

# Counsel Balanced Portfolio Series I

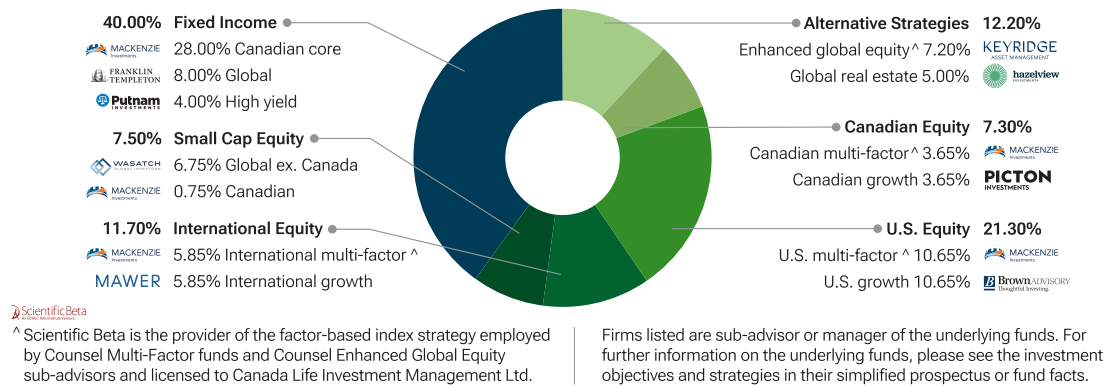
December 31, 2025

A globally diversified portfolio that seeks to provide a balance between income and long-term capital growth by investing in securities of a variety of global equity and fixed income mutual funds.

## Is this portfolio right for you?

- A neutral investment strategy offering a balance between income and capital growth.
- Provides exposure to a globally diversified portfolio of equity and fixed-income securities.
- Monthly distributions.

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



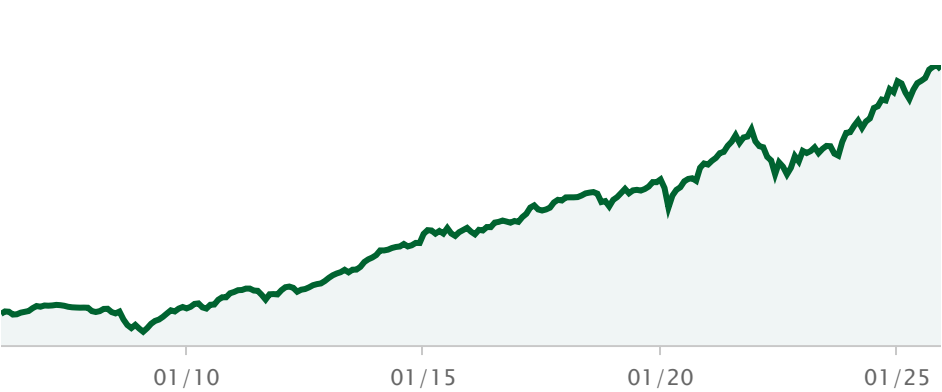
## Annualized performance (%)

Period	1 mth	3 mths	6 mths	1 yr	3 yr	5 yr	10 yr	Inception return
Series I	-1.2	0.0	4.1	7.1	10.9	6.6	6.4	6.5

## Performance (%) calendar year returns

Period	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	YTD
Series I	3.7	10.7	-2.8	11.7	8.1	13.6	-11.3	11.3	14.5	7.1	7.1

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



## Key data

Fund type	Global Neutral Balanced
Fund code	CGF524
Inception date	March 1, 2006
Mgmt. fee	0.84%
Admin. fee	0.15%
MER	0.12%

## Distribution frequency

Income	Monthly
Capital gains	Annual
Distributions	\$0.05

Distributions represent the annual distributions paid during 2025

## Risk tolerance

Low to Medium

## Portfolio characteristics

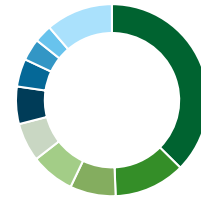
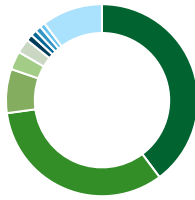
Dividend yield	2.7%
Yield to maturity	4.0%
Duration (years)	6.3
Average credit rating	A-

## Investment

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

# Counsel Balanced Portfolio Series I

How the fund is invested<sup>2</sup> as at Oct 31, 2025



Asset allocation	(%)	Geographic allocation	(%)	Sector allocation	(%)
Domestic Bonds	29.4	Canada	39.7	Fixed Income	37.4
US Equity	25.7	United States	33.0	Technology	12.0
International Equity	22.4	Multi-National	7.4	Financial Services	7.7
Foreign Bonds	8.0	Japan	3.1	Mutual Fund	7.4
Canadian Equity	7.1	United Kingdom	2.4	Real Estate	6.5
Cash and Equivalents	6.3	Australia	1.1	Cash and Cash Equivalent	6.3
Income Trust Units	1.1	Taiwan	1.0	Consumer Services	4.7
		France	1.0	Healthcare	3.7
		Germany	0.9	Consumer Goods	3.0
		Other	10.2	Other	11.3

## Top holdings

Underlying funds/holdings	(%) of NAV
Counsel Fixed Income	36.3
Counsel Multi-Factor U.S. Equity	11.3
Counsel U.S. Growth Equity	10.2
Counsel Enhanced Global Equity	7.4
Counsel Global Small Cap	7.4
Counsel Multi-Factor International Equity	6.7
Counsel International Growth	5.1
Counsel Global Real Estate	4.9
Counsel Multi-Factor Canadian Equity	3.9
Counsel Short Term Bond	3.6

Top fixed income holdings	(%) of NAV
Canada Government 3.25% 01-Jun-2035	3.6
Ontario Province 3.60% 02-Jun-2035	1.3
Canada Government 3.25% 01-Dec-2034	1.2
Quebec Province 4.40% 01-Dec-2055	0.8
Canada Government 2.75% 01-Sep-2030	0.7
Ontario Province 4.60% 02-Dec-2055	0.6
Quebec Province 4.45% 01-Sep-2034	0.6
Ontario Province 3.95% 02-Dec-2035	0.5
United States Treasury 4.75% 15-Aug-2055	0.5
United States Treasury 4.63% 15-Feb-2055	0.4

Top equity holdings	(%) of NAV
Microsoft Corp	1.2
NVIDIA Corp	1.1
Amazon.com Inc	0.9
Visa Inc Cl A	0.5
Intuit Inc	0.4
Taiwan Semiconductor Manufactrg Co Ltd - ADR	0.4
Taiwan Semiconductor Manufactrg Co Ltd	0.4
Shopify Inc Cl A	0.4
Prologis Inc	0.3
Marvell Technology Inc	0.3

# Counsel Balanced Portfolio Series I

## 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.

## Q3 2025 Fund Commentary

### Market Commentary

Global equities gained over the third quarter of 2025 and outperformed global bonds, which posted a small gain (all returns in Canadian-dollar terms on a total return basis). Expectations that the U.S. Federal Reserve Board (Fed) would lower interest rates and ongoing investment and development in artificial intelligence (AI) helped boost stocks over the quarter.

The U.S. equity market advanced, posting a double-digit return. Information technology was the strongest-performing sector. Canadian equities increased and outperformed U.S. equities, getting a strong performance from the materials sector. EAFE equities advanced, underperforming Canadian and U.S. equities.

Equities in Japan and the U.K. contributed to the performance of EAFE equities. Emerging markets equities also advanced and outperformed their developed market peers, with equities in China and Taiwan contributing to performance.

The FTSE Canada Universe Bond Index posted a total return of 1.5% over the quarter. As government yields moved lower, government bond prices increased. Government bonds underperformed corporate bonds, which also posted a gain.

Corporate bond prices benefited from narrowing credit spreads (the difference in yield between corporate and government bonds). Real estate bonds posted the largest increase in the corporate sector. High-yield bond prices rose on a total return basis and outperformed investment-grade corporate bonds.

Global bond yields remained largely unchanged over the quarter, and global bond prices posted a small gain. The Bank of Canada, the Fed and the Bank of England lowered their policy interest rates. The European Central Bank and Bank of Japan held their policy interest rates steady. The yield on 10-year Government of Canada bonds fell from 3.27% to 3.18%. Government yields in the U.S. also declined. Government bond yields in the U.K., Germany and Japan increased.

### Performance

The portfolio's Canadian, International and U.S. growth sub-advisors underperformed their benchmarks during the quarter and the fixed income elements were in line with the benchmark.

# Counsel Balanced Portfolio Series I

## Portfolio Activity

There were no structural changes to the portfolio during the quarter.

## Outlook

In the sub-advisor's view, the third quarter of 2025 highlighted divergence in global growth. The U.S. economy was resilient with gross domestic product growth near 3% annualized and productivity gains driven by AI adoption offsetting softer labour market trends. In contrast, Canada, Europe and the U.K. were weighed down by rising unemployment and trade challenges.

In the sub-advisor's view, equity markets reflect investor optimism, particularly in the U.S., where AI-driven earnings drove elevated valuations. Market concentration in technology and swings in investor sentiment are causes for caution.

Within fixed income, we view alternatives such as private credit and mortgages as valuable sources of income and duration management, particularly in a higher-for-longer environment. Liquidity and flexibility remain central, allowing portfolios to absorb sudden shocks if risks around AI investment, funding markets, or fiscal policy materialize.

The sub-advisor's approach emphasizes resilience over precision. Core U.S. equity exposure remains important, but we balance this with global diversification and multi-factor strategies that reduce dependence on narrow leadership.

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## Counsel Balanced Portfolio Series I

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## Counsel Balanced Portfolio Series I

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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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