

# Ninepoint Risk Advantaged U.S. Equity Index Fund

ANNUAL MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE

DECEMBER 31

2023

The annual management report of fund performance is an analysis and explanation that is designed to complement and supplement an investment fund's financial statements. This report 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 1-888-362-7172, by visiting our website at www.ninepoint.com or SEDAR+ at www.sedarplus.ca or by writing to us at: Ninepoint Partners LP, Royal Bank Plaza, South Tower, 200 Bay Street, Suite 2700, P.O. Box 27, Toronto, Ontario M5J 2J1. 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.

## Management Discussion of Fund Performance

#### Investment Objective and Strategies

The investment objective of Ninepoint Risk Advantaged U.S. Equity Index (the "Fund") is to obtain exposure to the performance of the S&P 500 Index, or a successor or replacement index (the "Index") and through the use of option strategies, seek to moderate the volatility of that performance.

To achieve the Fund's investment objective, the Portfolio Manager gains exposure to equities through investment in one or more exchangetraded funds ("ETFs") that seek to replicate the performance net of expenses of the Index.

The Fund may also:

- invest in cash or short-term debt securities primarily for cash management;
- engage in securities lending and, upon providing 60 days' notice to investors, repurchase and reverse repurchase transactions as permitted by securities regulations; and
- use derivative instruments, such as options, futures, forward contracts and swaps, for both hedging and non-hedging strategies.

#### Risk

The risks of investing in the Fund are described in the Fund's simplified prospectus. The Fund is suitable for those investors seeking long-term capital growth from exposure to U.S. equities and some downside protection through the use of option strategies and tactical changes to the amount of equity exposure The Fund is suitable for investors with a low to medium tolerance for risk and volatility and a long-term investment horizon.

#### **Results of Operations**

The Fund, Series A returned 12.2% in 2023, while its benchmark, the S&P 500 Index, returned 23.6%.

In 2023, equities initially rallied on improving inflation trends and then experienced a sharp sell-off in March on uncertainty over the solvency of several regional banks in the United States. This uncertainty drove higher demand for hedging given perceived downside risks to markets and subsequently higher expected volatility being priced into options markets. As concerns over banking risks abated equity markets rallied and implied volatility declined. The March rally saw equity market breadth narrow with technology driving a significant amount of equity market returns. Nascent signs that large cap technology company earnings trends might be improving and excitement over the potential for AI were key contributors to technology share performance. Uncertainty over global inflation trends continued to dominate markets driving sharp moves in both long term and short-term interest rates. Equity markets reacted negatively in the summer to the higher move in rates driving a price correction into the fall, only to see a rally into year-end as inflation trends improved and Federal Reserve officials signal the potential end to rates hikes.

The Fund deployed put-spread collars that offered the strategy equity upside participation until the call strike prices and downside protection between the put spread strikes of the portfolio laddered over the forward 12 months.

The top factors contributing to performance was a rally in U.S. equities and an increase in the S&P 500. The SPDR S&P 500 ETF Trust was the top contributor to performance. S&P 500 long put options & call options sold against the S&P 500 long position were the top detractor. The portfolio rolled expiring put spread collars into 2024 to maintain portfolio hedges between the put spread strike prices and upside participation until the call strike prices on the SPDR S&P 500 ETF Trust underlying.

The Fund's net asset value decreased by 6.7% during the year, from \$51.3 million as at December 31, 2022 to \$47.9 million as at December 31, 2023. This change was predominantly due to net redemptions of \$9.3 million, offset by net realized and unrealized gains on investments and derivatives of \$6.3 million.

#### **Recent Developments**

There were no material changes to the investment strategy and features of the Fund during the year ended December 31, 2023. The Manager actively monitors the positioning of the Fund's portfolio for changes in current market conditions and the economic environment.

#### **Related Party Transactions**

#### MANAGEMENT FEES

The Fund pays a management fee to the Manager, at an annual rate of 1.80% for Series A units, 0.80% for Series D and Series F units, 0.60% for Series QF units, 0.70% for Series PF and is negotiated by the unitholders for Series I. The management fee is calculated and accrued daily based on the daily net asset value of the applicable series of the Fund, and is paid monthly. For the year ended December 31, 2023, the Fund incurred management fees of \$869,042 (including taxes). The breakdown of the services received in consideration of the management fees, as a percentage of management fees, is as follows:

	Portfolio	Trailing
	Advisory	Commissions
Ninepoint Risk Advantaged U.S. Index Equity Fund – Series A	44%	56%
Ninepoint Risk Advantaged U.S. Index Equity Fund – Series D	100%	_
Ninepoint Risk Advantaged U.S. Index Equity Fund – Series F	100%	_

Out of the management fees that the Manager received from the Fund, the Manager paid trailer commissions of \$1,223 during the year ended December 31, 2023, to Sightline Wealth Management, an affiliate of the manager.

#### OPERATING EXPENSES

The Fund pays its own operating expenses, which include, but are not limited to, audit, legal, custodial, filing and administrative expenses as well as unitholder reporting costs. The Manager pays certain of these expenses on behalf of the Fund and then is reimbursed by the Fund. At its sole discretion, the Manager may waive or absorb a portion of the operating expenses of the Fund. Amounts waived or absorbed by the Manager are reported in the Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss). Waivers or absorptions can be terminated at any time without notice. During the year ended December 31, 2023, the Manager did not absorb any expenses.

#### OTHER RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Fund relied on the approval, positive recommendation or standing instruction from the Fund's Independent Review Committee with respect to any related party transactions.

# **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 years ended December 31 shown, unless otherwise indicated.

The Fund's Net Assets per Share<sup>1</sup>

	Dec 31,	Dec 31,	Dec 31,	Dec 31,	Dec 31,
	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Series A	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Net assets, beginning of period	11.62	12.36	11.43	11.71	10.73
Increase (decrease) from operations:					
Total revenue	0.18	0.18	0.17	0.23	0.20
Total expenses	(0.33)	(0.30)	(0.32)	(0.33)	(0.37)
Realized gains (losses) for the period	0.55	0.46	(0.32)	(0.81)	0.64
Unrealized gains (losses) for the period	1.03	(1.15)	1.35	0.59	0.86
Total increase (decrease) from operations <sup>2</sup>	1.43	(0.81)	0.88	(0.32)	1.33
Distributions:					
From dividend distributions	_	-	-	(0.07)	(0.16)
Total distributions <sup>3</sup>	-	_	_	(0.07)	(0.16)
Net assets, end of period	13.04	11.62	12.36	11.43	11.71
	Dec 31,	Dec 31,	Dec 31,	Dec 31,	Dec 31,
	2023	2022	2021	2020 <sup>6</sup>	2019
Series A1	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Net assets, beginning of period	- -	- -	ۍ 	11.80	10.80
Increase (decrease) from operations:		_	_	11.60	10.80
Total revenue		_	_	0.13	0.20
Total expenses	_	_	_	(0.21)	(0.36)
Realized gains (losses) for the period	_	_	_	(0.58)	0.66
Unrealized gains (losses) for the period	_	_	_	0.26	0.92
Total increase (decrease) from operations <sup>2</sup>	_	_	_	(0.40)	1.43
Distributions:				(****)	
From dividend distributions	_	_	_	_	(0.16)
Total distributions <sup>3</sup>	-	_	_	_	(0.16)
Net assets, end of period	_	_	_	_	11.80
	Dec 31,	Dec 31,	Dec 31,	Dec 31,	Dec 31,
	2023	$2022^{8}$	$2021^7$	2020	2019 <sup>5</sup>
Series D			2021 \$	2020 \$	
Net assets, beginning of period	<u> </u>	<u>\$</u> 10.00	<del>ه</del> 9.92	10.11	\$ 10.00
Increase (decrease) from operations:	7.05	10.00	9.92	10.11	10.00
Total revenue	0.17	0.12	0.03	0.20	0.04
Total expenses	(0.16)	(0.04)	(0.08)	(0.23)	(0.15)
Realized gains (losses) for the period	0.45	0.21	(0.35)	(0.83)	0.40
Unrealized gains (losses) for the period	0.83	(0.55)	(0.33)	0.73	(0.71)
Total increase (decrease) from operations <sup>2</sup>	1.29	(0.26)	(1.89)	(0.13)	(0.42)
Distributions:	2 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4	()	()	(3.10)	(*=)
From dividend distributions	_	_	_	(0.06)	(0.14)
Total distributions <sup>3</sup>	_	_	_	(0.06)	(0.14)
Net assets, end of period	11.15	9.83	_	9.92	10.11

# Ninepoint Risk Advantaged U.S. Equity Index Fund

	Dec 31,	Dec 31,	Dec 31,	Dec 31,	Dec 31,
	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Series F	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Net assets, beginning of period	13.11	13.80	12.62	12.79	11.59
Increase (decrease) from operations:					
Total revenue	0.21	0.20	0.18	0.25	0.23
Total expenses	(0.22)	(0.19)	(0.21)	(0.23)	(0.27)
Realized gains (losses) for the period	0.62	0.52	(0.04)	(0.72)	0.57
Unrealized gains (losses) for the period	1.14	(1.29)	1.18	0.33	1.48
Total increase (decrease) from operations <sup>2</sup>	1.75	(0.76)	1.11	(0.37)	2.01
Distributions:					
From dividend distributions	-	_	_	(0.08)	(0.17)
Total distributions <sup>3</sup>	-	-	-	(0.08)	(0.17)
Net assets, end of period	14.88	13.11	13.80	12.62	12.79
	Dec 31,	Dec 31,	Dec 31,	Dec 31,	Dec 31,
	2023	2022	2021	2020 <sup>6</sup>	2019
Series F1	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Net assets, beginning of period	Ψ 	Ψ _	Ψ	12.85	11.63
Increase (decrease) from operations:				12.05	11.05
Total revenue	_	_	_	0.14	0.22
Total expenses	_	_	_	(0.14)	(0.25)
Realized gains (losses) for the period	_	_	_	(0.23)	0.72
Unrealized gains (losses) for the period	_	_	_	(0.01)	1.05
Total increase (decrease) from operations <sup>2</sup>	_	_	_	(0.24)	1.74
Distributions:				. ,	
From dividend distributions	_	_	_	_	(0.17)
Total distributions <sup>3</sup>	_	_	_	_	(0.17)
Net assets, end of period	-	_	_	_	12.85
	Dec 31,	Dec 31,	Dec 31,	Dec 31,	Dec 31,
	2023	2022	2021	2020 <sup>6</sup>	2019
Series FT	2028 \$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Net assets, beginning of period	φ 	φ 	Ф —	7.51	7.21
Increase (decrease) from operations:				7.51	7.21
Total revenue				0.08	0.14
Total expenses	_	_	_	(0.08)	(0.14)
Realized gains (losses) for the period	_	_		(0.08)	0.27
Unrealized gains (losses) for the period	_	_	_	(0.13)	1.23
Total increase (decrease) from operations <sup>2</sup>		_	_	(0.23)	1.47
Distributions:				(0.15)	1.17
From dividend distributions	_	_	_	_	(0.10)
From return of capital	_	_	_	(0.26)	(0.10)
Total distributions <sup>3</sup>	_	_	_	(0.26)	(0.54)
Net assets, end of period	_	_		(0.20)	7.51

# Ninepoint Risk Advantaged U.S. Equity Index Fund

2019 \$ 12.50 0.23 (0.13) 0.92 0.62 1.64
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l otal expenses	—	-	_	(0.12)	(0.23)
Realized gains (losses) for the period	_	_	-	(0.37)	0.40
Unrealized gains (losses) for the period	_	_	-	0.23	0.61
Total increase (decrease) from operations <sup>2</sup>	-	-	_	(0.18)	0.91
Distributions:					
From dividend distributions	_	_	-	_	(0.09)
From return of capital	_	_	-	(0.25)	(0.41)
Total distributions <sup>3</sup>	-	_	-	(0.25)	(0.50)
Net assets, end of period	_	-	_	_	7.00

1 This information is derived from the Fund's audited annual financial statements.

2 The increase/decrease from operations is based on the weighted average number of units outstanding over the financial period. Net assets and distributions are based on the actual number of units outstanding at the relevant time. This table is not intended to be a reconciliation of beginning to ending net assets per unit.

3 Distributions were reinvested in additional units of the Fund or distributed in cash.

4 All outstanding Series QF units were fully redeemed during the year ended December 31, 2019.

5 Information provided is for the period from April 12, 2019 (first issuance) to December 31, 2019 for Series D units.

6 All outstanding Series A1 units, Series F1 units, Series FT units, Series I units and Series T units were fully redeemed during the year ended December 31, 2020.

7 All outstanding Series D units were fully redeemed during the year ended December 31, 2021.

8 Information provided is for the period from March 1, 2022 (re-subscription) to December 31, 2022 for Series D units.

#### Ratios and Supplemental Data

	Dec 31,	Dec 31,	Dec 31,	Dec 31,	Dec 31,
Series A	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Total net asset value (000s) <sup>1</sup>	\$38,666	\$41,129	\$52,797	\$72,708	\$84,533
Number of units outstanding <sup>1</sup>	2,964,622	3,539,743	4,270,173	6,361,496	7,220,581
Management expense ratio <sup>2</sup>	2.42%	2.35%	2.50%	2.49%	2.64%
Trading expense ratio <sup>3</sup>	0.02%	0.02%	0.02%	0.23%	0.49%
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>4</sup>	10.98%	5.89%	16.56%	128.69%	91.32%
Net asset value per share <sup>1</sup>	\$13.04	\$11.62	\$12.36	\$11.43	\$11.71
	Dec 31,	Dag 21	Dag 21	Dag 21	Dec 21
0	,	Dec 31,	Dec 31,	Dec 31,	Dec 31,
Series A1	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Total net asset value (000s) <sup>1</sup>	-	_	_	-	\$4,411
Number of units outstanding <sup>1</sup>	-	_	—	_	373,890
Management expense ratio <sup>2</sup>	_	_	—	-	2.55%
Trading expense ratio <sup>3</sup>	-	_	—	-	0.49%
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>4</sup>	-	_	—	-	91.32%
Net asset value per share <sup>1</sup>	-	-	_	-	\$11.80
	Dec 31,	Dec 31,	Dec 31,	Dec 31,	Dec 31,
Series D	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
	\$731				\$6
Total net asset value (000s) <sup>1</sup> Number of units outstanding <sup>1</sup>	65,559	\$540 54.040		\$6 586	582
Management expense ratio <sup>2</sup>	1.31%	54,940 1.33%		1.98%	2.16%
Trading expense ratio <sup>3</sup>	0.02%	0.02%	_	0.23%	0.49%
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>4</sup>	10.98%	5.89%	_	128.69%	91.32%
Net asset value per share <sup>1</sup>	\$11.15	9.83	_	\$9.92	\$10.11
	\$11.15	9.83		ψ).)2	\$10.11
	Dec 31,	Dec 31,	Dec 31,	Dec 31,	Dec 31,
Series F	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Total net asset value (000s) <sup>1</sup>	\$8,488	\$9,679	\$12,048	\$17,565	\$25,914
Number of units outstanding <sup>1</sup>	570,436	738,059	872,801	1,391,474	2,026,330
Management expense ratio <sup>2</sup>	1.34%	1.24%	1.44%	1.40%	1.53%
Trading expense ratio <sup>3</sup>	0.02%	0.02%	0.02%	0.23%	0.49%
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>4</sup>	10.98%	5.89%	16.56%	128.69%	91.32%
Net asset value per share <sup>1</sup>	\$14.88	\$13.11	\$13.80	\$12.62	\$12.79
	Dec 31,	Dec 31,	Dec 31,	Dec 31,	Dec 31,
Series F1	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Total net asset value $(000s)^1$	-	-	-	-	\$1,352
Number of units outstanding <sup>1</sup>	-	-	-	-	105,241
Management expense ratio <sup>2</sup>	-	_	-	-	1.44%
Trading expense ratio <sup>3</sup>	-	-	-	-	0.49%
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>4</sup>	-	_	-	-	91.32%
Net asset value per share <sup>1</sup>	-	-	_	-	\$12.85

# Ninepoint Risk Advantaged U.S. Equity Index Fund

Series FT	Dec 31, 2023	Dec 31, 2022	Dec 31, 2021	Dec 31, 2020	Dec 31, 2019
Total net asset value (000s) <sup>1</sup>					\$540
Number of units outstanding <sup>1</sup>	—	—	_	_	71,888
Management expense ratio <sup>2</sup>			_	_	1.54%
Trading expense ratio <sup>3</sup>	_	_	_	_	0.49%
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>4</sup>	_	_	_	_	91.32%
Net asset value per share <sup>1</sup>	_	_	_	-	\$7.51
	Dec 31,				
Series I	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Total net asset value (000s) <sup>1</sup>	_	_	-	_	\$12
Number of units outstanding <sup>1</sup>	_	_	_	_	847
Management expense ratio <sup>2</sup>	_	_	_	_	0.43%
Trading expense ratio <sup>3</sup>	_	_	_	_	0.49%
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>4</sup>	_	_	_	-	91.32%
Net asset value per share <sup>1</sup>	_	_	-	-	\$13.95
	Dec 31,				
Series T	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Total net asset value (000s) <sup>1</sup>	_	_	_	_	\$1,397
Number of units outstanding <sup>1</sup>	_	_	_	_	199,488
Management expense ratio <sup>2</sup>	_	_	_	_	2.66%
Trading expense ratio <sup>3</sup>	_	_	_	_	0.49%
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>4</sup>	_	_	_	_	91.32%
Net asset value per share <sup>1</sup>		_	_	_	\$7.00

1 This information is provided as at December 31 for the years shown.

Management expense ratio ("MER") is based on total expenses (excluding commissions and other portfolio transaction costs) for the stated period and is expressed as an annualized percentage of the daily average net asset value during the period. The Manager may waive or absorb a portion of the operating expenses of the Fund. Waivers and absorption can be terminated at any time.
The trading expense ratio ("TER") represents total commissions and other portfolio transaction costs expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average net asset value during the period. The

TER includes dividend expense and securities borrowing expense paid by the Fund in connection with securities sold short.

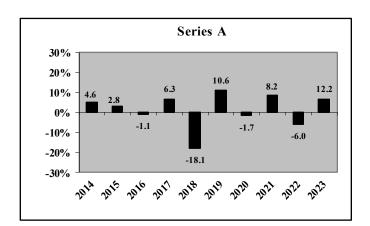
4 The Fund's portfolio turnover rate indicates how actively the Fund's portfolio advisor trades its portfolio investments. A portfolio turnover rate of 100% is equivalent to the Fund buying and selling all of the securities in its portfolio once in the course of the year. The higher the Fund's portfolio 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.

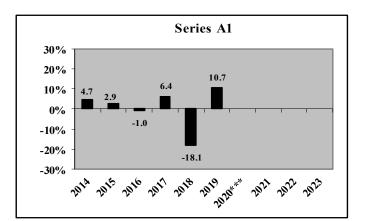
## Past Performance

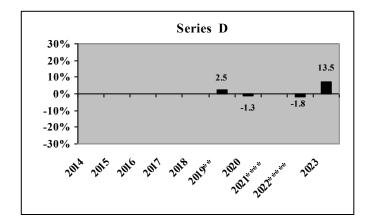
The indicated rates of return are the historical total returns including changes in share values and assume reinvestment of all distributions in additional units of the relevant Series of the Fund. These returns do not take into account sales, redemption, distribution or optional charges or income taxes payable by any shareholder that may reduce returns. Please note that past performance is not indicative of future performance. All rates of return are calculated based on the Net Asset Value of the particular Series of the Fund.

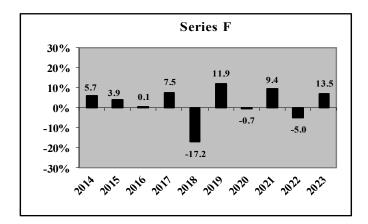
#### Year-by-Year Returns

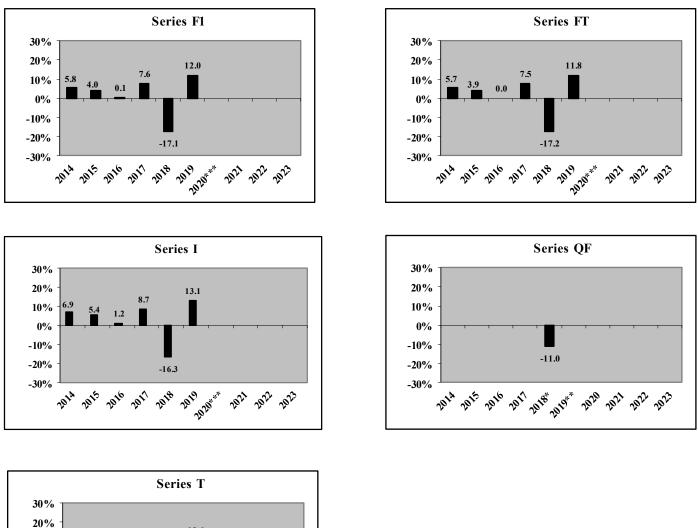
The following chart indicates the performance of each Series of the Fund for the years ended December 31 shown, unless otherwise indicated. The chart shows, in percentage terms, how much an investment made on the first day of each period would have grown or decreased by the last day of each period. Returns are not shown for a Series in any period in which there were zero outstanding units as at the end of the period.

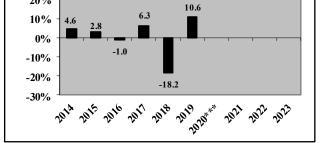












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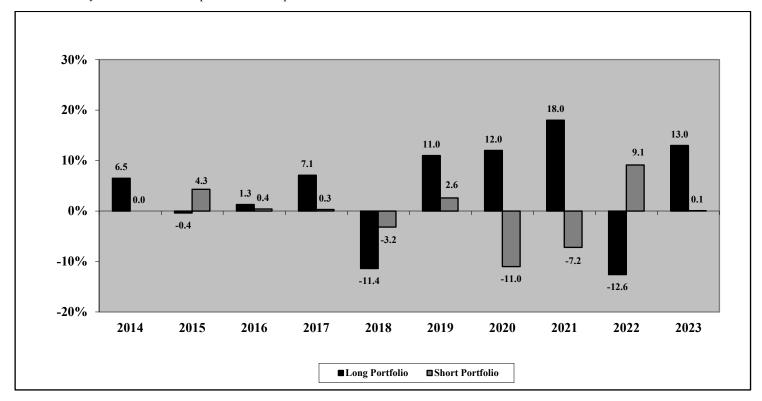
Return from the period August 29, 2018 (first issuance) to December 31, 2018 for Series QF units (not annualized).

\* Return from the period April 12, 2019 (first issuance) to December 31, 2019 for Series D units (not annualized). All outstanding Series QF units were fully redeemed during the year ended December 31, 2019.

- \*\*\* All outstanding Series A1 units, Series F1 units, Series FT units, Series I units and Series T units were fully redeemed during the year ended December 31, 2020.
- \*\*\*\* All outstanding Series D units were fully redeemed during the year ended December 31, 2021.
- \*\*\*\*\* Return from March 1, 2022 (re-subscription) to December 31, 2022 for Series D units (not annualized).

#### Long and Short Portfolio Returns

The following table illustrates the contribution to the return of the Fund by the long portfolio and the short portfolio of the Fund (before the impact of Fund expenses) for the years ended December 31 shown, unless otherwise indicated. For the purposes of this disclosure, certain derivatives may be considered to be part of the short portfolio.



#### Annual Compound Returns

The following table illustrates the annual compound total return for each Series of units of the Fund for the periods shown. As a basis of performance comparison, the annual compound return of the Fund is compared to that of S&P 500 Index (the "Index"). The Index is an index of 500 stocks actively traded in the United States chosen for market size, liquidity and industry grouping, among other factor and is designed to be a leading indicator of U.S. equities, reflecting the risk and return characteristics of the broader large cap universe on an on-going basis. Since the Fund does not necessarily invest in the same securities or in the same proportion as these indices, the performance of the Fund is not expected to equal the performance of either index.

	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year	Since Inception*
Ninepoint Risk Advantaged U.S. Index Equity Fund - Series A	12.2%	4.5%	4.4%	1.4%	2.7%
S&P 500 Index (CAD)	23.6%	11.5%	15.0%	14.5%	16.1%
Ninepoint Risk Advantaged U.S. Index Equity Fund - Series D	13.5%	_	_	_	6.1%
S&P 500 Index (CAD)	23.6%	_	_	_	9.2%
Ninepoint Risk Advantaged U.S. Index Equity Fund – Series F	13.5%	5.6%	5.5%	2.5%	3.9%
S&P 500 Index (CAD)	23.6%	11.5%	15.0%	14.5%	16.4%
Long Portfolio	13.0%	5.2%	7.7%	4.0%	
Short Portfolio	0.1%	0.4%	-1.5%	-0.6%	

\* Since launch date of April 17, 2012 for Series A, May 24, 2012 for Series F, and March 1, 2022 (re-subscription) for Series D. Returns for Series A1, Series F1, Series F7, Series I, Series QF and Series T are not shown as there were no units outstanding as at December 31, 2023.

## Summary of Investment Portfolio

As at December 31, 2023

#### Portfolio Allocation

	% of
	Net Asset Value
Long Positions	
Funds	101.9
Communication Services	1.7
Information Technology	0.0
Total Long Positions	103.6
Cash	0.0
Other Net Liabilities	(3.6)
Total Net Asset Value	100.0

All Long Positions

Issuer	% of Net Asset Value
SPDR S&P 500 ETF Trust	101.9
Hootsuite Media Inc., Preferred Shares	1.7
Baanto International Limited	0.0
Baanto International Limited, Rights	0.0
Baanto International Limited, Class B, Convertible Preferred Shar	es 0.0
Baanto International Limited, Class C, Preferred Shares	0.0
Cash	0.0
All long positions as a percentage of Net Asset Value	103.6

The Fund held no short positions as at December 31, 2023.

This summary of investment portfolio may change due to the ongoing portfolio transactions of the Fund. Quarterly updates of the Fund's investment portfolio are available on the Internet at www.ninepoint.com. The prospectus and other information about the underlying investment funds are available on the Internet at www.sedarplus.ca.

## **Corporate Information**

#### **Corporate Address**

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#### Auditors

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#### Legal Counsel

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