



NORTH GROWTH
MANAGEMENT



MARCH 2025 MONTHLY REPORT

APRIL 11, 2025

Market and Fund Performance Update

In March, stocks suffered heavy losses capping a negative first quarter of performance in 2025. Policy uncertainty around tariffs and indiscriminate cuts to the U.S. government workforce have significantly weakened business and consumer confidence; concurrently, investor sentiment has collapsed. Not only have recession concerns come back to the fore, but the risk of stagflation—stagnant growth combined with heightened inflation—has increased with America’s aggressive trade policy pronouncements.

LOOMING TARIFFS AND TRADE WARS

Most companies reporting earnings in the latest quarter have mentioned tariffs on their conference calls, and tariff talk has been by far the dominant issue in the news cycle as well. Amid all the blaring headlines surrounding the topic, there are few details and much confusion on the implementation of the teased punitive tariffs.

In the near-term, given that supply chains are highly integrated thereby making complete onshoring of manufacturing in the U.S. impossible, tariffs would simply be a tax on American businesses and consumers that raises the price of imported goods. With numerous goods and components which cross borders multiple times before becoming finished products, the lack of clarity around what exactly will be tariffed, the changing amounts, the duration of the tariffs and how they will be rolled out means substantial uncertainty as to the magnitude of the tariffs’ grim economic impact. Even greater uncertainty lies in the responses of the U.S.’s trading partners.

So for now, companies appear to be in a “wait and see” mode and are pausing hiring and major capital expenditure plans. Economic data of late has been weaker, reflecting the anxious mood of the broad population. And correspondingly, stock prices have fallen, especially those associated with economically-sensitive, growth companies.

STAYING FOCUSED

We expect market volatility to remain elevated amid the vast amount of uncertainty. Continued market volatility may provide trading opportunities whereby the weightings of our portfolio constituents may be adjusted based on company fundamentals and equity valuations. As always, however, we remain steadfast in our disciplined, long-term investment approach. We are staying focused on researching and investing in companies that meet our “Growth at a Reasonable Price” criteria. And we continue to believe that stock selection is the key to long-term success.

U.S. EQUITY ADVISOR FUND, SERIES F

In March, the Fund depreciated -7.7%. The Fund underperformed the S&P 500 which lost -5.6%, as well as the S&P 400 MidCap and S&P 600 SmallCap which declined -5.5% and -6.1% respectively. The Fund beat the NASDAQ Composite which fell -8.1%. In Canadian dollars, the Fund depreciated -8.1% versus the S&P 500's -6.0% loss. Year-to-date, in Canadian dollars, the Fund is down -9.2% versus the S&P 500's -4.4% decline.

CANADIAN EQUITY FUND, SERIES F

In March, the North Growth Canadian Equity Fund, Series F, depreciated -5.7%, underperforming the S&P/TSX Composite Index, which fell -1.5%. The S&P/TSX was led by Materials, Energy, Consumer Staples, and Utilities—the only sectors to see positive returns. Information Technology, Industrials, and Health Care were the worst performing sectors.

At North Growth we see volatility as an opportunity. Our best investments often come during turbulent times. For instance, during the 2020 selloff, we added positions that led to outsized gains: TFI International (+235%), Leon's Furniture (+162%), and Intertape Polymer (+209% by June 2022 takeover). In the past three months, we've initiated seven new positions.

Canada's CFIB Business Barometer, an indicator of 12-month forward expectations for business performance, dropped to a record low in March 2025, surpassing the 2020 pandemic and 2008 financial crisis.

Is the current situation worse than the pandemic or the Great Recession? Probably not.

Media often amplifies fear during uncertain times. As John Stuart Mill said, "I have observed that not the man who hopes when others despair, but the man who despairs when others hope, is admired by a large class of persons as a sage." While it's tempting to adopt a fearful outlook in the face of uncertainty, our approach remains laser-focused on fundamentals. For investors with a long-term horizon, periods of uncertainty present a golden opportunity to buy quality assets at discounted prices.

As our founder Rudy North emphasized, long-term investment success is about time in the market, not timing the market. Patience during turbulent times has historically led to superior returns.

North Growth U.S. Equity Advisor Fund

SHORT TERM RATES OF RETURN (%) FOR PERIODS ENDED MARCH 31, 2025

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	YTD
North Growth U.S. Equity Advisor Fund \$CDN (Series F)	-8.10	-9.31	-0.17	-9.31
North Growth U.S. Equity Advisor Fund \$CDN (Series D)	-8.12	-9.38	-0.32	-9.38
S&P 500 \$CDN	-6.04	-4.36	4.22	-4.36
North Growth U.S. Equity Advisor Fund \$U.S. (Series F)	-7.70	-9.23	-6.10	-9.23
North Growth U.S. Equity Advisor Fund \$U.S. (Series D)	-7.73	-9.29	-6.24	-9.29
S&P 500 \$U.S.	-5.63	-4.27	-1.94	-4.27

ANNUALIZED RATES OF RETURN (%) FOR PERIODS ENDED MARCH 31, 2025

	1 Yr	3 Yrs	5 Yrs	10 Yrs	Since Inception*
North Growth U.S. Equity Advisor Fund \$CDN (Series F)	4.10	9.60	15.13	10.90	13.40
North Growth U.S. Equity Advisor Fund \$CDN (Series D)	3.79	9.27	14.79	10.57	12.98
S&P 500 \$CDN	14.85	14.28	18.91	13.94	15.72
North Growth U.S. Equity Advisor Fund \$U.S. (Series F)	-1.88	4.59	14.83	9.51	11.13
North Growth U.S. Equity Advisor Fund \$U.S. (Series D)	-2.18	4.29	14.49	9.18	10.72
S&P 500 \$U.S.	8.25	9.06	18.59	12.50	13.40

Source: Bloomberg "Total Return Analysis" as of March 31, 2025

*Date of inception: October 23, 2009.

North Growth Canadian Equity Fund

SHORT TERM RATES OF RETURN (%) FOR PERIODS ENDED MARCH 31, 2025

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	YTD
North Growth Canadian Equity Fund Series F	-5.72	-10.44	-8.73	-10.44
North Growth Canadian Equity Fund Series D	-5.74	-10.51	-8.87	-10.51
S&P/TSX Composite Index	-1.51	1.51	5.33	1.51

ANNUALIZED RATES OF RETURN (%) FOR PERIODS ENDED MARCH 31, 2025

	1 Yr	3 Yrs	5 Yrs	10 Yrs	Since Prospectus *
North Growth Canadian Equity Fund Series F	0.31	0.34	12.20	6.85	10.57
North Growth Canadian Equity Fund Series D	0.01	0.04	11.87	6.52	9.99
S&P/TSX Composite Index	15.81	7.77	16.76	8.54	9.49

Source: Bloomberg "Total Return Analysis" as of March 31, 2025

* The S&P/TSX Composite Index since Prospectus return is calculated from the Series F date of prospectus inception, June 15, 2012. The Series D date of prospectus inception is June 29, 2012

Equity Fund Holdings

U.S. EQUITY ADVISOR FUND — HOLDINGS AS AT MARCH 31, 2025

Ranking	Security	% of Net Assets
1	Jabil Inc.	6.56
2	Ciena Corp.	5.07
3	Motorola Solutions Inc.	4.30
4	Brinker International Inc.	4.18
5	Applied Materials Inc.	4.11
6	Coherent Corp.	3.14
7	Booking Holdings Inc.	3.04
8	Somnigroup International Inc.	2.96
9	Lumentum Holdings Inc.	2.63
10	HP Inc.	2.56
11	Qualcomm Inc.	2.53
12	Johnson Controls International plc.	2.46
13	Elevance Health, Inc.	2.35
14	InMode Ltd.	2.27
15	Integer Holdings Corporation	2.24
16	Global Payments Inc.	2.21
17	Jacobs Solutions Inc.	2.17
18	Warner Bros. Discovery Inc.	2.15
19	Nvidia Corp.	2.08
20	Electronic Arts Inc.	2.04
21	NVR Inc.	2.04
22	Texas Instruments Inc.	2.02
23	Tapestry Inc.	2.01
24	Crocs, Inc.	1.77
25	Ulta Beauty Inc.	1.64
26	Apple Inc.	1.61
27	FedEx Corp.	1.60
28	Watts Water Technologies Inc.	1.60

Ranking	Security	% of Net Assets
29	Abercrombie & Fitch Co.	1.58
30	Microsoft Corporation	1.50
31	Thermo Fisher Scientific, Inc.	1.36
32	Fortune Brands Innovations, Inc.	1.34
33	Charles River Laboratories International, Inc.	1.14
34	Arhaus Inc.	1.07
35	NIKE Inc.	1.07
36	West Pharmaceutical Services, Inc.	1.07
37	United Rentals, Inc.	1.05
38	Align Technology, Inc.	1.01
39	Old Dominion Freight Line, Inc.	1.00
40	Biogen Inc.	0.91
41	Atkore Inc.	0.85
42	AutoZone, Inc.	0.70
43	Masterbrand, Inc.	0.45
44	First Solar Inc.	0.37
45	Amentum Holdings Inc.	0.33
Total Equities		92.14
Cash		7.86
Total Assets		100.00

CANADIAN EQUITY FUND — HOLDINGS AS AT MARCH 31, 2025

Ranking	Security	% of Net Assets
1	Bombardier Inc., Class B	8.72
2	Leon's Furniture Ltd	7.56
3	ATS Corporation	5.43
4	CAE Inc.	4.96
5	Constellation Software Inc	4.64
6	Bird Construction Inc	4.47
7	Zymeworks Inc	4.03
8	Open Text Corporation	3.99
9	Canadian National Railway Company	3.77
10	Restaurant Brands International	3.76
11	Dollarama Inc.	3.40
12	TELUS Corporation	3.19
13	TFI International Inc	3.17
14	Aritzia Inc	2.96
15	dentalcorp Holdings Inc	2.48
16	Calian Group Ltd	2.23
17	Polaris Renewable Energy Inc	2.06
18	ADF Group Inc	2.02
19	AutoCanada Inc	1.96
20	Shopify Inc.	1.95
21	Badger Infrastructure Solutions Ltd.	1.78
22	Bombardier Recreational Products Inc.	1.75
23	Profound Medical Corp	1.59
24	Evertz Technologies Limited	1.49
25	MDA Space Ltd.	1.28
26	Jamieson Wellness Inc.	1.08
27	Extendicare Inc.	1.03
28	5N Plus Inc.	0.84

Ranking	Security	% of Net Assets
29	Information Services Corporation	0.77
30	Hammond Power Solutions Inc.	0.73
31	Lululemon Athletica Inc.	0.71
32	Blackline Safety Corporation	0.50
33	NTG Clarity Networks Inc.	0.38
34	Zedcor Inc.	0.25
Total Equities		90.93
Cash		9.07
Total Assets		100.00

Investing with Us

INVESTING WITH NORTH GROWTH MANAGEMENT:

North Growth Management is a focused firm. Our objective is to achieve consistent, superior, long term returns on our equity funds based on our “Growth at a Reasonable Price” investment philosophy.

FUND CODES

Canadian Equity Fund
(only Canadian dollar investments)

Series D reference Fund Code **NGM 272**
Series F reference Fund Code **NGM 270**

U.S. Equity Advisor Fund
(for investments in Canadian dollars)

Series D reference Fund Code **NGM 372**
Series F reference Fund Code **NGM 370**

U.S. Equity Advisor Fund
(for investments in U.S. dollars)

Series D reference Fund Code **NGM 373**
Series F reference Fund Code **NGM 371**

For any questions contact:

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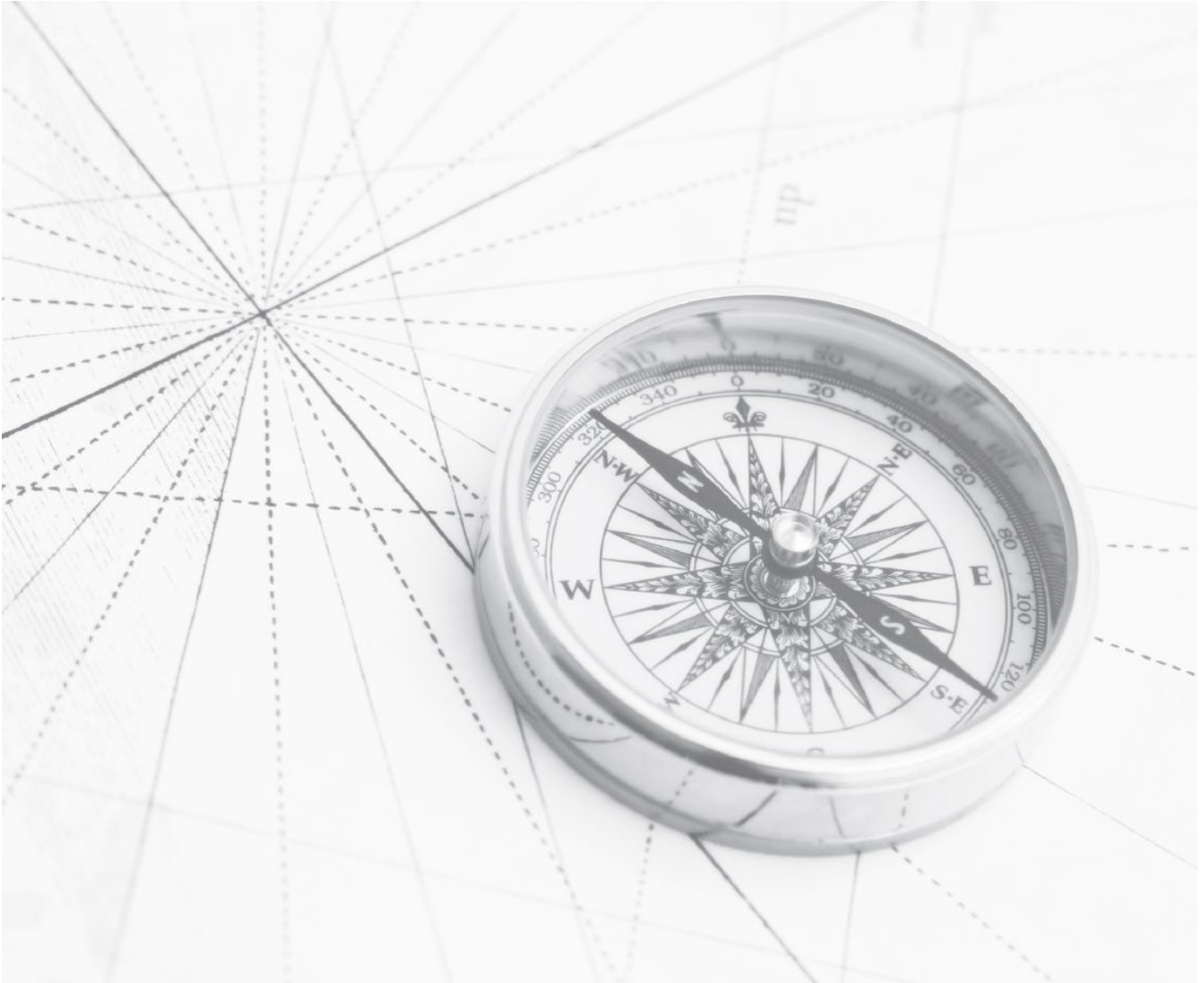
A NOTE ON FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This report may contain forward-looking statements that reflect our current expectations or forecasts of future events. Forward-looking statements are inherently subject to risks, uncertainties and assumptions that could cause actual events, results, performance or prospects to differ materially from those expressed in, or implied by, these forward-looking statements. These risks, uncertainties and assumptions include general economic, political and market factors in North America and internationally, interest and foreign exchange rates, the volatility of global equity and capital markets, business competition, technological change, changes in government regulations, changes in tax laws, unexpected judicial or regulatory proceedings and catastrophic events. The foregoing list of important risks, uncertainties and assumptions is not exhaustive. Please consider these and other factors carefully and do not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. Any forward-looking information contained in this report is current only as of the date of this report.

Commissions, trailing commissions, management fees and expenses all may be associated with mutual fund investments. Please read the prospectus before investing. The indicated rates of return are the historical annual compounded total returns 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, their values change frequently and past performance may not be repeated.



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