

Supporting ministries in a complex world

retirement PLAN REVIEW

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Canadian Centre of Christian Charities has access to Proteus' website where you can view current, and past newsletters and performance summaries.

There is also a link to your administrator's website, which provides the latest tools and calculators to learn more about retirement planning.

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PERFORMANCE SUMMARY



INVESTMENT

S T R A T E G Y

Capital Markets are unpredictable over short time periods and a well-diversified portfolio will help protect your capital over the long-term. Successful long-term investors do not focus on poor performance in any given year they review their strategy and make sure it is well aligned with their long-term objectives. Completing a 'Risk Profile' will help to determine the type of investor you are. If you are unsure of the best strategy for you, you should seek independent professional advice before making your investment decisions.



Learn more at Canada Life's website: ssl.grsaccess.com

Period Ending September 30, 2024				
	1 Year	3 Year	4 Year	10 Year
Balanced Funds				
Jarislowsky Fraser Balanced	22.1	6.0	8.4	7.4
JF Balanced Benchmark	21.2	5.9	7.4	6.5
Mackenzie SRI Balanced	20.0	6.5	8.0	6.7
Mackenzie SRI Balanced Benchmark	21.9	5.8	7.3	6.4
Money Market Fund				
Mackenzie Money Market	5.2	3.7	2.8	1.8
FTSE Canada 91 Day T-Bill Index	5.1	3.5	2.6	1.6
Fixed Income Fund				
MFS Canadian Fixed Income	13.7	0.1	-0.7	2.5
FTSE Canada Universe Index	12.9	-0.1	-0.9	2.3
Canadian Equity Funds				
Jarislowsky Fraser Canadian Equity	24.5	8.0	13.5	8.2
Mackenzie SRI Canadian Equity	24.2	10.6	14.7	8.7
S&P/TSX Composite Index	26.7	9.5	13.9	8.1
U.S. Equity Fund				
MFS American Equity	32.2	11.4	14.7	14.4
S&P 500 Index	36.2	14.3	16.5	15.5
Global Equity Fund				
Mawer Global Equity	18.0	8.1	10.5	n/a
MSCI ACWI Index	31.7	10.4	12.9	11.5
International Equity Fund				
MFS International Equity	27.1	10.2	12.0	10.4
MSCI EAFE Index	25.3	8.3	11.1	8.3
Target Date Funds				
Fidelity ClearPath Income Portfolio	13.5	2.2	2.8	3.7
Fidelity ClearPath 2020 Portfolio	17.8	3.1	4.7	5.9
Fidelity ClearPath 2025 Portfolio	19.8	3.9	6.0	6.6
Fidelity ClearPath 2030 Portfolio	21.5	4.9	7.3	7.2
Fidelity ClearPath 2035 Portfolio	22.8	5.6	8.4	7.9
Fidelity ClearPath 2040 Portfolio	24.9	6.9	10.3	8.8
Fidelity ClearPath 2045 Portfolio	26.8	7.7	11.1	9.1
Fidelity ClearPath 2050 Portfolio	26.8	7.7	11.1	9.0
Fidelity ClearPath 2055 Portfolio	26.7	7.7	11.1	9.0
Fidelity ClearPath 2060 Portfolio	26.7	7.7	11.1	n/a
Fidelity ClearPath 2065 Portfolio	26.4	n/a	n/a	n/a

Your Investment Funds

Balanced Funds

Jarislowsky Fraser Balanced — Seeks to provide a balance of current income and long-term capital appreciation by investing primarily in a mix of Canadian and foreign fixed income and equity securities.

Mackenzie SRI Balanced — Provides a balanced return of capital growth and current income by investing primarily in equity and fixed income securities. The Fund invests in publicly traded Canadian and foreign companies that conduct their business operations in a socially responsible manner and show strong growth prospects; with some exposure to foreign companies that meet these criteria.

Money Market Fund

Mackenzie Canadian Money Market — Provides interest income by investing primarily in Canadian fixed-income securities, including Canadian government securities and corporate income producing securities maturing within one year. This Fund invests primarily in government securities and high quality corporate money market instruments maturing within one year.

Fixed Income Fund

MFS Canadian Fixed Income — Seeks to obtain interest income by investing primarily in Canadian fixed income securities.

Canadian Equity Funds

Jarislowsky Fraser Canadian Equity — Seeks to obtain long-term capital gains by investing primarily in Canadian equities.

Mackenzie SRI Canadian Equity — Provides long-term capital growth with moderate income. The Fund invests primarily in the shares of publicly traded Canadian

companies that conduct their business operations in a socially responsible manner and show strong growth prospects; with some exposure to foreign companies that meet these criteria.

U.S. Equity Fund

MFS American Equity — Seeks to achieve capital appreciation investing primarily in large cap U.S. equities.

Global Equity Fund

Mawer Global Equity— Provides long-term capital growth by investing primarily in equities worldwide. The Fund invests in both large and small capitalization companies that offer the best global opportunities. It may also invest in T-bills and short term investments no greater than 3 years to maturity.

International Equity Fund

MFS International Equity— Provides long term capital gains by investing primarily in non-North American equities. The Fund seeks to outperform the MSCI EAFE Index over full market cycles.

Target Date Funds

Fidelity ClearPath[®] Retirement Portfolios — A family of lifecycle funds actively managed and regularly rebalanced to provide investors with optimal risk and return for their investment time horizon. The portfolios seek to maximize growth opportunities early on to provide high total investment return, and gradually become more conservative with advancing age.

Plan Member Responsibilities

Participating in a Capital Accumulation Plan (CAP), such as a workplace DCPP, RRSP, or TFSA, is a great way to work toward your financial goals, however it comes with some important responsibilities that every member should know.

Recently, the Guidelines for Capital Accumulation Plans were updated for the first time since 2004. These guidelines clarify what is expected from everyone involved, including CAP sponsors, administrators, service providers, and members. They also highlight industry best practices and what information members should receive.

As a member, it is important for you to understand the basics of your CAP, including its features, benefits, and risks. Members are responsible for making investment choices and staying updated on account performance. CAP sponsors (your employer) and service providers provide valuable information, including investment statements, educational materials, and retirement forecasting tools, so make sure to take advantage of the resources available to you.

Additionally, being aware of investment fees and/or potential penalties on redemptions, over-

contribution, etc. is essential for avoiding unexpected costs. Furthermore, it's important to reflect on how your participation in your employer's CAP aligns with your overall financial goals.

If you find yourself with more questions than answers, seeking advice from a qualified financial advisor is a wise decision. Regularly reviewing your investment choices can also help you adjust to changing circumstances.

Lastly, keep your personal information and beneficiary designations up to date. This ensures clear communication and that your benefits go to the right people. When it is time to end your participation in the CAP, make informed decisions about your next steps.

By taking these responsibilities seriously, CAP members like yourself can effectively manage their accounts and work toward their financial goals. Active involvement and informed choices are essential for a successful future.

Debt Management Strategies: Paying Off Debt and Avoiding Debt Traps

As you near the next chapter in your life, managing debt becomes essential to securing financial peace of mind. Reducing or eliminating outstanding debts can help protect your savings and free up resources for the future. Here are a few practical strategies that may help get you closer to financial freedom.

1. Target High-Interest Debt

If you have several obligations, start with those that carry the highest interest rates, such as credit cards or personal loans. Paying these off first helps reduce the total interest you pay, keeping more of your savings intact.

2. Debt Snowball

The snowball method focuses on paying off your smallest debts first, giving you psychological wins along the way.

3. Refinancing

If you still have a mortgage or other loans, investigate refinancing options, especially when interest rates are favorable.

4. Debt Consolidation

Debt consolidation is another option that simplifies your payments and may lower your interest rate.

5. Limit New Debt

It's vital to try to avoid taking on new debt during this time if you can. Cutting back on discretionary spending and stay mindful of using credit cards. Reducing or eliminating unnecessary debt now can prevent future financial strain.

Watch Out for Lifestyle Inflation

Be mindful of large, unplanned purchases like new cars or luxury vacations. While it is tempting, adding to your debt load could delay your financial goals.

By focusing on paying off your loans and staying vigilant of lifestyle inflation, you can approach the future with less stress and more security.

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MARKET REVIEW

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Canadian Equities

- Canadian equities reversed the previous quarter's negative performance and returned 10.5% overall.
- Cyclical sectors such as financials, utilities, health care, and materials were the main contributors to the recovery, they returned 17.0%, 16.6%, 16.5%, and 12.2%, respectively.
- The best performing sector was real estate, rebounding from the sharp decline in Q2 and generating a return of 23% for the quarter.
- The worst performing sectors were energy and industrials, generating returns of 2.0% and 2.7%, respectively.
- The S&P/TSX Composite Index outperformed all major peer indices over the quarter, leading the S&P 500 by 6%, the MSCI World by 5.4%, the MSCI EAFE by 4%, and the MSCI Emerging Markets by 3%.

Foreign Equities

- U.S. markets, represented by the S&P 500 Index (C\$), returned 4.5% for the quarter.
- International markets, represented by the MSCI EAFE Index (C\$), returned 6.0%.

- Global markets, represented by the MSCI World Index (C\$), returned 5.1%.
- Emerging markets, represented by the MSCI Emerging Markets Index (C\$), returned 7.5%.

Fixed Income

- The Bank of Canada lowered its key interest rate again with two 25-basis-point cuts during the quarter, decreasing it from 4.75% to 4.25%. Meanwhile, the Federal Reserve made its first key rate cut in over a year with a 50-basispoints reduction.
- The overall Canadian bond performance, represented by the FTSE Canada Universe Index, extended the previous quarter's gains and returned 4.7% for the quarter.
- U.S. government bond yields declined, with the 10-year U.S. Treasury yield decreasing by 62 basis points to 3.8%.
- Canada's year-over-year inflation cooled further and reached 1.6% in September, falling below the Bank of Canada's long-term inflation target of 2%.

A note about the performance summary:

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