

## Semi-annual Management Report of Fund Performance

### As at March 31, 2025

This semi-annual management report of fund performance contains financial highlights but does not contain either semi-annual or annual financial statements of the investment fund. You can obtain a copy of the semi-annual or annual financial statements at your request, and at no cost, by calling 1-888-809-3333, by writing us at Northwest & Ethical Investments L.P., 151 Yonge Street Suite 1200, Toronto, ON M5C 2W7 or by visiting our website at [www.neiinvestments.com](http://www.neiinvestments.com) or SEDAR+ at [www.sedarplus.ca](http://www.sedarplus.ca).

Unitholders may also contact us using one of these methods to request a copy of the investment fund's proxy voting policies and procedures, proxy voting disclosure record, or quarterly portfolio disclosure.

## Management Discussion of Performance

### Results of Operations

NEI Fixed Income Pool (the "Fund") Series I units returned 2.3% for the six-month period ended March 31, 2025 compared with a return of 2.0% for the benchmark explained below.

Unlike the benchmark return, the Fund's returns are after the deduction of fees and expenses paid by the Fund. Performance differences between series of units are mainly attributable to management fees charged to each series. Refer to the Past Performance section for the details of returns by series.

The benchmark for this Fund is FTSE Canada Universe Bond Index.

The Fund's net asset value decreased by 9.57% during the period, from \$165,069,894 as at September 30, 2024 to \$149,264,724 as at March 31, 2025. This change in net assets is attributed to net unitholder activity of -\$19,494,822 and \$3,689,652 to investment operations, including market appreciation (depreciation), income and expenses.

### Market Overview

Corporate bonds were the strongest performers in the Canadian bond sector over the six-month period, despite the decline in credit spreads in the early months of 2025.

### Factors That Have Affected Performance

Asset allocation is the main reason for excess return. An overweight allocation to corporate bonds financed by an underweight allocation to government bonds contributed positively over the period. The corporate sectors that contributed most to returns were Financials and Energy. Furthermore, positioning in Canada Mortgage and Housing Corp. National Housing Association mortgage-backed securities was beneficial. Credit spreads on these products tightened slightly during the last quarter, while provincial and corporate issuers saw their spreads widen. The federal government guarantee offered on this product, combined with a lack of supply on the market, are probably the cause.

### Portfolio Changes

The Fund reduced its exposure to the corporate sector during the first half of the period, following the outperformance of this asset class. As a result, a portion of corporate holdings in virtually all sectors was reallocated to Canadian government securities. Since then, a gradual reinvestment in this sector has been achieved thanks to the opportunities offered during the month of March.

Holdings of green, sustainable, and social bonds were above 7%. This represents no change over the period. From a selection point of view, Algonquin Power & Utilities Corp. completed the redemption of its green bonds last January. The event was triggered by the sale of assets to a third party, which created a market event forcing the redemption to the debt holders. The proceeds were reinvested in a new green bond issue by Brookfield Renewable Power Inc. to maintain the Fund's allocation to this type of product.

### Environmental, Social, And Governance ("ESG") Activities

In addition to any ESG-related commentary made in the sections above, other ESG-related activities undertaken in the period are described here.

The portfolio sub-advisor considers the importance of climate change risks when selecting issuers. In the last quarter, the Fund's carbon footprint was below the average of the FTSE Canada Corporate Bond Index.

NEI completed three ESG evaluations on companies that were either already held in the Fund, or that were requested by the portfolio sub-advisor for evaluation as part of the initial investment decision. All companies evaluated were deemed to be eligible for investment in the Fund.

### Recent Developments

While credit spreads generally widened over the first quarter of 2025, not all sectors were affected equally. The portfolio sub-advisor took advantage of the rapid widening of corporate spreads to reduce some positions in the shorter end of the curve while taking advantage of the current environment to slightly reduce the Fund's long duration exposure relative to the benchmark. Although the portfolio sub-advisor reached the Fund's rate targets, they decided to maintain a slight exposure given the current tone. They are maintaining an underweight position in long-term corporate bonds and will seek to add provincial credit in the sector.

### Related Party Transactions

Northwest & Ethical Investments L.P. ("NEI LP", "NEI Investments" and the "Manager") is the Manager, trustee, portfolio manager and registrar of the Fund. Northwest & Ethical Investments Inc., the general partner of NEI LP, is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Aviso Wealth Inc. ("Aviso"). Aviso is also the sole limited partner of NEI LP. Aviso is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Aviso Wealth LP, which in turn is owned 50% by Desjardins Financial Holding Inc. and 50% by a limited partnership, CU CUMIS Wealth Holdings LP, owned by the five Provincial Credit Union Centrals and the CUMIS Group Limited. Desjardins Financial Holding Inc. is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Fédération des caisses Desjardins du Québec ("Fédération").

NEI LP charges the Fund a fixed administration fee in place of certain variable expenses. NEI LP in turn, pays all operating expenses of the Fund, other than specified Fund costs (e.g. the fees and expense of the Independent Review Committee ("IRC"), taxes, and brokerage commissions) which include payments to related parties. These services are in the normal course of operations and are measured at an exchange amount that is consistent with other independent parties. Desjardins Trust Inc. ("Desjardins Trust") is the custodian of the Fund. Desjardins Trust is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Fédération. The Fund may engage in securities lending and repurchase and/or reverse repurchase transactions, and Desjardins Trust may act as the Fund's securities lending and repurchase and/or reverse repurchase transactions agent ("Agent"). Any revenue earned on such transactions is split 60%—40% between the Fund and the Agent. Desjardins Securities Inc. ("DSI") is a broker responsible for security transactions on behalf of the Fund. DSI is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Fédération. Desjardins Global Asset Management Inc. ("DGAM") is the Portfolio sub-advisor of the Fund. DGAM is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Fédération. DGAM's fees are entirely paid by NEI LP.

Where applicable, the amounts paid in commission by the Fund to DSI and amounts received from underlying funds managed by NEI LP during the period are presented.

	March 2025 (\$)	March 2024 (\$)
Amounts received from underlying funds	-	918,528

The Fund's sub-advisors may place a portion of the Fund's portfolio transactions with brokerage firms which are affiliates of NEI LP, provided that the affiliate's trade execution abilities and costs are comparable to those of non-affiliated qualified brokerage firms.

The Fund is currently only distributed by NEI on an exempt-market basis.

NEI LP has established the IRC for the Fund in accordance with the requirements of National Instrument 81-107 – Independent Review Committee for Investment Funds in order to review conflicts of interest as they relate to investment fund management. The Fund did not rely on an approval, positive recommendation or standing instruction from the Fund's IRC with respect to any related party transactions.

This document contains forward-looking statements. Such statements are generally identifiable by the terminology used, such as “plan”, “anticipate”, “intend”, “expect”, “estimate”, or other similar wording. These forward-looking statements are subject to known and unknown risks and uncertainties and other factors which may cause actual results, levels of activity and achievements to differ materially from those expressed or implied by such statements. Such factors include, but are not limited to: general economic, market and business conditions; fluctuations in securities prices, fluctuation in interest rates and foreign currency exchange rates; and actions by governmental authorities. Future events and their effects on the Fund may not be those anticipated by us. Actual results may differ materially from the results anticipated in these forward-looking statements. We do not undertake, and specifically disclaim, any obligation to update or revise any forward-looking information, whether as a result of new information, future developments or otherwise.

## Financial Highlights

The following tables show selected key financial information about the Fund and are intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the six-month period ended March 31, 2025 and the past five fiscal years or for the periods since inception, as applicable.

### Net Assets per Unit (\$) <sup>(1)</sup>

Series	Period	Net Assets, Beginning of Period	Increase (Decrease) from Operations					Distributions						Net Assets, End of Period
			Total Revenue	Total Expenses	Realized Gains (Losses)	Unrealized Gains (Losses)	Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations <sup>(2)</sup>	From Income (Excluding Dividends)	From Dividends	From Underlying Funds	From Capital Gains	Return of Capital	Total of Distributions <sup>(3)(4)</sup>	
I	Mar. 2025	9.22	0.18	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.21	0.19	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.19	9.24
	Sept. 2024	8.40	0.38	0.00	-0.42	1.29	1.25	0.33	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.38	9.22
	Sept. 2023	8.72	0.29	0.00	-1.34	0.95	-0.10	0.30	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.31	8.40
	Sept. 2022	10.03	0.34	0.00	-0.33	-1.00	-0.99	0.22	0.00	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.34	8.72
	Sept. 2021	10.57	0.23	0.00	-0.06	-0.39	-0.22	0.20	0.00	0.02	0.09	0.00	0.31	10.03
	Sept. 2020	10.06	0.25	0.00	0.16	0.37	0.78	0.18	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.21	10.57

(1) All per unit figures presented in 2025 are referenced to net assets determined in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and are derived from the Fund's semi-annual financial statements for the period ended March 31, 2025.

(2) Net assets and distributions are based on the actual number of units outstanding at the relevant time. The increase/decrease from operations is based on the weighted average number of units outstanding over the financial period.

(3) Distributions were paid in cash or reinvested in additional units of the Fund.

(4) Distributions (if any) that may have been made that included return of capital in excess of short term earnings were made to minimize disruption and provide stability to investors who have elected to take their distributions in the form of cash, and as disclosed in the simplified prospectus. These amounts are reviewed at each calendar year-end and management engages in discussions with the sub-advisor to determine the most applicable strategy on a go forward basis and will take any action(s) as needed for the long-term stability of the Fund.

## Ratios and Supplemental Data

Series	Period	Total Net Asset Value (000's of \$)	Number of Units Outstanding (000's)	Management Expense Ratio (%) <sup>(1)</sup>	Management Expense Ratio before Waivers and Absorptions (%)	Trading Expense Ratio (%) <sup>(2)</sup>	Portfolio Turnover Rate (%) <sup>(3)</sup>	Net Asset Value per Unit (\$)
I	Mar. 2025	149,265	16,149	N/A	N/A	0.00	69.29	9.24
	Sept. 2024	165,070	17,902	N/A	N/A	0.00	241.65	9.22
	Sept. 2023	200,093	23,807	N/A	N/A	0.00	209.44	8.40
	Sept. 2022	366,018	41,959	N/A	N/A	0.00	216.45	8.72
	Sept. 2021	392,705	39,150	N/A	N/A	0.00	267.23	10.03
	Sept. 2020	215,683	20,410	N/A	N/A	0.05	336.55	10.57

(1) Management expense ratio is based on total expenses charged to the Fund (excluding commissions and other portfolio transaction costs, as well as withholding taxes) for the stated period and is expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average net asset value during the period. See Management Fees for more information.

(2) The trading expense ratio represents total commissions and other portfolio transaction costs expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average net asset value during the period.

(3) The portfolio turnover rate indicates how actively the Fund's sub-advisor manages its investment holdings. A portfolio turnover rate of 100% is equivalent to the Fund buying and selling all of the securities in its portfolio once in the course of the period. The higher the portfolio turnover rate in a period, the greater the trading costs payable by the Fund in the period, and the greater the chance of an investor receiving taxable capital gains in the period. There is not necessarily a relationship between a high turnover rate and the performance of a Fund.

## Management Fees

The Manager is responsible for the management, supervision and administration of the Fund. The Fund does not pay management fees for Series I units. Series I unitholders pay a negotiated fee directly to NEI Investments.

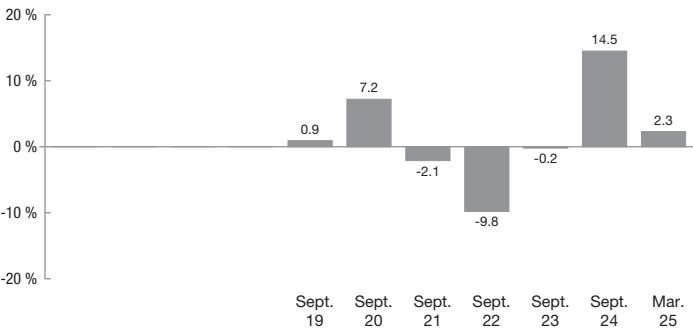
## Past Performance

The performance information provided will not necessarily indicate how the Fund will perform in the future. The information shown assumes that distributions made by the Fund in the periods shown were reinvested in additional units of the relevant series of the Fund. In addition, the information does not take into account sales, redemption, distribution or other optional charges that would have reduced returns or performance.

## Year-by-Year Returns

The following charts show the annual performance for each series of units of the Fund for each period shown and illustrate how the Fund's performance has varied from period to period with the exception of 2025, which shows the six-month return for the period ended March 31, 2025. For a series that has not been in existence for over ten years, the series' first financial year performance is presented since inception until the close of that financial year. The charts indicate how much an investment made on the first day of each financial period would have grown or decreased by the last day of each financial period. For the inception dates of the respective series, please refer to the Fund Facts document.

Series I



## Summary of Investment Portfolio as at March 31, 2025

**Total Net Asset Value: \$149,264,724**

Top Holdings	%	Sector Allocation	%
Government of Canada, 4.000%, 2026-08-01	6.7	Corporate Bonds	38.3
Government of Canada, 3.250%, 2034-12-01	5.4	Federal Bonds	25.5
Government of Canada, 1.500%, 2031-12-01	4.8	Provincial and Crown Corporations Bonds	25.1
Government of Canada, 2.750%, 2027-09-01	3.8	Mortgage-Backed Securities	9.8
Province of Ontario, 3.500%, 2043-06-02	3.2	Cash and Equivalents	1.1
Scotia Capital NHA, 3.800%, 2028-12-01	3.1	Foreign Government Bonds	0.2
Province of Ontario, 4.650%, 2041-06-02	3.0	Total	100.0
Province of Québec, 5.000%, 2041-12-01	2.5	The Summary of Investment Portfolio may change due to ongoing portfolio transactions of the investment fund. Updates are available quarterly.	
Government of Canada, 2.000%, 2032-06-01	2.3		
Province of Alberta, 3.450%, 2043-12-01	2.2		
Province of Québec, 3.500%, 2045-12-01	2.0		
Bank of Montreal, 4.420%, 2029-07-17	1.8		
Province of Québec, 5.750%, 2036-12-01	1.8		
Laurentian Bank of Canada NHA, 4.040%, 2029-02-01	1.6		
National Bank of Canada, 5.219%, 2028-06-14	1.5		
Province of Ontario, 2.900%, 2046-12-02	1.4		
Province of Québec, 4.400%, 2055-12-01	1.3		
Scotia Capital NHA, 3.850%, 2029-09-01	1.3		
Cash and Equivalents	1.1		
PSP Capital, Series G-4, 2.600%, 2032-03-01	1.0		
Scotiabank, 3.836%, floating rate from 2029-09-26, 2030-09-26	1.0		
Province of Québec, 5.000%, 2038-12-01	1.0		
Royal Bank of Canada, 4.000%, floating rate from 2029-10-17, 2030-10-17	1.0		
Scotia Capital NHA, 4.100%, 2029-06-01	1.0		
Province of Saskatchewan, 2.750%, 2046-12-02	0.9		
Total	56.7		