

## Comparison of select<sup>1</sup> Canadian SRI Mutual Fund Companies<sup>2</sup>

	Ethical Funds	Meritas	IA Clarington / Inhance Funds	AGF/ Acuity Funds	Phillips, Hagar & North Funds	RBC/Jantzi Funds	Investors Group / Summa Funds
<b>TRANSPARENCY</b>							
Produce a CSR Report to the GRI Standard <sup>3</sup> ?	Yes <sup>4</sup>	No	No <sup>5</sup>	No <sup>6</sup>	Yes <sup>7</sup>	Yes <sup>8</sup>	No <sup>9</sup>
Disclose a Code of Ethics for responsible investing?	Yes <sup>10</sup>	No	No	No	No <sup>11</sup>	No	No
Disclose ESG/Responsible Investing program results?	Yes <sup>12</sup>	Yes <sup>13</sup>	Yes <sup>14</sup>	No	No	No	No
Frequent update of ESG activities?	Yes <sup>15</sup>	Yes <sup>16</sup>	Yes <sup>17</sup>	No	No	No	No
<b>EVALUATION</b>							
In house ESG Evaluation?	Yes <sup>18</sup>	No <sup>19</sup>	Yes <sup>20</sup>	Yes <sup>21</sup>	No <sup>22</sup>	No <sup>23</sup>	No <sup>24</sup>
Size of in-house ESG Evaluation team	8 team members identified <sup>25</sup>	n/a	1 person identified <sup>26</sup>	1 person identified <sup>27</sup>	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>CORPORATE ENGAGEMENT</b>							
Corporate Engagement program?	Yes <sup>28</sup> (in house)	Yes <sup>29</sup> (through SHARE)	Yes <sup>30</sup>	No	No	No	No
Publicly available list of all companies engaged?	Yes <sup>31</sup> (Focus List updated quarterly)	No <sup>32</sup>	Yes <sup>33</sup>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Public disclosure of detailed ESG Proxy Voting Guidelines	Yes <sup>34</sup> (first to disclose)	Yes <sup>35</sup>	No <sup>36</sup>	No <sup>37</sup>	Yes <sup>38</sup>	No <sup>39</sup>	No <sup>40</sup>
Constant web based disclosure of voting results	Yes <sup>41</sup> (first to disclose)	Yes <sup>42</sup>	No <sup>43</sup>	No	Yes <sup>44</sup>	Yes <sup>45</sup>	Yes <sup>46</sup>
<b>PUBLIC POLICY &amp; STANDARDS</b>							
Disclose submissions to change regulatory environment	Yes <sup>47</sup>	No	No	No	No <sup>48</sup>	No <sup>49</sup>	No
<b>RESEARCH</b>							
Publish issues based ESG research?	Yes <sup>50</sup>	No	No	No	No	No	No

## Endnotes

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- 1 Included in the table are retail mutual funds pursuing a broad SRI mandate. Funds focused on a particular asset type (e.g. alternative energy) or strategy (e.g. climate change mitigation) are not included.
- 2 Based on publicly available information that we believe to be accurate as of October 31, 2012.
- 3 The GRI, or Global Reporting Initiative, is the most widely used framework for sustainability reporting in the world.
- 4 NEI Investments, the parent to the Ethical Funds brand, produces an annual, company-wide CSR Report. NEI's 2011 report qualified for GRI's Application Level B. See <https://www.neiinvestments.com/Pages/AboutNEI/NEIInvestments/CorporateSocialResponsibility.aspx>
- 5 Neither Industrial Alliance nor IA Clarington produces a company-wide CSR report. Vancity does but Vancity is the sub-advisor to the funds, not the parent fund company.
- 6 Neither Acuity, nor AGF (the parent company) produces a company-wide CSR report.
- 7 PH&N operates as a division of RBC Asset Management, a division of RBC. RBC produces an annual CSR report, which in 2011 qualified for GRI's Application Level C. See <http://www.rbc.com/responsibility/approach/reporting.html>
- 8 RBC produces an annual CSR report, which in 2011 qualified for GRI's Application Level C. See <http://www.rbc.com/responsibility/approach/reporting.html>
- 9 Investors Group produces a company-wide corporate citizenship report but it is not written in accordance with the GRI standard. See <http://www.investorsgroup.com/en/who-we-are/in-the-community>
- 10 Code of Conduct for Engaging External Parties is disclosed on the website. See <https://www.neiinvestments.com/Pages/ESGServices/HowWeWork/Accountability.aspx>
- 11 While PH&N has Client Principles and Business Principles relating to client engagement and business practices respectively, it does not have a code of ethics that is specific to responsible investing.
- 12 ESG Investing Program Annual Report is published on the website. Covers all four programs areas and is consistent with UNPRI Principles. See <https://www.neiinvestments.com/Pages/ESGServices/HowWeWork/Accountability.aspx>
- 13 Starting in 2012, Meritas began posting quarterly engagement reports on its website. See [http://www.qtrade.ca/oceanrock/products/regulatory\\_documents.jsp](http://www.qtrade.ca/oceanrock/products/regulatory_documents.jsp)
- 14 See, for example, <http://www.iaclarington.com/en/investor-resources/commentaries/inhance-funds/inhance-canadian-equity-sri-class.aspx>
- 15 Monthly *ESG@NEI* newsletter. See <https://www.neiinvestments.com/Pages/ESGServices/HowWeWork/SustainableInvesting.aspx>
- 16 In addition to its quarterly engagement reports, Meritas reports that it provides updates through its monthly advisor newsletters.
- 17 Updates are quarterly. See, for example, <http://www.iaclarington.com/en/investor-resources/commentaries/inhance-funds/inhance-canadian-equity-sri-class.aspx>
- 18 See <https://www.neiinvestments.com/Pages/ESGServices/EvaluatingCompanies.aspx>
- 19 Meritas publicly states that it outsources its evaluations. See [http://www.qtrade.ca/oceanrock/aboutus/about\\_meritas.jsp](http://www.qtrade.ca/oceanrock/aboutus/about_meritas.jsp)
- 20 IA Clarington's financial analysis is supplemented by a team of socially responsible sub-advisors at Vancity Investment Management. See [http://www.feelgoodinvesting.com/portfolio\\_advisors.aspx](http://www.feelgoodinvesting.com/portfolio_advisors.aspx)
- 21 Acuity uses an external scientific advisory council to assist its investment managers in selecting firms for its portfolios. Acuity also has some in-house staff dedicated to ESG Evaluations. See [https://www.agf.com/static/en/portfolio\\_managers/47327.html](https://www.agf.com/static/en/portfolio_managers/47327.html)
- 22 PH&N outsources its ESG analysis. See <https://www.phn.com/Default.aspx?tabid=94>
- 23 RBC outsources its ESG analysis. See <http://funds.rbcgam.com/investment-solutions/socially-responsible-investments/index.html>
- 24 Investors Group uses third-party screening services to assess companies against its socially responsible criteria. See, for example, Summa SRI Fund prospectus: <http://www.investorsgroup.com/en/products/invest/unit-trust-funds/investors-summa-sri-fund>
- 25 See 2011 ESG Investing Program Annual Report: <https://www.neiinvestments.com/Pages/ESGServices/HowWeWork/Accountability.aspx#/2/>
- 26 See [http://www.feelgoodinvesting.com/portfolio\\_advisors\\_the\\_people.aspx](http://www.feelgoodinvesting.com/portfolio_advisors_the_people.aspx)
- 27 See [http://www.agf.com/static/en/portfolio\\_managers/47327.html](http://www.agf.com/static/en/portfolio_managers/47327.html). The eight-person Scientific Advisory Council is external.
- 28 See <https://www.neiinvestments.com/Pages/ESGServices/EngagingCompanies.aspx>
- 29 See [http://www.qtrade.ca/oceanrock/products/regulatory\\_documents.jsp](http://www.qtrade.ca/oceanrock/products/regulatory_documents.jsp)
- 30 See [http://www.feelgoodinvesting.com/the\\_philosophy\\_encourage\\_progressive\\_companies.aspx](http://www.feelgoodinvesting.com/the_philosophy_encourage_progressive_companies.aspx). The engagement is carried out by IA Clarington's sub-advisor Vancity.

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- 31 See <https://www.neiinvestments.com/Pages/ESGServices/EngagingCompanies.aspx>. Includes Focus List dialogues and shareholder proposals filed.
- 32 Quarterly engagement report provides a “snapshot” of engagement activities. See [http://www.qtrade.ca/oceanrock/products/regulatory\\_documents.jsp](http://www.qtrade.ca/oceanrock/products/regulatory_documents.jsp)
- 33 A list of companies is found in the Management Report of Fund Performance (MRFP). See <http://www.iaclarington.com/en/ancillary/footer/regulatory-documents.aspx>
- 34 Extensive guidelines, 44 pages long, updated bi-annually and include environmental, social and governance issues. See <https://www.neiinvestments.com/Pages/ESGServices/EngagingCompanies/ProxyVoting.aspx>
- 35 Thorough guidelines, 16 pages long, include environmental, social and governance issues. See [http://www.qtrade.ca/oceanrock/products/regulatory\\_documents.jsp#pvg](http://www.qtrade.ca/oceanrock/products/regulatory_documents.jsp#pvg)
- 36 Guidelines are not disclosed but available upon request. See <http://www.iaclarington.com/en/ancillary/footer/proxy-voting.aspx>
- 37 Thorough guidelines overall, 20 pages long, but only a single paragraph is dedicated to social and environmental shareholder proposals. See [http://www.agf.com/static/en/products\\_services/47725.html](http://www.agf.com/static/en/products_services/47725.html)
- 38 Thorough guidelines, 23 pages long, include environmental, social and governance issues. See <https://www.phn.com/Default.aspx?tabid=662>
- 39 See <http://funds.rbcgam.com/investor-information/proxy-voting/rbc-funds-policy.html>
- 40 Proxy voting guidelines are available upon request, but not posted on the website.
- 41 See <https://www.neiinvestments.com/Pages/ESGServices/EngagingCompanies/ProxyVoting.aspx>
- 42 See [http://www.qtrade.ca/oceanrock/products/regulatory\\_documents.jsp#proxy](http://www.qtrade.ca/oceanrock/products/regulatory_documents.jsp#proxy)
- 43 Proxy voting record for any IA Clarington fund is available upon request. See <http://www.iaclarington.com/en/ancillary/footer/proxy-voting.aspx>
- 44 See <http://funds.rbcgam.com/investor-information/proxy-voting/rbc-funds-records.html>
- 45 See <http://funds.rbcgam.com/investor-information/proxy-voting/rbc-funds-records.html>
- 46 See [http://www.proxydisclosure.com/ProxyDisclosureWeb/wd.do?token=K48\\_1&t=288](http://www.proxydisclosure.com/ProxyDisclosureWeb/wd.do?token=K48_1&t=288)
- 47 See <https://www.neiinvestments.com/Pages/ESGServices/PublicPolicyAndStandards.aspx>
- 48 RBC reports on GRI indicator SO5 (public policy positions and participation in public policy development and lobbying) but does not disclose its policy positions. See <http://www.rbc.com/responsibility/approach/gri.html>
- 49 RBC reports on GRI indicator SO5 (public policy positions and participation in public policy development and lobbying) but does not disclose its policy positions. See <http://www.rbc.com/responsibility/approach/gri.html>
- 50 See <https://www.neiinvestments.com/Pages/ESGServices/Research.aspx>