

# DIVERSIFIED TRUST

# COMMENTARY + FUND PROFILE

# **JUNE 2024**

All performance data, portfolio information and pricing contained herein is as of June 30th, 2024.



SUITE 510 - 1000 7TH AVE SW CALGARY, ALBERTA CANADA T2P 5L5 CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE (SINCE JANUARY 1<sup>st</sup> 2007\*)



Source: Bloomberg and Auspice Investment Operations. \*The returns for Auspice Diversified Trust ("ADT") are net of fees. Returns represent the performance for Auspice Diversified Trust, Series X. Prior to December 2019, the returns were from Auspice Managed Futures LP, Series 1. Past performance is not indicative of future results. You cannot invest directly in an index. \*Correlation is a statistical measure that calculates the degree to which two portfolios or securities move in relation to one and the other, and can range between -1.0 and +1.0. A 0 correlation would indicate 0 similarity, a 1.0 correlation would indicate 100% correlation.



Prior to February 28, 2023, this Fund was offered via offering memorandum only and this Fund was not a reporting issuer during such prior period. The expenses of the Fund would have been higher during such prior period had the Fund been subject to the additional regulatory requirements applicable to a reporting issuer. Auspice obtained exemptive relief on behalf of the Fund to permit the disclosure of the prior performance data for the Fund for the time period prior to it becoming a reporting issuer.

Source of data is Bloomberg unless otherwise indicated.

Auspice Diversified Trust ("ADT") corrected 2.6% for a small negative on the year per Table 1 as concentrated trends in both financials and commodity markets were challenging to extract value from. As illustrated in Chart 1, the result is in-line with the benchmark BTOP 50, while outperforming historically at key times of equity and commodity correction, as also depicted by the Bloomberg Commodity index (BCOM) and the global equity benchmark MSCI ACWI.

The stock rally that started late in 2023 continued yet it was not as "global" as recently experienced. While the S&P500 and Nasdaq gained 3.5% and 6.0% respectively and continued to lead based on a narrow AI and tech focus, Canada's TSX60 and the Dow Jones Euro STOXX50 index lost 2.1% and 1.8%. The global benchmark MSCI ACWI was up 2.2% yet Asian markets were mixed as Japan's Nikkei gained 2.9% while the China A50 lost 3.0% alongside the Hang Seng off 2.0%.

The long-only commodity benchmarks again moved in opposite directions: the more diverse Bloomberg Commodity Index (BCOM ER) was down 1.9% for 2.4% in 2024 while the energy tilted Goldman Sachs Commodity Index (GSCI ER) added 1.0% for 8.2% based on petroleum energy outperformance.

US CPI retreated slightly from 3.4% to 3.3% (for the May reading see Chart 2), yet the US Federal Reserve left rates unchanged (for a 7th time) at its June meeting and signalled the potential for just one rate cut in 2024<sup>1</sup>. This was a departure from rates cuts in Canada and Europe yet highlights that the US economy is doing well with a strong labour market (which is indeed "cost-push" inflationary). To reiterate, we believe the narrative from the US Fed appears to be more accepting of a structural shift in inflation to 3% (plus) as normal and the 2% target as less likely in the near term.

Rates continued to soften slightly in June with the benchmark US 10-year Note moving from 4.5% to 4.4%. The US Dollar Index led global currency gains adding 1.3% vis-à-vis global currencies with the Japanese Yen falling 2.6% alongside the Euro off 1.3%. The Canadian Dollar softened modestly 0.5% while the Mexican Peso dropped a massive 7.1%.

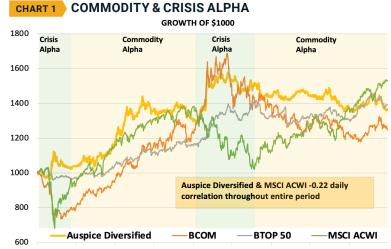
# OUTLOOK

The second wave of inflation is becoming increasingly evident. US CPI peaked June 2022 at 9.1% year-over-year, and proceeded to decline for 12 months, crossing below the 4% level in June 2023. Over the ensuing 12 months inflation has ceased its downward course, rangebound between 3-4% with upward pressures mounting. This is consistent with the CPI average for the last 100 years at 3.0 and since 1970 at 4.0.

The floor in inflation comes as the Drewry World Container Index (global freight rates) has again started climbing upwards. Global freight rates surpassed \$3000 in June, the highest levels since 2022, with a similar trajectory as experienced in 2021 as inflation surged.

We believe a second wave in inflation is coming as we enter a historically volatile period for equities, with an average 25% increase

## (CONTINUED NEXT PAGE)



2020-01 2020-07 2021-01 2021-07 2022-01 2022-07 2023-01 2023-07 2024-01

Source: Bloomberg and Auspice Investment Operations. Past performance is not indicative of future results. You cannot invest directly in an index.

## TABLE 1 AUSPICE DIVERSIFIED TRUST PERFORMANCE

|                      | Auspice<br>Diversified<br>Trust         | Barclay<br>BTOP50<br>CTA Index | BCOM<br>ER<br>INDEX | TSX 60<br>INDEX |
|----------------------|---|--------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| 1 Month              | -2.64%                                  | -2.23%                         | -1.94%              | -2.13%          |
| 2024 YTD             | -0.46%                                  | 7.02%                          | 2.38%               | 3.16%           |
| 1 yr (Jul 23)        | -5.48%                                  | 5.48%                          | -0.48%              | 7.43%           |
| 3 yr (Jul 21)        | -0.06%                                  | 25.13%                         | 6.82%               | 7.91%           |
| 5 yr (Jul 19)        | 41.03%                                  | 41.17%                         | 26.79%              | 33.20%          |
| 10 yr (Jul 14)       | 39.69%                                  | 48.84%                         | -24.98%             | 50.66%          |
| 15 yr (Jul 09)       | <b>24.91</b> %                          | 49.57%                         | -17.58%             | 107.09%         |
| Ann. Return (Jan 07) | 2.91% <sup>1</sup> / 3.93% <sup>2</sup> | 3.26%                          | -2.82%              | 3.27%           |
| Std Deviation        | <b>11.46</b> %                          | 7.02%                          | 16.32%              | 13.37%          |
| Sharpe Ratio         | 0.33                                    | 0.49                           | -0.09               | 0.33            |
| Sortino Ratio        | 0.58                                    | 0.80                           | -0.11               | 0.45            |
| Worst Drawdown       | -26.04%                                 | -16.11%                        | -73.87%             | -44.27%         |

Source: Bloomberg and Auspice Investment Operations. Past performance is not indicative of future results. You cannot invest directly in an index. 1/3/5/10/15 year is cumulative performance.

1. The returns for Auspice Diversified Trust ("ADT") are net of fees. Returns represent the performance for Auspice Managed Futures LP Series 1 (2% mgmt, 20% performance) including and ending November 2019. From this point, returns represent the performance for Auspice Diversified Trust Series X (1% mgmt, 15% performance) which started on July 1st, 2014.

2. "Auspice Diversified 1 and 15" is provided for indicative purposes to illustrate full cycle net returns with the current lower fee structure (Series X). Auspice Diversified 1 and 15 is based on the realized gross returns of Auspice Managed Futures LP Series 1 (2% mgmt, 20% performance) through November 30th 2019, adjusted with the current lower (1 and 15) fee structure (Series X). December 1st, 2019 forward Auspice Diversified 1 and 15 represents the realized net returns from Auspice Diversified Series X.



# **OUTLOOK** (CONTINUED)

in volatility (as represented by the VIX) from July to November during US election years<sup>2</sup> over the last century.

Alongside, stock market internals are increasingly weak: outside of the narrowed tech leadership in the US, half of the sectors are negative, with the others that are positive being largely defensive in nature (utilities and consumer staples for example). Leadership has thinned since March with each record high in the S&P500 consisting of fewer stocks reaching 52-week highs, and the S&P500 advance/ decline line also peaking in May<sup>3</sup>.

# ATTRIBUTIONS AND TRADES

The fund struggled given repositioning and trend-reversals that led to risk adjustments in several sectors.

Per Chart 3, the portfolio gains came from two financial sectors, led by Equities, while all commodity sub-sectors corrected, led by Metals.

In Commodities, while the Energy sector was net negative, it should be noted that the trend positioning was a positive attribution. The short-term non-trend strategies were not effective in providing the required diversification to trend reversals. The bulk of the portfolio loss came from sharp corrections in Metals. We have continued to expand our commodity portfolio opportunity set including positions this month in White Sugar, Robusta Coffee, Milk, Lumber, Lead and Tin.

In Financials, even a modest exposure to specific equities led to gains while currency weakness vis-a-vis the US Dollar added value.

exposures in Sugar. These

was narrowly focused, our

this time.

markets are quite choppy at

Equities: While the rally in equities

exposure to SP500 and Nasdag

Europe's DJ Euro STOXX50 and

the Hong Kong Hang Seng long

exposures for a small loss.

Rates: Reduced short futures

across the global sector and

and UK's Long Gilt markets

(aligning with central bank

Currencies: After recent short

gains in global currencies, the

sector had a negative attribution

as we reduced short exposures

significantly led by the Japanese

Yen. British Pound and Aussie

Dollar alongside a complete

exit of the long Chinese Yuan.

cuts in these markets).

exposures as rates moved lower

completely exited German Schatz

eclipsed losses as we exited

## **BY SECTOR**

**Energies:** Trend gains were from gains in petroleum energies from long exposures in Crude Oil and Gasoline. Natural Gas fell over 2% benefiting existing shorts while shorts in Heating Oil were a small offset.

**Metals:** After recent sector performance, Metals corrected across most markets including Gold, Silver, Copper, Zinc, Nickel and Platinum. Only Palladium bounded the other way gaining 7.1% for a small offset. We remain net long the sector yet at reduced exposure.

**Grains:** Net short exposure in Grains led to gains in Corn and Soybeans yet this was offset by a dramatic reversal in Wheat and exposure was significantly reduced.

**Softs:** The most diverse commodity sub-sector provided movements in both directions with gains in short Cotton while an offsetting loss came from an 11% rally against short

## **RETURN DRIVERS:**

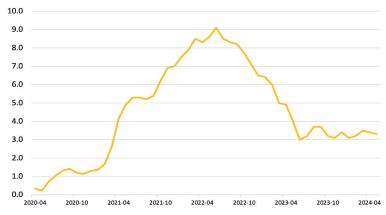
Results were negative from both trend-following strategies and the Auspice non-correlated short-term (non-trend) strategies. We continue to earn on significant cash positions. See Chart 4.

#### TABLE 2 AUSPICE DIVERSIFIED TRUST PERFORMANCE

| Auspice<br>Diversified Trust |        | NAVPU  |       |       |         |
|------------------------------|--------|--------|-------|-------|---------|
| Series                       | 1yr    | 3yr    | 5yr   | 10yr  | CAD \$  |
| Series X                     | -5.50% | -0.02% | 7.15% | n/a   | 13.8958 |
| Series A                     | -6.46% | -1.27% | 6.39% | 2.78% | 11.0106 |
| Series F                     | -5.49% | -0.32% | 6.62% | 3.14% | 11.8568 |
| Series I                     | -4.47% | 1.65%  | 9.55% | 5.40% | 16.4040 |

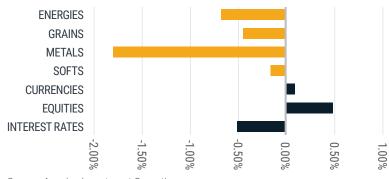
Source: Bloomberg and Auspice Investment Operations. Past performance is not indicative of future results. The returns for Auspice Diversified Trust ("ADT") are net of fees. Inception dates: Series X, July 1st, 2014; Series A, October 1st, 2009; Series F, October 1st, 2009; Series I, January 1st, 2013.

### CHART 2 CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) YOY% CHANGE



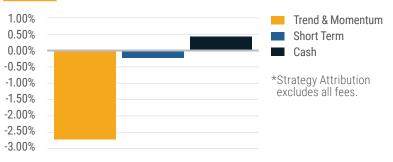
Source: Bloomberg and Auspice Investment Operations. See definitions at end for more.

# CHART 3 SECTOR PROFIT/LOSS AND MONTHLY ATTRIBUTION



Source: Auspice Investment Operations.

## CHART 4 STRATEGY (RETURN DRIVER) ATTRIBUTION



**AUSPICE** 

# **POSITION HIGHLIGHTS**

#### GAINS

- Equity and portfolio gains were led by SP500 and Nasdaq.
- Crude Oil and Gasoline led long energy gains up 6.4% and 4.2%.
- Short Canadian Dollar and Japanese Yen provided positive attribution.

## LOSSES

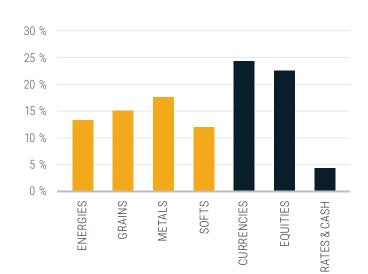
- Short-term non-trend strategies struggled in Energies offsetting trend gains.
- Wheat dropped over 17% and was the largest portfolio loss.
- Zinc led Metals loss and was exited.

# **EXPOSURE AND RISK ALLOCATION**

Commodity to Financial exposure decreased slightly to 42:58 from 61:39 and remains below average per Chart 5. This leaves room for additional exposure should the commodity cycle continue to develop or accelerate. Given the choppy conditions, the overall portfolio risk as measured by the Margin to Equity ratio, has again fallen to 3.9% from 6.0% last month and is significantly below the historical average level of 6.6% and at the very low end of the range (see Chart 7 next page).

In Commodities, risk was decreased in Metals while increased in Energies, Grains and Softs. Financial exposure was increased in Currencies and decreased in Rates (Bonds) for a small net financial market increase. See Chart 6.

## CHART 6 CURRENT SECTOR RISK



Source: Auspice Investment Operations.

\*Sector and individual market risk is expressed relative to the overall portfolio VAR/risk. Risk based on 1-day VaR.

## CHART 5 COMMODITIES VS. FINANCIAL EXPOSURE



# **CURRENT RISK BY SECTOR**

| Largest Holdings           | Aggregate Position | % of Risk |
|----------------------------|--------------------|-----------|
| ENERGIES                   |                    | 13.7%     |
| Natural Gas (HH)           | Short              | 4.1%      |
| WTI Crude Oil              | Long               | 3.4%      |
| Heating Oil                | Short              | 3.3%      |
| GRAINS                     |                    | 15.1%     |
| Soybeans                   | Short              | 6.7%      |
| Corn                       | Short              | 4.7%      |
| Wheat                      | Long               | 2.3%      |
| METALS                     |                    | 17.7%     |
| Silver                     | Long               | 11.6%     |
| Gold                       | Long               | 2.4%      |
| Copper                     | Long               | 1.7%      |
| SOFTS                      |                    | 12.1%     |
| Cotton                     | Short              | 5.6%      |
| Sugar                      | Short              | 1.7%      |
| Orange Juice               | Long               | 1.1%      |
| CURRENCIES                 |                    | 19.5%     |
| Japanese Yen               | Short              | 6.8%      |
| Canadian Dollar            | Short              | 6.6%      |
| Chinese Yuan               | Long               | 1.1%      |
| EQUITIES                   |                    | 17.7%     |
| S&P 500                    | Long               | 7.9%      |
| Nasdaq                     | Long               | 7.6%      |
| VIX                        | Short              | 2.2%      |
| RATES & CASH               |                    | 4.4%      |
| Treasury Bond/30 yr (USA)  | Short              | 0.7%      |
| Treasury Notes/10 yr (USA) | Short              | 0.7%      |
| Treasury Notes/5 yr (USA)  | Short              | 0.7%      |
|                            |                    |           |

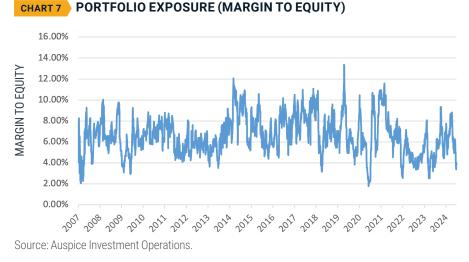
Source: Auspice Investment Operations.



# **INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE**

The Fund seeks to generate returns on investment in, trading in or exposure to commodity and financial interests. Using a disciplined rules-based investment process, the fund captures dominant trends long and short, agnostic to market direction and popular consensus. Risk management and capital allocation is systematic to preserve capital as the strategy's core objective along with

# **FUND DETAILS**



| Fund Details (Jan 2007)   |   | Trade Statistics           |        |
|---------------------------|---|----------------------------|--------|
| Annualized Return         | 2.91% <sup>1</sup> / 3.93% <sup>2</sup> | Avg Monthly Gain           | 2.89%  |
| Annualized Std Dev        | 11.46%                                  | Avg Monthly Loss           | -2.08% |
| Largest Drawdown          | -26.04%                                 | Daily Std Dev              | 0.69%  |
| Sharpe Ratio <sup>3</sup> | 0.33                                    | Daily VAR (sim w/99% conf) | -0.53% |
| MAR Index <sup>4</sup>    | 0.11                                    | Round Turns per \$million  | 800    |
| Sortino                   | 0.58                                    | Margin to Equity ratio     | 6.6    |
| Upside/Downside Deviation | 0.14 / 0.05                             | Average Hold Period (Days) | 71     |
| Correlation to MSCI ACWI  | -0.17                                   | % Profitable               | 39%    |
| Correlation to TSX60      | -0.11                                   | \$Win / \$Loss             | 1.52   |
| Correlation to BCOM ER    | 0.09                                    | Skew                       | 0.96   |

Source: Auspice Investment Operations. Past performance is not indicative of future results.

| Auspice<br>Diversified Trust | Fundserv<br>Code | Management<br>Fee | Performance<br>Fee | Minimum |
|------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------|
| Series X                     | ACA778X          | 1%                | 15%                | \$1mm   |
| Series A                     | ACA718A          | 2%                | 20%                | \$1,000 |
| Series F                     | ACA728F          | 1%                | 20%                | \$1,000 |
| Series I                     | ACA738I          | Negotiated        | Negotiated         | \$25mm  |

Source: Auspice Investment Operations.

Past performance is not indicative of future results.

providing returns that are non-correlated to traditional equity, fixed income and most alternative strategies. A core goal is to provide performance and crisis alpha in times of significant equity correction.

# **KEY ATTRIBUTES**

- Higher allocation to commodities relative to our peers,
- Negative correlation to equity, no correlation to commodity,
- Low margin to equity (average <7.0%) makes it scalable and cash efficient
- Portfolio Management team with
  experience trading in volatile environments.
- Positive skew: Auspice Diversified Trust has outperformed at critical times of crisis, recovery, and volatility expansion.

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3. Assumes Risk free rate of 0%.

4. MAR is the annualized return divided by the largest drawdown.

| Program Details                        |  |
|--|--|
| Other Structures and Platforms         | Managed Account,<br>US Delaware LLC, Innocap |
| Auspice Diversified<br>Trust Liquidity | Daily  |
| Firm Assets                            | \$905M                                       |

Source: Auspice Investment Operations. Past performance is not indicative of future results.



## **MONTHLY PERFORMANCE TABLE\***

| YEAR | JAN    | FEB    | MAR    | APR    | MAY    | JUN    | JUL    | AUG    | SEP    | ОСТ    | NOV    | DEC    | TOTAL   |
|------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| 2024 | -1.18% | 2.95%  | -0.04% | 2.71%  | -2.12% | -2.64% |        |        |        |        |        |        | -0.46%  |
| 2023 | 2.15%  | -3.64% | 0.34%  | 2.92%  | 0.87%  | -2.21% | -0.36% | -0.80% | 3.37%  | -3.36% | -3.35% | -0.49% | -4.79%  |
| 2022 | 2.20%  | 4.32%  | 7.95%  | 3.54%  | -1.84% | 0.55%  | -2.90% | -0.17% | 2.43%  | -0.51% | -4.30% | 0.00%  | 11.19%  |
| 2021 | 2.67%  | 9.55%  | -0.89% | 4.61%  | 0.61%  | -1.50% | -1.77% | 0.98%  | 0.49%  | 1.32%  | -4.28% | -1.89% | 9.62%   |
| 2020 | -2.06% | -0.19% | 9.72%  | -3.16% | -0.47% | 0.28%  | 3.36%  | 2.08%  | -2.15% | 0.99%  | 2.69%  | 6.73%  | 18.46%  |
| 2019 | -4.14% | -0.47% | -0.65% | 3.50%  | -7.43% | -0.37% | 0.52%  | 10.60% | -7.59% | -1.33% | 1.42%  | 0.25%  | -6.75%  |
| 2018 | 3.12%  | -5.81% | -2.27% | -0.19% | 1.41%  | -1.48% | 1.89%  | 3.57%  | -0.84% | -4.75% | 3.66%  | 1.64%  | -0.61%  |
| 2017 | -3.66% | -1.89% | -1.35% | -1.39% | -0.53% | -0.51% | -1.61% | 2.76%  | -2.53% | 5.16%  | -0.27% | 0.67%  | -5.31%  |
| 2016 | -0.22% | 3.12%  | -4.93% | 3.59%  | -1.64% | 0.56%  | 2.44%  | -1.55% | -1.06% | -1.34% | 2.68%  | -0.13% | 1.15%   |
| 2015 | 4.66%  | -1.93% | 0.47%  | -0.98% | -2.03% | -1.84% | -4.36% | -2.14% | 0.26%  | -2.74% | 2.56%  | 0.66%  | -7.47%  |
| 2014 | -2.02% | 1.62%  | -1.84% | 3.25%  | -3.11% | 2.65%  | -0.43% | 3.92%  | 8.56%  | -0.78% | 7.05%  | 4.19%  | 24.76%  |
| 2013 | 0.40%  | -2.23% | 0.26%  | 0.99%  | -0.90% | 0.66%  | -1.54% | -1.33% | -4.07% | 2.01%  | 0.04%  | -0.36% | -6.01%  |
| 2012 | 2.41%  | -1.11% | -1.19% | 0.60%  | 1.72%  | -6.29% | 1.17%  | -0.70% | -3.64% | -1.80% | 2.38%  | -0.81% | -10.24% |
| 2011 | 1.39%  | 2.97%  | -1.16% | 4.09%  | -1.31% | -1.62% | 2.16%  | -1.09% | -2.60% | -3.82% | 1.07%  | -3.44% | -3.66%  |
| 2010 | -3.26% | 0.45%  | 0.61%  | 0.95%  | 0.01%  | 0.62%  | -1.02% | 1.07%  | 1.82%  | 6.98%  | -2.51% | 6.68%  | 12.53%  |
| 2009 | -0.61% | 1.08%  | -2.27% | -3.32% | -0.58% | 0.15%  | -3.23% | 0.75%  | 1.44%  | -2.31% | 4.84%  | -3.83% | -7.93%  |
| 2008 | 5.60%  | 14.59% | -1.72% | -1.58% | 0.71%  | 2.86%  | -5.61% | -1.99% | 6.86%  | 10.80% | 5.77%  | 2.73%  | 44.30%  |
| 2007 | -1.43% | -1.76% | -2.42% | -0.79% | 0.71%  | -1.32% | -3.16% | -3.07% | 5.87%  | 4.53%  | -2.13% | 2.29%  | -3.11%  |

Source: Auspice Investment Operations. Past performance is not indicative of future results.

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Commissions, trailing commissions, management fees and expenses all may be associated with mutual fund investments. Please read the prospectus before investing. The indicated rates of return are the historical annual compounded total returns including changes in share and/or unit value and reinvestment of all dividends and/or distributions and do not take into account sales, redemption, distribution or optional charges or income taxes payable by any securityholder that would have reduced returns. Mutual funds are not guaranteed, their values change frequently and past performance may not be repeated.

# **RISK RATING**

Auspice Capital Advisors Ltd. has rated the volatility of this fund as **medium.** 

This rating is based on how much the Fund's returns have changed from year to year. It does not tell you how volatile the Fund will be in the future. The rating can change over time. A fund with a low risk rating can still lose money.

| LOW | LOW TO<br>MEDIUM | MEDIUM | MEDIUM TO<br>HIGH | HIGH |
|-----|------------------|--------|-------------------|------|
|-----|------------------|--------|-------------------|------|

For more information about the risk rating and specific risks that can affect the Fund's returns, refer to the risk section of the Fund's simplified prospectus.



**JUNE 2024** 



## **BENCHMARK DESCRIPTIONS**

The BTOP50 seeks to replicate the overall composition of the managed futures industry with regard to trading style and overall market exposure. The largest investable trading advisor programs, as measured by assets under management, are selected for inclusion in the BTOP50. For 2022 there are 20 CTA funds in the Barclay BTOP50 Index. The BTOP 50 is the most comparable index for Auspice Diversified Trust, however there are significant differences, such as the average exposure to commodity futures (versus financial futures), and average trade length. Reference to the BTOP50 benchmark does not imply that Auspice Diversified Trust will achieve similar performance.

The SG CTA Index provides the market with a reliable daily performance benchmark of major commodity trading advisors (CTAs). The SG CTA Index calculates the daily rate of return for a pool of CTAs selected from the larger managers that are open to new investment. Second to the BTOP50, the SG CTA is the most comparable index for Auspice Diversified Trust, however there are significant differences, such as the average exposure to commodity futures (versus financial futures), and average trade length. Reference to the SG CTA benchmark does not imply that Auspice Diversified Trust will achieve similar performance.

The Bloomberg Commodity Index Excess Return (BCOM ER) Index is a broadly diversified commodity price index that tracks prices of futures contracts on physical commodities on the commodity markets. Like Auspice Diversified Trust, the index is designed to minimize concentration in any one sector. No one commodity can compose more than 15% of the BCOM ER index, no one commodity and its derived commodities can compose more than 25% of the index, and no sector can represent more than 33% of the index. There are significant differences however, most importantly, that the BCOM ER index is passive, and 100% commodities, whereas Auspice Diversified Trust is active, and also trades financial futures. Reference to the BCOM ER benchmark does not imply that Auspice Diversified Trust will achieve similar performance.

The S&P Goldman Sachs Commodity Excess Return Index ("GSCI"), is a composite index of commodity sector returns representing an unleveraged, long-only investment in commodity futures that is broadly diversified across the spectrum of commodities. Like Auspice Diversified, it provides exposure to a number of commodities. There are significant differences however. Importantly, the GSCI index is passive, concentrated in energy, and 100% commodities. Auspice Diversified Trust is active long and short, diversified equally across seven sectors, and also trades financial futures. Reference to the GSCI benchmark does not imply that Auspice Diversified Trust will achieve similar performance.

The S&P/TSX 60 ("TSX 60") Index is a stock market index of 60 large companies listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange. Maintained by the Canadian S&P Index Committee, a unit of Standard & Poor's, it exposes the investor to 60 stocks in nine industry sectors. There is a low degree of similarity between the TSX 60 and Auspice Diversified Trust. As the main benchmark for equity performance in Canada its inclusion is typically used to illustrate how Auspice Diversified Trust is notably different from equities, an important consideration for portfolio managers and investors alike.

The S&P 500 is an index of 500 stocks chosen for market size, liquidity and industry grouping, among other factors. The S&P 500 is designed to be a leading indicator of U.S. equities and is meant to reflect the risk/return characteristics of the large cap universe. Price Return data is used (not including dividends). There is a low degree of similarity between the S&P 500 and Auspice Diversified Trust. As the main benchmark for equity performance in the US its inclusion is typically used to illustrate how Auspice Diversified Trust is notably different from US equities, an important consideration for portfolio managers and investors alike.

The MSCI ACWI (Net) Index, is designed to represent performance of the full opportunity set of large- and mid-cap stocks across 23 developed and 26 emerging markets. There is a low degree of similarity between the MSCI ACWI and Auspice Diversified Trust. As the main benchmark for global equity performance its inclusion is typically used to illustrate how Auspice Diversified Trust is notably different from global equities, an important consideration for portfolio managers and investors alike.

The Nasdaq Composite Index is the market capitalization-weighted index of over 3,000 common equities listed on the Nasdaq stock exchange. There is a low degree of similarity between the Nasdaq and Auspice Diversified Trust. As the main benchmark for technology stock performance its inclusion is typically used to illustrate how Auspice Diversified Trust is notably different from technology stocks, an important consideration for portfolio managers and investors alike.

The Hang Seng Index is a freefloat-adjusted market-capitalization-weighted equity market index in Hong Kong. It is used to record and monitor daily changes of the largest companies of the Hong Kong stock market and is the main indicator of the overall market performance in Hong Kong. Price Return data is used (not including dividends), which is not the same basis as the fund's return, which includes distributions. There is a low degree of similarity between the Hang Seng and Auspice Diversified Trust. As the main benchmark for equity performance in Hong Kong its inclusion is typically used to illustrate how Auspice Diversified Trust is notably different from equities, an important consideration for portfolio managers and investors alike.

The FTSE China A50 Index is a stock market index by the FTSE Group. The components were chosen from the Shanghai Stock Exchange and Shenzhen Stock Exchange, which issue A-shares. B-shares (shares for foreigners) are not included. Price Return data is used (not including dividends), which is not the same basis as the fund's return, which includes distributions. There is a low degree of similarity between the FTSE China A50 and Auspice Diversified Trust. As the main benchmark for equity performance in China its inclusion is typically used to illustrate how Auspice Diversified Trust is notably different from Chinese equities, an important consideration for portfolio managers and investors alike.



## **GLOSSARY**

1. Commodity Trading Advisors (CTAs) are professional investment managers, similar to portfolio managers in mutual funds, who seek to profit from movements in the global financial, commodity and currency markets by investing in exchange traded futures, options, and OTC forward contracts.

2. CPI - The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change overtime in the prices paid by urban consumers for a market basket of consumer goods and services. It is often referenced as a measure of inflation.

3. Value at risk (VaR) is a measure of the risk of loss for investments. It estimates how much a set of investments might lose (with a given probability), given normal market conditions, in a set time period such as a day.

4. The Margin to Equity ratio represents the amount of trading capital that is being held as margin at any particular time. For example, if a CTA fund with \$100 million AUM executes trades requiring \$25 million in margin, the margin-to-equity ratio is 25%.

**5.** Standard deviation is a measure of how much an investment's returns can vary from its average return. It is a measure of volatility and, in turn, risk.

**6.** The Sharpe ratio measures the performance of an investment such as a security or portfolio compared to a risk-free asset, after adjusting for its risk. It is defined as the difference between the returns of the investment and the risk-free return, divided by the standard deviation of the investment returns.

7. Sortino Ratio measures the risk-adjusted return on a portfolio by comparing the performance relative to the downside deviation.

8. Skew is the degree to which returns are asymmetric around the mean. Why does skew matter? If portfolio returns are right, or positively, skewed, it implies numerous small negative returns and a few large positive returns. If portfolio returns are left, or negatively, skewed, it implies numerous small positive returns and few large negative returns.

**9.** Worst Drawdown measures the maximum fall in the value of the investment, as given by the difference between the value of the lowest trough and that of the highest peak before the trough.

**10.** Alpha is a measure of the active return on an investment, the performance of that investment compared with a suitable market index. An alpha of 1% means the investment's return on investment over a selected period of time was 1% better than the market during that same period.

**11.** Crisis alpha means that an investment strategy generates positive return in periods of high financial stress. For example, if a manager is short the market when it crashes, that manager will generate positive returns when other investors lose money.

12. The DBIQ Diversified Agriculture Index Excess Return is a rules-based index composed of futures contracts on some of the most liquid and widely traded agricultural commodities.

**13.** The UN Food and Agriculture World Food Price Index (FAO Food Price Index) is a food price index by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations. It records the development of world market prices of 55 agricultural commodities and foodstuffs.

# **IMPORTANT DISCLAIMERS AND NOTES**

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Some of the assumptions and opinions contained herein are the view or opinion of the firm and are based on management's analysis of the portfolio performance.

## **QUALIFIED INVESTORS**

Auspice Diversified Trust is available to all Canadian investors. For U.S. investors, the strategy is only available to Qualified Eligible Persons "QEPs" as defined by CFTC Regulation 4.7, in a LLC structure. Email info@auspicecapital.com for more.

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