## **Desjardins** Global Total Return Bond Fund

#### **Desjaroins** Wealth Management

Investments

### QUARTERLY COMMENTARY AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2020



#### PORTFOLIO MANAGER: PGIM Fixed Income

INCEPTION DATE: January 12, 2004

CIFSC CATEGORY\*: Global Fixed Income

#### **Contributors to performance**

- $\rightarrow$  A bull-flattener in European rates contributed to performance.
- → Sector overweights to Developed Sovereigns and Emerging Sovereigns added to performance.
- → Security selection in IG Corporates, HY Corporates, Developed Sovereigns, and Emerging Agencies/Supras also boosted performance. Overweights in Italy, Petrobras, and Loxam SAS were the largest contributors.

#### **Detractors from performance**

- $\rightarrow$  Curve positioning in US Rates hurt performance.
- → Security selection in developed CMBS hurt performance. Barclays Commercial Mortgage securities was the largest detractor

#### Major changes to portfolio during the period

- $\rightarrow\,$  Duration / Curve: Increased our duration exposure in US Rates.
  - USD-denominated bonds have looked increasingly attractive in Q3 given recent interest rate levels. We've gradually increased US rate exposure accordingly.
- → Sectors: Increased our spread duration in Emerging and Developed Sovereigns.
  - We maintain our belief that European Peripheral and select emerging market sovereigns offer attractive yields.

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# Wealth Management

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#### Major changes to portfolio during the period (cont'd)

- $\rightarrow$  Credit quality: Increased our exposure to A-rated securities.
  - Continue to maintain an underweight to AA and AAA securities, we find the value of lower quality IG securities to be more attractive (consequently, have maintained a large overweight to BBB securities as well).

\*CIFSC refers to Canadian Investment Funds Standards Committee. The CIFSC has the mandate to standardize the classification of mutual funds in Canada. http://www.cifsc.org/.

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