

For the six months ended March 31, 2020

MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE  
**NCM SMALL COMPANIES CLASS**



# MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE NCM SMALL COMPANIES CLASS

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This interim management report of fund performance contains financial highlights but does not contain the interim financial statements of the investment fund. You can get a copy of the Fund's financial statements at your request, and at no cost, by calling toll free (877) 531-9355, by writing us at 1850, 333-7th Avenue SW Calgary, Alberta T2P 2Z1 or by visiting our website at [www.ncminvestments.com](http://www.ncminvestments.com) or SEDAR at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com).

Security holders 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.

## RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The six-month period ended March 31, 2020, was somewhat unusual to say the least. The S&P/TSX Composite Total Return Index increased approximately 3.2% in fourth quarter of 2019. This index also started 2020 positively, increasing about 5.5% from the start of the year until February 20, 2020 when the index reached an all-time high. However, the situation deteriorated significantly in the weeks that followed and the S&P/TSX Composite Total Return Index declined 20.9% for the first quarter of 2020 as a whole.

To state the obvious, the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) and the resulting economic impact of society's response to the pandemic continues to be top of mind for investors. The situation remains fluid and the outcome and timing of a return to more normal economic and societal conditions will depend on the actions of governments, corporations and individuals. Most governments around the world have responded to the pandemic with fiscal stimulus packages. Most central banks around the world have reduced short-term interest rates and many are using other monetary policy tools to maintain and improve liquidity in the financial system.

For the six-month period ended March 31, 2020 the Fund's return was negative 32.8%, underperforming its benchmark, the BMO Small Cap Total Return Index, which was down 32.7%. Holdings in the Energy sector and in airlines were

notably weak. The Fund entered the period with approximately 15% in cash and cash equivalents which helped cushion the decline in broader equity markets. We saw signs that trading liquidity for small and mid caps was improving in the first part of the quarter. However, buyers stepped away in the second half of the quarter when fears about the impact of COVID-19 increased.

The continued underperformance of the small cap sector has been frustrating and it is difficult to predict a catalyst for this trend to reverse. We have been attempting to take advantage of the volatility and lack of liquidity by selectively deploying our cash holdings. We see opportunities to purchase shares in high quality companies at valuations we believe are attractive. As always, we continue to be bottom-up investors as we focus on superior stock selection to contribute to outperformance in both bull and bear markets. Our focus remains on building a portfolio of high-quality cash flow generative companies with attractive long-term growth opportunities and valuations.

The net assets have decreased by 39% with net assets decreasing from \$88,547,491 to \$54,155,702, \$27,381,919 of this change is attributable to negative investment performance and \$7,009,870 was due to negative net contributions to the Fund.

## RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

On or about May 15, 2020, NCM Energy Plus Class ("Terminating Fund") of NCM Opportunities Corp. may merge with NCM Small Companies Class ("Continuing Fund") of NCM Opportunities Corp. The Continuing Fund will acquire substantially all of the net assets of the Terminating Fund and the shareholders of the Terminating Fund will exchange their shares of the Terminating Fund for shares of the Continuing Fund. The Terminating Fund will then be terminated.

Effective May 19, 2020, investors residing in each of Northwest Territories, Nunavut and Yukon can purchase shares in the Fund.

In January 2020, the World Health Organization declared the coronavirus a global health emergency and on March 11, 2020, it was declared a global pandemic. The situation is

## RECENT DEVELOPMENTS (continued)

dynamic with various cities and countries around the world responding in different ways to address the outbreak. At this time, governments and businesses around the world are introducing significant new measures to contain and control the spread of the virus.

There had been a significant drop in commodity prices and equity markets have reacted with the biggest decline experienced in more than a decade. In response, both the US Federal Reserve and the Bank of Canada quickly reduced their key interest rates.

The full impact of these circumstances on businesses will not be fully understood until time has passed. While the full impact is not yet known, we will continue to monitor the impact the coronavirus has on the Funds' investments and reflect the consequences as appropriate in our accounting and reporting.

## RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Management fees of \$618,144 were paid to NCM Asset Management Ltd. ("NCM"), the Fund's Manager and Portfolio Manager. Management fees are 2% for Series A, and 1% for Series F, of the series net asset value of the Fund and are calculated and paid monthly. In addition, administrative fees of \$68,538 were paid to NCM. Administration fees are charged by NCM at or below cost. They relate to accounting, trading, record keeping, compliance and other administrative costs.

## FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The following tables show selected key financial information about the Fund's shares and are intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the fiscal periods indicated. This information is derived from the Fund's audited annual financial statements and unaudited interim financial statements.

## Net asset value (NAV) per share <sup>(1)</sup>

Series A	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
<b>Net Asset Value, beginning of period</b>	41.25	43.18	42.43	38.90	36.73	39.28
<b>Increase (decrease) from operations:</b>						
Total revenue	0.39	0.89	0.85	0.75	0.80	0.74
Total expenses	(0.58)	(1.09)	(1.01)	(1.09)	(0.69)	(1.64)
Realized gains (losses) for the period	-	(0.83)	3.58	4.54	2.33	3.19
Unrealized gains (losses) for the period	(13.12)	(0.97)	(2.77)	(0.37)	(0.30)	(4.54)
<b>Total increase (decrease) from operations</b>	<b>(13.31)</b>	<b>(2.00)</b>	<b>0.65</b>	<b>3.83</b>	<b>2.14</b>	<b>2.25</b>
<b>Distributions:</b>						
From income	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
From dividends	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
From capital gains	Nil	(0.25)	Nil	(0.35)	Nil	Nil
<b>Total distributions <sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>Nil</b>	<b>(0.25)</b>	<b>Nil</b>	<b>(0.35)</b>	<b>Nil</b>	<b>Nil</b>
<b>Net Asset Value, end of period <sup>(3)</sup></b>	<b>27.49</b>	<b>41.25</b>	<b>43.18</b>	<b>42.43</b>	<b>38.90</b>	<b>36.73</b>

Series F	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
<b>Net Asset Value, beginning of period</b>	48.14	49.84	48.50	44.03	41.14	43.51
<b>Increase (decrease) from operations:</b>						
Total revenue	0.46	1.03	0.98	0.86	0.88	0.74
Total expenses	(0.34)	(0.75)	(0.70)	(0.74)	(0.39)	(1.31)
Realized gains (losses) for the period	-	(0.98)	4.03	5.04	2.45	3.19
Unrealized gains (losses) for the period	(14.66)	(1.19)	(3.04)	(0.20)	0.02	(4.54)
<b>Total increase (decrease) from operations</b>	<b>(14.54)</b>	<b>(1.89)</b>	<b>1.27</b>	<b>4.96</b>	<b>2.96</b>	<b>1.92</b>
<b>Distributions:</b>						
From income	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
From dividends	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
From capital gains	Nil	(0.29)	Nil	(0.41)	Nil	Nil
<b>Total distributions <sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>Nil</b>	<b>(0.29)</b>	<b>Nil</b>	<b>(0.41)</b>	<b>Nil</b>	<b>Nil</b>
<b>Net Asset Value, end of period <sup>(3)</sup></b>	<b>32.33</b>	<b>48.14</b>	<b>49.84</b>	<b>48.50</b>	<b>44.03</b>	<b>41.14</b>

## FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS (continued)

Series I	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
<b>Net Asset Value, beginning of period</b>	51.61	52.82	50.92	45.78	42.34	44.26
<b>Increase from operations:</b>						
Total revenue	0.50	1.10	1.04	0.90	0.93	0.74
Total expenses	0.01	(0.23)	(0.25)	(0.26)	0.11	(0.88)
Realized gains (losses) for the period	0.02	(0.99)	4.35	5.29	2.65	3.19
Unrealized gains (losses) for the period	(17.16)	(0.93)	(3.27)	(0.35)	(0.24)	(4.54)
<b>Total increase from operations</b>	<b>(16.63)</b>	<b>(1.05)</b>	<b>1.87</b>	<b>5.58</b>	<b>3.45</b>	<b>1.49</b>
<b>Distributions:</b>						
From income	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
From dividends	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
From capital gains	Nil	(0.31)	Nil	(0.43)	Nil	Nil
<b>Total distributions <sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>Nil</b>	<b>(0.31)</b>	<b>Nil</b>	<b>(0.43)</b>	<b>Nil</b>	<b>Nil</b>
<b>Net Asset Value, end of period <sup>(3)</sup></b>	<b>34.95</b>	<b>51.61</b>	<b>52.82</b>	<b>50.92</b>	<b>45.78</b>	<b>42.34</b>

- (1) This information is provided as at March 31, 2020, September 30 for 2019 and 2018 and October 31 for the balance preceding periods presented. The information is in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards. The opening net asset value for 2015 is restated in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.
- (2) Distributions, if any, are reinvested in additional shares or paid in cash when requested.
- (3) Net asset value and distributions are based on the actual number of shares outstanding at the relevant time. The increase (decrease) from operations is based on the weighted average number of shares outstanding over the financial period. Due to the different methods of calculating individual components of the table, the sum of the individual components will not necessarily equal the ending net asset value.

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

Series A	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Net Assets (000's of \$)	33,341	55,306	67,781	78,137	91,150	108,627
Number of shares outstanding (000's)	1,213	1,341	1,570	1,842	2,343	2,958
Management expense ratio (MER) <sup>(2)</sup>	2.62%	2.56%	2.54%	2.53%	1.69%	4.26%
MER before waivers or absorptions <sup>(2)</sup>	2.62%	2.56%	2.54%	2.53%	1.69%	4.26%
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>(3)</sup>	11.40%	27.04%	19.27%	35.32%	49.32%	22.74%
Trading expense ratio <sup>(4)</sup>	0.11%	0.15%	0.11%	0.17%	0.21%	0.17%
Net asset value per share	27.49	41.25	43.18	42.43	38.90	36.73

Series F	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Net Assets (000's of \$)	12,442	20,782	24,516	27,801	24,856	16,196
Number of shares outstanding (000's)	385	432	492	573	564	394
Management expense ratio (MER) <sup>(2)</sup>	1.55%	1.49%	1.47%	1.45%	0.59%	3.18%
MER before waivers or absorptions <sup>(2)</sup>	1.55%	1.49%	1.47%	1.45%	0.59%	3.18%
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>(3)</sup>	11.40%	27.04%	19.27%	35.32%	49.32%	22.74%
Trading expense ratio <sup>(4)</sup>	0.11%	0.15%	0.11%	0.17%	0.21%	0.17%
Net asset value per share	32.33	48.14	49.84	48.50	44.03	41.14

Series I	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Net Assets (000's of \$)	8,373	12,459	14,595	15,494	14,241	13,444
Number of shares outstanding (000's)	240	241	276	304	311	318
Management expense ratio (MER) <sup>(2)</sup>	0.45%	0.39%	0.37%	0.36%	(0.49%)	2.09%
MER before waivers or absorptions <sup>(2)</sup>	0.45%	0.39%	0.37%	0.36%	(0.49%)	2.09%
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>(3)</sup>	11.40%	27.04%	19.27%	35.32%	49.32%	22.74%
Trading expense ratio <sup>(4)</sup>	0.11%	0.15%	0.11%	0.17%	0.21%	0.17%
Net asset value per share	34.95	51.61	52.82	50.92	45.78	42.34

- (1) This information is provided as at March 31, 2020, September 30 for 2019 and 2018 and October 31 for the balance preceding years presented. The information is in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.
- (2) Management expense ratio (MER) is based on total expenses for the stated period and is expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average net asset value of the period. It includes performance bonus, if any.
- (3) The Fund's portfolio turnover rate indicates how actively the Fund's Portfolio Manager manages 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 a period. The higher the Fund's portfolio turnover rate in a period, the greater the trading costs payable by the Fund in the period, and the greater the chance of an investor receiving taxable capital gains in the period. There is not necessarily a relationship between a high turnover rate and performance of the Fund.
- (4) The trading expense ratio represents total commissions and other portfolio transaction costs expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average net assets during the period.

## MANAGEMENT FEES

The Fund pays an annual management fee of 2% for Series A, and 1% for Series F, multiplied by the series net asset value of the Fund, to NCM, the Fund's Manager and Portfolio Manager. Management fees are calculated and paid monthly. No management fee is charged to Series I; instead, the investors pay a management fee directly to the Manager, in an amount determined through negotiation with the Manager. For the six months ended March 31, 2020, management fees amounted to \$618,144. NCM paid servicing commissions of \$220,230 (i.e. 35.63%), as well as, selling commissions of \$1,187 (i.e. 0.19%) from these management fees to investment dealers. NCM also received fees for portfolio management and administrative services with respect to this Fund, as well as, all the other funds in the NCM group. NCM is entitled to a performance bonus of 20% of the excess performance of the Fund compared to its benchmark index multiplied by the weighted average net asset value of the Fund. The performance bonus is more fully described in the simplified prospectus. For the six months ended March 31, 2020, a performance bonus of \$nil was reported.

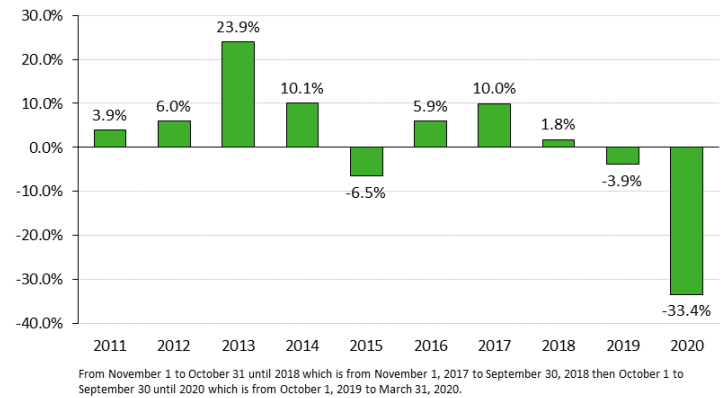
## PAST PERFORMANCE

The charts below illustrate the performance of the Fund for its last 10 fiscal years as a public mutual fund. The Series I inception date is February 8, 2013. These charts reflect the performance you would have received if you invested in the Fund on the first day of the year through the last day of the year.

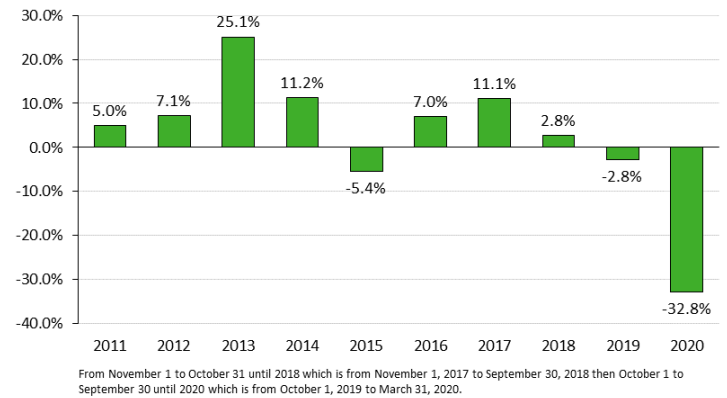
They assume that all distributions made by the Fund in the periods shown are reinvested in additional securities of the Fund. They do not take into account sales, redemption, distribution or other optional charges which would have reduced returns or performance. Each year the Fund's performance has changed and past performance does not guarantee future performance.

## YEAR BY YEAR RETURNS

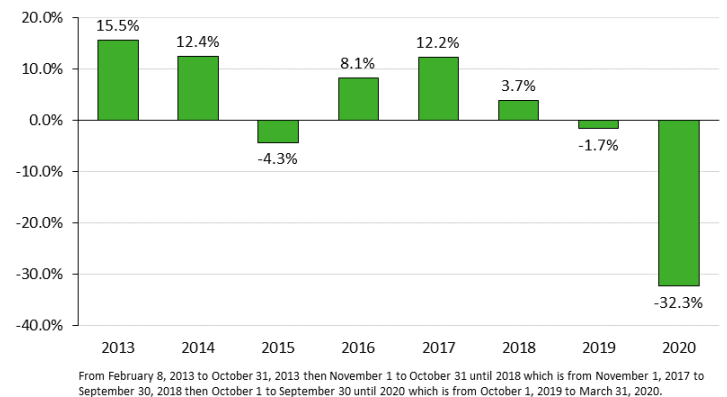
### Series A



### Series F



### Series I



## ANNUAL COMPOUND RETURNS

The following table shows the percent compounded returns to March 31, 2020 for each series of the Fund for the periods indicated. It also shows the returns for the BMO Small Capitalization Equity Only Weighted Total Return Index, which is the Fund's benchmark index.

	Series A	Series F	Series I	Index
One year	-32.6%	-31.7%	-30.7%	-33.1%
Three Year*	-11.7%	-10.7%	-9.6%	-15.4%
Five Year*	-6.9%	-5.9%	-4.8%	-6.2%
Ten Year*	1.3%	2.4%		-1.5%
Since Inception* – Series A (February 15, 2002)	7.2%			3.3%**
Since Inception* – Series F (January 31, 2005)		4.8%		1.0%
Since Inception* – Series I (February 08, 2013)			0.6%	-4.0%**

\* annualized

\*\*estimated as official index values are only calculated at month-end

## SUMMARY OF INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO

The following investments were held by the Fund as at March 31, 2020.

Securities	Percent of net assets
Descartes Systems Group Inc. (The)	5.6%
FirstService Corp.	5.4%
Altus Group Ltd.	5.3%
Kirkland Lake Gold Ltd.	5.2%
Lundin Mining Corp.	5.0%
Badger Daylighting Ltd.	4.6%
Element Fleet Management Corp.	4.5%
Parkland Fuel Corp.	4.5%
Major Drilling Group International Inc.	4.3%
Superior Plus Corp.	3.9%
Aritzia Inc.	3.9%
Intertape Polymer Group Inc.	3.8%
Boyd Group Services Inc.	3.7%
Parex Resources Inc.	3.7%
North American Construction Group Ltd.	3.6%
BMO Junior Gold Index ETF	3.6%
GDI Integrated Facility Services Inc.	3.4%
Canada Goose Holdings Inc.	3.4%
Stantec Inc.	2.9%
Hamilton Thorne Ltd.	2.3%
Chorus Aviation Inc.	2.2%
Air Canada	2.1%

Securities	Percent of net assets
Chemtrade Logistics Income Fund	2.0%
Enerflex Ltd.	1.7%
BRP Inc.	1.4%
Other Securities	1.0%
Total Securities	93.0%
<b>Other</b>	
Cash	7.1%
Other assets – net of liabilities	-0.1%
Total net asset value	100.0%
<b>Industry Sectors</b>	
Energy	14.6%
Materials	23.9%
Industrials	18.9%
Consumer Discretionary	8.7%
Health Care	2.3%
Financials	4.5%
Information Technology	5.6%
Real Estate	10.6%
Utilities	3.9%
Other	7.0%
Total	100.0%

The investments held by the Fund change due to ongoing portfolio transactions. A revised summary is posted on our website at [www.ncminvestments.com](http://www.ncminvestments.com) no later than 60 days after each quarter end.

## OTHER MATERIAL INFORMATION

NCM Small Companies Class is a class of NCM Opportunities Corp. The simplified prospectus and all other Fund related materials can be obtained by calling us toll-free at (877) 531-9355, by writing to us at 1850, 333-7<sup>th</sup> Avenue SW Calgary, Alberta T2P 2Z1 or from our website at [www.ncminvestments.com](http://www.ncminvestments.com).

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