

**COUNSEL | PORTFOLIO SERVICES**

# Counsel U.S. Growth

INTERIM UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the period ended September 30, 2023

These Financial Statements do not contain the Management Report of Fund Performance ("MRFP") of the investment fund.

A copy of the Fund's current Simplified Prospectus, Annual Information Form, Management Report of Fund Performance, Fund Fact Sheets, quarterly portfolio disclosures and proxy voting policies and disclosures will be provided, without charge, by: calling toll-free 1-877-625-9885, writing to Counsel Portfolio Services Inc., 5015 Spectrum Way, Suite 300, Mississauga, ON, L4W 0E4, by visiting our website at [www.counselervices.com](http://www.counselervices.com) or by visiting [www.sedarplus.ca](http://www.sedarplus.ca).

# COUNSEL U.S. GROWTH

INTERIM UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS | September 30, 2023

## STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

at (in \$ 000 except per security amounts)

	Sep. 30 2023	Mar. 31 2023 (Audited)
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current assets</b>		
Investments at fair value	301,561	287,122
Cash and cash equivalents	25,483	14,319
Dividends receivable	–	7
Accounts receivable for investments sold	–	–
Accounts receivable for securities issued	623	543
Derivative assets	150	–
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>327,817</b>	<b>301,991</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable for investments purchased	1	52
Accounts payable for securities redeemed	804	1,081
Due to manager	4	4
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>809</b>	<b>1,137</b>
<b>Net assets attributable to securityholders</b>	<b>327,008</b>	<b>300,854</b>

	Net assets attributable to securityholders (note 3)			
	per security		per series	
	Sep. 30 2023	Mar. 31 2023 (Audited)	Sep. 30 2023	Mar. 31 2023 (Audited)
Series A	42.24	37.90	39,265	37,423
Series F	47.45	42.32	42,857	35,825
Series I	50.38	44.78	56,021	53,372
Series O	47.48	42.20	142,122	145,099
Series Private Wealth	50.53	44.91	46,743	29,135
			<b>327,008</b>	<b>300,854</b>

## STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

for the periods ended September 30 (in \$ 000 except per security amounts)

	2023	2022
<b>Income</b>		
Dividends	853	1,579
Interest income for distribution purposes	294	136
Other changes in fair value of investments and other net assets		
Net realized gain (loss)	13	(2,383)
Net unrealized gain (loss)	38,137	(53,924)
Securities lending income	9	13
<b>Total income (loss)</b>	<b>39,306</b>	<b>(54,579)</b>
<b>Expenses (note 6)</b>		
Management fees	639	564
Management fee rebates	(4)	(10)
Administration fees	173	136
Commissions and other portfolio transaction costs	37	77
Independent Review Committee fees	2	3
<b>Expenses before amounts absorbed by Manager</b>	<b>847</b>	<b>770</b>
Expenses absorbed by Manager	–	–
<b>Net expenses</b>	<b>847</b>	<b>770</b>
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to securityholders from operations before tax</b>	<b>38,459</b>	<b>(55,349)</b>
Foreign withholding tax expense (recovery)	128	237
Foreign income tax expense (recovery)	–	–
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to securityholders from operations</b>	<b>38,331</b>	<b>(55,586)</b>

	Increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to securityholders from operations (note 3)			
	per security		per series	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
Series A	4.44	(7.72)	4,217	(7,848)
Series F	5.42	(8.26)	5,097	(6,226)
Series I	5.88	(8.03)	6,882	(9,128)
Series O	5.65	(7.44)	17,894	(29,438)
Series Private Wealth	5.26	(8.15)	4,241	(2,946)
			<b>38,331</b>	<b>(55,586)</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

# COUNSEL U.S. GROWTH

INTERIM UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS | September 30, 2023

## STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN FINANCIAL POSITION

for the periods ended September 30 (in \$ 000 except per security amounts)

	Total		Series A		Series F		Series I		Series O	
	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022
<b>NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO SECURITYHOLDERS</b>										
Beginning of period	300,854	323,633	37,423	43,164	35,825	34,703	53,372	50,485	145,099	177,105
Increase (decrease) in net assets from operations	38,331	(55,586)	4,217	(7,848)	5,097	(6,226)	6,882	(9,128)	17,894	(29,438)
Distributions paid to securityholders:										
Investment income	(494)	(810)	–	–	–	–	(88)	(97)	(349)	(684)
Capital gains	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Management fee rebates	(4)	(10)	(2)	(6)	(2)	(4)	–	–	–	–
Total distributions paid to securityholders	(498)	(820)	(2)	(6)	(2)	(4)	(88)	(97)	(349)	(684)
Security transactions:										
Proceeds from securities issued	48,464	48,154	2,371	2,419	12,032	4,904	9,236	10,751	4,784	25,503
Reinvested distributions	493	818	2	6	2	4	86	95	349	684
Payments on redemption of securities	(60,636)	(33,551)	(4,746)	(3,014)	(10,097)	(4,486)	(13,467)	(2,067)	(25,655)	(19,530)
Total security transactions	(11,679)	15,421	(2,373)	(589)	1,937	422	(4,145)	8,779	(20,522)	6,657
Increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to securityholders	26,154	(40,985)	1,842	(8,443)	7,032	(5,808)	2,649	(446)	(2,977)	(23,465)
End of period	327,008	282,648	39,265	34,721	42,857	28,895	56,021	50,039	142,122	153,640
Increase (decrease) in fund securities (in thousands) (note 7):										
Securities outstanding – beginning of period			987	1,022	847	745	1,192	1,031	3,438	3,831
Issued			57	66	271	121	191	254	101	665
Reinvested distributions			–	–	–	–	2	2	8	18
Redeemed			(114)	(81)	(215)	(111)	(273)	(48)	(554)	(476)
Securities outstanding – end of period			930	1,007	903	755	1,112	1,239	2,993	4,038

	Series Private Wealth	
	2023	2022
<b>NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO SECURITYHOLDERS</b>		
Beginning of period	29,135	18,176
Increase (decrease) in net assets from operations	4,241	(2,946)
Distributions paid to securityholders:		
Investment income	(57)	(29)
Capital gains	–	–
Management fee rebates	–	–
Total distributions paid to securityholders	(57)	(29)
Security transactions:		
Proceeds from securities issued	20,041	4,577
Reinvested distributions	54	29
Payments on redemption of securities	(6,671)	(4,454)
Total security transactions	13,424	152
Increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to securityholders	17,608	(2,823)
End of period	46,743	15,353
Increase (decrease) in fund securities (in thousands) (note 7):		
Securities outstanding – beginning of period	649	370
Issued	408	107
Reinvested distributions	1	1
Redeemed	(133)	(99)
Securities outstanding – end of period	925	379

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

# COUNSEL U.S. GROWTH

INTERIM UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS | September 30, 2023

## STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

for the periods ended September 30 (in \$ 000)

	2023	2022
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Net increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to securityholders from operations	38,331	(55,586)
Adjustments for:		
Net realized loss (gain) on investments	(677)	6,055
Change in net unrealized loss (gain) on investments	(38,137)	53,924
Purchase of investments	(74,672)	(214,645)
Proceeds from sale and maturity of investments	98,844	219,882
(Increase) decrease in accounts receivable and other assets	(143)	38
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable and other liabilities	–	(1)
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities</b>	<b>23,546</b>	<b>9,667</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>		
Proceeds from securities issued	48,384	48,435
Payments on redemption of securities	(60,913)	(33,258)
Distributions paid net of reinvestments	(5)	(2)
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities</b>	<b>(12,534)</b>	<b>15,175</b>
<b>Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>11,012</b>	<b>24,842</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	14,319	1,440
Effect of exchange rate fluctuations on cash and cash equivalents	152	1,018
<b>Cash and cash equivalents, end of period</b>	<b>25,483</b>	<b>27,300</b>
Cash	25,483	27,300
Cash equivalents	–	–
<b>Cash and cash equivalents, end of period</b>	<b>25,483</b>	<b>27,300</b>
<b>Supplementary disclosures on cash flow from operating activities:</b>		
Dividends received	860	1,617
Foreign taxes paid	128	237
Interest received	294	136
Interest paid	–	–

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

# COUNSEL U.S. GROWTH

INTERIM UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS | September 30, 2023

## SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS

as at September 30, 2023

	Country	Sector	Shares/ Units	Average Cost (\$ 000)	Fair Value (\$ 000)
<b>EQUITIES</b>					
Adobe Systems Inc.	United States	Information Technology	9,578	6,811	6,630
Alphabet Inc. Class A	United States	Communication Services	88,298	13,065	15,685
Amazon.com Inc.	United States	Consumer Discretionary	111,474	14,770	19,237
Apple Inc.	United States	Information Technology	85,931	15,211	19,972
ASML Holding NV	Netherlands	Information Technology	16,429	11,478	13,128
Chipotle Mexican Grill Inc.	United States	Consumer Discretionary	5,389	6,766	13,401
Costco Wholesale Corp.	United States	Consumer Staples	13,957	8,284	10,704
Delta Air Lines Inc.	United States	Industrials	121,323	7,125	6,094
Eli Lilly and Co.	United States	Health Care	24,144	9,399	17,605
Meta Platforms Inc. Class A	United States	Communication Services	62,575	8,586	25,501
Microsoft Corp.	United States	Information Technology	75,822	19,810	32,500
NVIDIA Corp.	United States	Information Technology	49,932	8,610	29,485
S&P Global Inc.	United States	Financials	22,287	10,307	11,055
ServiceNow Inc.	United States	Information Technology	12,528	6,440	9,506
The Sherwin-Williams Co.	United States	Materials	33,534	5,098	11,610
Synopsys Inc.	United States	Information Technology	23,291	10,649	14,511
Tesla Inc.	United States	Consumer Discretionary	44,710	11,569	15,187
UnitedHealth Group Inc.	United States	Health Care	11,458	7,506	7,842
Visa Inc. Class A	United States	Financials	39,802	4,902	12,428
Zoetis Inc.	United States	Health Care	40,139	10,373	9,480
<b>Total equities</b>				<b>196,759</b>	<b>301,561</b>
Transaction costs				(36)	—
<b>Total investments</b>				<b>196,723</b>	<b>301,561</b>
Cash and cash equivalents					25,483
Other assets less liabilities					(36)
<b>Net assets attributable to securityholders</b>					<b>327,008</b>

# COUNSEL U.S. GROWTH

INTERIM UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS | September 30, 2023

## SUMMARY OF INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO

SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

ASSET TYPE	% OF NAV
Equities	92.3
Cash and cash equivalents	7.8
Other	(0.1)

SECTOR ALLOCATION	% OF NAV
Information technology	38.4
Consumer discretionary	14.6
Communication services	12.6
Health care	10.7
Financials	7.2
Materials	3.6
Consumer staples	3.3
Industrials	1.9
Cash and cash equivalents	7.8
Other	(0.1)

COUNTRY ALLOCATION	% OF NAV
United States	88.3
Netherlands	4.0
Canada	(0.1)
Cash and cash equivalents	7.8

MARCH 31, 2023

ASSET TYPE	% OF NAV
Equities	95.4
Cash and cash equivalents	4.8
Other	(0.2)

SECTOR ALLOCATION	% OF NAV
Information technology	35.4
Consumer discretionary	18.9
Communication services	11.4
Health care	9.9
Financials	7.5
Materials	3.4
Consumer staples	3.1
Industrials	3.1
Energy	2.7
Cash and cash equivalents	4.8
Other	(0.2)

COUNTRY ALLOCATION	% OF NAV
United States	90.4
Netherlands	5.0
Cash and cash equivalents	4.8
Canada	(0.2)

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### 1. Fiscal Periods and General Information

The information provided in these financial statements and notes thereto is for the six-month period ended or as at September 30, 2023 and 2022, except for the comparative information presented in the Statements of Financial Position and notes thereto, which is as at March 31, 2023, as applicable. In the year a series is established, 'period' represents the period from inception to the period end of that fiscal period. In a period where a series is terminated the period represents from the beginning of the fiscal year to the termination date. Refer to Note 10 (a) for series inception and termination dates.

The Fund is organized as an open-ended mutual fund trust established under the laws of the Province of Ontario pursuant to a Declaration of Trust as amended and restated from time to time. The address of the Fund's registered office is 5015 Spectrum Way, Suite 300, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada. The Fund is authorized to issue an unlimited number of units (referred to as "security" or "securities") of multiple series. Series of the Fund are available for sale under Simplified Prospectus and/or exempt distribution options.

Counsel Portfolio Services Inc. (the "Manager" or "Counsel") acts as the Fund's manager and trustee.

### 2. Basis of Preparation and Presentation

These unaudited interim financial statements ("financial statements") have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS"), including International Accounting Standard ("IAS") 34, Interim Financial Reporting, as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board ("IASB"). These financial statements were prepared using the same accounting policies, critical accounting judgments and estimates as applied in the Fund's most recent audited annual financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2023. A summary of the Fund's significant accounting policies under IFRS is presented in Note 3.

These financial statements are presented in Canadian dollars, which is the Fund's functional currency, and are rounded to the nearest thousand unless otherwise indicated. These financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis using the historical cost basis, except for financial assets and liabilities that have been measured at fair value through profit or loss ("FVTPL").

These financial statements were authorized for issue by Counsel's Board of Directors on November 13, 2023.

### 3. Significant Accounting Policies

#### (a) Financial instruments

Financial instruments include financial assets and liabilities such as debt and equity securities, investment funds, and derivatives. The Fund classifies and measures financial instruments in accordance with IFRS 9 *Financial Instruments*. Upon initial recognition, financial instruments are classified as FVTPL. All financial instruments are recognized in the Statements of Financial Position when the Fund becomes a party to the contractual requirements of the instrument. Financial assets are derecognized when the right to receive cash flows from the instrument has expired. Financial liabilities are derecognized when the Fund has transferred substantially all risks and rewards of ownership. Investment purchase and sale transactions are recorded as of the trade date.

Financial instruments are designated on initial recognition as FVTPL with changes in fair value recognized in the Statements of Comprehensive Income – Net unrealized gain (loss).

Realized and unrealized gains and losses on investments are calculated based on average cost of investments and exclude commissions and other portfolio transaction costs, which are separately reported in the Statements of Comprehensive Income – Commissions and other portfolio transaction costs.

Gains and losses arising from changes in the fair value of the investments are included in the Statements of Comprehensive Income for the period in which they arise.

The Fund accounts for its holdings in investment funds at FVTPL. Counsel has concluded that the investment funds in which the Fund invests, do not meet the definition of structured entities.

The Fund's redeemable securities entitle securityholders the right to redeem their interest in the Fund for cash equal to their proportionate share of the net asset value of the Fund, amongst other contractual rights. The Fund's redeemable securities meet the criteria for classification as financial liabilities under IAS 32, *Financial Instruments: Presentation*. The Fund's obligation for net assets attributable to securityholders is presented at the redemption amount.

IAS 7, *Statement of Cash Flows*, requires disclosures related to changes in liabilities and assets, such as the securities of the Fund, arising from financing activities. Changes in securities of the Fund, including both changes from cash flows and non-cash changes, are included in the Statement of Changes in Financial Position. Any changes in the securities not settled in cash as at the end of the period are presented as either Accounts receivable for securities issued or Accounts payable for securities redeemed in the Statement of Financial Position. These accounts receivable and accounts payable amounts typically settle shortly after period-end.

#### (b) Fair value measurement

Fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

Investments listed on a public securities exchange, including exchange traded funds, or traded on an over-the-counter market are valued on the basis of the last traded market price or close price recorded by the security exchange on which the security is principally traded, where this price falls within the quoted bid-ask spread for the investment. In circumstances where this price is not within the bid-ask spread, Counsel determines the point within the bid-ask spread that is most representative of fair value based on the specific facts and circumstances. Unlisted or non-exchange traded investments, or investments where a last sale or close price is unavailable or investments for which market quotations are, in Counsel's opinion, inaccurate, unreliable, or not reflective of all available material information, are valued at their fair value as determined by Counsel using appropriate and accepted industry valuation techniques including valuation models. The fair value determined using valuation models requires the use of inputs and assumptions based on observable market data including volatility and other applicable rates or prices. In limited circumstances, the fair value may be determined using valuation techniques that are not supported by observable market data.

Cash and cash equivalents which includes cash on deposit with financial institutions and short-term investments that are readily convertible to cash, are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value and are used by the Fund in the management of short-term commitments. Cash and cash equivalents are reported at amortized cost which closely approximates their fair value due to their nature of being highly liquid and having short terms to maturity. Bank overdraft positions are presented under current liabilities as bank indebtedness in the Statements of Financial Position.

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### 3. Significant Accounting Policies (cont'd)

#### (b) Fair value measurement (cont'd)

The Fund may use derivatives (such as written options, futures, forward contracts, swaps or customized derivatives) to hedge against losses caused by changes in securities prices, interest rates or exchange rates. The Fund may also use derivatives for non-hedging purposes in order to invest indirectly in securities or financial markets, to gain exposure to other currencies, to seek to generate additional income, and/or for any other purpose considered appropriate by Counsel or the Fund's sub-advisor(s), provided that the use of the derivative is consistent with the Fund's investment objectives. Any use of derivatives will comply with Canadian mutual fund laws, subject to the regulatory exemptions granted to the Fund, as applicable. Refer to "Exemptions from National Instrument 81-102" in the Annual Information Form of the Fund for further details, including the complete conditions of these exemptions, as applicable.

Valuations of derivative instruments are carried out daily, using normal exchange reporting sources for exchange-traded derivatives and specific broker enquiry for over-the-counter derivatives.

The value of forward contracts is the gain or loss that would be realized if, on the valuation date, the positions were to be closed out. The change in value of forward contracts is included in the Statements of Comprehensive Income -- Net unrealized gain (loss).

The value of futures contracts or swaps fluctuates daily, and cash settlements made daily, where applicable, by the Fund are equal to the change in unrealized gains or losses that are best determined at the settlement price. These unrealized gains or losses are recorded and reported as such until the Fund closes out the contract or the contract expires. Margin paid or deposited in respect of futures contracts or swaps is reflected as a receivable in the Statements of Financial Position -- Margin on derivatives. Any change in the variation margin requirement is settled daily.

Premiums paid (written) for purchasing (writing) options are recorded in Derivative Assets (Liabilities) and subsequently adjusted daily to fair value. If a written option expires unexercised, the premium received is recognized as a realized gain. If a written call option is exercised, the difference between the proceeds of the sale plus the value of the premium, and the cost of the security is recognized as a realized gain or loss. If a written put option is exercised, the cost of the security acquired is the exercise price of the option less the premium received. Refer to the Schedule of Derivative Instruments and Schedule of Options Purchased/Written, as applicable, included in the Schedule of Investments for a listing of derivative and options positions.

The Fund categorizes the fair value of its assets and liabilities into three categories, which are differentiated based on the observable nature of the inputs and extent of estimation required.

Level 1 – Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;

Level 2 – Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability either directly or indirectly. Examples of Level 2 valuations include quoted prices for similar securities, quoted prices on inactive markets and from recognized investment dealers, and the application of factors derived from observable data to non-North American quoted prices in order to estimate the impact of differences in market closing times.

Financial instruments classified as Level 2 investments are valued based on the prices provided by an independent reputable pricing services company who prices the securities based on recent transactions and quotes received from market participants and through incorporating observable market data and using standard market convention practices. The estimated fair values for these securities may be different from the values that would have been used had a ready market for the investment existed; and

Level 3 – Inputs that are not based on observable market data.

The inputs are considered observable if they are developed using market data, such as publicly available information about actual events or transactions, and that reflect the assumption that market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability.

See Note 10 (e) for the fair value classifications of the Fund.

#### (c) Income recognition

Interest income for distribution purposes represents the coupon interest received by the Fund which is accounted for on an accrual basis. The Fund does not amortize premiums paid or discounts received on the purchase of fixed income securities except for zero coupon bonds, which are amortized on a straight-line basis.

Dividends are accrued as of the ex-dividend date. Realized gains or losses on the sale of investments, including foreign exchange gains or losses on such investments, and unrealized gains or losses are calculated on an average cost basis.

The Fund may invest in ETFs managed by Mackenzie Investments (an affiliate of Counsel) which are indicated in the Schedule of Investments. The Fund receives Fee rebate income in respect of management fees paid indirectly to Mackenzie which offset the management fees indirectly borne in the return of these Underlying Funds.

Income, realized gains (losses), and unrealized gains (losses) are allocated daily among the series on a pro-rata basis.

#### (d) Commissions and other portfolio transaction costs

Commissions and other portfolio transaction costs are costs incurred to acquire, issue or dispose of financial assets or liabilities. They include fees and commissions paid to agents, exchanges, brokers, dealers and other intermediaries. The total brokerage commissions incurred by the Fund in connection with portfolio transactions for the periods, together with other transaction charges, is disclosed in the Statements of Comprehensive Income. Brokerage business is allocated to brokers based on the best net result for the Fund. Subject to this criteria, commissions may be paid to brokerage firms which provide (or pay for) certain services, other than order execution, which may include investment research, analysis and reports, and databases or software in support of these services. Where applicable and ascertainable, the value of third-party services that were paid for by brokers during the periods is disclosed in Note 10. The value of certain proprietary services provided by brokers cannot be reasonably estimated.

#### (e) Securities lending, repurchase and reverse repurchase transactions

The Fund is permitted to enter into securities lending, repurchase and reverse repurchase transactions as set out in the Fund's Simplified Prospectus. These transactions involve the temporary exchange of securities for collateral with a commitment to redeliver the same securities on a future date.



# COUNSEL U.S. GROWTH

INTERIM UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS | September 30, 2023

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### 3. Significant Accounting Policies (cont'd)

#### (e) Securities lending, repurchase and reverse repurchase transactions (cont'd)

Income is earned from these transactions in the form of fees paid by the counterparty and, in certain circumstances, interest paid on cash or securities held as collateral. Income earned from these transactions is included in the Statements of Comprehensive Income and recognized when earned. Securities lending transactions are administered by the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (the "Securities Lending Agent"). The value of cash or securities held as collateral must be at least 102% of the fair value of the securities loaned, sold or purchased.

Note 10 summarizes the details of securities loaned and collateral received, as well as a reconciliation of securities lending income, if applicable. Collateral received is comprised of debt obligations of the Government of Canada and other countries, Canadian provincial and municipal governments, and financial institutions.

#### (f) Foreign currency

The functional and presentation currency of the Fund is Canadian dollars. Foreign currency purchases and sales of investments and foreign currency dividend and interest income and expenses are translated to Canadian dollars at the rate of exchange prevailing at the time of the transactions.

Foreign exchange gains (losses) on purchases and sales of foreign currencies are included in the Statements of Comprehensive Income – Net realized gain (loss).

The fair value of investments and other assets and liabilities, denominated in foreign currencies, are translated to Canadian dollars at the rate of exchange prevailing on each business day.

#### (g) Offsetting

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount reported in the Statements of Financial Position when there is a legally enforceable right to set-off the recognized amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis, or to realize the asset and settle the liability simultaneously. In the normal course of business, the Fund enters into various master netting agreements or similar agreements that do not meet the criteria for offsetting in the Statements of Financial Position but still allow for the related amounts to be set off in certain circumstances, such as bankruptcy or termination of the contracts. Note 10 summarizes the details of such offsetting, if applicable, subject to master netting arrangements or other similar agreements and the net impact to the Statements of Financial Position if all such rights were exercised.

Income and expenses are not offset in the Statements of Comprehensive Income unless required or permitted to by an accounting standard, as specifically disclosed in the IFRS policies of the Fund.

#### (h) Net assets attributable to securityholders per security

Net assets attributable to securityholders per security is computed by dividing the net assets attributable to securityholders of a series of securities on a business day by the total number of securities of the series outstanding on that day.

#### (i) Net asset value per security

Net asset value per security is determined for the purchase and redemption of securities in accordance with the methods disclosed in the Fund's Simplified Prospectus and Annual Information Form. These methods may vary from valuation principles under IFRS. As at September 30, 2023 and March 31, 2023, there were no such differences.

#### (j) Increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to securityholders from operations per security

Increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to securityholders from operations per security in the Statements of Comprehensive Income represents the increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to securityholders from operations for the period, divided by the weighted average number of securities outstanding during the period.

#### (k) Comparative amounts

Certain prior period comparative amounts have been reclassified to conform to the current period's presentation.

#### (l) Future accounting changes

Counsel has determined there are no material implications to the Fund's financial statements arising from IFRS issued but not yet effective.

### 4. Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgments

The preparation of these financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that primarily affect the valuation of investments. Estimates and assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

#### Use of Estimates

##### *Fair value of securities not quoted in an active market*

The Fund holds financial instruments that are not quoted in active markets and are valued using valuation techniques that make use of observable data, to the extent practicable. Various valuation techniques are utilized, depending on a number of factors, including comparison with similar instruments for which observable market prices exist and recent arm's length market transactions. Key inputs and assumptions used are company specific and may include estimated discount rates and expected price volatilities. Changes in key inputs, could affect the reported fair value of these financial instruments held by the Fund.

#### Use of Judgments

##### *Classification and measurement of investments*

In classifying and measuring financial instruments held by the Fund, the Manager is required to make significant judgments in order to determine the most appropriate classification in accordance with IFRS 9. The Manager has considered the Fund's business model, commitments to securityholders, and the manner in which investments are managed and evaluated as a group and has determined that irrevocable designation of financial instruments as financial assets or financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss provides the most appropriate measurement and presentation of the Fund's investments and financial instruments.

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### 4. Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgments (cont'd)

#### *Functional currency*

The Fund's functional and presentation currency is the Canadian dollar, which is the currency considered to best represent the economic effects of the Fund's underlying transactions, events and conditions taking into consideration the manner in which securities are issued and redeemed and how returns and performance by the Fund are measured.

### 5. Income Taxes

The Fund qualifies as a mutual fund trust under the provisions of the Income Tax Act (Canada) and, accordingly, is subject to tax on its income including net realized capital gains in the taxation year, which is not paid or payable to its securityholders as at the end of the taxation year. The Fund maintains a December 15 year-end for tax purposes. The Fund may be subject to withholding taxes on foreign income. In general, the Fund treats withholding tax as a charge against income for tax purposes. The Fund will distribute sufficient amounts from net income for tax purposes, as required, so that the Fund will not pay income taxes other than refundable tax on capital gains, if applicable.

Losses of the Fund cannot be allocated to securityholders and are retained in the Fund for use in future years. Non-capital losses incurred may be carried forward up to 20 years to reduce taxable income and realized capital gains of future years. Net capital losses may be carried forward indefinitely to reduce future realized capital gains. Refer to Note 10 (d) for a summary of the Fund's loss carryforwards.

### 6. Management Fees and Operating Expenses

Counsel is paid a management fee for arranging for the management of the investment portfolio, providing investment analysis and recommendations, making investment decisions, making brokerage arrangements relating to the purchase and sale of the investment portfolio and making arrangements with registered dealers for the purchase and sale of securities of the Fund by securityholders.

Each series of the Fund, excluding Series O, is charged a fixed rate annual administration fee ("Administration Fee"), as applicable, and in return, Counsel bears all of the operating expenses of the Fund, other than certain specified fund costs.

Other fund costs include taxes (including, but not limited to GST/HST and income tax), interest and borrowing costs, all fees and expenses of the Counsel Funds' Independent Review Committee, costs of complying with the regulatory requirement to produce Fund Facts, fees paid to external service providers associated with tax reclaims, refunds or the preparation of foreign tax reports on behalf of the Funds, and any new fees related to external services that were not commonly charged in the Canadian mutual fund industry after the date of the Fund's most recently filed Simplified Prospectus.

Counsel may waive or absorb management fees and/or Administration Fees at its discretion and stop waiving or absorbing such fees at any time without notice. Refer to Note 10 (a) for the management fee and Administration Fee rates charged to each series of securities.

### 7. Fund's Capital

The capital of the Fund is divided into different series with each series having an unlimited number of securities. The securities outstanding for the Fund as at September 30, 2023 and 2022 and securities issued, reinvested and redeemed for the periods are presented in the Statements of Changes in Financial Position. Counsel manages the capital of the Fund in accordance with the investment objectives and strategies as discussed in Note 8 (a).

### 8. Financial Instruments Risk

#### (a) Risk exposure and management

The Fund's investment activities expose it to a variety of financial risks, as defined in IFRS 7 *Financial Instruments: Disclosures* ("IFRS 7"). The Fund's exposure to financial risks is concentrated in its investments, which are presented in the Schedule of Investments, grouped by asset type, with geographic and sector information.

The Manager seeks to minimize potential adverse effects of financial risks on the Fund's performance by employing professional, experienced portfolio advisors, by monitoring the Fund's positions and market events daily, by diversifying the investment portfolio within the constraints of the Fund's investment objectives and strategies, as disclosed in Note 10 (b), and where applicable, by using derivatives to hedge certain risk exposures. To assist in managing risks, Counsel also maintains a governance structure that oversees the Fund's investment activities and monitors compliance with the Fund's stated investment strategy, internal guidelines, and securities regulations.

#### (b) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk arises when the Fund encounters difficulty in meeting its financial obligations as they come due. The Fund is exposed to liquidity risk due to potential daily cash redemptions of redeemable securities. In order to monitor the liquidity of its assets, the Fund utilizes a liquidity risk management program that calculates the number of days to convert the investments held by the Fund into cash using a multi-day liquidation approach. This liquidity risk analysis assesses the Fund's liquidity against pre-determined minimum liquidity percentages, established for different time periods. In addition, the Fund has the ability to borrow up to 5% of its net assets for the purposes of funding redemptions. In order to comply with securities regulations, the Fund must maintain at least 85% of its assets in liquid investments (i.e. investments that can be readily sold).

Other investment funds managed by Counsel ("Top Funds") may invest in Series O securities offered by the Fund on a prospectus-exempt basis in accordance with the investment objectives of those funds. Series Private Wealth securities may also be issued on a prospectus-exempt basis to investors in the IPC Private Wealth program offered by IPC Securities Corporation, an affiliate of Counsel.

From time to time, these holdings may be rebalanced by either reducing an allocation to the Fund or eliminating such investments in the Fund entirely. In either case, depending on the size of the investment by a large investor, this could cause a significant redemption from the Fund. Meeting such a redemption may require the Fund to sell portfolio holdings. This could result in the Fund selling a particular holding before it has achieved the valuation sought by the Manager thus affecting Fund returns. This could also result in the Fund realizing capital gains on its holdings earlier than planned, which could result in capital gains distributed to investors in the Fund (which could result in income tax payable by the investor) that might not have occurred or might have occurred at a later date.

For the amounts held by and the changes thereto during the period pertaining to Series O and/or Series Private Wealth, please refer to the amounts disclosed in the Statements of Financial Position and Statements of Changes in Financial Position.

# COUNSEL U.S. GROWTH

INTERIM UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS | September 30, 2023

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### 8. Financial Instruments Risk (cont'd)

#### (c) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that a counterparty to a financial instrument will fail to discharge an obligation or commitment into which it has entered with the Fund. Note 10 (c) summarizes the Fund's exposure, if applicable and significant, to credit risk through fixed income instruments. Where presented, credit ratings and rating categories are based on ratings issued by a designated rating organization.

All transactions in listed securities are executed with approved brokers.

To minimize the possibility of settlement default, securities are exchanged for payment simultaneously, where market practices permit, through the facilities of a central depository and/or clearing agency where customary.

The carrying amount of investments and other assets represents the maximum credit risk exposure as at the dates of the Statements of Financial Position. The Fund may enter into securities lending transactions with counterparties and it may also be exposed to credit risk from the counterparties to the derivative instruments it may use. Credit risk associated with these transactions is considered minimal as all counterparties have an approved credit rating equivalent to a Standard & Poor's credit rating of not less than A-1 (low) on their short-term debt and of A on their long-term debt, as applicable.

#### (d) Currency risk

Currency risk is the risk that financial instruments which are denominated or exchanged in a currency other than the Canadian dollar, which is the Fund's functional currency, will fluctuate due to changes in exchange rates. Generally, foreign denominated investments increase in value when the value of the Canadian dollar (relative to foreign currencies) falls. Conversely, when the value of the Canadian dollar rises relative to foreign currencies, the values of foreign denominated investments fall.

Note 10 (c) indicates the foreign currencies, if applicable, to which the Fund had significant exposure, in Canadian dollar terms, to the Fund's net assets had the Canadian dollar strengthened or weakened by 5% relative to all foreign currencies, all other variables held constant. In practice, the actual trading results may differ and the difference could be material. Other financial assets and liabilities (including dividends and interest receivable, and receivables/payables for investments sold/purchased) that are denominated in foreign currencies do not generally expose the Fund to significant currency risk.

#### (e) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk arises on interest-bearing financial instruments. The Fund is exposed to the risk that the value of interest-bearing financial instruments will fluctuate due to changes in the prevailing levels of market interest rates. Generally, these securities increase in value when interest rates fall and decrease in value when interest rates rise.

If significant, Note 10 (c) summarizes the Fund's bonds by remaining term to maturity and illustrates the potential impact to the Fund's net assets had prevailing interest rates increased or decreased by 1%, assuming a parallel shift in the yield curve, all other variables held constant. In practice, the actual trading results may differ and the difference could be material.

Cash and cash equivalents are short term in nature and are not generally subject to significant amounts of interest rate risk.

#### (f) Other price risk

Other price risk is the risk that the value of financial instruments will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices (other than those arising from interest rate risk or currency risk), whether caused by factors specific to an individual investment, its issuer, or all factors affecting all instruments traded in a market or market segment. All investments present a risk of loss of capital. This risk is managed through a careful selection of investments and other financial instruments within the parameters of the investment strategy.

Other price risk typically arises from exposure to equity securities. Note 10 (c) illustrates the potential increase or decrease in the Fund's net assets had the prices on the respective exchanges for these securities increased or decreased by 10%, all other variables held constant. In practice, the actual trading results may differ and the difference could be material.

### 9. Foreign currency abbreviations

Currency Code	Description	Currency Code	Description	Currency Code	Description
AUD	Australian dollars	HUG	Hungarian forint	PKR	Pakistani rupee
AED	United Arab Emirates Dirham	IDR	Indonesian rupiah	PLN	Polish zloty
BRL	Brazilian real	ILS	Israeli shekel	QAR	Qatar Rial
CAD	Canadian dollars	INR	Indian rupee	RON	Romanian leu
CHF	Swiss franc	JPY	Japanese yen	RUB	Russian ruble
CLP	Chilean peso	KOR	South Korean won	SAR	Saudi riyal
CNY	Chinese yuan	MXN	Mexican peso	SEK	Swedish krona
CZK	Czech koruna	MYR	Malaysian ringgit	SGD	Singapore dollars
DKK	Danish krone	NGN	Nigerian naira	THB	Thailand baht
EGP	Egyptian pound	NOK	Norwegian krona	TRL	Turkish lira
EUR	Euro	NTD	New Taiwan dollar	USD	United States dollars
GBP	United Kingdom pounds	NXD	New Zealand dollars	VND	Vietnamese dong
GHS	Ghana Cedi	PEN	Peruvian nuevo sol	ZAR	South African rand
HKD	Hong Kong dollars	PHP	Philippine peso	ZMW	Zambian kwacha

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## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### 10. Fund Specific Information (in '000, except for (a))

#### (a) Fund Formation and Series Information

Series	Inception/ Reinstatement Date	Minimum Investment (\$)	Management fee (%) <sup>6</sup>	Administration fee (%) <sup>6</sup>
Series A <sup>1</sup>	January 7, 2009	1,000	1.90	0.25
Series F <sup>2</sup>	January 7, 2009	1,000	0.90	0.15
Series I <sup>2,3,6</sup>	January 7, 2009	1,000	–	0.15
Series O <sup>4</sup>	January 7, 2009	–	–	–
Series Private Wealth <sup>5</sup>	January 7, 2009	–	–	0.15

<sup>1</sup> Series A is the only series subject to sales or redemption charges; these charges are based on purchase options chosen. Securities purchased under the sales charge option may be subject to a negotiated fee of up to 5% at time of initial purchase. Securities previously purchased under the redemption charge purchase option may be subject to a redemption fee of up to 4.0% (based on date of initial purchase); new securities are not available under this option but may be acquired through switching from other Counsel funds. Effective June 15, 2022, this series' administration fee was reduced from 0.29%.

<sup>2</sup> A negotiable advisory or asset-based fee (plus sales taxes) is payable by investors to their dealer(s) in connection with the securities held in this series. The fee may be collected by Counsel from the investor's account through redemption of securities and remitted to the dealer at the investor's request. Alternatively, the dealer may collect it directly from the investor. Effective June 15, 2022, the series' management fee was reduced from 1.03% (including Series I management fee which is charged directly to investors).

<sup>3</sup> The management fee for this series is 0.90% and is payable directly to Counsel generally through the monthly redemption of securities.

<sup>4</sup> There are no management or administration fees for this series since these securities are designed to facilitate fund-of-fund investing where duplication of management fees is prohibited. This series was terminated November 7, 2023 when all of Series O investors redeemed.

<sup>5</sup> There are no management fees for Series Private Wealth. An investor must enter into an agreement to participate in a discretionary managed program offered by IPC Securities Corporation and agree to pay certain asset-based fees.

<sup>6</sup> Counsel may, at its discretion, waive or lower the management fee (either directly or indirectly) and/or administration fee payable by investors. Individual investors may be eligible for a management fee reduction subject to meeting certain requirements as discussed in the Fund's Simplified Prospectus.

#### (b) Investment Objectives and Strategies

The Fund invests primarily in equities of large capitalized U.S. companies.

#### (c) Risks Associated with Financial Instruments

##### i. Currency Risk

The tables below summarize the Fund's exposure to currency risk.

September 30, 2023								
Currency	Investments (\$)	Cash and Cash Equivalents (\$)	Derivative Instruments (\$)	Net Exposure (\$)	Impact on net assets			
					Strengthened by 5%		Weakened by 5%	
					(\$)	%	(\$)	%
USD	301,561	25,213	–	326,774				
Total	301,561	25,213	–	326,774				
% of Net Assets				99.9				
Total currency rate sensitivity					(16,339)	(5.0)	16,339	5.0

March 31, 2023								
Currency	Investments (\$)	Cash and Cash Equivalents (\$)	Derivative Instruments (\$)	Net Exposure (\$)	Impact on net assets			
					Strengthened by 5%		Weakened by 5%	
					(\$)	%	(\$)	%
USD	287,122	13,717	–	300,839				
Total	287,122	13,717	–	300,839				
% of Net Assets				100.0				
Total currency rate sensitivity					(15,042)	(5.0)	15,042	5.0

The Fund follows a dynamic hedging strategy where it targets a hedge against the U.S. dollar (the largest foreign currency exposure), based on Counsel's expectation of future exchange rates at that time. As at September 30, 2023, the Fund targeted a hedge of 0.0% (March 31, 2023 – 0.0%) against the USD.

##### ii. Interest Rate Risk

As at September 30, 2023 and March 31, 2023, the Fund did not have a significant exposure to interest rate risk related to fixed income investments.

# COUNSEL U.S. GROWTH

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## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### 10. Fund Specific Information (in '000, except for (a)) (cont'd)

#### (c) Risks Associated with Financial Instruments (cont'd)

##### iii. Other Price Risk

Impact on net assets	Increased by 10%		Decreased by 10%	
	(\$)	(%)	(\$)	(%)
September 30, 2023	30,156	9.2	(30,156)	(9.2)
March 31, 2023	28,712	9.5	(28,712)	(9.5)

##### iv. Credit Risk

As at September 30, 2023 and March 31, 2023, the Fund did not have a significant exposure to credit risk related to fixed income investments.

#### (d) Loss Carryforwards

Non-Capital Losses carryforward (\$)	Net Capital Losses carryforward (\$)
-	-

#### (e) Fair Value Classification

The table below summarizes the fair value of the Fund's investments using the fair value categories described in Note 3.

	September 30, 2023				March 31, 2023			
	Level 1 (\$)	Level 2 (\$)	Level 3 (\$)	Total (\$)	Level 1 (\$)	Level 2 (\$)	Level 3 (\$)	Total (\$)
Fixed income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Equities	301,561	-	-	301,561	287,122	-	-	287,122
Cash equivalents	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Derivative assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Derivative liabilities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>301,561</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>301,561</b>	<b>287,122</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>287,122</b>

There were no significant transfers between Level 1 and Level 2.

#### (f) Commissions

	(\$)
September 30, 2023	14
September 30, 2022	34

#### (g) Securities Lending

	September 30, 2023	March 31, 2023
	(\$)	(\$)
Value of securities loaned	12,445	11,976
Value of collateral received	13,142	12,577

	September 30, 2023		September 30, 2022	
	(\$)	(%)	(\$)	(%)
Gross securities lending income	11	100.0	18	100.0
Tax withheld	-	-	(2)	(11.1)
	11	100.0	16	88.9
Payments to Securities Lending Agent	(2)	(18.2)	(3)	(16.7)
Securities lending income	9	81.8	13	72.2