



# Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund

2023–24 Annual Report



Heritage Fund

*Alberta* 

**Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund Annual Report 2023-24** | Treasury Board and Finance  
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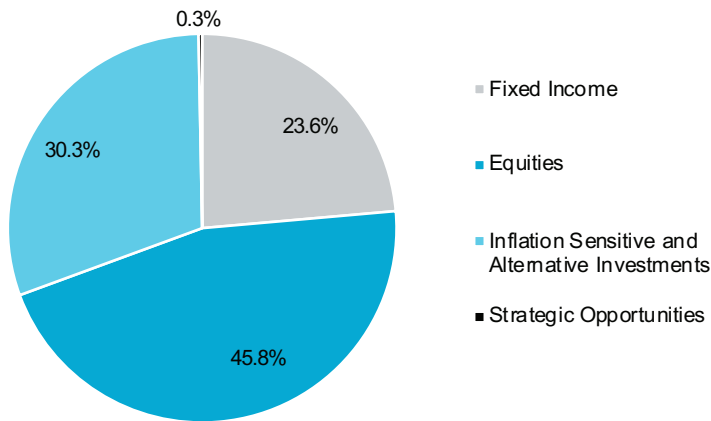
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## Highlights

**6.4%**  
(net of fees)  
**5 year rate of return**

**\$22.9**  
billion  
**Fair value of net assets**

### ASSET MIX AS AT MARCH 31, 2024



**7.6%**  
(net of fees)

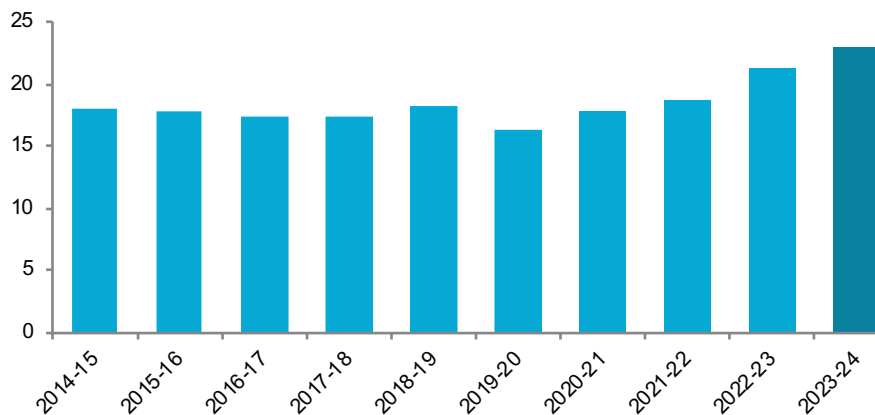
**10 year annualized rate of return**

**\$1.89**  
billion

**Investment income retained in the Fund from the 2023-24 fiscal year**

### MARKET VALUE AT MARCH 31, 2024

(billions)



**\$7**  
billion

**Cumulative investment income retained in the Fund since inception**

**\$45.8**  
billion

**Cumulative transfers to the General Revenue Fund since inception**



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## Message from the President of Treasury Board and Minister of Finance

The Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund grew to \$22.9 billion in 2023-24 – an increase in value of \$1.7 billion over the prior fiscal year. This is the largest the Fund has ever been since it was established in 1976.

In 2022-23, the Alberta government amended the Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund Act to require that income generated by the Fund stays in it unless a withdrawal is authorized by Treasury Board. This change was, and remains, instrumental to the continued growth of the Fund, including its growth in 2023-24.

Preparing for the future is important to Alberta's success. Deliberate and meaningful action taken by government to grow the Heritage Fund has resulted in a \$7.2 billion increase in the Fund's value since the end of the 2020-21 fiscal year. In Budget 2024, an additional \$2 billion was allocated to the Heritage Fund. With this contribution, the value of the Fund is expected to surpass \$25 billion in the upcoming year.

The Heritage Fund was initially established with three objectives: to strengthen and diversify the Alberta economy, to improve life in Alberta, and to save for the day when non-renewable resource revenue disappeared. This government supports the Heritage Fund's original vision of building intergenerational wealth.

The government is charting a path to grow the Heritage Fund to between \$250 billion and \$400 billion by the year 2050. This target is realistic and achievable under the fiscal framework introduced in Budget 2023.

The Heritage Fund will achieve its future growth in a way that is anchored in Albertan values and is reflective of our province's unique character. With this government's demonstrated commitment to fiscal responsibility and a view to the future, I am confident that the Heritage Fund will remain a vital instrument in securing Alberta's prosperity for generations to come.

[Original signed by Honourable Nate Horner]

Honourable Nate Horner  
President of Treasury Board and Minister of Finance

## About the Heritage Fund

1976	1982	1987	1995	1997	2005-06
The Heritage Fund was established with an initial investment of \$2.2 billion with transfers of 30 per cent of non-renewable resource revenue to the Heritage Fund.	Non-renewable resource revenue transfers to the Heritage Fund reduced from 30 per cent to 15 per cent.	Non-renewable resource revenue transfers to the Heritage Fund ceased.	Government surveys Albertans on the Heritage Fund's future. Survey results show Albertans strongly in favour of a fund that generates long-term investment returns.	Legislation amended to eliminate the Heritage Fund's economic and social development mandate and make it the mission of the Fund to maximize long-term investment returns. The amendments also created the Standing Committee on the Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund.	Inflation-proofing the Fund becomes mandatory. The government deposits \$1.75 billion into the Heritage Fund.

### What is the Heritage Fund?

The Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund (the "Heritage Fund" or "Fund") is a \$22.9 billion fund invested for the benefit of current and future generations of Albertans.

### When was the Heritage Fund established?

The Heritage Fund was established in 1976, with an initial investment of \$1.5 billion, to collect a portion of Alberta's non-renewable resource revenue for future generations. Initially, 30 per cent of Alberta's non-renewable resource revenues were transferred to the Heritage Fund. In 1982, government reduced this transfer to 15 per cent, and subsequently eliminated all transfers to the Heritage Fund in 1987.

### Who is responsible for the Heritage Fund?

The Heritage Fund operates under the authority of the *Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund Act* (the "Act"). The preamble to the Act states that the mission of the Heritage Fund "...is to provide prudent stewardship of the savings from Alberta's non-renewable resources by providing the greatest financial returns on those savings for current and future generations of Albertans."

The President of Treasury Board and Minister of Finance (the Minister) is responsible for holding, managing and investing the Fund, in accordance with the Act. Section 3 of the Act requires that "... investments of the Heritage Fund must be made with the objective of maximizing long-term financial returns." This section the Act also requires that "... the Minister shall adhere to investment and lending policies, standards and procedures that a reasonable and prudent person would apply in respect of a portfolio of investments to avoid undue risk of loss and obtain a reasonable return that will enable the Heritage Fund to meet its objectives."

The Minister is supported by the Department of Treasury Board and Finance and Alberta Investment Management Corporation ("AIMCo") in carrying out the responsibilities set out in the Act. The Department of Treasury Board and Finance supports the Minister in developing the Fund's long-term investment strategy and investment policies, monitoring investment performance, and preparing annual and quarterly reports for the Fund. AIMCo is responsible for investing the assets according to the Fund's investment policy and in accordance with its Mandate and Roles document and the Investment Management Agreement with the province.

The Act also established a multi-party standing committee of the Legislative Assembly. The Standing Committee on the Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund is responsible for reviewing quarterly reports and approving the annual report for the Fund. It is also required to review the performance of the Fund on an annual basis and provide a report to the Legislature as to whether the Fund's mission is being fulfilled. The Standing Committee also hosts an annual public meeting to discuss the performance and investments in the Fund and answer Albertan's questions related to the Fund.

### What is the objective when investing in the Heritage Fund?

The preamble to the Act states that the mission of the Heritage Fund is to provide prudent stewardship of the savings from Alberta's non-renewable resources by providing the greatest financial returns on those savings for current and future generations of Albertans.

The Act specifies that the mission of the Heritage Fund is to maximize long-term financial returns from its investments. The Act also specifies that the investments of the Fund must adhere to investment and lending policies, standards and procedures that a reasonable and prudent person would apply in respect of a portfolio of investments to avoid undue risk of loss and obtain a reasonable return.

2006-07	2007-08	2016	2020	2022-23	2023-24
The government deposits \$1.25 billion into the Heritage Fund.	The government deposits \$918 million into the Heritage Fund.	Alberta Growth Mandate introduced.	Alberta Growth Mandate eliminated.	Legislation amended to retain all investment earnings within the Heritage Fund. The Fund retains 2021-22 investment income of \$1.25 billion and the government deposits \$753 million into the Fund, bringing the market value of the Heritage Fund to a record high of \$21.2 billion.	Heritage Fund revitalization announced.

### What happens to the income earned in the Heritage Fund?

The Act states that the net income of the Heritage Fund accrues to and forms part of the Heritage Fund. The Act requires the Fund to retain a portion of net investment earnings to help protect against inflation and maintain the real value of the Fund over time. Any net investment earnings remaining after inflation proofing are kept within the Fund unless Treasury Board approves a transfer of all or a portion of the remaining net investment earnings to the General Revenue Fund.

### Are the Heritage Fund's investments secure?

Yes, the investments held within the Heritage Fund are secure. They are not, however, risk free. In order to maximize long-term investment earnings, as required under the Act, the Heritage Fund must take some risk. As a result, while most years produce positive returns, there have been years with negative returns.

Risk within the Heritage Fund is managed primarily by holding a portfolio that is diversified by asset classes, sectors and geographies. The Fund holds liquid investments such as fixed income and public equities that fluctuate with daily market movements. It also holds real assets that are valued less frequently but help to protect the real purchasing power of the Fund from inflation. The design of the asset mix is an important aspect of the long-term strategy and seeks to produce returns within the total risk limits of the Fund. Each asset class has characteristics and components that compliment one another to achieve a desired total portfolio return while maintaining a prudent level of risk.

### What is the Heritage Fund worth today?

The market value of the Heritage Fund was \$22.9 billion as of March 31, 2024. The market value increased by \$1.7 billion, this comes from \$1.9 billion in net surplus retained in the Fund and \$0.2 billion in net remeasurement losses, from the end of the 2022-23 fiscal year.

### How has the Heritage Fund performed?

Over the last ten years, the Heritage Fund earned an investment return of 7.6 per cent and over the last five years, the investment return was 6.4 per cent.

In 2023-24, the Fund's investment return was 8.1 per cent. The target for the Heritage Fund is to earn an investment return of inflation plus 4.5 per cent over a five-year period. Inflation, as measured by the Canadian Consumer Price Index, was 2.5 per cent over the last five years and, therefore, the target five-year investment return was 7 per cent.

It is expected that through active management of the Heritage Fund, the Fund's investment return will be 1 per cent above its passive return benchmark over a five-year period. During the last five years, the return from active investment management was 1.1 per cent below expectations. In 2023-24, the value added by active investment management was 2.7 per cent below expectations.

### How has Heritage Fund benefitted Albertans?

Since the creation of the Heritage Fund on May 19, 1976, \$45.8 billion has been transferred to the government to support its fiscal and capital plans.

## Portfolio construction

Proper construction of the Heritage Fund's investment portfolio is an essential part in achieving its goals of maximizing long-term earnings and managing risk appropriately. Among other things, the Statement of Policies and Goals sets out the asset classes the Fund is to be invested in and what proportion is allowable for each asset class. The allocation of assets is critical, as it is the largest determinant of long-term earnings for any investment portfolio.

The investment portfolio is currently managed by AIMCo and is invested in AIMCo's various pool structures to align with the asset mix as defined in the current Statement of Policies and Goals. These pool structures are invested according to the current target asset allocation of 20 per cent of the portfolio invested in fixed income, 32.5 per cent invested in inflation sensitive and alternative assets, and 47.5 per cent in equity investments. Up to 2 per cent of the Fund's total market value can be allocated to investments that are outside the asset classes listed above if the investment provides a superior risk/return profile. The asset mix is set to diversify the investments with the goal of maximizing upside returns and minimizing downside risk.

Fixed income investments have lower expected returns and risks when compared to other asset classes and help to stabilize the Fund's year-over-year returns. The Fund's allocation to this asset class consists of investments in publicly traded bonds, private debt and mortgages. This mix of interest-bearing investments adds diversification and return opportunities within this asset class.

Alternative investments include real estate, renewable resources, and infrastructure assets. Returns on these assets are expected to perform well in inflationary environments given revenue streams that adjust for inflation. Alternative investments have lower levels of liquidity than publicly traded assets, but are expected to generate higher returns due to illiquidity premiums earned.

Equity investments have historically produced high returns and are subject to different risks than the other two broad asset classes. The public equity portfolio is diversified and consists of a mix of global, Canadian and emerging market equities, as well as real return funds. A diversification focus provides access to a broader array of return opportunities with unrelated characteristics, which helps to stabilize returns over time.

Also included in the equities category is the Funds allocation to private equity. These are investments in private companies that have robust growth potential due to differences in underlying asset structures compared to typical public equities. Moreover, the investment manager's professional ability and networks may be able to encourage added growth. These investments are anticipated to outperform public equities over the long term. Private equity investments share similarities to inflation sensitive and alternative investments, characterized by lower liquidity and longer investment horizons.



## Return targets

Portfolio construction design is based on the targets and objectives set by the Heritage Fund. Return targets provide the Fund a way to evaluate its investment performance against the goal of maximizing long-term earnings and managing risk appropriately. As per investment policy, the Fund has two major return targets: a real return target and an active management target.

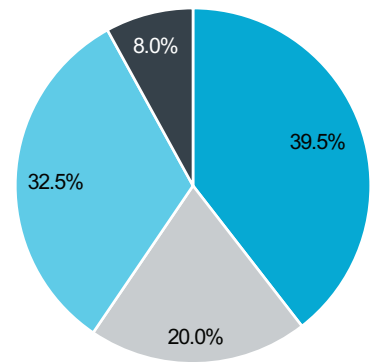
In simple terms, the real return target is used to evaluate the investment direction given to the Fund, which includes items such as the Fund's asset allocation, investment manager selection and risk measures. The Fund's investment policy states that the real return target of the Heritage Fund is an average return of 4.5 per cent adjusted for inflation, based on the Canadian Consumer Price Index. By nature, this target is almost always positive and encourages investment decisions that contribute to positive long-term growth. If the target is not being achieved, it serves as a signal for the asset owner to reassess the existing strategic asset allocation to seek out potential improvements.

The active management target helps to evaluate the investment manager's value-added performance over time as opposed to a passive benchmark which represents investing without active management. The Fund is provided with a subset of passive investment benchmarks which are appropriate for each asset class. The Fund's active target is 1 per cent higher than the returns of a passively managed portfolio over a rolling five-year period. This target incentivizes the investment manager to utilize the risk budget set in the Statement of Policies and Goals to generate investment returns which exceed passive benchmark returns.

All return figures reported herein are net of fees.

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### LONG-TERM TARGET POLICY ASSET MIX



- Global Equities
  - Fixed Income
  - Inflation Sensitive & Alternatives
  - Canadian Equities
-

# The 2023-24 fiscal year in review

As of March 31, 2024, the Heritage Fund reached its highest value to date. Net financial assets at the end of the fiscal year were \$22.9 billion, representing an increase of \$1.7 billion year-over-year. The two largest contributors were investment returns and government action previously taken to maintain investment earnings within the Fund.

The Heritage Fund realized a return of 8.1 per cent in the 2023-24 fiscal year. Investment returns for the year improved significantly in the final two quarters of the period. The ups and downs in the market during 2023-24 were in part driven by differences between projected and actual inflation rates, as well as rate actions taken by central banks throughout the year to control inflation.

Inflation in Canada peaked in 2022 and slowly trended downwards during the fiscal 2023-24 period. Despite this, the rate of inflation remained high enough that the Bank of Canada continued to increase overnight rates into the first half of 2023, with Canada's overnight rate reaching 5 per cent in July 2023 - a twenty year high. Similar patterns of elevated, but softening, inflation rates and central bank responses were observed in many other countries, including the U.S. and throughout Europe.

Given this economic backdrop, there was a shift in markets to favor lower risk securities such as T-bills and government bonds, versus higher risk securities such as equities. This depressed equity returns, reduced bond prices and increased discount rates, which reduced asset valuations in private equity. As a result of these conditions, at the end of the second fiscal quarter the return for the Heritage Fund was only 0.9 per cent, with returns on fixed income at negative 2 per cent, offset by equity at 2.5 per cent, and inflation sensitive and alternatives at 0.2 per cent.

As inflation trended further downward in the latter half of the 2023-24 fiscal year, the market shifted its focus in anticipation of when central banks would start to reduce interest rates. At the end of 2023, markets were expecting that central bank interest rate cuts would begin in the second half of 2024. This change in the market's expectation for both lower inflation and lower interest rates provided support for many of the Heritage Fund's investments. By the end of the 2023-24 fiscal year, the overall performance for the Heritage Fund improved significantly: returns on fixed income was 4.3 per cent and equities at 19.5 per cent - although inflation sensitive and alternatives returned negative 3.9 per cent, partly due to the impact of rate uncertainty on valuations of these assets and subsequent adjustments to cash flows.

One of the biggest contributors to the new high in the Heritage Fund's value is the 2022-23 legislative amendment to retain all investment earnings within the Fund. In previous years, the Heritage Fund would keep only a portion of its investment income for inflation proofing, with the remaining balance transferred to the government's General Revenue Fund. However, this change to legislation has allowed the Heritage Fund to retain and build on its full 2023-24 net income amount of \$1.9 billion.

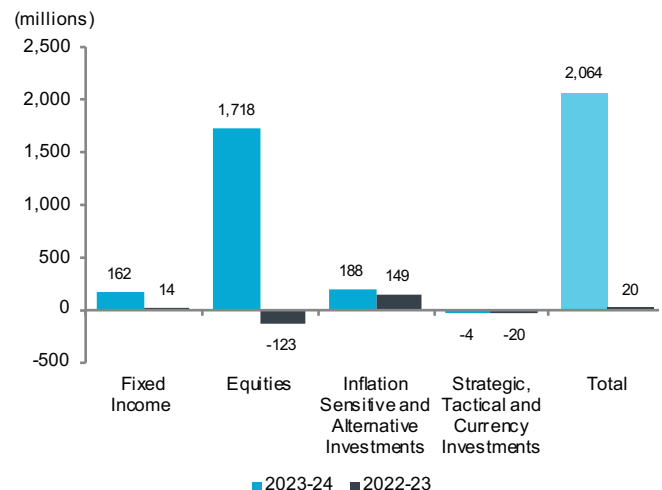
## Investment income

The Heritage Fund posted strong gross earnings of \$2 billion in the 2023-24 fiscal year, earning a net income of \$1.9 billion after investment expenses of \$172 million. This is a significant improvement compared to the prior fiscal year's reported net loss of \$114 million.

Equities historically have been the Fund's strongest source of income due to their higher historical return performance and a relatively high overall weighting of this asset class within the portfolio. Interest-bearing securities bring in stable income that is comparatively less risky than other investment types. Inflation-sensitive investments are assets that have cash flows strongly linked with inflation, such as rental income. The capability of the cash flow stream to add value in unconventional ways makes this asset class valuable to the Fund.

Equity investments produced income of \$1.7 billion during 2023-24. This is a welcomed reversal from the prior year's \$123 million loss for this investment class. Equities

### INVESTMENT INCOME BY ASSET CLASS



experienced a significant turnaround in the later half of the fiscal year, as markets were more supportive of riskier assets.

Fixed income investments returned \$162 million during the fiscal year given an elevated interest rate environment which generate higher levels of interest income.

Inflation sensitive and alternative investments were again a strong contributor to earnings in the 2023-24 fiscal year, returning \$188 million. Investments in this asset class produced consistent cash flow streams, given the ability of underlying assets to largely offset the impacts of higher inflation. Compared to fiscal 2022-23, this asset class's earnings increased by \$39 million and continues to be a positive income contributor to the Fund.

Strategic investments, which allow the investment manager to take advantage of new opportunities outside the three main asset mix categories, contributed a loss of \$4 million during the 2023-24 fiscal year.

## Transfers, contributions and inflation

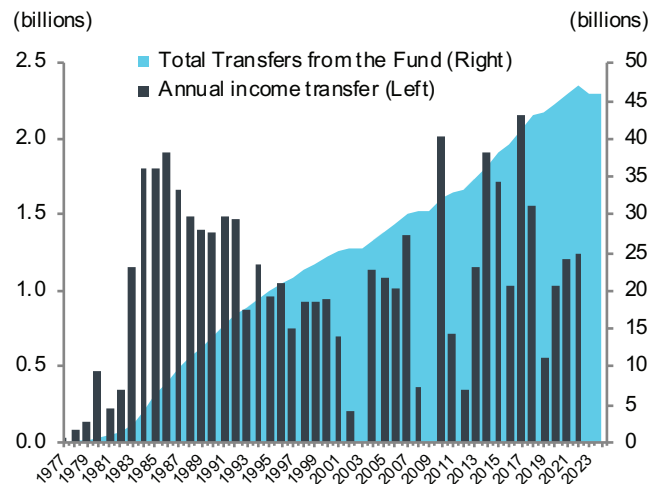
The Heritage Fund was set up in 1976 and was funded by allocations of non-renewable resource revenue. Initially, 30 per cent of resource revenue was deposited into the Fund. The allocation was reduced to 15 per cent starting in 1983-84 and it was ended after 1986-87. A total of \$12 billion in non-renewable resource revenue was deposited into the Fund. The Heritage Fund received \$3.9 billion in deposits from 2005-06 to 2007-08.

Income transfers from the Fund to the government's General Revenue Fund began in 1982-83, and since then, \$42 billion has been transferred to the General Revenue Fund. During its first eleven years, the Fund was also used to pay for capital projects and to seed other endowments. Between 1976 and 1995, \$3.5 billion was used to pay for capital projects and transfers of just over \$600 million were made to other provincial endowment funds. Since inception, a total of \$45.8 billion has been transferred from the Fund.

The requirement to inflation proof the Heritage Fund began in 2005-06, after the Province repaid its accumulated debt in 2004-05. Prior to 2005-06, investment income kept for inflation-proofing occurred three times with a total of \$431 million of investment income being kept by the Fund. Since 2005-06, earnings of \$4.6 billion have been kept in the Fund for inflation-proofing.

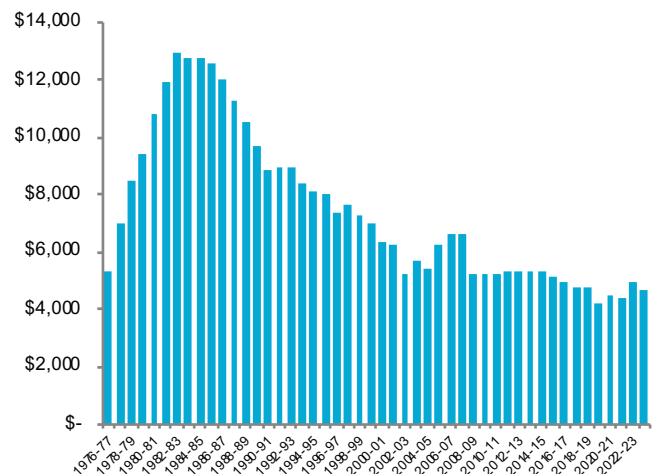
During 2022-23, the value of the Fund grew by \$2 billion due to actions taken by government. The investment earnings of \$1.25 billion from 2021-22 were kept with the Fund, instead of being transferred to the General Revenue Fund. The government also transferred \$753 million into the Heritage Fund during the year.

## INCOME AND CUMULATIVE TRANSFER TO GRF



## MARKET VALUE INFLATION ADJUSTED PER CAPITA

(2023 dollars)



The Heritage Fund's per capita market value has declined significantly since peaking in 1983, when the value of the Fund was about \$12,380 per Albertan. At the end of 2023-24, the market value was approximately \$4,673 per Albertan. This decline has been caused by three main factors. First, the allocations of resource revenue was ended in 1986-87. Second, most of the Fund's earnings have been transferred out of the Fund and into the General Revenue Fund. Third, Alberta's population has more than doubled since 1976, growing from approximately 1.9 million people to over 4.8 million people.

The retention of investment earnings within the Heritage Fund should help the per capita value of the Fund to grow again, reversing the downward trend that began in 1983. The immediate impact will be driven by the retention of earnings in the Fund. Over time, the compounding of these investment earnings will grow in both scale and significance.

## Investment expenses

The Fund's investment expenses were \$172 million during the 2023-24 fiscal year which was \$38 million higher than the prior year. This year-over-year increase includes costs attributed to a rise in AIMCo's assets under management, as well as the investment manager's ongoing business transformation initiatives. The relative cost to market value of the Fund was 0.8 per cent, 0.1 per cent higher than in 2022-23.

## Asset mix

The target asset mix for the Heritage Fund is allocated between three main categories: 20 per cent fixed income, 32.5 per cent inflation sensitive and alternative investments, and 47.5 per cent in equities. AIMCo, as the investment manager, is allowed to overweight or underweight these asset classes to take advantage of sectors that are expected to outperform and/or to reduce exposure to those sectors that are not. Asset mix has been constructed to achieve the real return target set for the Fund.

Despite swings in performance during the fiscal year, the Heritage Fund ended the year with a positive return of 8.1 per cent. Global equities had the largest impact on performance, while inflation sensitive and alternative assets lagged mostly due to real estate exposures. Overall, the Fund's 8.1 per cent return underperformed its passive benchmark return by 1.7 per cent.

### INVESTMENT EXPENSES

(millions)	2023-24	2022-23
Total investment expenses	\$172.00	\$134.00
Increase in average investments	7.4%	5.0%
Investment expense per dollar invested	0.8%	0.7%

### ASSET MIX (LONG-TERM TARGET ASSET MIX)

	Target	March 2024	March 2023	Policy Range
<b>Fixed income</b>	<b>20.0%</b>	<b>23.6%</b>	<b>19.5%</b>	<b>15-45%</b>
Deposits and short-term		4.4%	0.6%	0-25%
Bonds, mortgages and private debt		19.2%	19.0%	10-35%
<b>Inflation-sensitive and alternative investments</b>	<b>32.5%</b>	<b>30.3%</b>	<b>34.0%</b>	<b>15-40%</b>
Real estate		16.6%	19.1%	10-20%
Infrastructure		11.2%	11.6%	5-15%
Renewable resources		2.6%	3.3%	0-5%
<b>Equities</b>	<b>47.5%</b>	<b>45.8%</b>	<b>46.2%</b>	<b>35-70%</b>
Canadian		7.9%	7.9%	5-15%
Global developed		26.2%	26.1%	20-65%
Emerging markets		3.1%	3.3%	0-10%
Private		8.6%	8.9%	0-10%
<b>Strategic opportunities</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.3%</b>	<b>0.3%</b>	<b>0-5%</b>

## Investment performance

The Heritage Fund's target is to earn a real return of 4.5 per cent over the most recent five-year period; in other words, generate a return that is 4.5 per cent higher than inflation during this time frame. Given recent, persistent higher levels of inflation, the Fund's latest five-year real return target increased to 7 per cent. By comparison, the Fund's annualized return during the same five year period was just 6.4 per cent resulting in 0.6 per cent of underperformance versus the real return target.

Over the same five-year period, it is expected that the investment manager will add one hundred basis points, or 1 per cent, of value above the return that the Heritage Fund would have earned if it was passively invested.

Over the past five years, the Fund has earned an annualized return of 6.4 per cent, which underperformed the passive policy benchmark by 0.1 per cent. Over the last ten years the Fund has earned 7.6 per cent, exceeding the passive policy benchmark by 0.5 per cent.

### TOTAL FUND PERFORMANCE

	2023-24	2022-23	5 Year	10 Year
<b>Fund rate of return</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>7.6</b>
Real return target - CPI + 4.5	7.9	7.6	7.0	6.5
<b>Fund return against real return target</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>(5.1)</b>	<b>(0.6)</b>	<b>1.1</b>
Passive benchmark return	9.8	1.4	6.5	7.1
<b>Active management return (target 100 bps)</b>	<b>(1.7)</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>(0.1)</b>	<b>0.5</b>

### ASSET CLASS RETURN VERSUS BENCHMARK

	1 Year Return	1 Year Benchmark Return	5 Year Return	5 Year Benchmark Return
<b>Fixed income</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>1.3</b>
Deposits and short-term	5.0	2.1	2.1	0.3
Bonds, mortgages and private debt	4.1	4.4	2.0	1.4
<b>Inflation sensitive and alternative investments</b>	<b>-3.9</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>3.6</b>
Real estate	-7.3	-2.8	-0.3	1.2
Infrastructure	2.0	7.9	4.7	7.0
Renewable resources	-4.7	7.9	12.3	7.0
<b>Equities</b>	<b>19.5</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>11.1</b>	<b>10.7</b>
Canadian	14.9	14.0	9.4	10.0
Global developed	23.7	23.1	11.0	11.2
Emerging markets	6.9	23.1	2.1	11.2
Private	10.2	9.9	13.3	9.0
<b>Strategic Opportunities</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>23.1</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>11.2</b>

## Equities

For 2023-24, equity returns were subdued during the first two quarters, but then regained momentum in the last half of the fiscal year. Global equities outperformed Canadian equities over the same period. Equities were slightly overweight in the portfolio, and outperformed the benchmark, contributing positively to Fund performance.

Investments in the equities asset class was higher by \$1 billion in the fiscal year, valued at approximately \$10.5 billion, or 45.8% of the total portfolio. Over the past five years, equity investments have earned an annualized return of 11.1 per cent, 0.4 per cent higher than the passive benchmark return. Over the last 10 years, this asset class has produced returns of 10.4 per cent, beating the passive benchmark by 0.1 per cent.

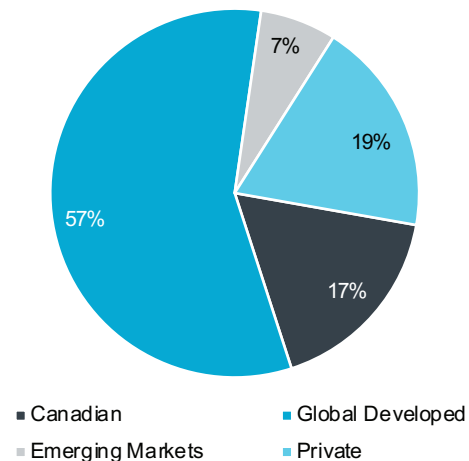
The Fund's Canadian equity holdings generated relatively lower returns compared to global developed equities, due to a number of domestic economic and growth concerns. The Canadian equities asset class earned a return of 14.9 per cent during the year and managed to outperform the passive benchmark by 0.9 per cent. This marks the fourth year in a row that returns from this allocation have exceeded the passive benchmark. Yet over a five-year period, Canadian equities have returned 9.4 per cent, which is 0.6 per cent below the passive benchmark.

The global developed equity portfolio was the largest contributor to overall performance within the Fund for the fiscal year, posting a 23.7 per cent return, which surpassed the passive benchmark return of 23.1 per cent by 0.6 per cent. In the last five years, the return on global equities has been 11 per cent which is 0.2 per cent lower than the benchmark return of 11.2 per cent.

Emerging market equities underperformed their benchmark over the annual fiscal period. The Fund does not take an active overweight to emerging markets and maintains a benchmark exposure. Global non-developed equities provided a marginal contribution to overall equity performance, with a return of 6.9 per cent, underperforming the passive benchmark by 16.2 per cent, with security selection being the largest detractor from performance. Over the last five years, the return on global non-developed equities has been 2.1 per cent which is 9.1 per cent lower than the passive benchmark return of 11.2 per cent.

The private equity portfolio is made up of a variety of domestic and foreign investments that include capitalizations of corporate expansions and acquisitions, management buyouts, turnaround financing, project financing and leverage reductions. The portfolio benefited from a profitable turnaround which resulted in a positive return of 10.2 per cent for the fiscal year, 0.3 per cent higher than the passive benchmark return. Private equities have produced a return of 13.3 per cent in the last five years, 4.3 per cent higher than the passive benchmark.

### EQUITIES



### TOP 10 CANADIAN PUBLIC EQUITY HOLDINGS

As at March 31, 2024

Holding	Weight (%)	\$ in Millions
Royal Bank of Canada	6.2%	\$112.4
Toronto-Dominion Bank	4.6%	\$82.6
Canadian Natural Resources Limited	3.9%	\$70.9
Canadian National Railway Company	3.9%	\$69.7
Bank of Montreal	3.0%	\$53.8
Brookfield Corporation	2.9%	\$53.1
Canadian Pacific Kansas City Limited	2.9%	\$52.9
Shopify Inc.	2.7%	\$49.3
Enbridge Inc.	2.7%	\$48.0
Constellation Software Inc.	2.4%	\$42.8
Total	35.3%	\$635.4

### TOP 10 PRIVATE EQUITY HOLDINGS

As at March 31, 2024

Name	Weight (%)	\$ in Millions
Schustermann & Borenstein	8.5%	\$169.8
Fortitude	2.7%	\$53.7
Monotype	2.5%	\$50.9
BGIS	2.5%	\$49.8
Davies Group	2.1%	\$41.2
Proofpoint	1.9%	\$38.3
Ring	1.8%	\$35.7
Belron	1.4%	\$28.7
Real Page	1.4%	\$27.4
Cetera	1.2%	\$23.5
Total	25.9%	\$519.0

### TOP 10 GLOBAL PUBLIC EQUITY HOLDINGS

As at March 31, 2024

Name	Weight (%)	\$ in Millions
Microsoft Corporation	4.3%	\$25.8
Apple Inc.	2.3%	\$22.2
NVIDIA Corporation	1.8%	\$21.3
Alphabet Inc.	1.7%	\$14.9
Amazon.com, Inc.	1.0%	\$14.9
Meta Platforms, Inc.	1.0%	\$11.9
Fairfax Financial Holdings GMBH	0.9%	\$9.6
Eli Lilly and Company	0.8%	\$5.9
Visa Inc.	0.8%	\$5.2
JPMorgan Chase & Co.	0.8%	\$4.6
Total	15.5%	\$136.4

Holdings do not include global public equity investments held in invested funds.

## Fixed income

Fixed income assets, which include bonds, private debt, and loans and mortgages, create value for the Heritage Fund by holding high-quality liquid assets that generate interest income. Short-term interest securities performed relatively better than longer-dated securities, given an inverted yield curve which impacted debt markets. The largest positive performance contributor was private debt and loans: this asset class generates additional income by being favorably exposed to credit risk and floating interest rates, which were relatively higher during the 2023-24 fiscal year.

The Fund held \$5.4 billion of interest-bearing securities as of March 31, 2024, an increase of \$1.4 billion year-over-year. The fixed income portfolio generated a positive return of 4.1 per cent, yet fell short of the passive benchmark by 0.3 per cent. Over the last five years, the Fund's fixed income investment return was 2 per cent, exceeding the passive benchmark return by 0.6 per cent.

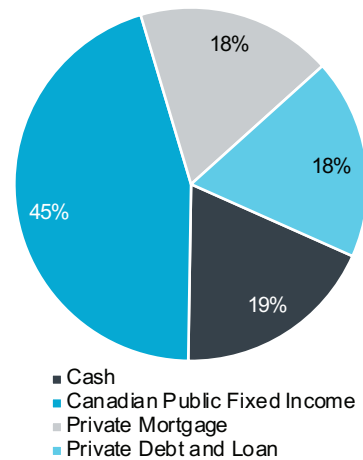
The bond segment, which is mostly composed of high-quality government and corporate bonds, returned of 3.1 per cent return for the fiscal year, which exceeded the passive benchmark by 1 per cent. The five-year return on bond investments is 0.9 per cent, which is 0.6 per cent higher than the passive benchmark.

Private mortgage investments are included in the portfolio to diversify credit exposure and to increase yields. During the fiscal year, these investments earned a return of 1.3 per cent, which underperformed the passive benchmark return of 3 per cent, by 1.7 per cent. The five-year return on private mortgage investments of 2.6 per cent was 0.7 per cent higher than the passive benchmark return of 1.9 per cent.

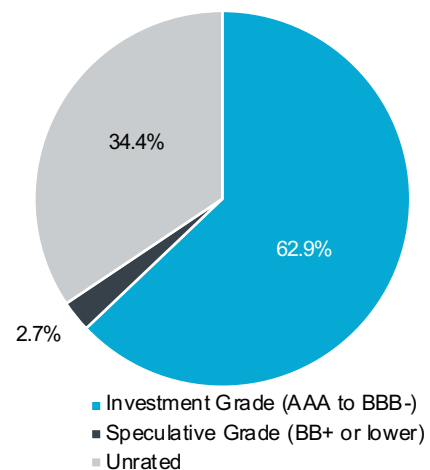
Investments in private debt and loans consist of specialty loans and financing for corporations that do not meet the requirements of other typical financing structures and methods. These investments diversify the fixed income portfolio while taking advantage of higher credit spreads, as compared to publicly traded bonds.

The private debt and loans asset class tends to carry more floating interest rate investments, which in a higher interest rate environment tends to generate greater positive returns. In 2023-24, private debt and loans earned a return of 10 per cent, which was 0.8 per cent lower than the passive benchmark. The private debt and loan portfolio has produced returns of 7.2 per cent over the past five years, which is 2.7 per cent above the passive benchmark.

### FIXED INCOME



### RATINGS





## Inflation sensitive and alternative investments

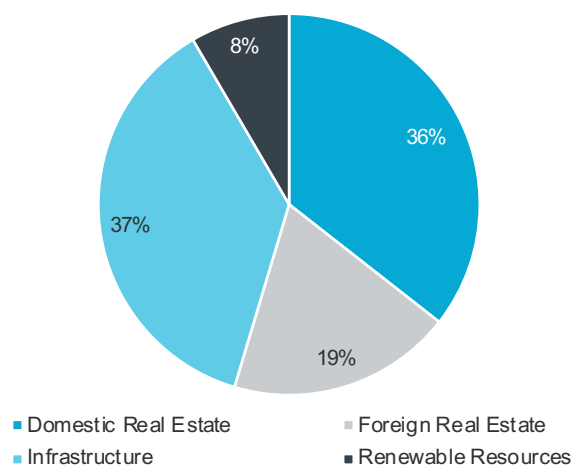
Inflation sensitive and alternative assets are expected to produce positive inflation-adjusted income streams, as well as capital appreciation for the Heritage Fund. These investments also improve the risk/return profile of the Fund due to this asset class's exposure diversification effects, when held with equities and fixed income. Inflation sensitive and alternative assets accounted for \$6.9 billion of the Fund as of March 31, 2024.

The Fund's real estate asset class sector exposure was a challenging one over the fiscal year. Negative returns in this segment of the portfolio were a significant drag on performance due to a relatively large weighting within the total portfolio. Real estate investments for the 2023-24 fiscal year returned negative 7.3 per cent, which was 4.5 per cent below the passive benchmark. During the last five years, the real estate portfolio has produced returns of negative 0.3 per cent. This return is 1.5 per cent lower than the five-year passive benchmark return.

Returns for renewable resources have been strong over the long-term, however, this asset class experienced a negative return during the 2023-24 fiscal year. The renewable resource portfolio has a Consumer Price Index-linked passive benchmark, which with few exceptions is expected to be positive, while the renewable resource portfolio can experience more volatility. For the fiscal year, the return generated by renewable resources was negative 4.7 per cent, versus a passive benchmark return of 7.9 per cent, which resulted in underperformance of 12.6 per cent. The portfolio's return of 12.3 per cent over a five-year period exceeds the passive benchmark by 5.3 per cent.

Infrastructure investments include transportation and logistics assets (for example, toll roads and rail), power and energy investments (for example, power generation and transmission as well as pipelines) and utilities (for example, water, wastewater, and natural gas networks). During the fiscal year, these investments returned 2 per cent, which is 5.9 per cent below the passive benchmark. Over the past five years, infrastructure investments have earned a return of 4.7 per cent, underperforming the passive benchmark by 2.3 per cent.

## INFLATION-SENSITIVE



## TOP 10 DOMESTIC REAL ESTATE HOLDINGS

As at March 31, 2024

Property	Sector	Weight (%)	\$ in Millions
Yorkdale Shopping Centre	Retail	14.7%	\$363.3
Square One Shopping Centre	Retail	7.1%	\$175.9
Scotia Plaza	Office	5.5%	\$136.2
TD Greystone RE Fund	Fund	4.7%	\$115.1
Urbacon DC7	Industrial	4.1%	\$102.6
Scarborough Town Centre	Retail	3.6%	\$88.9
Eighth Avenue Place	Office	2.6%	\$64.9
91 Broadway	Residential	2.6%	\$64.0
Edmonton Tower	Office	2.6%	\$63.9
Urbacon DC2	Industrial	2.4%	\$60.1
<b>Total</b>		<b>49.9%</b>	<b>\$1,235.0</b>

## TOP 10 FOREIGN REAL ESTATE

As at March 31, 2024

Property	Sector	Weight (%)	\$ in Millions
Alpine AUR Fund	Industrial	4.9%	64.5
IQHQ	Equity	4.1%	54.4
Ultrabox Logistics UK	Industrial	2.7%	35.6
Gateway Central-West	Office	2.5%	32.9
Waypoint	Residential	2.5%	32.5
Barnhart AM Mexico Fund I	Fund	2.4%	32.1
Docks Brussels	Retail	2.4%	31.2
BORO - Meridian Co-Invest	Office	2.1%	28.1
Nework Paris	Office	2.0%	26.0
Whitewood TV City	Office	1.9%	25.8
Total		27.4%	\$363.1

## TOP RENEWABLE RESOURCE HOLDINGS

As at March 31, 2024

Holding	Weight (%)	\$ in Millions
Forestry Investment Trust (FIT)	77.1%	\$451.2
ANZFF - Taswood Estate	7.5%	\$43.6
ANZFF - Penola Plantations	3.8%	\$22.0
ANZFF - Timberlink Australia Pty Ltd.	3.2%	\$18.6
GT18 - Australian Bluegum Plantations	2.4%	\$14.0
Shasta Cascade	0.9%	\$5.5
ANZFF - Border Plantations	0.8%	\$4.4
Total		\$559.2

## TOP INFRASTRUCTURE HOLDINGS

As at March 31, 2024

Company	Weight (%)	\$ in Millions
Howard Midstream Energy	16.6%	427.6
Saesa Group	13.7%	353.3
Puget Energy Inc.	11.6%	297.1
Spower / AES	10.1%	259.4
Porterbrook	9.0%	230.3
BAI	8.5%	217.7
Macquarie Asia Infrastructure Fund 2 LP	5.2%	133.8
Cando Rail	3.9%	100.8
Catalyst	2.6%	66.2
Ausnet	2.5%	65.5
Total	83.7%	\$2,151.5

## Currency exposure

The Heritage Fund invests in a globally diversified portfolio, but most of its assets remain denominated in Canadian dollars. Canadian dollar investments accounted for 65.5 per cent of the Fund as of March 31, 2024, which is a 2.5 per cent higher exposure than last year. The remainder of the Fund's assets are invested in over thirty other currencies, including U.S. dollars, euros, Japanese yen, and British pounds. The Fund's largest foreign currency exposure is to the U.S. dollar at 20.5 per cent.

## FOREIGN CURRENCY EXPOSURE

As at March 31, 2024

Currency	2023-24	2022-23
U.S. Dollar	59.4%	55.8%
Euro	12.2%	13.4%
British Pound	8.8%	9.5%
Japanese Yen	4.4%	4.8%
Hong Kong dollar	0.0%	2.8%
Other	15.1%	13.6%
Total	100.0%	100.0%

## Alberta exposure

The Fund has \$960 million invested in Alberta, which includes various properties located in Alberta and securities issued by public companies headquartered in the province. AIMCo operates at arms length from the Government of Alberta. The Statement of Policies and Goals does not have an explicit allocation to Alberta Exposure. The Act priorities long-term financial returns and careful consideration of risk and this is the first consideration for the investment manager when making a decision to acquire or dispose of an asset. These investments do not include businesses that have a significant economic presence in Alberta but are headquartered elsewhere.

## ALBERTA EXPOSURE

As at March 31, 2024

Asset class	Market value (millions)
Fixed Income	-\$163.34
Mortgages	\$106.00
Equity	\$493.36
Private Equity	\$0.97
Real Estate	\$523.38
Total	\$960.38

## Historical summary of operations

May 19, 1976 to March 31, 2024

(See Note 5 to the Financial Statements) (in \$millions)

Fiscal year	Net income (loss) <sup>1</sup>	Transfers to the Fund			Transfers from the Fund			Fund equity (at cost)	Income retained
		Resource revenue allocation	Deposits <sup>4</sup>	Advanced education endowment <sup>2</sup>	Investment income transfers <sup>3</sup>	Capital project expenditures	Other transfers <sup>5</sup>		
1976-77	88	2,120	-	-	-	(36)	-	2,172	-
1977-78	194	931	-	-	-	(87)	-	3,210	-
1978-79	294	1,059	-	-	-	(132)	-	4,431	-
1979-80	343	1,332	-	-	-	(478)	-	5,628	-
1980-81	724	1,445	-	-	-	(227)	-	7,570	-
1981-82	1,007	1,434	-	-	-	(349)	-	9,662	-
1982-83	1,482	1,370	-	-	(867)	(296)	-	11,351	-
1983-84	1,467	720	-	-	(1,469)	(330)	-	11,739	-
1984-85	1,575	736	-	-	(1,575)	(228)	-	12,247	-
1985-86	1,667	685	-	-	(1,667)	(240)	-	12,692	-
1986-87	1,445	217	-	-	(1,445)	(227)	-	12,682	-
1987-88	1,353	-	-	-	(1,353)	(129)	-	12,553	-
1988-89	1,252	-	-	-	(1,252)	(155)	-	12,398	-
1989-90	1,244	-	-	-	(1,244)	(134)	-	12,264	-
1990-91	1,337	-	-	-	(1,337)	(150)	-	12,114	-
1991-92	1,382	-	-	-	(1,382)	(84)	-	12,030	-
1992-93	785	-	-	-	(785)	(84)	-	11,946	-
1993-94	1,103	-	-	-	(1,103)	(71)	-	11,875	-
1994-95	914	-	-	-	(914)	(49)	-	11,826	-
1995-96	1,046	-	-	-	(1,046)	-	-	11,826	-
1996-97	932	-	-	-	(756)	-	-	12,002	176
1997-98	947	-	-	-	(922)	-	-	12,027	25
1998-99	932	-	-	-	(932)	-	-	12,027	-
1999-00	1,169	-	-	-	(939)	-	-	12,257	230
2000-01	706	-	-	-	(706)	-	-	12,257	-
2001-02	206	-	-	-	(206)	-	-	12,257	-
2002-03	(894)	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,363	-
2003-04	1,133	-	-	-	(1,133)	-	-	11,363	-
2004-05	1,092	-	-	-	(1,092)	-	-	11,363	-

Fiscal year	Net income (loss) <sup>1</sup>	Transfers to the Fund			Transfers from the Fund			Fund equity (at cost)	Income retained
		Resource revenue allocation	Deposits <sup>4</sup>	Advanced education endowment <sup>2</sup>	Investment income transfers <sup>3</sup>	Capital project expenditures	Other transfers <sup>5</sup>		
2005-06	1,397	-	1,000	750	(1,015)	-	-	13,495	382
2006-07	1,648	-	1,000	250	(1,365)	-	-	15,028	283
2007-08	824	-	918	-	(358)	-	-	16,412	466
2008-09	(2,574)	-	-	-	-	-	-	13,838	-
2009-10	2,006	-	-	-	(2,006)	-	-	13,838	-
2010-11	1,080	-	-	-	(720)	-	-	14,198	360
2011-12	798	-	-	-	(344)	-	-	14,652	454
2012-13	1,316	-	-	-	(1,155)	-	-	14,813	161
2013-14	2,109	-	-	-	(1,916)	-	-	15,006	193
2014-15	1,678	-	-	-	(1,468)	-	(255)	14,961	210
2015-16	1,238	-	-	-	(1,029)	-	-	15,170	209
2016-17	2,333	-	-	-	(2,151)	-	-	15,352	182
2017-18	1,787	-	-	-	(1,557)	-	-	15,582	230
2018-19	937	-	-	-	(563)	-	-	15,956	374
2019-20	1,318	-	-	-	(1,031)	-	-	16,243	287
2020-21	1,354	-	-	-	(1,208)	-	-	16,389	146
2021-22	1,952	-	-	-	(1,247)	-	-	17,094	705
2022-23	(114)	-	753	-	1,247	-	-	18,980	-
2023-24	1,892	-	-	-	-	-	-	20,872	1,892
Totals	49,904	12,049	3,671	1,000	(42,011)	(3,486)	(255)	20,872	6,965

1. The income of the Fund and its assets and liabilities, net of consolidation adjustments, is included in the consolidated financial statements of the Ministry of Treasury Board and Finance and the Government of Alberta
2. The *Access to the Future Act*, which was rescinded in 2019, allowed for a maximum of \$3 billion to be transferred into the Fund to support the advanced education endowment.
3. In accordance with section 8(2) of the *Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund Act*, the net income of the Fund, less any amount retained in the Fund to maintain its value from inflation, shall be transferred to the GRF, annually in a manner determined by the Minister of Finance. During the year, Bill 10 (*Financial Statutes Amendment Act, 2023*) amended Section 8 of the Act to require Treasury Board approval for any income transfers, after inflation proofing, from the Fund to the GRF beginning in 2021-22. The income transfer amount of \$1,247 previously accrued for 2021-22 was eliminated on the new legislation taking effect.
4. Bill 12, *Appropriation Act 2023* appropriated \$753 from the GRF to the Fund in 2022-23.
5. Transfers of \$200 to the Alberta Heritage Scholarship Fund, \$3 to the Agriculture and Food Innovation Account, and \$52 to the Access to the Future Fund were made from the Fund in 2015.



# Annual Financial Statements

Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund  
March 31, 2024

Independent Auditor's Report

To the President of Treasury Board and Minister of Finance

## Report on the Financial Statements

### Opinion

I have audited the financial statements of Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund (the Fund), which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2024, and the statements of operations and accumulated surplus, remeasurement gains and losses, change in net financial assets, and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Fund as at March 31, 2024, and the results of its operations, its remeasurement gains and losses, its changes in net financial assets, and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

### Basis for opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of my report. I am independent of the Fund in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to my audit of the financial statements in Canada, and I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

### Other information

Management is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, but does not include the financial statements and my auditor's report thereon. The Annual Report is expected to be made available to me after the date of this auditor's report.

My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with my audit of the financial statements, my responsibility is to read the other information identified above and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or my knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work I will perform on this other information, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to communicate the matter to those charged with governance.

### Responsibilities of management and those charged with governance for the financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless an intention exists to liquidate or to cease operations, or there is no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Fund's financial reporting process.

## **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Fund's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Fund to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

[Original signed by W. Doug Wylie FCPA, FCMA, ICD.D]  
Auditor General

June 6, 2024  
Edmonton, Alberta

## Statement of Financial Position

As at March 31, 2024

(in millions)

	2024	2023
<b>Financial assets</b>		
Investments (Note 3)	\$ 22,940	\$ 20,474
Due from the General Revenue Fund	-	753
<b>Net financial assets</b>	<b>\$ 22,940</b>	<b>\$ 21,227</b>
<b>Net financial assets</b> (Note 5)		
Accumulated operating surplus	\$ 20,872	\$ 18,980
Accumulated remeasurement gains	2,068	2,247
	<b>\$ 22,940</b>	<b>\$ 21,227</b>

## Statement of Change in Net Financial Assets

Year Ended March 31, 2024

(in millions)

	2024	2024	2023
	Budget	Actual	Actual
Net surplus retained in the Fund	\$ -	\$ 1,892	\$ 1,886
Net remeasurement (losses) gains		(179)	626
<b>Increase in net financial assets</b>		<b>1,713</b>	<b>2,512</b>
<b>Net financial assets, beginning of year</b>		21,227	18,715
<b>Net financial assets, end of year</b>		<b>\$ 22,940</b>	<b>\$ 21,227</b>

*The accompanying notes are part of these financial statements.*



## Statement of Operations and Accumulated Surplus

Year Ended March 31, 2024

(in millions)

	2024	2024	2023
	Budget	Actual	Actual
Investment income (Note 6)	\$ 1,226	\$ 2,064	\$ 20
Investment expenses (Note 7)	(130)	(172)	(134)
<b>Net income (loss) from operations</b>	<b>1,096</b>	<b>1,892</b>	<b>(114)</b>
Transfers from the General Revenue Fund (Note 5e)	-	-	753
Transfer recovery (Note 5b)	-	-	1,247
Transfers to the General Revenue Fund (Note 5b)	(1,096)	-	-
<b>Net surplus retained in the Fund (Note 5)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,892</b>	<b>1,886</b>
Accumulated operating surplus, beginning of year		18,980	17,094
<b>Accumulated operating surplus, end of year</b>		<b>\$ 20,872</b>	<b>\$ 18,980</b>

## Statement of Remeasurement Gains and Losses

Year Ended March 31, 2024

(in millions)

	2024	2023
Unrealized (losses) gains on investments	\$ (124)	\$ 386
Less: Amounts reclassified to the Statement of Operations - realized (gains) losses on investments	(55)	240
<b>Net remeasurement (losses) gains</b>	<b>(179)</b>	<b>626</b>
Accumulated remeasurement gains, beginning of year	2,247	1,621
<b>Accumulated remeasurement gains, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 2,068</b>	<b>\$ 2,247</b>

# Statement of Cash Flows

## Year Ended March 31, 2024

(in millions)

	2024	2023
<b>Operating transactions</b>		
Net income (loss) from operations	\$ 1,892	\$ (114)
Non-cash items (excluded) included in net income	(55)	240
	1,837	126
Transfers from the General Revenue Fund	-	2,000
Increase in amounts due to the General Revenue Fund	-	(1,247)
Decrease (increase) in amounts due from the General Revenue Fund	753	(753)
Cash provided by operating transactions	2,590	126
<b>Investing transactions</b>		
Proceeds from disposals, repayments and redemptions of investments	2,596	8,848
Purchase of investments	(4,290)	(8,956)
Cash applied to investing transactions	(1,694)	(108)
<b>Increase in cash</b>	896	18
Cash at beginning of year	113	95
<b>Cash at end of year</b>	<u>\$ 1,009</u>	<u>\$ 113</u>
<b>Consisting of deposits and short-term securities</b>	<u>\$ 1,009</u>	<u>\$ 113</u>

*The accompanying notes are part of these financial statements.*

# Notes to the Financial Statements

March 31, 2024

## NOTE 1 AUTHORITY AND MISSION

---

The Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund (the Fund) operates under the authority of the *Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund Act*, Chapter A-23, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000 (the Act), as amended.

The preamble to the Act describes the mission of the Fund as follows:

*“To provide prudent stewardship of the savings from Alberta’s non-renewable resources by providing the greatest financial returns on those savings for current and future generations of Albertans.”*

## NOTE 2 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND REPORTING PRACTICES

---

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards. The net financial asset model is presented in the financial statements. Net financial assets are measured as the difference between the Fund’s financial assets and liabilities as described in the statement of financial position.

The accounting policies of significance to the Fund are as follows:

### a) VALUATION OF INVESTMENTS

Investments are recorded at fair value. As disclosed in Note 3, the Fund’s investments consist primarily of direct ownership in units of pooled investment funds (“the pools”). The pools are established by Ministerial Order 04/2016, being the Establishment and Maintenance of Pooled Funds, pursuant to the *Financial Administration Act* of Alberta, Chapter F-12, Section 45, and the *Alberta Investment Management Corporation Act* of Alberta, Chapter A-26.5, Section 15 and 20. Participants in pools include government and non-government funds and plans.

Contracts to buy and sell financial instruments in the pools are between Alberta Investment Management Corporation (AIMCo), a Crown corporation within the Ministry of Treasury Board and Finance, and the third party to the contracts. Participants in the pools are not party to the contracts and have no control over the management of the pool and the selection of securities in the pool. AIMCo controls the creation of the pools and the management and administration of the pools, including security selection. Accordingly, the Fund does not report the financial instruments of the pools on its statement of financial position.

The Fund becomes exposed to the financial risks and rewards associated with the underlying financial instruments in a pool when it purchases units issued by the pools and divests its exposure to those financial risks and rewards when it sells its pool units. The Fund reports its share of the financial risks in Note 4.

The fair value of pool units held directly by the Fund is derived from the fair value of the underlying financial instruments held by the pools as determined by AIMCo (see Note 3b). Investments in pool units are recorded in the Fund's accounts. The underlying financial instruments are recorded in the accounts of the pools. The pools have a market-based unit value that is used to distribute income to the pool participants and to value purchases and sales of the pool units. The pools include various financial instruments such as bonds, equities, real estate, derivatives, investment receivables and payables and cash.

Investments in units of the pools are managed and evaluated on a fair value basis. As such, all investments are designated and recorded in the financial statements at fair value.

Investments in pool units are recorded in the Fund's accounts on a trade date basis. All purchases and sales of the pool units are in Canadian dollars.

Fair value is the amount of consideration agreed upon in an arm's length transaction between knowledgeable, willing parties who are under no compulsion to act.

Impairment in the value of investments is assessed on a periodic basis. If an impairment deemed other-than-temporary is identified, the cost of the investment is written down to its realizable value. Any impairment losses are included in income on the statement of operations and accumulated surplus. A write-down of a portfolio investment to reflect a loss in value is not reversed for a subsequent increase in value.

**b) INVESTMENT INCOME**

- i) Income distributions from the pools are recorded in the Fund's accounts and included in investment income on the statement of operations and accumulated surplus (see Note 6). Income distributions are based on the Fund's pro-rata share of total units issued by the pools.
- ii) Realized gains and losses on disposal of pool units are recorded in the Fund's accounts and included in income on the statement of operations and accumulated surplus. Realized gains and losses on disposal of pool units are determined on an average cost basis.
- iii) Investment income is recorded on an accrual basis. Investment income is accrued when there is reasonable assurance as to its measurement and collectability.

**c) INVESTMENT EXPENSES**

- i) Investment expenses include all amounts incurred by the Fund to earn investment income (see Note 7). Investment expenses are recorded on an accrual basis. Transaction costs are expensed as they are incurred.
- ii) Other expenses related to the direct administration of the Fund are charged to the Fund on an accrual basis.

**d) REMEASUREMENT GAINS AND LOSSES**

Accumulated remeasurement gains and losses primarily represent the excess or shortfall of the fair value of the pool units at year-end over the cost of the pool units. Changes in accumulated remeasurement gains and losses are recognized in the statement of remeasurement gains and losses. Changes in accumulated remeasurement gains and losses during the year include unrealized increases and decreases in fair value of the pool units and realized gains and losses on sale of the pool units. When the pool units are sold (derecognized), any accumulated unrealized gain or loss associated with the investment becomes realized and is included in net income on the statement of operations and accumulated surplus.

## e) MEASUREMENT UNCERTAINTY

Measurement uncertainty exists in the fair values reported for certain investments such as private equities, infrastructure, private debt and loans, private real estate, hedge funds, renewable resources, and other investments where no readily available market prices exist. The fair values of these investments are based on estimates. Estimated fair values may not reflect amounts that could be recognized upon immediate sale, or amounts that ultimately may be recognized. Accordingly, the estimated fair values may differ significantly from the value that would have been used had readily available market prices existed for these investments (see Note 3).

## f) TRANSFERS TO THE GENERAL REVENUE FUND (GRF)

In 2022-23, Section 8 of the Act was amended, eliminating the requirement for annual net income to be transferred out of the Fund to the GRF. Transfer of income from the Fund, less amounts retained for inflation proofing (see Note 5(b)), will require approval from Treasury Board. Such transfers, should they be approved, must be completed by the end of the following fiscal year end.

## NOTE 3 INVESTMENTS (in millions)

The carrying amounts of the Fund's investments are recorded on a fair value basis. The Fund's investments are managed at the asset class level for purposes of evaluating the Fund's risk exposure and investment performance against approved benchmarks based on fair value. AIMCo invests the Fund's assets in accordance with the Statement of Investment Policies and Goals (SIP&G) approved by the President of Treasury Board and Minister of Finance. The fair value of the pool units is based on the Fund's share of the net asset value of the pooled fund. AIMCo is delegated authority to independently purchase and sell securities in the pools and Fund, and units of the pools, within the ranges approved for each asset class (see Note 4).

Asset class	Fair Value Hierarchy <sup>(a)</sup>		2024	2023
	Level 2	Level 3		
<b>Interest-bearing securities</b>				
Deposits and short-term securities	\$ 1,009	\$ -	\$ 1,009	\$ 113
Bonds, mortgages and private debt	2,448	1,967	4,415	3,884
	3,457	1,967	5,424	3,997
<b>Equities</b>				
Canadian	1,809	-	1,809	1,619
Global developed	5,802	213	6,015	5,337
Emerging markets	702	-	702	671
Private	-	1,972	1,972	1,818
	8,313	2,185	10,498	9,445
<b>Inflation sensitive</b>				
Real estate	-	3,798	3,798	3,920
Infrastructure	-	2,570	2,570	2,375
Renewable resources	-	585	585	666
	-	6,953	6,953	6,961
<b>Strategic, tactical and currency investments *</b>	2	63	65	71
<b>Total Fair Value of Investments</b>	\$ 11,772	\$ 11,168	\$ 22,940	\$ 20,474

\* This asset class is not listed separately in the SIP&G as it relates to strategic investments and currency overlays made on an opportunistic and discretionary basis (see Note 4).

a) **Fair Value Hierarchy:** The quality and reliability of information used to estimate the fair value of investments is classified according to the following fair value hierarchy with level 1 being the highest quality and reliability.

- **Level 1** - fair value is based on quoted prices in an active market. Although the pools may ultimately hold publicly traded listed equity investments, the pool units themselves are not listed in an active market and therefore cannot be classified as Level 1 for fair value hierarchy purposes. Pool units classified by the Fund as Level 2 may contain investments that might otherwise be classified as Level 1.
- **Level 2** - fair value is estimated using valuation techniques that make use of market-observable inputs other than quoted market prices. This level includes pool units that hold public equities, debt securities and derivative contracts totalling \$11,772 (2023: \$9,633).
- **Level 3** - fair value is estimated using inputs based on non-observable market data. This level includes pool units that hold private mortgages, private debt and loans, hedge funds, private equities and all inflation sensitive investments totalling \$11,168 (2023: \$10,841).

#### Reconciliation of Level 3 Investments

	2024	2023
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 10,841	\$ 9,651
Realized (gains) losses	(29)	63
Unrealized (losses) gains	(284)	392
Purchases of Level 3 pooled fund units	1,902	1,220
Sale of Level 3 pooled fund units	(1,262)	(485)
<b>Balance, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 11,168</b>	<b>\$ 10,841</b>

#### b) Valuation of Financial Instruments recorded by AIMCo in the Pools

The methods used by AIMCo to determine the fair value of investments recorded in the pools are explained in the following paragraphs:

- **Interest-bearing securities:** Public interest-bearing securities are valued at the year-end closing sale price or the average of the latest bid and ask prices quoted by an independent securities valuation company. Private mortgages are valued based on the net present value of future cash flows discounted using appropriate interest rate premiums over similar Government of Canada benchmark bonds trading in the market. Private debt and loans is valued similar to private mortgages.
- **Equities:** Public equities are valued at the year-end closing sale price or the average of the latest bid and ask prices quoted by an independent securities valuation company. The fair value of hedge fund investments is estimated by external managers. The fair value of private equities is estimated by managers or general partners of private equity funds, pools and limited partnerships. Valuation methods for private equities may encompass a broad range of approaches. The cost approach is used to value companies without either profits or cash flows. Established private companies are valued using the fair market value approach reflecting conventional valuation methods including discounted cash flows and earnings multiple analysis.

- **Inflation sensitive investments:** The estimated fair value of private real estate investments is reported at the most recent appraised value, net of any liabilities against the real property. Real estate properties are appraised annually by qualified external real estate appraisers. Appraisers use a combination of methods to determine fair value including replacement cost, direct comparison, direct capitalization of earnings and discounted cash flows. The fair value of renewable resources investments is appraised annually by independent third party evaluators. Infrastructure investments are valued similar to private equity investments.
- **Strategic, tactical and currency investments:** The estimated fair value of infrastructure investments held in emerging market countries are valued similar to private equities. For tactical asset allocations, investments in derivative contracts provides overweight or underweight exposure to global equity and bond markets, including emerging markets. Currency investments consist of directly held currency forward and spot contracts.
- **Foreign currency:** Foreign currency transactions in pools are translated into Canadian dollars using average rates of exchange. At year-end, the fair value of investments in other assets and liabilities denominated in a foreign currency are translated at the year-end exchange rates.
- **Derivative contracts:** The carrying value of derivative contracts in a favourable and unfavourable position is recorded at fair value and is included in the fair value of the pools (see Note 4g). The estimated fair value of equity and bond index swaps is based on changes in the appropriate market-based index net of accrued floating rate interest. Interest rate swaps and cross-currency interest rate swaps are valued based on discounted cash flows using current market yields and exchange rates. Credit default swaps are valued based on discounted cash flows using current market yields and calculated default probabilities. Forward foreign exchange contracts are valued based on differences between contractual foreign exchange rates and foreign exchange forward rates. Future contracts are valued based on quoted market prices. Options to enter into interest rate swap contracts are valued based on discounted cash flows using current market yields and volatility parameters which measure changes in the underlying swap. Warrants and rights are valued at the year-end closing sale price or the average of the latest bid and ask prices quoted by an independent securities valuation company.

### c) Liability Exposure

The Fund is indirectly exposed to liabilities held within the pools, the carrying value of which is a component in the determination of net fair value of investments within the pools. These liabilities are used primarily for general liquidity, risk management and active management purposes and include, but are not limited, to mortgages, lines of credit, derivative counterparty liabilities and repurchase agreements.

Repurchase agreements are short-term agreements to sell securities held in the fund in order to buy them back at a slightly higher price at a later time. The proceeds from the sale may be used to purchase other fixed income securities. The party selling the repurchase agreement is effectively borrowing, and the other party is lending. The lender is credited the implicit interest in the yield and price difference between the securities sold to be repurchased and the securities acquired from the sale proceeds. The securities sold under repurchase agreements are accounted for as collateralized form of borrowing. The Fund's exposure to repurchase agreement liabilities at March 31, 2024, was approximately \$1,283 (2023: \$1,000). All repurchase agreements are fully collateralized by the borrowers.

The Fund is exposed to financial risks associated with the underlying securities held in the pools created and managed by AIMCo. These financial risks include credit risk, market risk and liquidity risk. Credit risk relates to the possibility that a loss may occur from the failure of another party to perform according to the terms of a contract. Market risk is comprised of currency risk, interest rate risk and price risk. Liquidity risk is the risk that the Fund will not be able to meet its obligations as they fall due.

The investment policies and procedures of the Fund are clearly outlined in the SIP&G approved by the President of Treasury Board and Minister of Finance. The purpose of the SIP&G is to ensure that the Fund is invested and managed in a prudent manner in accordance with current, accepted governance practices incorporating an appropriate level of risk. The Ministry of Treasury Board and Finance manages the Fund's return-risk trade-off through asset class diversification, a rebalancing policy with target ranges on each asset class, and diversification within each asset class, and quality constraints on credit instruments. Forward foreign exchange contracts may be used to manage currency exposure in connection with securities purchased in a foreign currency (see Note 4b).

In order to earn the best possible return at an acceptable level of risk, the President of Treasury Board and Minister of Finance has approved the following target policy asset mix:

Asset Class	Target Asset Policy Mix	Long Term Policy	Actual Asset Mix			
			2024		2023	
Interest-bearing securities	15 - 45%	20%	\$ 5,424	23.6%	\$ 3,997	19.5%
Equities	35 - 70%	47.5%	10,498	45.8%	9,445	46.2%
Inflation sensitive	15 - 40%	32.5%	6,953	30.3%	6,961	34.0%
Strategic, tactical and currency investments	(a)		65	0.3%	71	0.3%
		100.0%	\$22,940	100.0%	\$20,474	100.0%

(a) In accordance with the SIP&G, AIMCo may invest up to 2% of the fair value of the Fund's investments in strategic opportunities that are outside of the asset classes listed above. AIMCo may, at its discretion, use currency overlays to an economic exposure limit of 5% of the market value of the Fund.

#### a) Credit Risk

##### i) Debt securities

The Fund is exposed to various risks associated with debt securities held in the pools managed by AIMCo. Counterparty default risk is the risk of loss arising from the failure of an issuer to fully honour its financial obligations. Downgrade risk can generate losses when issuers are downgraded by credit rating agencies, leading to a fall in the fair value of the debt obligations. Credit spread risk is the potential for changes in present value of an asset due to an increase in the credit spread of the debt security. Credit spreads may increase due to concerns with the individual issue or with the broader credit market, decreasing the present value of the security. If credit spreads widened by 1%, and all other variables are held constant, the potential loss in fair value to the Fund would be approximately 0.7% of total investments (2023: 0.7%).

The credit quality of financial assets is generally assessed by reference to external credit ratings. The credit rating of a debt security may be impacted by the overall credit rating of the counterparty, the seniority of the debt issue, bond covenants, maturity distribution and other factors. The majority of investments in debt securities have credit ratings considered to be investment grade.

Unrated debt securities consist primarily of private mortgages and private debt and loan placements.



The table below summarizes the Fund's investment in debt securities by credit rating at March 31, 2024:

Credit rating	2024	2023
Investment Grade (AAA to BBB-)	62.9%	62.9%
Speculative Grade (BB+ or lower)	2.7%	2.4%
Unrated	34.4%	34.7%
	100.0%	100.0%

ii) Counterparty credit risk - derivative contracts

The Fund is exposed to counterparty credit risk associated with the derivative contracts held in the pools. The maximum credit risk in respect of derivative financial instruments is the fair value of all contracts with counterparties in a favourable position (see Note 4g). AIMCo is responsible for selecting and monitoring derivative counterparties on behalf of the Fund. AIMCo monitors counterparty risk exposures and actively seeks to mitigate counterparty risk by requiring that counterparties collateralize mark-to-market gains for the Fund. Provisions are in place to allow for termination of the contract should there be a material downgrade in a counterparty's credit rating. The exposure to credit risk on derivatives is reduced by entering into master netting agreements and collateral agreements with counterparties. To the extent that any unfavourable contracts with the counterparty are not settled, they reduce the Fund's net exposure in respect of favourable contracts with the same counterparty.

iii) Security lending risk

To generate additional income, the pools participate in a securities-lending program. Under this program, the custodian may lend investments held in the pools to eligible third parties for short periods. At March 31, 2024, the Fund's share of securities loaned under this program is \$272 (2023: \$201) and collateral held totals \$292 (2023: \$214). Securities borrowers are required to provide the collateral to assure the performance of redelivery obligations. Collateral may take the form of cash, high quality bonds, other investments or bankers' acceptances and bankers' deposit notes. All collateralization, by the borrower, must be in excess of 100% of investments loaned.

**b) Foreign currency risk**

The Fund is exposed to foreign currency risk associated with the underlying securities held in the pools that are denominated in currencies other than the Canadian dollar. Foreign currency risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates. The fair value of investments denominated in foreign currencies is translated into Canadian dollars using the reporting date exchange rate. As a result, fluctuations in the relative value of the Canadian dollar against these foreign currencies can result in a positive or negative effect on the fair value of investments. Approximately 34.5% (2023: 36.6%) of the Fund's investments, or \$7,919 (2023: \$7,501), are denominated in currencies other than the Canadian dollar, with the largest foreign currency exposure being to the US dollar, 20.5% (2023: 20.4%) and the Euro, 4.2% (2023: 4.9%).

If the value of the Canadian dollar were to increase by 10% against all other currencies, and all other variables are held constant, the potential loss in fair value of the Fund would be approximately 3.5% of total investments (2023: 3.7%). This change would also result in a potential loss in investment income over the next 12 months, based on investments held as at the reporting date, of approximately \$37 (2023: \$30).

The following table summarizes the Fund's exposure to foreign currency investments held in the pools at March 31, 2024:

Currency <sup>(a)</sup>	2024		2023	
	Fair Value	Sensitivity	Fair Value	Sensitivity
U.S. dollar	\$ 4,703	\$ (470)	\$ 4,185	\$ (419)
Euro	970	(97)	1,005	(101)
British pound sterling	697	(70)	713	(71)
Japanese yen	352	(35)	363	(36)
Other foreign currency	1,197	(120)	1,235	(123)
<b>Total foreign currency investments</b>	<b>\$ 7,919</b>	<b>\$ (792)</b>	<b>\$ 7,501</b>	<b>\$ (750)</b>

<sup>(a)</sup> Information on specific currencies is disclosed when the current year fair value is greater than 1% of the Fund's net assets.

#### c) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. The Fund is exposed to interest rate risk associated with the underlying interest-bearing securities held in the pools managed by AIMCo. In general, the fair value of bonds and mortgages are sensitive to changes in the level of interest rates, which will impact returns if the securities are sold prior to maturity. A rise in interest rates will typically mean a drop in fair value (and vice versa), with longer term interest bearing securities being more sensitive to interest rate changes than shorter-term bonds. If interest rates were to increase by 1%, and all other variables are held constant, the potential loss in fair value of the Fund would be approximately 0.9% of total investments (2023: 0.9%). This change would also result in a potential gain in investment income over the next 12 months, based on investments held as at the reporting date, of approximately \$7 (2023: \$nil).

#### d) Price risk

Price risk is the risk that one or more of the markets where a product invests will decline in value. The value of the product may decline due to changes in general market conditions, economic trends or due to factors that affect a particular company or group of companies. Price risk is influenced by the geopolitical environment, economic conditions and changes in the regulatory environment. Both products and their benchmarks are impacted by price risk.

The Fund is exposed to price risk associated with the underlying equity investments held in the pools managed by AIMCo. Price risk is managed through diversification of asset class allocations and security selection within equity products. If equity market indices declined by 10%, and all other variables are held constant, the potential loss in fair value of the Fund would be approximately 5.0% of total investments (2023: 5.3%). This change would also result in a potential loss in investment income over the next 12 months, based on investments held as at the reporting date, of approximately \$402 (2023: \$402).

#### e) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Fund will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with its financial liabilities. Liquidity requirements of the Fund are met through income generated from investments, and by investing in units of pools that hold publicly traded liquid assets traded in an active market that are easily sold and converted to cash. Units in pools that hold private investments like real estate, renewable resources, infrastructure and private equities are less easily converted to cash since the underlying securities are illiquid because they take more time to sell. The Fund's main liabilities include payables related to purchase of pool units and those liabilities outlined in Note 3c.

Liquidity risk is monitored by AIMCo using a Stressed Liquidity Coverage Ratio (SLCR) measure, which considers the ratio of liquidity supply to liquidity demand in an extreme liquidity scenario (defined as the 3-month period during the Global Financial Crisis immediately following the collapse of Lehman Brothers). A SLCR greater than 100% means that all liquidity demand under the stress scenario can be met, whereas a SLCR less than 100% means that liquidity demands under the stress scenario cannot be met.

**f) Total portfolio risk**

Investment risk is managed on a total portfolio basis and monitored daily by AIMCo. A 1-in-20 year downside Value-at-Risk (VaR) measure is used for the overall portfolio, supported by an Expected Tail Loss (ETL) measure to capture the risk of more extreme tail losses. In addition, active management risk (i.e. the risk of underperformance relative to the total portfolio benchmark) is monitored using a 1-in-20 downside Active Value-at-Risk (aVaR) measure. The SIP&G sets out the limits within which these measures should operate.

**g) Use of Derivative Financial Instruments in Pooled Investment Funds**

The Fund has indirect exposure to derivative financial instruments through its investment in units of the pools. AIMCo uses derivative financial instruments to cost-effectively gain access to equity markets in the pools, manage asset exposure within the pools, enhance pool returns and manage interest rate risk, foreign currency risk and credit risk in the pools.

By counterparty	Number of counterparties	Fund's Indirect Share	
		2024	2023
Contracts in net favourable position (current credit exposure)	102	\$ 189	\$ 87
Contracts in net unfavourable position	9	(12)	(86)
<b>Net fair value of derivative contracts</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>\$ 177</b>	<b>\$ 1</b>

- i) Current credit exposure: The current credit exposure is limited to the amount of loss that would occur if all counterparties to contracts in a net favourable position totalling \$189 (2023: \$87) were to default at once.
- ii) Settlements: Derivative settlements, in the forms of cash or securities, are made in accordance with the respective derivative contracts; mark-to-market movements on these derivatives result in the regular pledging and receiving of collateral.
- iii) Contract notional amounts: The fair value of receivables (receive leg) and payables (pay leg) and the exchange of cash flows with counterparties in pooled funds are based on a rate or price applied to a notional amount specified in the derivative contract. The notional amount itself is not invested, received or exchanged with the counterparty and is not indicative of the credit risk associated with the contract. Notional amounts are not assets or liabilities and do not change the asset mix reported in Note 3. Accordingly, there is no accounting policy for their recognition in the statement of financial position.

Types of derivatives used in pools	Fund's Indirect Share	
	2024	2023
Equity-based derivatives	\$ 153	\$ 79
Foreign currency derivatives	-	(106)
Interest rate derivatives	21	26
Credit risk derivatives	3	2
<b>Net fair value of derivative contracts</b>	<b>\$ 177</b>	<b>\$ 1</b>

- i) Equity-based derivatives include equity swaps. Equity swaps are contracts where one counterparty agrees to pay or receive from the other, cash flows based on changes in the value of an equity index, a basket of stocks, or a single stock in exchange for a return based on a fixed or floating interest rate or the return on another instrument. Rights, warrants, futures and options are also included as equity-based derivatives.
- ii) Foreign currency derivatives include contractual agreements to exchange specified currencies at an agreed upon exchange rate and on an agreed settlement date in the future.
- iii) Interest rate derivatives exchange interest rate cash flows (fixed to floating or floating to fixed) based on a notional amount. Interest rate derivatives primarily include interest rate swaps and cross currency interest rate swaps, futures contracts and options.
- iv) Credit risk derivatives include credit default swaps allowing the pools to buy and sell protection on credit risk inherent in a bond. A premium is paid or received, based on a notional amount in exchange for a contingent payment should a defined credit event occur with respect to the underlying security.
- v) At March 31, 2024, deposits in futures contracts margin accounts totaled \$33 (2023: \$59). Cash and non-cash collateral for derivative contracts pledged and received, respectively, totaled \$172 (2023: \$193) and \$nil (2023: \$nil).
- vi) All derivative products are subject to AIMCo's internal governance.

**NOTE 5** NET FINANCIAL ASSETS (in millions)

Net financial assets represent the difference between the carrying value of financial assets held by the Fund and its liabilities. The following table shows accumulated net income and transfers to (from) the Fund since the Fund was created on May 19, 1976:

	Cumulative since 1976	
	2024	2023
<b>Accumulated net income</b>	\$ 49,904	\$ 48,012
<b>Transfers to the Fund</b>		
Resource Revenue (1976-1987)	12,049	12,049
Access to the Future <sup>(a)</sup>	1,000	1,000
Voted Payments <sup>(e)</sup>	3,671	3,671
	16,720	16,720
<b>Amounts retained in (transferred from) the Fund</b>		
Section 8 transfers <sup>(b)</sup>		
Income	(48,976)	(47,084)
Amount Retained in the Fund	6,965	5,073
	(42,011)	(42,011)
Capital Expenditures (1976-1995) <sup>(c)</sup>	(3,486)	(3,486)
Other Statutory Transfers <sup>(d)</sup>	(255)	(255)
	(45,752)	(45,752)
<b>Accumulated surplus from operations</b>	20,872	18,980
<b>Accumulated rereasurement gains</b>	2,068	2,247
<b>Carrying value of net financial assets</b>	\$ 22,940	\$ 21,227

(a) The Access to the Future Fund was disestablished in December 2019 and eliminated the related notional account within the Fund. The initial \$1,000 funded in 2005-06 and 2006-07 will remain in the Fund, no longer allocated for Advanced Education.

(b) During 2022-23, Bill 10 (*Financial Statutes Amendment Act, 2023*) amended Section 8 of the Act to require Treasury Board approval for any income transfers, after inflation proofing, from the Fund to the GRF beginning in 2021-22. The income transfer amount of \$1,247 previously accrued for 2021-22 was recovered on the new legislation taking effect.

Previously Section 8 of the Act stated that the net income of the Heritage Fund, less any amount retained in the Fund, in accordance with section 11 of the Act, must be transferred to the GRF in a manner determined by the President of Treasury Board and Minister of Finance.

The amount for inflation proofing is determined by multiplying the accumulated operating surplus of the Fund from the prior fiscal year end by the percentage increase in the Alberta Consumer Price Index (Alberta CPI) for the year, calculated as the percentage increase in the average monthly Alberta CPI for the two previous fiscal years. In accordance with section 11(2), if the Alberta CPI is a negative number, that negative number shall be treated as if it were zero. The estimated Alberta CPI increase for the year was 3.2% (2023: 6.0%).

(c) Capital expenditures include transfers of \$300 to the Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research in 1980 and \$100 to the Alberta Heritage Scholarship Fund in 1981.

(d) Transfers of \$200 to the Alberta Heritage Scholarship Fund, \$3 to the Agriculture and Food Innovation Account, and \$52 to the Access to the Future Fund were made from the Fund in 2015.

(e) In accordance with Bill 12, *Appropriation (Supplementary Supply) Act 2023*, a contribution of \$753 to the Fund was authorized in 2022-23, and subsequently disbursed from the GRF in 2023-24.

**NOTE 6** INVESTMENT INCOME (in millions)

The following is a summary of the Fund's investment income by asset class:

	2024	2023
<b>Interest-bearing securities</b>	\$ 162	\$ 14
<b>Equities</b>		
Canadian	143	68
Global	1,447	(279)
Private	128	88
	1,718	(123)
<b>Inflation sensitive</b>		
Real estate	40	98
Infrastructure	86	(7)
Renewable resources	62	58
	188	149
<b>Strategic, tactical and currency investments</b>	(4)	(20)
	\$ 2,064	\$ 20

The investment income includes realized gains and losses from disposal of pool units totalling \$53 (2023: \$(235)) and from directly held foreign exchange contracts totalling \$2 (2023: \$(5)). Income and loss distributions from the pools total \$2,009 (2023: \$260).

Income earned in pooled investment funds is distributed to the Fund daily based on the Fund's pro rata share of units issued by the pool. Income earned by the pools is determined on an accrual basis and includes interest, dividends, security lending income, realized gains and losses on sale of securities determined on an average cost basis, income and expense on derivative contracts and writedowns of securities held in pools which are indicative of a loss in value that is other than temporary losses included in investment income in the statement of operations and accumulated surplus were \$288 (2023: \$151). Because the investments are accounted for on a fair value basis, the recording of other-than-temporary losses through the statement of operations does not affect the performance of the Fund.

**NOTE 7** INVESTMENT EXPENSES (in millions)

	2024	2023
Amount charged by AIMCo for: <sup>(a)</sup>		
Investment costs	\$ 103	\$ 97
Performance based fees	69	37
<b>Total investment expenses</b>	\$ 172	\$ 134
Increase (decrease) in expenses	28.4%	(23.9%)
Increase in average investments under management	7.4%	5.0%
(Decrease) increase in value of investments attributed to AIMCo	(1.7%)	1.2%
Investment expense as a percent of dollar invested	0.8%	0.7%

(a) Investment expenses are charged by AIMCo on a cost recovery basis. Please refer to AIMCo's financial statements for a detailed breakdown of the types of expenses incurred by AIMCo. Amounts recovered by AIMCo for investment costs include those costs that are primarily non-performance related including external management fees, external administration costs, employee salaries and incentive benefits and overhead costs. A majority of amounts recovered by AIMCo for performance based fees relate to external managers hired by AIMCo.

Includes \$114 thousand (2023: \$114 thousand) charged to the Fund by Alberta Treasury Board and Finance for investment accounting and reporting services and \$226 thousand (2023: \$nil thousand) paid to PNYX Group SA for professional consulting service.

**NOTE 8** INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE (net of investment expenses)

Estimated investment returns are provided as supplementary information. The determination of the estimated return is based on fair values using quoted market prices and estimates of fair value where no quoted market prices are available. The estimated return includes gains and losses that have not been realized. Estimated benchmark returns are based on published market-based indices and estimates where no published index is available.

	Average Annualized Return			
	2024	2023	5 years <sup>(d)</sup>	10 years
Time-weighted rates of return, at fair value <sup>(a)</sup>				
Net return on investments <sup>(b)</sup>	8.1%	2.6%	6.4%	7.6%
Policy benchmark return <sup>(b)</sup>	9.8%	1.4%	6.5%	7.1%
Value (lost) added by AIMCo <sup>(c)</sup>	(1.7%)	1.2%	(0.1%)	0.5%

- (a) The time-weighted rate of return involves the calculation of the return realized by the Fund over a specified period and is a measure of the total proceeds received from an investment dollar initially invested. Total proceeds include cash distributions (interest and dividend payments) and capital gains and losses (realized and unrealized).
- (b) Investment returns are provided by AIMCo. The net investment return and policy benchmark return is based on a weighted average of returns for each asset class. Investment returns for assets classified as real estate, private equities, infrastructure, hedge funds and private debt are based on estimates of fair value. For these investments, measurement uncertainty exists because trading activity is infrequent and fair values are derived using valuation techniques which incorporate assumptions that are based on non-observable market data. Reasonably possible alternative assumptions could yield an increase or decrease in the fair value amounts and investment returns reported for these types of investments.
- (c) In the SIP&G, the Ministry of Treasury Board and Finance expects that the investments held by the Fund will return 1% above the policy benchmark over a rolling five-year period.
- (d) In accordance with the SIP&G, over a five-year period, it is expected that the policy portfolio will earn an average return of 4.5% adjusted for inflation, based on the Canadian Consumer Price Index. At the reporting date, the CPI + 450 annualized, five-year rolling average, was 7.0%.

**NOTE 9** COMPARATIVE FIGURES

Comparative figures have been reclassified to be consistent with current presentation.

**NOTE 10** FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Quarterly and annual financial statements are prepared by the Department of Treasury Board and Finance and are approved by the Department's Senior Financial Officer and Deputy Minister. The statements report the activities and financial performance of the Fund for the year and are provided to the Standing Committee on the Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund in accordance with section 15 and 16 of the Act. Unaudited interim financial statements for the first three quarters of each fiscal year are made available to the public by the President of Treasury Board and Minister of Finance within two months following each quarter-end. Annual audited financial statements of the Fund are included in the annual report of the Ministry of Treasury Board and Finance.