

# SMAX

**Hamilton U.S.  
Equity YIELD  
MAXIMIZER™ ETF**



## **Hamilton U.S. Equity YIELD MAXIMIZER™ ETF** (SMAX, SMAX.U:TSX)



**HAMILTON ETFs**



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## MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE

This annual management report of fund performance for Hamilton U.S. Equity YIELD MAXIMIZER™ ETF (“SMAX” or the “ETF”) contains financial highlights and is included with the audited annual financial statements for the investment fund. You may request a copy of the investment fund’s audited annual financial statements, annual management report of fund performance, current proxy voting policies and procedures, proxy voting disclosure record or quarterly portfolio disclosures, at no cost, by calling (416) 941-9888, by writing to Hamilton Capital Partners Inc. (“Hamilton ETFs” or the “Manager”), at 121 King Street West, Suite 1601, Toronto, Ontario, M5H 3T9, by visiting our website at [www.hamiltonetfs.com](http://www.hamiltonetfs.com) or through SEDAR+ at [www.sedarplus.ca](http://www.sedarplus.ca).

This document may contain forward-looking statements relating to anticipated future events, results, circumstances, performance, or expectations that are not historical facts but instead represent our beliefs regarding future events. By their nature, forward-looking statements require us to make assumptions and are subject to inherent risks and uncertainties. There is significant risk that predictions and other forward-looking statements will not prove to be accurate. We caution readers of this document not to place undue reliance on our forward-looking statements as a number of factors could cause actual future results, conditions, actions or events to differ materially from the targets, expectations, estimates or intentions expressed or implied in the forward-looking statements.

Actual results may differ materially from management expectations as projected in such forward-looking statements for a variety of reasons, including but not limited to market and general economic conditions, interest rates, regulatory and statutory developments, the effects of competition in the geographic and business areas in which the ETF may invest and the risks detailed from time to time in the ETF’s prospectus. New risk factors emerge from time to time and it is not possible for management to predict all such risk factors. We caution that the foregoing list of factors is not exhaustive, and that when relying on forward-looking statements to make decisions with respect to investing in the ETF, investors and others should carefully consider these factors, as well as other uncertainties and potential events, and the inherent uncertainty of forward-looking statements. Due to the potential impact of these factors, the Manager does not undertake, and specifically disclaims, any intention or obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, unless required by applicable law.

## Management Discussion of Fund Performance

### Investment Objective and Strategy

The investment objective of SMAX is to deliver attractive monthly income, while providing exposure to a portfolio of primarily large-cap U.S. equity securities. To supplement dividend income earned on the equity holdings, mitigate risk and reduce volatility, SMAX will employ a covered call option writing program. The ETF is offered for sale on a continuous basis by its prospectus in Class E Units (“Class E”) and US\$ Unhedged Units which trade on the Toronto Stock Exchange (“TSX”) in Canadian dollars (“CDN\$ units”) and in U.S. dollars (“US\$ units”) under the symbols SMAX and SMAX.U, respectively.

SMAX seeks to achieve its investment objective by investing in a portfolio of U.S. large-cap equities through the use of a “stratified sampling” strategy. Under a stratified sampling strategy, SMAX will hold a portfolio of securities that the Manager believes to be representative of the sector mix of the U.S. equity market. As an alternative to, or in conjunction with directly investing in and holding equity securities, SMAX may also invest in other securities, including other investment funds to obtain direct or indirect exposure to other such securities in a manner that is consistent with SMAX’s investment objective. SMAX may also hold cash and cash equivalents or other money market instruments in order to meet its obligations.



## Management Discussion of Fund Performance (continued)

The Manager reviews the portfolio holdings on an ongoing basis for possible additions, removals, or substitutions that in its discretion would be beneficial to SMAX and its Unitholders. The issuers included in the portfolio will largely be based on market capitalization, however the rationale for additions, removals, or substitutions may include, but not be limited to: (i) its view on the liquidity of an issuer; (ii) the availability and liquidity of an issuer's options; and (iii) dividend yield. Changes to the portfolio holdings may occur at the Manager's discretion, and the entire portfolio will be rebalanced to approximate the U.S. equity market sector mix at least semiannually.

To mitigate downside risk and generate income, the Manager actively manages a covered call strategy of SMAX that will generally write at or slightly out of the money call options, at its discretion, on up to 100% of the value of SMAX's portfolio. Notwithstanding the foregoing, SMAX may write covered call options on a lesser percentage of the portfolio, from time to time, at the discretion of the Manager.

### Risk

Investments in the units of the ETF can be speculative, involve a degree of risk and are suitable only for persons who are able to assume the risk of losing their entire investment. The risks of investing are disclosed in the ETF's prospectus and there have been no significant changes during the year/period that affected the overall level of risk associated with the ETF. **Prospective investors should read the ETF's prospectus and consider the full description of the risks contained therein before purchasing units.** The prospectus is available at [www.hamiltonetfs.com](http://www.hamiltonetfs.com) or from [www.sedarplus.ca](http://www.sedarplus.ca), or by contacting Hamilton Capital Partners Inc. directly via the contact information on the back page of this document.

### Results of Operations

For the year ended December 31, 2025, Class E Units of the ETF returned 13.44%, when including distributions paid to unitholders. By comparison, the Cboe S&P 500 Half BuyWrite Index ("Benchmark Index") returned 8.26% and the S&P 500® Index returned 12.40%, respectively, for the same period, both in Canadian dollars, and on a total return basis. US\$ Unhedged Units of the ETF began operations on August 29, 2025, at a net asset value (per unit) ("NAV") of US\$16.00 and finished the period on December 31, 2025, at US\$17.02. The US\$ Unhedged Units distributed US\$0.607 in cash per unit during the period. To supplement dividend income earned on the equity holdings, mitigate risk and reduce volatility, the ETF employs a covered call option writing program. The impact of the option writing program is one source of the performance difference between the ETF and the benchmark Index.

The Cboe S&P 500® Half BuyWrite Index is designed to track a theoretical covered call strategy where a long position in the S&P 500® Index is combined with writing half a unit of at the money one month S&P 500® call options each month, aiming to generate income and reduce volatility relative to the S&P 500® Index.

The S&P 500® Index is widely regarded as the best single gauge of large-cap U.S. equities. The index includes 500 leading companies and covers approximately 80% of available market capitalization.

### Market Review

During 2025, the U.S. economy shifted from a softer start to steadier conditions by mid-year, as gross domestic product (GDP) contracted slightly in the first quarter before returning to growth. Inflation in the U.S. drifted lower into March, before ticking somewhat higher by June, while measures of industrial activity and corporate earnings suggested a mixed but still functioning backdrop. Employment gains slowed compared with 2024 but remained positive over the year.



## Management Discussion of Fund Performance *(continued)*

U.S. monetary policy remained on hold through the first three quarters of 2025 before easing resumed at each of the final three U.S. Federal Reserve (“Fed”) meetings of the year. Short-term interest rates stayed elevated by recent historical standards, while longer-term Treasury yields moved within a relatively narrow range. Trade actions announced in March and April and ongoing geopolitical tensions produced intermittent volatility, but by December U.S. equities were trading near record highs.

During 2025, volatility in U.S. equities shifted from comparatively steady trading in January and February to abrupt swings around the April tariff announcements and the related sell-off, before easing again into late summer as earnings and inflation data stabilized. These shifts, together with changing expectations for Fed policy and political headlines, led option premiums to rise during periods of stress and then moderate as markets steadied.

### ***Portfolio Review***

The ETF invests in a sample of the largest blue-chip companies in the United States for which an active exchange traded options market exists, aiming for a sector mix similar to that of the broad U.S. equity market. The holdings are equally weighted, rebalanced semi-annually and the ETF does not seek to hedge its foreign currency exposure for either class of units. The ETF made several changes during the year, resulting from sector and market capitalization re-weightings, adding Cisco Systems, International Business Machines, Mastercard, Costco, RTX, Palantir Technologies, Home Depot, Netflix, and Walmart, while exiting Advanced Micro Devices (later re-added), Adobe, Caterpillar, Linde, Procter & Gamble, Costco, Salesforce, International Business Machines, Mastercard, and UnitedHealth Group.

The largest contributors during the period were Alphabet Inc., supported by firm demand across its digital advertising and cloud businesses; General Electric Co., which benefited from ongoing strength in its aerospace activities; and Broadcom Inc., supported by solid demand for semiconductors tied to artificial intelligence (AI) and networking. The largest detractors were Salesforce Inc. and UnitedHealth Group Inc., both of which were exited later in the year following weaker share performance, and Netflix Inc., a newer holding that lagged amid shifting expectations for streaming growth.

Equity and volatility conditions during the period produced a mix of firmer and softer option premiums as markets alternated between more active and quieter phases. Periods of higher volatility generally coincided with stronger call premiums, while calmer stretches corresponded to lower levels. Within this environment, the Manager adjusted the option coverage ratio during the period to help generate the desired level of option premiums for the ETF.

### ***Outlook***

Despite persistent macro headwinds — including trade tensions, tariff-related supply chain pressures, and geopolitical uncertainty — the Manager believes the overall U.S. market in 2026 is expected to continue to grow, supported by a resilient economy, solid corporate earnings, and potential Fed rate cuts. While technology was the driver in 2025 expectations are for gains broaden to other sectors.

Volatility in the U.S. market is expected to increase through 2026, given the uncertainty on trade specifics, geopolitical tensions and the path for interest rate changes. Option coverage levels will be actively managed to reflect evolving volatility conditions.

### ***Other Operating Items and Changes in Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Units***

For the year ended December 31, 2025, the ETF generated net investment income from investments and derivatives (which includes changes in the fair value of the ETF’s portfolio) of \$119,518,732. This compares to \$125,956,539 for the year ended December 31, 2024. The ETF incurred management, operating and transaction expenses of \$7,352,404 (2024



## Management Discussion of Fund Performance *(continued)*

– \$4,413,891) of which \$1,051 (2024 – \$19,765) was either paid or absorbed by the Manager on behalf of the ETF. The waiving and/or absorption of such fees and/or expenses by the Manager may be terminated at any time, without notice, or continued indefinitely, at the discretion of the Manager.

The ETF distributed \$84,430,752 to unitholders during the year (2024 – \$47,767,080).

### **Presentation**

The attached financial statements have been prepared in accordance with IFRS Accounting Standards (“IFRS”). Any mention of total net assets, net assets, net asset value or increase (decrease) in net assets in the financial statements and/or management report of fund performance is referring to net assets or increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units as reported under IFRS.

### **Recent Developments**

Other than indicated below, there are no recent industry, management or ETF-related developments that are pertinent to the present and future of the ETF.

#### ***Independent Review Committee (“IRC”) Appointments & Resignations***

Effective January 1, 2025, Leslie Wood was appointed as a member of the IRC.

Effective January 1, 2025, Bruce Friesen was appointed as chair of the IRC.

Effective March 11, 2025, Bruce Friesen ceased to be a member and chair of the IRC.

Effective April 1, 2025, James Sinclair was appointed as a member and chair of the IRC.

Effective June 30, 2025, Geoff Salmon ceased to be a member of the IRC.

Effective July 1, 2025, Martin Guest was appointed as a member of the IRC.

### **Related Party Transactions**

Certain services have been provided to the ETF by related parties and those relationships are described below.

#### ***Manager, Trustee and Portfolio Adviser***

The manager, trustee and portfolio adviser of the ETF is Hamilton Capital Partners Inc., 121 King Street West, Suite 1601, Toronto, Ontario, M5H 3T9, a corporation incorporated under the laws of the Province of Ontario.

Any management fees paid to the Manager (described in detail on page 10) are related party transactions, as the Manager is considered to be a related party to the ETF. Fees paid to the Independent Review Committee are also considered to be related party transactions. Both the management fees and fees paid to the Independent Review Committee are disclosed in the statements of comprehensive income in the attached financial statements of the ETF. The management fees payable by the ETF as at December 31, 2025 and 2024, are disclosed in the statements of financial position.



## Financial Highlights

The following tables show selected key financial information about the ETF and are intended to help you understand the ETF's financial performance since Class E units effectively began operations on October 25, 2023 and US\$ Unhedged Units effectively began operations on August 29, 2025. This information is derived from the ETF's audited annual financial statements. Please see the first page for information on how you may obtain the annual or interim financial statements.

### The ETF's Net Assets per Unit

#### Class E Units

Year <sup>(1)</sup>	2025	2024	2023
<b>Net assets per unit, beginning of year</b>	\$ 20.13	16.66	16.00
<b>Increase (decrease) from operations:</b>			
Total revenue	0.23	0.23	0.08
Total expenses	(0.19)	(0.19)	(0.04)
Realized gains (losses) for the year	1.13	0.89	(0.19)
Unrealized gains (losses) for the year	1.72	4.39	0.53
<b>Total increase (decrease) from operations <sup>(2)</sup></b>	2.89	5.32	0.38
<b>Distributions:</b>			
From net investment income (excluding dividends)	(0.05)	(0.04)	(0.01)
From net realized capital gains	(0.31)	(0.70)	(0.13)
From return of capital	(1.79)	(1.29)	(0.18)
<b>Total distributions <sup>(3)</sup></b>	(2.15)	(2.03)	(0.32)
<b>Net assets per unit, end of year <sup>(4)</sup></b>	\$ 20.46	20.13	16.66

**Financial Highlights** (continued)**US\$ Unhedged Units**

<b>Period</b> <sup>(1)</sup>		<b>2025</b>
<b>Net assets per unit, beginning of period</b>	\$	21.97
<b>Increase (decrease) from operations:</b>		
Total revenue		0.08
Total expenses		(0.07)
Realized gains (losses) for the period		0.82
Unrealized gains (losses) for the period		0.53
<b>Total increase (decrease) from operations</b> <sup>(2)</sup>		1.36
<b>Distributions:</b>		
From net investment income (excluding dividends)		(0.03)
From net realized capital gains		(0.09)
From return of capital		(0.49)
<b>Total distributions</b> <sup>(3)</sup>		(0.61)
<b>Net assets per unit, end of period in Canadian dollars</b> <sup>(4)</sup>	\$	23.36
<b>Net assets per unit, end of period in U.S. dollars</b> <sup>(4)</sup>	\$	17.02

1. This information is derived from the ETF's audited annual financial statements.
2. Net assets per unit and distributions are based on the actual number of units outstanding at the relevant time. The increase (decrease) from operations is based on the weighted average number of units outstanding over the financial period.
3. Income, dividend and/or return of capital distributions, if any, are paid in cash, reinvested in additional units of the ETF, or both. Capital gains distributions, if any, may or may not be paid in cash. Non-cash capital gains distributions are reinvested in additional units of the ETF and subsequently consolidated. They are reported as taxable distributions and increase each unitholder's adjusted cost base for their units. Neither the number of units held by the unitholder, nor the net asset per unit of the ETF change as a result of any non-cash capital gains distributions. Distributions classified as return of capital, if any, decrease each unitholder's adjusted cost base for their units.
4. The Financial Highlights are not intended to act as a continuity of the opening and closing net assets per unit.



**Financial Highlights** (continued)

**Ratios and Supplemental Data**

**Class E Units**

<b>Year</b> <sup>(1)</sup>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
Total net asset value (000's)	\$ 847,800	607,232	232,671
Number of units outstanding (000's)	41,428	30,171	13,963
Management expense ratio <sup>(2)</sup>	0.77%	0.78%	0.78%
Management expense ratio before waivers and absorptions <sup>(3)</sup>	0.77%	0.79%	0.83%
Trading expense ratio <sup>(4)</sup>	0.05%	0.07%	0.05%
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>(5)</sup>	88.40%	57.25%	13.22%
Net asset value per unit, end of year	\$ 20.46	20.13	16.66
Closing market price	\$ 20.48	20.12	16.67

**US\$ Unhedged Units**

<b>Period</b> <sup>(1)</sup>	<b>2025</b>
Total net asset value (000's)	\$ 5,550
Number of units outstanding (000's)	238
Management expense ratio <sup>(2)</sup>	0.75%
Management expense ratio before waivers and absorptions <sup>(3)</sup>	0.75%
Trading expense ratio <sup>(4)</sup>	0.05%
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>(5)</sup>	88.40%
Net asset value per unit, end of period in Canadian dollars	\$ 23.36
Net asset value per unit, end of period in U.S. dollars	\$ 17.02
Closing market price in U.S. dollars	\$ 17.04

1. This information is provided as at December 31 of the year/period shown.
2. Management expense ratio is based on total expenses, including sales tax, (excluding commissions and other portfolio transaction costs) for the stated period and is expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average net asset value during the year/period. Out of its management fees, and waivers and absorptions, as applicable, the Manager pays for such services to the ETF as portfolio manager compensation, service fees and marketing.
3. The Manager, at its discretion, may waive and/or absorb a portion of the fees and/or expenses otherwise payable by the ETF. The waiving and/or absorption of such fees and/or expenses by the Manager may be terminated at any time, without notice, or continued indefinitely, at its discretion.
4. 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/period.
5. The ETF's portfolio turnover rate indicates how actively its portfolio investments are traded. A portfolio turnover rate of 100% is equivalent to the ETF buying and selling all of the securities in its portfolio once in the course of the year. Generally, the higher the portfolio turnover rate in a year, the greater the trading costs payable by the ETF in the year, and the greater the chance of an investor receiving taxable capital gains in the year/period. There is not necessarily a relationship between a high turnover rate and the performance of the ETF.



**Financial Highlights** (continued)

**Management Fees**

The Manager provides, or oversees the provision of, administrative services required by the ETF including, but not limited to: negotiating contracts with certain third-party service providers, such as custodians, registrars, transfer agents, auditors and printers; authorizing the payment of operating expenses incurred on behalf of the ETF; arranging for the maintenance of accounting records for the ETF; preparing reports to unitholders and to the applicable securities regulatory authorities; calculating the amount and determining the frequency of distributions by the ETF; preparing financial statements, income tax returns and financial and accounting information as required by the ETF; ensuring that unitholders are provided with financial statements and other reports as are required from time to time by applicable law; ensuring that the ETF complies with all other regulatory requirements, including the continuous disclosure obligations of the ETF under applicable securities laws; administering purchases, redemptions and other transactions in units of the ETF; and dealing and communicating with unitholders of the ETF. The Manager provides office facilities and personnel to carry out these services, if not otherwise furnished by any other service provider to the ETF. The Manager also monitors the investment strategies of the ETF to ensure that the ETF complies with its investment objectives, investment strategies and investment restrictions and practices.

In consideration for the provision of these services, the Manager receives a monthly management fee at the annual rate of 0.65%, plus applicable sales taxes, of the net asset value of the ETF, calculated and accrued daily and payable monthly in arrears.

Any expenses of the ETF that are waived or absorbed by the Manager are paid out of the management fees received by the Manager.

The table below details, in percentage terms, the services received by the ETF from the Manager in consideration of the management fees paid during the year.

<b>Portfolio management fees, general administrative costs, marketing, and profit</b>	<b>Waived/absorbed expenses of the ETF</b>
100%	–

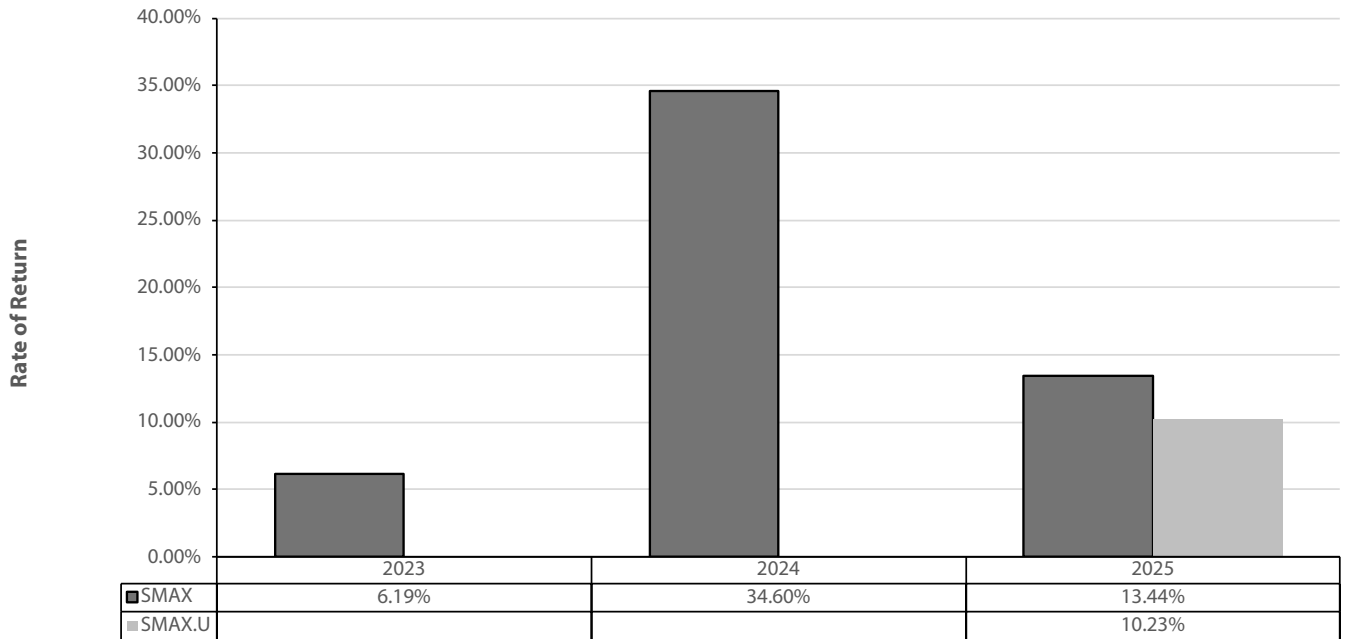


### Past Performance

Commissions, management fees, expenses and applicable sales taxes all may be associated with an investment in the ETF. Please read the prospectus before investing. The indicated rates of return are the historical total returns including changes in unit value and reinvestment of all distributions, and do not take into account sales, redemptions, distributions or optional charges or income taxes payable by any investor that would have reduced returns. An investment in the ETF is not guaranteed. Its value changes frequently and past performance may not be repeated. The ETF's performance numbers assume that all distributions, if any, are reinvested in additional units of the ETF. If you hold this ETF outside of a registered plan, income and capital gains distributions that are paid to you increase your income for tax purposes whether paid to you in cash or reinvested in additional units. The amount of the reinvested taxable distributions is added to the adjusted cost base of the units that you own. This would decrease your capital gain or increase your capital loss when you later redeem from the ETF, thereby ensuring that you are not taxed on this amount again. Please consult your tax advisor regarding your personal tax situation.

### Year-by-Year Returns

The following chart presents the ETF's performance for the years/period shown, and illustrates how the performance has changed from period to period. In percentage terms, the chart shows how much an investment made on the first day of the financial period would have grown or decreased by the last day of the financial period.



Class E units (SMAX) effectively began operations on October 25, 2023.  
US\$ Unhedged Units (SMAX.U) effectively began operations on August 29, 2025.



**Past Performance** (continued)

**Annual Compound Returns**

The following table presents the ETF's annual compound total return since inception to December 31, 2025, along with a comparable market index. The table is used only to illustrate the effects of the compound growth rate and is not intended to reflect future values of the ETF or future returns on investments in the ETF.

<b>In Canadian Dollars</b>	<b>1 Year</b>	<b>Since Inception</b>
Hamilton U.S. Equity YIELD MAXIMIZER™ ETF	13.44%	24.74%
Cboe S&P 500 Half BuyWrite Index	8.26%	21.20%

Class E units (SMAX) effectively began operations on October 25, 2023.

US\$ Unhedged Units (SMAX.U) effectively began operations on August 29, 2025. Past performance information is not presented for the SMAX.U as it has not yet been in continuous operation for one full calendar year.

**Summary of Investment Portfolio**

As at December 31, 2025

<b>Asset Mix</b>	<b>Net Asset Value</b>	<b>% of ETF's Net Asset Value</b>
<b>Long Positions</b>		
U.S. Equities	\$ 863,266,313	101.16%
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2,358,422	0.28%
Other Assets less Liabilities	(8,026,418)	-0.94%
<b>Short Positions</b>		
Equity Call Options	(4,248,943)	-0.50%
	<b>\$ 853,349,374</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

<b>Sector Mix</b>	<b>Net Asset Value</b>	<b>% of ETF's Net Asset Value</b>
<b>Long Positions</b>		
Information Technology	\$ 262,985,922	30.82%
Financials	142,438,869	16.69%
Consumer Discretionary	123,363,534	14.46%
Health Care	82,101,329	9.62%
Industrials	74,027,098	8.67%
Communication Services	69,047,014	8.09%
Consumer Staples	36,854,542	4.32%
Utilities	36,833,970	4.32%
Energy	35,614,035	4.17%
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2,358,422	0.28%
Other Assets less Liabilities	(8,026,418)	-0.94%
<b>Short Positions</b>		
Equity Call Options	(4,248,943)	-0.50%
	<b>\$ 853,349,374</b>	<b>100.00%</b>



**Summary of Investment Portfolio** (continued)

As at December 31, 2025

<b>Top 25 Holdings</b>	<b>% of ETF's Net Asset Value</b>
Eli Lilly and Co.	4.88%
Johnson & Johnson	4.74%
Alphabet Inc.	4.66%
RTX Corp.	4.58%
Cisco Systems Inc.	4.53%
Prologis Inc.	4.46%
Walmart Inc.	4.32%
NextEra Energy Inc.	4.32%
Apple Inc.	4.24%
Exxon Mobil Corp.	4.17%
Tesla Inc.	4.13%
JPMorgan Chase & Co.	4.11%
General Electric Co.	4.09%
NVIDIA Corp.	4.07%
Broadcom Inc.	4.07%
Berkshire Hathaway Inc.	4.06%
Visa Inc.	4.06%
Amazon.com Inc.	4.05%
Palantir Technologies Inc.	3.97%
Advanced Micro Devices Inc.	3.82%
Microsoft Corp.	3.75%
Meta Platforms Inc.	3.43%
Home Depot Inc. (The)	3.23%
Netflix Inc.	3.05%
Oracle Corp.	2.37%

The summary of investment portfolio may change due to the ongoing portfolio transactions of the ETF. The most recent financial statements are available at no cost by calling (416) 941-9888, by writing to us at 121 King Street West, Suite 1601, Toronto, Canada, M5H 3T9, by visiting our website at [www.hamiltonetfs.com](http://www.hamiltonetfs.com) or through SEDAR+ at [www.sedarplus.ca](http://www.sedarplus.ca).



### MANAGER'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL REPORTING

The accompanying audited annual financial statements of Hamilton U.S. Equity YIELD MAXIMIZER™ ETF (the "ETF") are the responsibility of the manager and trustee to the ETF, Hamilton Capital Partners Inc. (the "Manager"). They have been prepared in accordance with IFRS Accounting Standards ("IFRS") using information available and include certain amounts that are based on the Manager's best estimates and judgements.

The Manager has developed and maintains a system of internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that all assets are safeguarded and to produce relevant, reliable and timely financial information, including the accompanying financial statements.

These financial statements have been approved by the Board of Directors of the Manager and have been audited by KPMG LLP, Chartered Professional Accountants, Licensed Public Accountants, on behalf of unitholders. The independent auditor's report outlines the scope of their audit and their opinion on the financial statements.

For the year ended December 31, 2025, the fees paid to KPMG LLP for the audit of the financial statements of all the ETFs being audited by them on behalf of Hamilton ETFs are as follows: Audit: \$669,175 (2024 - \$444,123), Non-audit: \$90,020 (2024 - \$102,995).

Robert Wessel  
Director  
Hamilton Capital Partners Inc.

Jennifer Mersereau  
Director  
Hamilton Capital Partners Inc.



## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

### To the Unitholders of Hamilton U.S. Equity YIELD MAXIMIZER™ ETF

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Hamilton U.S. Equity YIELD MAXIMIZER™ ETF (the "ETF"), which comprise:

- the statements of financial position as at December 31, 2025 and December 31, 2024
- the statements of comprehensive income for the years then ended
- the statements of changes in financial position for the years then ended
- the statements of cash flows for the years then ended
- and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of material accounting policy information

(Hereinafter referred to as the "financial statements").

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the ETF as at December 31, 2025 and December 31, 2024, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with IFRS Accounting Standards.

#### **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the "**Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**" section of our auditor's report.

We are independent of the ETF 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. Other information comprises:

- the information included in Management Report of Fund Performance

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not and will 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 and remain alert for indications that the other information appears to be materially misstated.



We obtained the information included in Management Report of Fund Performance as at 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 the auditor's report.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

### ***Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements***

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with IFRS Accounting Standards, 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 ETF'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 ETF or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

### ***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 generally accepted auditing standards 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 the financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, 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 ETF'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 ETF'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 ETF 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.
- 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.
- Provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

*KPMG LLP*

Chartered Professional Accountants, Licensed Public Accountants  
The engagement partner on the audit resulting in this auditor's report is Becky Zhou.  
Toronto, Canada  
March 13, 2026

**Statements of Financial Position**

As at December 31, 2025 and 2024

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,358,422	\$ 506,481
Investments (note 6)	863,266,313	615,061,389
Amounts receivable relating to accrued income	99,221	60,253
Amounts receivable relating to portfolio assets sold	1,017,342	1,533,441
Amounts receivable relating to securities issued	–	1,509,421
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>866,741,298</b>	<b>618,670,985</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Accrued management fees (note 9)	554,256	376,411
Accrued operating expenses	33,715	45,921
Amounts payable for portfolio assets purchased	882,326	1,513,392
Distribution payable	7,672,684	5,206,668
Derivative liabilities (note 6, 13)	4,248,943	4,297,050
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>13,391,924</b>	<b>11,439,442</b>
<b>Net assets (note 2)</b>	<b>\$ 853,349,374</b>	<b>\$ 607,231,543</b>
Net assets, Class E Units	847,799,514	607,231,543
Number of redeemable units outstanding, Class E Units (note 8)	41,428,257	30,171,349
Net assets per unit, Class E Units (note 1)	\$ 20.46	\$ 20.13
Net assets, US\$ Unhedged Units	5,549,860	
Number of redeemable units outstanding, US\$ Unhedged Units (note 8)	237,544	
Net assets per unit, US\$ Unhedged Units (CDN\$) (note 1)*	\$ 23.36	
Net assets per unit, US\$ Unhedged Units (US\$) (note 1)*	\$ 17.02	

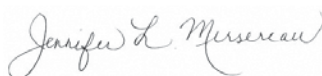
(See accompanying notes to financial statements)

\* US\$ Unhedged Units commenced on August 29, 2025

Approved on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Manager:



 Robert Wessel  
 Director



 Jennifer Mersereau  
 Director

**Statements of Comprehensive Income**

For the Years Ended December 31, 2025 and 2024

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
<b>Income</b>		
Dividend income	\$ 9,002,435	\$ 5,209,087
Interest income for distribution purposes	1	1
Securities lending income (note 7)	661	1,090
Net realized gain (loss) on sale of investments and derivatives	43,943,332	20,381,608
Net realized gain (loss) on foreign exchange	(78,441)	18,914
Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of investments and derivatives	66,647,610	100,346,652
Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of foreign exchange	3,134	(813)
	<b>119,518,732</b>	<b>125,956,539</b>
<b>Expenses (note 9)</b>		
Management fees	5,441,430	3,082,405
Audit fees	22,443	23,493
Independent Review Committee fees	4,328	5,674
Custodial and fund valuation fees	281,830	183,074
Legal fees	7,983	14,498
Securityholder reporting costs	41,283	31,787
Administration fees	37,445	40,095
Transaction costs	353,942	280,012
Withholding taxes	1,341,541	752,719
Other expenses	179	134
	<b>7,532,404</b>	<b>4,413,891</b>
Amounts that were payable by the investment fund that were paid or absorbed by the Manager	(1,051)	(19,765)
	<b>7,531,353</b>	<b>4,394,126</b>
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets for the year</b>	<b>\$ 111,987,379</b>	<b>\$ 121,562,413</b>
Increase (decrease) in net assets, Class E Units	\$ 111,782,386	\$ 121,562,413
Increase (decrease) in net assets per unit, Class E Units	2.89	5.32
Increase (decrease) in net assets, US\$ Unhedged Units*	\$ 204,993	
Increase (decrease) in net assets per unit, US\$ Unhedged Units*	1.36	

(See accompanying notes to financial statements)

\* US\$ Unhedged Units commenced on August 29, 2025, see Note 1

**Statements of Changes in Financial Position**

For the Years Ended December 31, 2025 and 2024

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
<b>Net assets at the beginning of the year</b>	\$ 607,231,543	\$ 232,671,169
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets</b>	111,987,379	121,562,413
<b>Redeemable unit transactions</b>		
Proceeds from the issuance of units of the ETF	378,320,730	344,225,954
Aggregate amounts paid on redemption of units of the ETF	(160,382,255)	(43,627,279)
Securities issued on reinvestment of distributions	622,729	166,366
Distributions:		
From net investment income	(1,904,816)	(902,634)
From net realized capital gains	(12,208,467)	(16,603,840)
Return of capital	(70,317,469)	(30,260,606)
<b>Net assets at the end of the year</b>	<b>\$ 853,349,374</b>	<b>\$ 607,231,543</b>
<b>Net assets at the beginning of the year, Class E Units</b>	\$ 607,231,543	\$ 232,671,169
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets</b>	111,782,386	121,562,413
<b>Redeemable unit transactions</b>		
Proceeds from the issuance of units of the ETF	372,829,203	344,225,954
Aggregate amounts paid on redemption of units of the ETF	(160,382,233)	(43,627,279)
Securities issued on reinvestment of distributions	621,648	166,366
Distributions:		
From net investment income	(1,898,410)	(902,634)
From net realized capital gains	(12,187,562)	(16,603,840)
Return of capital	(70,197,061)	(30,260,606)
<b>Net assets at the end of the year, Class E Units</b>	<b>\$ 847,799,514</b>	<b>\$ 607,231,543</b>
<b>Net assets at the beginning of the period, US\$ Unhedged Units*</b>	\$ –	
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets</b>	204,993	
<b>Redeemable unit transactions</b>		
Proceeds from the issuance of units of the ETF	5,491,527	
Aggregate amounts paid on redemption of units of the ETF	(22)	
Securities issued on reinvestment of distributions	1,081	
Distributions:		
From net investment income	(6,406)	
From net realized capital gains	(20,905)	
Return of capital	(120,408)	
<b>Net assets at the end of the period, US\$ Unhedged Units*</b>	<b>\$ 5,549,860</b>	

\* US\$ Unhedged Units commenced operations on August 29, 2025, see Note 1

**Statements of Cash Flows**

For the Years Ended December 31, 2025 and 2024

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>		
Increase (decrease) in net assets for the year	\$ 111,987,379	\$ 121,562,413
Adjustments for:		
Net realized (gain) loss on sale of investments and derivatives	(43,943,332)	(20,381,608)
Net change in unrealized (appreciation) depreciation of investments and derivatives	(66,647,610)	(100,346,652)
Net change in unrealized (appreciation) depreciation of foreign exchange	(3,054)	(2)
Purchase of investments	(470,815,264)	(173,324,693)
Proceeds from the sale of investments	527,692,651	203,802,718
Amounts receivable relating to accrued income	(38,968)	126,194
Accrued expenses	165,639	304,889
<b>Net cash from (used in) operating activities</b>	<b>58,397,441</b>	<b>31,743,259</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities:</b>		
Amount received from the issuance of units	26,679,298	12,825,738
Amount paid on redemptions of units	(1,885,845)	(71,471)
Distributions paid to unitholders	(81,342,007)	(44,628,054)
<b>Net cash from (used in) financing activities</b>	<b>(56,548,554)</b>	<b>(31,873,787)</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents during the year</b>	<b>1,848,887</b>	<b>(130,528)</b>
Effect of exchange rate fluctuations on cash and cash equivalents	3,054	2
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year</b>	<b>506,481</b>	<b>637,007</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>	<b>\$ 2,358,422</b>	<b>\$ 506,481</b>
Interest received, net of withholding taxes	\$ 1	\$ 1
Dividends received, net of withholding taxes	\$ 7,621,926	\$ 4,582,563
Interest paid	\$ (179)	\$ (134)

(See accompanying notes to financial statements)

**Schedule of Investments**

As at December 31, 2025

Security	Shares/ Contracts	Average Cost	Fair Value
<b>U.S. EQUITIES (101.16%)</b>			
<b>Information Technology (30.82%)</b>			
Advanced Micro Devices Inc.*	110,889	\$ 24,517,602	\$ 32,595,301
Apple Inc.*	96,984	28,075,159	36,188,750
Broadcom Inc.*	73,041	17,934,181	34,697,364
Cisco Systems Inc.*	365,914	32,797,520	38,687,182
Microsoft Corp.*	48,208	27,788,883	32,000,115
NVIDIA Corp.*	135,648	19,773,996	34,723,253
Oracle Corp.*	75,721	18,193,926	20,257,164
Palantir Technologies Inc.*	138,692	34,420,360	33,836,793
		203,501,627	262,985,922
<b>Financials (16.69%)</b>			
Berkshire Hathaway Inc., Class 'B'*	50,213	30,953,217	34,642,564
JPMorgan Chase & Co.*	79,332	24,047,005	35,085,613
Prologis Inc.*	217,265	34,889,577	38,069,115
Visa Inc., Class 'A'*	71,965	30,228,924	34,641,577
		120,118,723	142,438,869
<b>Consumer Discretionary (14.46%)</b>			
Amazon.com Inc.*	108,900	27,919,499	34,500,826
Home Depot Inc. (The)*	58,367	33,226,141	27,566,410
Netflix Inc.	202,438	34,037,262	26,051,805
Tesla Inc.*	57,098	21,553,432	35,244,493
		116,736,334	123,363,534
<b>Health Care (9.62%)</b>			
Eli Lilly and Co.*	28,252	29,473,774	41,673,171
Johnson & Johnson*	142,328	32,287,380	40,428,158
		61,761,154	82,101,329
<b>Industrials (8.67%)</b>			
General Electric Co.*	82,527	19,893,305	34,891,308
RTX Corp.*	155,470	30,343,268	39,135,790
		50,236,573	74,027,098
<b>Communication Services (8.09%)</b>			
Alphabet Inc., Class 'A'*	92,603	21,604,474	39,783,003
Meta Platforms Inc., Class 'A'*	32,300	23,194,771	29,264,011
		44,799,245	69,047,014
<b>Consumer Staples (4.32%)</b>			
Walmart Inc.*	241,012	34,394,524	36,854,542
<b>Utilities (4.32%)</b>			
NextEra Energy Inc.	334,282	31,843,406	36,833,970

**Schedule of Investments** (continued)

As at December 31, 2025

Security	Shares/ Contracts	Average Cost	Fair Value
<b>Energy (4.17%)</b>			
Exxon Mobil Corp.*	215,617	32,338,443	35,614,035
<b>TOTAL U.S. EQUITIES</b>		<b>695,730,029</b>	<b>863,266,313</b>
<b>DERIVATIVES (-0.50%)</b>			
<b>SHORT POSITIONS (-0.50%)</b>			
<b>Equity Call Options (-0.50%)</b>			
Advanced Micro Devices Inc., January 2026, \$215.00 USD	(92)	(191,393)	(20,520)
Advanced Micro Devices Inc., January 2026, \$210.00 USD	(185)	(232,012)	(264,079)
Alphabet Inc., Class 'A', January 2026, \$320.00 USD	(239)	(457,982)	(3,444)
Amazon.com Inc., January 2026, \$230.00 USD	(266)	(371,038)	(62,979)
Apple Inc., January 2026, \$275.00 USD	(234)	(299,650)	(5,781)
Berkshire Hathaway Inc., Class 'B', January 2026, \$497.50 USD	(124)	(120,906)	(143,390)
Broadcom Inc., January 2026, \$340.00 USD	(180)	(373,545)	(359,471)
Cisco Systems Inc., January 2026, \$77.50 USD	(887)	(196,075)	(101,049)
Eli Lilly and Co., January 2026, \$1,075.00 USD	(35)	(141,278)	(87,071)
Eli Lilly and Co., January 2026, \$1,075.00 USD	(35)	(157,483)	(129,106)
Exxon Mobil Corp., January 2026, \$117.00 USD	(267)	(78,180)	(131,013)
Exxon Mobil Corp., January 2026, \$119.00 USD	(267)	(84,820)	(106,277)
General Electric Co., January 2026, \$315.00 USD	(200)	(383,015)	(255,294)
Home Depot Inc. (The), January 2026, \$360.00 USD	(146)	(224,860)	(25,750)
Johnson & Johnson, January 2026, \$205.00 USD	(170)	(85,896)	(81,667)
Johnson & Johnson, January 2026, \$210.00 USD	(170)	(87,737)	(43,867)
JPMorgan Chase & Co., January 2026, \$325.00 USD	(192)	(202,077)	(202,918)
Meta Platforms Inc., Class 'A', January 2026, \$665.00 USD	(12)	(34,169)	(2,364)
Meta Platforms Inc., Class 'A', January 2026, \$660.00 USD	(79)	(325,770)	(303,066)
Microsoft Corp., January 2026, \$490.00 USD	(117)	(233,816)	(3,934)
NVIDIA Corp., January 2026, \$175.00 USD	(331)	(467,081)	(533,819)
Oracle Corp., January 2026, \$195.00 USD	(187)	(260,001)	(170,042)
Palantir Technologies Inc., January 2026, \$180.00 USD	(337)	(463,888)	(232,431)
Prologis Inc., January 2026, \$130.00 USD	(520)	(192,128)	(87,431)
RTX Corp., January 2026, \$180.00 USD	(378)	(313,556)	(287,947)
Tesla Inc., January 2026, \$455.00 USD	(137)	(489,495)	(441,892)
Visa Inc., Class 'A', January 2026, \$350.00 USD	(175)	(148,099)	(116,495)
Walmart Inc., January 2026, \$115.00 USD	(586)	(266,313)	(45,846)
		(6,882,263)	(4,248,943)
<b>TOTAL DERIVATIVES</b>		<b>(6,882,263)</b>	<b>(4,248,943)</b>



**Schedule of Investments** (continued)

As at December 31, 2025

Security	Shares/ Contracts	Average Cost	Fair Value
Transaction Costs		(74,594)	
<b>TOTAL INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO (100.66%)</b>		<b>\$ 688,773,172</b>	<b>\$ 859,017,370</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents (0.28%)</b>			2,358,422
<b>Other assets less liabilities (-0.94%)</b>			(8,026,418)
<b>NET ASSETS (100.00%)</b>			<b>\$ 853,349,374</b>

\* Partially pledged as collateral for written covered call option contracts.

(See accompanying notes to financial statements)

## Notes to Financial Statements

For the Years Ended December 31, 2025 and 2024

### 1. REPORTING ENTITY

Hamilton U.S. Equity YIELD MAXIMIZER™ ETF (“SMAX” or the “ETF”) is an investment trust established under the laws of the Province of Ontario by Declaration of Trust on September 8, 2023. Class E units effectively began operations on October 25, 2023 and US\$ Unhedged Units effectively began operations on August 29, 2025. The address of the ETF’s registered office is: c/o Hamilton Capital Partners Inc., 121 King Street West, Suite 1601, Toronto, Ontario, M5H 3T9.

The ETF is offered for sale on a continuous basis by its prospectus in Class E Units (“CAD Units”) and US\$ Unhedged Units (“US Units”) which trade on the Toronto Stock Exchange (“TSX”) in Canadian dollars and in U.S. dollars under the symbol SMAX and SMAX.U, respectively. CAD Units are a separate class of units of the ETF that are similar to the US Units but are intended for investors who wish to purchase and redeem Units in Canadian dollars and not hedge against currency fluctuations between the Canadian and U.S. dollar. An investor may buy or sell units of the ETF on the TSX only through a registered broker or dealer in the province or territory where the investor resides. Investors are able to trade units of the ETF in the same way as other securities traded on the TSX, including by using market orders and limit orders and may incur customary brokerage commissions when buying or selling units.

The investment objective of SMAX is to deliver attractive monthly income, while providing exposure to a portfolio of primarily large-cap U.S. equity securities. To supplement dividend income earned on the equity holdings, mitigate risk and reduce volatility, SMAX will employ a covered call option writing program.

Hamilton Capital Partners Inc. (“Hamilton ETFs” or the “Manager”) is the manager, trustee and portfolio adviser of the ETF. The Manager is responsible for implementing the ETF’s investment strategies.

### 2. BASIS OF PREPARATION

#### *(i) Statement of compliance*

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with IFRS Accounting Standards (“IFRS”). Any mention of total net assets, net assets, net asset value or increase (decrease) in net assets is referring to net assets or increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units as reported under IFRS.

These financial statements were authorized for issue on March 13, 2026, by the Board of Directors of the Manager.

#### *(ii) Basis of measurement*

The financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis except for financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss, which are measured at fair value.

#### *(iii) Functional and presentation currency*

The financial statements are presented in Canadian dollars, which is the ETF’s functional currency.

### 3. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICY INFORMATION

The accounting policies set out below have been applied consistently to all periods presented in these financial statements.

**Notes to Financial Statements** (continued)

For the Years Ended December 31, 2025 and 2024

**(a) Financial instruments*****(i) Recognition, initial measurement and classification***

The ETF is subject to IFRS 9, Financial Instruments (“IFRS 9”) for the classification and measurement requirements for financial instruments, including impairment on financial assets and hedge accounting.

This standard requires assets to be classified based on the ETF’s business model for managing the financial assets and contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial assets. The standard includes three principal classification categories for financial assets: measured at amortized cost, fair value through other comprehensive income, and fair value through profit and loss (“FVTPL”). IFRS 9 requires classification of debt instruments, if any, based solely on payments of principal and interest and business model tests.

The ETF’s financial assets and financial liabilities are managed and its performance is evaluated on a fair value basis. The contractual cash flows of the ETF’s debt securities, if any, consist solely of principal and interest, however, these securities are neither held in held-to-collect, or held-to-collect-and-sell business models in IFRS 9.

Financial assets and financial liabilities at FVTPL are initially recognized on the trade date, at fair value (see below), with transaction costs recognized in the statements of comprehensive income. Other financial assets and financial liabilities are recognized on the date on which they are originated at fair value.

The ETF classifies financial assets and financial liabilities into the following categories:

- Financial assets mandatorily classified at fair value through profit or loss: debt securities, equity investments and derivative financial instruments
- Financial assets at amortized cost: all other financial assets
- Financial liabilities classified at fair value through profit or loss: derivative financial instruments and securities sold short, if any
- Financial liabilities at amortized cost: all other financial liabilities

***(ii) Fair value measurement***

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 in the principal or, in its absence, the most advantageous market to which the ETF has access at that date. The fair value of a liability reflects its non-performance risk.

Investments are valued at fair value as of the close of business on each day upon which a session of the TSX is held (“Valuation Date”) and based on external pricing sources to the extent possible. Investments held that are traded in an active market through recognized public stock exchanges, over-the-counter markets, or through recognized investment dealers, are valued at their closing sale price. However, such prices may be adjusted if a more accurate value can be obtained from recent trading activity or by incorporating other relevant information that may not have been reflected in pricing obtained from external sources. Short-term investments, including notes and money market instruments, are valued at amortized cost which approximates fair value.

**Notes to Financial Statements** (continued)

For the Years Ended December 31, 2025 and 2024

Investments held that are not traded in an active market, including some derivative financial instruments, are valued using observable market inputs where possible, on such basis and in such manner as established by the Manager. Derivative financial instruments are recorded in the statements of financial position according to the gain or loss that would be realized if the contracts were closed out on the Valuation Date. Margin deposits, if any, are included in the schedule of investments as margin deposits. See also, the summary of fair value measurements in note 6.

Fair value policies used for financial reporting purposes are the same as those used to measure the net asset value (“NAV”) for transactions with unitholders.

The fair value of other financial assets and liabilities approximates their carrying values due to the short-term nature of these instruments.

***(iii) Offsetting***

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount presented in the statements of financial position when there is a legally enforceable right to offset the recognized amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis, or to realize the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Income and expenses are presented on a net basis for gains and losses from financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss and foreign exchange gains and losses.

***(iv) Specific instruments*****Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on deposit and short-term, interest bearing notes with a term to maturity of less than three months from the date of purchase.

**Forward foreign exchange contracts**

Forward foreign exchange contracts, if any, are valued at the current market value thereof on the Valuation Date. The value of these forward contracts is the gain or loss that would be realized if, on the Valuation Date, the positions were to be closed out and recorded as derivative assets and/or liabilities in the statements of financial position and as a net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of investments and derivatives in the statements of comprehensive income. When the forward contracts are closed out or mature, realized gains or losses on forward contracts are recognized and are included in the statements of comprehensive income in net realized gain (loss) on sale of investments and derivatives. The Canadian dollar value of forward foreign exchange contracts is determined using forward currency exchange rates supplied by an independent service provider.

**Redeemable units**

The redeemable units are measured at the present value of the redemption amounts and are considered a residual amount of the net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units. They are classified as financial liabilities as a result of the ETF’s requirement to distribute, at the option of the unitholder, net income and capital gains in cash.

**Notes to Financial Statements** (continued)

For the Years Ended December 31, 2025 and 2024

**Options**

As part of the ETF's investment strategy, call options are written on the equities in the ETF's portfolio. The premium received from writing a call option is recorded as a derivative liability in the statements of financial position. These call options are valued at the current market value thereof on the Valuation Date. The difference between the premium received when the option was written and its current market value is recorded as a net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of investments and derivatives in the statements of comprehensive income.

When a written call option expires, the ETF will realize a gain equal to the premium received. When a written option is bought back, the ETF will realize a gain or loss equal to the difference between the cost at which the contract was re-purchased and the premium received. When a written call option is exercised, the premium received is added to the proceeds from the sale of the underlying investments to determine the realized gain or loss. In all three cases, the gains or losses realized on call option premiums written is recorded as a net realized gain (loss) on sale of investments and derivatives in the statements of comprehensive income.

Covered call options give the holder the right to buy the securities from the ETF at a stated exercise price during the option period. During this period, these underlying securities held by the ETF are pledged as collateral. Securities so pledged are identified in the Schedule of Investment Portfolio as at December 31, 2025. The total fair value of collateral pledged as at December 31, 2025 is \$196,874,672.

**(b) Investment income**

Investment transactions are accounted for as of the trade date. Realized gains and losses from investment transactions are calculated on a weighted average cost basis. The difference between fair value and average cost, as recorded in the financial statements, is included in the statements of comprehensive income as part of the net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of investments and derivatives. Interest income for distribution purposes from investments in bonds and short-term investments, if any, represents the coupon interest received by the ETF accounted for on an accrual basis. Dividend income is recognized on the ex-dividend date. Distribution income from investments in other investment funds or ETFs is recognized when earned.

Income from derivatives is shown in the statements of comprehensive income as net realized gain (loss) on sale of investments and derivatives; net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of investments and derivatives; and, interest income for distribution purposes, in accordance with its nature.

Income from securities lending, if any, is included in "Securities lending income" on the statements of comprehensive income and is recognized when earned. Any securities on loan continue to be displayed in the schedule of investments and the market value of the securities loaned and collateral held is determined daily (see note 7).

If the ETF 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 as a separate expense in the statements of comprehensive income.

**(c) Foreign currency**

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into the ETF's reporting currency using the exchange rate prevailing on the trade date. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the reporting date are translated at the year-end exchange rate. Foreign exchange gains and losses are presented as "Net realized gain (loss) on foreign

**Notes to Financial Statements** (continued)

For the Years Ended December 31, 2025 and 2024

exchange”, except for those arising from financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss, which are recognized as a component within “Net realized gain (loss) on sale of investments and derivatives” and “Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of investments and derivatives” in the statements of comprehensive income.

**(d) Cost basis**

The cost of portfolio investments is determined on an average cost basis.

**(e) Increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units per unit**

The increase (decrease) in net assets per unit in the statements of comprehensive income represents the change in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units from operations divided by the weighted average number of units of the ETF outstanding during the reporting year. For management fees please refer to note 9.

**(f) Unitholder transactions**

The value at which units are issued or redeemed is determined by dividing the net asset value of the class by the total number of units outstanding of that class on the Valuation Date. Amounts received on the issuance of units and amounts paid on the redemption of units are included in the statements of changes in financial position.

**(g) Amounts receivable (payable) relating to portfolio assets sold (purchased)**

In accordance with the ETF’s policy of trade date accounting for sale and purchase transactions, sales/purchase transactions awaiting settlement, if any, represent amounts receivable/payable for securities sold/purchased, but not yet settled as at the reporting date.

**(h) Net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units per unit**

Net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units per unit is calculated by dividing the ETF’s net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units by the number of units of the ETF outstanding on the Valuation Date.

**(i) Transaction costs**

Transaction costs are incremental costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition, issue or disposal of an investment, which include fees and commissions paid to agents, advisors, brokers and dealers, levies by regulatory agencies and securities exchanges, and any applicable transfer taxes and duties. Transaction costs are expensed and are included in “Transaction costs” in the statements of comprehensive income.

**(j) Future accounting policy changes*****Presentation and disclosure in financial statements (IFRS 18)***

IFRS 18 will replace IAS 1 Presentation of financial statements and applies for reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2027. The new standard introduces the following key new requirements.

**Notes to Financial Statements** (continued)

For the Years Ended December 31, 2025 and 2024

- Entities are required to classify all income and expenses into five categories in the statement of income (loss) and comprehensive income (loss), namely the operating, investing, financing, discontinued operations and income tax categories. Entities are also required to present a newly-defined operating profit subtotal. Net profit will not change.
- Management-defined performance measures (MPMs) are disclosed in a single note in the financial statements.
- Enhanced guidance is provided on how to group information in the financial statements.

In addition, all entities are required to use the operating profit subtotal as the starting point for the statement of cash flows when presenting operating cash flows under the indirect method.

The Manager is still in the process of assessing the impact of the new standard, particularly with respect to the structure of the ETF's statement of comprehensive income (loss), the statement of cash flows and the additional disclosures required for MPM. The Manager is also assessing the impact on how information is grouped in the financial statements, including for items currently labelled as "other".

***Amendments to the Classification and Measurement of Financial Instruments (Amendments to IFRS 9 and IFRS 7)***

The IASB has issued amendments to IFRS 9 and IFRS 7 in May 2024. These amendments relate to classification of financial assets and accounting for settlement by electronic payments in the context of the classification and measurement requirements in IFRS 9. The potential impact may include, but is not limited to, a change in timing of recognition and derecognition of financial instruments in certain situations in which settlement of a financial instrument with another takes more than a day. Similarly, a change may be required for entities that derecognize both trade payable and cash on the payment initiation date even if the creditor has not yet received the cash. However, an accounting policy choice is available for derecognizing certain financial liabilities that are settled using an electronic payment system subject to certain criteria being met.

The amendments will be effective from January 1, 2026. The Manager is currently assessing the impact of the new standard, but it is not expected to have a significant impact on the ETF's financial statements.

**4. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS**

In preparing these financial statements, the Manager has made judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of accounting policies and the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. Actual results may differ from these estimates. Estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to estimates are recognized prospectively.

The ETF may hold financial instruments that are not quoted in active markets, including derivatives. The determination of the fair value of these instruments is the area with the most significant accounting judgements and estimates that the ETF has made in preparing the financial statements. See note 6 for more information on the fair value measurement of the ETF's financial instruments.

**5. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS RISK**

In the normal course of business, the ETF's investment activities expose it to a variety of financial risks. The Manager seeks to minimize potential adverse effects of these risks for the ETF's performance by employing professional, experienced portfolio advisers, by daily monitoring of the ETF's positions and market events, and periodically may use derivatives to hedge certain risk exposures. To assist in managing risks, the Manager maintains a governance structure that oversees the

**Notes to Financial Statements** (continued)

For the Years Ended December 31, 2025 and 2024

ETF's investment activities and monitors compliance with the ETF's stated investment strategies, internal guidelines and securities regulations.

Please refer to the most recent prospectus for a complete discussion of the risks attributed to an investment in the units of the ETF. Significant financial instrument risks that are relevant to the ETF, and analysis thereof, are presented below.

**(a) Market risk**

Market risk is the risk that changes in market prices, such as interest rates, equity prices, foreign exchange rates and credit spreads (not relating to changes in the obligor's/issuer's credit standing) will affect the ETF's income or the fair value of its holdings of financial instruments. The objective of market risk management is to manage and control market risk exposures within acceptable parameters, while optimizing the return.

**(i) Currency risk**

Currency risk is the risk that financial instruments which are denominated in currencies other than the ETF's reporting currency, the Canadian dollar, will fluctuate due to changes in exchange rates and adversely impact the ETF's income, cash flows or fair values of its investment holdings. The ETF may reduce its foreign currency exposure through the use of derivative arrangements such as foreign exchange forward contracts or futures contracts. The following table indicates the foreign currencies to which the ETF had significant exposure as at December 31, 2025 and 2024, in Canadian dollar terms and the potential impact on the ETF's net assets (including the underlying principal amount of future or forward currency contracts, if any), as a result of a 1% change in these currencies relative to the Canadian dollar:

<b>December 31, 2025</b>	<b>Financial Instruments</b>	<b>Currency Forward and/ or Futures Contracts</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Impact on Net Asset Value</b>
<b>Currency</b>	(\$000's)	(\$000's)	(\$000's)	(\$000's)
U.S. Dollar	860,663	-	860,663	8,607
Total	860,663	-	860,663	8,607
As % of Net Asset Value	100.9%	-	100.9%	1.0%

<b>December 31, 2024</b>	<b>Financial Instruments</b>	<b>Currency Forward and/ or Futures Contracts</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Impact on Net Asset Value</b>
<b>Currency</b>	(\$000's)	(\$000's)	(\$000's)	(\$000's)
U.S. Dollar	611,224	-	611,224	6,112
Total	611,224	-	611,224	6,112
As % of Net Asset Value	100.7%	-	100.7%	1.0%

**(ii) Interest rate risk**

The ETF may be exposed to the risk that the fair value of future cash flows of its financial instruments will fluctuate as a result of changes in market interest rates. In general, the value of interest-bearing financial instruments will rise if interest rates fall, and conversely, will generally fall if interest rates rise. There is minimal sensitivity to interest rate fluctuation on cash and cash equivalents invested at short-term market rates since those securities are usually held to maturity and are short term in nature.

**Notes to Financial Statements** (continued)

For the Years Ended December 31, 2025 and 2024

As at December 31, 2025 and 2024, the ETF did not hold any long-term debt instruments and did not have any exposure to interest rate risk.

**(iii) Other market risk**

Other market risk is the risk that the value of financial instruments will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices (other than those arising from interest rate risk or currency risk), whether caused by factors specific to an individual investment, its issuer, or all factors affecting all instruments traded in a market or market segment. The Manager has implemented internal risk management controls on the ETF which are intended to limit the loss on its trading activities.

The table below shows the estimated impact on the ETF of a 1% increase or decrease in the comparative index, based on historical correlation, with all other factors remaining constant, as at the dates shown. In practice, actual results may differ from this sensitivity analysis and the difference could be material. The historical correlation may not be representative of future correlation.

<b>Comparative Index</b>	<b>December 31, 2025</b>	<b>December 31, 2024</b>
Cboe S&P 500 Half BuyWrite Index	\$7,591,939	\$5,259,076

**(b) Credit risk**

Credit risk on financial instruments is the risk of a financial loss occurring as a result of the default of a counterparty on its obligation to the ETF. It arises principally from debt securities held, and also from derivative financial assets, cash and cash equivalents, and other receivables. The ETF's maximum credit risk exposure as at the reporting date is represented by the respective carrying amounts of any debt instruments, derivative assets, plus any receivables, including accrued income receivable in the statements of financial position. The ETF's credit risk policy is to minimize its exposure to counterparties with perceived higher risk of default by dealing only with counterparties that meet the credit standards set out in the ETF's prospectus and, when necessary, receiving acceptable collateral.

As at December 31, 2025 and 2024, due to the nature of its portfolio investments, the ETF did not have any material credit risk exposure.

**(c) Liquidity risk**

Liquidity risk is the risk that the ETF will encounter difficulty in meeting the obligations associated with its financial liabilities that are settled by delivering cash or another financial asset. The ETF's policy and the Manager's approach to managing liquidity is to ensure, as far as possible, that it will always have sufficient liquidity to meet its liabilities when due, under both normal and stress conditions, including estimated redemptions of units, without incurring unacceptable losses or risking damage to the ETF's reputation. Generally, liabilities of the ETF are due within 90 days. Liquidity risk is managed by investing the majority of the ETF's assets in investments that are traded in an active market and can be readily disposed. The ETF aims to retain sufficient cash and cash equivalent positions to maintain liquidity; therefore, the liquidity risk for the ETF is considered minimal.

**Notes to Financial Statements** (continued)

For the Years Ended December 31, 2025 and 2024

**6. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENT**

Below is a classification of fair value measurements of the ETF's investments based on a three level fair value hierarchy and a reconciliation of transactions and transfers within that hierarchy. The hierarchy of fair valuation inputs is summarized as follows:

- Level 1: securities that are valued based on quoted prices in active markets.
- Level 2: securities that are valued based on inputs other than quoted prices that are observable, either directly as prices, or indirectly as derived from prices.
- Level 3: securities that are valued with significant unobservable market data.

Changes in valuation methods may result in transfers into or out of an investment's assigned level. The following is a summary of the inputs used as at December 31, 2025 and 2024, in valuing the ETF's investments and derivatives carried at fair values:

	December 31, 2025			December 31, 2024		
	Level 1 (\$)	Level 2 (\$)	Level 3 (\$)	Level 1 (\$)	Level 2 (\$)	Level 3 (\$)
<b>Financial Assets</b>						
Equities	863,266,313	–	–	615,061,389	–	–
<b>Total Financial Assets</b>	<b>863,266,313</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>615,061,389</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>
<b>Financial Liabilities</b>						
Options	(4,248,943)	–	–	(4,297,050)	–	–
<b>Total Financial Liabilities</b>	<b>(4,248,943)</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>(4,297,050)</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>
<b>Net Financial Assets and Liabilities</b>	<b>859,017,370</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>610,764,339</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>

There were no significant transfers made between Levels 1 and 2 as a result of changes in the availability of quoted market prices or observable market inputs during the years shown. In addition, there were no investments classified in Level 3 for the years ended December 31, 2025 and 2024.

**7. SECURITIES LENDING**

In order to generate additional returns, the ETF is authorized to enter into securities lending agreements with borrowers deemed acceptable in accordance with National Instrument 81-102 – *Investment Funds* ("NI 81-102"). Under a securities lending agreement, the borrower must pay the ETF a negotiated securities lending fee, provide compensation to the ETF equal to any distributions received by the borrower on the securities borrowed, and the ETF must receive an acceptable form of collateral in excess of the value of the securities loaned. Although such collateral is marked to market, the ETF may be exposed to the risk of loss should a borrower default on its obligations to return the borrowed securities and the collateral is insufficient to reconstitute the portfolio of loaned securities. Revenue, if any, earned on securities lending transactions during the period is disclosed in the ETF's statements of comprehensive income.

**Notes to Financial Statements** (continued)

For the Years Ended December 31, 2025 and 2024

The aggregate closing market value of securities loaned and collateral received as at December 31, 2025 and 2024, was as follows:

<b>As at</b>	<b>Securities Loaned</b>	<b>Collateral Received</b>
December 31, 2025	\$34,837	\$36,580
December 31, 2024	–	–

Collateral may comprise, but is not limited to, cash and obligations of or guaranteed by the Government of Canada or a province thereof; by the United States government or its agencies; by some sovereign states; by permitted supranational agencies; and short-term debt of Canadian Financial institutions, if, in each case, the evidence of indebtedness has a designated rating as defined by NI 81-102.

The table below presents a reconciliation of the securities lending income as presented in the statements of comprehensive income for the years ended December 31, 2025 and 2024. It shows the gross amount of securities lending revenues generated from the securities lending transactions of the ETF, less any taxes withheld and amounts earned by parties entitled to receive payments out of the gross amount as part of any securities lending agreements.

<b>For the years ended</b>	<b>December 31, 2025</b>	<b>% of Gross Income</b>	<b>December 31, 2024</b>	<b>% of Gross Income</b>
Gross securities lending income	\$1,017	100.00%	\$1,677	100.00%
Lending Agents' fees:				
Bank of New York Mellon	(356)	(35.00%)	(587)	(35.00%)
<b>Net securities lending income paid to the ETF</b>	<b>\$661</b>	<b>65.00%</b>	<b>\$1,090</b>	<b>65.00%</b>

**8. REDEEMABLE UNITS**

The ETF is authorized to issue an unlimited number of redeemable, transferable Class E and US\$ Unhedged units each of which represents an equal, undivided interest in the net assets of the ETF. Each unit entitles the owner to one vote at meetings of unitholders. Each unit is entitled to participate equally with all other units with respect to all payments made to unitholders, other than management fee distributions, whether by way of income or capital distributions and, on liquidation, to participate equally in the net assets of the ETF remaining after satisfaction of any outstanding liabilities that are attributable to units of the ETF. All units will be fully paid and non-assessable, with no liability for future assessments, when issued and will not be transferable except by operation of law.

The redeemable units issued by the ETF provide an investor with the right to require redemption for cash at a value proportionate to the investor's share in the ETF's net assets at each redemption date and are classified as liabilities as a result of the ETF's requirement to distribute net income and capital gains to unitholders. The ETF's objectives in managing the redeemable units are to meet the ETF's investment objective, and to manage liquidity risk arising from redemptions. The ETF's management of liquidity risk arising from redeemable units is discussed in note 5.

On any Valuation Date, unitholders of the ETF may (i) redeem units of the ETF for cash at a redemption price per unit equal to 95% of the closing price for units of the ETF on the TSX on the effective day of the redemption, where the units being redeemed are not equal to a prescribed number of units ("PNU") or a multiple PNU; or (ii) redeem, less any applicable redemption charge as determined by the Manager in its sole discretion from time to time, a PNU or a multiple PNU of the ETF for cash equal to the net asset value of that number of units.

**Notes to Financial Statements** (continued)

For the Years Ended December 31, 2025 and 2024

Units of the ETF are issued or redeemed on a daily basis at the net asset value per security that is determined as at 4:00 p.m. (Eastern Time) each Valuation Date. Purchase and redemption orders are subject to a 3:00 p.m. (Eastern Time) cutoff time on Valuation Date.

The ETF is required to distribute all of its income (including net realized capital gains) that it has earned in the year to such an extent that the ETF will not be liable for ordinary income tax thereon. Income earned by the ETF is distributed to unitholders at least once per year, if necessary, and any such amount distributed by the ETF will be paid as a “reinvested distribution”. Reinvested distributions on units of the ETF will be reinvested automatically in additional units of the ETF at a price equal to the net asset value per unit of the ETF on such day and the units of the ETF will be immediately consolidated such that the number of outstanding units of the ETF held by each unitholder on such day following the distribution will equal the number of units of the ETF held by the unitholder prior to the distribution. Reinvested distributions are reported as taxable distributions and used to increase each unitholder’s adjusted cost base for the ETF. Distributions paid to holders of redeemable units, if any, are recognized in the statements of changes in financial position.

Please consult the ETF’s most recent prospectus for a full description of the subscription and redemption features of the ETF’s units.

For the years ended December 31, 2025 and 2024, the number of units issued by subscription, the number of units redeemed, the total and average number of units outstanding was as follows:

<b>Class of Units</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Beginning Units Outstanding</b>	<b>Units Issued</b>	<b>Units Redeemed</b>	<b>Ending Units Outstanding</b>	<b>Average Units Outstanding</b>
Class E Units	2025	30,171,349	19,431,908	(8,175,000)	41,428,257	38,651,277
	2024	13,962,553	18,508,796	(2,300,000)	30,171,349	22,839,375
US\$ Unhedged Units	2025	–	237,545	(1)	237,544	151,150

**9. EXPENSES AND OTHER RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**
**Management fees**

The Manager provides, or oversees the provision of, administrative services required by the ETF including, but not limited to: negotiating contracts with certain third-party service providers, such as portfolio managers, custodians, registrars, transfer agents, auditors and printers; authorizing the payment of operating expenses incurred on behalf of the ETF; arranging for the maintenance of accounting records for the ETF; preparing reports to unitholders and to the applicable securities regulatory authorities; calculating the amount and determining the frequency of distributions by the ETF; preparing financial statements, income tax returns and financial and accounting information as required by the ETF; ensuring that unitholders are provided with financial statements and other reports as are required from time to time by applicable law; ensuring that the ETF complies with all other regulatory requirements, including the continuous disclosure obligations of the ETF under applicable securities laws; administering purchases, redemptions and other transactions in units of the ETF; and dealing and communicating with unitholders of the ETF. The Manager provides office facilities and personnel to carry out these services, if not otherwise furnished by any other service provider to the ETF. The Manager also monitors the investment strategies of the ETF to ensure that the ETF complies with its investment objectives, investment strategies and investment restrictions and practices.

In consideration for the provision of these services, the Manager receives a monthly management fee at the annual rate of 0.65%, plus applicable sales taxes, of the net asset value of the ETF, calculated and accrued daily and payable monthly in arrears.

**Notes to Financial Statements** (continued)

For the Years Ended December 31, 2025 and 2024

Any expenses of the ETF that are waived or absorbed by the Manager are paid out of the management fees received by the Manager.

**Other expenses**

In addition to the management fees, unless otherwise waived or absorbed by the Manager, the ETF pays all of its operating expenses, including but not limited to: audit fees; trustee and custodial expenses; administration costs; valuation, accounting and record keeping costs; legal expenses; permitted prospectus preparation and filing expenses; costs associated with delivering documents to unitholders; listing and annual stock exchange fees; CDS Clearing and Depository Services Inc. fees; bank related fees and interest charges; extraordinary expenses; unitholder reports and servicing costs; registrar and transfer agent fees; costs associated with the Independent Review Committee; income taxes; sales taxes; brokerage expenses and commissions; and withholding taxes.

The Manager, at its discretion, may waive and/or absorb a portion of the fees and/or expenses otherwise payable by the ETF. The waiving and/or absorption of such fees and/or expenses by the Manager may be terminated at any time, without notice, or continued indefinitely, at the discretion of the Manager.

**10. BROKER COMMISSIONS, SOFT DOLLARS AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

Brokerage commissions paid on securities transactions may include amounts paid to related parties of the Manager for brokerage services provided to the ETF.

Research and system usage related services received in return for commissions generated with specific dealers are generally referred to as soft dollars.

Total brokerage commissions paid to dealers in connection with investment portfolio transactions, soft dollar transactions incurred and amounts paid to related parties of the Manager, if any, for the years ended December 31, 2025 and 2024, were as follows:

<b>Year Ended</b>	<b>Brokerage Commissions Paid</b>	<b>Soft Dollar Transactions</b>	<b>Amount Paid to Related Parties</b>
December 31, 2025	\$224,010	\$nil	\$nil
December 31, 2024	\$138,721	\$nil	\$nil

In addition to the information contained in the table above, the management fees paid to the Manager described in note 9 are related party transactions, as the Manager is considered to be a related party to the ETF. Fees paid to the Independent Review Committee are also considered to be related party transactions. Both fees are disclosed in the statements of comprehensive income. The management fees payable by the ETF as at December 31, 2025 and 2024, are disclosed in the statements of financial position.

The ETF may invest in other ETFs managed by the Manager or its affiliates, in accordance with the ETF's investment objectives and strategies. Such investments, if any, are disclosed in the schedule of investments.

**Notes to Financial Statements** (continued)

For the Years Ended December 31, 2025 and 2024

**11. INCOME TAX**

The ETF has qualified as a mutual fund trust under the *Income Tax Act* (Canada) (the “Tax Act”) and accordingly, is not taxed on the portion of taxable income that is paid or allocated to unitholders. As well, tax refunds (based on redemptions and realized and unrealized gains during the year) may be available that would make it possible to retain some net capital gains in the ETF without incurring any income taxes.

**12. TAX LOSSES CARRIED FORWARD**

Capital losses for income tax purposes may be carried forward indefinitely and applied against capital gains realized in future years. Non-capital losses carried forwards may be applied against future years’ taxable income. Non-capital losses that are realized in the current taxation period may be carried forward for 20 years. As at December 31, 2025, the ETF had no capital or non-capital losses available.

**13. OFFSETTING OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

In the normal course of business, the ETF may enter into various master netting arrangements or other similar agreements that do not meet the criteria for offsetting in the statements of financial position but still allow for the related amounts to be set off in certain circumstances, such as bankruptcy or termination of the contracts. As at December 31, 2025 and 2024, the ETF did not have any financial instruments eligible for offsetting.

**14. INTERESTS IN SUBSIDIARIES, ASSOCIATES AND UNCONSOLIDATED STRUCTURED ENTITIES**

The ETF may invest in units of other ETFs as part of its investment strategies (“Investee ETF(s)”). The nature and purpose of these Investee ETFs generally, is to manage assets on behalf of third party investors in accordance with their investment objectives, and are financed through the issue of units to investors. At no time, would the ETF provide financial or other support to any Investee ETF, including assisting any Investee ETF in obtaining financial support.

In determining whether the ETF has control or significant influence over an Investee ETF, the ETF assesses voting rights, the exposure to variable returns, and its ability to use the voting rights to affect the amount of the returns. In instances where the ETF has control over an Investee ETF, the ETF qualifies as an investment entity under IFRS 10 – Consolidated Financial Statements, and therefore accounts for investments it controls at fair value through profit and loss. The ETF’s primary purpose is defined by its investment objectives and uses the investment strategies available to it as defined in the ETF’s prospectus to meet those objectives. The ETF also measures and evaluates the performance of any Investee ETFs on a fair value basis.

Investee ETFs over which the ETF has control or significant influence are categorized as subsidiaries and associates, respectively. All other Investee ETFs are categorized as unconsolidated structured entities. Investee ETFs may be managed by the Manager, its affiliates, or by third-party managers.

Investments in Investee ETFs are susceptible to market price risk arising from uncertainty about future values of those Investee ETFs. The maximum exposure to loss from interests in Investee ETFs is equal to the total fair value of the investment in those respective Investee ETFs at any given point in time. The fair value of Investee ETFs, if any, are disclosed in investments in the statements of financial position and listed in the schedule of investments. As at December 31, 2025 and 2024, the ETF had no exposure to subsidiaries, associates or unconsolidated structured entities.

Manager  
**Hamilton Capital Partners Inc.**  
121 King Street West  
Suite 1601  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5H 3T9  
Tel: (416) 941-9888  
[www.hamiltonetfs.com](http://www.hamiltonetfs.com)

Auditors  
**KPMG LLP**  
Bay Adelaide Centre  
333 Bay Street, Suite 4600  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5H 2S5

Custodian  
**CIBC Mellon Trust Company**  
1 York Street, Suite 900  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5J 0B6

Registrar and Transfer Agent  
**TSX Trust Company**  
100 Adelaide Street West, Suite 301  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5H 4H1



**SMAX**

**Hamilton U.S.  
Equity YIELD  
MAXIMIZER™ ETF**

Hamilton Capital Partners Inc. | 121 King Street West, Suite 1601 | Toronto, Ontario M5H 3T9

416.941.9888 | [www.hamiltonetfs.com](http://www.hamiltonetfs.com)