



FIXED-INCOME ETF

RBC CANADIAN SHORT TERM BOND INDEX ETF

June 30, 2018

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

Sub-Advisor: State Street Global Advisors, Ltd.

The Board of Directors of RBC Global Asset Management Inc. approved this interim management report of fund performance on August 9, 2018.

A Note on Forward-looking Statements

This report may contain forward-looking statements about the ETF, its future performance, strategies or prospects, and possible future ETF 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 ETF 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 ETF. 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 ETF. You can get a copy of the financial statements at your request, and at no cost, by calling 1-855-RBC-ETFS (722-3837), 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/etf/reports or SEDAR at www.sedar.com. Security holders may also contact us using one of these methods to request a copy of the ETF's proxy voting policies and procedures, proxy voting disclosure record, or quarterly portfolio disclosure.



MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION OF FUND PERFORMANCE

Investment Objective and Strategies

The ETF seeks to replicate, to the extent possible and before fees and expenses, the performance of a broad Canadian bond index with a short-term average maturity. Currently, the ETF seeks to track the FTSE TMX Canada Universe + Maple Short Term Overall Bond Index (or any successor thereto). The investment strategy of the ETF is to invest in and hold the constituent securities of the FTSE TMX Canada Universe + Maple Short Term Overall Bond Index in the same proportion as they are reflected in the index or securities intended to replicate the performance of the index.

Results of Operations

The ETF was launched on September 21, 2017, and its net asset value was \$44 million as of June 30, 2018. Investment performance is not provided for a fund that has been available for less than one year.

Recent Developments

The sub-advisor has no recent developments to report.

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 ETF. RBC GAM is responsible for the ETF's day-to-day operations, holds title to the ETF's property on behalf of its unitholders, and provides investment advice and portfolio management services to the ETF. RBC GAM is paid a management fee by the ETF as compensation for its services. The management fee is calculated and accrued on a daily basis and is based on a percentage of the net asset value of the ETF.

RBC GAM or its affiliates may earn fees and spreads in connection with various services provided to, or transactions with, the ETF, such as banking, brokerage, securities lending, foreign exchange and derivatives transactions. RBC GAM or its affiliates may earn a foreign exchange spread when unitholders buy and sell ETF units denominated in different currencies. The ETF may also maintain 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 ETF in the course of their normal businesses are discussed below.

Custodian and Valuation Agent

RBC Investor Services Trust ("RBC IS") is the custodian and valuation agent and holds the assets of the ETF and provides administrative services to the ETF. RBC IS earns a variable fee based on the value of assets under custody and a fixed fee for other valuation and administrative services.

Designated Broker

RBC GAM has entered into an agreement with RBC Dominion Securities Inc., an affiliate of RBC GAM, to act as designated broker and/or authorized dealer for the distribution of units of the ETF, on terms and conditions that are comparable to arm's length agreements in the ETF industry. The material terms and conditions of the agreement have been disclosed in the ETF's Prospectus.

Securities Lending Agent

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

Other Related-Party Transactions

Pursuant to applicable securities legislation, the ETF 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 debt securities from or sales of debt securities to a related-party dealer, where it acted as principal.

The applicable standing instructions require that Related-Party Trading Activities 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 ETF, (iii) is in compliance with RBC GAM policies and procedures, and (iv) achieves a fair and reasonable result for the ETF.



FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The following tables show selected key financial information about the ETF and are intended to help you understand the ETF's financial performance for the past six months (noted by June 30, 2018), and for the past five years or for the periods since inception. This information is derived from the ETF's unaudited interim financial statements and audited annual financial statements. For financial years beginning on or after January 1, 2014, financial highlight information is derived from financial statements prepared in compliance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS"). For financial years prior to January 1, 2014, financial highlight information is derived from financial statements prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP"). "Net Assets," for the periods prior to 2014, are calculated in accordance with GAAP, and "Net Asset Value" is derived from the valuation method disclosed in the RBC Funds Annual Information Form and is used for transactional purposes (see Ratios and Supplemental Data). All other calculations for the purposes of this MRFP are made using Net Asset Value. There is no significant difference between "Net Assets" and "Net Asset Value" under IFRS.

Change in Net Assets Per Unit (\$)

For the Year/ Period Ended	Net Assets Beginning of Year/Period	Increase (Decrease) from Operations ¹					Annual Distributions ²				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	Total	Year/Period
June 30, 2018	19.96	0.25	(0.01)	(0.03)	(0.11)	0.10	(0.20)	—	—	—	(0.20)	19.86
Dec. 31, 2017³	20.00[†]	0.13	(0.01)	—	(0.01)	0.11	(0.09)	—	—	(0.06)	(0.15)	19.96

¹ 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.

² Distributions are either paid in cash, reinvested in additional units of the ETF, or both.

³ From August 9, 2017.

[†] Initial offering net asset value per unit.

Ratios and Supplemental Data

As at	Net Asset Value (\$000s)	Number of Units Outstanding (000s)	Management Expense Ratio (%) ¹	MER Before Absorption (%) ¹	Trading Expense Ratio (%) ²	Portfolio Turnover Rate (%) ³	Net Asset Value Per Unit (\$)	Closing Market Price (\$)
June 30, 2018	43 697	2 200	0.12	0.12	—	24.51	19.86	19.90
Dec. 31, 2017⁴	45 919	2 300	0.11	0.11	—	53.00	19.96	20.02

¹ The management expense ratio ("MER") is based on expenses 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.

² 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.

³ The ETF'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 ETF buying and selling all of the securities in its portfolio once in the course of the year. The higher the ETF's portfolio turnover rate in a year, the greater the trading costs payable by the ETF 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 ETF.

⁴ From August 9, 2017.

Management Fees

RBC GAM is the manager, trustee and portfolio manager of the ETF. The management fee of the ETF is calculated at the annual percentage, before GST/HST, of the daily net asset value of the ETF.

Management Fees	
RBC Canadian Short Term Bond Index ETF	0.10%

PAST PERFORMANCE

Investment performance in respect of a fund that has been available for less than one year is not provided. The ETF was launched September 2017.



SUMMARY OF INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO

(after consideration of derivative products, if any)

As at June 30, 2018

Investment Mix

	% of Net Asset Value
Canadian Bonds	
Federal	45.0
Corporate	35.1
Provincial	17.1
Municipal	0.7
Foreign Corporate Bonds	1.7
Other Net Assets	0.4

Top 25 Holdings

	% of Net Asset Value
Government of Canada 0.750% Sep 01, 2020	4.8
Government of Canada 1.500% Mar 01, 2020	4.0
Government of Canada 0.750% Mar 01, 2021	2.7
Government of Canada 1.750% Sep 01, 2019	2.7
Government of Canada 0.750% Sep 01, 2021	2.5
Canada Housing Trust No. 1 2.400% Dec 15, 2022	2.3
Canada Housing Trust No. 1 1.250% Jun 15, 2021	2.2
Canada Housing Trust No. 1 1.750% Jun 15, 2022	2.2
Canada Housing Trust No. 1 1.250% Dec 15, 2020	2.1
Government of Canada 1.000% Sep 01, 2022	2.1
Province of Ontario 3.150% Jun 02, 2022	1.9
Government of Canada 0.500% Mar 01, 2022	1.7
Government of Canada 2.750% Jun 01, 2022	1.7
Province of Ontario 2.850% Jun 02, 2023	1.7
Province of Ontario 4.200% Jun 02, 2020	1.6
Canada Housing Trust No. 1 2.000% Dec 15, 2019	1.5
Government of Canada 3.250% Jun 01, 2021	1.4
Province of Quebec 3.500% Dec 01, 2022	1.3
Government of Canada 1.500% Jun 01, 2023	1.3
Province of Ontario 4.000% Jun 02, 2021	1.3
Province of Quebec 4.500% Dec 01, 2020	1.2
Province of Quebec 4.250% Dec 01, 2021	1.1
Government of Canada 1.750% Mar 01, 2023	1.1
Royal Bank of Canada 2.030% Mar 15, 2021	0.9
Province of Ontario 1.350% Mar 08, 2022	0.9
Top 25 Holdings	48.2

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