## **TD Canadian Blue Chip Dividend Fund**

535324 (03/25)

# TD Mutual Funds Annual Management Report of Fund Performance

for the period ended December 31, 2024

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, at no cost, by calling 1-800-386-3757, 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 interim financial report, proxy voting policies and procedures, proxy voting disclosure record, or quarterly portfolio disclosure at no cost.

## TD Canadian Blue Chip Dividend Fund

## **Management Discussion of Fund Performance**

## **Investment Objectives and Strategies**

The investment objective of TD Canadian Blue Chip Dividend Fund (the "Fund") is to seek to provide steady growth and a high level of after-tax income by investing primarily in high-quality, dividend-yielding equity securities and other income-producing instruments of Canadian issuers. In seeking to achieve this objective, the Fund purchases predominantly large-capitalization Canadian common equities that have either an above-average dividend yield or the prospect of an attractive, relatively low-risk total return. The equity investments will tend to focus on the financial services, pipeline, and utility sectors of the market, but may also include holdings in other sectors. Investments in other income-producing securities such as preferred shares and exchange-traded funds may also be held by the Fund.

#### Risk

The risks of investing in the Fund remain as outlined in the simplified prospectus.

## **Results of Operations**

The D-Series units of the Fund returned 17.0% for the year ended December 31, 2024 (the "Reporting Period"), versus 21.0% for the Fund's product benchmark and 21.6% for the Fund's general market index. The Fund's product benchmark is the S&P/TSX 60 Total Return Index and its general market index is the S&P/TSX Composite Total Return Index. Unlike the product benchmark and general market index, the Fund's return is quoted after the deduction of fees and expenses. Returns for other series of the Fund may vary, largely due to differences in fees and expenses. Refer to the Past Performance section for returns of various series of the Fund.

## Market Update

Canada's economy came under pressure over the Reporting Period, largely as a result of tight financial conditions. Consumer spending, real estate activity and the labour market weakened. At the same time, inflationary pressures softened, moving closer to the Bank of Canada's ("BoC") 2% target. In response, the BoC began lowering interest rates in June 2024 and continued to lower rates over the remainder of the year. Overall, the BoC lowered its benchmark overnight interest rate by 1.75% to 3.25%. The BoC also suggested it would gradually lower interest rates further in 2025, hoping that looser financial conditions could ease the burden on Canadian households and help reignite consumer spending. There was also some expectation that rising demand could kickstart business activity, potentially resulting in improved job growth.

The Canadian equity market rose over the Reporting Period, with 10 of 11 sectors posting positive returns. The information technology, financials and materials sectors were the strongest performers, while communication services, real estate and health care were the weakest-performing sectors.

Lower interest rates, developments in artificial intelligence and positive investor sentiment helped push information technology stocks higher over the Reporting Period. Expectations that economic activity in Canada could pick up after multiple interest rate cuts from the BoC helped lift the financials sector higher. Additionally, the dividends of financials sector stocks became more attractive as interest rates declined. The materials sector benefited from higher gold prices amid economic uncertainty and ongoing geopolitical tensions. Supply concerns pushed up the prices of many commodities.

Key Contributors/Detractors Relative to the Product Benchmark
The Fund generated a positive return over the Reporting Period but
underperformed its product benchmark.

- The Fund's lack of exposure to the information technology sector detracted from performance as this was the best-performing sector during the Reporting Period.
- Within the consumer discretionary sector, the Fund's security selection detracted from performance owing to its position in an automotive parts manufacturer that was down over 20%, as well as its lack of exposure to Dollarama Inc., which returned almost 50%.
- Within the industrials sector, the Fund's lack of exposure to Waste Connections Inc. and WSP Global Inc. detracted from performance as both returned over 25%.
- Within the financials sector, the Fund's positions in Manulife Financial Corp. and Brookfield Corp. contributed to performance as both returned over 55%.
- The Fund's bias toward the financials sector contributed to performance as this was one of the top-performing sectors during the Reporting Period.

Key Contributors/Detractors Relative to the General Market Index
The Fund's lack of exposure to the information technology sector
and security selection within the industrials sector detracted from
performance relative to the general market index, while its overweight allocation to the financials sector contributed to performance.

## **Recent Developments**

Although the Canadian economy slowed and the unemployment rate climbed throughout 2024, Canadian equities had a strong year. On balance, the Portfolio Adviser believes that in 2025 the Canadian equity market should be supported by strong earnings growth expectations and reasonable valuation levels, particularly when compared to the U.S. equity market. The Portfolio Adviser believes that the previous and expected future BoC interest rate cuts are supporting consumers and businesses, which should allow economic growth to reaccelerate.

With the prospect of more reductions in interest rates, the Portfolio Adviser maintains a favourable view of Canadian banks. Any additional interest rate cuts will likely support Canadian bank earnings as provisions for credit losses should be at or near peak levels, and should decline as interest rate cuts take effect.

In the Portfolio Adviser's view, companies with strong cash flows and histories of growing dividends are attractive in this market environment and may protect the real value of investors' savings. The Portfolio Adviser anticipates that investors should benefit not only from dividend income, but also from a growing stream of income that is unlikely to be substituted by fixed income alone. Long-term capital appreciation should also benefit investors. The Portfolio Adviser continues to favour high-quality companies with sustainable competitive advantages, strong balance sheets and solid free cash flows.

#### **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 (including deposit taking), custody, securityholder account maintenance and reporting, brokerage and derivatives transactions.

## Manager, Trustee and Portfolio Adviser:

TDAM, a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Toronto-Dominion Bank ("TD"), is the manager, trustee and portfolio adviser of the Fund. The Fund pays TDAM an annual management fee, which may vary for each series of the Fund. The Fund also pays TDAM an annual administration fee of 0.08%, calculated and accrued as a percentage of the net asset value, with respect to the D-Series units of the Fund.

#### Distributor:

Certain series of units of the Fund are distributed through brokers and dealers including TD Waterhouse Canada Inc. ("TDWCI"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of TD. TDWCI, like other dealers, is paid a trailer commission by TDAM for distributing certain series of units of the Fund. Trailer commissions are paid by TDAM out of the management fees it receives from the Fund and are based on the average value of assets held by each dealer.

## Registrar and Transfer Agent:

TD is the registrar and transfer agent of the Fund, and as such maintains all unitholder records, processes purchase, switch, conversion and redemption orders, issues investor statements and prepares annual tax reporting information on behalf of the Fund.

TD earns a foreign exchange spread when unitholders switch between units of funds denominated in different currencies. The Fund also maintains bank accounts and overdraft provisions with TD for which TD earns a fee.

#### Administration and Securityholder Services:

TDWCI, in addition to acting as a dealer, also provides administration and securityholder services to the Private Series units of the Fund for which such costs are reflected in the operating expenses for the Private Series units of the Fund. These services include securityholder account maintenance and reporting.

#### Custodian:

TD is the sub-custodian of the Fund and may hold a portion of the assets (including cash and investments) of the Fund.

## Buying and Selling Securities:

TDAM has established an independent review committee ("IRC") which acts 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 TD Securities Inc., TDWCI, 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 \$43 or 20.3% 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 past five fiscal years, as applicable. For series 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

	D-SERIES	D-SERIES				PRIVATE SERIES				
	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	15.80	15.16	15.16	11.78	12.61	20.64	19.81	19.83	15.45	16.56
Increase (Decrease) from Operations:										
Total Revenue	0.65	0.60	0.58	0.50	0.47	0.85	0.79	0.74	0.64	0.61
Total Expenses (excluding distributions)	(0.16)	(0.14)	(0.16)	(0.17)	(0.14)	0.00	(0.01)	0.00	0.00	(0.01)
Realized Gains (Losses) for the Period	0.46	0.54	0.78	0.08	0.11	0.62	0.69	0.99	0.09	0.17
Unrealized Gains (Losses) for the Period	1.74	0.08	(1.54)	3.07	(0.32)	2.15	0.27	(1.04)	4.23	(1.60)
Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations <sup>2</sup>	2.69	1.08	(0.34)	3.48	0.12	3.62	1.74	0.69	4.96	(0.83)
Distributions:										
From Net Investment Income										
(excluding dividends)	0.00	(0.01)	0.00	0.00	0.00	(0.01)	(0.01)	0.00	0.00	0.00
From Dividends	(0.48)	(0.45)	(0.39)	(0.27)	(0.33)	(0.82)	(0.76)	(0.74)	(0.60)	(0.62)
From Capital Gains	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Return of Capital	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Annual Distributions <sup>3</sup>	(0.48)	(0.46)	(0.39)	(0.27)	(0.33)	(0.83)	(0.77)	(0.74)	(0.60)	(0.62)
Net Assets at December 31	17.97	15.80	15.16	15.16	11.78	23.48	20.64	19.81	19.83	15.45

<sup>1</sup> This information is derived from the Fund's audited annual financial statements prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards. The Fund measures fair value 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.

#### Ratios and Supplemental Data

	D-SERIES	D-SERIES				PRIVATE S	PRIVATE SERIES			
	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Total Net Asset Value (\$000s) 1	28,539	21,295	22,362	10,677	4,210	1,488,970	1,222,638	1,108,770	1,135,550	822,522
Number of Units Outstanding (000s) 1	1,588	1,348	1,475	704	357	63,416	59,233	55,976	57,251	53,240
Management Expense Ratio (%)2	0.92	0.91	1.02	1.19	1.19	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
Management Expense Ratio Before										
Waivers or Absorptions (%)	0.92	0.91	1.07	1.19	1.19	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
Trading Expense Ratio (%) 3	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.04	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.04
Portfolio Turnover Rate (%)4	9.80	13.23	14.73	4.16	27.43	9.80	13.23	14.73	4.16	27.43
Net Asset Value per Unit (\$)	17.97	15.80	15.16	15.16	11.78	23.48	20.64	19.81	19.83	15.45

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This information is provided as at December 31 of the past five fiscal years, as applicable.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</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 periods. These tables are not intended to be a reconciliation of the net assets per unit.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Distributions were paid in cash or reinvested in additional units of the Fund, or both.

<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, including the Fund's proportionate share of the MER, if any, of the underlying fund(s) in which the Fund has invested in, and is expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average NAV during the period. Management Expense Ratio Before Waivers or Absorptions is based on total expenses and excludes the management fees on the portion of the NAV the Fund invests in the underlying funds that are managed by TDAM or its affiliates. Any waivers or absorptions may be discontinued at any time by TDAM at its discretion without notice.

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3 The trading expense ratio ("TER") represents total commissions and other portfolio transaction costs expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average NAV during the stated period. Where a Fund invests in units of any underlying fund, the TER presented for the Fund includes the portion of TERs, if available, of the underlying fund(s) attributable to this investment

<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, directly or indirectly, 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

#### Management Fees

As manager and trustee of the Fund, TDAM is responsible for the overall business and affairs of the Fund, including activities related to making units of the Fund available to investors, and providing, or arranging for the provision of, investment advisory services and marketing services to the Fund. In consideration for the provision of such services, each series of the Fund, other than Private Series units, pays TDAM a management fee.

Management fees are calculated and accrued on a daily basis for each applicable series based on the net asset value of that series and paid monthly to TDAM.

The simplified prospectus discloses a specified annual management fee rate that TDAM can charge for each series of the Fund. Where TDAM chooses to charge a management fee rate below the specified annual management fee rate, the difference represents a waiver of management fees. 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 for each series, 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>
D-Series	0.75	0.00	0.00	100.00
Private Series	0.00	N/A	N/A	N/A

There are no management fees paid by the Fund in respect of Private Series units of the Fund. Unitholders in the Private Series pay a negotiated fee directly to TDAM, their dealer or TD Waterhouse Private Investment Counsel Inc.

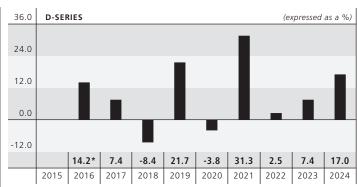
- Includes management fees paid by the Fund and the proportionate management fees, if any,
  of the underlying fund(s) managed by TDAM held by the Fund. However, no management
  fees are payable by the Fund that, to a reasonable person, would duplicate a fee payable by
  the underlying fund(s) for the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

#### **Past Performance**

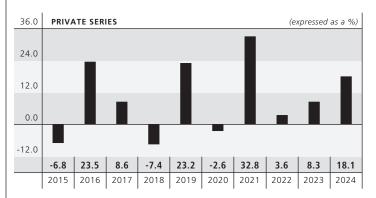
The following charts show how the Fund has performed in the past, and can help you understand the risks of investing in the Fund. These returns include the reinvestment of all distributions. They do not include deduction of sales, switch, redemption, or other optional charges (which dealers may charge) or income taxes payable, 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 charts show how the Fund's performance has varied from year to year for each of the years shown. They show in percentage terms how an investment made on January 1 would have increased or decreased by December 31.



\* From April 26, 2016 (commencement of operations) to December 31, 2016



#### **Annual Compound Returns**

The following table shows the annual compound total returns for each series of units of the Fund for each of the periods indicated ended on December 31, 2024, compared with the following benchmarks:

- Product Benchmark:
  - S&P/TSX 60 Total Return Index This index is comprised of the largest 60 companies on the S&P/TSX Composite Index, by market capitalization.
- General Market Index:
- S&P/TSX Composite Total Return Index This index is comprised of Canadian issuers traded on the Toronto Stock Exchange.

(expressed as a %)	Past year	Past 3 years	Past 5 years	Past 10 years	Since inception
D-Series	17.0	8.8	10.2	N/A	9.7
Private Series	18.1	9.8	11.4	9.3	N/A
Product Benchmark	21.0	8.3	11.4	9.1	•
General Market Index	21.6	8.6	11.1	8.7	•

 Please refer to the following table for product benchmark and general market index returns relative to each series' inception date, where applicable.

	Product chmark	General Market Index
D-Series ( <i>Apr. 26, 2016</i> )	10.7	10.2

A discussion of the Fund's performance compared to the product benchmark and general market index can be found in the Results of Operations section.

## **Summary of Investment Portfolio**

as at December 31, 2024

**TOTAL NET ASSET VALUE** (000s)

	% of Net Asset Value
ASSET ALLOCATION	
Canadian Equities	98.7
Cash (Bank Overdraft)	1.1
Other Net Assets (Liabilities)	0.2
PORTFOLIO ALLOCATION	
Financials	45.0
Energy	21.2
Industrials	11.3
Materials	6.7
Utilities	5.3
Consumer Staples	3.3
Communication Services	3.0
Consumer Discretionary	2.9
Cash (Bank Overdraft)	1.1
Other Net Assets (Liabilities)	0.2

Cash held with The Toronto-Dominion Bank, a related party to the Fund, was 1.1% of net asset value of the Fund.

\$

1,517,509

	% of Net Asset Value
TOP 25 INVESTMENTS	
Royal Bank of Canada	9.6
Enbridge Inc.	6.2
Brookfield Corporation	5.6
Canadian Natural Resources Limited	5.1
The Toronto-Dominion Bank <sup>†</sup>	5.1
Bank of Montreal	4.8
Canadian Pacific Kansas City Limited	4.6
Manulife Financial Corporation	4.6
Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce	4.2
The Bank of Nova Scotia	4.1
Sun Life Financial Inc.	4.0
TC Energy Corporation	3.7
Canadian National Railway Company	3.6
Suncor Energy Inc.	3.3
Alimentation Couche-Tard Inc.	3.3
Thomson Reuters Corporation	3.1
Agnico Eagle Mines Limited	2.9
Cenovus Energy Inc.	2.5
Nutrien Limited	2.0
Fortis Inc.	2.0
Barrick Gold Corporation	1.8
AltaGas Limited	1.8
Intact Financial Corporation	1.7
Magna International Inc.	1.6
TELUS Corporation	1.6
Total % of Net Asset Value represented by these holdings	92.8

<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 contacting 1-800-386-3757, 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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