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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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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