# **AGF Elements Conservative Portfolio**

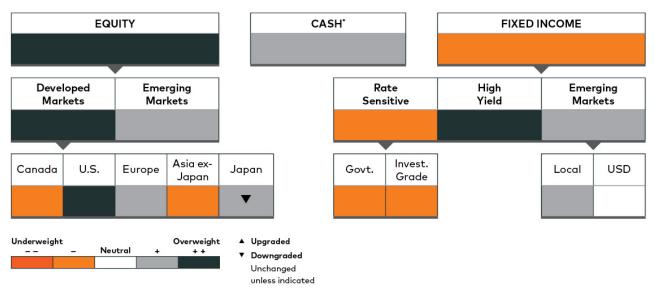


Q1 2022 Report January 2022

## AGF ASSET ALLOCATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

AGF Elements Portfolios were rebalanced on January 18th, 2022. The following diagram represents the views of AGF's Asset Allocation Committee, which influences the underweight and overweight positioning of the Portfolios.

# Q1-2022 market outlook – portfolio applications



<sup>\*</sup> neutral weight at 0%

## REBALANCE RATIONALE

#### **Fixed Income**

- Central bank activity will greatly impact rate-sensitive bonds
- The economic backdrop forms a supportive 'coupon clipping' market for high yield bonds
- Longer duration investment-grade corporate bonds are sensitive to rising yields
- Emerging markets offer higher yields but are susceptible to
  a global growth slowdown and persistent inflation

## Cash

 A moderate allocation to cash softens the impact of volatility and provides liquidity should tactical opportunities arise

### **Equities**

- Improvement in supply chain constraints and COVID setbacks could support equity growth
- Developed markets are preferred, though prospects for emerging markets are also positive
- Higher commodity prices support Canada, though other markets appear more attractive
- U.S. markets are adjusting for policy measures, but earnings and liquidity remain positive
- Europe is well positioned with its value-tilted markets and accommodative central bank
- Shipping bottlenecks will continue to impact Asia Pacific Markets (ex-Japan)
- Japan tends to excel during rising rate environments, though government policies could weigh negatively



#### **REBALANCING ACTIONS:**

Percent Target Allocations	Neutral Allocation	Previous Quarter	Current Quarter	Change
Canadian Equities	10%	10.0%	10.0%	
AGFiQ Canadian Dividend Income Fund 1		7.0%	7.0%	
AGF Canadian Small Cap Fund		1.0%	1.0%	
AGFiQ Canadian Equity ETF		2.0%	2.0%	
International/Global Equities	30%	32.0%	30.8%	-
AGF American Growth Fund		5.0%	4.8%	-0.2%
AGF Global Equity Fund		4.0%	4.0%	
AGF Global Dividend Fund		4.0%	4.0%	
AGF Emerging Markets Fund		3.0%	3.1%	0.1%
AGF European Equity Fund		1.0%	1.0%	
AGF Global Sustainable Growth Equity Fund		3.0%	2.9%	-0.1%
AGFiQ US Equity ETF		3.0%	2.0%	-1.0%
AGFiQ International Equity ETF		2.0%	2.0%	
AGFiQ Emerging Markets Equity ETF		1.0%	1.0%	
AGFiQ Global Infrastructure ETF		3.0%	3.0%	
AGFiQ Global ESG Factors ETF		3.0%	3.0%	
Specialty Funds	-	4.0%	5.1%	
AGFiQ US Market Neutral Anti-Beta CAD-Hedged ETF		3.0%	3.1%	0.1%
AGF Global Real Assets Fund/Class <sup>2</sup>		1.0%	2.0%	1.0%
Canadian Fixed Income	24%	17.0%	17.4%	
AGF Fixed Income Plus Fund		17.0%	17.4%	0.4%
Global Fixed Income	36%	30.0%	30.8%	
AGF Total Return Bond Fund		21.0%	21.5%	0.5%
AGF Global Corporate Bond Fund <sup>3</sup>		4.0%	4.1%	0.1%
AGF Emerging Markets Bond Fund		2.0%	2.1%	0.1%
AGFiQ Global Multi-Sector Bond ETF		3.0%	3.1%	0.1%
Tactical		7.0%	6.0%	
External ETF Sleeve		7.0%	6.0%	-1.0%

Source: AGF Asset Allocation Committee as at January 18, 2022.

FOR ADVISOR USE WITH INVESTORS

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> AGFiQ Dividend Income Fund was renamed AGFiQ Canadian Dividend Income Fund on April 30, 2021

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> On April 18, 2019, the Fund's investment objective was changed to offer increased flexibility to allocate the Fund's capital to real assets beyond those companies operating in the precious metals and natural resources sectors. Performance prior to this date would have been different had the current objective been in effect."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> AGF High Yield Bond Fund was renamed AGF Global Corporate Bond Fund on April 30, 2021. On April 19, 2012, the Fund's investment objective was changed to provide greater flexibility to invest in high-yield bonds issued or guaranteed by corporations around the world. Effective August 9, 2021, AGF Investments LLC is a subadvisor to AGF Global Corporate Bond Fund.

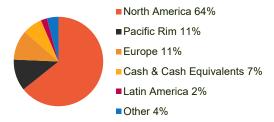


# **CURRENT ALLOCATIONS (as of January 18, 2022)**





# **Country Allocation**



## **Bond Type Allocation**



## **Equity Sector Allocation**



## **QUARTER REVIEW - Q4 2021**

### Fund Performance<sup>4</sup>

- For the quarter ended December 31, 2021, the AGF Elements Conservative Portfolio returned 2.5%, while the blended benchmark returned 2.7%. The blended benchmark is composed of 24% Bloomberg Canadian Aggregate Bond Index/30% MSCI All Country World Index/36% Bloomberg Global Aggregate Bond Index/10% S&P/TSX Composite Index.
- The Portfolio's benchmark asset mix is 60% fixed income and 40% equities. Relative to the benchmark, the Portfolio maintained an overweight to global equities and an underweight to fixed income assets. The AGF Asset Allocation Committee favours equities as the economic recovery continues to grind higher despite near-term hurdles.
- The Portfolio's category positioning was positive, as equities outperformed fixed income assets. Specifically, exposure to U.S. equities contributed to returns, while within fixed income the overweight to Canadian investment-grade bonds was additive, as domestic bonds generally outperformed global bonds. Exposure to emerging market debt and equities partially offset the positive effects, as higher interest rates in select EM countries and ongoing issues in China's property sector weighed negatively.
- During the quarter, exposure to Canadian and global sovereign bonds was reduced with proceeds reallocated to a sleeve of global equity ETFs. The rebalancing actions taken were generally positive, as the US equity ETF captured strong absolute returns on the back of positive earnings and company buybacks. However, the Japanese equity ETF recorded modest losses and trailed the fixed income returns, particularly Canadian sovereign bonds.
- The Portfolio's underlying funds were modestly negative as roughly two-thirds underperformed their respective benchmarks, while the other one-third outperformed. AGF American Growth Fund and AGFiQ Canadian Dividend Income Fund accounted for half of the Portfolio's return during the quarter, while most others were effectively

FOR ADVISOR USE WITH INVESTORS

\_

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> On January 1, 2015, the Portfolio's benchmark changed from a blended index of 20% S&P/TSX Composite Index / 20% MSCI All Country World Index / 50% FTSE Canada Universe Bond Index / 10% Bloomberg Global Aggregate Bond Index to a blended index of 10% S&P/TSX Composite Index / 30% MSCI All Country World Index / 36% FTSE Canada Universe Bond Index / 24% Bloomberg Global Aggregate Bond Index. Then on April 1, 2016, the Portfolio's benchmark changed to a blended index of 10% S&P/TSX Total Return Index / 30% MSCI All Country World Total Return Index / 24% FTSE Canada Universe Bond Total Return Index / 36% Bloomberg Global Aggregate Bond Index. Then on September 1, 2019, the Portfolio's benchmark changed to a blended benchmark of 24% Bloomberg Canadian Aggregate Bond Index / 30% MSCI All Country World Index / 36% Bloomberg Global Aggregate Bond Index / 30% MSCI All Country World Index / 36% Bloomberg Global Aggregate Bond Index / 10% S&P/TSX Composite Index. In all cases, the benchmark changes were applied from that date forward.



neutral to slightly positive. AGF Global Real Assets Class was among the leaders in absolute returns, however accounted for a smaller share of the total Portfolio.

Annualized Performance net of fees as of December 31, 2021 (% return)	PSD	3mo	6mo	YTD	1-Yr	3-Yr	5-Yr	10-Yr	Since PSD
AGF Elements Conservative Portfolio	11/25/2005	2.49	2.58	4.51	4.51	6.37	3.85	4.83	3.66
AGF American Growth Class	04/18/1957	10.50	10.80	20.66	20.66	24.37	18.22	18.21	9.32
AGF Canadian Small Cap Fund	02/15/1996	2.32	4.41	19.99	19.99	19.50	7.95	6.64	8.02
AGF Emerging Markets Fund	03/11/1994	-2.76	-9.70	-5.30	-5.30	5.35	5.49	4.14	9.03
AGF Emerging Markets Bond Fund	11/02/2010	-2.14	-2.83	-6.79	-6.79	-0.15	0.78	3.27	2.70
AGF European Equity Class	04/11/1994	3.85	5.85	17.45	17.45	7.82	3.89	5.91	1.88
AGF Fixed Income Plus Fund	11/30/1998	0.62	-0.18	-3.08	-3.08	4.13	2.69	2.47	3.95
AGF Global Dividend Fund	08/09/2007	6.27	6.54	14.33	14.33	10.91	7.18	10.31	6.89
AGF Global Equity Fund	11/28/1994	3.12	3.44	12.46	12.46	10.91	6.56	10.25	7.20
AGF Global Real Assets Class	04/19/2000	7.42	7.49	13.96	13.96	10.15	-1.27	-3.23	5.30
AGF Global Sustainable Growth Equity Fund	12/31/1991	7.12	11.41	16.60	16.60	23.62	15.68	12.90	7.42
AGF Global Corporate Bond Fund	02/08/1994	-0.99	-1.92	1.05	1.05	5.01	3.10	4.08	4.86
AGF Total Return Bond Fund	06/15/1994	-0.73	-0.73	-2.05	-2.05	2.03	1.67	3.58	5.04
AGFiQ Canadian Dividend Income Fund	04/14/2003	8.03	9.36	23.69	23.69	14.28	8.31	7.60	8.75
AGFiQ Canadian Equity ETF	01/30/2017	7.97	8.29	25.46	25.46	15.83			8.90
AGFiQ Emerging Markets Equity ETF	01/30/2017	-0.95	-6.35	-3.57	-3.57	3.89			4.72
AGFiQ International Equity ETF	01/30/2017	3.14	5.85	11.36	11.36	8.03			7.29
AGFiQ US Equity ETF	01/30/2017	10.87	12.31	24.98	24.98	19.68			14.44
AGFiQ Global ESG Factors ETF	02/12/2018	5.68	8.46	17.12	17.12	17.04			12.70
AGFiQ Global Infrastructure ETF	02/12/2018	5.74	8.91	19.85	19.85	9.49			8.89
AGFiQ Global Multi-Sector Bond ETF	10/22/2018	0.37	0.42	-0.35	-0.35	5.43			5.46
AGFiQ US Market Neutral Anti-Beta CAD-Hedged ETF	10/7/2019	3.13	4.08	-8.02	-8.02				-12.38

Source: AGF Investments Inc. Performance is based on series MF of funds.

Past performance is not indicative of future results.



## For more information, please contact your financial representative.

This document is intended for advisors to support the assessment of investment suitability for investors. Investors are expected to consult their advisor to determine suitability for their investment objectives and portfolio.

For more information regarding the underlying funds, please refer to AGF.com/Funds.

For up-to-date information, visit AGF.com/Elements.

The commentaries contained herein are provided as a general source of information based on information available as of Dec 31, 2021 provided by AGF Investments Inc. and are not intended to be comprehensive investment advice applicable to the circumstances of the individual. Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy in these commentaries at the time of publication, however, accuracy cannot be guaranteed. Market conditions may change and AGF Investments accepts no responsibility for individual investment decisions arising from the use or reliance on the information contained here.

All World Tax Advantage Group is a mutual fund corporation that currently offers approximately 20 different classes of securities. In addition to fund diversification by investment style, geography and market capitalization, a key benefit of investing in any of the classes within the group is the possibility of sharing incurred expenses (and losses) of the combined structure, potentially offsetting income earnings to minimize chance of a dividend declaration. For a more detailed explanation, please see <u>AGF.com/disclaimers</u>.

AGF ETFs are ETFs offered by AGF Investments Inc. ETFs are listed and traded on organized Canadian exchanges and may only be bought and sold through licensed dealers. Commissions, trailing commissions, management fees and expenses all may be associated with investment fund investments. Please read the prospectus before investing. The indicated rates of return are the historical annual compounded total returns including changes in share or unit value and reinvestment of all dividends or distributions and do not take into account sales, redemption, distribution or optional charges or income taxes payable by any securityholder that would have reduced returns. Investment funds are not guaranteed, their values change frequently and past performance may not be repeated.

The MSCI information may only be used for your internal use, may not be reproduced or redisseminated in any form and may not be used as a basis for, or a component of, any financial instruments, products or indices. None of the MSCI information is intended to constitute investment advice or a recommendation to make (or refrain from making) any kind of investment decision and may not be relied on as such. Historical data and analysis should not be taken as an indication or guarantee of any future performance analysis, forecast or prediction. The MSCI information is provided on an "as is" basis and the user of this information assumes the entire risk of any use made of this information. MSCI, each of its affiliates and each other person involved in or related to compiling, computing or creating any MSCI information (collectively, the "MSCI Parties") expressly disclaims all warranties (including, without limitation, any warranties of originality, accuracy, completeness, timeliness, non-infringement, merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose) with respect to this information. Without limiting any of the foregoing, in no event shall any MSCI Party have any liability for any direct, indirect, special, incidental, punitive, consequential (including, without limitation, lost profits) or any other damages. (<a href="https://www.msci.com">www.msci.com</a>).

"Bloomberg®" and Bloomberg Global Aggregate Bond Index/Bloomberg Canadian Aggregate Bond Index are service marks of Bloomberg Finance L.P. and its affiliates, including Bloomberg Index Services Limited ("BISL"), the administrator of the index (collectively, "Bloomberg"), and have been licensed for use for certain purposes by AGF Management Limited and its subsidiaries. Bloomberg is not affiliated with AGF Management Limited or its subsidiaries, and Bloomberg does not approve, endorse, review, or recommend AGF Elements Conservative Portfolio. Bloomberg does not guarantee the timeliness, accurateness, or completeness, of any data or information relating to AGF Elements Conservative Portfolio



All rights in the FTSE Canada Universe Bond (the "Index") vest in FTSE International Limited ("FTSE"). "FTSE®" is a trade mark of the London Stock Exchange Group of companies and is used by FTSE under license. AGF Elements Conservative Portfolio has been developed solely by AGF Investments Inc. The Index is calculated by FTSE or its agent. FTSE and its licensors are not connected to and do not sponsor, advise, recommend, endorse or promote AGF Elements Conservative Portfolio and do not accept any liability whatsoever to any person arising out of (a) the use of, reliance on or any error in the Index or (b) investment in or operation of AGF Elements Conservative Portfolio. FTSE makes no claim, prediction, warranty or representation either as to the results to be obtained from AGF Elements Conservative Portfolio or the suitability of the Index for the purpose to which it is being put by AGF Investments Inc.

AGF Investments is a group of wholly owned subsidiaries of AGF Management Limited, a Canadian reporting issuer. The subsidiaries included in AGF Investments are AGF Investments Inc. (AGFI), AGF Investments America Inc. (AGFA), AGF Investments LLC (AGFUS) and AGF International Advisors Company Limited (AGFIA). AGFA and AGFUS are registered advisors in the U.S. AGFI is a registered as a portfolio manager across Canadian securities commissions. AGFIA is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland and registered with the Australian Securities & Investments Commission. The subsidiaries that form AGF Investments manage a variety of mandates comprised of equity, fixed income and balanced assets.

This report may not be reproduced (in whole or in part), transmitted or made available to any other person without the prior written permission of AGF Investments Inc.

The "AGF" logo and ® "AGF Elements" and "Elements" are registered trademarks of AGF Management Limited and used under licence

Publication date: Feb 7, 2022