

**GLOBAL EQUITY** 

# **RBC PRIVATE WORLD EQUITY POOL**

June 30, 2024

Portfolio Manager RBC Global Asset Management Inc. ("RBC GAM")
Sub-Advisor: Capital International, Inc., Los Angeles, California

The Board of Directors of RBC Global Asset Management Inc. approved this interim management report of fund performance on August 8, 2024.

## A Note on Forward-looking Statements

This report may contain forward-looking statements about the Fund, its future performance, strategies or prospects, and possible future Fund action. The words "may," "could," "should," "suspect," "outlook," "believe," "plan," "anticipate," "estimate," "expect," "intend," "forecast," "objective" and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements.

Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance. Forward-looking statements involve inherent risks and uncertainties, both about the Fund and general economic factors, so it is possible that predictions, forecasts, projections and other forward-looking statements will not be achieved. We caution you not to place undue reliance on these statements as a number of important factors could cause actual events or results to differ materially from those expressed or implied in any forward-looking statement made in relation to the Fund. These factors include, but are not limited to, general economic, political and market factors in Canada, the United States and internationally, interest and foreign exchange rates, global equity and capital markets, business competition, technological changes, changes in laws and regulations, judicial or regulatory judgments, legal proceedings and catastrophic events.

The above list of important factors that may affect future results is not exhaustive. Before making any investment decisions, we encourage you to consider these and other factors carefully. All opinions contained in forward-looking statements are subject to change without notice and are provided in good faith but without legal responsibility.

This interim management report of fund performance ("MRFP") contains financial highlights but does not contain either the complete interim financial statements or the complete annual financial statements of the Fund. You can get a copy of the financial statements at your request, and at no cost, by calling 1-800-463-FUND (3863), by writing to us at RBC Global Asset Management Inc., P.O. Box 7500, Station A, Toronto, Ontario M5W 1P9, or by visiting our website at www.rbcgam.com/regulatorydocuments or SEDAR+ at www.sedarplus.ca. Security holders 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.



### MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION OF FUND PERFORMANCE

#### **Investment Objective and Strategies**

The Fund seeks to provide long-term growth primarily through capital appreciation by investing in a portfolio of common stocks, American Depository Receipts ("ADRs") and equivalent securities of companies domiciled in the U.S. and the developed countries of Europe, Australasia and the Far East ("EAFE").

The Fund invests in companies considered to have superior management, superior prospects for earnings growth or cash flow, long-term value in a competitive market position, asset value, new product potential and global market expansion. The Fund diversifies by region and sector within minimum and maximum exposures. The Fund will usually not invest more than 10% of the market value of the Fund in emerging markets, defined as those markets not in the MSCI World Equity Index.

## **Results of Operations**

The Fund's net asset value was \$922 million as of June 30, 2024.

Over the past six months, the Fund's Series F units gained 11.1%. The Fund's return is after the deduction of fees and expenses. See the Financial Highlights section for the management expense ratios and the Past Performance section for the returns of any other series, which may vary because of differences in management fees and expenses.

Global stocks rose during the first half of 2024, with the Information Technology and Communication Services sectors driving returns due to optimism about the spreading use of artificial intelligence (AI). Real Estate was the only sector to fall. Inflation eased during the period, prompting central banks including the European Central Bank to lower its benchmark interest rate in June. The Bank of England and the U.S. Federal Reserve also signaled they'd consider lowering interest rates if inflation came down sufficiently.

The portfolio's results were aided by Novo Nordisk, the Danish company whose diabetes drug Ozempic is frequently prescribed for weight-loss therapy. Among companies that benefited from Al applications were Broadcom, which produces microchips; ASML Holding, whose lithography machines are used in the manufacture of advanced computer chips; Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing, whose strong revenue growth was driven partly by demand for Al chips; and KLA, another key supplier of Al-related semiconductor-manufacturing equipment whose better-than-anticipated results partially reflected Al-related demand.

Portfolio results were negatively affected by a complete lack of holdings in Nvidia, the leading maker of AI chips, and Meta Platforms, the owner of Facebook and Instagram. Both benefited from excitement linked to AI, though Meta also gained on a sunnier outlook for online advertising. Bristol-Myers Squibb, a pharmaceutical company, fell on concern about the company's long-term growth outlook. AIA Group, an insurance company focused on Asia, fell from recent highs in April due to a large cash position that limited the firm's investment returns as equity markets rose.

#### **Recent Developments**

The potential for a recession appears to have receded over the past year, in the view of the sub-advisor, given that central banks appear willing to lower interest rates; that inflation is falling toward central-bank targets in many regions; and that the U.S. labour market is showing continued strength. However, markets are still digesting tumultuous election seasons in France and India, and the U.S. presidential race this year will likely add further uncertainty. Financial-market gains could be muted until the resulting policy implications are clearer.

The "Magnificent 7" stocks – Alphabet, Amazon.com, Apple Inc., Meta Platforms, Microsoft, Nvidia and Tesla – were significant drivers of overall market returns in 2023, although some have recently stagnated or pulled back. The sub-advisor remains committed to balancing the risk of a near-term market decline with the long-term growth potential of these stocks. The Fund has, for example, sought lower exposure to Al-related growth through investments in companies involved in semiconductor manufacturing, often in the form of more attractively valued non-U.S. companies.

#### **Related-Party Transactions**

# Manager, Trustee and Portfolio Manager

RBC GAM is an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of Royal Bank of Canada ("Royal Bank") and is the manager, trustee and portfolio manager of the Fund. RBC GAM is responsible for the Fund's day-to-day operations, holds title to the Fund's property on behalf of its unitholders, provides investment advice and portfolio management services to the Fund and appoints distributors for the Fund. RBC GAM is paid a management fee by the Fund as compensation for its services. The Fund pays a fixed administration fee to RBC GAM, which, in turn, pays certain operating expenses of the Fund. Both the management fee and fixed administration fee are calculated and accrued daily as a percentage of the net asset value of each series of units of the Fund. RBC GAM, as trustee, earns a fee, which is paid by the manager from the fixed administration fee paid by the Fund.

RBC GAM or its affiliates may earn fees and spreads in connection with various services provided to, or transactions with, the Fund, such as banking, brokerage, securities lending, foreign exchange and derivatives transactions. RBC GAM or its affiliates may earn a foreign exchange spread when unitholders switch between series of



funds denominated in different currencies. The Fund also maintains bank accounts and overdraft provisions with Royal Bank for which Royal Bank may earn a fee. Affiliates of RBC GAM that provide services to the Fund in the course of their normal businesses are discussed below.

#### **Distributors**

RBC GAM, Royal Mutual Funds Inc., RBC Direct Investing Inc., RBC Dominion Securities Inc. and Phillips, Hager & North Investment Funds Ltd. are principal distributors of, or may distribute certain series of units of, the Fund. Dealers may receive an ongoing commission based on the total value of their clients' investment in certain series of units of the Fund.

### Registrars

RBC GAM, RBC Investor Services Trust ("RBC IS") or Royal Bank (or a combination thereof) are the registrars of the Fund and keep records of who owns units of the Fund. The registrars earn a fee, which is paid by the manager from the fixed administration fee paid by the Fund.

#### Custodian

RBC IS is the custodian and holds the assets of the Fund. RBC IS earns a fee as the custodian, which is paid by the manager from the fixed administration fee paid by the Fund.

### **Securities Lending Agent**

To the extent the Fund may engage in securities lending transactions, RBC IS may act as the Fund's securities lending agent. Any revenue earned on such securities lending is split between the Fund and the securities lending agent.

#### **Brokers and Dealers**

The Fund has established standard brokerage and dealing agreements at market rates with related parties. For the periods ended June 30, 2024 and 2023, the related-party commissions were  $\$1,000\ (2023-\$0)$  or  $1\%\ (2023-0\%)$  of the total transaction costs paid for this Fund.

#### Other Related-Party Transactions

Pursuant to applicable securities legislation, the Fund relied on the standing instructions from the Independent Review Committee with respect to one or more of the following transactions:

Related-Party Trading Activities

- (a) trades in securities of Royal Bank;
- (b) investments in the securities of issuers for which a related-party dealer acted as an underwriter during the distribution of such securities and the 60-day period following the conclusion of such distribution of the underwritten securities to the public;
- (c) purchases of equity, debt securities or mortgages from or sales of equity, debt securities or mortgages to a related-party dealer, where it acted as principal; and

#### Inter-Fund Trading

(d) purchases or sales of securities of an issuer from or to another investment fund or managed account managed by RBC GAM.

The applicable standing instructions require that Related-Party Trading Activities and Inter-Fund Trading be conducted in accordance with RBC GAM policy and that RBC GAM advise the Independent Review Committee of a material breach of any standing instruction. RBC GAM policy requires that an investment decision in respect of Related-Party Trading Activities (i) is made free from any influence of Royal Bank or its associates or affiliates and without taking into account any consideration relevant to Royal Bank or its affiliates or associates, (ii) represents the business judgment of the portfolio manager, uninfluenced by considerations other than the best interests of the Fund, (iii) is in compliance with RBC GAM policies and procedures, and (iv) achieves a fair and reasonable result for the Fund. RBC GAM policy requires that an investment decision in respect of Inter-Fund Trading is in the best interests of each Fund.

#### **FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

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 past six months (noted by June 30, 2024), and for the past five years or for the periods since inception. This information is derived from the Fund's unaudited interim financial statements and audited annual financial statements.

## Change in Net Assets Per Unit (\$)

							Annual Distributions <sup>2</sup>					
			Increase (De	ecrease) from	Operations1		From					
		Total		Realized	Unrealized		Income		From			Net Assets
For the Year/	Net Assets	Revenue	Total	Gains	Gains		(Excluding	From	Capital	Return		End of
Period Ended	Beginning of Year/Period	(Loss)	Expenses	(Losses)	(Losses)	Total	Dividends)	Dividends	Gains	of Capital	Total	Year/Period
Series F												
June 30, 2024	355.01	5.17	(2.34)	8.20	29.76	40.79	-	(1.70)	-	-	(1.70)	392.84
Dec. 31, 2023	307.25	6.47	(4.20)	13.49	38.24	54.00	(0.23)	(1.89)	(4.46)	-	(6.58)	355.01
Dec. 31, 2022	339.52	5.52	(3.77)	0.80	(37.19)	(34.64)	(0.03)	(1.58)	_	-	(1.61)	307.25
Dec. 31, 2021	302.70	5.35	(4.03)	16.51	26.82	44.65	(0.02)	(0.99)	(7.30)	-	(8.31)	339.52
Dec. 31, 2020	270.88	4.13	(3.43)	9.78	22.29	32.77	(0.03)	(1.03)	(0.99)	-	(2.05)	302.70
Dec. 31, 2019	224.97	5.80	(3.17)	25.43	24.03	52.09	(0.02)	(2.63)	(4.19)	_	(6.84)	270.88
Series 0												
June 30, 2024	355.47	5.19	(0.32)	8.22	28.45	41.54	_	(3.82)	_	_	(3.82)	393.31
Dec. 31, 2023	307.75	6.45	(0.56)	13.44	38.38	57.71	(0.64)	(5.20)	(4.50)	-	(10.34)	355.47
Dec. 31, 2022	340.10	5.53	(0.51)	0.80	(31.93)	(26.11)	(0.08)	(4.76)	_	_	(4.84)	307.75
Dec. 31, 2021	303.23	5.35	(0.55)	16.52	27.56	48.88	(0.11)	(4.50)	(7.33)	_	(11.94)	340.10
Dec. 31, 2020	271.25	4.14	(0.47)	9.79	23.17	36.63	(0.10)	(3.85)	(0.99)	-	(4.94)	303.23
Dec. 31, 2019	225.34	5.79	(0.43)	25.42	25.83	56.61	(0.04)	(5.48)	(4.19)	_	(9.71)	271.25

<sup>1</sup> Net assets and distributions are based on the actual number of units outstanding at the relevant time. The increase/decrease from operations is based on the weighted average number of units outstanding over the financial period. This table is not intended to be a reconciliation of beginning to ending net assets per unit.

# **Ratios and Supplemental Data**

As at	Net Asset Value Per Unit (\$)	Net Asset Value (\$000s)	Number of Units Outstanding (000s)	Management Expense Ratio (%) <sup>1</sup>	MER Before Absorption (%) <sup>1</sup>	Portfolio Turnover Rate (%) <sup>2</sup>	Trading Expense Ratio (%) <sup>3</sup>
Series F	. 5. 5(4)	(+)			(,-,		
June 30, 2024	392.84	9,318	24	1.24	1.24	12.72	0.02
Dec. 31, 2023	355.01	9,855	28	1.25	1.25	16.90	0.05
Dec. 31, 2022	307.25	8,257	27	1.25	1.25	25.22	0.02
Dec. 31, 2021	339.52	10,028	30	1.24	1.24	17.19	0.03
Dec. 31, 2020	302.70	8,904	29	1.24	1.24	26.11	0.04
Dec. 31, 2019	270.88	8,556	32	1.25	1.25	22.83	0.04
Series 0							
June 30, 2024	393.31	912,883	2,321	0.17	0.17	12.72	0.02
Dec. 31, 2023	355.47	790,373	2,224	0.17	0.17	16.90	0.05
Dec. 31, 2022	307.75	489,001	1,589	0.17	0.17	25.22	0.02
Dec. 31, 2021	340.10	498,963	1,467	0.17	0.17	17.19	0.03
Dec. 31, 2020	303.23	376,956	1,243	0.17	0.17	26.11	0.04
Dec. 31, 2019	271.25	309,929	1,143	0.17	0.17	22.83	0.04

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The management expense ratio ("MER") is based on the direct expenses charged to the Fund and the Fund's proportionate share of the expenses of underlying funds, if any, for the stated period, excluding commissions and other portfolio transaction costs, and is expressed as an annualized percentage of the daily average net asset value during the period. RBC GAM may, at its discretion and without notice to unitholders, waive or absorb certain operating expenses. MER includes the waiver or absorption by RBC GAM of certain operating expenses, while the MER before absorption shows the MER prior to operating expenses being waived or absorbed by RBC GAM.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Distributions are reinvested in additional units of the Fund or paid in cash.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The Fund's portfolio turnover rate gives an indication of the level of activity employed by the portfolio manager. 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 the 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 the Fund.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The trading expense ratio represents total commissions and other portfolio transaction costs of the Fund and the Fund's proportionate share of such costs of underlying funds expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average net asset value during the period. The trading expense ratio is not applicable to fixed-income transactions.



## **FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS (cont.)**

#### **Management Fees and Administration Fees**

Management fees and administration fees of each series of the Fund are payable to RBC GAM and calculated at the following annual percentages, before GST/HST, of the daily net asset value of each series of the Fund. The management fee, breakdown of services received in consideration of the management fee, as a percentage of the management fee, and the administration fee for each series are as follows:

	Management	Breakdown of	Administration		
	Fees	Distribution	Other*	Fees	
Series F	1.00%	_	100%	0.15%	
Series 0	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.15%	

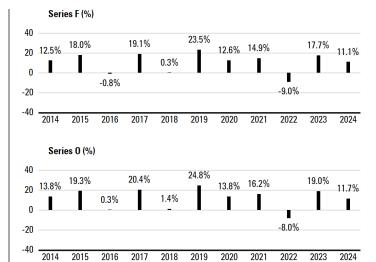
Series 0 – no management fees are paid by the Fund with respect to Series 0 units. Series 0 unitholders pay a negotiated fee directly to RBC GAM for investment-counselling services.

### **PAST PERFORMANCE**

The performance information shown assumes that all distributions made by the Fund in the periods shown were reinvested in additional units of the Fund and would be lower if distributions were not reinvested. The performance information does not take into account sales, redemption, distribution, or optional charges, or income taxes payable that would have reduced returns or performance. Past performance does not necessarily indicate how the Fund may perform in the future. A fund with more than 10 years of performance history is only permitted to disclose the past 10 years.

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

The bar chart indicates the Fund's performance for each of the years shown, and illustrates how the Fund's performance has changed from year to year. The bar chart shows, in percentage terms, how much an investment made on the first day of each financial year would have grown or decreased by the end of the financial year or interim period.



Inception dates are not provided for series that have been in existence for more than 10 years. For the 12-month periods ended December 31 and the six-month period ended June 30, 2024.

<sup>\*</sup> Includes all costs related to management, trustee, investment advisory services, general administration and profit.



# **SUMMARY OF INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO**

(after consideration of derivative products, if any) As at June 30, 2024

# **Investment Mix**

	% of Net Asset Value
United States	50.0
France	11.4
United Kingdom	4.9
Denmark	4.9
Japan	4.8
Netherlands	3.5
Switzerland	3.2
Spain	2.7
Germany	2.3
Canada	1.8
Taiwan	1.4
Hong Kong	0.9
Other Countries	4.2
Cash/Other	4.0

% of Net Asset Value

# **Top 25 Holdings**

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Cash & Cash Equivalents	4.3
Novo Nordisk A/S	3.8
Broadcom Inc.	3.8
Microsoft Corp.	3.7
Alphabet Inc.	3.4
Safran S.A.	3.0
ASML Holding N.V.	2.8
AstraZeneca Plc.	2.4
SAP SE	2.3
Apple Inc.	2.3
KLA Corp.	2.0
TotalEnergies SE	1.9
J.P. Morgan Chase & Co.	1.8
Industria de Diseno Textil S.A.	1.8
Hilton Worldwide Holdings Inc.	1.7
Abbott Laboratories	1.5
London Stock Exchange Group Plc.	1.4
Chevron Corp.	1.4
Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. Ltd ADR	1.4
Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd.	1.3
UnitedHealth Group Inc.	1.3
Nestlé S.A.	1.3
EssilorLuxottica S.A.	1.3
Costco Wholesale Corp.	1.2
AMETEK Inc.	1.2
Top 25 Holdings	54.3

The Summary of Investment Portfolio may change due to ongoing portfolio transactions of the Fund and a quarterly update is available at www.rbcgam.com/regulatorydocuments.