# **Mutual Fund Reporter Goes Online Exclusively**

## **MFR Online Exclusively RRSP Season Update Fund News**

In January 1987, the first issue of the Mutual Fund Reporter, the longest running monthly newsletter of its kind, was published. At that time, there was very little information available to the public on the topic of mutual funds.

Over the past 15 years, the mutual fund industry has grown at a rapid pace. Assets have grown from \$20 Billion to over \$425 Billion. There is now a tremendous amount of information available about mutual funds, in the press and online. The reporting by the mutual fund companies themselves has also improved greatly.

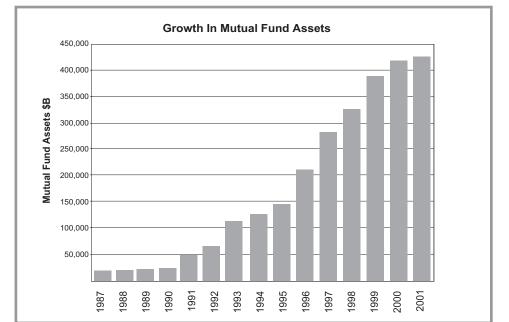
While initially our newsletter was focussed on specific mutual funds and investment ideas, it grew to cover important financial planning topics as well. Such as, whether or not you should contribute to an RRSP or pay down your mortgage, how to minimize taxes etc.

In 1997, we introduced an online

version of the Mutual Fund Reporter newslettter to complement the mailed copy. Following this introduction, we asked if readers would prefer to receive an email version of the newsletter and many of you responded favourably. Our email subscriber base has continued to grow tremendously over the last 24 months.

As a result of the popularity of the online version and subscriber feedback, this month will be the last month that we mail a paper copy of the Mutual Fund Reporter Newsletter.

Future monthly issues will be available online and via email exclusively. This will allow us to continue to communicate our ideas about mutual fund investing, and will add benefits that are relevant to online subscribers like our "Recommended Website of the Month". Please complete the enclosed reply card, or subscribe online at: www.mutualfundreporter.com/subscribe, which will allow us to keep the Mutual Fund Reporter information coming to you on a regular basis. This service will continue to be offered



continued on back page

| 1 Year Total Return  | 1 Year Total Return   |
|--|---|
| 1 Fidelity Small Cap America.       25.1%         2 TD U.S. Small - Cap Equity - 1       15.0%         3 AGF Global Total Ret Bond       14.3%         4 Dynamic Global Real Estate       13.5%         5 Trimark Fund       11.0%         6 TD Asian Growth Fund - I       10.4%         7 Mac Ivy Foreign Equity       10.3%         8 Trimark Select Growth       10.3%         9 Trimark Fund DSC       10.1%         10 Templeton Global Sm Cos       9.6%                        | 1 AIM Global Telecom Class       -55.9%         2 Royal e-Commerce       -45.7%         3 Spectrum Global Telecomm       -43.0%         4 Talvest Global Sci & Tech       -42.8%         5 Altamira Science & Technology       -42.2%         6 CI Global Telecom Sector       -39.7%         7 Altamira e-business       -39.0%         8 Mac Univ Wld Science & Tech       -38.7%         9 CI Global B2B Sector Shares       -38.4%         10 Clarington Globl Communication       -38.4%       |
| 3 Year Total Return  | 3 Year Total Return   |
| 1 Talvest China Plus       48.1%         2 Talvest Global Health Care       41.7%         3 CI Global Energy Sector       29.5%         4 Fidelity Small Cap America       29.1%         5 Fidelity Focus Natural Res       22.0%         6 Mac Cundill Value Series A       20.2%         7 CI Global Consumer Products       19.7%         8 Mac Cundill Value Series C       19.7%         9 CI Signature Glbl Small Cos       17.8%         10 O'Shaughnessy US Growth       17.2% | 1 AIM American Blue Chip Growth       -21.9%         2 AIM Global Telecom Class       -19.0%         3 Spectrum Global Telecomm       -17.8%         4 Clarington Globl Communication       -14.8%         5 Altamira e-business       -14.7%         6 CI Global Telecom Sector       -13.9%         7 Mac Univ Wld Science & Tech       -13.4%         8 CI Global Technology Sector       -12.9%         9 TD Science & Technology Fund       -12.9%         10 AIM European Growth       -12.4% |
| 5 Year Total Return  | 5 Year Total Return   |
| 1 Talvest Global Health Care       31.4%         2 BPI Global Opportunities       27.7%         3 Fidelity Small Cap America       21.0%         4 Orbit World       17.8%         5 Altamira Science & Technology       16.9%         6 AGF Aggressive Growth       16.8%         7 AGF International Value       16.4%         8 Talvest Global Sci & Tech       15.7%         9 TD Health Sciences Fund - I       14.7%         10 McLean Budden American Equity       14.4%        | 1 CI Pacific Sector       -11.8%         2 CI Pacific       -10.7%         3 AGF Asian Growth Class       -10.1%         4 Royal Asian Growth       -9.0%         5 HSBC AsiaPacific       -7.4%         6 AGF Latin America       -7.3%         7 AIM Indo-Pacific       -6.7%         8 TD Japanese Growth Fund - I       -5.8%         9 CI Latin American       -4.7%         10 Templeton Emerging Markets       -4.6%   |
| 10 Year Total Return   | 10 Year Total Return  |
| 1 Trimark Fund       15.8%         2 AGF International Value       15.4%         3 CI Signature Amer Small Cos       15.4%         4 TD U.S. Index - I C\$       14.9%         5 McLean Budden American Equity       14.7%         6 Trimark Select Growth       14.2%         7 BPI American Equity       14.0%         8 AGF Amer Growth Class       13.4%         9 Altamira Select American       13.4%         10 Spectrum American Growth       13.3%                            | 1 Royal Japanese Stock.       -1.3%         2 AGF Japan Class.       0.3%         3 CI Pacific Sector.       0.4%         4 CI Pacific       1.2%         5 AIM American Blue Chip Growth       2.1%         6 CI Short-Term Sector       3.4%         7 AGF Asian Growth Class       3.4%         8 Royal \$US Money Market       3.9%         9 Renaissance US Money Mkt       3.9%         10 AGF Special US Class       3.9%  |

### COMMENTARY

ScotiaMcLeod would be pleased to provide you with further detailed information on the above mutual funds, however we cannot provide information on the funds marked #. These are historical performance rankings, and are not indicative of future investment performance. When analyzing particular funds, stress longer term performance.

These rankings are not sales advice and ScotiaMcLeod does not recommend simply selling bottom past performance funds and buying top past performance funds. Purchase or redemption fees may be involved. Please call (416) 863-7777 or 1-800-387-9273 for specific recommendations tailored to your individual needs.

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|---|---|
| 1 Royal Precious Metals78.6%  | 1 AIM RSP Global Telecomm56.3%  |
| 2 Mac Univ Precious Metals  | 2 Spectrum RRSP Global Telec43.2%   |
| 3 Dynamic Cdn Precious Metals   | 3 Altamira RSP Science & Tech   |
| 4 AGF Precious Metals   | 4 CI Global Telecom RSP   |
| 5 TD Precious Metals Fund - I   | 5 Mac Univ RSP World Sci & Tech   |
| 6 Clarington Canadian Small Cap   | 6 CI Global B2B RSP38.5%  |
| 7 Altamira Prec& Strategic Metal  | 7 AIM RSP Amer Blue Chip Growth37.9%  |
| 8 Ethical Special Equity  | 8 AIM RSP Global Technology37.4%  |
| 9 Trimark Canadian Small Cos  | 9 Triax Growth Fund Inc   |
| 10 Mawer New Canada   | 10 AIM RSP European Growth33.1%   |
| 3 Year Total Return   | 3 Year Total Return   |
| 1 Royal Energy  | 1 Triax Growth Fund Inc13.7%  |
| 2 CI Signature Cdn Resource   | 2 StrategicNova Cdn High Y Bond   |
| 3 Mac Univ Precious Metals  | 3 AGF Canadian Aggressive AllCap8.7%  |
| 4 TD Energy Fund - I  | 4 Working Ventures Canadian   |
| 5 Trimark Canadian Small Cos  | 5 TD EuroGrowth RSP Fund - I  |
| 6 Mac Univ Cdn Resource   | 6 Talvest Global RSP  |
| 7 Trimark Canadian Resources  | 7 AGF RSP World Equity  |
| 8 CI Signature Select Cdn   | 8 TD GlobalGrowth RSP Fund - I  |
| 9 Beutel Goodman Small Cap  | 9 Mac Univ World Growth RSP   |
| 10 AIM Canadian First Class   | 10 AGF RSP Int'l Equity All4.2%   |
| 5 Year Total Return   | 5 Year Total Return   |
| 1 PH&N Dividend Income  | 1 Altamira Prec& Strategic Metal14.1%   |
| 2 Scotia Cdn Dividend   | 2 Scotia Resource   |
| 3 Royal Dividend  | 3 AGF Precious Metals12.2%  |
| 4 Beutel Goodman Small Cap  | 4 Spectrum Canadian Resource11.4%   |
| 5 MAXXUM Dividend   | 5 CI Signature Explorer   |
| 6 Fidelity Cdn Growth Company   | 6 Altamira Resource   |
| 7 Fidelity True North   | 7 AGF Canadian Aggressive AllCap8.7%  |
| 8 Renaissance Cdn Core Value  | 8 Dynamic Cdn Precious Metals   |
| 9 Spectrum Canadian Investment  | 9 Triax Growth Fund Inc   |
| 10 TD Dividend Growth Fund - I  | 10 TD AsiaGrowth RSP Fund - I6.9%   |
| 10 Year Total Return  | 10 Year Total Return  |
| 1 PH&N Dividend Income  | 1 Working Ventures Canadian1.0%   |
| 2 AIC Advantage   | 2 Mac Money Mrkt  |
| 3 Northwest Specialty Equity  | 3 Renaissance Canadian T-Bill   |
| 4 MAXXUM Dividend   | 4 A CE C 1' 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14  |
| + MILLION DIVIGENCE   | 4 AGF Canadian Money Market   |
| 5 Mawer New Canada  | 5 Fidelity Cdn Money Market   |
| 5 Mawer New Canada  |   |
| 5 Mawer New Canada       15.2%         6 Royal Energy       14.7%         7 Mac Univ Cdn Resource       14.7%   | 5 Fidelity Cdn Money Market       4.0%         6 Dynamic Global Bond       4.0%         7 Scotia T-Bill       4.1%  |
| 5 Mawer New Canada       15.2%         6 Royal Energy       14.7%         7 Mac Univ Cdn Resource       14.7%         8 GBC Canadian Growth       14.4% | 5 Fidelity Cdn Money Market       4.0%         6 Dynamic Global Bond.       4.0%         7 Scotia T-Bill       4.1%         8 Ethical Money Market       4.1% |
| 5 Mawer New Canada       15.2%         6 Royal Energy       14.7%         7 Mac Univ Cdn Resource       14.7%   | 5 Fidelity Cdn Money Market       4.0%         6 Dynamic Global Bond       4.0%         7 Scotia T-Bill       4.1%  |

- NOTES TO THE PERFORMANCE TABLES
  -ScotiaMcLeod is unable to provide information on funds marked #
  -Figures are average rates of return for the periods ending Feb.28, 2002
  -Source data from Bell Charts, including over 4300 funds
  -Funds with total assets under \$25 million are not included
  -Only "totally public" funds are ranked
  -RRSP eligible funds are at least 70% Canadian content and can also be held outside RRSPs
  -Performance figures include reinvested dividends and management fees have been subtracted
  -Non RRSP eligible funds can be held inside a ScotiaMcLeod RRSP to a maximum of 30% of book value

free of charge.

An important factor in our decision to discontinue the paper version of the newsletter was the introduction of the ScotiaMcLeod Exchange Newsletter. This newsletter is produced by ScotiaMcLeod and is professionally written by journalists at the Globe and Mail as well as other professionals within the firm. The Exchange covers many of the topics that our independent newsletter would cover and is sent quarterly with your ScotiaMcLeod statements. The topics covered in the newsletter range from financial planning to investment ideas. We have reviewed the content of both newsletters and feel that the exchange newsletter covers all the relevant topics that we would also be covering and it is a more than adequate replacement for the Mutual Fund Reporter Newsletter. This excellent investment update will ensure that we continue to communicate regularly with those clients who don't have email or don't require a monthly update.

We will also continue to send you Performance Monitoring Announcements for any specific recommendations on mutual fund holdings within your ScotiaMcLeod portfolio if changes are recommended. If at any time you would like us to review your account, please contact us at 1-800-387-9273 or by email at carl\_spiess@scotiamcleod.com

If you have not seen any recommendations for your holdings, it is likely that we are keeping with our buy and hold long-term strategy. Feel free to call us if you would like us to reevaluate the portfolio and how it relates to your needs and goals.

### **RRSP Season Update**

This RRSP season, while generally reported to be quiet in the press, was a record year for our team at ScotiaMcLeod. New client contributions, and strong growth in the markets over the last 6 months have led us to record client asset levels.

On behalf of the staff at the Mutual Fund Reporter investment team, we would like to thank you for investing with us.

## **Update on Index and Exchange Traded Funds**

In February 2000, we published information on index funds. We pointed out that while there are over 50 available from ScotiaMcLeod, we generally consider them to be higher risk than traditionally managed funds. We specifically **recommended Synergy Canadian Style Management Fund,** as a diversified fund that has historically outperformed the TSE 300 with slightly lower risk. We are pleased to report that the fund has continued to perform as expected and stuck with their investment strategy.

Exchange traded funds are becoming more widely available in Canada. We have added information on the pros and cons of exchange traded funds on our index funds page (see link below). Both index funds and exchange-traded funds can form a portion of your overall investment mix, and can be held in ScotiaMcLeod accounts. However, both investments should be well understood to be a part of your complete investment plan. We would be pleased to help advise on your specific situation and whether or not they are appropriate for you. For more information, please visit www.mutualfundreporter.com/indexfunds or call us at 1-800-387-9273