, and 10% Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Intermediate Credit Index (Hedged).

**MSCI World Index:** This index consists of equities from developed markets around the world, including Canada and the United States.

**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.

**FTSE Canada Universe Bond Index:** This index provides a broad measure of the total return for the Canadian bond market covering over 900 Canadian federal, provincial, municipal, and corporate bonds with maturities greater than one year and with a rating of BBB or higher.

**Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Intermediate Credit Index (Hedged):** This index measures the performance of investment grade corporate bonds in the United States with maturities of between one and ten years. The hedged version minimizes the exposure of currency fluctuations on index performance.

## FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 2021 AND PERIODS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016 TO 2020

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, 2021 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.

### 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 (\$)	From capital gains (\$)	Return of capital (\$)	Total annual distribution (\$) (note 3)	
Series A	2021	15.88	0.32	(0.19)	0.25	0.80	1.18	(0.50)	-	-	-	(0.50)	16.55
	2020	17.02	0.58	(0.35)	(0.15)	(0.36)	(0.28)	(0.03)	(0.22)	-	(0.76)	(1.01)	15.88
	2019	15.75	0.67	(0.39)	0.95	0.20	1.43	(0.04)	(0.16)	-	(0.50)	(0.70)	17.02
	2018	16.95	0.49	(0.41)	0.92	(2.07)	(1.07)	-	(0.08)	-	-	(0.08)	15.75
	2017	16.13	0.44	(0.40)	0.70	0.16	0.90	-	(0.05)	-	-	(0.05)	16.95
	2016	14.74	0.42	(0.37)	0.39	0.92	1.36	-	(0.06)	-	-	(0.06)	16.13
Series F	2021	17.04	0.35	(0.10)	0.27	0.87	1.39	(0.49)	-	-	-	(0.49)	17.92
	2020	17.97	0.63	(0.19)	(0.16)	(0.44)	(0.16)	(0.05)	(0.42)	-	(0.51)	(0.98)	17.04
	2019	16.46	0.72	(0.21)	0.95	0.20	1.66	(0.08)	(0.34)	-	(0.35)	(0.77)	17.97
	2018	17.74	0.55	(0.22)	0.97	(2.30)	(1.00)	-	(0.30)	-	-	(0.30)	16.46
	2017	16.84	0.49	(0.22)	0.80	0.34	1.41	-	(0.21)	-	-	(0.21)	17.74
	2016	15.34	0.47	(0.21)	0.42	0.94	1.62	-	(0.18)	-	-	(0.18)	16.84
Series I	2021	18.48	0.36	-	0.30	0.93	1.59	(0.46)	-	-	-	(0.46)	19.61
	2020	19.11	0.64	-	(0.15)	(0.13)	0.36	(0.07)	(0.56)	-	(0.29)	(0.92)	18.48
	2019	17.24	0.71	-	1.11	0.37	2.19	(0.10)	(0.45)	-	(0.19)	(0.74)	19.11
	2018	18.55	0.52	-	1.07	(2.04)	(0.45)	-	(0.52)	-	-	(0.52)	17.24
	2017	17.57	0.48	-	0.75	0.18	1.41	-	(0.41)	-	-	(0.41)	18.55
	2016	15.97	0.47	-	0.46	1.06	1.99	-	(0.38)	-	-	(0.38)	17.57

- The financial information presented in the Net Assets per Unit table is derived from the Fund's audited financial statements.
- Net Assets and distributions are per Unit of a series are based on the actual 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 financial period.
- 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	2021	89,292	5,397	2.28	2.33	9.62	0.03	16.55
	2020	89,790	5,655	2.28	2.30	29.46	0.04	15.88
	2019	113,428	6,664	2.30	2.42	49.02	0.05	17.02
	2018	34,312	2,179	2.44	2.51	13.15	0.03	15.75
	2017	42,953	2,534	2.44	2.52	16.12	0.04	16.95
	2016	43,521	2,698	2.44	2.60	21.87	0.03	16.13
Series F	2021	20,343	1,135	1.13	1.15	-	-	17.92
	2020	19,851	1,165	1.14	1.14	-	-	17.04
	2019	24,443	1,360	1.18	1.26	-	-	17.97
	2018	6,312	383	1.28	1.28	-	-	16.46
	2017	6,464	364	1.30	1.35	-	-	17.74
	2016	2,421	144	1.30	1.41	-	-	16.84
Series I	2021	1,107	56	0.00	0.00	-	-	19.61
	2020	1,019	55	0.00	0.00	-	-	18.48
	2019	1,001	52	0.00	0.00	-	-	19.11
	2018	409	24	0.00	0.00	-	-	17.24
	2017	14,177	764	0.00	0.00	-	-	18.55
	2016	11,588	659	0.00	0.00	-	-	17.57

- 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 December 31 of the 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, and the Portfolio's proportionate share of the MER, if applicable, of the Underlying Funds and Exchange Traded Funds in which the Portfolio has invested, allocated to that Series, and is expressed 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, including the Portfolio's proportionate share of the commissions, if applicable, of the Underlying Funds and Exchange Traded Funds in which the Portfolio has invested, 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 and Series F. Management fees for Series I is negotiated and paid directly by the unitholders of Series I, and not by the Fund.

For the six months period ended June 30, 2021, the Fund paid Bridgehouse Asset Managers management fees of \$986,952. 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 (49% / 51%)
- Series F (0% / 100%)
- Series I (0% / 100%)

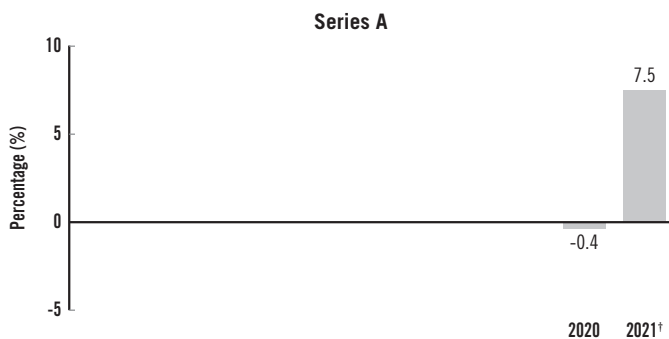
Commission payments represent cash commissions paid by Bridgehouse Asset Managers to registered brokers and dealers during the period and includes upfront deferred sales charge and trailing commissions. This amount may, in certain circumstances, exceed 100% of the fees earned by the Bridgehouse Asset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

## PAST PERFORMANCE\*

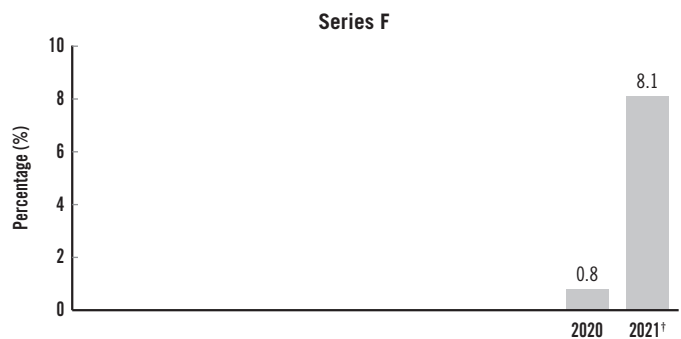
This section shows the historical performance for each series of the Fund for the six months ended June 30, 2021 and each of the previous annual periods ended December 31. Historical performance is based on the change in Net Asset Value per unit, assuming reinvestment of all distributions. Management 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. 2021 data presented below is for the six-month period ended June 30, 2021.

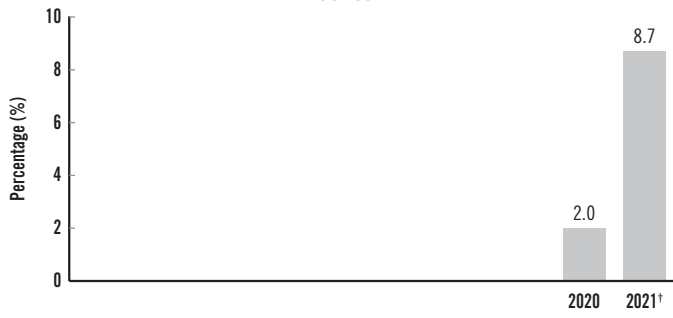


†Six-month return from January 1 to June 30, 2021.



†Six-month return from January 1 to June 30, 2021.

**Series I**



†Six-month return from January 1 to June 30, 2021.

\*On May 3, 2019, the Fund acquired assets from three Bridgehouse Funds in a material merger and the performance of the Fund was reset.



## SUMMARY OF INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO AS AT JUNE 30, 2021

### 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. Bridgehouse Canadian Bond Fund Series I <sup>1</sup>	19.4
2. Brandes Corporate Focus Bond Fund Series IH <sup>1</sup>	10.2
3. Royal Bank of Canada	3.9
4. The Toronto-Dominion Bank	3.4
5. The Bank of Nova Scotia	2.9
6. TC Energy Corporation	2.7
7. Cash and Cash Equivalents	2.5
8. TELUS Corporation	2.3
9. Fairfax Financial Holdings Limited <sup>2</sup>	2.3
10. Rogers Communications Inc. Cl. B	2.2
11. Pembina Pipeline Corporation	2.1
12. Brookfield Infrastructure Partners LP	2.0
13. Restaurant Brands International Inc.	1.9
14. Brookfield Renewable Partners LP	1.8
15. Great-West Lifeco Inc.	1.7
16. Suncor Energy Inc.	1.5
17. Manulife Financial Corporation	1.5
18. Canadian Natural Resources, Ltd.	1.3
19. Allied Properties Real Estate Investment Trust	1.3
20. Pizza Pizza Royalty Corp.	1.2
21. BCE Inc.	1.1
22. IGM Financial Inc.	1.1
23. Intact Financial Corporation	1.1
24. WPP PLC	0.9
25. Publicis Groupe SA	0.8
<b>% of Fund</b>	<b>73.1</b>
<b>Total Number of Companies</b>	<b>73</b>
<b>Total Number of Fixed Income Securities<sup>†</sup></b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Total Net Asset Value (\$MM)</b>	<b>\$111</b>

<sup>†</sup> Includes the Bridgehouse Canadian Bond Fund and Brandes Corporate Focus Bond Fund but excludes its individual holdings

<sup>1</sup> The Bridgehouse Canadian Bond Fund and Brandes Corporate Focus Bond Fund are the largest and second largest holdings in the Fund at 19.4% and 10.2%. This information is presented as though the Sionna Strategic Income Fund directly held the stocks owned by the Bridgehouse Canadian Bond Fund and the Brandes Corporate Focus Bond Fund.

<sup>2</sup> 1.37% in Fairfax Financial Holdings Limited & 0.90% in Fairfax Financial Holdings Limited Series C 4.71% 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	43.4
Global Equity	24.1
Fixed Income-Mutual Funds	29.6
Cash & Cash Equivalent	2.5
Other Net Assets	0.4
<b>% of Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>

### Industry Exposure

Industry	Fund (%)
<b>Equities</b>	
Commercial Banks	12.4
Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels	9.6
Insurance	7.4
Diversified Telecommunications Services	3.9
Pharmaceuticals	3.9
Hotels, Restaurants & Leisure	3.6
Multi-Utilities	2.6
Equity Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs)	2.4
Diversified Financial Services	2.4
Media	2.2
Wireless Telecommunications Services	2.2
Electric Utilities	2.1
Food & Staples Retailing	1.8
Capital Markets	1.7
Tobacco	1.5
Health Care Providers & Services	1.2
Food Products	0.9
Chemicals	0.8
Specialty Retail	0.7
Road & Rail	0.7
Electrical Equipment	0.6
Building Products	0.6
Automobiles	0.5
Aerospace & Defense	0.5
Technology Hardware, Storage & Peripherals	0.5
Beverages	0.4
Software	0.4
<b>Mutual Funds</b>	<b>29.6</b>
Cash & Cash Equivalent	2.5
Other Net Assets	0.4
<b>% of Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Total Number of Industries</b>	<b>28</b>

### Country Exposure

Country	Fund (%)
Canada	62.8
United States	19.0
United Kingdom	5.3
France	3.2
Switzerland	1.2
Mexico	1.1
Japan	0.9
South Korea	0.9
Austria	0.7
Brazil	0.5
Malaysia	0.5
Italy	0.5
Chile	0.3
Germany	0.2
Cash & Cash Equivalent	2.5
Other Net Assets	0.4
<b>% of Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Total Number of Countries</b>	<b>14</b>

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

## SUMMARY OF INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO AS AT JUNE 30, 2021 (CONTINUED)

### Debt Securities by Credit Rating\*

Credit Rating	Total Debt Instruments (%)
AAA/Aaa	23.0
AA/Aa	32.4
A/A	14.0
BBB/Baa	21.5
BB/Ba	6.2
B/B	2.6
Unrated	0.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>

\*Excludes cash and cash equivalents.

Credit ratings are obtained from Standard & Poor's, Moody's and Dominion Bond Rating Service.

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.

Bridgehouse Asset Managers® is a trade name of Brandes Investment Partners & Co. Brandes Investment Partners® is a registered trademark of Brandes Investment Partners, L.P. in the United States and Canada, used under license by Brandes Investment Partners & Co. Brandes Investment Partners & Co. is an affiliate of Brandes Investment Partners, L.P., which is a portfolio sub-advisor to certain of the Bridgehouse Funds.



Bridgehouse Asset Managers | [www.bridgehousecanada.com](http://www.bridgehousecanada.com)  
36 Toronto Street | Suite 850 | Toronto, ON | M5C 2C5 | 416.306.5700 | 888.861.9998