

# Counsel Focus Balanced Portfolio Series F

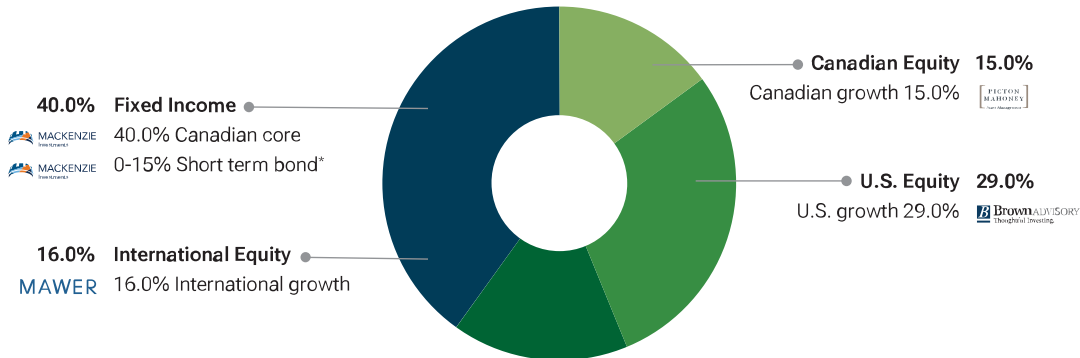
April 30, 2026

A diversified portfolio that seeks to provide investors with a portfolio designed to achieve a balance of long-term capital appreciation and income. The portfolio will invest either directly, or through securities of other investment funds, in equity and fixed-income securities of a variety of Canadian, U.S. and international issuers.

## Is this portfolio right for you?

- Provides access to global neutral balanced fund that is designed to provide long-term growth potential through a concentrated selection of globally diversified, high conviction, growth-oriented large-cap equities.
- Fixed income allocation provides stability.
- Monthly distributions.

## Neutral portfolio allocation<sup>1</sup>



\*Target range is shown for these allocations because the neutral weight is 0%.

## Annualized performance (%)

Period	1 mth	3 mths	6 mths	1 yr	3 yr	5 yr	10 yr	Inception return
Series F	4.5	3.0	0.5	12.1	10.0	5.3	-	5.8

## Performance (%) calendar year returns

Period	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	YTD
Series F	-	-	-	-	-	9.8	-16.4	16.0	15.0	4.9	2.7

## Historical performance (%) Current value of \$10,000



## Key data

Fund type	Global Neutral Balanced
Fund code	CGF721
Inception date	October 19, 2020
Mgmt. fee	0.75%
Admin. fee	0.15%
MER	1.05%

## Distribution frequency

Income	Monthly
Capital gains	Annual
Distributions	-

Distributions represent the annual distributions paid during 2025

## Risk tolerance

Low to Medium

## Portfolio characteristics

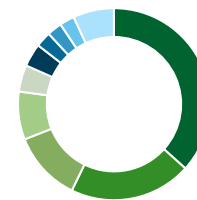
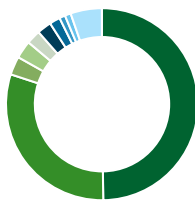
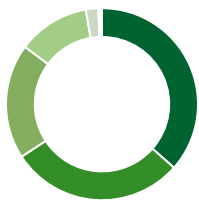
Dividend yield	2.2%
Yield to maturity	3.6%
Duration (years)	6.8
Average credit rating	A

## Investment

Min.	Subsq.	RRSP eligible
\$500	\$100	Yes

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How the fund is invested<sup>2</sup> as at Feb 28, 2026



Asset allocation	(%)	Geographic allocation	(%)	Sector allocation	(%)
Domestic Bonds	36.5	Canada	49.9	Fixed Income	36.7
US Equity	29.3	United States	30.3	Technology	20.6
International Equity	19.4	Taiwan	3.1	Financial Services	11.8
Canadian Equity	12.1	United Kingdom	3.0	Consumer Services	8.1
Cash and Equivalents	2.1	Netherlands	2.4	Industrial Goods	4.5
Foreign Bonds	0.3	Japan	2.4	Basic Materials	3.9
Income Trust Units	0.3	Ireland	1.8	Energy	2.6
		China	1.0	Industrial Services	2.5
		Korea, Republic Of	1.0	Utilities	2.5
		Other	5.3	Other	6.9

## Top holdings

Underlying funds/holdings	(%) of NAV
Counsel Canadian Core Fixed Income	33.8
Counsel U.S. Growth	33.7
Counsel International Growth	16.2
Counsel Canadian Growth	13.0
Counsel Short Term Bond	3.3

Top equity holdings	(%) of NAV
NVIDIA Corp	2.6
Alphabet Inc Cl A	2.5
Apple Inc	2.4
Microsoft Corp	2.2
Amazon.com Inc	2.1
GE Vernova Inc	2.0
Netflix Inc	2.0
General Electric Co	1.9
Meta Platforms Inc Cl A	1.9
Taiwan Semiconductor Manufactrg Co Ltd - ADR	1.8

Top fixed income holdings	(%) of NAV
Canada Government 3.25% 01-Jun-2035	2.3
Canada Government 3.50% 01-Sep-2029	2.3
Quebec Province 4.40% 01-Dec-2055	1.3
Province of Ontario 3.90% 02-Jun-2036	1.2
Ontario Province 3.95% 02-Dec-2035	1.1
Canada Government 2.75% 01-Dec-2055	1.1
CPPIB Capital Inc 4.30% 02-Jun-2034	0.9
Canada Housing Trust No 1 4.81% 15-Sep-2026	0.8
British Columbia Invst Mgmt Corp 4.00% 02-Jun-2035	0.6
Enbridge Inc 5.38% 27-Sep-2027	0.5

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## Why Invest with Counsel Portfolios

Our Portfolio Management team builds and maintains our portfolios based on in-depth analysis to align to a broad range of investor risk profiles. We take an unbiased approach when choosing our money managers by incorporating a proprietary and disciplined methodology for researching and selecting independent asset managers from across the globe. Each manager is monitored and held accountable to their mandate to help ensure our investors have the best chance at achieving their financial goals.

## Q1 2026 Fund Commentary

*Commentary and opinions are provided by Portfolio Solutions Group*

### Market Commentary

Global equities declined over the first quarter of 2026 and underperformed global bonds, which posted a small loss. (All returns are in Canadian-dollar terms on a total-return basis.) Global equities lost momentum as tensions in the Middle East escalated, causing economic uncertainty. The conflict largely closed off the Strait of Hormuz to oil shipments, which sent oil prices higher, raising concerns about inflation and whether central banks will need to lift interest rates this year.

The U.S. equity market declined, posting a low single-digit loss. The financials sector was the weakest-performing sector. Canadian equities increased and outperformed U.S. equities, getting robust performance from the energy sector. EAFE equities posted a small gain, underperforming Canadian equities but outperforming U.S. equities. Equities in the U.K. and Japan performed well. Emerging markets equities also gained and outperformed their developed market peers, with equities in Brazil and Mexico performing well.

The FTSE Canada Universe Bond Index posted a total return of 0.2% over the quarter. Government bond prices increased, while government yields edged higher. Government bonds outperformed corporate bonds, which posted a small gain. Corporate bond prices were hindered from widening credit spreads (the difference in yield between corporate and government bonds). Securitization bonds posted the largest increase in the corporate bond sector. High-yield bond prices rose on a total-return basis and outperformed investment-grade corporate bonds.

Global bond yields moved higher over the quarter, and global bond prices posted a small loss. The Bank of Canada, U.S. Federal Reserve Board, Bank of England, European Central Bank and Bank of Japan all held their policy interest rates steady over the quarter. The yield on 10-year Government of Canada bonds rose from 3.43% to 3.47%. Sovereign bond yields in the U.S., the U.K., Germany and Japan also increased.

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## Outlook

The first quarter of 2026 marked a transition in market leadership, with supply issues and geopolitical risks overtaking demand cycles as the primary drivers of volatility. Escalating tensions in the Middle East pushed oil prices sharply higher, reviving inflation concerns and increasing uncertainty around economic growth without yet showing clear evidence of economic deterioration. While headline volatility has eased at times, elevated implied volatility suggests markets are increasingly pricing a wider range of outcomes as global fragmentation, energy constraints and supply chokepoints weigh on investor confidence.

In this environment, the sub-advisor's focus remains on portfolio resilience. The sub-advisor continues to emphasize broad diversification across regions and return drivers, avoiding overreliance on a smooth disinflation or predictable easing path. Core exposure to structural growth themes such as artificial intelligence remains important, but the sub-advisor is mindful of rising concentration risk and greater macro sensitivity in earnings expectations.

Within portfolios, alternatives, including managed futures, volatility strategies and risk parity, play a growing role in navigating markets that can shift quickly. Fixed income remains a useful stabilizer, although less reliable than in past cycles, reinforcing the need for broader sources of diversification and liquidity as buffers against episodic shocks.

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<sup>1</sup>The asset allocation weights depicted above represent the neutral allocations for the fund and may differ from the current allocation. The neutral allocation may comprise a combination of investments in equities, fixed income securities, securities that are designed to track a market index or other securities. Canada Life Investment Management Ltd., the portfolio manager of the fund, has the discretion to change the allocation without prior notice. <sup>2</sup>Effective holdings of the fund are held either directly, or through an underlying mutual fund. Asset allocations reflected are as a percentage of the fund's net asset value. Individual securities held by ETFs are not reflected in the Fund's Top Holdings listings. For money market fund reports: The current yield is an annualized historical yield based on the seven-day period ended on the date noted above and does not represent an actual one-year return. For information on the fund or any underlying Counsel funds, please read the Fund Facts, Simplified Prospectus and/or other reporting documents before investing, available at [www.counselportfolios.ca](http://www.counselportfolios.ca). All third-party marks are used with permission.

Note: Occasionally, a negative value may be reported for Cash holdings that reflects the sale of securities and/or redemption transactions that have not settled at month end.

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