# **TD** Asset Management

# **TD Active Preferred Share ETF** (TPRF)

535726 (08/24)

# TD Exchange-Traded Funds Interim Management Report of Fund Performance

for the period ended June 30, 2024

This Interim Management Report of Fund Performance contains financial highlights, but does not contain either the complete interim financial report or annual financial statements of the investment fund. You can get a copy of the interim financial report or annual financial statements at your request, at no cost, by writing to us at TD Asset Management Inc., P.O. Box 100, 66 Wellington Street West, TD Bank Tower, Toronto-Dominion Centre, Toronto, Ontario, M5K 1G8, or by visiting our website at www.td.com/ca/en/asset-management or the SEDAR+ website at www.sedarplus.ca.

Securityholders may also contact us or visit our website to get a copy of the investment fund's proxy voting policies and procedures, proxy voting disclosure record, or quarterly portfolio disclosure at no cost.



This interim management report of fund performance represents management's view of the significant factors and developments affecting the investment fund's performance and outlook since December 31, 2023, the investment fund's fiscal year-end, until June 30, 2024. This report should be read in conjunction with the 2023 annual management report of fund performance.

#### **TD Active Preferred Share ETF**

# **Management Discussion of Fund Performance**

# **Results of Operations**

TD Active Preferred Share ETF (the "Fund") is an exchange-traded fund listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange ("TSX"). Units of the Fund are traded under TSX ticker symbol "TPRF". The Fund returned 16.6% for the six-month period ended June 30, 2024 (the "Reporting Period"), versus 14.2% for the Fund's product benchmark, the S&P/TSX Preferred Share Total Return Index. Unlike the product benchmark, the Fund's return is quoted after the deduction of fees and expenses.

#### Market Update

Towards the end of the Reporting Period, the Bank of Canada ("BoC") lowered its benchmark overnight interest rate by 0.25% to 4.75%, the first rate cut since 2020. The BoC believed a rate reduction was warranted at this time, with inflationary pressures easing and relatively slow economic conditions. Although Canada's economy has expanded, the pace of growth was modest. A rise in consumer and business spending drove growth in the first guarter of 2024. Conversely, the manufacturing sector contracted over the Reporting Period due to weaker demand, which weighed on Canada's economic health. Canada's inflation rate remained above the BoC's 2% target, however, it eased due to a slowdown in food and energy price growth. Canada's central bank acknowledged inflation remains a risk and suggested future interest rate reductions might be gradual. Canada's labour market, a source of strength for the economy coming out of the pandemic, showed signs of cooling. While the economy added jobs, it did not keep up with the pace of population growth, which pushed the unemployment rate higher.

Canadian bond prices declined slightly over the Reporting Period, with yields moving higher. Early in the Reporting Period, bond yields increased with inflationary pressures persisting and expectations growing that the BoC would delay any interest rate reductions until later in 2024. However, towards the end of the Reporting Period, yields fell and reversed some of their earlier increases as the BoC lowered its benchmark overnight interest rate in response to slowing inflation and waning economic growth. The benchmark 10-year Government of Canada bond yield rose from 3.11% to 3.50%, with much of the gains coming before the BoC lowered interest rates. Canada's yield curve remained inverted (when short-term government bond yields are higher than long-term government bond yields). Shortterm bond prices outperformed their mid- and long-term counterparts. Corporate bond prices rose and outperformed government bonds, which declined. Credit spreads (the difference in yields between corporate and government bonds with similar maturities) narrowed.

#### Key Contributors/Detractors

The Fund generated a positive return over the Reporting Period and outperformed its product benchmark.

- Security selection within rate-reset preferred shares contributed to performance, largely owing to positions in a variety of securities issued by Brookfield Asset Management Inc. as well as Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce and National Bank of Canada preferred securities.
- The Fund's underweight exposure to perpetual preferred shares contributed to performance as perpetual shares underperformed the product benchmark over the Reporting Period.
- The Fund's exposure to common equity securities detracted from performance as common equities underperformed preferred equities.

# **Recent Developments**

The Portfolio Adviser expects global economic activity to remain relatively modest in 2024, as a result of tight financial conditions, geopolitical tensions, and softer demand from consumers and businesses. Given relatively weak economic conditions and moderating inflation, global central banks are expected to begin lowering interest rates. This could help reignite economic growth over the second half of 2024 and help the global economy avoid a recession.

While preferred equities performed well during the Reporting Period, the Portfolio Adviser remains positive about this category as preferred securities are still trading below their 10-year average price. Rate-reset preferred securities still appear attractive, in the Portfolio Adviser's view, as issues that reset over the next year should see increasing dividends, which is favourable in the current higher-thannormal inflation environment. The Portfolio Adviser will continue to monitor the perpetual preferred shares as their flat dividend rates do not provide protection against inflation. After a brief hiatus, banks have started redeeming their preferred issues, a trend the Portfolio Adviser expects to continue, as they are able to issue limited recourse capital notes at lower cost.

The Portfolio Adviser actively values and manages each security, even when they belong to the same issuer. The Portfolio Adviser prefers high-quality companies with strong balance sheets, high cash flow visibility and attractive dividend yields. The Portfolio Adviser focuses on long-term total returns and thus actively manages risks related to interest rates, credit, call features and liquidity to ensure that high-dividend yields do not come at the expense of capital preservation.

## **Related Party Transactions**

Affiliates of TD Asset Management Inc. ("TDAM") may earn fees and spreads in connection with various services provided to, or transactions with, the Fund, such as in connection with banking, deposit-taking, custody, brokerage and derivatives transactions, subject to approval or review by the Fund's independent review committee ("IRC") and/or compliance with applicable internal policies and procedures.

# Manager, Trustee and Portfolio Adviser:

TDAM, a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Toronto-Dominion Bank ("TD"), is the manager, trustee, portfolio adviser and promoter of the Fund. The Fund pays TDAM an annual management fee.

# Designated Broker and Dealer:

TDAM has entered into an agreement with TD Securities Inc. ("TDS"), an affiliate of TDAM, to act as designated broker and dealer to perform certain duties for the Fund. The designated broker arrangements entered into with TDS are consistent with market terms and conditions.

#### Custodian:

TD is the sub-custodian of the Fund and may hold a portion of cash of the Fund.

## Buying and Selling Securities:

TDAM has established the IRC to act as an impartial and independent committee to review and provide recommendations or, if appropriate, approvals respecting any conflict of interest matters referred to it by TDAM. The IRC prepares, at least annually, a report of its activities for securityholders of the Fund. The report is available on the TDAM website at www.td.com/ca/en/asset-management or at the securityholder's request at no cost by contacting TDAM (see front cover).

The Fund relied on standing instructions from the IRC in respect of one or more of the following transactions:

- (a) trades in securities of TD or any affiliate or associate thereof;
- (b) investments in the securities of an issuer where TDS, TD Waterhouse Canada Inc., or any other affiliate of TDAM (a "Related Dealer") acted as an underwriter during the distribution of such securities and the 60-day period following the completion of the distribution of the underwritten securities;
- (c) purchases or sales of securities of an issuer from or to another investment fund or discretionary managed account managed by TDAM; and
- (d) purchases of securities from or sales of securities to a Related Dealer, where it acted as principal.

The relevant standing instructions require that securities transactions with related parties conducted by TDAM (i) are free from any influence by an entity related to TDAM and without taking into account any consideration relevant to an entity related to TDAM; (ii) represent the business judgment of TDAM uninfluenced by considerations other than the best interests of the Fund; (iii) comply with the applicable policies and procedures of TDAM; and (iv) achieve a fair and reasonable result for the Fund.

# Brokerage Arrangements (000s):

From time to time, the Fund may enter into portfolio securities transactions with Related Dealers who may earn commissions or spreads provided that such trades are made on terms and conditions that are comparable to non-affiliated brokerages. During the Reporting Period, the Fund paid commissions to related parties amounting to \$11 or 13.0% of total commissions paid by the Fund for portfolio transactions in total.

# **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 six-month period ended June 30, 2024 and the past five fiscal years, as applicable. For units of the Fund that commenced operations during any of the periods presented, the data reported for that period represents results from the commencement of operations (as disclosed in the Past Performance section) to the end of that reporting period.

#### Net Assets per Unit (\$)1

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Net Assets, Beginning of Period	9.09	9.19	11.28	8.92	9.04	9.08
Increase (Decrease) from Operations:						
Total Revenue	0.28	0.57	0.51	0.49	0.50	0.52
Total Expenses (excluding distributions)	(0.03)	(0.05)	(0.06)	(0.06)	(0.04)	(0.05)
Realized Gains (Losses) for the Period	0.01	(0.33)	0.02	0.34	(0.50)	0.04
Unrealized Gains (Losses) for the Period	1.21	0.15	(2.16)	1.71	0.06	0.10
Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations <sup>2</sup>	1.47	0.34	(1.69)	2.48	0.02	0.61
Distributions:						
From Net Investment Income (excluding dividends)		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
From Dividends		(0.52)	(0.44)	(0.37)	(0.45)	(0.36)
From Capital Gains		0.00	(0.15)	0.00	0.00	(0.10)
Return of Capital		0.00	(0.02)	(0.09)	(0.01)	(0.01)
Total Annual Distributions <sup>3</sup>	(0.24)	(0.52)	(0.61)	(0.46)	(0.46)	(0.47)
Net Assets, End of Period	10.36	9.09	9.19	11.28	8.92	9.04

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This information is derived from the Fund's interim and audited annual financial statements prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards. The Fund measures fair values of its investments based on close market prices, where the close market price falls within the bid-ask spread or based on quotations from recognized dealers. As such, the Fund's accounting policies for measuring the fair value of investments in the financial statements are substantively consistent with those used in measuring the net asset value ("NAV") for transactions with unitholders.

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 the net assets per unit.
Distributions were paid in cash or reinvested in additional units of the Fund, or both. The Fund may make notional distributions from time to time and the units issued on reinvestments are immediately consolidated with the units held prior to the notional distribution. As a result, the total number

and the units issued on reinvestments are immediately consolidated with the units held prior to the notional distribution. As a result, the total number of units held after the notional distribution is identical to the number of units held before the notional distribution. The following table shows the notional distributions for the periods presented, as applicable.

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Notional Income Distribution	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Notional Dividend Distribution	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Notional Capital Gains Distribution	0.00	0.00	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.01
Notional Return of Capital Distribution	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

# **Ratios and Supplemental Data**

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Total Net Asset Value (\$000s) 1	289,114	221,144	247,049	234,192	97,351	111,219
Number of Units Outstanding (000s) 1	27,919	24,319	26,869	20,769	10,909	12,299
Management Expense Ratio (%) 2	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.51	0.51	0.51
Management Expense Ratio Before						
Waivers or Absorptions (%)	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.51	0.51	0.51
Trading Expense Ratio (%)3	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.04	0.11
Portfolio Turnover Rate (%)4	16.15	36.04	40.91	21.56	12.70	30.03
Net Asset Value per Unit (\$)	10.36	9.09	9.19	11.28	8.92	9.04
Closing Market Price (\$) <sup>‡</sup>	10.36	9.13	9.13	11.30	8.95	9.03

<sup>1</sup> This information is provided as at June 30, 2024 and December 31 of the past five fiscal years, as applicable.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Management expense ratio ("MER") is based on total expenses (excluding distributions, commissions and other portfolio transaction costs) net of any waivers or absorptions for the stated period and is expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average NAV during the period. Any waivers or absorptions may be discontinued at any time by TDAM at its discretion without notice.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The trading expense ratio represents total commissions and other portfolio transaction costs expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average NAV during the stated period.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The Fund's portfolio turnover rate ("PTR") indicates how actively the Fund's portfolio adviser manages its 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 stated period. The higher a fund's PTR, the greater the trading costs payable by the fund in the period, and the greater the chance of an investor receiving taxable capital gains in the fiscal year. There is not necessarily a relationship between a high turnover rate and the performance of a fund.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>‡</sup> Mid price would be used if no transaction took place on the last business day of the financial period.

#### Management Fees

As manager of the Fund, TDAM is responsible for the overall business and affairs of the Fund, including activities related to providing, or arranging for the provision of, certain administrative services and marketing services to the Fund. In consideration for the provision of such services, the Fund pays TDAM a management fee.

Management fees, plus applicable taxes, are calculated and accrued on a daily basis based on the net asset value of the Fund and are paid monthly to TDAM.

The prospectus discloses a specified annual management fee rate that TDAM can charge to the Fund. TDAM may waive all or a portion of the management fees being charged to the Fund, which may be discontinued at any time by TDAM at its discretion without notice to unitholders.

The annual management fees and a breakdown of the major services rendered, as a percentage of the management fees paid, are as follows:

(expressed as a %)	Annual Mgmt. Fees*	Dealer Compensation	Waived Operating Expenses	Other <sup>‡</sup>
Fund	0.45	N/A	0.00	100.00

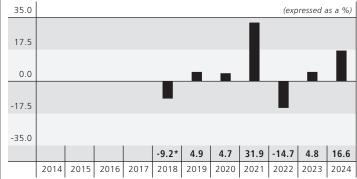
Includes management fees paid by the Fund and the proportionate management fees, if any,
of the underlying fund(s) managed by TDAM held by the Fund. However, no management
fees are payable by the Fund that, to a reasonable person, would duplicate a fee payable by
the underlying fund(s) for the same services.

#### Past Performance

The following chart shows how the Fund has performed in the past, and can help you understand the risks of investing in the Fund. These returns include the reinvestment of all distributions during the period in additional units at the net asset value per unit of the Fund at the time of distribution. They do not take into account sales, redemption, distribution or other optional charges or income taxes payable by any unitholder, and these returns would be lower if they did. The Fund's past performance does not necessarily indicate how it will perform in the future.

# Year-by-year returns

The bar chart shows how the Fund's performance has varied from year to year for each of the years shown. It shows in percentage terms how an investment made on January 1 would have increased or decreased by December 31 for each year and for the six-month period ended June 30, 2024.



For the 12 months ended Dec. 31 and six-month period ended June 30, 2024

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>‡</sup> Trustee, marketing services and other

<sup>\*</sup> From November 8, 2018 (commencement of operations) to December 31, 2018

# **Summary of Investment Portfolio**

as at June 30, 2024

	% of Net Asset Value
ASSET ALLOCATION	
Canadian Preferred Equities	95.7
Canadian Equities	3.6
Cash (Bank Overdraft)	0.9
Other Net Assets (Liabilities)	(0.2
PORTFOLIO ALLOCATION	
Financials	51.5
Energy	21.5
Utilities	18.4
Communication Services	4.4
Real Estate	2.3
Cash (Bank Overdraft)	0.9
Industrials	0.6
Consumer Staples	0.6
Other Net Assets (Liabilities)	(0.2
TOTAL NET ASSET VALUE (000s)	 \$ 289,114

	% of Net Asset Value
TOP 25 INVESTMENTS	
Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, Pref., Series 43 3.143%	3.2
National Bank of Canada, Pref., Series 30 6.191%	3.2
Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, Pref., Series 39 3.713%	2.3
Enbridge Inc., Pref., Series 13 3.043%	2.3
TC Energy Corporation, Pref., Series 7 5.985%	2.2
Royal Bank of Canada, Pref., Series BD 3.200%	1.9
The Toronto-Dominion Bank <sup>†</sup> , Pref., Series 7 3.201%	1.9
Intact Financial Corporation, Pref., Series 3 3.457%	1.9
Brookfield Office Properties Inc., Pref., Series GG 6.546%	1.7
Brookfield Renewable Power Preferred Equity Inc.,	
Pref., Series 3 4.351%	1.7
Enbridge Inc., Pref., Series 15 2.983%	1.6
National Bank of Canada, Pref., Series 40 5.818%	1.5
Brookfield Corporation, Pref., Series 30 6.089%	1.5
Manulife Financial Corporation, Pref., Series 2 4.650%	1.5
TC Energy Corporation, Pref., Series 11 3.351%	1.4
Enbridge Inc., Pref., Series 9 4.097%	1.4
Brookfield Corporation, Pref., Series 42 3.254%	1.3
BCE Inc., Floating Rate, Pref., Series AD 6.950%	1.3
AltaGas Limited, Pref., Series A 3.060%	1.3
The Toronto-Dominion Bank <sup>†</sup> , Pref., Series 9 3.242%	1.3
E-L Financial Corporation Limited, Pref., Series 3 5.500%	1.2
Pembina Pipeline Corporation, Pref., Series 19 4.684%	1.2
Enbridge Inc., Pref., Series R 6.314%	1.2
Brookfield Corporation, Pref., Series 26 3.846%	1.2
AltaGas Limited, Pref., Series G 4.242%	1.1
Total % of Net Asset Value represented by these holdings	42.3

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>†</sup> Related party to the Fund as an affiliated entity of TD Asset Management Inc. Note: Totals may not add due to rounding to one decimal place of individual figures.

The Summary of Investment Portfolio may change due to ongoing portfolio transactions of the Fund. Updates are available quarterly. You may obtain the most current quarterly information by writing to us at TD Asset Management Inc., P.O. Box 100, 66 Wellington Street West, TD Bank Tower, Toronto, Ontario, M5K 1G8, or by visiting our website at www.td.com/ca/en/asset-management.

# **Caution regarding forward-looking statements**

Certain portions of this report, including, but not limited to, "Results of Operations" and "Recent Developments", may contain forward-looking statements including, but not limited to, statements about the Fund, its strategy, risks, 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" and similar forward-looking expressions or negative versions thereof.

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 general economic, political and relevant market factors, such as interest rates, foreign exchange rates, equity and capital markets, and the general business environment, in each case assuming no changes to applicable tax or other laws or government regulation. Expectations and projections about future events are inherently subject to, among other things, risks and uncertainties, some of which may be unforeseeable. Accordingly, assumptions concerning future economic and other factors may prove to be incorrect at a future date.

Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance, and actual events 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 relevant market factors in North America and internationally, interest and foreign exchange rates, equity and capital markets, business competition, technological change, changes in government relations, unexpected judicial or regulatory proceedings and catastrophic events.

The above mentioned list of important 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 any undue reliance on forward-looking statements. Further, there is no specific intention of updating any forward-looking statements contained herein whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

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