## Equity Completion Portfolio - May 2023

## **Investment Objectives**

This portfolio is predominantly an all-equity portfolio with a close eye on capital preservation. The strategy is designed to preserve capital in difficult times and over the longer term, provide capital growth and income in the form of dividends. The long-term target asset allocation for the portfolio is 85% North American equity, 10% international equity and a small portion of cash.

## **Managers Comments**

For the month of May, the US market was largely driven by concerns about bank failures and the debt ceiling. Canada's economy is facing a different set of challenges. Interest rate hikes have hurt the Canadian consumer, near tapping them out. If rates remain high and there is an unemployment shock to the economy, Canadians' high debt loads could become problematic.

These were among the factors driving North American markets down for the month, with the Dow Jones declining 3.5% and the TSX down 5.2%. These events seemingly pale in comparison to what we have faced in the last four years. During this time, we have had two potentially world altering events:

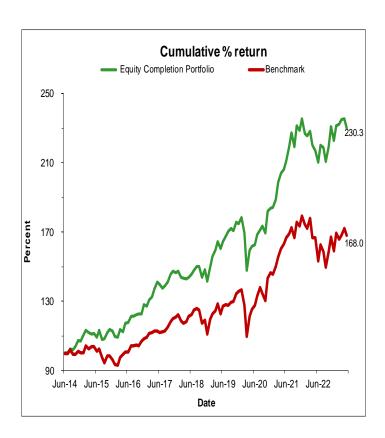
- Covid A pandemic, the likes of which haven't been seen in a century
- Russia's invasion of the Ukraine, which many thought had the potential to bring the entire world to war.

Neither of these outlier events have ended. Both are ongoing, but instead of the continued concern of an apocalypse, these events have become part of our fabric. I write this not to downplay the carnage, economic and humanitarian crisis that these have created, but to show that to a very large extent, todays crisis become a part of tomorrows normal.

As investors and stewards of capital, it is our job to remove the emotion of the events and try to reason through how they are going to (re)shape the future. We continue to invest in great businesses and strive to see where people are going to spend money in the future. We hope to see this as an opportunity and look forward to writing about how we were able to take advantage.

## **Portfolio Facts**

Portfolio Manager - David Shubs
Investment Approach - Fundamental & Quantitative
Risk Profile - Medium to High
Return Objective - Capital Growth and Dividend Income
Minimum Investment - \$250,000
Portfolio Inception Date — September 2014
Base Currency — Dual, reported in Canadian
Benchmark - 5% DEX 91-day T-Bill + 50% S&P/TSX
Composite + 35% S&P 500 (CAD) + 10% MSCI EAFE (CAD)



	1 Mo	1 Yr	2 Yrs	3 Yrs	4 Yrs	5 Yrs	Since Inception
Equity Completion	(2.2)%	6.1%	5.6%	12.5%	9.4%	9.9%	9.8%
Benchmark	(2.3)%	0.8%	1.5%	10.3%	8.2%	6.8%	5.9%





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