



NOVEMBER 7, 2025

## Market and Fund Performance Update

In October, the S&P 500 continued to rise to new highs, driven by the Magnificent Seven mega caps on relentless artificial intelligence (AI) euphoria. Despite ongoing geopolitical risks, trade worries, a U.S. government shutdown, and elevated valuations, big tech stocks remain in a surging uptrend amid the bullish outlook for AI.

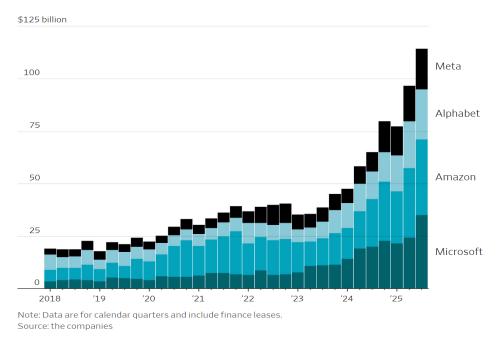
#### AI IS THE SOLE GROWTH DRIVER

Since the start of the AI frenzy three years ago, the U.S. stock market has become increasingly bifurcated with the majority of gains captured by businesses associated with the AI trade. Over the past month, Nvidia became the first company to hit \$5 trillion in market value, while collectively, the Magnificent Seven—Nvidia, Microsoft, Apple, Alphabet (Google), Amazon, Meta (Facebook), and Tesla—accounted for 37.5% of the S&P 500's total value.

Not only does artificial intelligence have a growing influence on markets, but also its impact on the economy has become extremely significant. J.P. Morgan estimates that AI-related capital expenditures contributed 1.1% to U.S. GDP growth during the first half of 2025, surpassing the American consumer as the dominant engine of expansion. In a similar vein, Harvard economist, Jason Furman, recently calculated that AI investment in data centers and technology accounted for 92% of GDP growth over the first half of the year; U.S. economic growth without investment in information-processing equipment and software would have been just 0.1% or almost flat otherwise.

As illustrated by the following graph published in the Wall Street Journal on October 30<sup>th</sup>, Al capacity investments by Microsoft, Amazon, Alphabet and Meta are growing exponentially, and yet the major tech companies are still not able to meet accelerating customer demand.

### Microsoft, Amazon, Alphabet and Meta Quarterly Capital Expenditures



Source: The Wall Street Journal, October 30, 2025

#### **OUR VIEW**

Undoubtedly, AI is a transformational technology analogous to the personal computer and internet revolutions. However, for all its potential, the unprecedented sums of money being spent so rapidly on unprofitable ventures via an interconnected web of business deals among a few leading companies, have prompted concerns of an AI bubble.

Several large holdings in the North Growth U.S. Equity Advisor Fund with exposure to data centers and networking are beneficiaries of the AI boom. These constituents have contributed meaningfully to the Fund's earnings growth and performance appreciation; yet, we are cognizant of the risks surrounding the singular theme that is driving the markets and the economy.

As always, we remain focused on the fundamental characteristics of individual stocks and are steadfastly disciplined in identifying and picking investments that fit our "Growth at a Reasonable Price" philosophy.

#### U.S. EQUITY ADVISOR FUND, SERIES F

In October, the North Growth U.S. Equity Advisor Fund, Series F, appreciated 3.1%. The Fund outperformed the S&P 500 which gained 2.3%, as well as the S&P 400 MidCap and S&P 600 SmallCap which declined -0.5% and -0.9% respectively; yet lagged the NASDAQ Composite which advanced 4.7%. In Canadian dollars, the Fund gained 3.9% versus the S&P 500's 3.1% return last month.

#### CANADIAN EQUITY FUND, SERIES F

In October, the North Growth Canadian Equity Fund, Series F, appreciated 3.0%, outperforming the 1.0% advance of the S&P/TSX Composite Index. The S&P/TSX Composite was led by Information Technology, Healthcare and Utilities.

We continue to abide by our "Growth at a Reasonable Price" investment philosophy which guides our stock picking and has helped us generate long-term outperformance. We view any pullbacks in the market as opportunities to add to or upgrade the portfolio.

#### NORTH GROWTH BALANCED FUND

We are excited to announce that the North Growth Balanced Fund, launched on August 18th, 2025 and is now available through FundServ.

The Fund will seek to provide capital preservation and moderate long-term growth through a diversified allocation to high-quality, short-term fixed income securities and a disciplined, research-driven portfolio of North American equities.

We have adopted a promotional fee structure that rewards early investors while committing to lower costs as the Fund scales:

- 0.95% MER (Management Expense Ratio) —for the first four months the fund is publicly available, the Manager will rebate 0.75 bps of the MER to the fund, providing early investors cost-effective access with a reduced 0.20% MER until December 31, 2025.
- 0.70% MER Once the fund reaches \$25+ million in assets under management (AUM) for three consecutive months, the MER will be reduced to 0.70% on a permanent basis.

# North Growth U.S. Equity Advisor Fund

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

|  | 1 Month | 3 Months | 6 Months | YTD   |
|--|---------|----------|----------|-------|
| North Growth U.S. Equity Advisor Fund \$CDN (Series F)                   | 3.91    | 13.29    | 36.05    | 16.59 |
| North Growth U.S. Equity<br>Advisor Fund \$CDN (Series A <sup>+</sup> )  | 3.88    | 13.21    | 35.85    | 16.30 |
| S&P 500 in \$CDN   | 3.09    | 9.58     | 25.45    | 14.49 |
| North Growth U.S. Equity Advisor Fund \$U.S. (Series F)                  | 3.15    | 11.89    | 34.05    | 19.67 |
| North Growth U.S. Equity<br>Advisor Fund \$U.S. (Series A <sup>+</sup> ) | 3.12    | 11.80    | 33.85    | 19.38 |
| S&P 500 \$U.S.   | 2.34    | 8.23     | 23.60    | 17.52 |

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

|   | 1 Yr  | 3 Yrs | 5 Yrs | 10 Yrs | Since<br>Inception* |
|---|-------|-------|-------|--------|---------------------|
| North Growth U.S. Equity Advisor Fund \$CDN (Series F)                | 27.44 | 23.93 | 14.82 | 13.41  | 14.66               |
| North Growth U.S. Equity Advisor Fund \$CDN (Series A <sup>+</sup> )  | 27.06 | 23.56 | 14.48 | 13.08  | 14.25               |
| S&P 500 \$CDN   | 22.34 | 23.77 | 18.85 | 15.44  | 16.40               |
| North Growth U.S. Equity Advisor Fund \$U.S. (Series F)               | 26.51 | 22.83 | 13.65 | 12.63  | 12.63               |
| North Growth U.S. Equity Advisor Fund \$U.S. (Series A <sup>+</sup> ) | 26.13 | 22.47 | 13.32 | 12.29  | 12.22               |
| S&P 500 \$U.S.  | 21.45 | 22.68 | 17.64 | 14.64  | 14.33               |

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>+</sup> Formerly Series D

<sup>\*</sup>Date of inception: October 23, 2009.

# North Growth Canadian Equity Fund

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

|  | 1 Month | 3 Months | 6 Months | YTD   |
|--|---------|----------|----------|-------|
| North Growth Canadian Equity<br>Fund Series F              | 2.96    | 11.08    | 35.41    | 22.83 |
| North Growth Canadian Equity<br>Fund Series A <sup>+</sup> | 2.94    | 11.00    | 35.22    | 22.53 |
| S&P/TSX Composite Index                                    | 0.97    | 11.70    | 23.39    | 25.13 |

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

|  | 1 Yr  | 3 Yrs | 5 Yrs | 10 Yrs | Since<br>Prospectus* |
|--|-------|-------|-------|--------|----------------------|
| North Growth Canadian Equity Fund Series F                 | 27.01 | 14.92 | 14.92 | 11.80  | 12.71                |
| North Growth Canadian<br>Equity Fund Series A <sup>+</sup> | 26.65 | 14.58 | 14.58 | 11.47  | 12.14                |
| S&P/TSX Composite Index                                    | 28.75 | 19.52 | 17.64 | 11.71  | 10.78                |

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>+</sup> Formerly Series D

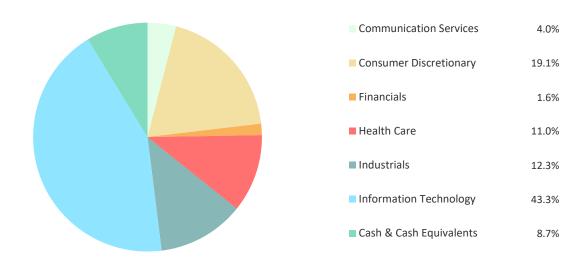
<sup>\*</sup> The S&P/TSX Composite Index since Prospectus return is calculated from the Series F date of prospectus inception, June 15, 2012. The Series A date of prospectus inception is June 29, 2012

# **Equity Fund Holdings and Composition**

## U.S. EQUITY ADVISOR FUND — TOP 10 HOLDINGS AS AT OCTOBER 31, 2025

| Ranking        | Security                            | % of Net<br>Assets |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1              | Ciena Corp.                         | 6.63               |
| 2              | Jabil Inc.                          | 6.90               |
| 3              | Applied Materials Inc.              | 5.01               |
| 4              | Lumentum Holdings Inc.              | 4.40               |
| 5              | Coherent Corp.                      | 3.73               |
| 6              | Motorola Solutions Inc.             | 3.00               |
| 7              | Johnson Controls International plc. | 2.68               |
| 8              | Booking Holdings Inc.               | 2.65               |
| 9              | Nvidia Corp.                        | 2.61               |
| 10             | Somnigroup International Inc.       | 2.58               |
| Top 10         |                                     | 42.19              |
| Total Equities |                                     | 91.28              |
| Cash           |                                     | 8.72               |
| Total Assets   |                                     | 100.00             |

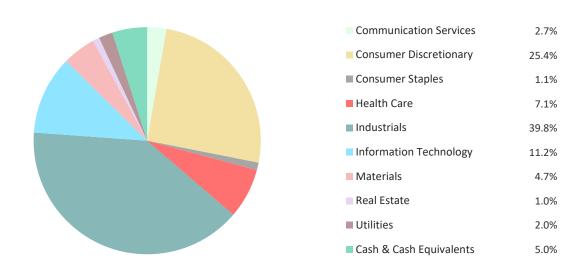
## U.S. EQUITY ADVISOR FUND — SECTOR MIX AS AT OCTOBER 31, 2025



## CANADIAN EQUITY FUND — TOP 10 HOLDINGS AS AT OCTOBER 31, 2025

| Ranking        | Security                    | % of Net<br>Assets |
|----------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| 1              | Bombardier Inc., Class B    | 9.61               |
| 2              | Leon's Furniture Ltd.       | 8.41               |
| 3              | Bird Construction Inc.      | 5.87               |
| 4              | ATS Corporation             | 5.31               |
| 5              | Constellation Software Inc. | 4.39               |
| 6              | Zymeworks Inc.              | 4.34               |
| 7              | AutoCanada Inc.             | 3.62               |
| 8              | Aritzia Inc.                | 3.57               |
| 9              | MDA Space Ltd.              | 3.45               |
| 10             | TFI International Inc.      | 3.35               |
| Top 10         |                             | 51.92              |
| Total Equities |                             | 95.51              |
| Cash           |                             | 4.49               |
| Total Assets   |                             | 100.00             |

## CANADIAN EQUITY FUND — SECTOR MIX AS AT OCTOBER 31, 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.

#### **FUND CODES**

| Balanced Fund<br>(only Canadian dollar investments)            | Series A reference Fund Code NGM 572<br>Series F reference Fund Code NGM 570 |
|--|--|
| U.S. Equity Advisor Fund (for investments in U.S. dollars)     | Series A reference Fund Code NGM 373 Series F reference Fund Code NGM 371    |
| U.S. Equity Advisor Fund (for investments in Canadian dollars) | Series A reference Fund Code NGM 372 Series F reference Fund Code NGM 370    |
| Canadian Equity Fund<br>(only Canadian dollar investments)     | Series A reference Fund Code NGM 272 Series F reference Fund Code NGM 270    |

To better align with the commonly adopted naming convention for mutual fund series that pay a trailing commission, the letter designation of the Series D units of the North Growth Canadian Equity Fund and the North Growth U.S. Equity Advisor Fund has changed from "D" to "A".

For any questions contact:

Marcus Vander Leek, CFA

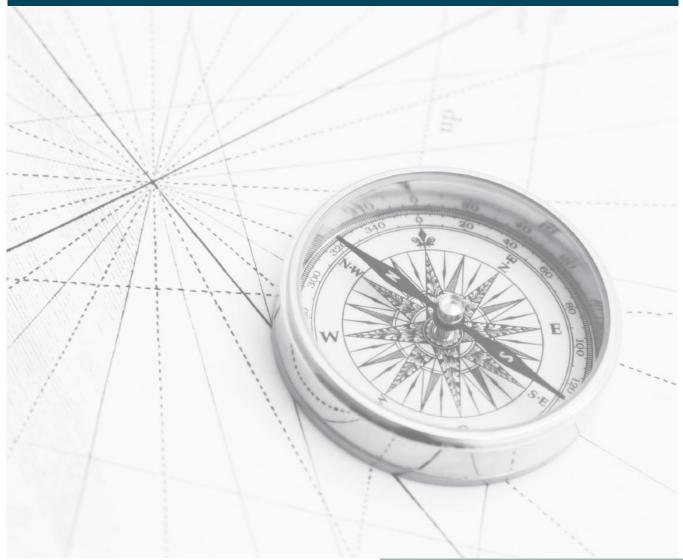
Director of Business Development and Client Service Email: marcus@northgrowth.com Phone: 604-354-9275

#### 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.





Suite 830, One Bentall Centre 505 Burrard Street, Box 56 Vancouver, BC V7X 1M4

T: 604-688-5440

F: 604-688-5402

info@northgrowth.com

northgrowth.com