



NORTH GROWTH
MANAGEMENT



APRIL 2025 MONTHLY REPORT

MAY 6, 2025

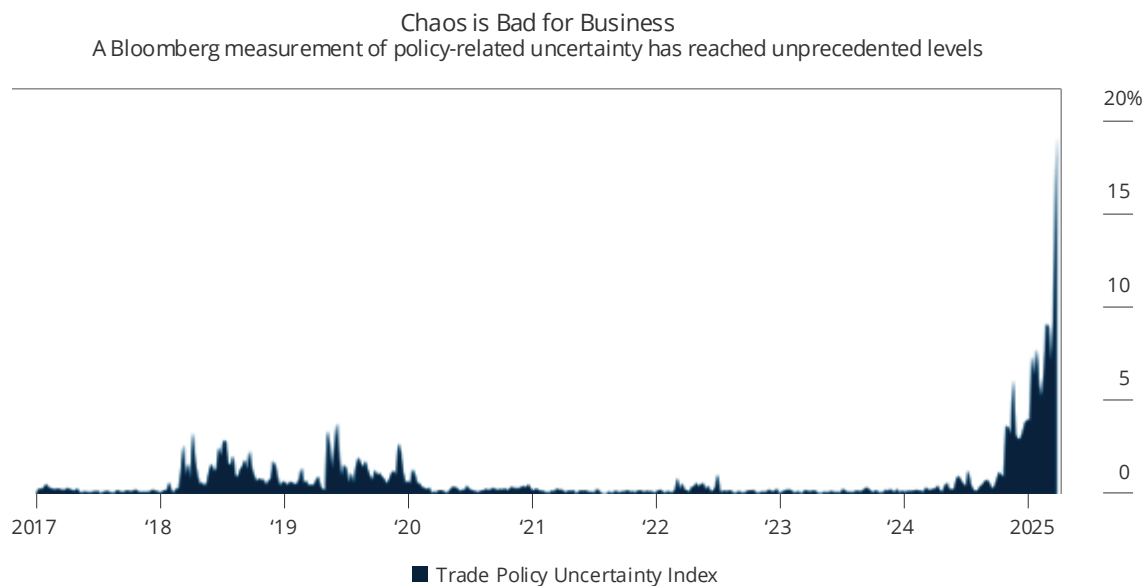
Market and Fund Performance Update

April was another tumultuous month for financial markets that remain fixated by tariff news. The uncertainty surrounding tariffs and trade policy continue to impact both corporate plans and the economy. Despite the earnings reporting season—covering the January-to-March quarter before the U.S.'s April 2nd reciprocal tariff announcement and subsequent 90-day pause—being largely better than expected so far, most companies are voicing caution in their outlooks and are hesitant to give guidance.

MARKETS DOMINATED BY MACROECONOMICS

The impacts of the dramatic tariff agenda and trade war are vast, with American small businesses being among the unintended casualties. Without a global network of assets and significant finances to weather the storm of the volatile trade policies, many mom-and-pop companies will be hit the hardest. Meanwhile, large corporations are pausing major expenditures, holding onto their cash reserves, and awaiting clarity; consumers are anxious and tightening their wallets.

The unpredictability of America's shifting tariff levels is likely to cause paralysis in spending and investing, thereby dampening economic growth. In fact, according to an advanced estimate released by the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis on April 30th, the U.S. economy contracted at an annual rate of -0.3% in the first quarter—as imports increased due to businesses stockpiling ahead of the anticipated tariff hikes.



**Source: Bloomberg Economics*

OUR LONG-TERM FOCUS

We expect market volatility to remain elevated amid the enormous amount of uncertainty. As always, we continue to adhere to our disciplined, long-term investment approach. We are staying focused on what we have been doing over the past decades—researching and investing only in well-managed, financially strong companies that meet our “Growth at a Reasonable Price” criteria. This investment philosophy has worked well for us over the long-term, and we firmly believe it will continue to work well going forward.

U.S. EQUITY FUND

In April, the North Growth U.S. Equity Fund declined -1.8%. The Fund underperformed the S&P 500 which fell -0.7% and the NASDAQ Composite which gained 0.9%, while beating the smaller capitalization indices, the S&P 400 MidCap and S&P 600 SmallCap which decreased -2.3% and -4.2% respectively. Due to a significant weakening of the U.S. currency, the Fund’s loss in Canadian dollars was -5.6% versus the S&P 500’s -4.6% Canadian-dollar depreciation for the month.

CANADIAN EQUITY FUND, SERIES N

The North Growth Canadian Equity Fund, Series N, posted a return of 1.3% in April, outperforming the S&P/TSX Composite, which saw a slight decline of -0.1%. The S&P/TSX Composite's performance was driven by gains in the Consumer Staples, Utilities, and Consumer Discretionary sectors, while Communication Services, Energy, and Health Care lagged.

As we have pointed out in every report this year, 2025 will be a volatile year. However, in our March Monthly Report we highlighted that we do not believe the current environment is nearly as dire as the crises of 2008 or 2020.

Despite the negative sentiment in April, the market barely moved from where it stood at the end of March. Much of the media frenzy was driven by concerns over the potential end of globalization, but over the course of the month, this narrative resulted in a mere 10 basis point change in the S&P/TSX Composite.

This situation reminds us of a study by Harvard psychologist Paul B. Andreassen, titled *Judgmental Extrapolation and Market Overreaction: On the Use and Disuse of News*, published in 1990. Andreassen's research explored how financial news influences investor behaviour. In the study, two groups were asked to invest in low price-volatility stocks. One group had access to stock prices and financial news, while the other group only had access to stock prices. The group without news access

outperformed the news-informed group. When the stocks were switched to high price-volatility ones, the group without news access posted double the return.

While we're not suggesting that investors completely disregard financial news, this study underscores the vital point that fundamentals carry more weight than short-term noise. History shows that market bottoms tend to occur when sentiment is at its absolute worst. Historically, we saw the market bottom when the word 'recession' peaked in mentions on earnings calls and we may see it again when 'tariff' becomes the dominant buzzword in future earnings calls.

Our approach is resolutely long-term. As legendary investor Peter Lynch wisely said, "Far more money has been lost by investors preparing for corrections, or trying to anticipate corrections, than has been lost in the corrections themselves."

North Growth U.S. Equity Fund

SHORT TERM RATES OF RETURN (%) FOR PERIODS ENDED APRIL 30, 2025

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	YTD
North Growth U.S. Equity Fund \$CDN	-5.64	-17.94	-6.78	-14.59
S&P 500 in \$CDN	-4.57	-11.79	-2.47	-8.73
North Growth U.S. Equity Fund \$U.S.	-1.79	-13.95	-6.07	-11.03
S&P 500 \$U.S.	-0.68	-7.50	-1.74	-4.92
S&P 400 MidCap \$U.S.	-2.25	-11.62	-7.24	-8.21
S&P 600 SmallCap \$U.S.	-4.19	-15.21	-10.90	-12.74
NASDAQ Composite \$U.S.	0.88	-10.95	-3.23	-9.47

ANNUALIZED RATES OF RETURN (%) FOR PERIODS ENDED APRIL 30, 2025

	1 Yr	3 Yrs	5 Yrs	10 Yrs	15 Yrs	20 Yrs	Since Inception
North Growth U.S. Equity Fund \$CDN	4.22	9.94	10.82	10.62	12.51	9.51	12.20
S&P 500 \$CDN	12.63	15.08	15.44	13.85	15.32	10.82	10.82
North Growth U.S. Equity Fund \$U.S.	3.72	7.17	10.98	9.13	10.23	9.00	11.83
S&P 500 \$U.S.	12.10	12.18	15.61	12.32	12.98	10.30	10.46
S&P 400 MidCap \$U.S.	1.19	6.21	13.34	8.35	10.33	9.46	11.27
S&P 600 SmallCap \$U.S.	-1.93	2.01	11.42	7.32	9.63	8.68	10.34
NASDAQ Composite \$U.S.	12.24	13.17	15.35	14.57	15.18	12.83	11.05*

Source: Bloomberg "Total Return Analysis" as of April 30, 2025

* This return is a simple price appreciation because total return data is not available on Bloomberg.

The inception of the Fund: October 13, 1992.

	April 30, 2025
Unit Price	\$ 58.86 CDN / \$ 42.62 US
Total Assets in Fund	\$ 636.0 Million CDN

North Growth Canadian Equity Fund, Series N

SHORT TERM RATES OF RETURN (%) FOR PERIODS ENDED APRIL 30, 2025

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	YTD
North Growth Canadian Equity Fund, Series N	1.26	-8.86	-6.34	-9.38
S&P/TSX Composite Index	-0.10	-2.00	4.34	1.41

ANNUALIZED RATES OF RETURN (%) FOR PERIODS ENDED APRIL 30, 2025

	1 Yr	3 Yrs	5 Yrs	10 Yrs	Since Prospectus
North Growth Canadian Equity Fund, Series N	3.85	3.87	9.18	6.74	10.36
S&P/TSX Composite Index	17.85	9.57	14.37	8.27	9.42

Source: Bloomberg "Total Return Analysis" as of April 30, 2025
The prospectus inception of the Fund: June 15, 2012.

	April 30, 2025
Unit Price	\$ 23.89 CDN
Total Assets in Fund	\$ 41.7 Million CDN

North Growth Canadian Money Market Fund

ANNUALIZED RATES OF RETURN (%) FOR PERIODS ENDED APRIL 30, 2025

	Current Yield*	1 Yr	3 Yrs	5 Yrs	10 Yrs	15 Yrs
North Growth Canadian Money Market Fund	2.53	3.78	3.95	2.40	1.70	1.40
30 Day Treasury Bill	N/A	3.98	4.03	2.45	1.72	1.43

** The Current Yield for the Money Market Fund is the average of the annualized daily yield for the most recent seven day period. This measure is no longer available for the 30-day T-Bill Index.*

We take a very simple approach to managing the North Growth Canadian Money Market Fund. We invest in a portfolio of high-quality short-term bonds. The average maturity of the portfolio is often around 30 days. Historically, the Fund has generated very competitive yields with this simple approach because of our 0.25% management fee.

We manage the portfolio to ensure high liquidity and have no intention to extend maturities or reduce the quality of the holdings. We believe the Fund has superior liquidity characteristics due to its very low average maturity. The North Growth Canadian Money Market Fund's yield tends to correspond with changes in the Bank of Canada's overnight rate.

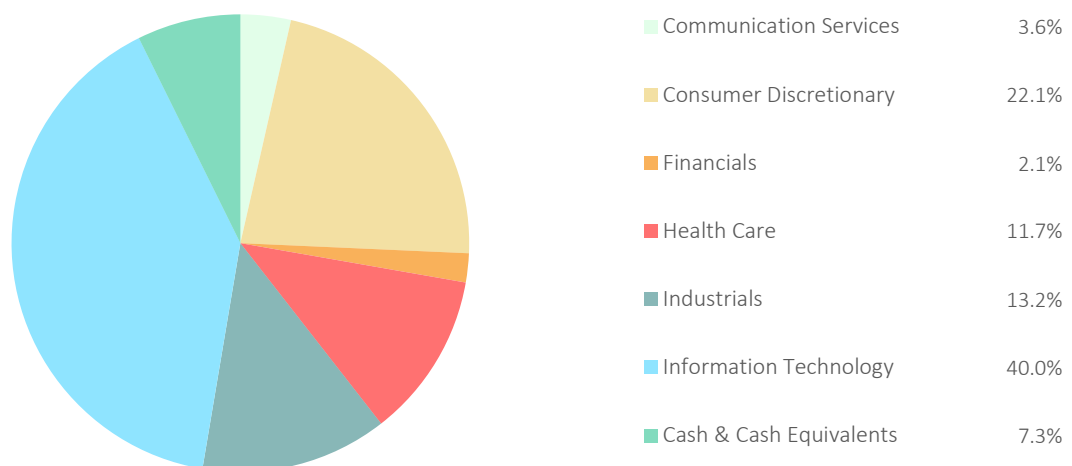
The current yield quoted above is net of the management fee.

Equity Fund Holdings and Composition

U.S. EQUITY FUND — TOP 10 HOLDINGS AS AT APRIL 30, 2025

Ranking	Security	% of Net Assets
1	Jabil Inc.	7.20
2	Ciena Corp.	5.93
3	Applied Materials Inc.	4.38
4	Motorola Solutions Inc.	4.23
5	Booking Holdings Inc.	3.46
6	Brinker International Inc.	3.43
7	Coherent Corp.	3.20
8	Somnigroup International Inc.	3.08
9	Johnson Controls International plc.	2.65
10	Lumentum Holdings Inc.	2.55
Top 10		40.11
Total Equities		92.68
Cash		7.32
Total Assets		100.00

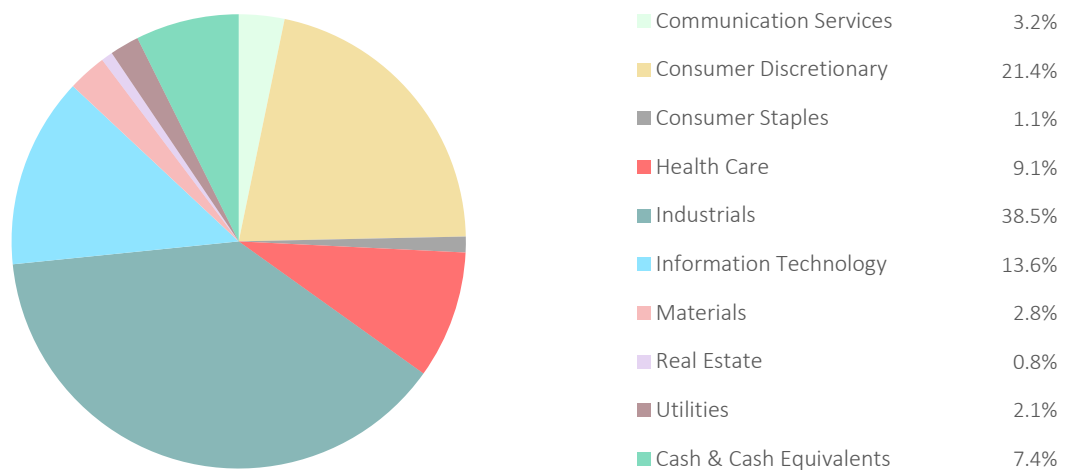
U.S. EQUITY FUND — SECTOR MIX AS AT APRIL 30, 2025



CANADIAN EQUITY FUND — TOP 10 HOLDINGS AS AT APRIL 30, 2025

Ranking	Security	% of Net Assets
1	Bombardier Inc., Class B	9.70
2	Leon's Furniture Ltd.	7.28
3	Constellation Software Inc.	5.22
4	ATS Corporation	5.21
5	CAE Inc.	4.79
6	Bird Construction Inc.	4.66
7	Zymeworks Inc.	4.18
8	Open Text Corporation	4.05
9	Canadian National Railway Company	3.55
10	Restaurant Brands International	3.44
Top 10		52.08
Total Equities		92.64
Cash		7.36
Total Assets		100.00

CANADIAN EQUITY FUND — SECTOR MIX AS AT APRIL 30, 2025



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.

CONDUCTING TRANSACTIONS

The cut-off time for same-day equity fund transactions is two hours before the applicable market closes, normally 2 p.m. Eastern Time or 11 a.m. Pacific Time, and for same-day Money Market Fund redemptions is 1 p.m. Eastern Time or 10 a.m. Pacific Time. However, redemption requests for amounts equal to or greater than 10% of the Fund’s net asset value require five business days notice. Please note that U.S. markets close early on the day before Independence Day and on the Friday after U.S. Thanksgiving and both U.S. and Canadian markets close early on Christmas Eve. The cut-off time on those days is 12 p.m. (noon) Eastern Time or 9 a.m. Pacific Time. Orders received after the applicable cut-off time will be processed on the next business day.

Please contact:

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WHERE TO FIND NGM FUND PRICES

Please visit www.northgrowth.com to view the Funds’ daily prices or to be added to our e-mail list to receive daily notification of the Funds’ prices.

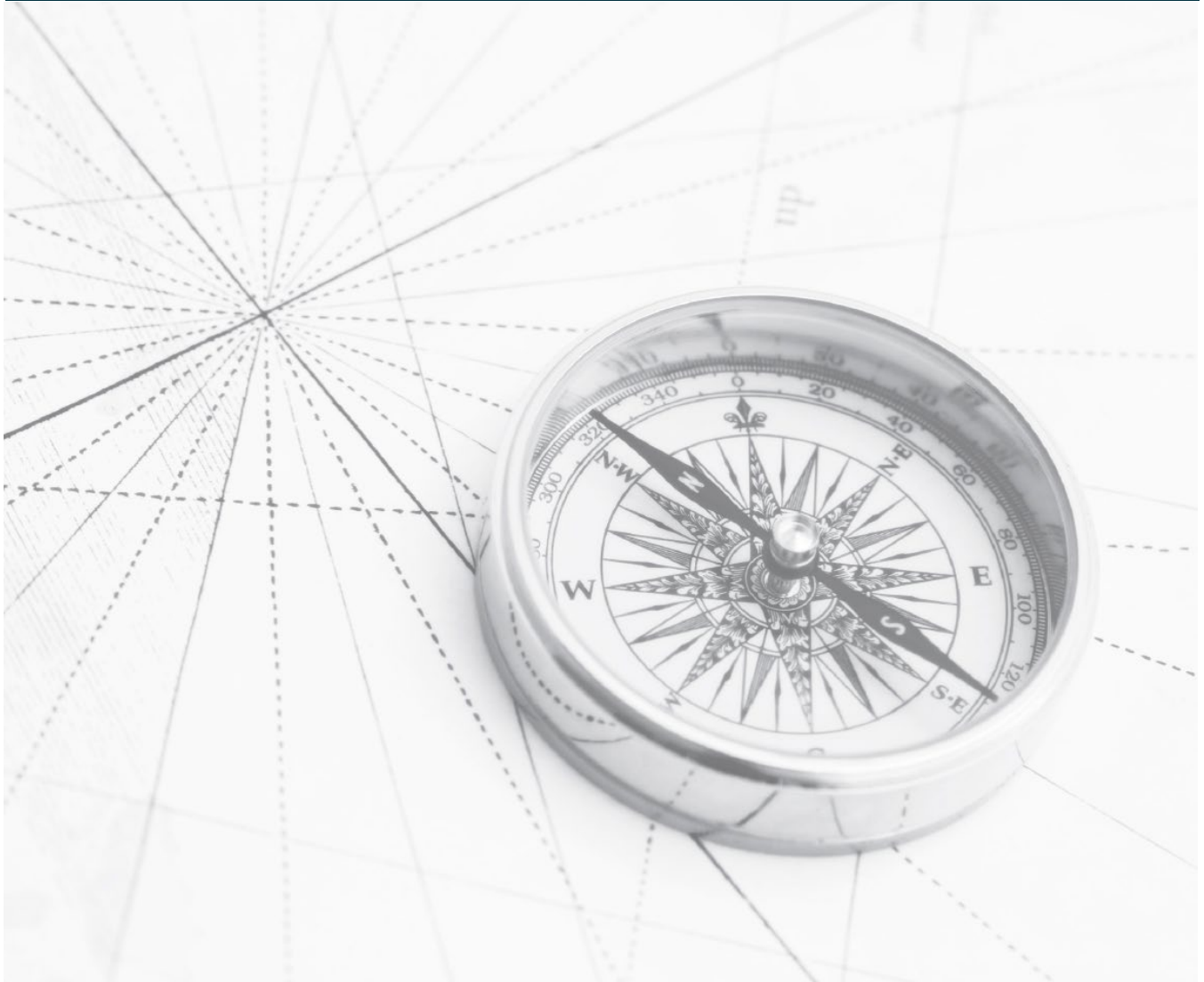


A NOTE ON FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

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.



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