# **Annual Management Report of Fund Performance**

As at December 31, 2024

# Lysander-Canso U.S. Corporate Value Bond Fund (formerly Lysander-Canso U.S. Credit Fund)





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# **A Note About Forward Looking Statements**

This annual Management Report of Fund Performance includes certain statements that are "forward looking statements". All statements, other than statements of historical fact, included in this Management Report of Fund Performance that address activities, events or developments that the Fund expects or anticipates will or may occur in the future, including such things as anticipated financial performance, are forward looking statements. The words "may", "could", "would", "should", "believe", "plan", "anticipate", "expect", "intend", "forecast", "objective" and similar expressions are intended to identify forward looking statements.

These forward looking statements are subject to various risks and uncertainties, including the risks described in the simplified prospectus of the Fund, which could cause actual financial performance and expectations to differ materially from the anticipated performance or other expectations expressed.

Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward looking statements. All opinions contained in forward looking statements are subject to change without notice and are provided in good faith but without legal responsibility.

The Fund has no specific intention of updating any forward looking statements whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by securities legislation. Certain research and information about specific holdings in the Fund, including any opinion, is based upon various sources believed to be reliable, but it cannot be guaranteed to be current, accurate or complete. It is for information only, and is subject to change without notice.

### **About This Report**

This annual Management Report of Fund Performance of Lysander-Canso U.S. Corporate Value Bond Fund (formerly Lysander-Canso U.S. Credit Fund) (the "Fund") contains financial highlights for the year ended December 31, 2024 but does not contain the complete financial statements of the Fund. This report should be read in conjunction with the annual financial statements of the Fund for the year ended December 31, 2024. Lysander Funds Limited (the "Manager") is the manager of the Fund. You can get a copy of the financial statements at your request, and at no cost, by calling toll-free 1 877 308 6979, by writing to Lysander Funds Limited, 3080 Yonge St., Suite 4000, Toronto, Ontario, M4N 3N1, by visiting our website at www.lysanderfunds.com or at SEDAR+ at www.sedarplus.ca.

Unitholders may also contact Lysander Funds Limited using one of these methods to obtain a copy of the investment Fund's proxy voting policies and procedures, proxy voting disclosure record, or quarterly portfolio disclosure.

### Investment objective

The Fund's objective is to achieve long term capital growth of returns consisting of income and some capital gains primarily through investments in U.S. debt and money market securities either denominated in U.S. dollars or hedged to U.S. dollars using forward currency contracts.

### **Investment Strategies**

The Fund's portfolio manager is Canso Investment Counsel Ltd. ("Portfolio Manager" or "Canso"), a company under common control as the Manager. The Fund's portfolio positions will primarily be invested in fixed income securities, including those

of foreign issuers. The Fund will not be leveraged. More details are contained in the Fund's simplified prospectus.

Unless otherwise noted, all dollar amounts and returns in this document are expressed in USD.

#### Risks

The risks of this Fund remain as discussed in the Fund's most recent simplified prospectus.

### **Results of Operations**

During the year, Canso employed its bottom-up process to buy and sell securities for the Fund. The Fund's positioning and performance is consistent with the Fund's fundamental investment objective and strategies.

The Fund returns for the year ended December 31, 2024 were 5.75% for Series A, 6.35% for Series F and 7.25% for Series O.

The net assets of the Fund were approximately \$286.8 million at December 31, 2024 from \$201.6 million at the beginning of the year. There were net subscriptions of approximately \$88.0 million during the year.

There were no unusual changes to the components of revenue and expenses of the Fund and there were no unusual events or transactions, economic changes or market conditions that affected performance beyond what would be reasonably expected or as described below.

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The Fund did not borrow money during the year except for immaterial short-term cash overdrafts.

#### **Recent Developments**

The U.S. Federal Reserve ("Fed") made two additional quarter-point interest rate cuts during the fourth quarter. The central bank acknowledged that economic activity is strong, and the labour market reasonable. While inflation has come down, it remains higher than their two percent objective. Investors were surprised when the Federal Reserve cautioned about continued aggressive rate cuts into the future. Inflation numbers going forward may be muddied with the President-elect imposing tariffs and deporting unauthorized immigrants. His other election promises of tax cuts and looser regulation may also prove inflationary.

The Bank of Canada ("BoC") reduced its overnight interest rate as economic activity softened due to lower business investment and exports. However, consumer spending and housing activity picked up following lower interest rates. Employment growth has slowed, but wage growth remains elevated. Lower immigration and tariffs from the incoming U.S. administration are expected to weaken our economic growth. The Canadian dollar has depreciated significantly against the U.S. dollar, which may affect consumer sentiment and increase import prices.

The Fund continues to maintain large positions in liquid government securities as both credit and interest rate risks remained elevated. The Fund holds 26.6% in Federal Government bonds; the weight in AAA/AA securities is 47.0%. The higher quality, liquid positions will allow the Fund to take advantage of future market opportunities. The weight in high yield securities is 19.4% as spreads on high yield bonds remain very tight.

During the year, particular new issues that the Fund participated in are Hertz 12.625% Jul 15, 2029 144A (USD), Hertz 8% PIK (non-cash) Jul 15, 2029 144A, Avis Budget Car Rental LLC 8.25% Jan 15, 2030 144A (USD), BNS Sr. Unsecured 3.807% Nov 15, 2027/28, MetLife Global Funding I 4.642% Apr 1, 2027 and TD Bank CB 4.232% Apr 2, 2029. The top performers for the fund were LRCNs, TransCanada Pipelines FRN May 15, 2067 (USD), Air Canada 4.625% Aug 15, 2029, Hertz 8% PIK (non-cash) Jul 15, 2029, 144A (USD) and Hertz 12.625% Jul 15, 2029, 144A (USD).

The Fund continues to only take on duration when it believes it's being compensated for the incremental interest rate and credit risk. The Fund's duration was 3.5 years at the end of the year and meaningfully below the FTSE Canada All Corporate Bond Index duration of 5.8 years.

There have been no changes to the Manager or Portfolio Manager, or change of control of the Manager, or of the Fund. There have been no actual or planned reorganizations, mergers or similar transactions involving the Fund.

Effective June 30, 2024, Paul Fahey resigned as a member of the Fund's Independent Review Committee ("IRC"). Effective July 1, 2024, Donna Peters-Imbrogno was appointed as a member of the IRC.

### **Related Party Transactions**

The Manager provides or arranges to provide for the provision of all general management and administrative services required by the Fund in its day-to-day operations, including but not limited to, calculating and reporting the net asset value of the Fund and its series, preparing all offering documents, unitholder recordkeeping and other administrative services. The Manager receives a management fee for these services. The fee is calculated based on a percentage of the net asset value of the Fund as disclosed in the simplified prospectus.

The Fund paid USD \$1,926,089 (excluding HST) in management fees to the Manager for the year ended December 31, 2024 (December 31, 2023 - USD \$1,425,378).

The Portfolio Manager is responsible for all investment advice provided to the Fund including providing investment analysis and recommendations, making investment decisions and arranging for the acquisition and disposition of portfolio investments. Fees for providing these services are included in the management fee. Portfolio management fees for the Portfolio Manager's services are paid from the management fee.

The Manager paid USD \$1,027,373 (including HST) to the Portfolio Manager for the year ended December 31, 2024 (December 31, 2023 - USD \$752,320 including HST).

The Manager relied, or may rely on standing instructions from the IRC in respect of securities traded amongst mutual funds, closed end funds, managed accounts or pooled funds managed by the Manager or an affiliate of the Manager. In such cases the Manager is required to comply with the Manager's written policies and procedures presented to the IRC and provide periodic reports to the IRC in accordance with National Instrument 81-107.

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#### **Financial Highlights**

#### Series A

Year ended	31-Dec-2024 (USD)	31-Dec-2023 (USD)	31-Dec-2022 (USD)	31-Dec-2021 (USD)	31-Dec-2020 (USD)
Net assets per unit <sup>1</sup>					
Net assets, beginning of year	\$ 10.92	\$ 10.45	\$ 11.83	\$ 11.53	\$ 9.88
Operations:					
Total revenue	0.47	0.54	0.46	0.46	0.49
Total expenses	(0.16)	(0.16)	(0.17)	(0.18)	(0.16)
Realized gains (losses)	0.18	0.05	0.25	0.60	0.10
Unrealized gains (losses)	0.14	0.43	(1.36)	(0.13)	1.66
Total increase (decrease) from operations <sup>2</sup>	\$ 0.63	\$ 0.86	\$ (0.82)	\$ 0.75	\$ 2.09
Distributions:					
From income (excluding dividends)	\$ (0.32)	\$ (0.36)	\$ (0.31)	\$ (0.26)	\$ (0.31)
From dividends	(0.01)	(0.02)	(0.02)	(0.04)	(0.01)
From capital gains	(0.40)	(0.04)	(0.30)	(0.53)	-
Total distributions <sup>2 3</sup>	\$ (0.73)	\$ (0.42)	\$ (0.63)	\$ (0.83)	\$ (0.32)
Net assets, end of year <sup>2 3</sup>	\$ 10.81	\$ 10.92	\$ 10.45	\$ 11.83	\$ 11.53

Ratios and supplemental data										
Net asset value <sup>4</sup>	\$	23,499,470	\$	19,497,062	\$	16,591,584	\$	22,011,234	\$	8,483,661
Units outstanding		2,174,645		1,785,983		1,587,787		1,860,127		735,635
Management expense ratio <sup>5</sup>	%	1.47	%	1.46	%	1.50	%	1.50	%	1.53
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorption		1.47		1.46		1.50		1.50		1.53
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>6</sup>		163.07		33.72		65.86		28.50		85.23
Trading expense ratio <sup>7</sup>		-		-		-		0.01		0.02
Net asset value per unit, end of year	\$	10.81	\$	10.92	\$	10.45	\$	11.83	\$	11.53

- 1 The information is derived from the Fund's audited annual financial statements. All per unit figures presented are referenced to net assets determined in accordance to IFRS Accounting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board ("IASB").
- 2 Net assets and distributions are based on the actual numbers 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. This table is not intended to be a reconciliation of beginning to ending net assets per unit.
- 3 Distributions were paid in cash or reinvested in additional units, or both.
- 4 This information is provided at the end of the period shown.
- 5 The management expense ratio is based on the total expenses of the period ended and is expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average net asset values during the period.
- 6 The Fund's portfolio turnover rate indicates how actively the Fund's portfolio manager manages its portfolio investments. A portfolio turnover rate of 100% is equivalent to the Fund buying and selling all of the securities in its portfolio once in the course of the period. The higher a fund's portfolio turnover rate in a period, the greater the trading costs payable by the fund in the period, and the greater the chance of an investor receiving taxable capital gains in the period. There is not necessarily a relationship between a high turnover rate and the performance of a fund. The portfolio turnover rate is calculated based on the lesser of purchases or sales of securities divided by the weighted average market value of portfolio securities, excluding short term securities.
- 7 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 period.

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#### Series F

Year ended	31-Dec-2024 (USD)	31-Dec-2023 (USD)	31-Dec-2022 (USD)	31-Dec-2021 (USD)	31-Dec-2020 (USD)
Net assets per unit <sup>1</sup>					
Net assets, beginning of year	\$ 10.90	\$ 10.43	\$ 11.84	\$ 11.50	\$ 9.85
Operations:					
Total revenue	0.47	0.54	0.46	0.46	0.48
Total expenses	(0.10)	(0.10)	(0.10)	(0.11)	(0.10)
Realized gains (losses)	0.30	0.06	0.33	0.61	0.10
Unrealized gains (losses)	0.01	0.45	(1.42)	(0.15)	1.6
Total increase (decrease) from operations <sup>2</sup>	\$ 0.68	\$ 0.95	\$ (0.73)	\$ 0.81	\$ 2.08
Distributions:					
From income (excluding dividends)	\$ (0.34)	\$ (0.42)	\$ (0.35)	\$ (0.3)	\$ (0.35)
From dividends	(0.01)	(0.02)	(0.02)	(0.04)	(0.01)
From capital gains	(0.39)	(0.04)	(0.34)	(0.49)	-
Total distributions <sup>2 3</sup>	\$ (0.74)	\$ (0.48)	\$ (0.71)	\$ (0.83)	\$ (0.36)
Net assets, end of year <sup>2 3</sup>	\$ 10.83	\$ 10.90	\$ 10.43	\$ 11.84	\$ 11.50

Ratios and supplemental data										
Net asset value <sup>4</sup>	\$	259,321,919	\$	177,648,304	\$	144,842,082	\$	182,445,386	\$	61,070,481
Units outstanding		23,935,849		16,305,262		13,882,612		15,412,945		5,309,423
Management expense ratio <sup>5</sup>	%	0.91	%	0.89	%	0.93	%	0.93	%	0.97
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorption		0.91		0.89		0.93		0.93		0.97
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>6</sup>		163.07		33.72		65.86		28.5		85.23
Trading expense ratio <sup>7</sup>		-		-		-		0.01		0.02
Net asset value per unit, end of year	\$	10.83	\$	10.90	\$	10.43	\$	11.84	\$	11.50

- 1 The information is derived from the Fund's audited annual financial statements. All per unit figures presented are referenced to net assets determined in accordance to IFRS Accounting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board ("IASB").
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- 7 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 period.

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#### Series O\*

Year ended	31-Dec-2024 (USD)	31-Dec-2023 (USD)	31-Dec-2022 (USD)	31-Dec-2021 (USD)
Net assets per unit <sup>1</sup>				
Net assets, beginning of year	\$ 8.88	\$ 8.50	\$ 9.64	\$ 10.00
Operations:				
Total revenue	0.39	0.44	0.39	0.23
Total expenses	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)
Realized gains (losses)	(0.90)	0.06	0.03	0.28
Unrealized gains (losses)	1.15	0.34	(1.00)	(0.23)
Total increase (decrease) from operations <sup>2</sup>	\$ 0.63	\$ 0.83	\$ (0.59)	\$ 0.27
Distributions:				
From income (excluding dividends)	\$ (0.31)	\$ (0.40)	\$ (0.32)	\$ (0.33)
From dividends	(0.01)	(0.02)	(0.02)	(0.03)
From capital gains	(0.41)	(0.04)	(0.31)	(0.47)
Total distributions <sup>2 3</sup>	\$ (0.73)	\$ (0.46)	\$ (0.65)	\$ (0.83)
Net assets, end of year <sup>2 3</sup>	\$ 8.79	\$ 8.88	\$ 8.50	\$ 9.64

Ratios and supplemental data								
Net asset value <sup>4</sup>	\$	3,971,196	\$	4,502,201	\$	3,355,625	\$	4,901,575
Units outstanding		451,852		506,920		394,688		508,562
Management expense ratio <sup>5</sup>	%	0.07	%	0.06	%	0.09	%	0.09
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorption		0.07		0.06		0.09		0.09
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>6</sup>		163.07		33.72		65.86		28.5
Trading expense ratio <sup>7</sup>		-		-		-		0.01
Net asset value per unit, end of year	\$	8.79	\$	8.88	\$	8.50	\$	9.64

- \* Series O commenced operations on May 18, 2021.
- 1 The information is derived from the Fund's audited annual financial statements. All per unit figures presented are referenced to net assets determined in accordance to IFRS Accounting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board ("IASB").
- 2 Net assets and distributions are based on the actual numbers 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. This table is not intended to be a reconciliation of beginning to ending net assets per unit.
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- 6 The Fund's portfolio turnover rate indicates how actively the Fund's portfolio manager manages its portfolio investments. A portfolio turnover rate of 100% is equivalent to the Fund buying and selling all of the securities in its portfolio once in the course of the period. The higher a fund's portfolio turnover rate in a period, the greater the trading costs payable by the fund in the period, and the greater the chance of an investor receiving taxable capital gains in the period. There is not necessarily a relationship between a high turnover rate and the performance of a fund. The portfolio turnover rate is calculated based on the lesser of purchases or sales of securities divided by the weighted average market value of portfolio securities, excluding short term securities.
- 7 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 period.

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### **Management Fees**

The Manager provides or arranges the provision of all general management and administrative services required by the Fund, and as described in the section "Related Party Transactions" above.

In consideration for such services, the Manager receives a management fee, based on the net asset value of each Series, calculated daily and payable monthly. The Fund pays a management fee at a rate of 1.25% per annum for Series A units and at a rate of 0.75 % per annum for Series F units. No management fee is charged to the Fund with respect to Series O units, but investors are charged a negotiated management fee.

Service fees or trailing commissions of a maximum of 0.50% per annum are paid on Series A units to dealers. This comprises 40% of the management fee of Series A units.

# **Past Performance**

The commencement date of being distributed under a prospectus for Series A and Series F was December 30, 2014. Accordingly, returns are shown for the relevant period/years as indicated below.

The performance information assumes that any distributions are reinvested in additional securities of the Fund. The performance information does not take into account sales, redemption, distribution or other optional charges that would have reduced returns or performance. Past performance does not necessarily indicate how the series will perform in the future.

#### Year-by-Year Returns

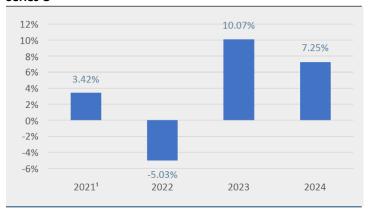
#### Series A



### Series F



### **Series O**



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#### **Annual Compound Returns**

The following table shows the Fund's annual compound return for each period indicated, compared with the ICE BofA US Corporate Master-Total Return Index. The returns of the Index are calculated without the deduction of fees and expenses, whereas the performance of the Fund is calculated after deducting such fees and expenses.

For years ended December 31, 2024		1 Year		3 Year <sup>2</sup>		5 Year <sup>2</sup>		10 Year <sup>2</sup>		Since Inception <sup>3</sup>
Annual Compound Return										
Series A <sup>1</sup>	%	5.75	%	2.45	%	6.95	%	4.60	%	-
Series F <sup>1</sup>		6.35		3.02		7.55		5.19		-
Series 0 <sup>1</sup>		7.25		3.88		-		-		4.16
ICE BofA US Corporate Master-Total Return Index <sup>4</sup>	%	2.75	%	(1.98)	%	0.47	%	2.51	%	(0.99)

- 1 Returns are based on the net asset value per unit of the relevant series of the Fund and assume that all distributions were reinvested.
- 2 Compound period returns are annualized
- 3 Series O period starting from May 18, 2021. Since inception returns are annualized.
- Any unauthorized use or disclosure is prohibited. Nothing herein should in any way be deemed to alter the legal rights and obligations contained in agreements between any ICE Data Services entity ("ICE") and their clients relating to any of the Indices or products or services described herein. The information provided by ICE and contained herein is subject to change without notice and does not constitute any form of representation or undertaking. ICE and its affiliates make no warranties whatsoever either express or implied as to merchantability fitness for a particular purpose or any other matter in connection with the information provided. Without limiting the foregoing ICE and its affiliates makes no representation or warranty that any information provided hereunder are complete or free from errors omissions or defects. All information provided by ICE is owned by or licensed to ICE. ICE retains exclusive ownership of the ICE Indices including the ICE BofAML Indexes and the analytics used to create this analysis ICE may in its absolute discretion and without prior notice revise or terminate the ICE information Indices and analytics at any time. The information in this analysis is for internal use only and redistribution of this information to third parties is expressly prohibited. Neither the analysis nor the information contained therein constitutes investment advice or an offer or an invitation to make an offer to buy or sell any securities or any options futures or other derivatives related to such securities. The information and calculations contained in this analysis have been obtained from a variety of sources including those other than ICE and ICE does not guarantee their accuracy. Prior to relying on any ICE information and/or the execution of a security trade based upon such ICE information you are advised to consult with your broker or other financial representative to verify pricing information. There is no assurance that hypothetical results will be equal to actual performance under any market con

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# **Summary of Investment Portfolio**

		% of NAV
Top 25 Issuers		
Government of USA	%	25.9
The Hertz Corp.		6.1
Air Canada		4.9
Scotia Capital Inc.		4.5
Bank of Nova Scotia		4.5
First National Financial Corp.		4.2
TD Bank Group		4.0
Royal Bank of Canada		3.7
Lloyds Banking Group PLC		3.1
Manulife Financial Corp.		3.0
Avis Budget Car Rental		2.9
UBS Group AG		2.8
JPMorgan Chase & Co.		2.3
Boeing Co.		2.3
TransCanada Pipelines Ltd.		2.2
Spirit AeroSystems Inc.		1.8
RBC Dominion Securities Inc.		1.6
Great-West Lifeco Inc.		1.3
Metropolitan Life Global Funding		1.3
American Honda Finance		1.2
LATAM Airlines Group S.A.		1.2
TD Securities Inc.		1.1
BMO Nesbitt Burns		1.1
Delta Air Lines Inc.		1.0
Sun Life Financial Inc.		1.0
Total	%	89.0

		% of NAV
Asset Mix		
Canadian Fixed Income	%	27.6
Canadian Equities		0.1
Cash and Cash Equivalents		0.6
Foreign Bank Loans		1.4
Foreign Fixed Income		51.4
Inflation Bonds		2.5
Mortgage Backed Securities		12.6
Preferred Shares		2.1
Private Placements		0.6
Other Assets less Liabilities		1.1
Total	%	100.0
Sector		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	%	0.6
Communication Services		0.7
Consumer Discretionary		9.4
Consumer Staples		9.0
Energy		3.4
Financials		44.1
Government		26.6
Industrials		5.1
Other Assets less Liabilities		1.1
Other Assets less Liabilities		



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