

Annual Management Report of Fund Performance

# AGF High Interest Savings Account Fund

September 30, 2022



## Management Discussion of Fund Performance

This management discussion of fund performance represents the portfolio management team's view of the significant factors and developments affecting the fund's performance and outlook.

### Investment Objective and Strategies

Pursuant to the Declaration of Trust, the investment objective of AGF High Interest Savings Account Fund (the "Fund") is to provide maximum income, while preserving capital and liquidity. To achieve this objective, the Fund invests primarily, directly or indirectly, in high interest deposit accounts with one or more Canadian chartered banks. Indirect exposure is carried out through the use of investment funds that invest in high interest deposit accounts. AGF Investments Inc. ("AGFI"), as portfolio manager, has set, and reviews target dynamic allocations between underlying high interest savings accounts at Schedule I Banks for the Fund, consistent with the Fund's investment objective.

### Risk

The risks of investing in the Fund remain as disclosed in the current prospectus. Any changes to the Fund over the period have not affected the overall level of risk of the Fund.

The Fund continues to be suitable for investors seeking a higher interest rate on cash deposits, investing for the short-term with a low tolerance for risk. The suitability of the Fund has not changed from what has been disclosed in the prospectus.

### Results of Operations

The Fund commenced operations in July 2022.

As of September 30, 2022, the Fund invested substantially all of its assets in units of High Interest Savings Account Fund, which is a fund managed by a third party.

### Recent Developments

The global economy faced a series of challenges in the year ended September 30, 2022. Russia's invasion of Ukraine and its effect on commodity markets, supply chain and inflation decelerated global growth. Higher than expected inflation, particularly in the U.S. and major European economies, triggered faster policy tightening.

After recovering from the pandemic, the U.S. economy is facing challenges from high inflation and supply chain bottlenecks. The country's economic development has been dampened by the Russia-Ukraine war and the re-imposition of strict lockdowns in China. Gross domestic product ("GDP") fell 1.6% and 0.9% year-over-year in the first and second calendar quarters of 2022, respectively, following the

6.9% annual growth in the last calendar quarter of 2021. The Eurozone economy was battered by disruptions brought about by the Russia-Ukraine war, burgeoning energy costs, high inflation and mounting worries Russia may shut off gas supplies during the winter. Yet, its economy grew 0.8% sequentially in the second calendar quarter of 2022 driven primarily by a bounce-back in tourism in Italy and Spain. Japan's GDP expanded 0.9% sequentially in the same quarter on higher private consumption following the withdrawal of the COVID-19 restrictions. While the Japanese economy grew for a third consecutive quarter, supported by a revival in demand and tourism, inflation and a weakening global economy acted as impediments.

Global bond prices tumbled over the past year, led by elevated inflation and hawkish central bank actions. Although government bond yields rose sharply, the amplitude varied across markets. Government bonds modestly outperformed corporate bonds, as corporate spreads widened due to concerns about slowing growth. The U.S. Federal Reserve (the "Fed") began to taper its bond buying program in November 2021 to reduce the size of its balance sheet and decrease monetary stimulus. The U.S. 2-year/10-year treasury yield spread inverted from 1.24% to -0.39% over the year, as markets priced in the Fed's aggressive interest rate hikes to combat rising inflation. Bond markets across Europe took a beating from surging inflation, led by gas prices. The yield on 10-year German bonds rose from -0.26% to 2.11% over the year on inflation worries and a slowdown in business activity. The spread between German 2-year and 10-year bond yields slipped from 0.48% to 0.33%. Emerging market bonds suffered declines due to tighter monetary policy, economic concerns and currencies weakening against the U.S. dollar. Local currency bonds were slightly more resilient than hard currency bonds.

The portfolio manager believes that most of the sell-off in bonds is likely behind us, although volatility in the markets will remain elevated. The pace of rate hikes should abate as inflation starts to soften on slower economic growth, although a pause in the hiking cycle remains unlikely until inflation recedes to more moderate levels. However, the portfolio manager believes yield curves are likely to remain steeply inverted in the near term as tight monetary policy keeps short-term bond yields elevated, while long bond yields may increasingly start to reflect rising recession risks. Credit markets have been quite resilient overall, but credit spreads could widen further during this period of slower global growth. When central banks do have the room to pause or significantly reduce their tightening pace, the portfolio manager believes there is scope for a relief rally in riskier fixed income assets, such as high yield and emerging markets, should the global growth picture be supportive;

This annual management report of fund performance contains financial highlights, but does not contain the complete annual financial statements of the investment fund. You can get a copy of the annual financial statements at your request, and at no cost, by calling 1 888 226-2024, by writing to us at AGF Investments Inc., CIBC SQUARE, Tower One, 81 Bay Street, Suite 4000, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5J 0G1, or by visiting our website at [www.AGF.com](http://www.AGF.com) or SEDAR at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com).

Securityholders may also contact us using one of these methods to request a copy of the investment fund's proxy voting policies and procedures, proxy voting disclosure record, or quarterly portfolio disclosure.

however, a recession would undermine this outcome. Furthermore, the U.S. dollar is likely to remain strong against most other currencies in the near term. The U.S. dollar strength is likely to persist until there are significant reflationary forces at play and the Fed's policy becomes less hawkish than other central banks.

## Related Party Transactions

AGFI is the manager ("Manager") and trustee of the Fund. Pursuant to the management agreement between the Fund and AGFI, AGFI is responsible for the day-to-day business of the Fund. AGFI also acts as the investment (portfolio) manager of the Fund, making decisions as to the target weighting of the Fund's assets. Fees payable to AGFI for such services are payable directly by unitholders and are not expenses of the Fund.

AGFI pays for all of the operating expenses relating to the operation of the Fund, except for certain costs as disclosed in the current prospectus, in exchange for a fixed rate administration fee. The administration fee is calculated based on the Net Asset Value of the Fund at a fixed annual rate of 0.32%. Administration fees of approximately \$4,000 were incurred by the Fund during the period from commencement of operations to September 30, 2022.

AGFI is an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of AGF Management Limited.

## Caution Regarding Forward-looking Statements

This report may contain forward-looking statements about the Fund, including its strategy, expected performance and condition. Forward looking statements include statements that are predictive in nature, that depend upon or refer to future events or conditions, or that include words such as "expects", "anticipates", "intends", "plans", "believes", "estimates" or negative versions thereof and similar expressions.

In addition, any statement that may be made concerning future performance, strategies or prospects, and possible future Fund action, is also a forward-looking statement. Forward-looking statements are based on current expectations and projections about future events and are inherently subject to, among other things, risks, uncertainties and assumptions about the Fund and economic factors.

The forward-looking statements are by their nature based on numerous assumptions, which include, amongst other things, that (i) the Fund can attract and maintain investors and has sufficient capital under management to effect its investment strategies, (ii) the investment strategies will produce the results intended by the portfolio manager, and (iii) the markets will react and perform in a manner consistent with the investment strategies. Although the forward-looking statements contained herein are based upon what the

portfolio manager believes to be reasonable assumptions, the portfolio manager cannot assure that actual results will be consistent with these forward-looking statements.

Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance, and actual events and results could differ materially from those expressed or implied in any forward-looking statements made by the Fund. Any number of important factors could contribute to these digressions, including, but not limited to, general economic, political and market factors in North America and internationally, interest and foreign exchange rates, global equity and capital markets, business competition, taxation, changes in government regulations, unexpected judicial or regulatory proceedings, technological changes, cybersecurity, the possible effects of war or terrorist activities, outbreaks of disease or illness that affect local, national or international economies (such as COVID-19), natural disasters and disruptions to public infrastructure, such as transportation, communications, power or water supply or other catastrophic events.

It should be stressed that the above-mentioned list of factors is not exhaustive. You are encouraged to consider these and other factors carefully before making any investment decisions and you are urged to avoid placing undue reliance on forward-looking statements. Further, you should be aware of the fact that the Fund has no specific intention of updating any forward-looking statements whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, prior to the release of the next Management Report of Fund Performance.

## 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 five years as applicable.

### Net Assets per Unit<sup>(1)</sup>

For the periods ended	Sept 30, 2022 (\$)	Sept 30, 2021 (\$)	Sept 30, 2020 (\$)	Sept 30, 2019 (\$)	Sept 30, 2018 (\$)
<b>Net Assets, beginning of period<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>10.00*</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Increase (decrease) from operations:</b>					
Total revenue	0.09	-	-	-	-
Total expenses	(0.01)	-	-	-	-
Realized gains (losses)	(0.00)	-	-	-	-
Unrealized gains (losses)	0.00	-	-	-	-
<b>Total increase (decrease) from operations<sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>0.08</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Distributions:</b>					
From income (excluding dividends)	(0.07)	-	-	-	-
From dividends	-	-	-	-	-
From capital gains	-	-	-	-	-
Return of capital	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total annual distributions<sup>(3)</sup></b>	<b>(0.07)</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Net Assets, end of period<sup>(4)</sup></b>	<b>10.00</b>	-	-	-	-

\* represents initial Net Assets  
(1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (6) and (7) see Explanatory Notes

## Ratios/Supplemental Data<sup>(1)</sup>

For the periods ended	Sept 30, 2022	Sept 30, 2021	Sept 30, 2020	Sept 30, 2019	Sept 30, 2018
Total Net Asset Value (\$000's)	15,607	-	-	-	-
Number of units outstanding (000's)	1,561	-	-	-	-
Management expense ratio <sup>(5)</sup>	0.35%	-	-	-	-
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions	0.35%	-	-	-	-
Trading expense ratio <sup>(6)</sup>	0.00%	-	-	-	-
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>(7)</sup>	9.36%	-	-	-	-
Net Asset Value per unit	10.00	-	-	-	-

## Explanatory Notes

- (1) a) This information is derived from the Fund's audited annual financial statements. Under International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS"), investments that are traded in an active market are generally valued at closing price, which is determined to be within the bid-ask spread and most representative of fair value. As a result, there is no difference between the net assets per unit presented in the financial statements ("Net Assets") and the net asset value per unit calculated for fund pricing purposes ("Net Asset Value").
- b) The Fund commenced operations in July 2022, which represents the date upon which securities were first made available for purchase by investors.
- (2) 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.
- (3) Distributions were paid in cash/reinvested in additional units of the Fund, or both. The characterization of the distributions is based on management's estimate of the actual income for the year.
- (4) This is not a reconciliation of the beginning and ending Net Assets per unit.
- (5) The management expense ratio ("MER") is calculated in accordance with National Instrument 81-106, based on all the expenses of the Fund (including Harmonized Sales Tax, Goods and Services Tax and interest, but excluding foreign withholding taxes, commissions and other portfolio transaction costs) and the Fund's proportionate share of the MER, if applicable, of the underlying funds and exchange traded funds ("ETFs") in which the Fund has invested, expressed as an annualized percentage of average daily Net Asset Value during the period.
- (6) The trading expense ratio represents total commissions and other portfolio transaction costs, including the Fund's proportionate share of the commissions, if applicable, of the underlying funds and ETFs in which the Fund has invested, expressed as an annualized percentage of average daily Net Asset Value during the period.
- (7) The Fund's portfolio turnover rate ("PTR") indicates how actively the Fund's portfolio advisor manages its portfolio investments. A PTR 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 PTR 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.

PTR is calculated based on the lesser of the cumulative cost of purchases or cumulative proceeds of sales divided by the average market value of the portfolio, excluding short-term investments.

## Management Fees

The Fund is managed by AGFI. AGFI is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Fund, which include providing investment and management services as well as other administrative services required by the Fund. The management fees for such services are payable directly by the unitholders, not by the Fund.

AGFI bears all operating expenses relating to the operation of the Fund, except for certain costs as disclosed in the Fund's prospectus. In exchange, AGFI receives an administration fee at the annual rate of 0.32%, which is subject to applicable taxes, based on the Net Asset Value of the Fund, calculated daily and payable monthly.

## Past Performance

It is AGFI's policy to report rates of return for a fund in existence greater than one year. The Fund commenced operations in July 2022.

## Summary of Investment Portfolio

As at September 30, 2022

The Underlying Fund's major portfolio categories and top holdings (up to 25), as a percentage of the Underlying Fund's Net Asset Value, at the end of the period are indicated in the following tables. The Summary of Investment Portfolio may change due to ongoing portfolio transactions of the Underlying Fund and the next quarterly update will be in the Quarterly Portfolio Disclosure as at December 31, 2022.

The prospectus and other information about the Underlying Fund are available on the internet at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com).

Portfolio by Sector	Percentage of Net Asset Value (%)
Bank Deposits	100.0
Cash & Cash Equivalents	0.3

(1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (6) and (7) see Explanatory Notes

# AGF High Interest Savings Account Fund

SEPTEMBER 30, 2022

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<b>Portfolio by Credit Rating**</b>	<b>Percentage of Net Asset Value (%)</b>
A	100.3

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<b>Top Holdings</b>	<b>Percentage of Net Asset Value (%)</b>
National Bank of Canada Cash Account	45.6
CIBC Cash Account	40.0
Scotia Bank Cash Account	7.8
BMO Cash Account	6.6
Cash & Cash Equivalents	0.3

The total Net Asset Value of the Fund as at September 30, 2022 was approximately \$15,607,000.

\*\* References made to credit ratings are obtained from Standard & Poor's and/or Dominion Bond Rating Service. Where one or more rating is obtained for a security, the lowest rating has been used.



For more information contact your investment advisor or:

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