

**HEPATITIS C
CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT
1986-1990**

YEAR 25

**REPORT OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE
FOR THE PERIOD ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024**

TAB

INDEX

1 Report of the Joint Committee – Year 25 (2024)

Schedules

- A Audited Financial Statements of the 1986-1990 Hepatitis C Fund for year ending December 31, 2024
- B Annual Report of the Administrator, for the period ending December 31, 2024
- C Epiq 2024 Reconciliation
- D Concentra Trust – Information Brief
- E MFS Investment Management Canada Ltd – Annual certificate of compliance for year ended December 31, 2024
- F MFS Investment Management Canada Ltd – Low volatility equity portfolio review for year ending December 31, 2024
- G TD Asset Management Inc. – Annual Certificate of Compliance for year ended December 31, 2024
- H TD Asset Management Inc. – Portfolio Review of Trust Fund, for year ending December 31, 2024
- I Eckler Ltd. – Report of Activities
- J Eckler Ltd. – Hepatitis C Settlement Trust Fund Investment Summary as at December 31, 2024
- K Summary of the Joint Committee’s Work During Twenty-Fifth Year of Operations (2024)
- L Fees and Disbursements of the Joint Committee
- M Report of Fund Counsel
- N Report and Fees of Referees and Arbitrators

January 1, 1986 to July 1, 1990

HEPATITIS C CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT

YEAR 25

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE

FOR THE PERIOD ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024

TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	1
OVERVIEW	3
2024 EXPENSES	4
A. REGULAR BENEFIT PLANS WORK	4
B. FINANCIAL SUFFICIENCY WORK	6
C. SPECIAL DISTRIBUTION BENEFITS WORK.....	7
D. LATE CLAIMS BENEFITS WORK.....	8
SERVICE PROVIDERS - DETAILED REVIEW.....	9
DELOITTE LLP	9
EPIQ CLASS ACTION SERVICES CANADA INC.....	10
MFS INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT	11
CONCENTRA TRUST	12
TD ASSET MANAGEMENT INC.	12
PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS LLP	12
COHEN HAMILTON STEGER & CO. INC. — PAULA FREDERICK	13
ECKLER LTD.	13
JOINT COMMITTEE	14
FUND COUNSEL.....	15
REFEREES AND ARBITRATORS.....	16
THE MONITOR	17
CANADIAN BLOOD SERVICES	17
HÉMA-QUÉBEC.....	18
2025 BUDGETS	18

Annual Report – YEAR 25 (2024)

January 1, 1986 – July 1, 1990 Hepatitis C Class Action Settlement

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The 1986-1990 Hepatitis C Settlement (the “**Settlement**”) completed its twenty-fifth year of operations on December 31, 2024.
2. In 2024, the Administrator received 82 new claims¹ under the Transfused HCV Plan and the Hemophiliac HCV Plan (collectively, the “**Regular Benefit Plans**”) as follows:
 - 3 Primarily Infected Transfused Claims
 - 67 Family Member Transfused Claims
 - 12 Family Member Hemophiliac Claims
3. In 2024, the Administrator approved 2 claims under the Recent HCV Diagnosis court-approved protocol exception to the First Claim Deadline of June 30, 2010 (“**First Claim Deadline**”). It approved 15 new claims under the other court-approved protocol exception to the First Claim Deadline.
4. In 2024, the Administrator paid about \$25.0² million in claims under the Regular Benefit Plans,³ bringing the total benefits paid under the Regular Benefit Plans since inception to about \$1,147,196,235.⁴
5. In 2024, the Administrator paid about \$9.7 million in Special Distribution Benefits,⁵ bringing the total benefits paid under the Special Distribution Benefits since inception to about \$193,803,851. As of December 31, 2024, approximately \$1,929,696 in special distribution and other payments have been

In 2024, the Settlement paid approximately:

\$25.0 million under the Regular Benefit Plans

\$9.7 million in Special Distribution Benefits

\$1.4 million under the HCV Late Claims

¹ In 2023, 109 new claims under the Regular Benefit Plans were received. In 2022, 44 new claims were received.

² The numbers in this report have been rounded. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

³ In 2023, about \$25.0 million was paid out for claims under the Regular Benefit Plans. In 2022, about \$24.9 million was paid.

⁴ In 2023, about \$1,122,229,297 had been paid. (This was erroneously reported as \$1,222,229,297 in the 2023 Annual Report.)

⁵ In 2023, about \$79.7 million was paid out in Special Distribution Benefits. In 2022, about \$3.1 million was paid.

reissued and cashed by “missing” claimants, executors and successors who have been located as a result of the various initiatives proposed by the Joint Committee and approved by the Courts.

6. In 2024, the Administrator received 40 new late claim requests under the HCV Late Claims Benefit Plan. Referees approved 42 requests⁶ to submit a late claim and did not deny any such requests.⁷ The Administrator approved 14 late claims⁸ including the following:

- 2 Primarily Infected Transfused claims
- 10 Family Member Transfused claims
- 1 Estate Transfused claim
- 1 Family Member Hemophiliac claim

About \$1.4 million in Late Claims Benefits was paid in 2024,⁹ bringing the total benefits paid under the HCV Late Claims Benefit Plan since inception to about \$20,034,837.

7. In summary, the Administrator paid about \$36.0 million to claimants in 2024¹⁰ under all Plans, a 66.4% decrease over 2023. Payments were elevated in 2023 because most of the 2019 Special Distribution Benefits approved by the Courts in May 2023 were paid that year.

8. Since the Settlement’s inception in 1999, the Administrator has paid about \$1.361 billion¹¹ to claimants in response to about 15,373 approved claims.

9. Financial Statements of the Trust Fund attached at **Schedule A** indicate that the Trustee held assets of about \$950.2 million while the unpaid liability of the provincial and territorial governments was about \$64.2 million (including interest), for a total of about \$1.014 billion available to satisfy class members’ claims as at December 31, 2024.

*Since inception, about
\$1.361 billion in benefits
has been paid to **15,373**
approved claims.*

⁶ Including a few requests received in 2024. In 2023, 46 requests were approved. In 2022, 17 requests were approved.

⁷ In 2023, 3 requests were denied. In 2022, no requests were denied.

⁸ In 2023, 16 late claims were approved. In 2022, 16 late claims were approved.

⁹ In 2023, about \$2.6 million was paid out in Late Claims Benefits. In 2022, about \$2.0 million was paid out.

¹⁰ In 2023, the Administrator paid out about \$107.3 million in total in benefits under all Plans compared to about \$29.9 million paid out in 2022.

¹¹ Payments of about \$21.4 million have been made to HIV secondarily infected claimants under EAP2.

10. In 2024, there was a 6.2% return on the invested assets held by the Trustee, which was an increase over the prior year.¹² This increase was mainly due to the high rate of return on the low volatility equity portfolio. The invested assets increased by about \$21.9 million or 2.4% net of the payments out.¹³
11. The expenses incurred to administer the Settlement in 2024 totaled approximately \$3.2 million for all service providers. This represents a decrease of about 47.5% over 2023, when expenses were substantially higher due to the 2019 financial sufficiency hearings and administration costs for payment of the 2019 Special Distribution Benefits that were awarded.¹⁴

OVERVIEW

12. This is the twenty-fifth Annual Report of the Joint Committee to the Supreme Court of British Columbia, the Superior Court of Justice for Ontario, and the Superior Court of Quebec (collectively, the “**Courts**”) on the status of the Settlement and its administration.
13. In 2024, the Joint Committee was comprised of Richard Fyfe, K.C., Michel Savonitto, Harvey T. Strosberg, K.C., and Kathryn Podrebarac.¹⁵
14. There are three notional accounts of the Trust Fund: The HCV Regular Benefit Account, the HCV Special Distribution Benefit Account and the HCV Late Claims Benefit Account.¹⁶ The work performed, and expenses incurred by service providers are categorized and charged to the applicable account. The provincial and territorial governments do not contribute to claims or expenses paid from the HCV Special Distribution Benefit Account or the HCV Late Claims Benefit Account.
15. The activities of the service providers to the settlement under the three categories – Regular Benefits, Special Distribution Benefits and Late Claims Benefits - are discussed

¹² In 2023, the overall return on invested assets was 5.1%. In 2022, the overall return on invested assets was -7.67%.

¹³ In 2023, the invested assets decreased by about 6% net of payments out. In 2022, the invested assets decreased by about 9.97% net of payments out.

¹⁴ In 2023, the administration expenses totaled approximately \$5.7 million after adjustments. In 2022, the administration expenses totaled approximately \$3.4 million.

¹⁵ Mr. Fyfe was appointed by Order of the Supreme Court of British Columbia. Mr. Savonitto was appointed by the Order of the Superior Court of Quebec and has been assisted throughout by Martine Trudeau. Mr. Strosberg was appointed by Order of the Superior Court of Justice for Ontario and has been assisted throughout by Heather Rumble Peterson. Ms. Podrebarac was appointed by Orders of each of the Courts.

¹⁶ The three notional accounts of the Trust Fund were established by the Courts in December 2017.

under the appropriate headings below and in their attached reports. Their fees and disbursements are reconciled to their court-approved budgets, where applicable.

2024 EXPENSES

16. The budgeting process for 2024 commenced in late 2023. Annual budget approval orders were obtained from the Courts in January 2024, except for a budget relating to the Late Claims Benefit Plan notice campaign, which was approved by the Courts on applications filed separately by the Joint Committee in August 2024.
17. The actual 2024 fees and disbursements of each service provider for each category of work are set out below. All amounts are rounded to the nearest dollar. A detailed review of the activities and expenses of each service provider is found in the next section.

A. Regular Benefit Plans Work

18. The total fees of the service providers supervised by the Joint Committee for work relating to the Regular Benefit Plans in 2024 were \$2,348,373 plus taxes, which was \$156,480 under their approved budgets/estimates.
19. The following chart summarizes the budget/estimates versus actual expenses for 2024 for the service providers supervised by the Joint Committee for Regular Benefit Plans work plus taxes.

SERVICE PROVIDER	2024 BUDGET	2024 ACTUAL	VARIANCE FROM BUDGET	NOTE
DELOITTE				
Audit, financial statements fees (exclusive of travel expenses)	\$101,400 ¹⁷	\$101,400	-	See paras. 30-33 and Schedule A
Special Projects	\$25,000	-	(\$25,000)	
EPIQ				
Administration of the Regular Benefit Plans and EAP2 fees	Fixed fee of \$13,500 and \$391,453	\$13,500 and \$391,453	-	

¹⁷ The 2024 budget for Deloitte was \$130,000 for completing the audit and preparing financial statements for all three accounts of the Trust (\$101,400 for Regular Benefits, \$12,200 for Special Distribution Benefits, \$6,400 for Late Claims Benefits, and \$10,000, if required, for testing the remaining 2019 Special Distribution Benefit payments).

SERVICE PROVIDER	2024 BUDGET	2024 ACTUAL	VARIANCE FROM BUDGET	NOTE
Activity Level Adjustment	As incurred, subject to a +/- 10% variance	-	-	See paras. 35-38, 41 and Schedules B and C
Disbursements	At cost	\$9,169	-	
Third Party Expenses	As incurred	-	-	
Appeal Expenses	As incurred	-	-	
Special Projects fees	\$100,000	\$63,929	(\$36,071)	
Disbursements	At cost	\$356	-	
MFS				
Investment Services fees	As per Schedule 1 of the Investment Guidelines Estimate of \$443,000	\$486,937	\$43,937	See paras. 43-47 and Schedules D and E
CONCENTRA				
Trustee & Custodian Services fees	\$182,000	\$178,040	(\$3,960)	See paras. 48-50 and Schedule F
TDAM				
Investment Services fees	As per Schedule 1 of the Investment Guidelines Estimate of \$130,000	\$114,302	(\$15,698)	See paras. 51-55 and Schedules G and H
PWC				
Income Loss annual computer software updates fees	\$16,000	\$17,120	\$1,120	See paras. 56-57
PAULA FREDERICK/COHEN HAMILTON STEGER & CO. INC.				
Specialized Income Loss analysis fees	\$40,000	\$17,681	(\$22,319)	See paras. 58-59
ECKLER				
Actuarial Services & Investment Review fees	\$100,000	\$84,863	(\$15,137)	See paras. 60-65 and Schedules I and J
Special Projects fees	\$62,500	\$20,244	(\$42,256)	

SERVICE PROVIDER	2024 BUDGET	2024 ACTUAL	VARIANCE FROM BUDGET	NOTE
JOINT COMMITTEE				
Regular administration and supervision work fees	\$900,000	\$858,904	(\$41,096)	See paras. 68-69 and Schedules K and L
Disbursements	\$75,000	\$14,173	(\$60,827)	

20. The following service providers, who are not supervised by the Joint Committee, also provided services in 2024 relating to the Regular Benefit Plans. They were paid the following amounts (exclusive of taxes) pursuant to applicable orders or the tariff approved by the Courts.

SERVICE PROVIDER	2024 ACTUAL	NOTE
Fund Counsel		
Fees Disbursements	\$58,037 \$118	See para. 78 and Schedule M
Referees & Arbitrators		
Fees Disbursements	\$20,235 -	See para. 81 and Schedule N
Court Monitor		
Fees Disbursements	\$7,230 \$1,017	See para. 84

B. Financial Sufficiency Work

21. Section 10.01(1)(i) of the Settlement Agreement requires the financial sufficiency of the Trust Fund to be assessed every three years.
22. In 2024, the total fees of the service providers supervised by the Joint Committee for work relating to the financial sufficiency were \$60,134 which was \$190,489 under budget.

SERVICE PROVIDER	2024 BUDGET	2024 ACTUAL	VARIANCE FROM BUDGET	NOTE
ECKLER				
2022 Financial Sufficiency Review - Phase 1 fees	\$175,161 (Unused portion of the \$797,000 budget)	\$39,116	(\$136,045)	See para. 66

SERVICE PROVIDER	2024 BUDGET	2024 ACTUAL	VARIANCE FROM BUDGET	NOTE
JOINT COMMITTEE				
2022 Financial Sufficiency Review - Phase 1 fees	\$75,462 (Unused portion of the \$500,000 budget)	\$21,018	(\$54,444)	See para. 70 and Schedules K and L
Disbursements	\$4,520 (Unused portion of the \$10,000 budget)	\$665	(\$3,855)	

C. Special Distribution Benefits Work

23. The Courts approved budgets for the following service providers in connection with Special Distribution Benefits. Their actual fees and disbursements (exclusive of taxes) are indicated below.
24. In 2024, the total fees of the service providers supervised by the Joint Committee for work relating to Special Distribution Benefits were \$135,100 which was \$24,954 under budget/fee schedule.

SERVICE PROVIDER	2024 BUDGET	2024 ACTUAL	VARIANCE FROM BUDGET	NOTE
DELOITTE				
Special Distribution fees	\$12,200	\$12,200	-	See para. 32
EPIQ				
Prospective payments – fixed fee	\$5,000	\$5,000	-	See para. 39 and Schedule C
Retroactive payments – activity-based fee schedule	Per fee schedule ¹⁸	\$25,854	-	
Disbursements	At cost	-	-	
ECKLER				
Special Distribution fees	\$17,000	\$18,006	\$1,006	See para. 67

¹⁸ The Administrator's fees for making *retroactive* Special Distribution Benefits payments are based on a fee schedule approved by the Courts in the Epiq appointment/budget orders.

SERVICE PROVIDER	2024 BUDGET	2024 ACTUAL	VARIANCE FROM BUDGET	NOTE
JOINT COMMITTEE				
Special Distribution fees	\$100,000	\$74,040	(\$25,960)	See para.71 and Schedules K and L

D. Late Claims Benefits Work

25. In December 2017, the Courts approved an HCV Late Claims Benefit Plan.
26. In 2024, the Courts approved budgets for the following service providers in connection with Late Claims Benefits. Their actual fees and disbursements (exclusive of taxes) are indicated below.
27. In 2024, the total fees of the service providers supervised by the Joint Committee for work relating to Late Claims Benefits were \$289,198 which was \$126,703 over budget/fee schedule.

SERVICE PROVIDER	2024 BUDGET	2024 ACTUAL	VARIANCE FROM BUDGET	NOTE
DELOITTE				
Late Claims fees	\$6,400	\$6,400	-	See para. 32
EPIQ				
Prospective payments – fixed fee	\$5,000	\$5,000	-	See para. 40 and Schedule C
Retroactive payments – activity-based fee schedule	Per fee schedule	\$68,095	-	
Disbursements	At cost	\$17,882	-	
ECKLER				
Late Claims fees	\$8,000	\$7,135	(\$865)	See para. 67
JOINT COMMITTEE				
Late Claims fees	\$75,000	\$202,568	\$127,568	See para.71 and Schedules K and L
Disbursements	\$5,000	\$264	(\$4,736)	

28. The following service providers, who are not supervised by the Joint Committee, also provided services in 2024 relating to appeals filed under the HCV Late Claims Benefit Plan. They were paid the following amounts (exclusive of taxes) pursuant to applicable orders or the tariff approved by the Courts.

SERVICE PROVIDER	2024 ACTUAL	NOTE
Fund Counsel		
Fees	\$108,573	See para. 78 and Schedule M
Disbursements	\$1,489	
Referees & Arbitrators		
Fees	\$43,895	See para. 81 and Schedule N
Disbursements	\$1,559	

29. The Courts also approved a separate budget relating to a social media campaign to publicize the March 31, 2025 deadline for submitting a completed late claim request form under the HCV Late Claims Benefit Plan. In particular, the Courts approved a budget of \$65,000 plus taxes for Jelly Marketing, the social media marketing firm, of which \$36,850 was expended in 2024 and the balance was carried into 2025 for the completion of the campaign. The Courts also approved the Administrator charging a flat fee for responding to a call and registering a claimant in response to the campaign.

SERVICE PROVIDERS - DETAILED REVIEW

DELOITTE LLP

30. Deloitte LLP (“**Deloitte**”) was appointed auditor of the Trust Fund pursuant to orders of the Courts.
31. In addition to the audit of the Trust Fund, Deloitte prepares the financial statements on behalf of the Joint Committee. Attached as **Schedule A** is a copy of the Financial Statements prepared and audited by Deloitte for the year ended December 31, 2024.
32. Deloitte’s 2024 budget for the audit and for preparation of the financial reports was \$130,000 plus travel expenses and taxes for completing the audit and preparing financial

statements for all three accounts of the Trust to be allocated as follows: \$101,400 for the Regular Benefits, \$12,200 for the Special Distribution Benefits, \$6,400 for the Late Claims Benefits, and \$10,000, if required, for testing the remaining 2019 Special Distribution Benefit payments. The total amount invoiced by Deloitte for these services exclusive of taxes was \$120,000.

33. The Courts also approved a special projects budget of \$25,000 plus taxes for Deloitte, which was not expended.
34. Deloitte's fees were paid on approval of the Joint Committee pursuant to the 2024 budget approval orders.

EPIQ CLASS ACTION SERVICES CANADA INC.

35. Epiq Class Action Services Canada Inc. ("**Epiq**") was appointed Administrator by orders of the Courts for a two-year term commencing January 1, 2019. The Courts continued its appointment and, most recently, approved administration budgets for 2024 and 2025.
36. The Report of the Administrator is attached as **Schedule B**.
37. Epiq's budget for services performed in connection with the Regular Benefit Plans provides for a flat administration fee subject to adjustment if certain activity levels increase or decrease by more than 10% per annum, as applicable. In addition to the flat fee subject to adjustments, there is a flow-through of certain out-of-pocket expenditures incurred by the Administrator relating to appeals and expert fees.
38. **Schedule C** is the Payment Reconciliation for Epiq for 2024. It reflects payments to Epiq in accordance with its budget of \$404,953 relating to the administration of the Regular Benefit Plans, which were paid on approval of the Joint Committee pursuant to the appointment and budget approval orders. Epiq's cumulative activity level in 2024 was within the 10% per annum permitted variance. Epiq incurred disbursements of \$9,169 under the Regular Benefit Plans.
39. Epiq's 2024 budget for administering Special Distribution Benefits on a prospective or go-forward basis was a flat fee of \$5,000. Its fees for making retroactive Special Distribution Benefits payments are based on a fee schedule approved in its appointment/budget orders. Epiq's invoiced fees for administering these benefits in 2024 totalled \$30,854 plus taxes, comprised of the \$5,000 flat fee for prospective benefits and \$25,854 in fees for the administration of retroactive payments. These amounts were paid on approval of the Joint Committee pursuant to the appointment and budget approval orders.

40. Epiq's fee schedule for administering Late Claim Benefits was approved by the Courts in its appointment/budget orders. Epiq's fees in 2024 were \$73,095 plus taxes, comprised of a \$5,000 flat fee and \$68,095 of activity-based fees and it incurred expenses of \$17,882 plus taxes. These amounts were paid on approval of the Joint Committee pursuant to the appointment/budget approval orders.
41. A special projects budget of \$100,000 was also approved for the Administrator for 2024. Epiq's work relating to special projects in 2024, which amounted to \$63,929 plus taxes, is detailed in Schedule C and included the following: Class database coding updates and notice mailout following the approval of the recent protocol for compensation of accompanying family members to HCV medical appointments; the Locator project, which locates claimants with outdated contact information who are owed payments; and handling the remaining high volume of calls and emails relating to the 2019 Special Distribution Benefits payment process. Epiq also incurred expenses of \$356 plus taxes relating to these special projects.
42. In 2024, Epiq reimbursed the Trust Fund (by the application of credits against 2024 fees) the sum of \$99,375 that was identified in the 2023 Annual Report as owing on account of fee overpayments and benefit overpayments that could not be recouped from claimants. Most outstanding benefit overpayments that could be recouped from claimants were recovered in 2024. However the amount of \$720 remains to be recovered from four claimants by means of deduction when fresh benefits become payable to them.

MFS INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

43. In January 2023, MFS Investment Management Canada Limited ("**MFS**") was appointed investment manager for the low volatility equity portfolio pursuant to orders of the Courts under terms of appointment approved by the Courts.
44. Attached as **Schedule D** is MFS's certificate of compliance for the investments under its management during 2024.
45. MFS's fees for investment services are governed by the court-approved Fee Schedule at Appendix 1 to the Investment Guidelines. Its fees depend on the value of the assets under management. Based on a projected rate of return on the assets under its management, MFS estimated its fees in 2024 would be \$443,000.
46. As the rate of return on the invested assets in 2024 was higher than projected, MFS's actual fees for 2024 were \$486,937 plus taxes, which were paid pursuant to the Investment Guidelines.

47. Attached as **Schedule E** is the low volatility portfolio review prepared by MFS.

CONCENTRA TRUST

48. In 2022, the Courts appointed Concentra Trust as successor Trustee and Custodian and approved Concentra Trust's appointment of CIBC Mellon Global Securities Services Company to act as its subcustodian.
49. Attached as **Schedule F** is Concentra Trust's Information Brief for the Hepatitis C Trust Fund for 2024.
50. The Courts approved a budget of \$182,000 plus taxes for Trustee and Custodian services for 2024. The actual amount charged for these services was \$178,040 plus taxes. It was paid on approval of the Joint Committee pursuant to the budget approval orders.

TD ASSET MANAGEMENT INC.

51. TD Asset Management Inc. ("**TDAM**") was appointed Investment Manager of the Trust Fund pursuant to the Orders of the Courts and, since April 1st, 2023, it remains responsible for all of the investments except for the low volatility portfolio.
52. Attached as **Schedule G** is the Confirmation that TDAM has complied with the court-approved Investment Guidelines.
53. TDAM's fees for investment services are governed by the court-approved Fee Schedule at Appendix 1 to the Investment Guidelines. Its fees depend on the value of the assets in its various investment portfolios from time to time. For 2024, TDAM provided a fee estimate of \$130,000 plus taxes.
54. TDAM's actual fees for 2024 were \$114,302 plus taxes, which were paid pursuant to the Investment Guidelines.
55. Attached as **Schedule H** is the Portfolio Review of the Trust Fund assets under TDAM's management.

PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS LLP

56. PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP ("**PWC**") provides annual updates for tax calculations on software used to calculate income loss, software maintenance for the software used to calculate loss of income claims, and separate software used to calculate and track loss of

income payment caps and holdbacks, and advice, assistance and training to the Administrator with respect to both types of software.

57. The budget for fees approved by the Courts for PWC for 2024 was \$16,000 plus taxes. The amount charged to the Trust Fund was \$17,120 plus taxes, inclusive of administrative and technical support costs of \$1,120 plus taxes. This amount was paid on approval of the Joint Committee pursuant to the 2024 budget approval orders. The Joint Committee recommends the approval of this small overage of \$1,120 plus taxes.

COHEN HAMILTON STEGER & CO. INC. – Paula Frederick

58. Cohen Hamilton Steger & Co. Inc. is retained by the Administrator from time to time to provide expert accounting and valuation services in respect of complex loss of income claims and appeals. Paula Frederick is responsible for this work.
59. The budget approved for Ms. Frederick's services in 2024 was \$40,000. Her fees in 2024 totaled \$17,681 plus taxes which were paid on approval of the Joint Committee pursuant to the 2024 budget approval orders.

ECKLER LTD.

60. Eckler Ltd. ("**Eckler**") was retained initially by Class Counsel and subsequently by the Joint Committee to provide actuarial and investment consulting advice in respect of the Trust Fund. Eckler also provides quarterly and annual investment reviews and advice to the Joint Committee in respect of investments on an as-needed basis.
61. As described below, Eckler was \$193,297 under its overall budget of \$362,661 despite a small overage of \$1,006 in respect of the Special Distribution Benefits component of its budgets.
62. Attached as **Schedule I** is the Report of Eckler regarding its activities during 2024.
63. Attached as **Schedule J** is an annual Investment Summary provided by Eckler.
64. The Courts approved an annual budget for Eckler's actuarial and investment review services of \$100,000 plus disbursements and taxes for 2024. Eckler's charges for these services of \$84,863 plus taxes were paid on approval of the Joint Committee pursuant to the 2024 budget approval orders.
65. The Courts also approved a special projects budget of \$62,500. Eckler's actual charges were \$20,244 plus taxes. These fees were incurred for analyzing and monitoring the cost benefit ratio of the low volatility equities portfolio and responding to the Joint

Committee's concerns about this portfolio in addition to providing quarterly financial markets updates.

66. As part of the 2024 budget approval orders, the Courts approved a carry-over of the \$175,161 budget remaining from the 2022 Financial Sufficiency – Phase 1 approved in 2023. During 2024, Eckler incurred fees in the amount of \$39,116 plus taxes for the completion of the 2022 Financial Sufficiency – Phase 1. These fees were paid on approval of the Joint Committee pursuant to the 2024 budget approval orders.
67. Eckler's 2024 budgets for Special Distribution Benefits and Late Claims Benefit Plan were set at \$17,000 and \$8,000 plus taxes, respectively. Eckler's fees incurred were \$18,006 plus taxes for Special Distribution Benefits and \$7,135 plus taxes for Late Claims Benefit Plan, which were paid up to the amounts set in the 2024 budget approval orders on approval of the Joint Committee. The Joint Committee recommends the approval of this small overage of \$1,006 plus taxes.

JOINT COMMITTEE

68. A Summary Report of the work of the Joint Committee in 2024 is set out in **Schedule K**. As described below, the Joint Committee was \$6,063 over its overall budget of \$1,150,462 (approximately 0.5%) because of the amount of work required in connection with the March 31, 2025 Late Claim Deadline notice campaign.
69. The Joint Committee's 2024 budget for administration and supervision services work relating to the Regular Benefit Plans was \$900,000 for fees and \$75,000 for disbursements, exclusive of taxes. The Joint Committee's fees in 2024 for this work were \$858,904 plus taxes, and its disbursements were \$14,173 plus taxes.
70. As part of the 2024 budget approval orders, the Courts approved a carry-over of the \$75,462 budget for fees and \$4,520 budget for disbursements remaining from the 2022 Financial Sufficiency – Phase 1 approved in 2023. The Joint Committee's fees incurred for the completion of 2022 Financial Sufficiency – Phase 1 were \$21,018 plus taxes and its disbursements were \$665 plus taxes.
71. The Joint Committee's 2024 budget for Special Distribution Benefits was \$100,000 for fees and \$5,000 for disbursements, exclusive of taxes. It incurred fees of \$74,040 plus taxes and no disbursements.
72. The Joint Committee's 2024 budget for the HCV Late Claims Benefit Plan was \$75,000 for fees and \$5,000 for disbursements, exclusive of taxes. Its fees were \$202,563 plus taxes and its disbursements were \$264 plus taxes. This overage of \$127,563 plus taxes

represents the work performed by the Joint Committee in 2024 in connection with the March 31, 2025 Late Claim Deadline notice campaign, as more fully described in Schedule K.

73. All accounts of the Joint Committee are submitted to the Courts or, in the case of British Columbia, the Attorney General for Canada for approval before being paid. A detailed summary by jurisdiction of all fees and disbursements incurred by the Joint Committee is set out in **Schedule L**.

FUND COUNSEL

74. Belinda Bain was appointed as Fund Counsel in the Ontario Class Actions by Orders of the Superior Court of Justice for Ontario. Mason Poplaw was appointed Fund Counsel in the Quebec Class Actions by judgment of the Quebec Superior Court. Gordon Kehler was appointed Fund Counsel in the British Columbia Class Actions by Order of the Supreme Court of British Columbia.
75. Attached as **Schedule M** is the Report of Fund Counsel on their activities and their fees incurred in 2024.
76. In 2024, the following appeals were dealt with in each jurisdiction under the Regular Benefit Plans:

2024 APPEAL STATUS REPORT – REGULAR BENEFIT PLANS	ON ¹⁹	BC	QUE	Total
Appeals received	1	0	0	1
Appeals completed	3	0	0	3
Appeals withdrawn	2	0	0	2
Denials rescinded	0	0	0	0
Appeals mediated	0	0	0	0
Requests for Judicial confirmation	0	0	0	0
Judicial decisions	0	0	0	0
Appeals pending	1	1 ²⁰	0	2

¹⁹ Ontario covers appeals in all provinces and territories other than Quebec and British Columbia.

²⁰ Although Schedule M references 1 judicial review and 1 appeal outstanding, they are in fact one and the same file and have been counted as such in this chart.

77. In 2024, the following appeals were dealt with in each jurisdiction under the HCV Late Claims Benefit Plan:

2024 APPEAL STATUS REPORT – LATE CLAIMS BENEFIT PLAN	ON ²¹	BC	QC	Total
Appeals Received	3	0	0	3
Appeals Completed (decisions rendered)	5	0	1	6
Appeals Withdrawn	2	0	1	3
Denials Rescinded	0	0	0	0
Appeals Mediated	0	0	0	0
Requests for Judicial Confirmation	0	0	0	0
Judicial Decisions	0	0	0	0
Appeals Pending (including judicial reviews, scheduled hearing and appeals sent back to Referees)	3	0	0	3

78. In 2024, the fees and disbursements charged by Fund Counsel were:

- (a) \$58,038 in fees and \$119 in disbursements, all exclusive of taxes, for services relating to the Regular Benefit Plans; and
- (b) \$108,573 in fees and \$1,489 in disbursements, exclusive of taxes, for services relating to the HCV Late Claims Benefit Plan.

All accounts for Fund Counsel were submitted to the appropriate Court for approval before payment.

REFEREES AND ARBITRATORS

79. Referees and Arbitrators were appointed for each jurisdiction by Court orders.
80. A Summary Report of the work of the Referees and Arbitrators, as well as the fees incurred for 2024, is set out in **Schedule N**.

²¹ Ontario covers appeals in all provinces and territories other than Quebec and British Columbia

81. In 2024, the fees and disbursements charged for Arbitrators and Referees were:
- (a) \$20,235 in fees and no disbursements, exclusive of taxes, for services relating to the Regular Benefit Plans; and
 - (b) \$43,895 in fees and \$1,559 in disbursements, all exclusive of taxes, for services relating to the HCV Late Claims Benefit Plan.

Accounts for the Arbitrators and Referees are paid based upon the tariff set by the Courts.

82. Appeals under the Regular Benefit Plans have decreased in recent years, including in 2024. The volume of late claims requests had similarly tapered off, however, a significant number were received in response to the social media notice campaign regarding the March 31, 2025 Late Claim deadline, which will work their way through the system. Appeals under the HCV Late Claims Benefit Plan have proven to require more time to proceed due to the time elapsed since the date of the infection, hence the higher fees incurred. This situation is expected to stay the same or increase slightly for any remaining appeals.

THE MONITOR

83. Luisa Ritacca of Stockwoods was appointed as Monitor by order of the Ontario Superior Court and by order of the Supreme Court of British Columbia.
84. In 2024, the fees of the Monitor were \$7,230 plus taxes and the disbursements were \$1,016 plus taxes.

CANADIAN BLOOD SERVICES

85. The efficient and effective conduct of tracebacks is a crucial component of the administration of the Plans. Canadian Blood Services (“**CBS**”) provides the tracebacks required under the Plans in all provinces but Quebec.
86. In the last several years, the demand for and costs of such tracebacks has reduced significantly. A budget was not sought for CBS for traceback services for 2024, and CBS has not invoiced for any expenses that were incurred. The Joint Committee anticipates that the volume of traceback requests will decrease as the late claims request filing deadline under the Late Claims Benefit Plan passed on March 31, 2025.

HÉMA-QUÉBEC

87. Héma-Québec provides the tracebacks required under the Plans in Quebec. No budget was sought for Héma-Québec for 2024 as it agreed to finance the cost and seek reimbursement at year-end if the costs incurred were significantly higher than anticipated.
88. The Joint Committee anticipates that the volume of traceback requests will decrease as the late claims request filing deadline under the Late Claims Benefit Plan passed on March 31, 2025.

2025 BUDGETS

89. The chart that follows compares the approved budgets for service providers in 2025 to their 2024 budgets.

SERVICE PROVIDER	2024 BUDGET	2025 BUDGET
DELOITTE		
Audit, financial statements fees (exclusive of travel expenses)	Not to exceed \$130,000	Not to exceed \$124,000
Special Projects	\$25,000	\$25,000
EPIQ		
Administration of the Regular Benefit Plans and EAP2 Fixed fee Activity-based fee (subject to activity level adjustment on measurable activities by +/- 10%, plus appeal and third-party expenses at cost)	\$13,500 \$391,453	\$13,500 \$369,118
Special Projects fees	Up to \$100,000	Up to \$100,000
HCV Special Distribution Benefits administration fees Prospective payments – fixed fee Retroactive payments – activity-based fee	\$5,000 Per fee schedule	\$5,000 Per fee schedule
HCV Late Claims Benefits Plan administration fees Prospective payments – fixed fee Retroactive payments – activity-based fee	\$5,000 Per fee schedule	\$5,000 Per fee schedule

SERVICE PROVIDER	2024 BUDGET	2025 BUDGET
CONCENTRA		
Trustee & Custodian Services fees	\$182,000	\$182,000
TDAM		
Investment Services fees	As per Schedule 1 of the Investment Guidelines Estimate of \$130,000	As per Schedule 1 of the Investment Guidelines Estimate of \$131,000
MFS		
Investment Services fees	As per Schedule 1 of the Investment Guidelines Estimate of \$443,000	As per Schedule 1 of the Investment Guidelines Estimate of \$563,000
PWC		
Income Loss computer software annual update fees	Not to exceed \$16,000	Not to exceed \$17,200
PAULA FREDERICK/COHEN HAMILTON STEGER & CO. INC.		
Specialized Income Loss analysis fees	\$40,000	\$40,000
ECKLER		
Actuarial Services & Investment Review fees (not related to financial sufficiency, exclusive of disbursements)	\$100,000	\$97,000
Special Projects fees	\$62,500	\$62,500
Special Distribution Benefits fees	\$17,000	\$20,000
HCV Late Claims Benefit Plan fees	\$8,000	\$8,000
2025 Financial Sufficiency Review fees - Phase 1 preparation work	n/a	\$50,000
JOINT COMMITTEE		
Regular administration and supervision work fees	\$900,000	\$950,000
Disbursements	\$75,000	\$75,000
Special Distribution Benefits fees	\$100,000	\$100,000
Disbursements	\$5,000	\$5,000
HCV Late Claims Benefit Plan fees	\$75,000	\$175,000
Disbursements	\$5,000	\$5,000
2025 Financial Sufficiency Review fees - Phase 1 preparation work	n/a	\$25,000

SERVICE PROVIDER	2024 BUDGET	2025 BUDGET
MMWG		
2025 Financial Sufficiency Review fees - Updated medical model and medical modelling	n/a	\$191,125

Dated this 28th day of May, 2025



for/ Michel Savonitto
Savonitto & Ass. Inc.



for/ Richard J. M. Fyfe K.C.
CFM Lawyers LLP



for/ Kathryn Podrebarac
Podrebarac Barristers Professional Corporation



for/ Harvey T. Strosberg, K.C.
Strosberg Wingfield Sasso LLP

Financial statements of
États financiers du
The 1986 – 1990 Hepatitis C Fund
Fonds Hépatite C 1986 – 1990

December 31, 2024
31 décembre 2024

Independent Auditor's Report	1-3	Rapport de l'auditeur indépendant
Statement of financial position	4	État de la situation financière
Statement of operations	5	État des résultats
Statement of cash flows	6	État des flux de trésorerie
Notes to the financial statements	7-15	Notes complémentaires

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Joint Committee of the
1986 - 1990 Hepatitis C Fund

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the 1986-1990 Hepatitis Fund (the "Fund"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2024, and the statements of operations and of cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies (collectively referred to as the "financial statements").

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Fund as at December 31, 2024, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards ("Canadian GAAS"). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Fund in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Rapport de l'auditeur indépendant

Au comité mixte du
Fonds Hépatite C 1986 - 1990

Opinion

Nous avons effectué l'audit des états financiers du Fonds Hépatite C 1986 - 1990 (le « Fonds »), qui comprennent l'état de la situation financière au 31 décembre 2024, et les états des résultats et des flux de trésorerie de l'exercice clos à cette date, ainsi qu'un résumé des principales méthodes comptables et d'autres informations explicatives (collectivement les « états financiers »).

À notre avis, les états financiers ci-joints donnent, dans tous leurs aspects significatifs, une image fidèle de la situation financière du Fonds au 31 décembre 2024, ainsi que des résultats de ses activités et de ses flux de trésorerie pour l'exercice clos à cette date, conformément aux Normes comptables canadiennes pour les organismes sans but lucratif.

Fondement de l'opinion

Nous avons effectué notre audit conformément aux normes d'audit généralement reconnues (NAGR) du Canada. Les responsabilités qui nous incombent en vertu de ces normes sont plus amplement décrites dans la section « Responsabilités de l'auditeur à l'égard de l'audit des états financiers » du présent rapport. Nous sommes indépendants du Fonds conformément aux règles de déontologie qui s'appliquent à l'audit des états financiers au Canada et nous nous sommes acquittés des autres responsabilités déontologiques qui nous incombent selon ces règles. Nous estimons que les éléments probants que nous avons obtenus sont suffisants et appropriés pour fonder notre opinion d'audit.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Fund or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Fund's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian GAAS, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

Responsabilité de la direction et des responsables de la gouvernance à l'égard des états financiers

La direction est responsable de la préparation et de la présentation fidèle des états financiers conformément aux normes comptables canadiennes pour les organismes sans but lucratif, ainsi que du contrôle interne qu'elle considère comme nécessaire pour permettre la préparation d'états financiers exempts d'anomalies significatives, que celles-ci résultent de fraudes ou d'erreurs.

Lors de la préparation des états financiers, c'est à la direction qu'il incombe d'évaluer la capacité du Fonds à poursuivre son exploitation, de communiquer, le cas échéant, les questions relatives à la continuité de l'exploitation et d'appliquer le principe comptable de continuité d'exploitation, sauf si la direction a l'intention de liquider le Fonds ou de cesser son activité ou si aucune autre solution réaliste ne s'offre à elle.

Il incombe aux responsables de la gouvernance de surveiller le processus d'information financière du Fonds.

Responsabilités de l'auditeur à l'égard de l'audit des états financiers

Nos objectifs sont d'obtenir l'assurance raisonnable que les états financiers pris dans leur ensemble sont exempts d'anomalies significatives, que celles-ci résultent de fraudes ou d'erreurs, et de délivrer un rapport de l'auditeur contenant notre opinion. L'assurance raisonnable correspond à un niveau élevé d'assurance, qui ne garantit toutefois pas qu'un audit réalisé conformément aux NAGR du Canada permettra toujours de détecter toute anomalie significative qui pourrait exister. Les anomalies peuvent résulter de fraudes ou d'erreurs et elles sont considérées comme significatives lorsqu'il est raisonnable de s'attendre à ce que, individuellement ou collectivement, elles puissent influencer sur les décisions économiques que les utilisateurs des états financiers prennent en se fondant sur ceux-ci.

Dans le cadre d'un audit réalisé conformément aux NAGR du Canada, nous exerçons notre jugement professionnel et faisons preuve d'esprit critique tout au long de cet audit. En outre :

Nous identifions et évaluons les risques que les états financiers comportent des anomalies significatives, que celles-ci résultent de fraudes ou d'erreurs, concevons et mettons en œuvre des procédures d'audit en réponse à ces risques, et réunissons des éléments probants suffisants et appropriés pour fonder notre opinion. Le risque de non-détection d'une anomalie significative résultant d'une fraude est plus élevé que celui d'une anomalie significative résultant d'une erreur, car la fraude peut impliquer la collusion, la falsification, les omissions volontaires, les fausses déclarations ou le contournement du contrôle interne.

Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Fund's internal control.

Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.

Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Fund to cease to continue as a going concern.

Evaluate the overall presentation, structure, and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Nous acquérons une compréhension des éléments du contrôle interne pertinents pour l'audit afin de concevoir des procédures d'audit appropriées aux circonstances, et non dans le but d'exprimer une opinion sur l'efficacité du contrôle interne du Fonds.

Nous apprécions le caractère approprié des méthodes comptables retenues et le caractère raisonnable des estimations comptables faites par la direction, de même que des informations y afférentes fournies par cette dernière.

Nous tirons une conclusion quant au caractère approprié de l'utilisation par la direction du principe comptable de continuité d'exploitation et, selon les éléments probants obtenus, quant à l'existence ou non d'une incertitude significative liée à des événements ou situations susceptibles de jeter un doute important sur la capacité du Fonds à poursuivre son exploitation. Si nous concluons à l'existence d'une incertitude significative, nous sommes tenus d'attirer l'attention des lecteurs de notre rapport sur les informations fournies dans les états financiers au sujet de cette incertitude ou, si ces informations ne sont pas adéquates, d'exprimer une opinion modifiée. Nos conclusions s'appuient sur les éléments probants obtenus jusqu'à la date de notre rapport. Des événements ou situations futurs pourraient par ailleurs amener le Fonds à cesser son exploitation.

Nous évaluons la présentation d'ensemble, la structure et le contenu des états financiers, y compris les informations fournies dans les notes, et apprécions si les états financiers représentent les opérations et événements sous-jacents d'une manière propre à donner une image fidèle.

Nous communiquons aux responsables de la gouvernance notamment l'étendue et le calendrier prévus des travaux d'audit et nos constatations importantes, y compris toute déficience importante du contrôle interne que nous aurions relevée au cours de notre audit.

Deloitte LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants
Licensed Public Accountants
April 22, 2025

Comptables professionnels agréés
Experts-comptables autorisés
Le 22 avril 2025

The 1986 - 1990 Hepatitis C Fund**Statement of financial position**

As at December 31, 2024

(In thousands of dollars)

Fonds Hépatite C 1986 - 1990**État de la situation financière**

au 31 décembre 2024

(en milliers de dollars)

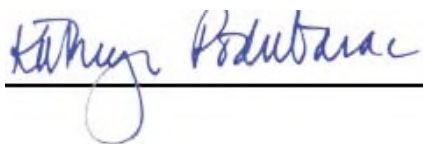
	2024 \$	2023 \$	
Assets			Actif
Current assets			Actif à court terme
Cash	5,875	3,716	Encaisse
Contributions receivable	1,695	2,527	Apports à recevoir
	7,570	6,243	
Investments (Note 3)	942,630	920,743	Placements (note 3)
	950,200	926,986	
Liabilities			Passif
Current liabilities			Passif à court terme
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	5,915	6,038	Créditeurs et charges à payer
Accrued claims in process of payment	6,312	11,404	Demandes accumulées en cours de paiement
	12,227	17,442	
Funding held for future expenses (Note 4)			Financement pour charges futures (note 4)
Regular	725,760	701,308	Régulier
Late claims benefits	59,168	57,454	Réclamations tardives
Special distribution benefits	153,045	150,782	Indemnités de distribution spéciale
	950,200	926,986	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

Les notes complémentaires font partie intégrante des états financiers.

Approved by the Joint Committee of
The 1986 - 1990 Hepatitis C Fund

Au nom du Comité mixte du Fonds
Hépatite C 1986 - 1990



H. Rumble Peterson for H. Strosbergenther
H. Rumble Peterson for H. Strosbergenther (Apr 14, 2025 12:13 EDT)



Richard J. M. Fyfe
Richard J. M. Fyfe (Apr 14, 2025 09:55 PDT)

The 1986 - 1990 Hepatitis C Fund**Statement of operations**

Year ended December 31, 2024

(In thousands of dollars)

Fonds Hépatite C 1986 - 1990**État des résultats**

de l'exercice clos le 31 décembre 2024

(en milliers de dollars)

	2024	2023	
	\$	\$	
Expenses			Dépenses
Claims (Note 5)	30,953	110,278	Demands (note 5)
Operating (Note 6)	3,184	6,069	Frais d'exploitation (note 6)
	34,137	116,347	
Revenue	34,137	116,347	Revenus
Excess of revenue over expenses	—	—	Excédent des revenus sur les dépenses

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

Les notes complémentaires font partie intégrante des états financiers.

The 1986 - 1990 Hepatitis C Fund**Statement of cash flows**

Year ended December 31, 2024

(In thousands of dollars)

Fonds Hépatite C 1986 - 1990**État des flux de trésorerie**

de l'exercice clos le 31 décembre 2024

(en milliers de dollars)

	2024	2023	
	\$	\$	
Operating activities			Activités d'exploitation
Excess of revenue over expenses	—	—	Excédent des revenus sur les dépenses
Items not affecting cash			Éléments sans incidence sur l'encaisse
Realized (gain) loss on investments	(9,407)	2,898	(Gain) perte réalisés sur placements
Change in unrealized gains and losses on investments	(20,882)	(5,422)	Variation des gains et pertes non réalisés sur placements
	(30,289)	(2,524)	
Changes in non-cash operating working capital items			Variation nette des éléments hors caisse du fonds de roulement d'exploitation
Contributions receivable	832	(168)	Apports à recevoir
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(123)	1,614	Créditeurs et charges à payer
Accrued claims in process of payment	(5,092)	2,988	Demandes accumulées en cours de paiement
Funding held for future expenses	28,429	(63,064)	Financement pour charges futures
	(6,243)	(61,154)	
Investing activities			Activités d'investissement
Purchase of investments	(78,561)	(241,669)	Acquisition de placements
Proceeds on sale of investments	86,963	303,004	Produits de la vente de placements
	8,402	61,335	
Net change in cash	2,159	181	Variation de l'encaisse
Cash, beginning of year	3,716	3,535	Encaisse au début
Cash, end of year	5,875	3,716	Encaisse à la fin
The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.			Les notes complémentaires font partie intégrante des états financiers.

The 1986 - 1990 Hepatitis C Fund

Notes to the financial statements

December 31, 2024

(Tabular amounts in thousands of dollars)

Fonds Hépatite C 1986 - 1990

Notes complémentaires

31 décembre 2024

(montants dans les tableaux en milliers de dollars)

1. Description of the Fund

The 1986 - 1990 Hepatitis C Fund (the "Fund") was established to hold and invest funds and administer their payment as compensation to claimants who qualify as class members, all pursuant to the terms of the January 1, 1986 - July 1, 1990 Hepatitis C Settlement Agreement (the "Agreement") made as of June 15, 1999 and the Judgments of the Supreme Court of British Columbia, Superior Court of Justice for Ontario and Superior Court of Quebec (the "Courts").

The maximum obligations to the Fund established as at January 10, 2000 were \$1.203 billion, shared between the Government of Canada (72.7273%) and the governments of the provinces and territories (27.2727%), plus interest accruing thereafter on the unpaid obligations.

The Government of Canada has made contributions to the Fund, which totally satisfy its obligation to the Fund. The provincial and territorial governments are required to contribute as and when required for payment of their share of expenses. Provinces and territories may elect to prepay their contributions.

As at December 31, 2024, the provinces and territories prepaid contributions total \$10,900 (\$10,800 in 2023). To the extent, provinces and territories do not prepay their contributions, interest is calculated on their outstanding obligations at treasury bill rates applied quarterly. As at December 31, 2024, those obligations including interest are estimated to be \$64,238,000 (\$68,932,000 in 2023).

In 2017, the Courts approved funding for Late Claims Benefits and Special Distribution Benefits from the 2013 excess capital. In 2023, the Courts approved funding for additional Special Distribution Benefits from the 2019 excess capital. The provinces and territories do not contribute towards these new benefits.

The operations of the Fund are subject to various reviews and approvals by the Courts.

The Fund is a trust that is exempt from income tax under the *Income Tax Act*.

1. Description du Fonds

Le Fonds Hépatite C 1986 - 1990 (le « Fonds ») a été constitué dans le but de conserver et d'investir des fonds et de gérer leur versement sous forme d'indemnités aux requérants admissibles comme personnes inscrites au recours collectif, conformément aux modalités de l'entente de règlement relative à l'hépatite C pour la période allant du 1^{er} janvier 1986 au 1^{er} juillet 1990 (l'« entente »), datée du 15 juin 1999, et aux décisions de la Cour suprême de la Colombie-Britannique, de la Cour supérieure de justice de l'Ontario et de la Cour supérieure du Québec (les « Tribunaux »).

Au 10 janvier 2000, les obligations maximales revenant au Fonds s'élevaient à 1,203 milliards de dollars, et elles étaient partagées entre le gouvernement du Canada (72,7273 %) et les gouvernements provinciaux et territoriaux (27,2727 %), plus les intérêts cumulés par la suite sur les obligations impayées.

Le gouvernement du Canada a versé des apports au Fonds, lesquels règlent entièrement son obligation envers le Fonds. Les gouvernements provinciaux et territoriaux sont tenus de verser des apports pour régler leur part des charges au moment où elles deviennent exigibles. Les provinces et les territoires peuvent choisir de verser leurs apports à l'avance.

Au 31 décembre 2024, les apports des provinces et territoires versés à l'avance totalisent 10 900 \$ (10 800 \$ en 2023). Dans la mesure où ils ne versent pas d'apports à l'avance, l'intérêt est calculé trimestriellement sur les obligations impayées aux taux des bons du Trésor. Au 31 décembre 2024, ces obligations, intérêts compris, sont estimées à 64 238 000 \$ (68 932 000 \$ en 2023).

En 2017, les Tribunaux ont approuvé l'allocation pour les réclamations tardives et pour les indemnités de distribution spéciale du capital excédentaire de 2013. En 2023, les Tribunaux ont approuvé l'allocation pour les réclamations tardives du capital excédentaire de 2019. Les provinces et les territoires ne contribuent pas à ces nouveaux avantages.

Les activités du Fonds sont assujetties à divers examens et approbations des Tribunaux.

Le Fonds est une fiducie exonérée de l'impôt sur le revenu en vertu de la *Loi de l'impôt sur le revenu*.

2. Significant accounting policies

Basis of presentation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations and include the following significant accounting policies:

Financial instruments

Financial instruments include cash, contributions receivable, investments and accounts payable and accrued liabilities and claims payable.

All financial assets and liabilities are initially recognized at fair value and subsequently they are measured at amortized cost with the exception of cash and investments, which are measured at fair value.

Transaction costs

Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

Liabilities and funding for future payments

These financial statements do not present liabilities for payments to be made to class members in future years nor the related future funding requirements of provincial and territorial governments.

Revenue recognition

The Fund follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Revenue is recognized as expenses are incurred and shares of such expenses are allocated to governments, as set out in the Agreement. To the extent that contributions are paid to the Fund in advance of expenses being incurred and allocated, the contributions and the investment earnings thereon are deferred and recorded as funding held for future expenses. Accordingly, the funding held for future expenses includes:

Funding contributed in payment of the Government of Canada obligation;

2. Principales méthodes comptables

Méthode de présentation

Les états financiers ont été dressés conformément aux Normes comptables canadiennes pour les organismes sans but lucratif et tiennent compte des principales méthodes comptables suivantes :

Instruments financiers

Les instruments financiers comprennent l'encaisse, les apports à recevoir, les placements, créditeurs et charges à payer et les demandes accumulées en cours de paiement.

Les actifs et passifs financiers sont comptabilisés initialement à la juste valeur et sont ensuite comptabilisés au coût amorti à l'exception de l'encaisse et des placements qui sont comptabilisés à la juste valeur.

Coûts de transaction

Les coûts de transaction sont comptabilisés comme dépenses lorsqu'ils sont encourus.

Obligations et financement pour paiements futurs

Ces états financiers ne présentent aucune obligation pour des paiements futurs devant être faits aux personnes inscrites aux recours collectifs, ni aucune exigence connexe future en matière de financement des gouvernements provinciaux et territoriaux.

Constatation des revenus

Le Fonds comptabilise les apports selon la méthode du report. Les revenus sont comptabilisés à mesure que les charges sont engagées, et une tranche de ces charges est attribuée aux gouvernements, comme le prévoit l'entente. Lorsque les apports sont versés au Fonds avant que les charges ne soient engagées et réparties, les apports et le revenu de placement en découlant sont reportés et constatés à titre de financement pour charges futures. Par conséquent, le financement pour charges futures comprend ce qui suit :

Apport sous forme de paiement de l'obligation du gouvernement du Canada;

The 1986 - 1990 Hepatitis C Fund

Notes to the financial statements

December 31, 2024

(Tabular amounts in thousands of dollars)

Fonds Hépatite C 1986 - 1990

Notes complémentaires

31 décembre 2024

(montants dans les tableaux en milliers de dollars)

2. Significant accounting policies (continued)

Revenue recognition (continued)

Contributions prepaid by provinces and territories, if any; and

Investment earnings.

As expenses are incurred and allocated, amounts are deducted from the balance of the funding held for future expenses and are recognized as revenue.

Where provincial and territorial governments have not prepaid contributions and expenses are allocated to them, such amounts are requisitioned by the Fund and are recognized directly as revenue of the Fund.

Claims

A claim is recognized as an expense in the period in which the claim payment approval process has been completed.

Operating expenses

Operating expenses are recorded in the period in which they are incurred. Operating expenses are subject to approval by the Courts.

Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Significant estimates include the fair value of investments and the amount of accrued liabilities. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

2. Principales méthodes comptables (suite)

Constatation des revenus (suite)

Apports versés à l'avance par les gouvernements provinciaux et territoriaux, le cas échéant; et

Revenus de placement.

À mesure que les charges sont engagées et réparties, les montants sont déduits du solde du financement pour charges futures et comptabilisées dans les revenus.

Lorsque les apports ne sont pas versés à l'avance par les gouvernements provinciaux et territoriaux et que des charges leur sont attribuées, ces montants leur sont demandés par le Fonds puis comptabilisés directement dans les revenus.

Demandes

Les demandes sont constatées à titre de charges dans la période au cours de laquelle le processus d'approbation de paiement des demandes a été mené à terme.

Frais d'exploitation

Les frais d'exploitation sont constatés dans la période au cours de laquelle ils sont engagés. Ils sont assujettis à l'approbation des tribunaux.

Utilisation d'estimations

Dans le cadre de la préparation des états financiers, conformément aux Normes comptables canadiennes pour les organismes sans but lucratif, la direction doit établir des estimations et des hypothèses qui ont une incidence sur les montants des actifs et des passifs présentés et sur la présentation des actifs et des passifs éventuels à la date des états financiers, ainsi que sur les montants des produits d'exploitation et des charges constatés au cours de la période visée par les états financiers. Les estimations importantes comprennent la juste valeur des placements et le montant des charges à payer. Les résultats réels pourraient varier par rapport à ces estimations.

2. Significant accounting policies (continued)

Foreign currency

Transactions denominated in foreign currencies are translated into Canadian dollars at the rates of exchange prevailing at the dates of the transactions. Investments and cash balances denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rates in effect at year-end. Resulting gains or losses from changes in these rates are included in investment earnings.

3. Investments

Investments are summarized as follows:

	Fair value Juste valeur \$	2024 Cost Coût \$	Fair value Juste valeur \$	2023 Cost Coût \$
Investment earnings receivable and cash	10,427	10,427	8,785	8,785
Fixed income Government of Canada	704,396	647,758	727,611	672,111
Fixed income pooled funds	72,489	72,355	48,739	48,639
	776,885	720,113	776,350	720,750
Equities - Pooled Funds International	155,318	132,019	135,608	132,019
	942,630	862,559	920,743	861,554

Determination of fair value

Fixed income includes debt obligations of governments and corporate bodies paying interest at rates appropriate to the market at the date of their purchase. Bonds are recorded at prices based upon published bid prices.

Pooled fund units are valued at prices based on the market value of the underlying securities held by the pooled funds.

2. Principales méthodes comptables (suite)

Devises étrangères

Les opérations libellées en devises étrangères sont converties en dollars canadiens aux taux de change en vigueur aux dates auxquelles les opérations sont effectuées. Les placements et l'encaisse libellés en devises sont convertis aux taux en vigueur à la fin de l'exercice. Les gains ou les pertes de change découlant de la variation de ces taux sont inclus dans le revenu de placement.

3. Placements

Les placements se résument ainsi :

Revenus de placement à recevoir et encaisse
Titres à revenu fixe Gouvernement du Canada
Fonds communs à revenu fixe
Actions - Fonds communs International

Détermination de la juste valeur

Les titres à revenu fixe proviennent de titres de créance de gouvernements et de sociétés qui versent des intérêts à des taux conformes à ceux du marché à la date d'achat. Les obligations sont comptabilisées à des prix offerts publiés.

Les fonds communs sont évalués selon la valeur marchande des titres sous-jacents détenus par les fonds communs.

The 1986 - 1990 Hepatitis C Fund

Notes to the financial statements

December 31, 2024

(Tabular amounts in thousands of dollars)

Fonds Hépatite C 1986 - 1990

Notes complémentaires

31 décembre 2024

(montants dans les tableaux en milliers de dollars)

3. Investments (continued)

Investment risk

Investment in financial instruments renders the Fund subject to investment risks. These include the risks arising from changes in interest rates, in rates of exchange for foreign currency, and in equity markets both domestic and foreign. They also include the risks arising from the failure of a counterparty to a financial instrument to discharge an obligation when it is due.

The Fund has adopted investment policies, standards and procedures to control the amount of risk to which it is exposed. The investment practices of the Fund are designed to avoid undue risk of loss and impairment of assets and to provide a reasonable expectation of fair return given the nature of the investments. The maximum investment risk to the Fund is represented by the fair value of the investments. There is no foreign currency risk as the investment are all Canadian.

Interest rate risk

The fixed income portfolio's sensitivity to a change in market rates is represented by the duration of the portfolio. As at December 31, 2024, the average duration of the bonds and debentures in the portfolio, weighted on fair value, was 12.50 years (12.03 years in 2023).

3. Placements (suite)

Risque de placement

Les placements dans des instruments financiers placent le Fonds face à des risques liés aux placements. Ceux-ci incluent les risques provenant des variations dans les taux d'intérêts, dans les taux de conversion de devises et dans le marché boursier, national et international ainsi que ceux provenant du danger éventuel qu'une des parties engagées par rapport à un instrument financier ne puisse faire face à ses obligations.

Le Fonds a adopté des politiques, des normes et des méthodes pour contrôler le niveau de risque auquel il s'expose. Les habitudes du Fonds en ce qui concerne les placements ont pour but d'éviter tout risque inutile de perte et d'insuffisance d'actif et de fournir une espérance raisonnable quant à leur juste rendement, étant donné la nature des placements. Le maximum de risque auquel s'expose le Fonds se trouve dans la juste valeur des placements. Il n'y a pas de risque de change puisque les placements sont tous en dollar canadien.

Risque des taux d'intérêt

La sensibilité du portefeuille de titres à revenu fixe aux variations des taux d'intérêt du marché correspond à la durée du portefeuille. Au 31 décembre 2024, la durée moyenne des obligations et des débentures du portefeuille, pondérée selon la juste valeur, était de 12,50 ans (12,03 ans en 2023).

3. Investments (continued)

Concentration risk

Concentration risk exists when a significant proportion of the portfolio is invested in securities with similar characteristics or subject to similar economic, political or other conditions. The relative proportions of the types of investments, in the portfolio are as follows:

	2024		2023	
	Fair value		Fair value	
	Juste valeur		Juste valeur	
	\$	%	\$	%
Investment earnings receivable and cash	10,427	1	8,785	1
Fixed income				
Government of Canada	704,396	75	727,611	79
Fixed income pooled funds	72,489	8	48,739	5
	776,885	83	776,350	84
Equities - Pooled Funds				
International	155,318	16	135,608	15
	942,630	100	920,743	100

3. Placements (suite)

Risque de concentration

Le risque de concentration existe lorsqu'une part importante du portefeuille est investie dans des titres ayant des caractéristiques semblables ou qui sont soumis à des conditions similaires d'ordre économique, politique ou autre. Les proportions relatives des types de placements du portefeuille sont les suivantes :

4. Funding held for future expenses

	Regular	Late claims benefits	Special distribution benefits	
	Régulier	Réclamations tardives	Indemnités de distribution spéciale	2024 Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance, beginning of year	701,308	57,454	150,782	909,544
Investment earnings for the year	42,856	3,618	9,191	55,665
Amounts recognized as revenue	(18,404)	(1,904)	(6,928)	(27,236)
Balance, end of year	725,760	59,168	153,045	937,973

4. Financement pour charges futures

Revenus de placement à recevoir et encaisse
Titres à revenu fixe
Gouvernement du Canada
Fonds communs à revenu fixe
Actions - Fonds communs
International
Solde au début
Revenus de placement pour l'année
Montants constatés comme revenus
Solde à la fin

The 1986 - 1990 Hepatitis C Fund**Notes to the financial statements**

December 31, 2024

(Tabular amounts in thousands of dollars)

Fonds Hépatite C 1986 - 1990**Notes complémentaires**

31 décembre 2024

(montants dans les tableaux en milliers de dollars)

**4. Funding held for future expenses
(continued)**

	Regular	Late claims benefits	Special distribution benefits		
	Régulier	Réclamations tardives	Indemnités de distribution spéciale	2023 Total	
	\$	\$	\$	\$	
Balance, beginning of year	847,129	58,427	67,052	972,608	Solde au début
Reallocation*:					Réallocation* :
Excess capital	(156,634)	(1,102)	157,736	—	Surplus en capital
Investment earnings related to prior years	(3,437)	(24)	3,461	—	Revenu de placement des années précédentes
Investment losses related to current year up to September 30, 2023	5,372	37	(5,409)	—	Perte de placement de l'année courante jusqu'au 30 septembre 2023
	(154,699)	(1,089)	155,788	—	
Investment earnings for the year	30,347	2,951	11,934	45,232	Revenus de placement pour l'année
Amounts recognized as revenue	(21,469)	(2,835)	(83,992)	(108,296)	Montants constatés comme revenus
Balance, end of year	701,308	57,454	150,782	909,544	Solde à la fin

*During 2023, the Courts ordered that \$156,634,000 (2019 dollars) from the Regular account and \$1,102,000 from the Late claims benefits account be transferred to the Special distribution benefits account, plus the amount of any investment income earned on those amounts from January 1, 2020 to the date of transfer.

The investment income on those amounts from January 1, 2020, to December 31, 2022, was \$3,437,000 in the Regular account and \$24,000 in the Late claims benefits account. The investment returns from January 1, 2023 to the date of transfer, September 30, 2023, were negative, resulting in losses of \$5,371,632 in the Regular account and \$37,786 in the Late claims benefits account.

The net result is that \$154,699,368 from the Regular account and \$1,088,214 from the Late claims benefits account were transferred to the Special distribution benefits account on September 30, 2023.

**4. Financement pour charges futures
(suite)**

* Au cours de l'année 2023, les cours ont ordonné que 156 634 000 \$ (en dollars de 2019) du compte pour les indemnités régulières et 1 102 00 \$ du compte pour les réclamations tardives soit transféré au compte pour les Indemnités de distribution spéciale, plus le montant de tout revenu de placement gagné sur cette somme, du 1er janvier 2020 à la date du transfert.

Les revenus de placement y afférents pour la période du 1^{er} janvier 2020 au 31 décembre 2022 ont totalisé 3 437 000 \$ pour le compte pour les indemnités régulières et 24 000 \$ pour le compte pour les réclamations tardives. Les rendements des placements du 1^{er} janvier 2023 au 30 septembre 2023 ont été négatifs, ce qui a entraîné une perte de 5 371 632 \$ du compte pour les indemnités régulières et de 37 786 \$ du compte pour les réclamations tardives.

Le résultat net est que 154 699 368 \$ du compte pour les indemnités régulières et de 1 088 214 \$ du compte pour les réclamations tardives ont été transférés au compte pour les Indemnités de distribution spéciale le 30 septembre 2023.

5. Claims

Claims recognized as expenses of the Fund during the current year consist of the following:

	Regular Fund	Late claims benefits	Special distribution benefits	
	Régulier	Réclamations tardives	Indemnités de distribution spéciale	2024 Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Approved by the Administrator of the Fund Disbursed	24,960	1,379	9,706	36,045
Net change in accrued claims in process of payment	(2,438)	(34)	(2,620)	(5,092)
	22,522	1,345	7,086	30,953

Demandes approuvées par l'Administrateur du Fonds
Décaissement
Variation nette des demandes accumulées en cours de paiement

5. Demandes

Les demandes comptabilisées dans les charges du Fonds au cours de l'exercice comprennent ce qui suit :

	Regular Fund	Late claims benefits	Special distribution benefits	
	Régulier	Réclamations tardives	Indemnités de distribution spéciale	2023 Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Approved by the Administrator of the Fund Disbursed	24,990	2,591	79,709	107,290
Net change in accrued claims in process of payment	319	11	2,658	2,988
	25,309	2,602	82,367	110,278

Demandes approuvées par l'Administrateur du Fonds
Décaissement
Variation nette des demandes accumulées en cours de paiement

6. Operating expenses

6. Frais d'exploitation

	Regular	Late claims benefits	Special distribution benefits		
	Régulier	Réclamations Tardives	Indemnités de distribution spéciale	2024 Total	
	\$	\$	\$	\$	
Administrator	469	114	(272)	311	Administrateur
Legal (claims' appeal costs, Fund counsel)	149	162	—	311	Frais juridiques (frais de demandes en appel, avocats du Fonds)
Joint committee - Administration	989	230	81	1,300	Comité mixte - Administration
Joint committee - Sufficiency review	24	—	—	24	Comité mixte - Réévaluation de la suffisance
Investment management	679	—	—	679	Gestion des placements
Audit and related services	115	7	14	136	Honoraires d'audit et de services connexes
Custodial trustee	187	—	—	187	Frais de garde
Actuarial - General	110	7	19	136	Honoraires d'actuariat - général
Actuarial - Sufficiency review	41	—	—	41	Honoraires d'actuariat - Réévaluation de la suffisance
Medical and other consulting	20	—	—	20	Frais médicaux et autres frais de consultation
Marketing	—	39	—	39	Publicité
	2,783	559	(158)	3,184	

	Regular	Late claims benefits	Special distribution benefits		
	Régulier	Réclamations Tardives	Indemnités de distribution spéciale	2023 Total	
	\$	\$	\$	\$	
Administrator	646	128	1,531	2,305	Administrateur
Legal (claims' appeal costs, Fund counsel)	197	78	—	275	Frais juridiques (frais de demandes en appel, avocats du Fonds)
Joint committee - Administration	815	15	56	886	Comité mixte - Administration
Joint committee - Sufficiency review	787	—	—	787	Comité mixte - Réévaluation de la suffisance
Investment management	577	—	—	577	Gestion des placements
Audit and related services	109	6	26	141	Honoraires d'audit et de services connexes
Custodial trustee	182	—	—	182	Frais de garde
Actuarial - General	111	6	12	129	Honoraires d'actuariat - général
Actuarial - Sufficiency review	656	—	—	656	Honoraires d'actuariat - Réévaluation de la suffisance
Medical and other consulting	131	—	—	131	Frais médicaux et autres frais de consultation
	4,211	233	1,625	6,069	

**1986-1990 Hepatitis C Claims Centre
Annual Report for the Period Ending
December 31,2024**

Appointment

Epiq Class Action Services Canada Inc. has been administering the 1986-1990 Hepatitis C Class Action Settlement since our appointment by the Courts January 1, 2019.

Activities of Year 25

- Complied with all Administrator duties as outlined in Article Five of the Settlement Agreement.
- Worked in collaboration with the auditors from Deloitte to complete the year-end audit process.
- Continued to work with the Joint Committee to implement the decisions of the courts to allocate excess capital to Class Members in the form of Special Distributions.
- Continued work on the Locator Project (Special Project) to identify and locate claimants with outstanding 2013 Special Distribution benefits.
- Implemented the new court-approved protocol that affected the special distribution benefit claims for family members attending medical appointments with HCV-infected individuals.
- Worked on the Late Claims Deadline Notice Campaign, which involved coordinating with Jelly Marketing to update the website and ensure EPIQ had the resources available to handle incoming inquires and requests to make a Late claim.
- Met with Joint Committee in March; provided and discussed updated claim statistics.
- Continued to work in collaboration with Canadian Blood Services, Héma-Québec, provincial hepatitis c programs, and medical experts.
- Updated the www.hepc8690.ca & www.hepcclassaction.ca as needed.
- Prepared files for Fund Counsel, Referees, and Arbitrators and attended appeal hearings as required.

Hepatitis C 1986-1990 - Key Statistics as of December 31, 2024

Funds disbursed – HCV Regular Benefit Account	\$24,966,937.27
Funds disbursed – HCV Special Distribution Benefit Account	\$9,655,509.07
Claims received	18,426
Claims approved	15,120
Claims denied	3,278
Claims in progress	28
Appeals	497
Decisions Rendered	373
Mediated/Withdrawn/Rescinded/Archived	123
Traceback requests initiated	5,066

HCV Late Claims Benefit Plan - Key Statistics as of December 31, 2024

Funds disbursed – HCV Late Claims Benefit Plan Account	\$1,379,349.46
Funds disbursed – HCV Special Distribution Benefit Account	\$175,527.37
Claims received	535
Claims approved	253
Claims denied	197
Claims in progress	85
Appeals	32
Decisions Rendered	22
Mediated/Withdrawn/Rescinded/Archived	7
Traceback requests initiated	174

Administrator's 2024 Hepatitis C 8690 Reconciliation

Balance owing as of December 31, 2023		\$	1,688,391.56
A. Regular Benefit Plan			
Annual Fixed Fee	\$	13,500.00	
Activity-based Fee	\$	391,452.75	
HST	\$	52,643.86	\$ 457,596.61
Activity Adjustment	\$	-	
HST	\$	-	\$ -
Disbursements	\$	9,169.33	
HST	\$	1,192.01	\$ 10,361.34
Third Party Expenses	\$	-	
HST	\$	-	\$ -
Appeals Costs	\$	-	
HST	\$	-	\$ -
Regular Benefit Plan Total 2024 Fees and Disbursements		\$	467,957.95
B. Special Distribution Benefits (SDB)			
Annual Fixed Fee - Prospective Claims	\$	5,000.00	
2013 & 2019 Surplus - Retrospective Claim Fees	\$	25,853.75	
HST	\$	4,011.01	\$ 34,864.76
Disbursements	\$	-	
HST	\$	-	\$ -
SDB Total 2024 Fees and Disbursements		\$	34,864.76
C. Late Claims Benefit Plan (LCBP)			
Fixed Fee	\$	5,000.00	
Activity Level Fees	\$	68,094.75	
HST	\$	9,502.32	\$ 82,597.07
Disbursements	\$	17,881.72	
HST	\$	2,324.62	\$ 20,206.34
LCBP Total 2024 Fees and Disbursements		\$	102,803.41
D. Special Projects			
Locator Project Fees	\$	1,449.75	
Class Coding Update Fees - Claims for Family Memebers Attending HCV Medical Appointments (PDV)	\$	17,821.20	
Social Media Campaign for Late Claims	\$	840.00	
Notice Mailout - Claims for Family Memebers Attending HCV Medical Appointments (PDV)	\$	210.00	
2019 Surplus Outgoing Email/Call	\$	43,608.00	
HST	\$	8,310.81	\$ 72,239.76
Disbursements	\$	356.27	
HST	\$	46.33	\$ 402.60
Special Projects Total 2024 Fees and Disbursements		\$	72,642.36
2024 Total		\$	678,268.48
Payments made in 2024			
Towards Budget Year 2023	\$	1,286,897.19	
Credit Applied	\$	401,494.37	\$ 1,688,391.56
Towards Budget Year 2024	\$	508,730.12	
Repayment to the Hep-C Fund	\$	99,375.46	\$ 608,105.58
Total Payments made in 2024		\$	2,296,497.14
Balance to be Debited Against Hep C Fund (as of December 31, 2024)		\$	70,162.90

**Concentra Trust
Trustee and
Custodian
Hepatitis C Fund**



**Equitable
Bank**

Concentra[®]
TRUST

Section 1 | About the Trustee and Custodian

About Concentra Trust

Concentra Trust is Canada's seventh largest bank-owned trust company and has more than 70 years of experience and expertise serving corporate entities, credit unions and individuals. It offers a full suite of trust services focused on specialized needs including Indigenous trusts, corporate trusts, high net worth personal trusts, and registered plan trustee solutions. As a federally regulated trust company, Concentra Trust complies with federal anti-money laundering, risk, legal, and compliance programs. Concentra Trust is a subsidiary of Concentra Bank, which was acquired in November 2022 by Equitable Bank.

About Equitable Bank

Equitable Bank has a clear mission to drive change in Canadian banking to enrich people's lives. As Canada's Challenger Bank™ and seventh largest bank by assets, it leverages technology to deliver exceptional personal and commercial banking experiences and services to over 700,000 customers and more than six million credit union members through its businesses. It is a wholly owned subsidiary of EQB Inc. (TSX: EQB), a leading digital financial services company with \$132 billion in combined assets under management and administration (as at January 31, 2025). Through its digital EQ Bank platform (eqbank.ca), its customers have named it one of the top banks in Canada on the Forbes World's Best Banks list since 2021.

To learn more, please visit eqb.investorroom.com or connect with us on [LinkedIn](#).

About our Custodian | CIBC Mellon, CIBC Mellon Trust Company and CIBC Mellon Global Securities Services Company

CIBC Mellon is a licensed user of the CIBC trademark and certain BNY Mellon trademarks and is the corporate brand of CIBC Mellon Global Securities Services Company and CIBC Mellon Trust Company.

CIBC Mellon provides a secure facility for the safekeeping of stocks, bonds, notes and other securities—in both physical and book-based environments. Assets are held securely and recorded accurately on CIBC's custody platform. CIBC performs an annual depository risk assessment along with regular reconciliation of physical vault and depository positions.

CIBC Mellon has a direct, electronic interface with the Canadian Depository for Securities (CDS), which allows automated affirmation and settlement confirmation. This results in a seamless exchange of data between platforms and the depositories and provides maximum control over the securities settlement process.

Section 2 | Responsibilities of the Trustee and Custodian

Concentra Trust was appointed as Trustee and Custodian of the Hepatitis C Trust Fund by the Superior Courts of British Columbia, Ontario and Quebec effective April 1, 2022. The Hepatitis C Trust Fund is administered and managed by a team of Senior Trust Administrators, Senior Trust Advisors and Trust Directors.

Contributions to the Trust Fund

Concentra Trust receives monthly contributions from the provincial and territorial governments. On confirmation of deposit, the funds are transferred to the custody account of the fund held with CIBC Mellon and are invested by the Investment Manager in accordance with the investment mandate.

Plan disbursements

All plan disbursements are processed in a timely manner in accordance with the terms of our appointment and/or court order. Invoices are received by Concentra Trust and Concentra Trust instructs CIBC to make payments directly from the custody account to the service providers.

Maintenance of records

Concentra Trust maintains accurate records with respect to the assets of the Trust Fund and provides timely reports to various parties including:

Quarterly notional reports: Concentra Trust maintains notional accounts for each of the provincial and territorial governments. These accounts are based on the sharing percentage provided by the federal government. The report records the governments' proportionate contributions, proportionate interest amount and proportionate disbursements. It also indicates when payments are due and when they are received.

Monthly financial summary: This report summarizes, at a high level, the market value of the Trust Fund, the investment income earned, payouts to claimants and service providers, and recoveries from the provinces and territories for those payouts since the inception of the Trust Fund. This reporting includes a breakdown of the three notional accounts, Regular Benefits, Special Distributions, and Late-Claims.

Responsibilities of the Sub-Custodian

Concentra Trust's appointment of CIBC Mellon Global Securities Services Company ("CIBC Mellon") as Sub-Custodian of the Hepatitis C Trust Fund was approved by the Superior Courts of British Columbia, Ontario and Quebec effective April 1, 2022.

Custody and safekeeping of securities

Concentra Trust holds in trust the cash and securities of the Trust Fund through its custodian CIBC Mellon. The assets of the Trust Fund are administered in accordance with the directions of the Joint Committee or the investment manager appointed by the courts. CIBC Mellon ensures the safe custody of the assets and each day it reconciles the securities positions in its books using the services of the Canadian Depository for Securities Limited (CDS).

Processing of investment transactions

CIBC Mellon as custodian of the investments, completes all securities investment transactions based on authorized instructions received from the investment manager.

Collection of income

CIBC Mellon will pay income contractually for dividends and interest if the entitlement payment is for an eligible contractual Income market. CIBC Mellon pays maturities on an actual basis (once payment from the issuer has been received).

Maintenance of records

CIBC Mellon maintains accurate records with respect to the assets of the Trust Fund and provides timely reports to various parties including:

Monthly investment statements: These statements provide the financial picture of the Trust Fund including cash reconciliation, investment activity, receipts and disbursements for the reporting period. The reports also provide a list of assets held at a certain date including book value, market value and accrued income. Day-to-day activity is reported in chronological order.

Summary of Trust Fund Activity

The following is a summary of Hepatitis C Trust Fund Activity for the 12 months ended December 31, 2024, the Trust Fund's 25th year of operation.

January 1 – December 31, 2024

Opening Market Value of the Trust Fund	
At January 1, 2024	\$920,753,681.03
Payments to the Trust Fund	
Contributions from Provincial and Territorial governments	\$7,734,374.65
Earnings (including investment income and realized capital gains and losses)	\$34,372,615.24
Payments from the Trust Fund	
Disbursements to the administrator for claimants	\$36,177,323.17
Disbursements to service providers for fees and expenses (including Concentra Trust trustee and custodial fees)	\$4,925,626.76
Total	\$41,102,949.93
Closing Market Value of the Trust Fund	
At December 31, 2024	\$942,630,406.28
Trustee and Custodial Fees	
Budget Approved by the courts - Concentra Trust & CIBC Mellon (sub-custodian)	\$182,000.00
Actual charge to the Trust Fund (2024)	\$157,777.22
Fees for Nov/Dec (taken January 2025)	\$20,262.32
Total Fees applied against 2024 Budget	\$178,039.54
Fees by type (For 2024)	
Trustee Fees (Concentra Trust)	\$140,000.04
Taxes (GST/HST)	\$6,999.96
Total	\$147,000.00
Sub-Custodian (CIBC Mellon)	\$38,039.50
Taxes (GST/HST)	\$1,899.49
Total	\$39,938.99

These materials are provided by Concentra Trust for general information purposes only. Concentra Trust makes no representation or warranties and accepts no responsibility or liability of any kind for their accuracy, reliability or completeness or for any action taken, or results obtained, from the use of the materials. Readers should be aware that the content of these materials should not be regarded as legal, accounting, investment, financial, or other professional advice, nor is intended for such use.





COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATE

Hepatitis C Settlement Trust

To the best of my knowledge, for the calendar year ending December 31, 2024, no amendment has been made to the MFS Low Volatility Global Equity Fund's investment guidelines since February 1, 2023, and that, consequently, the MFS Low Volatility Global Equity Fund's investment guidelines comply with the Investment Guidelines in Schedule 2 to the Terms of Appointment.

To the best of my knowledge, for the calendar year ending December 31, 2024, MFS Investment Management Canada Limited ("MFS") complied in all material respects with the investment restrictions contained in the applicable Offering Memorandum or Offering Memoranda for the MFS Low Volatility Global Equity Fund. Such certification is subject to the following conditions: (i) MFS' compliance testing is performed using portfolio valuation reports derived from its internal security inventory system and not the books and records of the Portfolio; and (ii) MFS is responsible for compliance with the investment restrictions as stated in the applicable Offering Memorandum or Offering Memoranda.

MFS Investment Management Canada Limited

BY: 
Scott Mahaffy
Managing Counsel

DATE: January 22, 2025



MFS[®] Investment Management

1986 – 1990 Hepatitis C Settlement Trust Fund

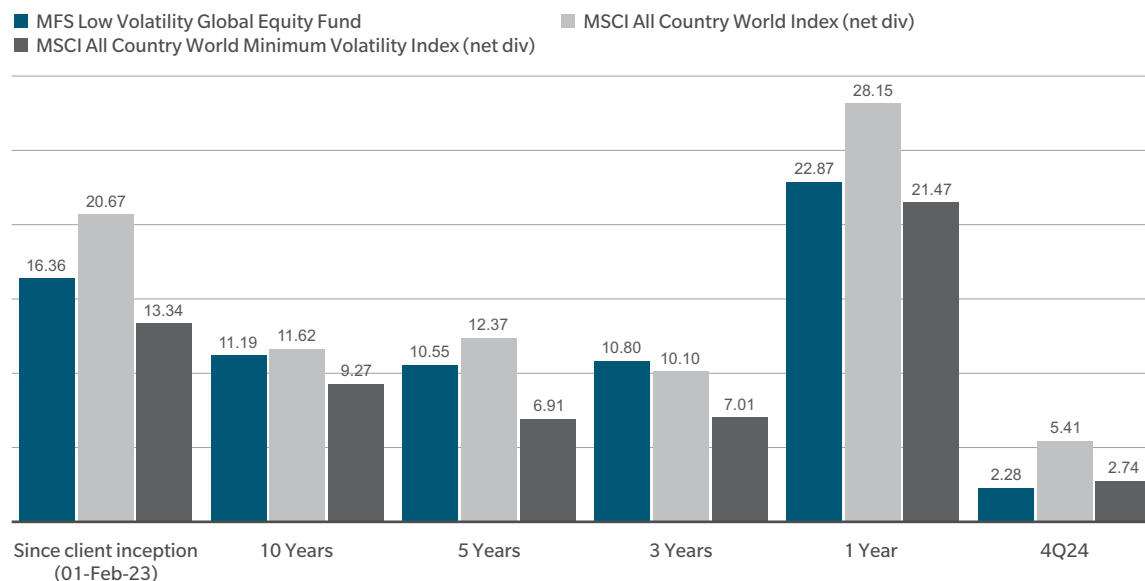
MFS[®] Low Volatility Global Equity Fund 2024 Year-End Review

19 March 2025

Executive Summary



Performance results (%) (CAD), as of 31-Dec-24



Asset summary (CAD)

Beginning value as of 31-Dec-23	135,608,562
Contributions	0
Withdrawals	11,049,636
Asset transfers	0
Change in market value	30,759,614
Ending value as of 31-Dec-24	155,318,540

Sector weights (%)

As of 31-Dec-24	Portfolio	Benchmark [^]
Top overweights		
Consumer Staples	11.8	5.9
Utilities	7.6	2.5
Health Care	14.2	9.7
Top underweights		
Information Technology	17.6	26.0
Consumer Discretionary	6.5	11.3
Energy	1.4	3.8

[^] MSCI All Country World Index

The Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS[®]) was developed by and/or is the exclusive property of MSCI, Inc. and S&P Global Market Intelligence Inc. ("S&P Global Market Intelligence"). GICS is a service mark of MSCI and S&P Global Market Intelligence and has been licensed for use by MFS. MFS has applied its own internal sector/industry classification methodology for equity securities and non-equity securities that are unclassified by GICS.

Source: Benchmark performance from SPAR, FactSet Research Systems Inc. It is not possible to invest directly in an index. Index performance will differ from our actively managed strategies, which may involve a higher degree of risk.

Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Fund returns are net of fund expenses, and do not reflect any management fees. Had management fees been reflected, the performance shown would be lower. Performance data shown represents past performance and is no guarantee of future results.

For periods of less than one-year returns are not annualized.

Performance Results – (CAD)



As of 31-Dec-24	Period	Portfolio (%)	MSCI All Country World Index (net div) (%)	MSCI All Country World Minimum Volatility Index (net div)
Quarterly returns	4Q24	2.28	5.41	2.74
	3Q24	8.01	5.26	8.43
	2Q24	2.61	4.02	1.46
	1Q24	8.38	11.04	7.46
Annual returns	2024	22.87	28.15	21.47
	2023	11.96	18.92	4.85
	2022	-1.10	-12.43	-3.79
Annualized returns	Since client inception (01-Feb-23)	16.36	20.67	13.34
	Since fund inception (17-Jul-13)	12.50	12.52	10.38
	10 years	11.19	11.62	9.27
	5 years	10.55	12.37	6.91
	3 years	10.80	10.10	7.01
	1 year	22.87	28.15	21.47

Source: Benchmark performance from SPAR, FactSet Research Systems Inc. It is not possible to invest directly in an index.

Past performance is no guarantee of future results. For periods of less than one-year returns are not annualized. **Fund returns are net of fund expenses, and do not reflect any management fees. Had management fees been reflected, the performance shown would be lower.** Performance data shown represents past performance and is no guarantee of future results.

MFS Investment Management | For One-on-One Use with the Joint Committee of the 1986-1990 Hepatitis C Settlement Agreement. Not for further distribution.

Characteristics

(CAD)



As of 31-Dec-24		Portfolio	MSCI All Country World Index	MSCI AC World Minimum Volatility Index
Fundamentals - weighted average	Price/earnings (12 months forward)	15.8x	18.6x	16.5x
	Price/cash flow	13.7x	15.8x	12.2x
	Price/sales	1.6x	2.2x	1.5x
	PEG ratio	2.0x	1.9x	2.0x
	Dividend yield	2.5%	1.8%	2.3%
	Return on equity (3-year average)	24.9%	27.3%	22.5%
	Return on invested capital	13.6%	16.1%	12.9%
	IBES long-term EPS growth ¹	10.5%	15.5%	10.8%
Market capitalization	Market capitalization (CAD) ²	352.6 bn	1,078.6 bn	208.9 bn
Diversification	Top ten issues	24%	24%	13%
	Number of Issues	101	2,647	391
Turnover	Trailing 1 year turnover ³	26%	—	—
Risk profile (current)	Active share vs.	—	84%	77%
Risk/reward (10 year)	Beta vs.	—	0.68	0.96
	Historical tracking error vs.	—	6.04%	2.93%
	Standard deviation	9.22%	11.62%	9.09%
	Sharpe ratio	1.03	0.86	0.83
	Downside capture vs.	—	60.24%	92.41%
	Upside capture vs.	—	77.66%	106.39%

¹ Source: FactSet

² Weighted average.

³ US Turnover Methodology: (Lesser of Purchase or Sales)/Average Month End Market Value
Past performance is no guarantee of future results. No forecasts can be guaranteed.

Sector Weights



As of 31-Dec-24	Portfolio (%)	Benchmark [^] (%)	Benchmark ^{^^} (%)	Underweight/Overweight Benchmark [^] (%)	Underweight/Overweight Benchmark ^{^^} (%)
Consumer Staples	11.8	5.9	11.0	5.9	0.8
Utilities	7.6	2.5	5.7	5.1	1.9
Health Care	14.2	9.7	14.6	4.5	-0.4
Communication Services	10.8	8.2	12.6	2.6	-1.8
Financials	16.9	16.8	17.4	0.1	-0.5
Industrials	9.7	10.2	7.5	-0.5	2.2
Materials	2.2	3.5	1.8	-1.3	0.4
Real Estate	0.6	2.0	0.2	-1.4	0.4
Energy	1.4	3.8	2.5	-2.4	-1.1
Consumer Discretionary	6.5	11.3	6.1	-4.8	0.4
Information Technology	17.6	26.0	20.7	-8.4	-3.1

[^] MSCI All Country World Index

^{^^} MSCI AC World Minimum Volatility Index

0.6% Cash & Cash Equivalents.

-0.0% Other. Other consists of: (i) currency derivatives and/or (ii) any derivative offsets.

The Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS[®]) was developed by and/or is the exclusive property of MSCI, Inc. and S&P Global Market Intelligence Inc. ("S&P Global Market Intelligence"). GICS is a service mark of MSCI and S&P Global Market Intelligence and has been licensed for use by MFS. MFS has applied its own internal sector/industry classification methodology for equity securities and non-equity securities that are unclassified by GICS.

**MFS Investment Management | For One-on-One Use with the Joint Committee of the 1986-1990 Hepatitis C Settlement Agreement.
Not for further distribution.**

MVG-PODBK+-17-Jan-25

Region and Country Weights



As of 31-Dec-24	Portfolio (%)	Benchmark^ (%)	Benchmark^^ (%)
North America	63.0	69.2	61.5
Canada	6.0	2.8	1.2
United States	57.0	66.4	60.3
Europe ex-U.K.	8.2	10.4	5.0
Netherlands	2.0	0.9	0.5
Switzerland	3.0	2.0	1.9
Italy	0.7	0.6	0.1
Denmark	0.4	0.6	—
Spain	0.4	0.6	0.1
France	1.7	2.3	0.5
Other countries^^	—	3.4	2.0
Emerging Markets	8.5	9.9	20.5
Thailand	3.2	0.1	0.5
Philippines	2.8	0.1	0.2
South Korea	1.7	0.9	0.1
Brazil	0.8	0.4	0.1
Other countries^^	—	8.4	19.7
Japan	8.2	4.8	9.9
United Kingdom	3.3	3.2	0.1
Asia/Pacific ex-Japan	7.8	2.3	2.5
Singapore	5.8	0.3	1.0
Hong Kong	2.0	0.4	1.4
Other countries^^	—	1.6	0.1
Developed - Middle East/Africa	0.5	0.2	0.5
Israel	0.5	0.2	0.5

Underweight/ Overweight (%)	Benchmark^ (%)	Benchmark^^ (%)
North America	-6.2	1.5
Europe ex-U.K.	-2.2	3.2
Emerging Markets	-1.4	-12.0
Japan	3.4	-1.7
United Kingdom	0.1	3.2
Asia/Pacific ex-Japan	5.5	5.3
Developed - Middle East/Africa	0.3	0.0

^ MSCI All Country World Index. Portfolio does not own securities in the following countries : China 2.7%; Taiwan 2.0%; India 1.9%; Germany 1.9%; Australia 1.5%; Sweden 0.7%; and 25 other countries with weights less than 0.5% totaling 2.6%.

^^ MSCI AC World Minimum Volatility Index. Portfolio does not own securities in the following countries : China 6.0%; India 5.9%; Taiwan 4.5%; Germany 1.3%; Saudi Arabia 1.2%; Malaysia 0.5%; and 12 other countries with weights less than 0.5% totaling 2.4%.

0.6% Cash & Cash Equivalents.

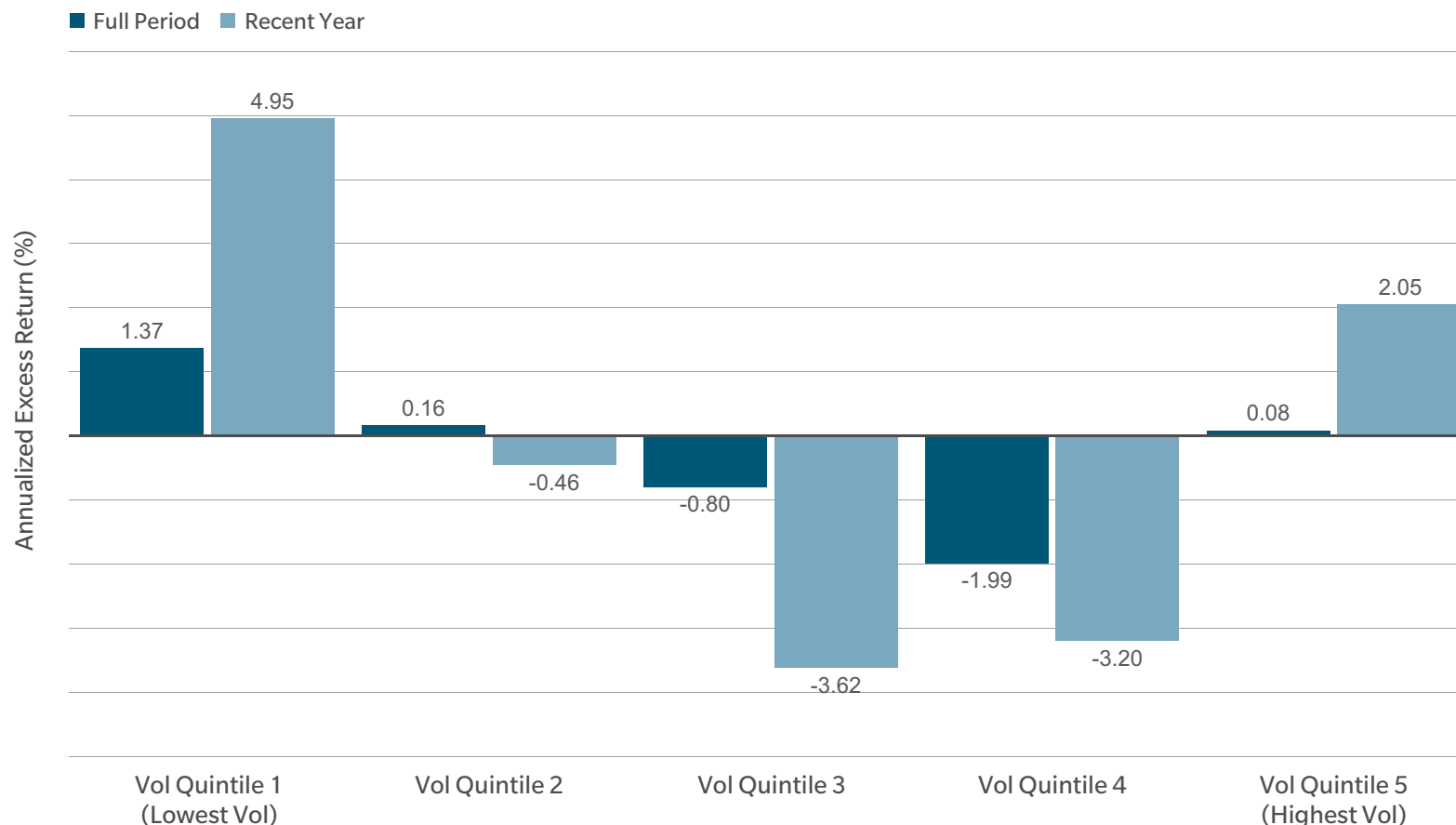
-0.0% Other. Other consists of: (i) currency derivatives and/or (ii) any derivative offsets.

**MFS Investment Management | For One-on-One Use with the Joint Committee of the 1986-1990 Hepatitis C Settlement Agreement.
Not for further distribution.**

MVG-PODBK+-17-Jan-25

Volatility Quintiles — Long Run vs. Recent

Annualized excess returns of 5 year trailing volatility quintiles of MSCI ACWI Universe



Source: Factset. "Full Period" data from 30-Jun-01 to 31-Mar-25. "Recent Year" data from 31-Mar-24 to 31-Mar-25. The exhibit above is intended to illustrate factor performance trends in the market, and not intended to represent factor performance in MFS' quantitative models or investment portfolios. The performance data are hypothetical returns calculated by equal weighting returns within global equity universe for MSCI All-Country World Index (ACWI). The universe consists of approximately 2,800 of the largest stocks globally, based on equal-weighting each stock at each month-end. For the factor, in this case volatility, stocks with available factor value data are sorted by their factor value within the universe, and then grouped into equal-weighted quintiles at the end of each month. The volatility factor is defined as the standard deviation of 5 years of monthly returns in USD. The universe is reconstructed and returns are calculated each month, and the monthly returns are linked geometrically into cumulative returns. The returns of the hypothetical factor quintile portfolios relative to the universe are displayed in the exhibit. While the data are based on sources believed to be reliable, MFS does not represent that it is accurate or complete and should not be relied on as such or be the basis for an investment decision. As discussed, the factor analyzed for the exhibit is 5 year trailing volatility, which are more commonly used to discuss company risk. Above, we label the quintiles as vol for ease of recognition.

Disclosures



The information contained herein is for information purposes only. The information has been drawn from sources believed to be reliable. Graphs and charts are used for illustrative purposes only and do not reflect future values or future performance of any investment. The information does not provide financial, legal, tax or investment advice. Particular investment, tax, or trading strategies should be evaluated relative to each individual's objectives and risk tolerance.

This material is not an offer to any person in any jurisdiction where unlawful or unauthorized. These materials have not been reviewed by and are not registered with any securities or other regulatory authority in jurisdictions where we operate.

This document may contain forward-looking statements ("FLS"). FLS reflect current expectations and projections about future events and/or outcomes based on data currently available. Such expectations and projections may be incorrect in the future as events which were not anticipated or considered in their formulation may occur and lead to results that differ materially from those expressed or implied. FLS are not guarantees of future performance and reliance on FLS should be avoided.

Any general discussion or opinions contained within these materials regarding securities or market conditions represent our view or the view of the source cited. Unless otherwise indicated, such view is as of the date noted and is subject to change. Information about the portfolio holdings, asset allocation or diversification is historical and is subject to change. Any indices cited are widely accepted benchmarks for investment and represent non-managed investment portfolios. It is not possible to invest directly in an index. Information about the indices allows for the comparisons of an investment strategy's results to that of a widely recognized market index. There is no representation that such index is an appropriate benchmark for such comparison. Results for an index do not reflect trading commissions and costs. Index volatility may be materially different from a strategy's volatility and portfolio holdings may differ significantly from the securities comprising the index.

All products contain risk. Important information about the pooled funds is contained in their respective offering memorandum, which we encourage you to read before investing. Please obtain a copy. The indicated rates of return are the historical annual compounded total returns of the funds including changes in unit value and reinvestment of all distributions. Yields, investment returns and unit values will fluctuate for all funds. All performance data represent past returns and are not necessarily indicative of future performance.

MFS Investment Management Pooled Funds are managed by MFS Investment Management Canada Limited. Pursuant to a sub-advisory agreement executed between MFS Investment Management Canada Limited and MFS Institutional Advisors, Inc. (MFS), MFS provides certain sub-advisory services to all MFS Investment Management Canada Limited portfolios, including discretionary investment management for the non-Canadian portfolios or components of portfolios.

The Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS®) was developed by and/or is the exclusive property of MSCI, Inc. and S&P Global Market Intelligence Inc. ("S&P Global Market Intelligence"). GICS is a service mark of MSCI and S&P Global Market Intelligence and has been licensed for use by MFS. MFS has applied its own internal sector/industry classification methodology for equity securities and non-equity securities that are unclassified by GICS. Source: Benchmark performance from SPAR, FactSet Research Systems Inc. It is not possible to invest directly in an index. Index performance will differ from our actively managed strategies, which may involve a higher degree of risk.

®Unless otherwise indicated, logos, product and service names are trademarks of MFS and its affiliates and may be registered in certain countries.

**MFS Investment Management | For One-on-One Use with the Joint Committee of the 1986-1990 Hepatitis C Settlement Agreement.
Not for further distribution.**



1986-1990 Hepatitis C Settlement Trust Fund

Annual Certificate of Compliance

For the year ending: December 31, 2024

To the best of our knowledge, we are in compliance with your investment guidelines.

Compliance verified by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MHegeman'.

Michelle Hegeman, CFA
Vice President & Director
Portfolio Management

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stasyuk'.

Mariya Stasyuk, CFA
Vice President
Client Relationship Manager

Date: January 15, 2025



1986 - 1990 Hepatitis C Settlement Trust Fund

Investment Review

March 19, 2025

Mariya Stasyuk, CFA, RIPC

Vice President, Client Relationship Manager
TD Global Investment Solutions
TD Asset Management Inc.

Anthony Lazanis

Associate
TD Global Investment Solutions
TD Asset Management Inc.

Michelle Hegeman, CFA

Vice President & Director
TD Asset Management Inc.



Investment Mandate

1986 - 1990 Hepatitis C Settlement Trust Fund



Investment Mandate	Fund	Benchmark	Inception Date	Market Value
Short Term	TD <i>Emerald</i> Canadian Short Term Investment Fund	FTSE Canada 91 Day T-Bill Index	Oct 26-18	\$34,774,305
Long Term	Segregated Bonds / Real Return Bonds (buy-and-hold)	N/A	Feb 29-00	\$688,935,058
	TD <i>Emerald</i> Canadian Bond Index Fund	FTSE Canada Universe Bond Index	Feb 29-00	\$55,314,336
Total				\$779,023,699

Note: Numbers may not add due to rounding. As of Dec 31, 2024.

Performance



1986 - 1990 Hepatitis C Settlement Trust Fund

Returns as of Dec 31, 2024	Account Performance		
	1 yr	4 yrs	Account Inception ¹
TD <i>Emerald</i> Canadian Short Term Investment Fund	5.24%	3.10%	2.61%
FTSE Canada 91 Day T-Bill Index	4.92%	2.88%	2.32%
Difference	0.32%	0.22%	0.29%
Segregated Bonds / Real Return Bonds (buy-and-hold)	3.28%	0.32%	5.46%

Returns as of Dec 31, 2024	Account Performance			Hep C Target Tracking Error (%)	
	1 yr	4 yrs	Account Inception ¹	1 Yr	4 Yrs
TD <i>Emerald</i> Canadian Bond Index Fund	4.05%	-1.17%	4.39%		
FTSE Canada Universe Bond Index	4.23%	-1.09%	4.47%	± 0.20	± 0.10
Difference	-0.18%	-0.08%	-0.08%		

Returns as of Dec 31, 2024	1 yr	4 yrs
Total Return²	3.31%	1.08%

¹ Client inception date for Short Term Investment Fund is Oct 26, 2018. Client inception date for Segregated Real Return Bonds (RRBs) & Canadian Bond Index Fund are: Feb 29, 2000.

² Corresponds to 1 & 4 Years Total Performance of all of the accounts together.

Note: Returns for periods over one year are annualized; net of expenses; number may not add due to rounding.

Source: TD Asset Management Inc., Investment Guidelines for the 1986-1990 Hepatitis C Settlement Trust Fund (Revised 2018), FTSE Global Debt Capital Markets Inc. As of Dec 31, 2024.

Performance



1986 - 1990 Hepatitis C Settlement Trust Fund

Returns as of Dec 31, 2024	Inception Date	Annualized							Since Inception
		3 mths	YTD	1 yr	2 yrs	3 yrs	4 yrs	5 yrs	
TD <i>Emerald</i> Canadian Short Term Investment Fund	Oct 26-18	1.15%	5.24%	5.24%	5.23%	4.07%	3.10%	2.72%	2.61%
FTSE Canada 91 Day T-Bill Index		1.08%	4.92%	4.92%	4.81%	3.80%	2.88%	2.47%	2.32%
Difference		0.08%	0.32%	0.32%	0.42%	0.27%	0.22%	0.25%	0.29%
TD <i>Emerald</i> Canadian Bond Index Fund	Feb 29-00	-0.10%	4.05%	4.05%	5.34%	-0.67%	-1.17%	0.68%	4.39%
FTSE Canada Universe Bond Index		-0.04%	4.23%	4.23%	5.44%	-0.60%	-1.09%	0.79%	4.47%
Difference		-0.06%	-0.18%	-0.18%	-0.10%	-0.07%	-0.08%	-0.11%	-0.08%
Segregated Bonds / Real Return Bonds (buy-and-hold)	Feb 29-00	0.23%	3.28%	3.28%	3.38%	-0.55%	0.32%	2.00%	5.46%

Note: Returns are net of expenses; numbers may not add due to rounding

Source: TD Asset Management Inc., FTSE Global Debt Capital Markets Inc.

Universe Bond Market Update



Sector	Weight (%)	Quarter Return (%)	1 Year Return (%)
Federal	40.52	-0.44	3.48
Provincial	32.68	-0.36	3.10
Municipal	1.82	-0.12	3.92
All Corporates ¹	24.98	1.03	6.97
Corporate BBB	10.87	1.17	7.80
FTSE Canada Universe Bond Index		-0.04	4.23

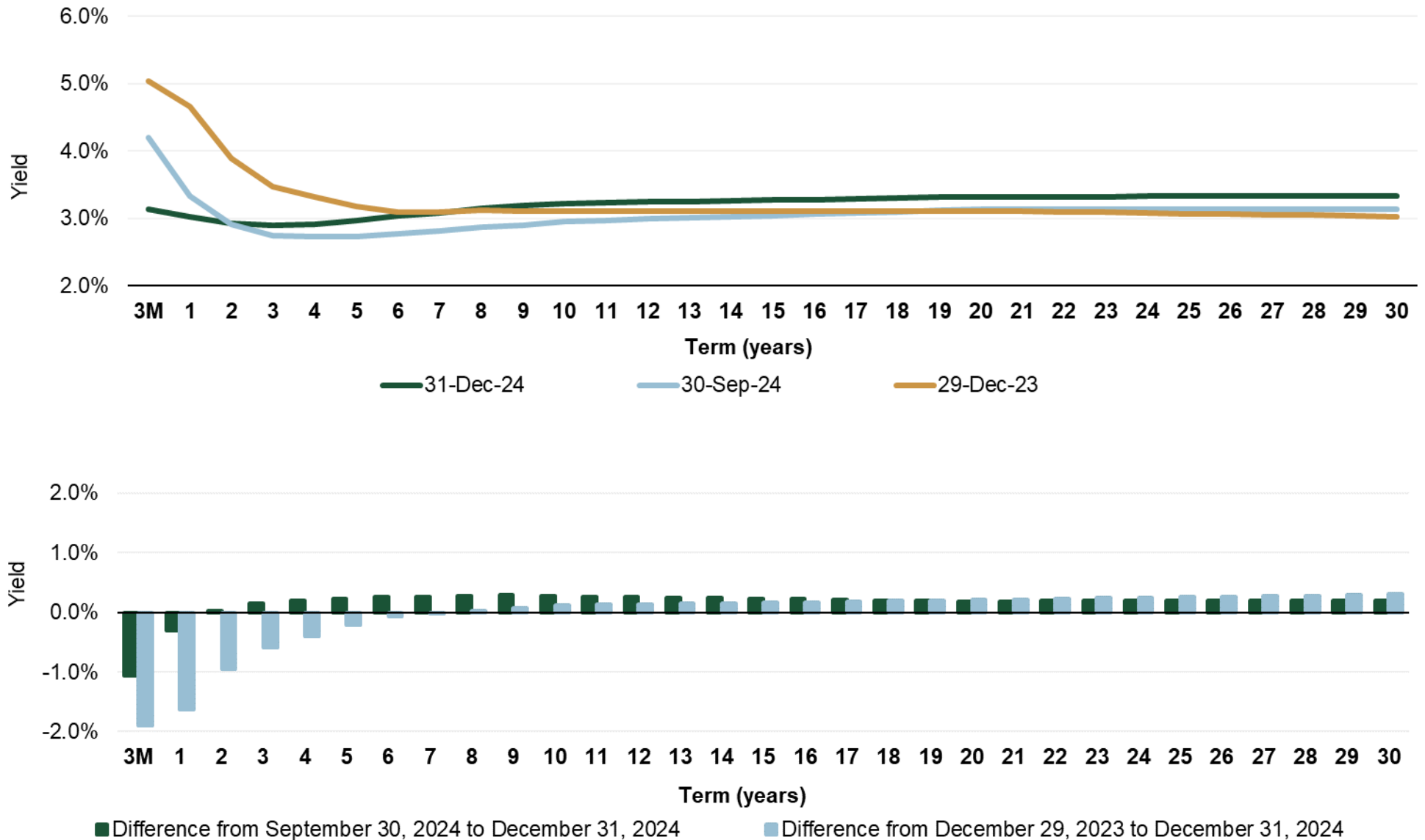
3-Month Commentary

- The **FTSE Canada Universe Bond Index (the “Index”)** declined 0.04% over the fourth quarter of 2024. Within the Index, corporate bonds increased 1.03%, outperforming government bonds, which declined 0.40%.
- Energy and Real Estate sector bonds posted the largest increases among corporate issuers, while Infrastructure sector bonds trailed the group. BBB-rated bonds posted the largest increase, rising 1.17%, followed by A-rated bonds, which increased 0.93%. AAA/AA-rated bonds trailed the group, rising 0.85%. Government of Canada bonds posted the largest decline among government bonds, decreasing 0.64%. Over the quarter, investment-grade credit spreads (the difference in yields between corporate and government bonds with similar maturities) narrowed by 17 basis points (“bps”), from 1.19% to 1.02%.
- Short-term bonds outperformed mid- and long-term bonds. The FTSE Canada Short Term Bond Index increased 0.65%, while the FTSE Canada Mid Term Bond Index fell 0.41%. The FTSE Canada Long Term Bond Index declined 0.80%.
- Over the quarter, the Index’s yield increased 10 bps to 3.58%. Government bond yields increased 14 bps to 3.42%, while corporate bond yields fell 1 bp to 4.09%.

¹ Including BBB Corporates.

Source: TD Asset Management Inc., FTSE Global Debt Capital Markets Inc. As of Dec 31, 2024.

Yield Curve Steepened as Short Term Yields Decreased



Source: Bloomberg Finance L.P. As of Dec 31, 2024.

Appendix



Performance

TD *Emerald* Pooled Funds



Returns as of Dec 31, 2024	Inception Date	AUM (in billion)	Annualized								Since Inception
			3 mths	YTD	1 yr	2 yrs	3 yrs	4 yrs	5 yrs	10 yrs	
TD <i>Emerald</i> Canadian Short Term Investment Fund	Jul 4-91	\$2.69	1.15%	5.24%	5.24%	5.24%	4.07%	3.11%	2.73%	2.05%	3.43%
FTSE Canada 91 Day T-Bill Index			1.08%	4.92%	4.92%	4.82%	3.81%	2.88%	2.48%	1.71%	3.02%
Difference			0.08%	0.32%	0.32%	0.42%	0.27%	0.22%	0.25%	0.34%	0.41%
TD <i>Emerald</i> Canadian Bond Index Fund	Aug 7-91	\$3.10	-0.10%	4.05%	4.05%	5.34%	-0.67%	-1.17%	0.68%	1.88%	5.80%
FTSE Canada Universe Bond Index			-0.04%	4.23%	4.23%	5.45%	-0.60%	-1.09%	0.79%	1.98%	5.86%
Difference			-0.06%	-0.18%	-0.18%	-0.11%	-0.07%	-0.08%	-0.11%	-0.09%	-0.06%

Note: Returns are net of expenses; numbers may not add due to rounding
Source: TD Asset Management Inc., FTSE Global Debt Capital Markets Inc.

The information contained herein has been provided by TD Asset Management Inc. and is for information purposes only. The information has been drawn from sources believed to be reliable. Graphs and charts are used for illustrative purposes only and do not reflect future values or future performance of any investment. The information does not provide financial, legal, tax or investment advice. Particular investment, tax, or trading strategies should be evaluated relative to each individual's objectives and risk tolerance.

This material is not an offer to any person in any jurisdiction where unlawful or unauthorized. These materials have not been reviewed by and are not registered with any securities or other regulatory authority in jurisdictions where we operate.

Any general discussion or opinions contained within these materials regarding securities or market conditions represent our view or the view of the source cited. Unless otherwise indicated, such view is as of the date noted and is subject to change. Information about the portfolio holdings, asset allocation or diversification is historical and is subject to change.

Management fees and expenses all may be associated with mutual fund investments. Please read the fund facts and prospectus, which contain detailed investment information, before investing. The indicated rates of return are the historical annual compounded total returns for the period indicated including changes in unit value and reinvestment of all distributions and do not take into account sales, redemption, distribution or optional charges or income taxes payable by any unitholder that would have reduced returns. Mutual funds are not guaranteed or insured, their values change frequently and past performance may not be repeated. Mutual fund strategies and current holdings are subject to change.

Any indices cited are widely accepted benchmarks for investment and represent non-managed investment portfolios. It is not possible to invest directly in an index. Information about the indices allows for the comparisons of an investment strategy's results to that of a widely recognized market index. There is no representation that such index is an appropriate benchmark for such comparison. Results for an index do not reflect trading commissions and costs. Index volatility may be materially different from a strategy's volatility and portfolio holdings may differ significantly from the securities comprising the index.

No investment strategy or risk management technique can guarantee returns or eliminate risk in any market environment. Any characteristics, guidelines, constraints or other information provided for this material is representative of the investment strategy and is provided for illustrative purposes only. They may change at any time and may differ for a specific account. Each client account is individually managed; actual holdings will vary for each client and there is no guarantee that a particular client's account will have the same characteristics as described herein. Any information about the holdings, asset allocation, or sector diversification is historical and is not an indication of future performance or any future portfolio composition, which will vary. Portfolio holdings are representative of the strategy, are subject to change at any time and are not a recommendation to buy or sell a security. The securities identified and described do not represent all of the securities purchased, sold or recommended for the portfolio. It should not be assumed that an investment in these securities or sectors was or will be profitable. No investment strategy or risk management technique can guarantee returns or eliminate risk in any market environment.

TD *Emerald* Funds are managed and distributed by TD Asset Management Inc. or through authorized dealers.

TD Mutual Funds are managed by TD Asset Management Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Toronto-Dominion Bank and are available through authorized dealers.

TD Global Investment Solutions represents TD Asset Management Inc. ("TDAM") and Epoch Investment Partners, Inc. ("TD Epoch"). TDAM and TD Epoch are affiliates and wholly-owned subsidiaries of The Toronto-Dominion Bank.

The TD Mutual Funds/Products (the "Funds/Products") have been developed solely by TD Asset Management Inc. The Funds/Products are not in any way connected to or sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by the London Stock Exchange Group plc and its group undertakings (collectively, the "LSE Group"). FTSE Russell is a trading name of certain of the LSE Group companies.

All rights in the FTSE Russell Index/Indices referred to in this document/publication (the "Index/Indices") vest in the relevant LSE Group company which owns the Index/Indices. "FTSE®" is trademark of the relevant LSE Group company and is used by any other LSE Group company under license. "TMX®" is a trade mark of TSX, Inc. and used by the LSE Group under license.

The Index is calculated by or on behalf of FTSE International Limited or its affiliate, agent or partner. The LSE Group does 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 the Funds/Products. The LSE Group makes no claim, prediction, warranty or representation either as to the results to be obtained from the Funds/Products or the suitability of the Index for the purpose to which it is being put by TD Asset Management Inc.

Bloomberg and Bloomberg.com are trademarks and service marks of Bloomberg Finance L.P., a Delaware limited partnership, or its subsidiaries. All rights reserved.

©The TD logo and other TD trademarks are the property of The Toronto-Dominion Bank or its subsidiaries.

REPORT OF ECKLER LTD. ACTIVITIES

The firm of Eckler Ltd. was engaged to provide the Trust with continuing actuarial advice during the period from January to December 2024. During this fiscal year Eckler provided continuing assistance to the Joint Committee on a number of issues including: review of TDAM and MFS asset reports; review of the custodian's asset statements; checking the quarterly interest calculations/allocations; reconciling various asset statements; reviewing/updating investment results; monitoring the need for any rebalancing within the long-term fund or between the long-term and short-term funds; preparation of investment summaries for the Joint Committee; updating payment amounts for the change in the Pension Index for 2025; various discussions with counsel; and other miscellaneous items.



ECKLER

HEPATITIS C SETTLEMENT TRUST FUND

Investment Summary
as of December 31, 2024

March 10, 2025

Overview

- Total assets consist of two main components:
 - An Investible Trust Fund, split into two portfolios
 - Long Term Fund investing in real return bonds, equities and other bonds
 - Short Term Fund investing in short term investment fund
 - A Notional Fund, consisting of amounts owed by the provincial and territorial governments
- Investible assets were managed by TD Asset Management throughout 2022, either passively or on an indexed basis. The equity portfolio was transitioned to MFS in the first quarter of 2023 to invest in their low volatility strategy.
- Our analysis for 2024 is based on statements provided by Concentra Trust (the custodian for the investible assets), MFS and TD Asset Management.
- In particular:
 - All dollar amounts, including asset values and cashflows, are taken from Concentra Trust
 - Returns are derived from the TD and MFS statements. We have reviewed these for reasonableness but have not independently verified the returns in full.
- TD Asset Management and MFS are required to certify that they have complied with the investment guidelines specified by the Joint Committee. We have not verified that this has taken place or that the guidelines have been complied with.

Overview continued...

- In 2017, the Courts approved a number of special distribution benefits and a late claims protocol to be funded out of the Excess Capital established as at December 31, 2013.
- As a result, the trust fund was divided into three notional accounts:
 - Regular Benefits Account
 - Special Distribution Benefits Account
 - Late Claims Benefit Account
- Each account shares proportionately in the invested assets of the Trust.
- The investment income arising from the total invested assets is allocated monthly.
- In 2023, the Courts approved additional special distribution benefits funded out of the Excess Capital established as at December 31, 2019.
 - As a result, funds were notionally reallocated from the Regular Benefits Account and Late Claims Benefit Account to the Special Distribution Benefit Account

Asset Summary (\$,000's)

Fund	Portfolio	Strategy	Min	Benchmark	Max	Dec-24			Dec-23		
						Value	Asset Alloc	Fund Alloc	Value	Asset Alloc	Fund Alloc
Long term	Real Return Bonds	Passive	70.0%	80.0%	84.0%	650,271	71.7%		674,098	74.3%	
	Universe Bonds	Index	4.0%	6.0%	8.0%	55,219	6.1%		54,872	6.0%	
	World Equity	Low Volatility	8.0%	14.0%	20.0%	155,319	17.1%		135,609	14.9%	
	Cash		0.0%	0.0%	10.0%	46,734	5.1%		42,906	4.7%	
				100.0%		907,543	100.0%	90.1%	907,485	100.0%	91.7%
Short Term	Short Term Investment Fund	Index				34,773			12,801		
	Cash					314			458		
						35,087		3.5%	13,259		1.3%
Total Invested Assets *						942,630		93.6%	920,744		93.0%
Provinces/Territories' Notional Assets (net of prepayments, including outstanding payments)						64,218		6.4%	68,931		7.0%
Total Assets						1,006,848		100.0%	989,675		100.0%

* Total Invested Assets includes prepayments from Yukon. Totals may not add due to rounding.

Asset Summary – cont'd (\$,000's)

Split of Invested Assets between:	Dec-24	Dec-23
Long Term Fund	96.3%	98.6%
Short Term Fund	3.7%	1.4%
Total Invested Assets	100.0%	100.0%

As of December 31, 2024:

- Weighting for real return bonds is currently 8.3% below the benchmark of 80% of the Long-Term Fund
 - Underweight was less significant as at December 31, 2023 (5.7% below benchmark).
 - \$26.5m was transferred to the Short-Term Fund in April 2024 to meet cashflow needs.
- As a result of the above, both real return bonds and cash are within the investment policy limits.
- Weighting for universe bonds is 6.1%, 0.1% above the benchmark.
 - Weighting slightly increased from December 31, 2023 of 6.0%
- Equities are above the benchmark allocation by 3.1%, following strong equity market returns
 - At December 31, 2023 they were 0.9% above their benchmark of 14.0%.
- Provinces/Territories' ("PT") Notional Assets are net of prepayments by Yukon
 - See further detail on page 4.
- As a percentage of the Invested Assets, the Long-Term Fund has decreased from 98.6% to 96.3%, while the Short-Term Fund has increased from 1.4% to 3.7% during the fiscal year.

Asset Development (\$,000's)

		Invested Assets ¹				Provinces/ Territories' Notional Assets ¹	Total Assets
		Real Return Bond Fund	Other Long-Term Funds	Short Term Fund	Total Invested Assets		
Initial, at December 31, 2023		710,675	196,809	13,259	920,744	68,931	989,675
Investment income (realized and unrealized)		21,116	32,932	1,208	55,255	3,021	58,277
Inflow:	Recoveries from Provinces	-	-	7,734	7,734	(7,734)	-
	Additional Prepayments	-	-	-	-	-	-
Outflow:	Benefit Payments	-	-	(36,177)	(36,177)	-	(36,177)
	Expenses	-	-	(4,926)	(4,926)	-	(4,926)
Transfers between funds		(43,138)	(10,851)	53,989	-	-	-
Closing, at December 31, 2024		688,652 ²	218,891 ²	35,087	942,630	64,218	1,006,848

1. Invested Assets include PT prepayments; PT Notional Assets are net of prepayments and include outstanding payments
2. These figures differ slightly from those on page 4 because of allocation of cash balances

Note: Values are based on Concentra Trust statements, and totals may not add due to rounding

Comments on Asset Development

- Total invested assets (i.e. excluding Provinces/Territories' Notional Assets) have increased since December 31, 2023, by \$21.9m
 - As a result of positive investment returns, partially offset by benefit payments and expenses.
- The Provinces/Territories' Notional Assets have decreased by \$4.7m
 - As a result of their 3/11ths share of the Regular Benefit Account payout exceeding interest credits at T-bill rates.
- Total assets (i.e. including Provinces/Territories' Notional Assets) have increased by \$17.2m
- Benefits are paid from the Short-Term Fund
- From June 2002 onwards all recoveries from the provinces were allocated to the Short-Term Fund.
- TD Asset Management made net transfers from the Long-Term Fund to the Short-Term Fund of \$44.9m.
 - \$43.1m from the real return bond in April, June and December 2024.
 - \$1.8m from other long-term funds - spread over the whole year of 2024.
- MFS made net transfers from the Long-Term Fund to the Short-Term Fund of \$9.0m in January, April, July and October 2024.

Provinces / Territories' Notional Assets (\$,000's)

	Gross Province/ Territories' Notional Assets	Add Payable Nova Scotia	Less Newfoundland prepayments	Less Yukon Prepayments	Net Provinces/ Territories' Notional Assets
Initial, at December 31, 2023	68,932	10		(11)	68,931
Interest credits	3,022				3,021
Additional prepayments	-				-
3/11 th share of benefits/expenses	(7,716)	(10)	(9)		(7,734)
Closing, at December 31, 2024	64,238		(9)	(11)	64,218

Totals may appear not to add due to rounding.

Investment Returns

Fund	Portfolio	Fiscal Year Ending				Quarterly Returns Fiscal Dec 2024			
		Dec-21	Dec-22	Dec-23	Dec-24	Mar-24	Jun-24	Sep-24	Dec-24
Long Term	Real Return Bonds	3.6%	-9.2%	4.0%	3.3%	-1.5%	1.0%	3.5%	0.3%
	Universe Bonds	-2.7%	-11.7%	6.7%	4.0%	-1.3%	0.8%	4.6%	-0.1%
	Low Volatility World Equity	16.9%	-0.9%	11.6%	23.4%	8.4%	2.7%	7.9%	2.4%
	Total	4.9%	-8.0%	4.9%	6.3%	0.0%	1.3%	4.3%	0.6%
Short Term	Short Term Bonds/Investment Fund	0.3%	1.8%	5.2%	5.2%	1.3%	1.3%	1.3%	1.2%
Total Invested Assets		4.7%	-7.5%	5.1%	6.2%	0.1%	1.2%	4.2%	0.6%
Notional PT Assets		0.1%	1.7%	4.7%	4.7%	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%	1.0%
Total Assets		4.4%	-6.9%	5.1%	6.1%	0.1%	1.2%	4.0%	0.6%

- The 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024 annual and quarterly returns for the component portfolios are as reported by TD Asset Management and MFS Investment Management in their investment reports. Eckler has not independently verified these, although they have been cross checked with the custodian valuations.
- Aggregated annual and quarterly returns (Total Long Term, Total Invested Assets and Total Assets) are calculated by Eckler taking into account the relative market values, cashflows and investment returns of the component portfolios.
- Eckler returns are calculated on an approximate basis, using average cashflows; they may differ slightly from returns calculated by a performance measurement service using daily cashflows.

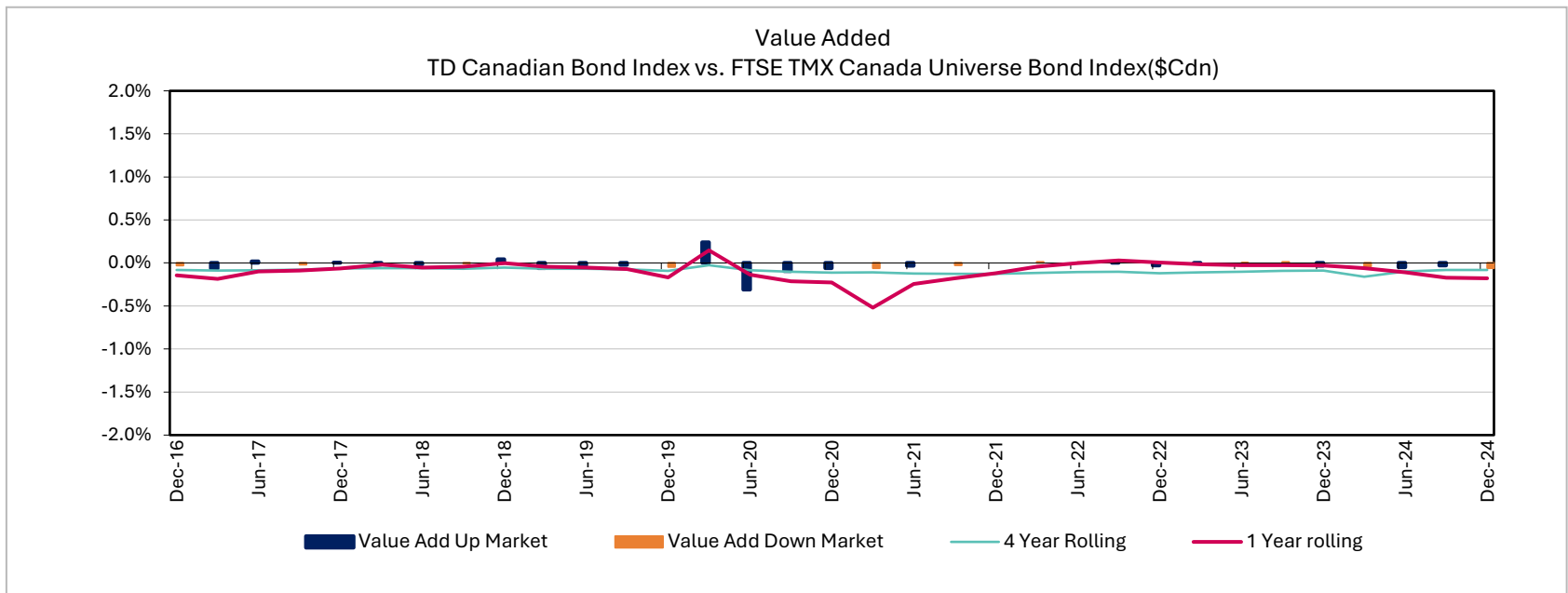
Comments on Investment Returns

- The overall return of 6.1% for the 2024 calendar year is the result of 6.2% for invested assets and 4.7% for notional PT assets
- Universe Bonds produced a positive return of 4.0% in 2024, reflecting an increase in value as yields declined.
- RRBs returned 3.3%, also affected by the decrease in yield.
- The 2024 return for the low volatility world equity is 23.4%. By comparison the MSCI All Country World Index returned 28.1% in 2024.
- The Provinces/Territories' Notional Assets increase with interest at the 3-month T-bill rate; in 2024, these rates were lower than the returns on the invested assets.

Tracking Error

		Fiscal Year Ending				4 years to Dec 2024	Target Tracking Error	
		Dec-21	Dec-22	Dec-23	Dec-24		1 year	4 years
Universe Bonds	Actual	-2.7%	-11.7%	6.7%	4.0%	-1.2%		
	Index	-2.5%	-11.7%	6.7%	4.2%	-1.1%		
	t/e	-0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	-0.2%	-0.1%	0.20%	0.10%

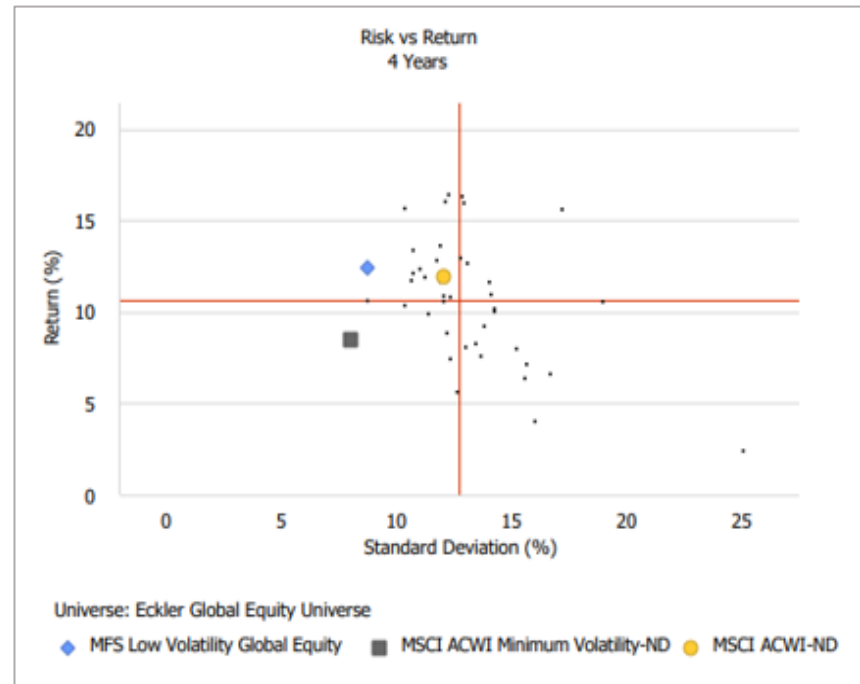
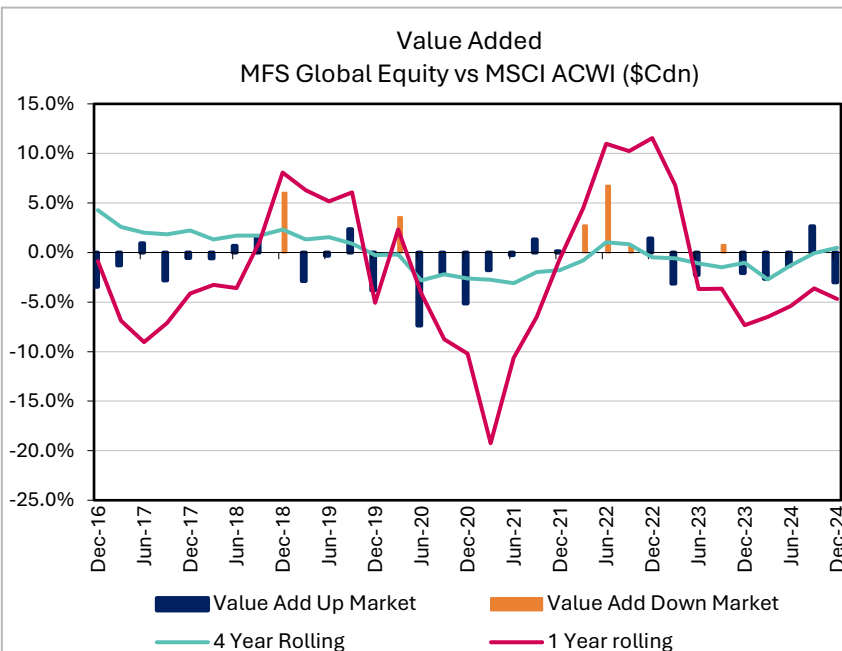
- Universe Bonds met their tracking error target over both one and four years for 2024.



Risk metrics for Low Volatility Equity Portfolio

MFS Low Volatility Global Equity Fund

- The MFS Low Volatility Global Equity strategy seeks to outperform the MSCI All Country World Index over the long term at less volatility (defined as standard deviation of monthly returns) than the index.
- It is notable from the value-add chart below that MFS has consistently protected the portfolio in down markets (orange bars) but often lags the market in rising markets. This is consistent with the low vol strategy.
- The 4-year risk return chart reveals that while marginally behind the index, MFS delivered this return with significantly lower volatility than the market, consistent with the expectations for this product. We also note that MFS substantially outperformed the Minimum volatility index and the median active global equity manager.



Benefit Accounts (\$000s)

	Regular Benefit Account	Special Distribution Benefit Account	Late Claims Benefit Account	Total Invested Assets	Provinces/ Territories Notional Assets	Total Assets
Initial, at December 31, 2023	708,278	152,975	59,491	920,744	68,931	989,675
Investment Income	42,799	8,841	3,616	55,255	3,021	58,277
Inflow: Recoveries from PT	7,734	-	-	7,734	(7,734)	-
Additional prepayments	-	-	-	-	-	-
Outflow: Benefit Payments	(24,981)	(9,817)	(1,379)	(36,177)	-	(36,177)
Expenses	(3,029)	(1,440)	(456)	(4,926)	-	(4,926)
Closing, at December 31, 2024	730,801	150,559	61,271	942,630	64,218	1,006,848
Gross investment return	6.2%	6.2%	6.2%	6.2%	4.7%	6.1%

Totals may appear not to add due to rounding.

ECKLER

SUMMARY OF JOINT COMMITTEE WORK DURING THE TWENTY-FIFTH YEAR OF OPERATIONS (2024)

Executive Summary

1. The Joint Committee has a mandate to:
 - implement the Settlement Agreement including the following Plans:
 - the Regular Benefits Plans
 - the HCV Late Claims Benefit Plan
 - supervise the ongoing administration of claims under the Plans, as well as the EAP2 assistance program for HIV Secondarily Infected Individuals that is included in the Settlement Agreement
 - supervise the administration and payment of Special Distribution Benefits
 - oversee the performance of the investment portfolio of the Trust Fund
 - oversee certain services providers,¹ including making recommendations to the Courts regarding their appointment, negotiating their budgets, obtaining budget approval orders, reviewing and approving their invoices for payment, and instructing, receiving and assessing their advice and reports.
 - undertake the triennial fund sufficiency review of the Plans.
2. In 2024, approximately \$36.0 million² was paid to claimants as follows:
 - \$25.0 million under the Regular Benefit Plans
 - \$9.7 million in Special Distribution Benefits
 - \$1.4 million under the HCV Late Claims Benefit Plan

¹ These responsibilities include the following service providers: the administrator, the trustee, the investment managers and advisors, the auditors, the Joint Committee's actuaries and physicians who assist in medical modelling.

² The numbers in this report have been rounded. Totals may not add up due to this rounding.

The total amount paid for claims over the life of the settlement now totals approximately \$1.361 billion in response to 15,373 claims.

3. Operating expenses of administration and all service providers in 2024 were approximately \$3.2 million, which was a decrease of about 47.5% over the previous year.
4. In 2024, there was a 6.2% return on the total invested assets. The invested assets decreased by about \$21.9 million (net of payments out).
5. As at December 31, 2024, the Trust Fund held assets of approximately \$950.2 million. The unpaid liability of the provincial and territorial governments was approximately \$64.2 million (including interest). This unpaid liability combined with the Trust Fund's assets totals approximately \$1.014 billion available to satisfy the claims of class members.

The Trust Fund

6. The governments' maximum obligation to the Trust Fund established as at January 10, 2000 was \$1.203 billion, shared between the Government of Canada (72.7273%) and the governments of the provinces and territories (27.2727%). The Government of Canada contributed its obligation at the outset. The provincial and territorial governments contribute their respective obligations mostly on a "pay-as-you-go" basis, with interest at the 3-month Treasury Bill rate.
7. As at December 31, 2024:
 - The Trust Fund held assets of about \$950.2 million
 - The obligation of the provinces and territories that fund on a pay-as-you-go basis was estimated to be about \$64.2 million.
8. In December 2017, the Courts established three notional accounts of the Trust Fund:
 - the HCV Regular Benefit Account
 - the HCV Special Distribution Benefit Account
 - the HCV Late Claims Benefit Account.

As at December 31, 2024, there was \$1.014 billion available to satisfy class members' claims

The work performed and expenses incurred by service providers are categorized and charged to the applicable account. The provincial and territorial governments do not

contribute to claims or expenses paid from the HCV Special Distribution Benefit Account or the HCV Late Claims Benefit Account.

9. The funding, investment earnings, claims paid, and expenses relating to each of the Trust Fund's three notional accounts are reported in notes 3 - 6 of the Audited Financial Statements at Schedule A of the Annual Report.

Payments to Claimants

10. In 2024, approximately \$25.0 million in claims were paid under the Regular Benefit Plans, which is the same as what was paid out in the previous year.³
11. Approximately \$9.7 million in Special Distribution Benefits were paid in 2024, which is 87.8% less than 2023,⁴ when most of the 2019 Special Distribution Benefits awarded by the Courts in May 2023 were paid out. The ongoing Locator Project, aimed at finding "missing" class members and their estates who are owed payments, continued in 2024. Since its inception, the multiphase Locator Project has succeeded in the Administrator reissuing payments cashed by class members or their estates totalling \$1,929,696 to the end of 2024.
12. Approximately \$1.4 million in Late Claims Benefits were paid in 2024, which represents a 46.8% decrease over the previous year.⁵

Operating Expenses

13. A total of approximately \$3.2 million in administration and service provider expenses were paid in 2024, which is a decrease of about 47.5% from the previous year.⁶

³ In 2023, approximately \$25.0 million was paid. In 2022, approximately \$24.9 million was paid.

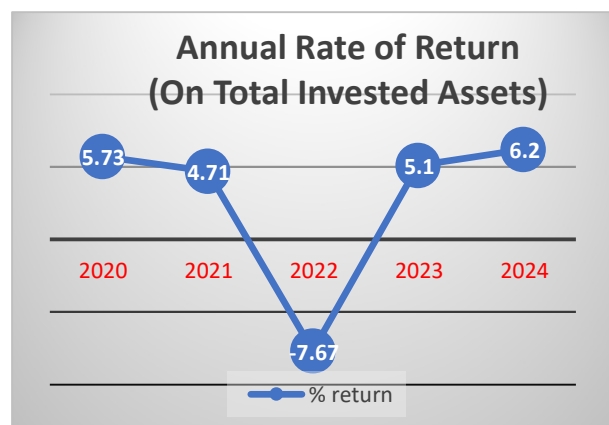
⁴ In 2023, approximately \$79.7 million was paid. In 2022, approximately \$3.1 million was paid.

⁵ In 2023, approximately \$2.6 million was paid. In 2022, approximately \$2.0 million was paid.

⁶ In 2023, the administration expenses totaled approximately \$5.7 million after adjustments. In 2022, the operating expenses were approximately \$3.4 million.

Portfolio Oversight

14. In 2024, the invested portion of the Trust Fund closed at about \$942.6 million, which was up by approximately \$21.9 million from the previous year (net of payments out).
15. The investment portfolio is largely in fixed income instruments, with the greatest portion of the fixed income instruments being in Real Return Bonds (**RRBs**). Smaller portions are held in a short term investment fund and in a low volatility equities fund.
16. Overall, there was a 6.2% return on the total invested assets in 2024, which was an increase over the prior year.⁷
17. Most of the assets (about \$688.9 million) are invested in Government of Canada RRBs, which produced a return of 3.28% in 2024. This was a small decrease over the previous year.⁸ The return on these bonds since inception is 5.46%.
18. The short term investment fund (comprising about \$34.8 million) produced a return of 5.24%, which was the same as the prior year.⁹ The return on this fund since inception is 2.61%.
19. The “other” invested assets include a bond fund and a low volatility global equities fund.
- The return on the Canadian bond fund (comprising about \$55.3 million) was 4.05%, which was a decrease over the previous year.¹⁰ The return on Canadian bonds since inception is 4.39%.
 - The return on the low volatility all world equity fund (comprising about \$155.3 million) was 22.87%, which was a substantial increase from the previous year.¹¹



⁷ In 2023, the overall return on invested assets was 5.1%. In 2022, the overall return on invested assets was -7.67%.

⁸ In 2023, the return on RRBs was 3.49%. In 2022, the return on RRBs was -7.98%.

⁹ In 2023, the return on the short term investment fund was 5.24%. In 2022, the return on the short term investment fund was 1.78%.

¹⁰ In 2023, the return on Canadian bonds was 6.65%. In 2022, the return on Canadian bonds was -11.69%.

¹¹ In 2023, the combined return on the TDAM and MFS low volatility all world equities portfolio was 10.4%. In 2022, the return on the low volatility all world equity portfolio was -0.58%.

20. The Canadian bond fund met the one-year and four-year tracking ranges set in the Investment Guidelines for the Trust Fund.

Summary of Joint Committee Work in 2024

21. In addition to the ongoing close monitoring of the administration of the different Plans and service providers, including monthly meetings with the Administrator, the Joint Committee also performed a significant amount of work on the following matters in 2024:
- Obtaining medical expert advice and developing the protocol applicable to Special Distribution Benefit where family members attend HCV medical appointments.
 - Identifying and interacting with an agency specialized in social media to create and prepare a social media campaign proposal in the view of the upcoming March 31, 2025 deadline.
 - Communicating with the agency that conducted the prior late claims campaign to obtain the campaign assets, social media campaign materials and strategy documents, and to secure a transfer of access to the social media platforms to hand over to the new agency. As the prior agency did not provide any of these materials despite its promises, the Joint Committee was forced to develop substantive content for the new social media campaign in order to allow the notice campaign to proceed. It was also required to take over administration of the social media accounts. The Joint Committee did not budget for this unanticipated additional work, which caused it to go over its budget for late claims.
 - Preparing updated documentation and revised the hepcclassaction.ca websites to be used as the referral point for potential late class members during the campaign.
 - Coordinating with the Administrator and the agency to ensure proper access to the social media platforms and sufficient resources at the Administrator's call centre to respond to the potential call volume increase.
 - Preparing responses to comments received on the social media platforms.
 - Receiving weekly reports regarding the social media campaign.
 - Overseeing and reviewing the full and complete translation of the 2023 annual report of the Joint Committee and the revised set of court protocols in French.

- Continuing the expansion of the Locator project by following up with counsel representing the different provincial and territorial governments to obtain orders to communicate updated contact information for the “missing claimants” from their health insurance database.
- Drafting applications and supporting affidavits seeking:
 - Appointment of a Referee-Arbitrator in New-Brunswick.
 - Court directions modifying the approval process of the Quebec Referee’s accounts.
 - Approval of a protocol pertaining to compensation payable to family members accompanying the approved infected class members to their HCV medical appointments.
 - Approval of a revised edition of the court approved protocols including several modifications to take into account the 2019 Special Distribution Benefits approved in May 2023.
 - Approval of a social media campaign to alert potential class members of the March 31, 2025 deadline to file a request for late claim.
- Monitoring performance of the investment portfolios.
- Organizing and attending the annual meeting with the auditors and key service providers to review the 2023 financial year.
- Preparing the 2023 Annual Report and the applications and material for its approval.
- Obtaining the 2025 budget proposals from the service providers it supervises and preparing the applications and supporting material for approval of the 2025 annual budgets.
- Reviewing and updating the information displayed on the hepc8690.ca and the hepcclassaction.ca websites.
- Responding to telephone and email communications from class members and family members.
- Providing directions regarding various policy issues raised by the Administrator for the Joint Committee.

YEAR 25 JC FEES

**Joint Committee Fees and Disbursements Incurred in the Period from
January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024**

Regular Benefit Plans

	BC	QUEBEC	ONTARIO (H)	ONTARIO (T)	TOTAL
FEES	114,734.25	190,780.50	306,185.00	247,204.00	858,903.75
DISB.	2,921.48	5,852.40	4,254.55	1,144.28	14,172.71
GST	5,870.80	9,831.65	-	-	15,702.45
PST	8,113.08	19,614.13	-	-	27,727.21
HST	-	-	40,357.14	32,285.26	72,642.40
TOTAL	131,639.61	226,078.68	350,796.69	280,633.54	989,148.52

Financial Sufficiency

	BC	QUEBEC	ONTARIO (H)	ONTARIO (T)	TOTAL
FEES	6,724.50	2,893.30	1,805.00	9,595.00	21,017.80
DISB.	261.00	-	-	404.25	665.25
GST	349.28	147.67	-	-	496.95
PST	484.37	288.61	-	-	772.98
HST	-	-	234.65	1,299.90	1,534.55
TOTAL	7,819.15	3,329.58	2,039.65	11,299.15	24,487.53

Special Distribution Benefits

	BC	QUEBEC	ONTARIO (H)	ONTARIO (T)	TOTAL
FEES	-	16,564.80	12,635.00	44,840.00	74,039.80
DISB.	-	-	-	-	-
GST	-	828.24	-	-	828.24
PST	-	1,652.34	-	-	1,652.34
HST	-	-	1,642.55	5,829.20	7,471.75
TOTAL	-	19,045.38	14,277.55	50,669.20	83,992.13

Late Claims Plan

	BC	QUEBEC	ONTARIO (H)	ONTARIO (T)	TOTAL
FEES	23,145.75	45,331.75	79,230.00	54,855.00	202,562.50
DISB.	260.75	-	-	3.50	264.25
GST	1,166.34	2,266.59	-	-	3,432.93
PST	1,626.99	4,521.85	-	-	6,148.84
HST	-	-	10,299.90	7,131.60	17,431.50
TOTAL	26,199.83	52,120.19	89,529.90	61,990.10	229,840.02

TOTAL FEES AND DISBURSEMENTS

	BC	QUEBEC	ONTARIO (H)	ONTARIO (T)	TOTAL
FEES	144,604.50	255,570.35	399,855.00	356,494.00	1,156,523.85
DISB.	3,443.23	5,852.40	4,254.55	1,552.03	15,102.21
GST	7,386.42	4,174.15	-	-	11,560.57
PST	10,224.44	26,076.93	-	-	36,301.37
HST	-	-	52,534.24	46,545.96	99,080.20
TOTAL	165,658.59	291,673.83	456,643.79	404,591.99	1,318,568.20

REPORT OF FUND COUNSEL (FOR 2024 YEAR END)

1. The duties and responsibilities of Fund Counsel are defined by Section 7.01 of the January 1, 1986 – July 1, 1990 Hepatitis C Settlement Agreement. These duties and responsibilities include:
 - (a) defending decisions made by the Administrator;
 - (b) defending and advancing the interests of the Trust Fund;
 - (c) receiving financial statements and actuarial and other reports relating to the financial sufficiency of the Trust Fund from time to time;if deemed necessary or desirable by Fund Counsel, making applications to courts pursuant to Section 10.01 of the Settlement Agreement.
2. Belinda Bain has been appointed as Fund Counsel for the Ontario Class Actions by Order of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice. Mason Poplaw was appointed Fund Counsel for the Quebec Class Actions by Order of the Quebec Superior Court. Gordon J. Kehler was appointed Fund Counsel for the British Columbia Class Actions by Order of the British Columbia Supreme Court.
3. During the fiscal period **January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024**, Fund Counsel was primarily involved in defending decisions made by the Administrator on appeals instituted by claimants. The appeals are conducted either as References or Arbitrations. Appeals can be conducted in writing or in person. In each case, written submissions are delivered to the claimant and the Referee/Arbitrator in advance of the appeal. When the appeal is conducted in person, Fund Counsel attends the hearing. The hearing is held where the claimant resides.
4. If the appeal is conducted by way of Reference, the Referee's decision is final and binding within 30 days of the release of the decision unless a claimant opposes confirmation within the 30-day period. If confirmation of the Referee's decision is opposed by the claimant, the Referee's decision is reviewed by the Court.
5. In addition to the appeals, Fund Counsel has also handled claims where court approval was necessary for payments involving minors or a mentally incompetent adult.
6. Fund Counsel also receives and reviews financial statements and other reports relating to the financial sufficiency of the Trust Fund.
7. Below is a report of the activities of Fund Counsel in relation to the appeals conducted:

(a) **Ontario Fund Counsel**

Ontario Fund Counsel handles appeals from Claimants in Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario, Saskatchewan, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Yukon Territory, The Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

Regular Claims

Number of total appeals received from the beginning to December 31, 2024	343
Number of appeals received from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	1
Number of total completed appeals (decisions rendered) from the beginning to December 31, 2024	259
Number of completed appeals (decisions rendered) from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	3
Number of total withdrawals from the beginning to December 31, 2024	52
Number of withdrawals from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	2
Number of total rescissions of denial from the beginning to December 31, 2024	21
Number of rescissions of denial from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	0
Number of total Mediated Appeals from the beginning to December 1, 2024	9
Number of Mediated appeals from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	0
Number of Archived Appeals	1
Number of pending Appeals as of December 31, 2024	1
Number of total requests for judicial confirmation from the beginning to December 31, 2024	56
Number of requests for judicial confirmation from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	0
Number of total judicial decisions from the beginning to December 31, 2024	50
Number of judicial decisions from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	0
Number of Appeals Justice Perell sent back to Referee up to December 31, 2024	5
Number of Appeals that have been sent back that are concluded	4
Number of Appeals sent back by Justice Perell that have been withdrawn by claimant up to December 31, 2024	1
Total Number of pending Judicial Reviews as of December 31, 2024	1

Archived – Represents appeals where the Claimant cannot be located before a decision has been rendered or the Arbitrator or Referee has agreed to an indefinite adjournment.

Late Claims

Number of total appeals received from the beginning to December 31, 2024	21
Number of appeals received from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	3
Number of total completed appeals (decisions rendered) from the beginning to December 31, 2024	12
Number of completed appeals (decisions rendered) from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	5
Number of total withdrawals from the beginning to December 31, 2024	5
Number of withdrawals from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	2
Number of total rescissions of denial from the beginning to December 31, 2024	1
Number of rescissions of denial from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	0
Number of total Mediated Appeals from January 1, 2024 to December 1, 2024	0
Number of Mediated appeals from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	0
Number of Archived Appeals	0
Number of pending Appeals as of December 31, 2024	3
Number of total requests for judicial confirmation from the beginning to December 31, 2024	1
Number of requests for judicial confirmation from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	0
Number of total judicial decisions from the beginning to December 31, 2024	1
Number of judicial decisions from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	0
Number of Appeals Justice Perell sent back to Referee up to December 31, 2024	0
Number of Appeals that have been sent back that are concluded	0
Number of Appeals sent back by Justice Perell that have been withdrawn by claimant up to December 31, 2024	0
Total Number of pending Judicial Reviews as of December 31, 2024	0

Archived – Represents appeals where the Claimant cannot be located before a decision has been rendered or the Arbitrator or Referee has agreed to an indefinite adjournment.

Ontario Fund Counsel incurred fees, with respect to Regular Plans (Transfused and Hemophiliac), in the amount of **\$37,702.50** plus HST. Ontario Fund Counsel incurred disbursements in the amount of **\$3.25** plus HST. The total amount of taxes incurred was **\$4,901.75**. No expert witness expenses were incurred. With taxes, the total amount of fees and disbursements incurred was **\$42,607.50**.

Ontario Fund Counsel incurred fees, with respect to Late Claims, in the amount of **\$106,860.00** plus HST. Ontario Fund Counsel incurred disbursements in the amount of **\$1,485.19**. The total amount of taxes incurred was **\$14,084.87**. No expert witness expenses were incurred. With taxes, the total amount of fees incurred was **\$122,430.06**.

(b) **Quebec Fund Counsel**

Particulars of the appeals are as follows:

Regular Claims

Number of total appeals received from the beginning to December 31, 2024	80
Number of appeals received from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	0
Number of total completed appeals (decisions rendered) from the beginning to December 31, 2024	64
Number of completed appeals (decisions rendered) from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	0
Number of total withdrawals from the beginning to December 31, 2024	10
Number of withdrawals from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	0
Number of total mediated appeals from the beginning to December 31, 2024	1
Number of mediated appeals from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	0
Number of total rescissions of denial from the beginning to December 31, 2024	5
Number of rescissions of denial from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	0
Number of pending appeals as of December 31, 2024	0
Number of total requests for Judicial confirmation from the beginning to December 31, 2024	22
Number of requests for Judicial confirmation from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	0
Number of total Judicial decisions from the beginning to December 31, 2024	21
Number of requests for Judicial confirmation withdrawn by claimant to December 31, 2024	0
Number of judicial decisions from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	0
Total Number of pending Judicial Reviews as of December 31, 2024	0

Late Claims

Number of total appeals received from the beginning to December 31, 2024	9
Number of appeals received from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	0
Number of total completed appeals (decisions rendered) from the beginning to December 31, 2024	8
Number of completed appeals (decisions rendered) from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	1
Number of total withdrawals from the beginning to December 31, 2024	1
Number of withdrawals from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	1
Number of total mediated appeals from the beginning to December 31, 2024	0
Number of mediated appeals from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	0
Number of total rescissions of denial from the beginning to December 31, 2024	0
Number of rescissions of denial from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	0
Number of pending appeals as of December 31, 2024	0
Number of total requests for Judicial confirmation from the beginning to December 31, 2024	0
Number of requests for Judicial confirmation from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	0
Number of total Judicial decisions from the beginning to December 31, 2024	0
Number of requests for Judicial confirmation withdrawn by claimant to December 31, 2024	0
Number of judicial decisions from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	0
Total Number of pending Judicial Reviews as of December 31, 2024	0

Quebec Fund Counsel incurred fees, with respect to Regular Plans (Transfused and Hemophiliac), in the amount of **\$10,347.50** plus tax. Quebec Fund Counsel incurred disbursements in the amount of **\$93.75** plus tax. The total amount of taxes incurred on fees and expenses is **\$522.07**. As per Quebec Fund Counsel, disbursements related to general expenditure and bailiff fees. With taxes, the total amount of fees and disbursements incurred in Quebec is **\$10,963.32**.

Quebec Fund Counsel incurred fees, with respect to Late Claims, in the amount of **\$480.00** plus tax. Quebec Fund Counsel incurred disbursements in the amount of **\$0.00**. The total amount of taxes incurred on fees and expenses is **\$24.00**. As per Quebec Fund Counsel, disbursements related to general expenditure and bailiff fees. With taxes, the total amount of fees and disbursements incurred in Quebec is **\$504.00**.

(c) **British Columbia**

Particulars of the appeals are as follows:

Regular Claims

Number of total appeals received from the beginning to December 31, 2024	74
Number of appeals received from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	0
Number of total completed appeals (decisions rendered) from the beginning to December 31, 2024	50
Number of completed appeals (decisions rendered) from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	0
Number of total withdrawals from the beginning to December 31, 2024	17
Number of withdrawals from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	0
Number of total rescissions from the beginning to December 31, 2024	0
Number of rescissions from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	0
Number of total mediated appeals from the beginning to December 31, 2024	0
Number of mediated appeals from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	0
Number of Archived Appeals	6
Number of Archived Appeals from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	0
Number of pending appeals as of December 31, 2024	1
Number of total requests for Judicial confirmation from the beginning to December 31, 2024	20
Number of requests for Judicial confirmation from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	0
Number of total Judicial decisions from the beginning to December 31, 2024	19
Number of judicial decisions from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	0
Total number of pending Judicial Reviews as of December 31, 2024	1

Late Claims

Number of total appeals received from the beginning to December 31, 2024	2
Number of appeals received from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	0
Number of total completed appeals (decisions rendered) from the beginning to December 31, 2024	2
Number of completed appeals (decisions rendered) from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	0
Number of total withdrawals from the beginning to December 31, 2024	0

Number of withdrawals from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	0
Number of total rescissions from the beginning to December 31, 2024	0
Number of rescissions from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	0
Number of total mediated appeals from the beginning to December 31, 2024	0
Number of mediated appeals from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	0
Number of Archived Appeals	0
Number of Archived Appeals from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	0
Number of pending appeals as of December 31, 2024	0
Number of total requests for judicial confirmation from the beginning to December 31, 2024	0
Number of requests for judicial confirmation from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	0
Number of total judicial decisions from the beginning to December 31, 2024	0
Number of judicial decisions from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	0
Total number of pending Judicial Reviews² as of December 31, 2024	0

B.C. Fund Counsel incurred fees with respect to Regular Plans (Transfused and Hemophiliac) in the amount of **\$9,987.50** plus tax. B.C. Fund Counsel incurred disbursements in the amount of **\$21.00** plus tax. The total amount of taxes incurred on fees and expenses is **\$1,199.57** (GST was paid in the amount of **\$500.44** and PST in the amount of **\$699.13**). There were no costs incurred with respect to expert fees or travel expenses. With taxes, the total amount of fees and disbursements incurred in B.C. is **\$11,208.07**.

B.C. Fund Counsel incurred fees with respect to Late Claims in the amount of **\$1,232.50** plus tax. B.C. Fund Counsel incurred disbursements in the amount of **\$3.90**. The total amount of taxes incurred on fees is **\$148.11** (GST was paid in the amount of **\$61.83** and PST in the amount of **\$86.28**). There were no costs incurred with respect to expert fees or travel expenses. With taxes, the total amount of fees and disbursements incurred in B.C. is **\$1,384.51**.

8. Appeals that are pending generally fall into one of the following categories:

- (a) Appeals that have been requested but not yet commenced. Some Arbitrators and Referees schedule a pre-appeal conference call before a date for the appeal is set. This can result in the delay in scheduling a date for the appeal. Often, claimants require additional time to collect evidence before commencing the appeal. Fund Counsel generally consent to a reasonable period of delay for the benefit of the claimant.
- (b) Appeals that have been commenced but not yet concluded. Appeals are often adjourned to allow the claimant an opportunity to collect and provide additional evidence. Fund Counsel generally consent to these adjournments. The Referee/Arbitrator usually monitors the adjournment to ensure that the appeal resumes in a reasonable period of time.

(c) Appeals that have been concluded and the decision from the Arbitrator or Referee is pending.

Pursuant to the Court Approved Protocol for Arbitration/References and subject to the discretion of the Referees and Arbitrators, Fund Counsel endeavor to conduct the appeals in the simplest, least expensive and most expeditious procedure. When practical and reasonable to do so, evidence from witnesses is introduced in writing or by telephone to eliminate the expense of having the witness testify in person. However, in some appeals, it is preferable to have the witness testify in person and on these occasions, the expense is unavoidable.

9. Fund Counsel anticipates that the time required to handle appeals during this fiscal year will likely be at or above last year. The late claims appeals may increase over last year, which would increase the time required. The time required will also depend upon the number of appeals which raise complicated medical and other issues including the need for expert evidence.

66938291\1

Annual Report 2024

Prepared for:

The Joint Committee of the Hepatitis C 86-90 Trust Fund

Prepared by:

Reva Devins

Chair, Ontario Roster of Arbitrators and Referees

Duties and Responsibilities of Arbitrators and Referees

1. Under the terms of the Court approved settlement, Arbitrators and Referees are responsible for determining all appeals brought by claimants seeking review of the decision of the Administrator. An appeal may proceed by Arbitration or Reference, either by an in person hearing or by review of the written material submitted by the parties. Arbitrators and Referees are to conduct their review using the simplest, least expensive, and most expeditious procedure.
2. Upon conclusion of the appeal, the Arbitrator or Referee must release their decision within thirty days of completion of an oral hearing or within thirty days following receipt of final written submissions. Reasons for Decision are released in writing to the individual claimant and to Fund Counsel representing the Administrator. In all decisions, the Arbitrator or Referee must state the facts and conclusion without identifying the claimant; decisions are then posted on the Website.

Roster of Arbitrator/Referees

3. There are currently 12 active Court appointed Arbitrator/Referees: one in each of Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Quebec, and British Columbia, and 5 in Ontario.

Appeal Activity

4. The number of new appeals assigned to Arbitrators and Referees remained extremely low in 2024.

Late Claim Benefit Plan

5. The HCV Late Claim Benefit Plan was launched in January 2018 and allows individuals who missed the first claims deadline to request approval to file a late claim. The Court approved guidelines, directing that a request should be allowed where the claimant did not have timely notice of the first claim deadline, failed to meet the deadline for reasons beyond their control or where they provide another reasonable explanation for their delay.
6. Two arbitrators were assigned to review the late claim requests and provide written reasons for allowing or denying them, one in Quebec and one in Ontario. Late Claim requests continue to be submitted and reviewed by the relevant arbitrator. The deadline to submit a completed Late Claim request form is March 31, 2025.

Financial Activity to December 31, 2024

7. The fees and expenses incurred by Arbitrators and Referees under the 1986-90 Hepatitis C Benefit Plans were as follows:

	<u>British Columbia</u>	<u>Quebec</u>	<u>Ontario (includes all remaining provinces)</u>
Fees*:	\$0	\$4000	\$16,235
Disbursements:	\$0	\$0	\$0
Taxes:	\$0	\$ 599	\$1,359.15
TOTALS	\$ 0	\$4599	\$17,594.15

*This represents fees and disbursements paid in 2024. Please note that it may include amounts incurred for work performed in previous years.

In the past fiscal year, one invoice that exceeded the tariff rate was approved for payment.

8. Referee fees and disbursements in 2024 for administration of the HCV Late Claim Benefit Plan were as follows:

	<u>British Columbia</u>	<u>Quebec</u>	<u>Ontario (includes all remaining provinces)</u>
Fees*:	\$4165	\$13,600	\$26,130
Disbursements:	\$0	\$0	\$1559.49
HST:	\$208.25	\$2036	\$2922.40
TOTALS:	\$4373.25	\$15,636	\$30,611.89

*This represents fees and disbursements paid in 2024. Please note that it may include amounts incurred for work performed in previous years.

In the past fiscal year, two invoices that exceeded the tariff rate were approved for payment.

Proposed Budget

9. As in previous years, the number and complexity of appeals will determine the fiscal needs of appeal administration. There continues to be a marked decrease in cases forwarded for review under the Regular Benefit Plan. I recommend that the budget for 2025 be set at the amount incurred in 2024.
10. The deadline to submit a completed Late Claim request form is March 31, 2025. There was a modest increase in requests as the deadline approached that may lead to a slightly higher volume of appeals when those claims are determined. However, fees for consideration of requests to file a Late Claim should be minimal in 2025.

As noted in previous reports, many of the underlying facts giving rise to late claims occurred roughly 40 years ago, adding to the complexity of hearing these matters. This was reflected in the fees charged for appeals conducted under the Late Claim Benefit Plan and approval of invoices for fees that exceeded the tariff rate. There are also several matters that were commenced before 2024 that have not yet been billed.

Considering the outstanding invoices, the potential increase in the number of appeals and the decrease in fees to consider the initial Late Claim request, I suggest that the budget for 2025 be set at \$60,000.