

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

**MIDDLEFIELD
INNOVATION DIVIDEND
CLASS**



 **MIDDLEFIELD
MUTUAL FUNDS**

MIDDLEFIELD CORPORATE PROFILE

Middlefield was established in 1979 and is a Specialty Investment Manager which creates investment products designed to balance risk and return to meet the demanding requirements of Financial Advisors and their clients. These financial products include Exchange-Traded Funds, Mutual Funds, Private and Public Resource Funds, Split Share Corporations, Venture Capital Assets, TSX Publicly Traded Funds and Real Estate Investment Funds and Partnerships.

Middlefield's investment team comprises portfolio managers, analysts and traders. While all of our investment products are designed and managed by Middlefield professionals, some involve strategic partnerships with other "best-in-class" firms that bring unique value to our product offerings. We have entered into exclusive arrangements with SSR Health LLC and Paul Sagawa LLC, based in Stamford, Connecticut. Together they provide specialized research into sectors of the economy such as Healthcare and Innovation Technology. Dr. Evans of SSR Health LLC and Paul Sagawa are independent investment analysts who have been highly ranked and are recognized as leaders in their respective fields. Their fundamental company level research is often non-consensus and provides guidance on overall portfolio construction and security selection.

Looking ahead, Middlefield remains committed to managing and developing new and unique investment products to assist Financial Advisors in helping clients achieve their investment objectives.

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A NOTE ON FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS

This document may contain forward looking statements, including statements regarding: the Fund, its strategies, goals and objectives; prospects; future performance or condition; possible future actions to be taken by the Fund; and the performance of investments, securities, issuers or industries in which the Fund may from time to time invest. Forward looking statements include statements that are predictive in nature, that depend upon or refer to future results, events, circumstances, expectations and performance, or that include words such as "expects", "anticipates", "intends", "plans", "believes", "estimates" or negative versions thereof and other similar wording. Forward looking statements are not historical facts, but reflect the Fund's current beliefs as of the date of this document regarding future results, events, circumstances, expectations or performance and are inherently subject to, among other things, risks, uncertainties and assumptions about the Fund and economic factors. Forward looking statements are not guarantees of future performance, and actual results, events, circumstances, expectations or performance could differ materially from those expressed or implied in any forward looking statements contained in this document. Factors which could cause actual results, events, circumstances, expectations or performance to differ materially from those expressed or implied in forward looking statements include, but are not limited to: general economic, political, market and business factors and conditions; commodity price fluctuations; interest and foreign exchange rate fluctuations; global equity and capital markets; the financial condition of each issuer in which the Fund invests; the effects of competition in the industries or geographic areas in which the Fund may invest; statutory and regulatory developments; unexpected judicial or regulatory proceedings; and catastrophic events. Readers are cautioned that the foregoing list of factors is not exhaustive and to avoid placing undue reliance on forward looking statements due to the inherent uncertainty of such statements. The Fund does not undertake, and specifically disclaims, any obligation to update or revise any forward looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future developments, or otherwise.



2023 REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

Equity markets finished the year on a positive note with December returns for the TSX Composite, S&P 500 and NASDAQ of 3.9%, 4.5% and 5.6%, respectively. Bond yields continued their descent from late October highs with 10-year government bond yields finishing the year at 3.11% and 3.88% in Canada and the United States. The move lower in rates fueled a Santa Claus rally that propelled the S&P 500 to within 1% of its all-time high. Notably, the S&P 500 total return index, which includes dividends, hit seven new highs in 2023.

While it is always a positive sign to see markets reaching new heights, we are especially encouraged by the recent broad-based participation from companies and sectors that have lagged throughout the year. It is widely known that the “Magnificent Seven” stocks have been the market leaders for the majority of 2023 while many other sectors and strategies have been left behind. This notable dispersion in returns has finally started to reverse during the final two months of the year.



Source: Bloomberg. As at December 31, 2023

Dividend stocks faced increased competition throughout 2023 from income alternatives, such as GICs and HISAs. In the U.S., a record \$1.3 trillion of inflows went into money market funds as investors flocked to high-yielding short-term instruments. Now, with bond yields having fallen more than 1% in two months and interest rate cuts expected to begin in a few months, dividend paying equities are coming back into favour. For example, Canadian REITs have an average dividend yield of 5.3% which exceeds the yield of Canadian 5-year government bonds by more than 200 basis points and makes their dividends more attractive on a relative basis. We expect at least a portion of the capital that flowed into money market funds to make their way back into equities this year, with dividend payers particularly well-positioned to benefit from such a rotation.

Middlefield Real Estate Dividend Class delivered another year of attractive returns compared to the benchmark, outperforming S&P/TSX Capped REIT Total Return by almost 590 bps with 8.5% return in 2023. REITs continued to rally in December, generating a total return of 9% in Canada and 8.7% in the U.S. The sector's impressive performance during the final two months of the year resulted in full-year total returns of 7.1% in Canada and 12.3% in the U.S. Improving macro conditions and a solid fundamental backdrop within real estate underpin our positive outlook for publicly-listed REITs in 2024. The recent rally coincides with U.S. 10-year Treasury yields falling from 5% to 3.9% and growing expectations for monetary policy easing from central banks in 2024. Although share prices have bounced back in recent months, current valuations support additional upside. On average, the Canadian real estate sector trades at just 13x 2024 AFFO, a 7.2% implied cap rate and 24% below net asset value.

Middlefield Innovation Dividend Class is designed to replicate the performance of *Middlefield Innovation Dividend ETF* where we see a wealth of long-term opportunities in companies with established business models, attractive free cash flow profiles and reasonable valuation. The fund generated a total return of 42.8% in 2023, exceeding the NASDAQ Technology Dividend TR Index return of 34.5%. The outperformance was primarily influenced by the fund's overweighting in growth-oriented technology securities. It was an exceptional year for big tech stocks, reflected by the NASDAQ 100 generating a total return of 55.1%. The Magnificent 7 stocks led the market for most of the year, with NVIDIA and Meta generating standout returns of 238.9% and 194.1%, respectively. *Middlefield U.S. Dividend Growers Class* and *Middlefield Global Dividend Growers Class* also outperformed their benchmark by wide margins (*U.S. Dividend Growers Class*' 20.6% vs. S&P 500 Dividend Aristocrats Net Total Return Index's 5.1% and *Global Dividend Growers Class*' 17.4% vs. MSCI World Dividend Growers Quality Select Index Net USD's 8.4%) thanks to their strategically overweighting in outperforming sectors, including Technology.

The Middlefield Family of mutual funds, which are listed at the end of this report, currently includes nine different funds within the multi-class structure and three mutual fund trusts. The multi-class structure of Middlefield Mutual Funds enables investors to benefit from superior tax efficiencies unavailable to other forms of investment funds. In addition, almost all classes are offered in F-Series.

Although current market conditions should be conducive to multiple expansion in 2024, we are primarily focused on earnings growth within the tech sector. While we believe the SMID-cap tech trade has room to run, we are cautious on high growth tech due to elevated valuations and thus, high execution risk. We prefer to stick to high-quality names and are increasingly mindful of valuations after last year's performance. As a result, we remain focused primarily on large cap stocks and continue to invest in companies with a proven track record. We are continuing to find opportunities within several end-markets such as PCs and smartphones, but an even greater growth driver may come from the proliferation of AI in the economy.

Middlefield Global Energy Transition Class seeks to maximize long-term total return through investment in dividend-paying securities of global companies engaged in the transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy sources. Thanks to the fund's underweighting of clean technology companies focused on solar, wind and hydrogen versus the index, despite the industry faced many headwinds during 2023 including inflation, disruption in supply chains, and regulatory pressures, it outperformed S&P Global Clean Energy Net TR's -22.3% return in 2023 by 24.1%, delivering a 1.8% return for the full year. *Middlefield Global Infrastructure Fund* delivered a return of 2.1% in 2023. The fund was affected by its allocation to the sustainable subset of infrastructure issuers, which underperformed the broader infrastructure sector. 2023 was an extremely challenging year for the clean power industry. Offshore wind was the most acutely impacted by macro headwinds which included cost inflation, higher financing expenses, project delays, cancellations, and hedging issues. While challenges still exist, the backdrop has improved in recent months and we remind investors that the energy transition is a multi-decade investment theme. Despite stock price declines in 2023, several countries and businesses continue to invest in the energy transition, with 118 nations pledging to triple the global renewable energy capacity by 2030, as announced at the COP28 conference. With inflation showing signs of cooling and negative sentiment already factored in, many clean power stocks could be poised for a sustained recovery in 2024.

Middlefield Healthcare Dividend Fund generated a total return of 0.7%. Although healthcare finished the year with a total return of 1.3%, 2023 marked the sector's most significant underperformance relative to the S&P 500 in 30 years. Profit growth impacted healthcare stocks as year-over-year earnings comparisons were challenging after a year of pandemic-related tailwinds in 2022. The Biden Administration officially ended the COVID-19 national emergency in April 2023 which contributed to reduced spending on COVID vaccines, therapeutics and testing equipment.

Outlook

Our outlook for the economy in 2024 is for a soft landing. We are not predicting a recession this year, but rather a deceleration from the high growth experienced in 2023 (such as 5.2% U.S. GDP growth in Q3). This gives us optimism for equity markets for three key factors. First, inflation should continue to trend lower, particularly as the shelter component of inflation calculations roll over. Second, we expect the approaching wave of monetary policy easing to support stocks. The futures market is currently projecting approximately five rate cuts from both the Bank of Canada and the Fed in 2024. Finally, we expect earnings to return to growth mode in 2024 after being relatively flat in 2023. Consensus expectations are for S&P 500 EPS growth of 10% in 2024 and 11.2% into 2025.

Although we hold a positive outlook for the year ahead, it is important to acknowledge that after nine consecutive weeks of positive returns for the S&P 500 (its longest winning streak since 2004), markets are starting the year with overbought conditions. We would not be surprised to see a near-term market pullback at the beginning of the year which should be viewed as a healthy correction within a broader bull trend. Going back to 1950, the market has generated a positive return 80% of the time following a year where the S&P 500 returned over 20%. In an economy characterized by falling inflation, historically low unemployment and solid consumer spending, it is likely that new highs are on the horizon.



Dean Orrico
President and CEO
Middlefield Capital Corporation



Robert F. Lauzon
Managing Director and Chief Investment Officer
Middlefield Capital Corporation

ANNUAL MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

This annual management report of fund performance contains financial highlights and should be read in conjunction with the complete audited annual financial statements of the investment fund that follow this report.

Securityholders may contact us by calling 1-888-890-1868, by writing to us at Middlefield Group at one of the addresses on the back cover or by visiting our website at www.middlefield.com to request a copy of the investment fund's annual financial statements, proxy voting policies and procedures, proxy voting disclosure record or quarterly portfolio disclosure.

Management's Discussion of Fund Performance

Investment Objective and Strategies

Middlefield Innovation Dividend Class (the "Fund") is a mutual fund class of Middlefield Mutual Funds Limited. The Fund is authorized to issue series of shares designated as Series A and F. The Fund has issued only Series F shares since the commencement of operations on June 7, 2022. The Fund's objective is to maximize long-term total return through investment in dividend-paying securities of global issuers that derive a significant portion of their revenue or earnings from products or services related to major technological innovations.

Risk

The Fund is exposed to several risks that may affect its performance. The overall risk of the Fund is as described in its prospectus dated June 7, 2023. During the past year the overall risk level of the Fund may have been impacted as follows:

Market Risk

Market risk describes the Fund's exposure to volatility in the market value of its underlying securities. Equity markets continue to exhibit volatility due to an uncertain interest rate environment; the increased competition that equity investments are facing from income alternatives, such as GICs and High Interest Savings Accounts; and the risk that the economy enters a recession.

Results of Operations

Investment Performance

The net assets of the Fund increased from \$0.1 million at December 31, 2022 to \$0.2 million at December 31, 2023. Net assets on a per share basis for Series F increased from \$9.24 at December 31, 2022 to \$12.91 at December 31, 2023. The Fund recorded approximately \$60,000 net gain on its investment portfolio during the year ended December 31, 2023.

Revenue and Expenses

Revenue for the year ended December 31, 2023 amounted to approximately \$60,000 up from a loss of approximately \$9,000 in 2022. The increase was primarily due to the net gain on the Fund's investments. There were no operating expenses for the year ended December 31, 2023 other than transaction costs in respect of securities trades. Distributions for the year ended December 31, 2023 amounted to \$0.24 per share for Series F.

Trends

It was an exceptional year for big tech stocks, reflected by the NASDAQ 100 generating a total return of 55.1%. The Magnificent 7 stocks led the market for most of the year, with NVIDIA and Meta generating standout returns of 238.9% and 194.1%, respectively.

Related Party Transactions

Pursuant to a management agreement, Middlefield Limited (the "Manager") receives a management fee. For further details please see the "Management Fees" section of this report. Middlefield Capital Corporation ("MCC" or the "Advisor"), the advisor to the Fund and a company under common control with the Manager, receives advisory fees from the Manager out of the management fee. MCC also receives brokerage commissions from the Fund in connection with securities transactions. All brokerage commissions paid by the Fund to MCC were at or below market rates. As at December 31, 2023, the Fund held investments in other investment funds managed by the Manager. For further details please see the notes to the financial statements.

As at December 31, 2023 the Manager holds all of the issued and outstanding shares of the Fund, from its subscription of \$150,000 on the inception date of the Fund. The Manager may not redeem these shares of the Fund until subscriptions of \$500,000 have been received from other investors.

Management Fees

Management fees are calculated at 2.00% per annum for the Series A shares and 1.00% per annum for the Series F shares, of the net asset value of each Series and are split between the Manager, the Advisor and investment dealers who receive trailing commissions. The Manager receives fees for the general administration of the Fund, including maintaining the accounting records, executing securities trades, monitoring compliance with regulatory requirements, and negotiating contractual agreements, among other things. The Advisor receives fees from the Manager for providing investment advice in respect of the portfolio in accordance with the investment objective and strategies of the Fund. No Management fees were charged to the Fund during for the year ended December 31, 2023.

ANNUAL MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

Financial Highlights

Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Shares are calculated in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS").

"Net Asset Value" is calculated in accordance with section 14.2 of National Instrument 81-106 "Investment Fund Continuous Disclosure" ("NI 81-106") and is used for transactional pricing purposes.

The following tables show selected key financial information about the Fund and are intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the indicated years. Ratios and Supplemental Data are derived from the Fund's Net Asset Value.

The Fund's Net Assets Per Share ⁽¹⁾ – Series F

| | 2023 | 2022 ⁽⁴⁾ |
|--|-------------|---------------------|
| Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Shares, Beginning of Year | \$ 9.24 | \$ 10.00 |
| INCREASE (DECREASE) FROM OPERATIONS: | | |
| Total Revenue | 0.01 | 0.19 |
| Total Expenses (excluding distributions) | - | - |
| Realized Gains (Losses) for the Year | - | (0.01) |
| Unrealized Gains (Losses) for the Year | 3.90 | (0.79) |
| Transaction Costs on Purchase and Sale of Investments | - | (0.01) |
| TOTAL INCREASE (DECREASE) FROM OPERATIONS ⁽²⁾ | 3.91 | (0.62) |
| DISTRIBUTIONS: | | |
| From Net Investment Income | 0.01 | 0.14 |
| Return of Capital | 0.23 | - |
| TOTAL DISTRIBUTIONS ⁽³⁾ | 0.24 | 0.14 |
| Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Shares, End of Year | \$ 12.91 | \$ 9.24 |

⁽¹⁾ This information is derived from the Fund's audited annual financial statements.

⁽²⁾ Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Shares are based on the actual number of shares outstanding at the relevant time. The increase (decrease) from operations is based on the weighted average number of shares outstanding over the financial year. This schedule is not a reconciliation of Net Asset Value since it does not reflect shareholder transactions as shown on the Statement of Changes in Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Shares and accordingly columns may not add.

⁽³⁾ Distributions were paid in cash/reinvested in additional shares of the Fund, or both.

⁽⁴⁾ For the period May 31, 2022 (date of commencement of operations) to December 31, 2022.

Ratios and Supplemental Data – Series F

| | 2023 | 2022 ⁽⁵⁾ |
|--|----------|---------------------|
| Total Net Asset Value (000s) ⁽¹⁾ | \$ 201 | \$ 141 |
| Number of Shares Outstanding ⁽¹⁾ | 15,554 | 15,228 |
| Management Expense Ratio ("MER") ⁽²⁾ | - | - |
| MER before waivers or absorptions ⁽²⁾ | 1.57% | 1.75% |
| Trading Expense Ratio ⁽³⁾ | 0.09% | 0.36% |
| Portfolio Turnover Rate ⁽⁴⁾ | - | 0.82% |
| Net Asset Value Per Share | \$ 12.91 | \$ 9.24 |

⁽¹⁾ This information is provided as at December 31 of the year shown.

⁽²⁾ The MER is based on total expenses (excluding commissions and other portfolio transaction costs) for the stated year and is expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average Net Asset Value during the year. Where the Fund invests in securities of another investment fund managed by the Manager, the total expenses include the pro-rata share of the expenses of the underlying fund. The Manager waived the management fee for the year ended December 31, 2023. The MER for 2023 would have been 1.57% without the waiver. The Manager retains the right to discontinue this waiver at any time.

⁽³⁾ The trading expense ratio represents total commissions and other portfolio transaction costs expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average Net Asset Value during the year. Where a Fund invests in securities of another investment fund managed by the Manager, the total commission and other portfolio transaction cost includes the pro-rata share of those costs from the underlying fund.

⁽⁴⁾ The Fund's portfolio turnover rate indicates how actively the Fund's portfolio investments are managed. A portfolio turnover rate of 100% is equivalent to the Fund buying and selling all of the securities in its portfolio once in the course of the year. The higher the Fund's portfolio turnover rate in a year, the greater the trading costs payable by the Fund in the year, and the greater the chance of an investor receiving taxable capital gains in the year. There is not necessarily a relationship between a high turnover rate and the performance of a fund.

⁽⁵⁾ For the period May 31, 2022 (date of commencement of operations) to December 31, 2022.

ANNUAL MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE

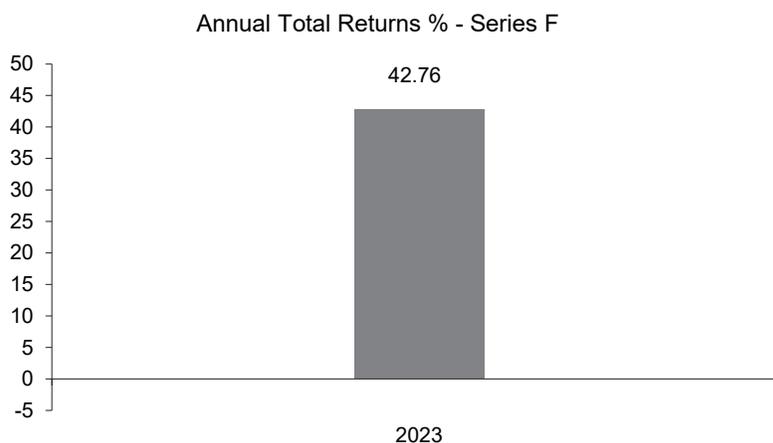
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

Past Performance

The performance information shown, which is based on Net Asset Value, assumes that all distributions paid by the Fund in the year shown were reinvested in additional securities of the Fund. The performance information does not take into account sales, redemption, distribution or other optional charges that would have reduced returns or performance. How the Fund has performed in the past does not necessarily indicate how it will perform in the future.

Year-By-Year Returns

The bar chart shows how the Fund's performance for the year shown. The return for 2022 is not presented since it relates to a partial period. The chart indicates, in percentage terms, how much an investment made the first day of the financial year would have grown or decreased by the last day of the financial year.



Annual Compound Returns

| | Periods Ended December 31, 2023 | |
|--|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| | One Year | Since Inception |
| Middlefield Innovation Dividend Class – Series F | 42.76% | 20.14% |
| NASDAQ Technology Dividend Total Return Index | 34.47% | 14.49% |

The NASDAQ Technology Dividend Total Return Index (the "Index") includes up to 100 Technology and Telecommunications companies that pay a regular or common dividend.

The Fund's total return of 42.76% outperformed the 34.47% return generated by the Index. The Fund's performance in 2023 was influenced by its weighting in growth-oriented technology securities.

ANNUAL MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

Summary of Investment Portfolio

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2023

Top Twenty-Five Holdings*

| DESCRIPTION | % OF NET ASSET VALUE |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 Middlefield Innovation Dividend ETF | 97.7 |

"Top Twenty-Five Holdings" excludes any temporary cash investments.

*The Fund has only 1 holding.

| ASSET CLASS | % OF NET ASSET VALUE |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Exchange-Traded Fund(s) | 97.7 |
| Cash and Short-Term Investments | 2.1 |
| Other Assets (Liabilities) | 0.2 |
| | 100.0 |
| TOTAL NET ASSET VALUE | \$ 200,842 |

The Summary of Investment Portfolio may change over time due to ongoing portfolio transactions. The Prospectus of any investment funds owned by the Fund can be found online at www.sedarplus.ca.

Please visit www.middlefield.com for the most recent quarter-end Summary of Investment Portfolio.

MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL REPORTING

The financial statements Middlefield Innovation Dividend Class (the "Fund") have been prepared by Middlefield Limited (the "Manager"), the manager of Fund and approved by the Board of Directors. The Manager is responsible for the information and representations contained in these financial statements and other financial information contained in this report. The Manager maintains appropriate procedures to ensure that relevant and reliable financial information is produced. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and include certain amounts that are based on estimates



Jeremy Brasseur
Director

and judgments. The significant accounting policies applicable to the Fund are described in the notes to the financial statements. The Board of Directors is responsible for ensuring that management fulfills its responsibilities for financial reporting and has reviewed and approved these financial statements.

Deloitte LLP is the external auditor of the Fund. They have audited the financial statements of the Fund in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards to enable them to express to unitholders their opinion on the financial statements.



Craig Rogers
Director

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Shareholders of
Middlefield Innovation Dividend Class (the "Fund")

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the Fund, which comprise the statements of financial position as at December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the statements of comprehensive income, changes in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable shares and cash flows for the years then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information (collectively referred to as the "financial statements").

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Fund as at December 31, 2023 and 2022, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS").

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards ("Canadian GAAS"). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Fund in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises:

- Management Report of Fund Performance
- The information, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon, in the Annual Report

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information identified above and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

We obtained the Management Report of Fund Performance and the Annual Report prior to the date of this auditor's report. If, based on the work we have performed on this other information, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact in this auditor's report. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with IFRS, and for such internal control as

management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Fund or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Fund's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian GAAS, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from

fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Fund's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Fund to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

The logo for Deloitte LLP, featuring the word "Deloitte" in a cursive script followed by "LLP" in a plain sans-serif font.

Chartered Professional Accountants
Licensed Public Accountants
Toronto, Ontario
March 22, 2024

**FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS**



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Statements of Financial Position

AS AT DECEMBER 31
(In Canadian Dollars)

| | 2023 | 2022 |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| ASSETS | | |
| Current Assets | | |
| Investments at Fair Value Through Profit or Loss | \$ 196,168 | \$ 134,470 |
| Cash | 4,241 | 5,831 |
| Income and Interest Receivable | 409 | 393 |
| Subscriptions Receivable | 24 | 71 |
| Total Assets | 200,842 | 140,765 |
| Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Shares – Series F ⁽¹⁾ | \$ 200,842 | \$ 140,765 |
| Mutual Fund Shares Issued and Outstanding (Note 6) | 15,554 | 15,228 |
| Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Shares per Share – Series F ⁽¹⁾ | \$ 12.91 | \$ 9.24 |

⁽¹⁾ Only Series F shares have been issued.

The accompanying notes to financial statements are an integral part of these financial statements.

Approved by the Board of Directors:



Director: Catherine Rebuldela



Director: Craig Rogers

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Statement of Comprehensive Income

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND FOR THE PERIOD
MAY 31, 2022 (DATE OF COMMENCEMENT OF OPERATIONS) TO
DECEMBER 31, 2022

| (In Canadian Dollars) | 2023 | 2022 |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| REVENUE (LOSS) | | |
| Income from Investments | \$ - | \$ 2,748 |
| Interest Income for Distribution Purposes | 163 | 62 |
| Other Changes in Fair Value of Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities at Fair Value Through Profit or Loss | | |
| Net Realized Gain (Loss) from Investment Transactions | - | (92) |
| Change in Net Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments | 59,991 | (11,900) |
| Total Revenue (Loss) | 60,154 | (9,182) |
| OPERATING EXPENSES (Note 7) | | |
| Transaction Costs (Note 7) | 29 | 125 |
| Total Operating Expenses | 29 | 125 |
| Profit (Loss) after Tax | \$ 60,125 | (9,307) |
| Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Shares | \$ 60,125 | (9,307) |
| Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Shares – Series F | \$ 60,125 | (9,307) |
| Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Shares per Share – Series F (Note 6) | \$ 3.91 | \$ (0.62) |

The accompanying notes to financial statements are an integral part of these financial statements.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Statement of Changes in Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Shares

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023
(In Canadian Dollars)

| | Series F ⁽¹⁾ | | Total |
|--|-------------------------|---------|------------|
| Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Shares at Beginning of Year | \$ | 140,765 | \$ 140,765 |
| Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Shares | | 60,125 | 60,125 |
| DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS: | | | |
| From Net Investment Income | | (162) | (162) |
| Return of Capital | | (3,529) | (3,529) |
| | | (3,691) | (3,691) |
| REDEEMABLE SHARE TRANSACTIONS | | | |
| Reinvested Distribution | | 3,643 | 3,643 |
| | | 3,643 | 3,643 |
| Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Shares at End of Year | \$ | 200,842 | \$ 200,842 |

Statement of Changes in Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Shares

FOR THE PERIOD MAY 31, 2022 (DATE OF COMMENCEMENT OF OPERATIONS) TO DECEMBER 31, 2022
(In Canadian Dollars)

| | Series F ⁽¹⁾ | | Total |
|--|-------------------------|---------|------------|
| Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Shares at Beginning of Period | \$ | - | \$ - |
| Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Shares | | (9,307) | (9,307) |
| DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS: | | | |
| From Net Investment Income | | (2,113) | (2,113) |
| | | (2,113) | (2,113) |
| REDEEMABLE SHARE TRANSACTIONS: | | | |
| Proceeds from Issue of Shares | | 150,000 | 150,000 |
| Reinvested Distributions | | 2,185 | 2,185 |
| | | 152,185 | 152,185 |
| Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Shares at End of Period | \$ | 140,765 | \$ 140,765 |

⁽¹⁾ Only Series F shares have been issued.

The accompanying notes to financial statements are an integral part of these financial statements.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Statements of Cash Flows

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND FOR THE PERIOD
MAY 31, 2022 (DATE OF COMMENCEMENT OF OPERATIONS) TO
DECEMBER 31, 2022
(In Canadian Dollars)

| | 2023 | 2022 |
|---|-----------|------------|
| CASH FLOWS FROM (USED IN) OPERATING ACTIVITIES: | | |
| Increase (Decrease) Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Shares | \$ 60,125 | \$ (9,307) |
| Adjustments: | | |
| Proceeds from Sale of Investments | - | 1,138 |
| Purchases of Investments | (1,707) | (147,600) |
| Net Realized (Gain) Loss from Investment Transactions | - | 92 |
| Change in Net Unrealized (Gain) Loss on Investments | (59,991) | 11,900 |
| | (1,573) | (143,777) |
| Net Change in Non-Cash Working Capital | (16) | (393) |
| Net Cash from (used in) Operating Activities | (1,589) | (144,170) |
| CASH FLOWS FROM (USED IN) FINANCING ACTIVITIES: | | |
| Proceeds from Issue of Shares | 47 | 150,098 |
| Distributions Paid | (48) | (97) |
| Net Cash from (used in) Financing Activities | (1) | 150,001 |
| Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash | (1,590) | 5,831 |
| Cash at Beginning of Year | 5,831 | - |
| Cash at End of Year | \$ 4,241 | \$ 5,831 |

The accompanying notes to financial statements are an integral part of these financial statements.

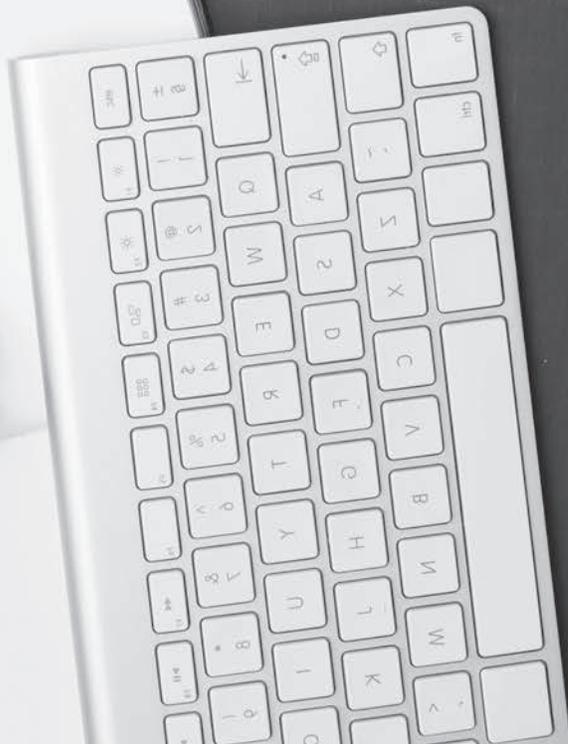
Schedule of Investment Portfolio

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2023
(In Canadian Dollars)

| Description | No. of Securities | Average Cost | Fair Value |
|--|-------------------|--------------|------------|
| Middlefield Innovation Dividend ETF * | 12,400 | \$ 148,225 | \$ 196,168 |
| EXCHANGE-TRADED FUNDS: 97.9% | | 148,225 | 196,168 |
| TRANSACTION COSTS (NOTE 7) | | (148) | |
| TOTAL INVESTMENT: 97.9% | | 148,077 | 196,168 |
| CASH: 2.1% | | 4,241 | 4,241 |
| Total Investment Portfolio, including Cash | | \$ 152,318 | \$ 200,409 |

* The Fund held 0.2% of the net assets of Middlefield Innovation Dividend ETF (the "Underlying Fund"). Middlefield Limited is the manager for both the Fund and the Underlying Fund.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022

1. Middlefield Innovation Dividend Class

Middlefield Innovation Dividend Class (the “Fund”) is one of nine classes of issued mutual fund shares of Middlefield Mutual Funds Limited (the “Corporation”), a mutual fund corporation continued under the laws of Alberta. The Fund is authorized to issue series of shares designated as Series A and F. Each series has a different management fee rate. No Series A shares have been issued. The Fund first issued Series F shares on May 31, 2022. The investment objective of the Fund is to maximize long-term total return through investment in dividend-paying securities of global issuers that derive a significant portion of their revenue or earnings from products or services related to major technological innovations. Middlefield Limited is the manager of the Fund (the “Manager”). The address of the Fund’s registered office is 350 7 Ave SW Suite 3400, Calgary, Alberta. These financial statements, expressed in Canadian Dollars, were authorized for issuance by the board of directors of the Fund on March 22, 2024.

2. Basis of Presentation

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (“IFRS”) as published by the International Accounting Standards Board (“IASB”) and as required by Canadian securities legislation and the Canadian Accounting Standards Board.

3. Summary of Material Accounting Policies

A. Basis of Accounting

IFRS 9 *Financial Instruments* (“IFRS9”)

The Fund classifies and measures financial instruments in accordance with IFRS 9, which requires assets to be carried at amortized cost or fair value, with changes in fair value recognized in profit and loss or other comprehensive income, based on the entity’s business model for managing financial assets and the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial assets. The Fund’s financial assets and liabilities are classified at fair value through profit or loss (“FVTPL”) and amortized cost.

Classification, Measurement, Impairment and Hedge Accounting

The Fund classifies its investments in debt and equity securities based on its business model for managing those financial assets and the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial assets. These financial assets are managed and their performance is evaluated on a fair value basis. The Fund also manages these financial assets with the objective of realizing cash flows through sales. Further, an option to irrevocably designate any equity securities at fair value through other comprehensive income (“FVOCI”) has not been taken. Consequently, these financial assets are mandatorily measured at FVTPL.

Financial assets or financial liabilities held for trading are those acquired principally for the purpose of selling or repurchasing in the near future or on initial recognition they are a part of a portfolio of identified financial instruments that the Fund manages together and has a recent actual pattern of short term profit taking. All derivatives and short positions are included in this category and mandatorily measured at FVTPL. The financial assets and liabilities measured at amortized cost include cash collateral posted on derivative positions, accrued income, due to and from brokers and other short term receivables and payables.

IFRS 9 uses the expected credit loss model (“ECL”), as the new impairment model for financial assets carried at amortized cost. The Fund’s financial assets measured at amortized cost consist of trade receivables with no financing component and which have maturities of less than 12 months, as such, it has chosen to apply the simplified ECL approach, whereby any loss allowance is recognized based on the lifetime of ECLs. Due to the high quality and short-term nature of the trade receivables, there are no expected credit losses associated with them and they are not considered impaired at the reporting dates.

The Fund does not apply general hedge accounting to any of its derivatives positions.

B. Financial Instruments

The Fund’s financial instruments may include: short-term investments, fixed income, equities, structured products including investment funds managed by the Manager, derivatives (collectively referred to as “investments”), cash, accounts receivable-portfolio securities sold, income and interest receivable, accounts receivable, subscriptions receivable, prepaid expenses, accounts payable-portfolio securities purchased, management fee payable, accounts payable and accrued liabilities, redemptions payable and distributions payable. The Fund recognizes financial instruments at fair value upon initial recognition, plus transaction costs in the case of financial instruments measured at amortized cost. Regular way purchases and sales of financial assets are recognized at their trade date. The Fund’s investments and derivative assets and liabilities are measured at fair value. The Fund’s Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Shares are measured at fair value. All other financial assets and liabilities are measured at amortized cost. Under this method, financial assets and liabilities reflect the amount required to be received or paid, discounted, when appropriate, at the contract’s effective interest rate. The Fund’s accounting policies for measuring the fair value of its investments and derivatives are identical to those used in measuring its net asset value (“NAV”) for transactions with shareholders.

The Fund only offsets financial assets and financial liabilities if the Fund has a legally enforceable right to offset recognized amounts and either intends to settle on a net basis or to realize the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022

3. Summary of Material Accounting Policies (continued)

C. Redeemable Shares and Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Shares

The Fund has one series of redeemable shares in issue: Series F.

Redeemable shares can be put back to the Fund at any time for cash equal to a proportionate share of the Fund's NAV attributable to the share class. The redeemable shares are classified as financial liabilities and are measured at the redemption amounts.

Redeemable shares are issued and redeemed based on the Fund's NAV per share, calculated by dividing the net assets of the Fund, calculated in accordance with the Fund's Simplified Prospectus, by the number of redeemable shares in issue. The Fund's Simplified Prospectus requires that investment positions are valued on the basis of the last traded market price for the purpose of determining the trading NAV per share for subscriptions and redemptions.

The financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss in the Statements of Financial Position are based on closing prices in accordance with IFRS.

Distributions are declared at the discretion of the board of directors of the Corporation. The board of directors has adopted a policy of annually assessing the Corporation's net income and net realized capital gains and declaring distributions including, if applicable, capital gains dividends to refund tax which would otherwise be payable by the Corporation. Distributions to holders of redeemable shares are recognized in the Statements of Changes in Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Shares. Income not distributed is included in Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Shares.

Net assets are calculated for each series of shares of the Fund. The net assets of a particular series of shares is computed by calculating the value of the series' proportionate share of the assets and liabilities of the Fund common to all series. Management fees directly attributable to a series are charged to that series. Other expenses, investment income and realized and unrealized gains and losses on investments are allocated proportionately to each series based upon the relative net assets of each series.

D. Fair Value Measurement

The Fund's own credit risk and the credit risk of the counterparty are taken into account in determining the fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities, including derivative instruments. Investments and futures contracts are valued at fair value using the policies described below.

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The fair value of financial assets and liabilities traded in active markets are based on quoted market prices at the close of trading on the reporting date. The Fund uses the last traded market price for both financial assets and financial liabilities where the last traded price falls within that day's bid-ask spread. In circumstances where the last traded price is not within the bid-ask spread, the Manager determines the point within the bid-ask spread that is most representative of fair value based on the specific facts and circumstances.

Futures contracts are marked to market each valuation day according to the gain or loss that would have been realized if the contracts had been closed out. Gains or losses arising from futures contracts are recorded as unrealized gain (loss) on futures contracts and shown as an asset (liability) on the Statements of Financial Position until the contracts are closed out or expire, at which time the gains (losses) are realized.

The fair value of financial assets and liabilities that are not traded in an active market (for example, over-the-counter derivatives) is determined by using valuation techniques. The Fund uses a variety of methods and makes assumptions that are based on market conditions existing at each reporting date. Valuation techniques used include the use of comparable recent arm's length transactions, reference to other instruments that are substantially the same, discounted cash flow analysis, option pricing models and other valuation techniques commonly used by market participants making the maximum use of market inputs and relying as little as possible on entity specific inputs.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022

3. Summary of Material Accounting Policies (continued)

E. Investment Transactions and Income Recognition

Investment transactions are accounted for as of the trade date and any realized gains or losses from such transactions are calculated on an average cost basis. Average cost does not include amortization of premiums or discounts on fixed income securities with the exception of zero coupon bonds. The change in the difference between fair value and average cost of the investments is recorded as an unrealized gain (loss) on investments. Income from investments is recognized on the ex-dividend or ex-distribution date. Interest income for distribution purposes shown on the Statements of Comprehensive Income represents the interest received on bank deposits by the Fund and, if the Fund holds fixed income investments, coupon interest accounted for on an accrual basis. The Fund does not amortize premiums paid or discounts received on the purchase of fixed income securities except for zero coupon bonds which are amortized on a straight line basis. The interest income for distribution purposes is the tax basis of calculating the interest received and which is subject to tax. Income distributions received are treated consistently with dividends and interest and recorded in income in the Statements of Comprehensive Income.

F. Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Shares Per Share

Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Shares per share in the Statements of Comprehensive Income represents the increase (decrease) in Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Shares divided by the average shares outstanding during the year.

G. Income Taxes

The Corporation qualifies as a mutual fund corporation as defined in the *Income Tax Act* (Canada) (the "Tax Act"). The Corporation is subject to tax at the full corporate rate on its taxable income. Dividends received from taxable Canadian corporations are generally not included in the taxable income of the Corporation but are subject to a special tax, refunded at a rate of 38 1/3% of taxable dividends distributed by the Corporation to its shareholders. Capital gains realized in the year are included in the taxable income of the Fund at the applicable capital gains rate. The Corporation is eligible for a refund calculated on a formula basis when mutual fund shares are redeemed or when capital gains dividends are paid to shareholders. The Corporation endeavours to pay out sufficient Canadian dividends and net capital gains so that it will not be subject to refundable income taxes in respect of income from those sources. However, the Corporation will be liable for non-refundable income tax if its income from other sources exceeds its expenses for the year.

Temporary differences between the carrying values of assets and liabilities for accounting and income tax purposes give rise to future income tax assets and liabilities. The most significant temporary difference is that between the reported fair value of the investment portfolio and its adjusted cost base ("ACB") for income tax purposes. To the extent that the fair value of the portfolio exceeds its ACB, a future tax liability arises. Since capital gains taxes payable by the Corporation are refundable under the relevant provisions of the Tax Act, the future tax liability is fully offset by these future refundable taxes. Conversely, when the ACB exceeds the fair value of the portfolio, a future tax asset is generated. In such cases, a full valuation allowance is taken to offset this asset given the uncertainty that such future tax assets will ultimately be realized.

The Fund currently incurs withholding taxes imposed by certain countries on investment income and capital gains. Such income and gains are recorded on a gross basis and the related withholding taxes are shown separately in the Statements of Comprehensive Income.

Distributions received from investments in trust units that are treated as a return of capital for tax purposes are used to reduce the average cost of the underlying investments on the Schedule of Investment Portfolio.

H. Foreign Currency Translation

Foreign currency amounts are translated into Canadian dollars as follows: fair value of investments, forward currency contracts and other assets and liabilities, at the closing rate of exchange on each business day; income and expenses, and purchases, sales and settlements of investments, at the rate of exchange prevailing on the respective dates of such transactions.

I. Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgments

The preparation of financial statements requires management to use judgment in applying its accounting policies and to make estimates and assumptions about the future. The following discusses the most significant accounting judgments and estimates that the Fund has made in preparing the financial statements:

Determination of Functional Currency

'Functional currency' is the currency of the primary economic environment in which the Fund operates. If indicators of the primary economic environment are mixed, then management uses its judgment to determine the functional currency that most faithfully represents the economic effect of the underlying transactions, events, and conditions. The majority of the Fund's investments and transactions are denominated in Canadian dollars. Investor subscriptions and redemptions are also received and paid in Canadian dollars. Accordingly, management has determined that the functional currency of the Fund is Canadian dollars.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022

3. Summary of Material Accounting Policies (continued)

I Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgments (continued)

Fair Value Measurement of Derivatives and Securities Not Quoted in an Active Market

The Fund may hold financial instruments that are not quoted in active markets, including derivatives. Fair values of such instruments are determined using valuation techniques and may be determined using reputable pricing sources (such as pricing agencies) or indicative prices from market makers. Broker quotes as obtained from the pricing sources may be indicative and not executable or binding. Where no market data is available, the Fund may value positions using its own models, which are usually based on valuation methods and techniques generally recognized as standard within the industry. The models used to determine fair values are validated and periodically reviewed by experienced personnel of the Manager, independent of the party that created them. The models used for private equity securities are based mainly on earnings multiples adjusted for a lack of marketability as appropriate.

Models use observable data, to the extent practicable. However, areas such as credit risk (both own and counterparty), volatilities and correlations require the Manager to make estimates. Changes in assumptions about these factors could affect the reported fair values of financial instruments. The Fund considers observable data to be market data that is readily available, regularly distributed and updated, reliable and verifiable, not proprietary, and provided by independent sources that are actively involved in the relevant market. Refer to Note 4 for further information about the fair value measurement of the Fund's financial instruments.

4. Fair Value Disclosure

The Fund classifies fair value measurements within a hierarchy which gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3). The fair value of the Fund's financial instruments is classified into levels using the following fair value hierarchy:

| | |
|---------|--|
| Level 1 | Inputs that reflect unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that are accessible at the measurement date. |
| Level 2 | Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability either directly or indirectly, including inputs in markets that are not considered to be active. |
| Level 3 | Inputs that are unobservable and where there is little, if any, market activity. Inputs into the determination of fair value require significant management judgement or estimation. |

The Fund's investment at fair value as at December 31, 2023 and 2022 is an investment fund managed by the Manager, which trades in active markets and is therefore classified as Level 1.

All fair value measurements above are recurring. The carrying values of cash, income and interest receivable, subscriptions receivable and the Fund's obligation for Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Shares approximates their fair values due to their short-term nature.

Fair values are classified as Level 1 when the related security is actively traded and a quoted price is available. If an instrument classified as Level 1 subsequently ceases to be actively traded, it is transferred out of Level 1. In such cases, instruments are reclassified into Level 2, unless the measurement of its fair value requires the use of significant unobservable inputs, in which case it is classified as Level 3.

The Fund's policy is to recognize transfers in and out of the fair value hierarchy levels as at the end of the reporting year for transfers between Levels 1 and 2 and as at the date of the transfer for transfers in and out of Level 3. No transfers between levels occurred during the year ended December 31, 2023 or the period ended December 31, 2022.

5. Financial Risk Management

In the normal course of business the Fund is exposed to a variety of financial risks: price risk, liquidity risk, credit risk and concentration risk. The Fund's primary risk management objective is to protect earnings and cash flow and, ultimately, shareholder value. Risk management strategies, as discussed below, are designed and implemented to ensure the Fund's risks and related exposures are consistent with its objectives and risk tolerance.

Most of the Fund's risks are derived from its investments. The value of the investments within the Fund's portfolio can fluctuate on a daily basis as a result of changes in interest rates, economic conditions, commodity prices, the market and company news related to specific securities held by the Fund. The investments are made in accordance with the Fund's risk management policies. The policies establish investment objectives, strategies, criteria and restrictions. The objectives of these policies are to identify and mitigate investment risk through a disciplined investment process and the appropriate structuring of each transaction.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022

5. Financial Risk Management (continued)

As at December 31, 2023 and 2022, the Fund had no significant direct exposure to price risk, liquidity risk, foreign exchange rate risk, credit risk and concentration risk, but it does bear the risks of the underlying Middlefield Innovation Dividend ETF. For more information on the risks of Middlefield Innovation Dividend ETF, please visit our website at www.middlefield.com/funds/fund-documents.

A. Price Risk

Price risk is the risk that changes in the prices of the Fund's investments will affect the Fund's income or the value of its financial instruments. The Fund's price risk is driven primarily by volatility in commodity and equity prices. Rising commodity and equity prices may increase the price of an investment while declining commodity and equity prices may have the opposite effect. The Fund mitigates price risk by making investing decisions based upon various factors, including comprehensive fundamental analysis prepared by industry experts to forecast future commodity and equity price movements. The Fund's market positions are monitored on a daily basis by the portfolio manager and regular financial reviews of publicly available information related to the Fund's investments are performed to ensure that any risks are within established levels of risk tolerance. The Fund is exposed to price risk through the following financial instrument:

| | 2023 | 2022 |
|----------------------|------------|------------|
| Investments at FVTPL | \$ 196,168 | \$ 134,470 |

Based on the above exposure at December 31, 2023, a 10% increase or decrease in the prices of the Fund's investments would result in a \$19,617 (December 31, 2022 – \$13,447) increase or decrease in net assets of the Fund, with all other factors held constant.

B. Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is defined as the risk that the Fund may not be able to settle or meet its obligations when due. The Fund is exposed to daily cash redemptions of its shares. The shares of the Fund are issued and redeemed on demand at the NAV per share. All other obligations of the Fund are due within one year. Liquidity risk is managed by investing the majority of the Fund's assets in investments that are traded in an active market and can be readily sold. The Fund retains sufficient cash to maintain liquidity and comply with liquidity requirements as outlined by securities legislation and its investment policies.

The Fund may invest in securities that are not traded on a public stock exchange or that may be illiquid. As a result, the Fund may not be able to dispose of these investments in a timely manner. The Fund mitigates this risk through active management, which involves detailed analysis of such private entities to ensure they are financially sound and would be attractive to potential investors if a sale is necessary. The Fund's investment policies and securities legislation limit the amount invested in illiquid securities and these limits are monitored. The Fund did not hold any illiquid securities as at December 31, 2023 or 2022.

The tables below present the Fund's financial liabilities based on the remaining period to the contractual maturity date. The amounts in the tables reflect the contractual undiscounted cash flows.

As at December 31, 2023

| Financial Liabilities | Less than 1 Month | 1 to 3 Months | 3 Months to 1 Year | Total |
|---|----------------------|---------------|-----------------------|------------|
| Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Shares | \$ 200,842 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 200,842 |
| Total | \$ 200,842 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 200,842 |

As at December 31, 2022

| Financial Liabilities | Less than 1 Month | 1 to 3 Months | 3 Months to 1 Year | Total |
|---|----------------------|---------------|-----------------------|------------|
| Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Shares | \$ 140,765 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 140,765 |
| Total | \$ 140,765 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 140,765 |

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022

5. Financial Risk Management (continued)

C. Credit Risk

Credit risk represents the financial loss that the Fund would experience if a counterparty to a financial instrument failed to meet its obligations to the Fund. The Fund is exposed to credit risk on its debt instruments, derivative assets, cash and cash equivalents and other short term trade receivables. The Fund measures credit risk and lifetime ECLs related to the trade receivables using historical analysis and forward looking information in determining the ECL. The carrying amounts of financial assets represent the maximum credit exposure. All transactions executed by the Fund in listed securities are settled upon delivery using approved brokers. The risk of default is considered minimal, as delivery of securities sold is only made once the broker has received payment. Payment is made on a purchase only once the broker has received the securities. The trade will fail if either party fails to meet its obligations. There is no significant credit risk related to the Fund's receivables.

The Fund has established various internal controls to help mitigate credit risk, including prior approval of all investments by the advisor whose mandate includes conducting financial and other assessments of these investments on a regular basis. The Fund has also implemented policies which ensure that investments can only be made with counterparties that have a minimum acceptable credit rating.

D. Concentration Risk

The Fund is exposed to the possible risk inherent in the concentration of the investment portfolio in a small number of industries or investment sectors. The Manager moderates this risk through careful selection of securities in several investment sectors.

As at December 31, 2023 and 2022, the Fund's only investment was in an Exchange Traded Fund. The percentages of the Fund's total net assets invested in each investment sector were as follows:

| Sector* | As a % of Net Assets | |
|------------------------|----------------------|------|
| | 2023 | 2022 |
| Technology | 62.2 | 46.9 |
| Communication Services | 16.3 | 13.5 |
| Consumer Discretionary | 7.5 | 10.7 |
| Healthcare | 6.1 | 11.9 |
| Industrials | 5.6 | 2.2 |
| Consumer Staples | - | 4.6 |
| Financials | - | 2.8 |
| Utilities | - | 1.5 |
| Energy | - | 0.8 |
| Real Estate | - | 0.6 |
| Total | 97.7 | 95.5 |

*Sector allocation is based on the holdings of the underlying exchange traded fund.

6. Share Capital

The mutual fund shares and five common shares of the Corporation have equal rights and privileges except that the common shares may not be redeemed. Changes in issued mutual fund shares of the Fund are summarized as follows:

| | Number of Shares – Series F | |
|---|-----------------------------|--------|
| | 2023 | 2022 |
| Shares Outstanding at Beginning of Year | 15,228 | - |
| Shares Issued | - | 15,000 |
| Reinvested Distributions | 326 | 228 |
| Total | 326 | 15,228 |
| Net Increase (Decrease) | 326 | 15,228 |
| Shares Outstanding at End of Year | 15,554 | 15,228 |

The average number of Series F shares outstanding during the year ended December 31, 2023 was 15,379 (December 31, 2022 – 15,095). These numbers were used to calculate the respective Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Shares per share.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022

7. Related Party Transactions

A. Management Fee

The Manager provides investment and administrative services to the Fund. In consideration for such services the Manager receives a monthly fee in arrears based on each series of shares as a percentage of the average daily NAV of the series. The management fee for Series A is 2.00% per annum and for Series F is 1.00% per annum. The Manager has waived the management fee since commencement of operations on May 31, 2022, to December 31, 2023.

B. Transaction Costs

Brokerage commissions and other transaction costs paid in connection with securities transactions during the year ended December 31, 2023 amounted to \$29 (December 31, 2022 - \$125). Included in this amount is \$20 (December 31, 2022 - \$5) in brokerage commissions that were paid to Middlefield Capital Corporation ("MCC"), a company under common control with the Manager. All brokerage commissions paid by the Fund to MCC were at or below market rates. Brokerage commissions and other transaction costs are expensed and recorded in the Statements of Comprehensive Income.

C. Other Expenses

The Fund is responsible for the payment of all expenses relating to the operation of the Fund and the carrying on of its business, including, among other things, audit, legal fees and expenses, custodian and transfer agency fees and costs relating to securityholder reporting. Certain services in the normal course of business may be provided by the Manager or an affiliate of the Manager in accordance with NI 81-107 Independent Review Committee for Investment Funds. Examples of these services include the preparation and filing of tax returns, the preparation and filing of financial statements and related reports and maintaining and updating the Fund's website. In addition, the Fund would be responsible for reimbursing the Manager for any reasonable out of pocket expenses incurred on the Fund's behalf. Common expenses incurred by the Fund are allocated among the series on a pro-rata basis among all shares of all series. There were no operating expenses charged to the Fund since commencement of operations on May 31, 2022 to December 31, 2023.

D. Distribution Receivable from Underlying Investments

As disclosed in the Schedule of Investment Portfolio, the Fund invests in investment funds managed by the Manager. Distributions receivable from the investment in these Funds, if any, would be included in the amount of Income and Interest Receivable shown on the Statements of Financial Position. As at December 31, 2023 distributions receivable from investments managed by the Manager amounted to \$409 (December 31, 2022 - \$393).

8. Securities Lending

The Fund had previously entered into a securities lending program with its custodian, RBC Investor Services Trust, in order to earn additional revenue. The Fund did not earn any securities lending income during the years ended December 31, 2023 or 2022.

On June 20, 2023, the Fund terminated its securities lending agreement with RBC Investor Services Trust and exited the program. There were no securities loaned or collateral held at the time of termination or as at December 31, 2022.

9. Capital Management

The Fund's capital is its Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Shares, representing shareholders' equity. The Fund's objective when managing capital is to safeguard the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern in order to provide returns for shareholders, maximize shareholder value and maintain financial strength.

The Fund is not subject to any externally imposed capital requirements. The Fund's overall strategy with respect to capital risk management remains unchanged from the period ended December 31, 2022.

10. Loss Carryforwards

At December 31, 2023, the Corporation had no non-capital losses and no capital losses available for carryforward for tax purposes.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022

11. Distributions to Shareholders

Distributions to shareholders from the Fund are made to minimize income taxes payable by the Fund. Accordingly, distributions will vary from the accounting income reflected in these financial statements. Distributions of the Fund, unless otherwise specified by the shareholder, are automatically reinvested in additional shares of the Fund at the per share NAV without sales charge. Distributions per Series F share of \$0.24 (December 31, 2022 - \$0.14) were paid to shareholders of the Fund during the year ended December 31, 2023.

| Distributions to Shareholders – Series F | 2023 | 2022 |
|--|--------|----------|
| From Net Investment Income | | |
| Total | \$ 162 | \$ 2,113 |
| Per Share | 0.01 | 0.14 |
| Return of Capital | | |
| Total | 3,691 | - |
| Per Share | 0.23 | - |

MIDDLEFIELD FUNDS FAMILY |

| EXCHANGE - TRADED FUNDS (ETFs) | TSX Stock Symbol |
|---|---|
| • Middlefield Healthcare Dividend ETF | MHCD |
| • Middlefield Innovation Dividend ETF | MINN |
| • Middlefield Sustainable Global Dividend ETF | MDIV |
| • Middlefield Sustainable Infrastructure Dividend ETF | MINF |
| • Middlefield Real Estate Dividend ETF | MREL |
| • Middlefield U.S. Equity Dividend ETF | MUSA |
| TSX-LISTED FUNDS | |
| • E Split Corp. | ENS ENS.PR.A |
| • International Clean Power Dividend Fund | CLP.UN |
| • Middlefield Global Real Asset Fund | RA.UN |
| • MINT Income Fund | MID.UN |
| • Real Estate Split Corp. | RS RS.PR.A |
| • Sustainable Innovation & Health Dividend Fund | SIH.UN |
| • Sustainable Real Estate Dividend Fund | MSRE.UN |
| MIDDLEFIELD MUTUAL FUNDS TRUST FUNDS | |
| | Fund Code |
| Series A Units | FE/LL/DSC |
| • Middlefield Healthcare Dividend Fund | MID 325/327/330 |
| • INDEXPLUS Income Fund | MID 435/437/440 |
| • Middlefield Global Infrastructure Fund | MID 510/519/520 |
| Series F Units | |
| • Middlefield Healthcare Dividend Fund | MID 326 |
| • INDEXPLUS Income Fund | MID 436 |
| • Middlefield Global Infrastructure Fund | MID 501 |
| MIDDLEFIELD MUTUAL FUNDS CORPORATE CLASS FUNDS | |
| | Fund Code |
| Series A Shares | FE/LL/DSC |
| • Middlefield Canadian Dividend Growers Class | MID 148/449/450 |
| • Middlefield Global Agriculture Class | MID 161/163/166 |
| • Middlefield Global Dividend Growers Class | MID 181/183/186 |
| • Middlefield Real Estate Dividend Class | MID 600/649/650 |
| • Middlefield Global Energy Transition Class | MID 265 |
| • Middlefield Innovation Dividend Class | MID 925 |
| • Middlefield High Interest Income Class | MID 400/424/425 |
| • Middlefield Income Plus Class | MID 800/849/850 |
| • Middlefield U.S. Equity Dividend Class | MID 710/719/720 |
| Series F Shares | |
| • Middlefield Canadian Dividend Growers Class | MID 149 |
| • Middlefield Global Agriculture Class | MID 162 |
| • Middlefield Global Dividend Growers Class | MID 182 |
| • Middlefield Real Estate Dividend Class | MID 601 |
| • Middlefield Global Energy Transition Class | MID 266 |
| • Middlefield Innovation Dividend Class | MID 926 |
| • Middlefield Income Plus Class | MID 801 |
| • Middlefield U.S. Equity Dividend Class | MID 701 |
| RESOURCE FUNDS | |
| • Discovery 2023 Short Duration LP (commenced October 5, 2023) | |
| • MRF 2023 Resource Limited Partnership | |
| • MRF 2024 Resource Limited Partnership (commenced February 22, 2024) | |
| INTERNATIONAL FUNDS | |
| • Middlefield Canadian Income PCC | London UK Stock Exchange (LSE) Symbol:MCT |

Dean Orrico
 President and Chief Executive Officer

Jeremy T. Brasseur
 Executive Chairman

Robert F. Lauzon, CFA
 Chief Investment Officer

Independent Review Committee

George S. Dembroski
 Former Vice-Chairman
 RBC Dominion Securities Limited

H. Roger Garland, CPA, CA
 Former Vice-Chairman
 Four Seasons Hotels Inc.

Christine Helsdon Tekker, MBA, LLM, ICD.D
 Senior Vice President, Lending
 Infrastructure Ontario

Edward V. Jackson (Chairman)
 Former Managing Director
 RBC Capital Markets

Advisors
 Middlefield Capital Corporation
 SSR Health LLC
 Paul Sagawa LLC

Middlefield Group

Stephen Erlichman
 Chair, ESG
 (Environmental, Social, Governance)

Craig Rogers, CPA, CGA, CFA
 Chief Operating Officer

Wendy Teo, CPA, CA, CPA (IL)
 Chief Financial Officer & Vice President

Mark Aboud
 Managing Director,
 Workplace Innovation and Productivity

Dennis da Silva
 Senior Portfolio Manager & Trader

Nancy Tham
 Managing Director, Sales

Shane Obata
 Portfolio Manager

Robert Moffat
 Portfolio Manager

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Rose Espinoza
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Victor Xu, CFA
 Director, Corporate Development

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Jimmy Xu
 Vice-President, Information Technology

Rachel Zhang
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Sylvia Casillano, CPA, CGA
 Assistant Vice-President

Maggie Vanadero – Chu
 Associate

Justin Ip
 Business Development Associate

Scott Hu
 Associate, Information Technology

Mazhar Ahsan Abdulwahab
 Investment Analyst

Curtis Blakely
 Business Development Associate

Juanita Lam
 Brand Designer

Joshua Wiggins
 Brand Strategist

Auditor
 Deloitte LLP, Chartered Professional Accountants
 RSM Canada LLP

Legal Counsel
 Bennett Jones
 DLA Piper (Canada) LLP
 Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP
 McCarthy Tétrault

Bankers
 Bank of Montreal
 Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce
 Royal Bank of Canada
 The Bank of Nova Scotia
 The Toronto-Dominion Bank

Custodian
 RBC Investor Treasury Services

Transfer Agents
 RBC Investor Service Trust
 TSX Trust Company

Affiliates
 Middlefield Group Limited
 Middlefield Capital Corporation
 Middlefield Financial Services Limited
 MFL Management Limited
 MF Properties Limited
 Middlefield International Limited
 Middlefield Limited
 Middlefield Realty Services Limited
 Middlefield Resource Corporation



MIDDLEFIELD

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