



U.S. EQUITY FUND

**RBC U.S. SMALL-CAP CORE  
EQUITY CLASS**

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September 30, 2021

**Portfolio Manager** RBC Global Asset Management Inc. ("RBC GAM")

The Board of Directors of RBC Corporate Class Inc. approved this interim management report of fund performance on November 10, 2021.

**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," "would," "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.

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*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/en/ca](http://www.rbcgam.com/en/ca) or SEDAR at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com). 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.*



September 30, 2021

## MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION OF FUND PERFORMANCE

### Investment Objective and Strategies

The Fund seeks to provide long-term capital growth by investing primarily in equity securities of U.S. small-cap companies in order to provide broad exposure to economic growth opportunities in the equity markets.

To achieve its investment objective, the Fund invests most of its assets in the RBC U.S. Small-Cap Core Equity Fund (the “underlying fund”). The underlying fund’s investment process is based primarily on fundamental research, although the portfolio manager will also consider quantitative and technical factors. Stock selection decisions are ultimately based on an understanding of the company, its business and its outlook. The portfolio manager diversifies the underlying fund across industries in the U.S. market and selects companies based on strong management, focused business models and the potential for future growth in earnings and cash flow.

### Results of Operations

The Fund’s net asset value was \$775,000 as of September 30, 2021.

Over the past six months, the Fund’s Series A shares gained 1.6%. 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.

U.S. equity markets extended their gains during the period, supported by fiscal spending and loose monetary policy. Widespread vaccinations and the reopening of large sections of the U.S. economy spurred business activity and investor optimism. Small-cap stocks, which tend to be sensitive to the rate of economic growth, underperformed mid-cap and large-cap stocks.

The Fund benefited from the positive impact of stock selection in the Health Care, Financials and Energy sectors, offsetting the negative impact of stock selection in the Consumer Discretionary and Information Technology sectors. Returns were aided by an underweight allocation to the relatively weak-performing Health Care sector.

Individual stocks that had a positive impact on returns were Apollo Medical and Magnolia Oil & Gas, while Ducommun and MKS Instruments had a negative impact.

### Recent Developments

The underperformance of stocks with smaller market capitalizations suggests to the portfolio manager that investors are scaling back their expectations for economic growth compared with earlier this year, as companies with the smallest market values tend to perform best on a relative basis when economic growth is strongest.

Effective April 1, 2021, Ms. Brenda Eaton was appointed as a member of the Independent Review Committee.

### Related-Party Transactions

#### *Manager and Portfolio Manager*

RBC GAM is an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of Royal Bank of Canada (“Royal Bank”) and is the manager and portfolio manager of the Fund. RBC GAM is responsible for the Fund’s day-to-day operations, 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 mutual fund shares of 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 shareholders 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 the mutual fund shares of, the Fund. Dealers receive an ongoing commission based on the total value of their clients’ investment in certain series of mutual fund shares 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 mutual fund shares 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.



September 30, 2021

***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 and debt securities from or sales of equity or debt securities 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.



September 30, 2021

**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 September 30, 2021), 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 Mutual Fund Share (\$)**

For the Year/ Period Ended	Net Assets Beginning of Year/Period	Increase (Decrease) from Operations <sup>1</sup>					Annual Distributions <sup>2</sup>				Net Assets End of Year/Period	
		Total Revenue (Loss)	Total Expenses	Realized Gains (Losses)	Unrealized Gains (Losses)	Total	From Income (Excluding Dividends)	From Dividends	From Capital Gains	Return of Capital		
<b>Series A</b>												
<b>Sept. 30, 2021</b>	<b>13.90</b>	–	<b>(0.13)</b>	<b>1.56</b>	<b>(1.18)</b>	<b>0.25</b>	–	–	–	–	–	<b>14.11</b>
Mar. 31, 2021	8.65	0.14	(0.25)	(0.06)	4.65	4.48	–	–	(0.11)	–	(0.11)	13.90
Mar. 31, 2020	11.46	0.15	(0.24)	(0.19)	(2.88)	(3.16)	–	–	–	–	–	8.65
Mar. 31, 2019	12.69	0.26	(0.26)	(0.26)	(0.85)	(1.11)	–	–	–	–	–	11.46
Mar. 31, 2018	12.24	0.07	(0.26)	0.67	(0.15)	0.33	–	–	–	–	–	12.69
Mar. 31, 2017	9.74	0.09	(0.24)	1.13	1.34	2.32	–	–	–	–	–	12.24
<b>Series D</b>												
<b>Sept. 30, 2021</b>	<b>14.62</b>	–	<b>(0.08)</b>	<b>1.54</b>	<b>(1.26)</b>	<b>0.20</b>	–	–	–	–	–	<b>14.91</b>
Mar. 31, 2021	9.03	0.12	(0.17)	(0.06)	4.06	3.95	–	–	(0.11)	–	(0.11)	14.62
Mar. 31, 2020	11.86	0.15	(0.15)	(0.19)	(0.28)	(0.47)	–	–	–	–	–	9.03
Mar. 31, 2019	13.03	0.28	(0.16)	(0.28)	(1.06)	(1.22)	–	–	–	–	–	11.86
Mar. 31, 2018	12.46	0.07	(0.16)	0.64	(0.80)	(0.25)	–	–	–	–	–	13.03
Mar. 31, 2017	9.84	0.09	(0.16)	1.15	0.80	1.88	–	–	–	–	–	12.46
<b>Series F</b>												
<b>Sept. 30, 2021</b>	<b>14.95</b>	–	<b>(0.05)</b>	<b>1.63</b>	<b>0.16</b>	<b>1.74</b>	–	–	–	–	–	<b>15.28</b>
Mar. 31, 2021	9.21	0.15	(0.12)	(0.07)	5.91	5.87	–	–	(0.12)	–	(0.12)	14.95
Mar. 31, 2020	12.05	0.16	(0.12)	(0.20)	(2.68)	(2.84)	–	–	–	–	–	9.21
Mar. 31, 2019	13.18	0.25	(0.12)	(0.25)	(0.85)	(0.97)	–	–	–	–	–	12.05
Mar. 31, 2018	12.57	0.07	(0.13)	0.66	0.03	0.63	–	–	–	–	–	13.18
Mar. 31, 2017	9.89	0.07	(0.12)	0.84	0.49	1.28	–	–	–	–	–	12.57
<b>Series O</b>												
<b>Sept. 30, 2021</b>	<b>15.79</b>	–	<b>0.02</b>	<b>1.77</b>	<b>(1.38)</b>	<b>0.41</b>	–	–	–	–	–	<b>16.20</b>
Mar. 31, 2021	9.64	0.16	(0.01)	(0.07)	6.19	6.27	–	–	(0.13)	–	(0.13)	15.79
Mar. 31, 2020	12.50	0.16	(0.01)	(0.21)	(2.81)	(2.87)	–	–	–	–	–	9.64
Mar. 31, 2019	13.54	0.20	(0.01)	(0.20)	(3.92)	(3.93)	–	–	–	–	–	12.50
Mar. 31, 2018	12.80	0.07	(0.01)	0.68	0.09	0.83	–	–	–	–	–	13.54
Mar. 31, 2017	9.99	0.10	(0.02)	1.23	2.16	3.47	–	–	–	–	–	12.80

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

<sup>2</sup> Distributions are reinvested in additional mutual fund shares of the Fund or paid in cash.



September 30, 2021

**FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS (cont.)**

**Ratios and Supplemental Data**

As at	Net Asset Value Per Mutual Fund Share (\$)	Net Asset Value (\$000s)	Number of Mutual Fund Shares 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>
<b>Series A</b>							
<b>Sept. 30, 2021</b>	<b>14.11</b>	<b>558</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>2.17</b>	<b>2.17</b>	<b>90.93</b>	<b>0.05</b>
Mar. 31, 2021	13.90	498	36	2.14	2.14	17.94	0.11
Mar. 31, 2020	8.65	70	8	2.13	2.40	49.58	0.12
Mar. 31, 2019	11.46	79	7	2.15	2.32	83.99	0.08
Mar. 31, 2018	12.69	108	9	2.15	2.29	37.14	0.07
Mar. 31, 2017	12.24	270	22	2.15	2.37	108.90	0.04
<b>Series D</b>							
<b>Sept. 30, 2021</b>	<b>14.91</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1.34</b>	<b>1.34</b>	<b>90.93</b>	<b>0.05</b>
Mar. 31, 2021	14.62	923	63	1.32	1.32	17.94	0.11
Mar. 31, 2020	9.03	44	5	1.32	1.59	49.58	0.12
Mar. 31, 2019	11.86	136	11	1.33	1.50	83.99	0.08
Mar. 31, 2018	13.03	90	7	1.32	1.46	37.14	0.07
Mar. 31, 2017	12.46	276	22	1.32	1.54	108.90	0.04
<b>Series F</b>							
<b>Sept. 30, 2021</b>	<b>15.28</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0.99</b>	<b>0.99</b>	<b>90.93</b>	<b>0.05</b>
Mar. 31, 2021	14.95	203	14	0.99	0.99	17.94	0.11
Mar. 31, 2020	9.21	125	14	1.00	1.27	49.58	0.12
Mar. 31, 2019	12.05	176	15	1.00	1.17	83.99	0.08
Mar. 31, 2018	13.18	902	68	1.05	1.19	37.14	0.07
Mar. 31, 2017	12.57	1 085	86	1.02	1.24	108.90	0.04
<b>Series O</b>							
<b>Sept. 30, 2021</b>	<b>16.20</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>0.14</b>	<b>0.14</b>	<b>90.93</b>	<b>0.05</b>
Mar. 31, 2021	15.79	2	—	0.14	0.14	17.94	0.11
Mar. 31, 2020	9.64	1	—	0.14	0.41	49.58	0.12
Mar. 31, 2019	12.50	1	—	0.15	0.32	83.99	0.08
Mar. 31, 2018	13.54	130	10	0.15	0.29	37.14	0.07
Mar. 31, 2017	12.80	197	15	0.14	0.36	108.90	0.04

<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 shareholders, 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>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>3</sup> The trading expense ratio represents total commissions and other portfolio transaction costs 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.

Effective June 30, 2016, the management fees for Series A mutual fund shares were reduced to 1.75% from 1.85%; for Series D mutual fund shares were reduced to 1.00% from 1.10%; and for Series F mutual fund shares were reduced to 0.75% from 0.85%. If the changes to the management fees would have been in effect throughout the financial year ended March 31, 2017, the adjusted MER for each series of the Fund would be: Series A – 2.14%, Series D – 1.31% and Series F – 1.01%.



September 30, 2021

**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 Fees	Breakdown of Services		Administration Fees
		Distribution	Other*	
Series A	1.75%	54%	46%	0.08%
Series D	1.00%	23%	77%	0.08%
Series F	0.75%	–	100%	0.08%
Series O	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.02%

Series O – no management fees are paid by the Fund with respect to Series O mutual fund shares. Series O shareholders pay a negotiated fee directly to RBC GAM for investment-counselling services.

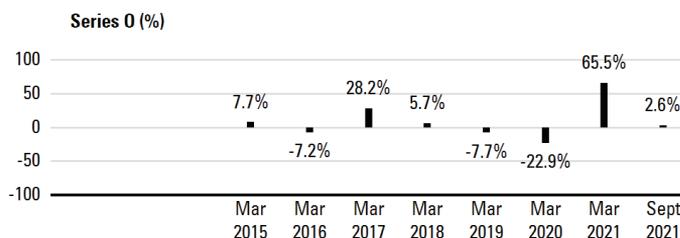
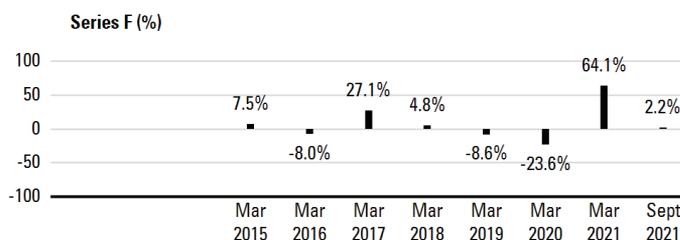
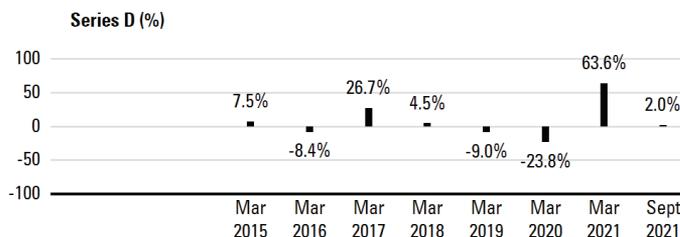
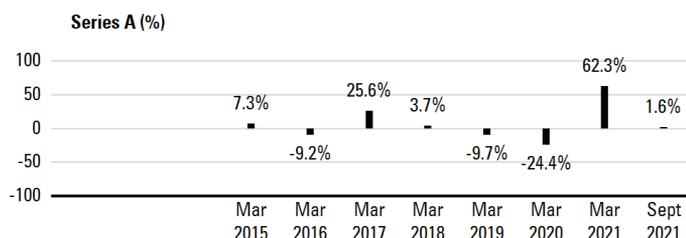
\* Includes all costs related to management, investment advisory services, general administration and profit.

**PAST PERFORMANCE**

The performance information shown assumes that all distributions made by the Fund in the periods shown were reinvested in additional shares of the Fund and would be lower if distributions were not reinvested. The performance information does not take into account sales, redemption, distribution, 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.



Series A, Series D, Series F and Series O mutual fund shares have been available for sale to shareholders since January 26, 2015.

Inception dates are not provided for series that have been in existence for more than 10 years.

Advisor Series mutual fund shares were capped effective June 26, 2020, and re-designated as Series A mutual fund shares effective August 4, 2020.

For the 12-month periods ended March 31 and the six-month period ended September 30, 2021.



September 30, 2021

## SUMMARY OF INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO

*(after consideration of derivative products, if any)*

*As at September 30, 2021*

### Investment Mix

	% of Net Asset Value
Industrials	23.3
Consumer Discretionary	20.8
Financials	13.8
Information Technology	12.6
Health Care	10.8
Communication Services	3.8
Materials	3.7
Energy	3.5
Real Estate	2.7
Consumer Staples	2.3
Utilities	0.2
Underlying Funds	0.1
Cash/Other	2.4

### Top 25 Holdings\*

	% of Net Asset Value
Compass Diversified Holdings	4.6
Columbus McKinnon Corp.	4.4
Patrick Industries Inc.	4.0
Ducommun Inc.	3.9
ACCO Brands Corp.	3.1
Atkore Inc.	2.9
MKS Instruments Inc.	2.9
Magnolia Oil & Gas Corp., Class A	2.8
Malibu Boats Inc.	2.6
Nexstar Media Group Inc.	2.4
Cash & Cash Equivalents	2.0
NV5 Global Inc.	2.0
The Greenbrier Co. Inc.	2.0
West Pharmaceutical Services Inc.	1.8
Insteel Industries Inc.	1.8
Lantheus Holdings Inc.	1.8
Onto Innovation Inc.	1.8
Universal Electronics Inc.	1.8
United Community Banks Inc.	1.7
Veritex Holdings Inc.	1.6
Globus Medical Inc., Class A	1.5
Taylor Morrison Home Corp.	1.5
Preferred Bank	1.4
STAG Industrial Inc. Real Estate Investment Trust	1.4
LCI Industries	1.4
<b>Top 25 Holdings</b>	<b>59.1</b>

\* The Fund invests substantially all of its assets directly in the RBC U.S. Small-Cap Core Equity Fund.  
The above are the Top 25 holdings of the RBC U.S. Small-Cap Core Equity Fund.

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/en/ca](http://www.rbcgam.com/en/ca).

The Simplified Prospectus and other information about the underlying fund are available on SEDAR website at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com).