No securities regulatory authority has expressed an opinion about these securities and it is an offence to claim otherwise.

#### **PROSPECTUS**

Initial Public Offering January 21, 2021



This prospectus qualifies the distribution of Units (defined below) of the following First Trust exchange traded funds (each, a "**First Trust ETF**" and collectively, the "**First Trust ETFs**"). The First Trust ETFs are exchange traded mutual funds established as trusts under the laws of the Province of Ontario.

# First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF First Trust JFL Global Equity ETF

First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF seeks to provide Unitholders (as defined herein) with income and preserve capital by investing at least 75% of the fund's net assets in a diversified portfolio of investment grade Canadian corporate, federal, provincial and municipal bonds. See "Investment Objectives and "Investment Strategies".

First Trust JFL Global Equity ETF seeks to provide Unitholders with capital appreciation by investing primarily in equity securities of large multinational companies that have demonstrated global leadership in their industry. See "Investment Objectives" and "Investment Strategies".

Units of the First Trust ETFs are being issued and sold on a continuous basis and there is no maximum number of Units that may be issued. See "Overview and Legal Structure of the First Trust ETFs".

FT Portfolios Canada Co. (the "Manager") is the trustee, manager and promoter of the First Trust ETFs and is responsible for the administration of the First Trust ETFs. The Manager is located in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. See "Organization and Management Details – The Trustee, Manager and Promoter".

First Trust Advisors L.P. (the "**Portfolio Advisor**"), an affiliate of the Manager, is the portfolio advisor of the First Trust ETFs. The Portfolio Advisor is located in the United States. See "Organization and Management Details – The Portfolio Advisor".

Jarislowsky, Fraser Limited (the "**Sub-Advisor**"), is the Sub-Advisor of the First Trust ETFs. The Sub-Advisor is located in Toronto, Ontario. See "Organization and Management Details – The Sub-Advisor".

Unitholders may redeem Units for cash, as described herein, subject to a redemption discount. Unitholders may also exchange a Prescribed Number of Units (as defined herein) (or integral multiple thereof) for Baskets of Securities (as defined herein) of the Constituent Issuers (as defined herein) held by each First Trust ETF and cash in the discretion of the Manager.

The Units of the First Trust ETFs have been conditionally approved for listing on the Neo Exchange Inc. (the "Neo Exchange"). Subject to satisfying the Neo Exchange's original listing requirements in respect of the First Trust ETFs, Units of the First Trust ETFs will be listed on the Neo Exchange and offered on a continuous basis, and an investor will be able to buy or sell Units of the First Trust ETFs on the Neo Exchange through registered brokers and dealers in the province or territory where the investor resides. There is no maximum number of Units that may be issued.

Investors may incur customary brokerage commissions in buying or selling Units. All orders to purchase Units directly from a First Trust ETF must be placed by Dealers or Designated Brokers. See "Purchases of Units – Offerings and Continuous Distribution" and "Purchases of Units – Buying and Selling Units".

No underwriter has been involved in the preparation of this prospectus or has performed any review of the contents of the prospectus.

For a discussion of the risks associated with an investment in Units of the First Trust ETFs, see "Risk Factors". Your investment in any of the First Trust ETFs is not guaranteed by any entity, including the Manager, Portfolio Advisor or Sub-Advisor.

In the opinion of legal counsel to the First Trust ETFs and the Manager, provided that the Units of a First Trust ETF are listed on the Neo Exchange or that the First Trust ETF qualifies as a mutual fund trust within the meaning of the *Income Tax Act* (Canada), the Units of that First Trust ETF will be qualified investments for trusts governed by registered retirement savings plans, registered retirement income funds, deferred profit sharing plans, registered disability savings plans, registered education savings plans and tax-free savings accounts. See "Eligibility for Investment"

Registration of interests in, and transfer of, the Units will be made only through CDS Clearing and Depository Services Inc. Beneficial owners will not have the right to receive physical certificates evidencing their ownership.

Additional information about each First Trust ETF is or will be available in the most recently-filed annual financial statements, any interim financial statements filed after the most recent annual financial statements, the most recently-filed annual management report of fund performance ("MRFP"), any interim MRFP filed after the most recently-filed annual MRFP and the most recently-filed ETF Facts for each First Trust ETF. These documents are or will be incorporated by reference into, and legally form an integral part of, this prospectus. See "Documents Incorporated by Reference".

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#### **GLOSSARY OF TERMS**

Unless otherwise indicated, all references to dollar amounts in this prospectus are to Canadian dollars and all references to times in this prospectus are to Toronto time.

*ADRs*, *GDRs* and *EDRs* – American Depositary Receipts, Global Depositary Receipts and European Depositary Receipts, respectively. ADRs, GDRs and EDRs are each a type of negotiable financial security that is traded on a local stock exchange or global stock exchange, as applicable, but represent a security that is issued by a foreign publicly-listed company.

**Basket of Securities** – in relation to a particular First Trust ETF, a group of securities or assets determined by the Portfolio Advisor from time to time representing the constituents of the First Trust ETF.

capital gains refund – as defined under "Income Tax Considerations – Taxation of the First Trust ETFs".

*Canadian securities legislation* – the applicable securities legislation in force in each province and territory of Canada, all regulations, rules, orders and policies made thereunder and all multilateral and national instruments adopted by the securities regulatory authorities.

**CDS** – CDS Clearing and Depository Services Inc.

CDS Participant – a participant in CDS that holds Units on behalf of beneficial owners of Units.

*Constituent Issuers* – means, in respect of each First Trust ETF, the issuers whose securities are included in the portfolio of that First Trust ETF from time to time.

Constituent Securities – means, for each First Trust ETF, the securities of the Constituent Issuers.

Custodian - CIBC Mellon Trust Company.

*Custodian Agreement* – the custodian agreement dated May 9, 2013 between the First Trust ETFs and the Custodian, as amended, as may be amended from time to time.

**Dealer** – a registered dealer (that may or may not be a Designated Broker) that has entered into a Dealer Agreement with the Manager, on behalf of one or more First Trust ETFs, pursuant to which the Dealer may subscribe for Units of that First Trust ETF as described under "Purchases of Units – Issuance of Units".

**Dealer Agreement** – an agreement between the Manager, on behalf of one or more First Trust ETFs, and a Dealer, as amended from time to time.

**Declaration of Trust** – the amended and restated master declaration of trust dated January 21, 2021, as may be amended and restated from time to time governing the First Trust ETFs.

**Designated Broker** – a registered dealer that has entered into a Designated Broker Agreement with the Manager, on behalf of one or more First Trust ETFs pursuant to which the Designated Broker agrees to perform certain duties in relation to the First Trust ETFs.

**Designated Broker Agreement** – an agreement between the Manager, on behalf of a First Trust ETF, and a Designated Broker, as amended from time to time.

designated rating organization – has the meaning ascribed to such term in NI 81-102.

*distribution payment date* – a day that is no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month following the month of the applicable distribution record date, on which a First Trust ETF pays a distribution to its Unitholders.

distribution record date – a date determined by the Manager as a record date for the determination of Unitholders of a First Trust ETF entitled to receive a distribution.

**DPSPs** – deferred profit sharing plans as defined in the Tax Act.

*ETF* – an exchange traded fund.

First Trust ETFs – means, collectively, First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF and First Trust JFL Global Equity ETF.

FT Portfolios Canada Co. – FT Portfolios Canada Co., a corporation established under the laws of the Province of Nova Scotia and registered as an investment fund manager and mutual fund dealer with the Ontario Securities Commission.

*HST* – the harmonized sales tax imposed under the *Excise Tax Act* (Canada) that is applicable in certain provinces of Canada.

*IFRS* – International Financial Reporting Standards.

*IRC* – the Independent Review Committee of the First Trust ETFs.

*Manager* – FT Portfolios Canada Co.

**MER** – management expense ratio.

*MRFP* – management report of fund performance.

*NAV* and *NAV per Unit* – in relation to a particular First Trust ETF, the net asset value of the First Trust ETF and the net asset value per Unit of that First Trust ETF, calculated by the Valuation Agent as described under "Calculation of Net Asset Value".

Neo Exchange - the Neo Exchange Inc.

NI 81-102 – National Instrument 81-102 Investment Funds.

NI 81-107 – National Instrument 81-107 Independent Review Committee for Investment Funds.

**Permitted Merger** – as defined under "Unitholder Matters – Matters Requiring Unitholder Approval".

**Portfolio Advisor** – the portfolio advisor of the First Trust ETFs, namely First Trust Advisors L.P., and if applicable, its successors.

**Portfolio Advisor Agreement** – means the portfolio advisory agreement dated May 1, 2013, as amended between the Portfolio Advisor and the Manager, as it may be amended from time to time.

**Prescribed Number of Units** – in relation to a particular First Trust ETF, the number of Units determined by the Manager from time to time for the purpose of subscription orders, exchanges, redemptions or for other purposes.

Proxy Voting Policy - as defined under "Proxy Voting Disclosure for Portfolio Securities Held".

RDSPs – registered disability savings plans as defined in the Tax Act.

**RESPs** – registered education savings plans as defined in the Tax Act.

**RRIFs** – registered retirement income funds as defined in the Tax Act.

**RRSPs** – registered retirement savings plans as defined in the Tax Act.

Registered Plans - means, collectively, RRSPs, RRIFs, DPSPs, RDSPs, RESPs and TFSAs.

Registrar and Transfer Agent -TSX Trust Company.

securities regulatory authorities – the securities commission or similar regulatory authority in each province and territory of Canada that is responsible for administering the Canadian securities legislation in force in such province or territory.

SEDAR – System for Electronic Document Analysis and Retrieval.

*SIFT* – a specified investment flow-through trust or partnership as defined in the Tax Act.

SIFT Rules – rules in the Tax Act that are applicable to SIFT trusts and SIFT partnerships as defined in the Tax Act.

Sub-Advisor – means Jarislowsky, Fraser Limited.

*Sub-Advisory Agreement* – means the Sub-Advisory agreement between the Sub-Advisor, Portfolio Advisor and the Manager, as it may be amended from time to time.

substituted property - as defined under "Income Tax Considerations - Taxation of the First Trust ETFs".

Tax Act – the Income Tax Act (Canada) and the regulations thereunder, as amended from time to time.

Tax Proposals – as defined under "Income Tax Considerations".

TFSAs – tax-free savings accounts as defined in the Tax Act.

**TER** – trading expense ratio.

*Trading Day* – for each First Trust ETF, a day on which: (i) a regular session of the Neo Exchange is held; and (ii) the primary market or exchange for the majority of the securities held by the First Trust ETF is open for trading.

Underlying Fund – as defined under "Income Tax Considerations – Taxation of the First Trust ETFs".

*Unit* – in relation to a particular First Trust ETF, a redeemable, transferable unit of that First Trust ETF which represents an equal, undivided interest in the net assets of that First Trust ETF.

*Unitholder* – a holder of Units of a First Trust ETF.

United States and U.S. - means United States of America.

Valuation Agent - CIBC Mellon Global Securities Services Company.

*Valuation Date* – each Trading Day and any other day designated by the Manager on which the NAV and NAV per Unit of a First Trust ETF will be calculated. If that First Trust ETF elects to have a December 15 year-end for tax purposes as permitted by the Tax Act, the NAV per Unit will be calculated on December 15.

Valuation Time – 4:00 p.m. (Toronto time) or such other time the Manager deems appropriate on each Valuation Date.

#### PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

The following is a summary of the principal features of the Units of the First Trust ETFs and should be read together with the more detailed information and statements contained elsewhere in this prospectus or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. Capitalized terms used but not defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed thereto under the heading "Glossary of Terms".

Issuers: First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF

First Trust JFL Global Equity ETF

(each, a "First Trust ETF" and collectively, the "First Trust ETFs").

The First Trust ETFs are exchange traded mutual funds established as trusts under the laws of the Province of Ontario. FT Portfolios Canada Co. is the trustee, manager and promoter of the First Trust ETFs. First Trust Advisors L.P. (the "Portfolio Advisor") is the Portfolio Advisor of the First Trust ETFs. Jarislowsky, Fraser Limited (the "Sub-Advisor") is the Sub-Advisor of the First Trust ETFs.

See "Overview of the Legal Structure of the First Trust ETFs".

**Offerings:** Each First Trust ETF is offering one class of units (the "**Units**").

**Continuous Distribution:** 

The Units of the First Trust ETFs have been conditionally approved for listing on the Neo Exchange Inc. (the "Neo Exchange"). Subject to satisfying the Neo Exchange's original listing requirements in respect of the First Trust ETFs, Units of the First Trust ETFs will be listed on the Neo Exchange and offered on a continuous basis, and an investor will be able to buy or sell Units of the First Trust ETFs on the Neo Exchange through registered brokers and dealers in the province or territory where the investor resides. Investors may incur customary brokerage commissions in buying or selling Units of the First Trust ETFs.

The First Trust ETFs issue Units directly to Designated Brokers and Dealers. From time to time as may be agreed between a First Trust ETF and the Designated Brokers and Dealers, the Designated Brokers and Dealers may agree to accept Constituent Securities as payment for Units from prospective purchasers. The Units of the First Trust ETFs are Canadian dollar denominated.

See "Purchases of Units – Offerings and Continuous Distribution" and "Purchases of Units – Buying and Selling Units".

# **Investment Objectives:**

# First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF

First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF seeks to provide Unitholders (as defined herein) with income and preserve capital by investing at least 75% of the fund's net assets in a diversified portfolio of investment grade Canadian corporate, federal, provincial and municipal bonds.

# First Trust JFL Global Equity ETF

First Trust JFL Global Equity ETF seeks to provide Unitholders with capital appreciation by investing primarily in equity securities of large multinational companies that have demonstrated global leadership in their industry.

See "Investment Objectives".

# Investment Strategies:

#### First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF

To achieve its investment objectives, First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF will invest at least 75% of the fund's net assets in a diversified portfolio of investment grade (at the time of purchase, as rated by a designated rating organization) Canadian corporate, federal, provincial and municipal bonds. First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF may also invest up to 25% of the fund's net assets in non-investment grade corporate bonds (at the time of purchase, as rated by a designated rating organization), high yield bonds, developed international bonds, emerging market bonds, preferred shares and convertible bonds of North American and/or international issuers. In the event that First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF invests in a security which is unrated at the time of purchase the Manager may assign such rating to the security as it deems appropriate. The First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF will not invest: (a) more than 10% of its net assets in unhedged foreign bonds, (b) more than 10% of its net assets in single corporate issuers, (c) more than 5% of its net assets in equity securities and (d) more than 5% of its net assets in bonds rated "CCC" or below by a designated rating organization.

Eligible securities will be selected through rigorous fundamental analysis of each issuer by the Sub-Advisor's in-house research team with a focus on (a) safety of principal and income, (b) optimization of yield and (c) conservative duration management (meaning a duration of plus or minus 3 years from the average duration of the securities in the benchmark). A valuation and business cycle macro approach will also be utilized to manage the overall risk profile of the First Trust ETF.

The Sub-Advisor will use a top-down process employing fundamental economic analysis in order to determine policy duration and allocation. Portfolio yield will be optimized by yield curve positioning and by emphasizing high-quality non-cyclical corporate bonds. The Sub-Advisor will also consider (a) outlook for economic growth and inflation, (b) budget, (c) trade deficit performance and (d) the current and forecast shape of the yield curve. Issuer risk will be controlled through portfolio diversification and rigorous credit research by the Sub-Advisor's inhouse team. The Sub-Advisor will attempt to minimize interest rate volatility by trading within a defined conservative duration range.

At the Sub-Advisor's discretion, First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF may hold positions in securities that no longer meet the selection criteria of the First Trust ETF. This may occur due to special situations or after other considerations, including portfolio turnover or ensuring compliance with applicable Canadian securities legislation.

# First Trust JFL Global Equity ETF

To achieve its investment objectives, First Trust JFL Global Equity ETF will primarily invest in equity securities of large multinational corporations that have demonstrated leadership in their industry. The Sub-Advisor will primarily target international companies that benefit from exposure to economies typically growing at a rate higher than the global gross domestic product (GDP). Emphasis will be on non-cyclical companies that have a competitive advantage in their industry. First Trust JFL Global Equity ETF will not invest more than 20% of its net assets in securities of issuers located in emerging markets.

The Sub-Advisor will use a bottom-up security selection process as well as rigorous fundamental analysis and extensive management interviews in selecting securities for the First Trust ETF's portfolio. In doing so, the Sub-Advisor will focus on building a portfolio of higher-quality companies with the aim of providing long-term outperformance with lower risk compared to its benchmark. The Sub-Advisor's inhouse research team will apply the following key factors when selecting securities for the First Trust ETF's portfolio (a) a company's competitive position, (b) the quality and ethics of the company's management team, (c) a company's financial strength

and (d) the company's valuation (relative to historical ranges, sector outlooks and industry/company specific factors).

At the Sub-Advisor's discretion, First Trust JFL Global Equity ETF may hold positions in securities that no longer meet the selection criteria of the First Trust ETF. This may occur due to special situations or after other considerations, including portfolio turnover or ensuring compliance with applicable Canadian securities legislation.

See "Investment Strategies".

#### Use of Derivative Instruments

The First Trust ETFs may invest in or use derivative instruments provided that the use of such derivative instruments is in compliance with applicable Canadian securities legislation and is consistent with the investment objective and investment strategy of the applicable First Trust ETF. See "Investment Strategies".

#### Investments in Other Investment Funds

In accordance with applicable securities legislation, including NI 81-102, and as an alternative to or in conjunction with investing in and holding the Constituent Securities, a First Trust ETF may also invest in ETFs, mutual funds or other public investment funds in a manner that is consistent with the investment objectives and investment strategies of the First Trust ETF, provided that there shall be no duplication of management fees chargeable in connection with Constituent Securities held indirectly by a First Trust ETF through investments in other investment funds. See "Investment Strategies".

### Securities Lending

The First Trust ETFs may engage in securities lending transactions in order to earn additional income for the First Trust ETFs, provided that the securities lending transactions are in compliance with applicable Canadian securities legislation and are consistent with the investment objective and investment strategy of the applicable First Trust ETF. See "Investment Strategies".

#### Cash and Cash Equivalents

The First Trust ETFs may depart from their principal investment strategies and invest part or all of its assets in cash or cash equivalents for defensive purposes and during periods of high cash inflows or outflows. During such periods, the First Trust ETF may not be able to achieve its investment objectives. The First Trust ETFs may adopt a defensive strategy when the Sub-Advisor believes securities in which the First Trust ETF would normally invest have elevated risks due to political or economic factors and in other extraordinary circumstances.

See "Investment Strategies".

# Special Considerations for Purchasers:

The provisions of the so-called "early warning" requirements set out in Canadian securities legislation do not apply in connection with the acquisition of Units. In addition, the First Trust ETFs have obtained exemptive relief from the securities regulatory authorities to permit Unitholders to acquire more than 20% of the Units of any First Trust ETF through purchases on the Neo Exchange without regard to the take-over bid requirements of Canadian securities legislation, provided that any such Unitholder, and any person acting jointly or in concert with the Unitholder, undertakes to not vote more than 20% of the Units of the First Trust ETF at any meeting of Unitholders.

#### **Distributions:**

Cash distributions on Units of a First Trust ETF will be made as set forth in the following table, if at all.

First Trust ETF	Frequency of Distributions
First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF	Monthly
First Trust JFL Global Equity ETF	Quarterly

Cash distributions on Units of a First Trust ETF are expected to be paid primarily out of dividends or distributions and other income or gains, received by the First Trust ETF less the expenses of the First Trust ETF, but may also consist of non-taxable amounts including returns of capital, which may be paid in the Manager's sole discretion. To the extent that the expenses of a First Trust ETF exceed the income generated by such First Trust ETF in any given month or quarter, as the case may be, it is not expected that a monthly or quarterly distribution will be paid.

On an annual basis, the First Trust ETFs will ensure that the net income and net realized capital gains of the First Trust ETFs have been distributed to Unitholders to such an extent that the First Trust ETFs will not be liable for ordinary income tax thereon. To the extent that a First Trust ETF has not distributed the full amount of its net income or capital gains in any year, the difference between such amount and the amount actually distributed by the First Trust ETF will be paid as a "reinvested distribution". Reinvested distributions, net of any required withholding tax, will be reinvested automatically in additional Units at a price equal to the NAV per Unit of the First Trust ETF and the Units will be immediately consolidated such that the number of outstanding Units following the distribution will equal the number of Units outstanding prior to the distribution. See "Distribution Policy".

In addition to the distributions described above, a First Trust ETF may from time to time pay additional distributions on its Units, including without restriction in connection with a special dividend or in connection with returns of capital.

# Currency Hedging:

The First Trust ETFs will be exposed to securities traded in foreign currencies and may, in the Sub-Advisor's discretion, enter into currency hedging transactions to reduce the effects of changes in the value of foreign currencies relative to the value of the Canadian dollar.

# **Exchanges and Redemptions:**

Unitholders may redeem Units for cash, subject to a redemption discount. Unitholders may also exchange a Prescribed Number of Units (or integral multiple thereof) for Baskets of Securities and cash or, in the discretion of the Manager, cash only. See "Redemption and Exchange of Units".

#### **Termination:**

The First Trust ETFs do not have a fixed termination date but may be terminated by the Manager upon not less than 60 days' written notice to Unitholders. See "Termination of the First Trust ETFs".

# **Documents Incorporated by Reference:**

Additional information about each First Trust ETF is or will be available in the most recently-filed annual financial statements, any interim financial statements filed after the most recent annual financial statements, the most recently-filed annual MRFP, any interim MRFP filed after the most recently-filed annual MRFP and the most recently-filed ETF Facts for each First Trust ETF. These documents are or will be incorporated by reference into, and legally form an integral part of, this prospectus. These documents are or will be publicly available on the First Trust ETFs' website at www.firsttrust.ca and may be obtained upon request, at no cost, by calling 1-877-622-5552 or by contacting a registered dealer. These documents and other information about the First Trust ETFs are or will be publicly available at www.sedar.com. See "Documents Incorporated by Reference".

# Eligibility for Investment:

In the opinion of legal counsel to the First Trust ETFs and the Manager, provided that a First Trust ETF qualifies as a mutual fund trust within the meaning of the Tax Act, or that the Units of the First Trust ETF are listed on a "designated stock exchange", within the meaning of the Tax Act, which includes the Neo Exchange, the Units of the First Trust ETF will be qualified investments for trusts governed by Registered Plans (as defined herein). See "Eligibility for Investment".

Holders of TFSAs or RDSPs, subscribers of RESPs and annuitants of RRSPs or RRIFs, should consult with their tax advisers as to whether Units would be a prohibited investment for such accounts or plans in their particular circumstances.

#### **Risk Factors:**

There are certain general risks inherent in an investment in the First Trust ETFs, including:

- (i) risks relating to investments in equity securities;
- (ii) risks relating to investments in investment funds;
- (iii) risks that the asset classes held in the First Trust ETFs will underperform the market;
- (iv) the possibility that Constituent Securities of the applicable portfolio may be cease-traded, which may impact the exchange and redemption rights of the Units:
- (v) fluctuations in the NAV and NAV per Unit of the First Trust ETFs;
- (vi) the possibility that the First Trust ETFs will be unable to acquire or dispose of illiquid securities;
- (vii) risks associated with a distribution in kind of assets in connection with the termination of a First Trust ETF;
- (viii) risks associated with the use of derivative transactions;
- (ix) counterparty risks associated with securities lending transactions;
- (x) the risks associated with foreign currency exposure;
- (xi) the Units may trade in the market at a premium or a discount to the NAV per Unit and there can be no guarantee that the Units will trade at prices that reflect their NAV;
- (xii) potential conflicts of interest regarding the allocation of time and resources to the First Trust ETFs by the Manager, Portfolio Advisor, Sub-Advisor and their directors, officers, affiliates and associates;
- (xiii) the residency of the Portfolio Advisor is outside Canada and therefore it may be difficult to enforce legal rights against them;
- (xiv) changes in legislation, including tax legislation;
- (xv) risks related to withholding taxes;
- (xvi) other tax-related risks;

- (xvii) the potential absence of a public trading market for the Units and limited operating history;
- (xviii) risks associated with reliance on the Manager;
- (xix) risks associated with reliance on the Portfolio Advisor;
- (xx) risks associated with reliance on the Sub-Advisor;
- (xxi) risk that First Trust ETFs' portfolios are too concentrated and not sufficiently diversified;
- (xxii) risks associated with foreign investments;
- (xxiii) risk of loss, as an investment in Units is not guaranteed;
- (xxiv) risks associated with market disruptions; and
- (xxv) risks associated with cyber security.

See "Risk Factors – General Risks Relating to an Investment in the First Trust ETFs".

In addition to the general risk factors, there are certain risks inherent in an investment in the First Trust ETFs in connection with the sectors to which they provide exposure, including:

- (i) emerging markets risk;
- (ii) risks relating to investments in small and mid-capitalization companies;
- (iii) risks relating to investments in debt securities;
- (iv) credit risk of the debt issuer;
- (v) risks associated with volatility of interest rates;
- (vi) illiquidity risk;
- (vii) risks relating to investments in high yield securities;
- (viii) risks associated with an issuer providing credit or liquidity support;
- (ix) risk associated with "callable" bonds;
- (x) reinvestment risk;
- (xi) foreign markets risk;
- (xii) counterparty risk; and
- (xiii) convertible bond risk.

See "Risk Factors – Additional Risks Relating to the Sectors in which Certain of the First Trust ETFs Invest".

# Income Tax Considerations:

A Unitholder who is resident in Canada for the purposes of the Tax Act will generally be required to include in the Unitholder's income for tax purposes for any year the amount of net income and any net taxable capital gains of the First Trust ETF paid or payable to the Unitholder in the year and deducted by the First Trust ETF in computing its income. Any non-taxable distributions from a First Trust ETF (other than the non-taxable portion of any net realized capital gains of a First Trust ETF) paid or payable to a Unitholder in a taxation year, such as a return of capital, will reduce the adjusted cost base of the Unitholder's Units of that First Trust ETF. To the extent that a Unitholder's adjusted cost base would otherwise be a negative amount, the negative amount will be deemed to be a capital gain realized by the Unitholder and the adjusted cost base of the Unit to the Unitholder will be nil immediately thereafter. Any loss realized by the First Trust ETF cannot be allocated to, and cannot be treated as a loss of, the Unitholders of such First Trust ETF. Upon the actual or deemed disposition of a Unit held by the Unitholder as capital property, including the exchange or redemption of a Unit, a capital gain (or a capital loss) will generally be realized by the Unitholder to the extent that the proceeds of disposition of the Unit exceed (or are less than) the aggregate of the adjusted cost base to the Unitholder of the Unit and any reasonable costs of disposition.

The Declaration of Trust governing each of the First Trust ETFs requires that the First Trust ETF distribute its net income and net realized capital gains, if any, for each taxation year to Unitholders to such an extent that the First Trust ETF will not be liable in any taxation year for ordinary income tax.

First Trust ETFs that are "financial institutions" for purposes of the Tax Act are subject to special tax rules. See "Income Tax Considerations – Status of the First Trust ETFs".

Each investor should satisfy himself or herself as to the tax consequences of an investment in Units by obtaining advice from his or her own tax advisor. See "Income Tax Considerations".

#### **Organization and Management Details**

# Trustee, Manager and Promoter:

FT Portfolios Canada Co. is the trustee, manager and promoter of the First Trust ETFs. The Manager was incorporated under the *Companies Act* (Nova Scotia) on November 19, 2001. The Manager operates as the manager of investment funds in Canada. The head office and principal place of business of the Manager is located at 40 King Street West, Suite 5102, Toronto, Ontario M5H 3Y2.

The Manager has taken the initiative and may be considered to be a promoter of the First Trust ETFs and will provide all management and administrative services required for the First Trust ETFs. The Manager may from time to time employ or retain any other person or entity, including the Portfolio Advisor and the Sub-Advisor, to assist the Manager in managing or providing administrative and investment advisory services to the First Trust ETFs. See "Organization and Management Details – The Trustee, Manager and Promoter".

### Portfolio Advisor:

First Trust Advisors L.P., an affiliate of the Manager, is the Portfolio Advisor of the First Trust ETFs. The Portfolio Advisor provides asset management and investment advisory services to its clients. The Portfolio Advisor was established in 1991 and together with its affiliate, First Trust Portfolios L.P., has over 900 employees in North America. The Portfolio Advisor is an investment advisor located in the United States and is a non-Canadian advisor registered as a portfolio manager with the Ontario Securities Commission under the *Securities Act* (Ontario). The Portfolio Advisor is also an investment advisor registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission under the U.S. Investment Advisers Act of 1940. See "Organization and Management Details – The Portfolio Advisor".

#### **Sub-Advisor:**

Jarislowsky, Fraser Limited is the investment Sub-Advisor of the First Trust ETFs. The Sub-Advisor was established in 1955 and has 193 employees in North America. The Sub-Advisor is an investment advisor located in Toronto, Ontario. The Sub-Advisor is registered as (a) a

portfolio manager in each of the provinces and territories of Canada and (b) an investment fund manager in Alberta, British Columbia, Newfoundland and Labrador, Ontario and Quebec.

# Custodian and Valuation Agent:

CIBC Mellon Trust Company is the custodian of the assets of the First Trust ETFs and has been given the authority to appoint sub-custodians. The address of the Custodian is 1 York Street, Suite 900, Toronto, Ontario M5J 0B6. The Custodian is entitled to receive fees from the Manager as described under "Fees and Expenses" and to be reimbursed for all expenses and liabilities that are properly incurred by the Custodian in connection with the activities of the First Trust ETFs.

CIBC Mellon Global Securities Services Company acts as the valuation agent of the First Trust ETFs. The valuation agent is responsible for certain fund accounting and valuation services to the First Trust ETFs including, without limitation, calculating the NAV, NAV per Unit, net income and net realized capital gains of the First Trust ETFs. See "Organization and Management Details – Custodian and Valuation Agent".

Registrar and Transfer Agent: TSX Trust Company, at its principal offices in Toronto, Ontario, is the registrar and transfer agent for the Units of the First Trust ETFs. The register of each of the First Trust ETFs is kept in Toronto. See "Organization and Management Details – Registrar and Transfer Agent".

Plan Agent:

TSX Trust Company, at its principal offices in Toronto, Ontario, is the Plan Agent for the First Trust ETFs. See "Organization and Management Details – Plan Agent".

Auditor:

Deloitte LLP, Chartered Professional Accountants, at its principal offices in Toronto, Ontario, is the auditor of the First Trust ETFs. See "Organization and Management Details – Auditor".

Securities Lending Agent: The Bank of New York Mellon, at its principal offices in New York is the securities lending agent of the First Trust ETFs. See "Organization and Management Details – Securities Lending Agent".

#### SUMMARY OF FEES AND EXPENSES

The following table lists the fees and expenses payable by the First Trust ETFs. The value of a Unitholder's investment in a First Trust ETF will be reduced by the Unitholder's proportionate share of the fees and expenses charged to such First Trust ETF. For further particulars, see "Fees and Expenses".

# Management Fees:

Each First Trust ETF will pay the Manager a management fee as set forth in the table below, based on the average daily NAV of the applicable First Trust ETF. The management fee, plus applicable taxes, including HST, will be accrued daily and paid monthly in arrears. The Manager is responsible for providing managerial, administrative and compliance services to the First Trust ETFs. See "Organization and Management Details – The Trustee, Manager and Promoter – Duties and Services to be Provided by the Trustee, Manager and Promoter" for a description of the services provided by the Manager. The Manager may, from time to time in its discretion, waive all or a portion of the management fee charged at any given time.

First Trust ETF	Annual Management Fee (%)
First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF	0.70% of NAV of the First Trust ETF <sup>(1)</sup>
First Trust JFL Global Equity ETF	0.85% of NAV of the First Trust ETF

#### Note:

The Manager has agreed to waive a portion of the management fee equal to 0.10% of average daily net assets of the First Trust ETF until December 31, 2021 in response to the current low interest rate environment. The Manager anticipates that if the trailing average 30-day yield of the current 10-year Canadian Treasury Bond exceeds 3.50% before December 31, 2021, the fee waiver may not be continued past December 31, 2021. Given that the 0.10% waiver is on an annualized basis, if the waiver is for less than a year, the net

management fee will be higher than 0.60%. Following December 31, 2021, the Manager may waive a portion of the management fee at any time in its discretion.

In the event that a First Trust ETF invests in an Underlying Fund (as defined herein), the First Trust ETF will pay the Underlying Fund's management fee on the portion of the First Trust ETF's portfolio assets invested in the Underlying Fund, regardless of whether the fund is managed by the Manager or an affiliate of the Manager. The management fee payable to the Manager will not be payable in respect of the portion of the First Trust ETF portfolio assets invested in the Underlying Fund to the extent that such fee would be duplicative. See "Fees and Expenses – Management Fees".

# Operating Expenses:

In addition to the payment of the management fee, each First Trust ETF is responsible for the costs and expenses incurred in complying with NI 81-107 (including any expenses related to the implementation and on-going operation of an independent review committee), brokerage expenses and commissions, income and withholding taxes as well as all other applicable taxes, including HST, the costs of complying with any new governmental or regulatory requirement introduced after the First Trust ETF was established and extraordinary expenses and, in the discretion of the Manager, any costs associated with the printing and distribution of any documents that the securities regulatory authorities require be sent or delivered to investors in the First Trust ETFs. The Manager is responsible for all other costs and expenses of the First Trust ETFs, including fees payable to the Portfolio Advisor, Sub-Advisor, Custodian, Valuation Agent, Registrar and Transfer Agent and Plan Agent and fees payable to other service providers. See "Organization and Management Details – The Trustee, Manager and Promoter – Duties and Services to be Provided by the Trustee, Manager and Promoter".

Annual Returns, Management Expense Ratio and Trading Expense Ratio:

The annual returns, management expense ratio and trading expense ratio of the First Trust ETFs are not yet available because the First Trust ETFs are new.

#### OVERVIEW OF THE LEGAL STRUCTURE OF THE FIRST TRUST ETFS

The First Trust ETFs are exchange traded mutual funds established as trusts under the laws of the Province of Ontario. The First Trust ETFs have been established pursuant to the Declaration of Trust. The head and registered office of the First Trust ETFs and FT Portfolios Canada Co. is located at 40 King Street West, Suite 5102, Toronto, Ontario M5H 3Y2.

The Units of the First Trust ETFs have been conditionally approved for listing on the Neo Exchange. Subject to satisfying the Neo Exchange's original listing requirements in respect of the First Trust ETFs, Units of the First Trust ETFs will be listed on the Neo Exchange and offered on a continuous basis, and an investor will be able to buy or sell Units of the First Trust ETFs on the Neo Exchange through registered brokers and dealers in the province or territory where the investor resides. Investors may incur customary brokerage commissions in buying or selling Units of the First Trust ETFs.

The following table sets out the full legal name as well as the Neo Exchange ticker symbol for each of the First Trust ETFs:

Legal name of First Trust ETF	Ticker Symbol
First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF	FJFB
First Trust JFL Global Equity ETF	FJFG

#### INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES

#### First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF

First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF seeks to provide Unitholders with income and preserve capital by investing at least 75% of the fund's net assets in a diversified portfolio of investment grade Canadian corporate, federal, provincial and municipal bonds.

# First Trust JFL Global Equity ETF

First Trust JFL Global Equity ETF seeks to provide Unitholders with capital appreciation by investing primarily in equity securities of large multinational companies that have demonstrated global leadership in their industry.

#### **INVESTMENT STRATEGIES**

The investment strategy of each First Trust ETF is to invest in and hold a portfolio of securities selected by the Sub-Advisor in order to achieve its investment objectives. The First Trust ETFs may also hold cash and cash equivalents or other money market instruments to meet their current obligations.

# First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF

To achieve its investment objectives, First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF will invest at least 75% of the fund's net assets in a diversified portfolio of investment grade (at the time of purchase, as rated by a designated rating organization) Canadian corporate, federal, provincial and municipal bonds. First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF may also invest up to 25% of the fund's net assets in non-investment grade corporate bonds (at the time of purchase, as rated by a designated rating organization), high yield bonds, developed international bonds, emerging market bonds, preferred shares and convertible bonds of North American and/or international issuers. In the event that First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF invests in a security which is unrated at the time of purchase the Manager may assign such rating to the security as it deems appropriate. The First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF will not invest: (a) more than 10% of its net assets in unhedged foreign bonds, (b) more than 10% of its net assets in single

corporate issuers, (c) more than 5% of its net assets in equity securities and (d) more than 5% of its net assets in bonds rated "CCC" or below by a designated rating organization.

Eligible securities will be selected through rigorous fundamental analysis of each issuer by the Sub-Advisor's in-house research team with a focus on (a) safety of principal and income, (b) optimization of yield and (c) conservative duration management (meaning a duration of plus or minus 3 years from the average duration of the securities in the benchmark). A valuation and business cycle macro approach will also be utilized to manage the overall risk profile of the First Trust ETF.

The Sub-Advisor will use a top-down process employing fundamental economic analysis in order to determine policy duration and allocation. Portfolio yield will be optimized by yield curve positioning and by emphasizing high-quality non-cyclical corporate bonds. The Sub-Advisor will also consider (a) outlook for economic growth and inflation, (b) budget, (c) trade deficit performance and (d) the current and forecast shape of the yield curve. Issuer risk will be controlled through portfolio diversification and rigorous credit research by the Sub-Advisor's inhouse team. The Sub-Advisor will attempt to minimize interest rate volatility by trading within a defined conservative duration range.

At the Sub-Advisor's discretion, First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF may hold positions in securities that no longer meet the selection criteria of the First Trust ETF. This may occur due to special situations or after other considerations, including portfolio turnover or ensuring compliance with applicable Canadian securities legislation.

#### First Trust JFL Global Equity ETF

To achieve its investment objectives, First Trust JFL Global Equity ETF will primarily invest in equity securities of large multinational corporations that have demonstrated leadership in their industry. The Sub-Advisor will primarily target international companies that benefit from exposure to economies typically growing at a rate higher than the global gross domestic product (GDP). Emphasis will be on non-cyclical companies that have a competitive advantage in their industry. First Trust JFL Global Equity ETF will not invest more than 20% of its net assets in securities of issuers located in emerging markets.

The Sub-Advisor will use a bottom-up security selection process as well as rigorous fundamental analysis and extensive management interviews in selecting securities for the First Trust ETF's portfolio. In doing so, the Sub-Advisor will focus on building a portfolio of higher-quality companies with the aim of providing long-term outperformance with lower risk compared to its benchmark. The Sub-Advisor's inhouse research team will apply the following key factors when selecting securities for the First Trust ETF's portfolio (a) a company's competitive position, (b) the quality and ethics of the company's management team, (c) a company's financial strength and (d) the company's valuation (relative to historical ranges, sector outlooks and industry/company specific factors).

At the Sub-Advisor's discretion, First Trust JFL Global Equity ETF may hold positions in securities that no longer meet the selection criteria of the First Trust ETF. This may occur due to special situations or after other considerations, including portfolio turnover or ensuring compliance with applicable Canadian securities legislation.

#### **Use of Derivative Instruments**

The First Trust ETFs may invest in or use derivative instruments provided that the investment in such derivative instruments is in compliance with applicable Canadian securities legislation and is consistent with the investment objective and investment strategy of the applicable First Trust ETF.

# **Securities Lending**

A First Trust ETF may, in compliance with NI 81-102, lend securities to securities borrowers acceptable to it in order to earn additional income for the First Trust ETF pursuant to the terms of a securities lending agreement between the First Trust ETF and a securities lending agent under which: (i) the borrower will pay to the First Trust ETF a negotiated securities lending fee and will make compensation payments to the First Trust ETF equal to any distributions received by the borrower on the securities borrowed; (ii) the securities loans qualify as "securities lending

arrangements" for the purposes of the Tax Act; and (iii) the First Trust ETF will receive collateral security equal to at least 102% of the value of the portfolio securities loaned. The securities lending agent for a First Trust ETF will be responsible for the ongoing administration of the securities loans, including the obligation to mark-to-market the collateral on a daily basis.

#### **Investments in Other Investment Funds**

In accordance with applicable securities legislation, including NI 81-102, and as an alternative to or in conjunction with investing in and holding the Constituent Securities, a First Trust ETF may also invest in ETFs, mutual funds or other public investment funds in a manner that is consistent with the investment objectives and investment strategies of the First Trust ETF, provided that there shall be no duplication of management fees chargeable in connection with Constituent Securities held indirectly by a First Trust ETF through investments in other investment funds. In the event that a First Trust ETF invests in another investment fund to obtain exposure to Constituent Securities indirectly and the management fee payable by the Underlying Fund is higher than that of the First Trust ETF, the First Trust ETF will pay the higher management fee on the portion of the First Trust ETF's assets invested in the Underlying Fund, regardless of whether the fund is managed by the Manager or an affiliate thereof.

# **Cash and Cash Equivalents**

The First Trust ETFs may depart from their principal investment strategies and invest part or all of its assets in cash or cash equivalents for defensive purposes and during periods of high cash inflows or outflows. During such periods, the First Trust ETF may not be able to achieve its investment objectives. The First Trust ETFs may adopt a defensive strategy when the Sub-Advisor believes securities in which the First Trust ETF would normally invest have elevated risks due to political or economic factors and in other extraordinary circumstances.

# **Currency Hedging**

The First Trust ETFs will be exposed to securities traded in foreign currencies and may, in the Sub-Advisor's discretion, enter into currency hedging transactions to reduce the effects of changes in the value of foreign currencies relative to the value of the Canadian dollar.

#### OVERVIEW OF THE SECTORS IN WHICH THE FIRST TRUST ETFS INVEST

#### First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF

First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF will invest at least 75% of the fund's net assets in a diversified portfolio of investment grade Canadian corporate, federal, provincial and municipal bonds. First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF may also invest up to 25% of the fund's net assets in non-investment grade corporate bonds, high yield bonds, developed international bonds, emerging market bonds, preferred shares and convertible bonds of North American and/or international issuers.

# First Trust JFL Global Equity ETF

First Trust JFL Global Equity ETF will primarily invest in equity securities of large multinational corporations that have demonstrated leadership in their industry with a focus on (a) a company's competitive position, (b) the quality and ethics of the company's management team, (c) a company's financial strength and (d) the company's valuation (relative to historical ranges, sector outlooks and industry/company specific factors).

#### INVESTMENT RESTRICTIONS

The First Trust ETFs are subject to certain restrictions and practices contained in Canadian securities legislation. The First Trust ETFs are managed in accordance with these restrictions and practices, except as otherwise permitted by exemptions provided by Canadian securities regulatory authorities. See "Exemptions and Approvals". A

change to the fundamental investment objective of a First Trust ETF would require the approval of the Unitholders of that fund. See "Unitholder Matters – Matters Requiring Unitholder Approval".

#### FEES AND EXPENSES

### **Management Fees**

Each First Trust ETF will pay the Manager a management fee as set forth in the table below based on the average daily NAV of the applicable First Trust ETF. The management fee, plus applicable taxes including HST, will be accrued daily and paid monthly in arrears. The Manager is responsible for providing managerial, administrative and compliance services to the First Trust ETFs. See "Organization and Management Details – The Trustee, Manager and Promoter – Duties and Services to be Provided by the Trustee, Manager and Promoter" for a description of the services provided by the Manager. The Manager may, from time to time in its discretion, waive all or a portion of the management fee charged at any given time.

First Trust ETF	Annual Management Fee (%)	
First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF	0.70% of NAV of the First Trust ETF <sup>(1)</sup>	
First Trust JFL Global Equity ETF	0.85% of NAV of the First Trust ETF	

#### Note:

(1)

The Manager has agreed to waive a portion of the management fee equal to 0.10% of average daily net assets of the First Trust ETF until December 31, 2021 in response to the current low interest rate environment. The Manager anticipates that if the trailing average 30-day yield of the current 10-year Canadian Treasury Bond exceeds 3.50% before December 31, 2021, the fee waiver may not be continued past December 31, 2021. Given that the 0.10% waiver is on an annualized basis, if the waiver is for less than a year, the net management fee will be higher than 0.60%. Following December 31, 2021, the Manager may waive a portion of the management fee at any time in its discretion.

In the event that a First Trust ETF invests in an Underlying Fund to obtain exposure to Constituent Securities, the First Trust ETF will pay the Underlying Fund's management fee on the portion of the First Trust ETF's portfolio assets invested in the Underlying Fund, regardless of whether the Underlying Fund is managed by the Manager or an affiliate of the Manager. The management fee payable to the Manager will not be payable in respect of the portion of the First Trust ETF portfolio assets invested in the Underlying Fund to the extent that such fee would be duplicative.

#### **Operating Expenses**

In addition to the payment of the management fee, each First Trust ETF is responsible for the costs and expenses incurred in complying with NI 81-107 (including any expenses related to the implementation and on-going operation of an independent review committee), brokerage expenses and commissions, income and withholding taxes as well as all other applicable taxes, including HST, the costs of complying with any new governmental or regulatory requirement introduced after the First Trust ETF was established and extraordinary expenses and, in the discretion of the Manager, any costs associated with the printing and distribution of any documents that the securities regulatory authorities require be sent or delivered to investors in the First Trust ETFs. The Manager is responsible for all other costs and expenses of the First Trust ETFs, fees payable to the Portfolio Advisor, Sub-Advisor, Custodian, Valuation Agent, Registrar and Transfer Agent and Plan Agent and fees payable to other service providers retained by the Manager. See "Organization and Management Details – The Trustee, Manager and Promoter – Duties and Services to be Provided by the Trustee, Manager and Promoter".

#### Annual Returns, Management Expense Ratio and Trading Expense Ratio

The annual returns, management expense ratio and trading expense ratio of the First Trust ETFs are not yet available because the First Trust ETFs are new.

#### RISK FACTORS

In addition to the considerations set out elsewhere in this prospectus, the following are certain considerations relating to an investment in Units that prospective investors should consider before purchasing such Units.

#### **General Risks Relating to an Investment in the First Trust ETFs**

#### Equity Investment Risk

Equities such as common shares, ADRs, GDRs and EDRs give the holder part ownership in a company. The value of an equity security changes with the fortunes of the company that issued it. General market conditions and the health of the economy as a whole can also affect equity prices. Certain securities may be particularly sensitive to general market movements, which may result in a greater degree of price volatility for such securities and in the NAV of a First Trust ETF that invests in such securities under specific market conditions and over time. Equity related securities that provide indirect exposure to the equity securities of an issuer, such as convertible debentures, can also be affected by equity risk.

# Fund of Funds Investment Risk

The First Trust ETFs may invest directly in, or obtain exposure to, other ETFs, mutual funds or public investment funds as part of their investment strategy. The First Trust ETFs will be subject to the risks of the Underlying Funds. Also, if an Underlying Fund suspends redemptions, the First Trust ETF will be unable to accurately value part of its investment portfolio and may be unable to redeem its Units.

#### Asset Class Risk

The Constituent Securities may underperform the returns of other securities that have exposure to other countries, regions, industries, asset classes or sectors. Various asset classes tend to experience cycles of outperformance and underperformance in comparison to the general securities markets.

#### Cease Trading of Constituent Securities

If Constituent Securities are cease-traded at any time by order of the Neo Exchange, a securities regulatory authority or other relevant regulator or stock exchange, the Manager may suspend the exchange or redemption of Units until such time as the transfer of the securities is permitted by law. Thus, Units bear the risk of cease trade orders against any Constituent Security held by the First Trust ETFs.

#### Fluctuations in NAV and NAV per Unit

The NAV per Unit will vary according to, among other things, the value of the securities held by the First Trust ETFs. The Manager, the Portfolio Advisor, the Sub-Advisor and the First Trust ETFs have no control over the factors that affect the value of the securities held by the First Trust ETFs, including factors that affect the equity and bond markets generally such as general economic and political conditions, fluctuations in interest rates and factors unique to each Constituent Issuer such as changes in management, changes in strategic direction, achievement of strategic goals, mergers, acquisitions and divestitures, changes in distribution and dividend policies and other events.

# Illiquid Securities

If a First Trust ETF is unable to dispose of some or all of the securities held by it, that First Trust ETF may experience a delay in the receipt of the proceeds of disposition until such time as it is able to dispose of such securities or may be able to do so only at prices which may not reflect the true value of such investments. Likewise, if certain Constituent Securities are particularly illiquid, the Manager may be unable to acquire the number of securities necessary at a price acceptable to the Manager on a timely basis.

#### Distributions In Kind

A portion of a First Trust ETF's portfolio may be invested in illiquid securities and instruments. There can be no assurance that all of a First Trust ETF's investments will be liquidated prior to the termination of the First Trust ETF and that only cash will be distributed to its Unitholders. The securities and instruments that Unitholders may receive on termination may not be readily marketable and may have to be held for an indefinite period of time and may not be qualified investments for Registered Plans.

#### Use of Derivative Instruments

The First Trust ETFs may use derivative instruments from time to time as described under "Investment Strategies – Use of Derivative Instruments". The use of derivative instruments involves risks different from, and possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in securities and other traditional investments. Risks associated with the use of derivatives include: (i) there is no guarantee that hedging to reduce risk will not result in a loss or that there will be a gain; (ii) there is no guarantee that a market will exist when the First Trust ETFs want to complete the derivative contract, which could prevent the First Trust ETFs from reducing a loss or making a profit; (iii) securities exchanges may impose trading limits on options and futures contracts, and these limits may prevent the First Trust ETFs from completing the derivative contract; (iv) the First Trust ETFs could experience a loss if the other party to the derivative contract is unable to fulfill its obligations; (v) if the First Trust ETF has an open position in an option, a futures contract or a forward contract with a dealer who goes bankrupt, the First Trust ETF could experience a loss and, for an open futures or forward contract, a loss of margin deposited with that dealer; and (vi) if a derivative is based on a stock market index and trading is halted on a substantial number of stocks in the index or there is a change in the composition of the index, there could be an adverse effect on the derivative.

#### Securities Lending

The First Trust ETFs may engage in securities lending transactions in accordance with NI 81-102 in order to earn additional income for the First Trust ETFs. Although they will receive collateral security equal to at least 102% of the value of the portfolio securities loaned and such collateral will be marked-to-market, the First Trust ETFs may be exposed to the risk of loss should the borrower default on its obligation to return the borrowed securities and the collateral be insufficient to reconstitute the portfolio of loaned securities.

#### Foreign Currency Exposure

As the First Trust ETFs may invest in securities traded in foreign currencies, the NAV of the First Trust ETFs, when measured in Canadian dollars, will be affected by changes in the value of the foreign currencies relative to the Canadian dollar. Any exposure that the First Trust ETFs may have to foreign currencies will not be hedged back to the Canadian dollar. As a result, no assurance can be given that the First Trust ETFs will not be adversely impacted by changes in foreign exchange rates or other factors.

The First Trust ETFs will be exposed to securities traded in foreign currencies and may, in the Sub-Advisor's discretion, enter into currency hedging transactions to reduce the effects of changes in the value of foreign currencies relative to the value of the Canadian dollar. No assurance can be given that a First Trust ETF will not be adversely impacted by changes in foreign exchange rates or other factors. The use of hedges involves special risks, including the possible default by the other party to the transaction, illiquidity and, to the extent that the Sub-Advisor's assessment of certain market movements is incorrect, the risk that the use of hedges could result in losses greater than if the hedging had not been used. Hedging arrangements may have the effect of limiting or reducing the total returns to a First Trust ETF if the Sub-Advisor's expectations concerning future events or market conditions prove to be incorrect. In addition, the costs associated with a hedging program may outweigh the benefits of the arrangements in such circumstances.

#### Trading Price of Units

Units may trade in the market at a premium or discount to the NAV per Unit. There can be no assurance that Units will trade at prices that reflect their net asset value. The trading price of the Units will fluctuate in accordance

with changes in the First Trust ETF's NAV, as well as market supply and demand on the Neo Exchange. However, given that generally only a Prescribed Number of Units are issued to Designated Brokers and Dealers, and that holders of a Prescribed Number of Units (or an integral multiple thereof) may redeem such Units at their NAV, the Manager believes that large discounts or premiums to the NAV of the Units should not be sustained.

#### Potential Conflicts of Interest

The Manager, the Portfolio Advisor, the Sub-Advisor and their directors, officers, affiliates and associates may engage in the promotion, management or investment management of other accounts, funds or trusts that invest primarily in the securities held by one or more First Trust ETFs or that have similar investment objectives to the First Trust ETFs.

Although officers, directors and professional staff of the Manager, Portfolio Advisor and Sub-Advisor will devote as much time to the First Trust ETFs as is deemed appropriate to perform their duties, the staff of the Manager, Portfolio Advisor and Sub-Advisor may have conflicts in allocating their time and services among the First Trust ETFs and the other funds managed by the Manager, Portfolio Advisor or Sub-Advisor, as applicable.

# Residency of the Portfolio Advisor

The Portfolio Advisor is resident outside Canada and all or a substantial portion of its assets are located outside Canada. As a result, anyone seeking to enforce legal rights against it may find it difficult to do so.

#### Changes in Legislation

There can be no assurance that tax, securities or other laws will not be changed in a manner that adversely affects the distributions received by the First Trust ETFs or by the Unitholders. There can be no assurance that Canadian federal income tax laws and the administrative policies and assessing practices of the Canada Revenue Agency will not be changed in a manner that adversely affects the First Trust ETFs or the Unitholders.

For example, changes to tax legislation or the administration thereof could affect the taxation of a First Trust ETF or the issuers in which it invests.

Further, from time to time, various legislative initiatives are proposed by governments which may have a negative impact on certain issuers whose securities are held in the portfolio of a mutual fund. In addition, litigation regarding any of such issuers or the industries represented by these issuers may negatively impact the prices of securities. The impact on the portfolio of a mutual fund of any pending or proposed legislation or pending or threatened litigation cannot be predicted.

#### Withholding Tax Risk

In the event a First Trust ETF invests in securities of foreign issuers, at the date hereof, the First Trust ETF would be subject to foreign withholding tax on certain securities. There is no guarantee that the rate of withholding tax will not increase which may significantly affect returns.

### Other Tax-Related Risks

If a First Trust ETF were to not qualify as a "mutual fund trust" for the purposes of the Tax Act for any period of time, there could be negative tax consequences for such First Trust ETF and its investors.

If a First Trust ETF experiences a "loss restriction event" (i) the First Trust ETF will be deemed to have a year-end for tax purposes, and (ii) the First Trust ETF will become subject to the loss restriction rules generally applicable to corporations that experience an acquisition of control, including a deemed realization of any unrealized capital losses and restrictions on their ability to carry forward losses. Generally, a First Trust ETF will be subject to a loss restriction event when a person becomes a "majority-interest beneficiary" of the First Trust ETF, or a group of persons becomes a "majority-interest group of beneficiaries" of the First Trust ETF, as those terms are defined in the

affiliated persons rules contained in the Tax Act, with appropriate modifications. Generally, a majority-interest beneficiary of a First Trust ETF will be a beneficiary who, together with the beneficial interests of persons and partnerships with whom the beneficiary is affiliated, owns Units of a First Trust ETF having a fair market value that is greater than 50% of the fair market value of all the Units of the First Trust ETF. A First Trust ETF will generally be exempt from the loss restriction event rules if it meets certain asset diversification requirements and other conditions to qualify as an "investment fund" as defined in the Tax Act. The Manager intends that each of the First Trust ETFs will qualify as an "investment fund" at all material times. Such status is generally expected to preclude the First Trust ETFs from being subject to the consequences of a "loss restriction event" described above.

In addition, a First Trust ETF that does not qualify as a "mutual fund trust" under the Tax Act will be treated as a "financial institution" for purposes of certain special mark-to-market rules in the Tax Act if more than 50% of the Units of the First Trust ETF are held by one or more Unitholders that are themselves considered to be financial institutions. In such event, the tax year of the First Trust ETF will be deemed to end immediately before that time and any gains or losses on certain securities accrued before that time will be deemed realized by the First Trust ETF and will be distributed to Unitholders. In addition, the First Trust ETF will be required to recognize at least annually on income account any gains and losses accruing on certain types of debt obligations and equity securities that it holds and also will be subject to special rules with respect to income inclusion on these securities. Any income arising from such treatment will be included in amounts to be distributed to Unitholders. If more than 50% of the Units of such a First Trust ETF cease to be held by financial institutions, the tax year of the First Trust ETF will be deemed to end immediately before that time and any gains or losses on certain securities accrued before that time will be deemed realized by the First Trust ETF and will be distributed to Unitholders. A new taxation year for the First Trust ETF will then begin and for that and subsequent taxation years, for so long as not more than 50% of the Units of the First Trust ETF are held by financial institutions, or the First Trust ETF is a mutual fund trust for purposes of the Tax Act, the First Trust ETF will not be subject to these special mark-to-market rules. Given the manner in which Units are distributed, there will be circumstances in which it will not be possible to control or identify whether a First Trust ETF has, or has ceased to, become a "financial institution". As a result, there can be no assurance that a First Trust ETF is not a "financial institution" or will not in the future become, or cease to be, a "financial institution" and no assurance as to when and to whom any distributions arising on the change in "financial institution" status of a First Trust ETF will be made, or that the First Trust ETF will not be required to pay tax on any undistributed income or taxable capital gains realized by the First Trust ETF on such event.

Certain tax rules apply to direct and indirect investments by Canadian residents in non-resident trusts (the "NRT Rules"). It is not expected that the NRT Rules would be applied in respect of investments, if any, made by a First Trust ETF in non-resident funds that are trusts; however, no assurances can be given in this regard.

Certain rules in the Tax Act apply to SIFT trusts and SIFT partnerships as defined in the Tax Act. If the SIFT Rules apply to a trust, including a First Trust ETF, the trust will be taxed on certain income and gains on a basis similar to that which applies to a corporation with the result that certain tax efficiencies may cease to be available.

There can be no assurances that the Canada Revenue Agency will agree with the tax treatment adopted by the First Trust ETF in filing its tax return and the Canada Revenue Agency could reassess a First Trust ETF on a basis that results in tax being payable by the First Trust ETF.

#### Risk of No Active Market for the Units and Lack of Operating History

The First Trust ETFs are newly organized exchange-traded funds with no previous operating history. Although the First Trust ETFs will, subject to satisfying the Neo Exchange's original listing requirements, be listed on the Neo Exchange, there can be no assurance that an active public market for the Units will develop or be sustained.

# Reliance on the Manager

Unitholders will be dependent on the ability of the Manager to effectively manage the First Trust ETFs in a manner consistent with the investment objectives, strategies and restrictions of the First Trust ETFs. There is no certainty that the individuals who are principally responsible for providing administration to the First Trust ETFs will continue to be employed by the Manager.

#### Reliance on the Portfolio Advisor

The returns to Unitholders will be dependent on the ability of the Portfolio Advisor providing investment advisory services to the First Trust ETFs. There is no certainty that the individuals who are principally responsible for providing such advisory services to the First Trust ETFs will continue to be employed by the Portfolio Advisor or that they will continue to provide such services over the entire life of the applicable First Trust ETF.

#### Reliance on the Sub-Advisor

The returns to Unitholders will be dependent on the ability of the Sub-Advisor providing investment advisory services to the First Trust ETFs. There is no certainty that the individuals who are principally responsible for providing such advisory services to the First Trust ETFs will continue to be employed by the Sub-Advisor or that they will continue to provide such services over the entire life of the applicable First Trust ETF.

#### Concentration Risk

A First Trust ETF's portfolio may be less diversified when compared to a less concentrated investment portfolio. Also, the NAV of such First Trust ETFs may be more volatile than that of a more broadly-diversified portfolio and may fluctuate substantially over short periods of time.

#### Foreign Investment Risk

A First Trust ETF's investments may provide exposure to non-Canadian and non-United States issuers and may expose the First Trust ETF to unique risks compared to investing in securities of Canadian or United States issuers, including, among others, greater market volatility than Canadian or United States securities, less complete financial information than for Canadian or United States issuers and detrimental exposure to foreign tax regimes. In addition, adverse political, economic or social developments could undermine the value of the First Trust ETF's investments or prevent the First Trust ETF from realizing the full value of its investments. Finally, the value of the currency of the country in which the First Trust ETF has invested could decline relative to the value of the Canadian dollar.

### Risk of Loss

Your investment in a First Trust ETF is not guaranteed by any entity. Unlike bank accounts or guaranteed investment certificates, your investment in a First Trust ETF is not covered by the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government deposit insurer.

#### Market Disruption Risks

Unexpected and unpredictable events such as war and occupation, terrorism, pandemic and related geopolitical risks may lead to increased short-term market volatility and may adversely impact general economic and financial conditions and markets in North America and the world. Those events could also have an acute impact on individual issuers included in a First Trust ETF's portfolio and in turn, on the performance of such First Trust ETF.

### Cyber Security Risk

As businesses continue to rely heavily on information technology systems, cyber security incidents continue to be a risk they must consider. A cyber security incident is an adverse intentional or unintentional action or event that threatens the integrity, confidentiality or availability of a First Trust ETF's information resources. A cyber security incident may involve gaining unauthorized access (e.g. through hacking or malicious software) to the First Trust ETF's electronic systems to disrupt business operations or steal confidential information, or which may cause system failures and disrupt business operations. Furthermore, failures or breaches of the electronic systems of a First Trust ETF's service providers (e.g. custodian, registrar and transfer agent, securities lending agent, etc.), or the issuers of securities in which the First Trust ETF invests could cause disruptions and negatively impact the First Trust ETF's business operations, potentially resulting in financial losses to the First Trust ETF and Unitholders.

Although to date, the First Trust ETFs and the Manager have not experienced any material losses relating to cyber security incidents, there is no guarantee that the First Trust ETFs or the Manager will not suffer material losses relating to cyber security incidents in the future. If they occurred, such losses could materially adversely impact a First Trust ETF's net asset value.

#### Additional Risks Relating to the Sectors in which Certain of the First Trust ETFs Invest

# Emerging Markets Risk

First Trust JFL Global Equity ETF is subject to a number of risks specific to investments in emerging market countries. Investments in the securities of issuers in emerging market countries involve risks not associated with investments in the securities of issuers in developed countries. Emerging markets can be substantially more volatile, and substantially less liquid, than more developed markets such as Canada. Emerging markets are subject to greater political and economic instability, uncertainty regarding the existence of trading markets and more governmental limitations on foreign investment than more developed markets.

There may be less information publicly available with regard to emerging market issuers and such issuers are not subject to the uniform accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards applicable to Canadian issuers. There may be no single centralized securities exchange on which securities are traded in emerging market countries and the systems of corporate governance to which companies in emerging markets are subject may be less advanced than that to which Canadian issuers are subject, and therefore, shareholders in such companies may not receive many of the protections available to shareholders in Canada.

Securities laws in many emerging market countries are relatively new and unsettled. In addition, laws regarding foreign investment in emerging market securities, securities regulation, title to securities and shareholder rights may change quickly and unpredictably. Further, the enforcement of systems of taxation at federal, regional and local levels in emerging market countries may be inconsistent, and subject to sudden change.

#### Mid-Capitalization Companies Risk

Certain of the equity securities that the First Trust ETFs may obtain exposure to may be mid-capitalization company shares. While historically such company shares have outperformed the shares of large companies, the former have customarily involved more investment risk as well. Mid-capitalization companies may have limited product lines, markets or financial resources; may lack management depth or experience; and may be more vulnerable to adverse general market or economic developments than large companies. Some of these companies may distribute, sell or produce products which have recently been brought to market and may be dependent on key personnel.

The prices of mid-capitalization company securities are often more volatile than prices associated with large company issues, and can display abrupt or erratic movements at times, due to limited trading volumes and less publicly available information. Also, because mid-capitalization companies normally have fewer shares outstanding and these shares trade less frequently than large companies, it may be more difficult for a First Trust ETF which obtains exposure to these equity securities to buy and sell significant amounts of such shares without an unfavorable impact on prevailing market prices. The securities of mid-capitalization companies are often traded OTC and may not be traded in the volumes typical of a national securities exchange.

#### Debt Securities Risk

First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF invests in debt securities ("**fixed income securities**"). The NAV of First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF will fluctuate with interest rate changes, as well as other factors such as changes to maturities and the credit ratings of fixed income securities, and the corresponding changes in the value of the fixed income securities to which First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF is exposed. The value of the debt securities held by First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF will be affected by the risk of default in the payment of interest and principal and price changes due to such factors as general economic conditions and the issuer's creditworthiness.

#### Credit Risk

An issuer of debt instruments may be unable to make interest payments or repay principal. Changes in an issuer's financial strength or in an instrument's credit rating may affect an instrument's value and, thus, impact the performance of a First Trust ETF.

#### Income Risk

First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF will invest in fixed income securities. Generally, yields and principal values of fixed income securities will change inversely with interest rates. Changes in interest rates therefore may impact the performance of First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF.

#### Liquidity Risk

First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF may invest in lower-quality debt issued by companies that are highly leveraged. Lower-quality debt tends to be less liquid than higher-quality debt. Moreover, smaller debt issues tend to be less liquid than larger debt issues. If the economy experiences a sudden downturn, or if the debt markets for such companies become distressed, First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF may have difficulty selling its assets, at reasonable prices and in a sufficiently timely manner to raise the cash necessary to meet any potentially heavy exchange or redemption requests by Unitholders of First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF.

# High Yield Bond Risk

First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF may invest in high yield bonds. These securities that are rated below investment grade (commonly referred to as "junk bonds," include those bonds rated lower than "BBB-" by a designated rating organization), or are unrated but judged to be of comparable quality, at the time of purchase, may be more volatile than higher-rated securities of similar maturity. High yield securities may also be subject to greater levels of credit or default risk than higher-rated securities. The value of high yield securities can be adversely affected by overall economic conditions, such as an economic downturn or a period of rising interest rates, and high yield securities may be less liquid and more difficult to sell at an advantageous time or price or to value than higher-rated securities. In particular, high yield securities are often issued by smaller, less creditworthy companies or by highly leveraged (indebted) firms, which are generally less able than more financially stable firms to make scheduled payments of interest and principal.

# Issuer Risk

The value of a security may decline for a number of reasons that directly relate to the issuer or an entity providing credit support or liquidity support, such as management performance, financial leverage, and reduced demand for the issuer's goods, services or securities.

#### Call Risk

During periods of falling interest rates, an issuer of a callable bond may "call" or repay a security before its stated maturity, which may result in First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF having to reinvest the proceeds at lower interest rates, resulting in a decline in First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF's income.

#### Reinvestment Risk

In the case of First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF, there is a risk that future investment proceeds will have to be reinvested at a lower potential interest rate.

# Foreign Markets Risk

Participation in transactions by a First Trust ETF may involve the execution and clearing of trades on or subject to the rules of a foreign market. None of the Canadian securities regulatory authorities or Canadian exchanges

regulates activities of any foreign markets, including the execution, delivery and clearing of transactions, or has the power to compel enforcement of the rule of a foreign market or any applicable foreign law. Generally, any foreign transaction will be governed by applicable foreign laws. This is true even if the foreign market is formally linked to a Canadian market so that a position taken on a market may be liquidated by a transaction on another market. Moreover, such laws or regulations will vary depending on the foreign country in which the transaction occurs. For these reasons, entities such as the First Trust ETFs may not be afforded certain of the protective measures provided by Canadian legislation or Canadian exchanges. In particular, funds received from investors for transactions by a First Trust ETF on foreign exchanges may not be provided the same protection as funds received in respect of transactions by a First Trust ETF on Canadian exchanges.

# Counterparty Risk

The other party(s) to an agreement or a participant to a transaction to which a First Trust ETF is a party, such as a broker, might default on a contract or fail to perform by failing to pay amounts due or failing to fulfill the delivery conditions of the contract or transaction.

#### Convertible Bond Risk

First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF may invest in convertible bonds. The market values of convertible bonds tend to decline as interest rates increase and, conversely, to increase as interest rates decline. A convertible bond's market value also tends to reflect the market price of the common shares of the issuing company.

Additionally, convertible bonds provide exposure to equity investment risks if they are converted into equity securities. Equities give the holder part ownership in a company. The value of an equity security changes with the fortunes of the company that issued it. General market conditions and the health of the economy as a whole can also affect equity prices. Certain securities may be particularly sensitive to general market movements, which may result in a greater degree of price volatility for such securities and in the NAV of the First Trust ETF that invests in such securities under specific market conditions and over time.

## INVESTMENT RISK CLASSIFICATION METHODOLOGY

The investment risk level of the First Trust ETFs is required to be determined in accordance with a standardized risk classification methodology that is based on the First Trust ETF's historical volatility as measured by the 10-year standard deviation of the returns of the ETF. Given that the First Trust ETFs have not been offered for 10 years, the following reference indices were considered for the period prior to their inception:

First Trust ETF	Reference Index for Risk Rating Methodology
First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF	FTSE Canada Universe Bond Index
First Trust JFL Global Equity ETF	MSCI-World ACWI Index Net

Using this methodology, the Manager will generally assign a risk rating of low, low to medium, medium, medium to high or high to a First Trust ETF. The standardized risk classification methodology allows for the use of discretion to classify an ETF at a higher investment risk level should the Manager deem that appropriate. The Manager has assigned the risk ratings to the First Trust ETFs as set forth in the table below. The risk ratings below do not necessarily correspond to an investor's risk tolerance assessment. Investors are advised to consult their financial advisor for advice regarding an individual investor's personal circumstances:

First Trust ETF:	Risk Rating
First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF	Low
First Trust JFL Global Equity ETF	Medium

First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF's risk classification is based on the First Trust ETF's returns and, for the period prior to its inception, on the return of the FTSE Universe Index. The FTSE Canada Universe Bond Index measures the performance of the Canadian dollar denominated investment-grade fixed income market, covering Canadian government quasi-government and corporate bonds and is designed to track the performance of marketable government and corporate bonds outstanding in the Canadian market.

First Trust JFL Global Equity ETF's risk classification is based on the First Trust ETF's returns and, for the period prior to its inception, on the return of the MSCI-World ACWI Index Net. The MSCI-World ACWI Index Net is a global equity index designed to represent the performance of the full opportunity set of large- and mid-cap stocks across 23 developed and 26 emerging markets.

A copy of the standardized risk classification methodology used by the Manager to identify the investment risk levels of the First Trust ETFs is available on request, at no cost, by calling 1-877-622-5552.

#### **DISTRIBUTION POLICY**

#### **Distributions**

Cash distributions on Units of a First Trust ETF will be made as set forth in the following table, if at all.

First Trust ETF	Frequency of Distributions
First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF	Monthly
First Trust JFL Global Equity ETF	Quarterly

Cash distributions on Units of a First Trust ETF are expected to be paid primarily out of dividends or distributions and other income or gains received by the First Trust ETF less the expenses of the First Trust ETF but may also consist of non-taxable amounts including return of capital, which may be paid in the Manager's sole discretion. To the extent that the expenses of a First Trust ETF exceed the income generated by such First Trust ETF in any given month or quarter, as the case may be, it is not expected that a monthly or quarterly distribution will be paid.

On an annual basis, each First Trust ETF will ensure that all of its income (including income received from special dividends on securities held by the First Trust ETF) and net realized capital gains have been distributed to Unitholders to such an extent that the First Trust ETF will not be liable for ordinary income tax thereon. To the extent that a First Trust ETF has not distributed the full amount of its net income or capital gains in any year, the difference between such amount and the amount actually distributed by the First Trust ETF will be paid as a "reinvested distribution". Reinvested distributions on Units, net of any required withholding taxes, will be reinvested automatically in additional Units of the First Trust ETF at a price equal to the NAV per Unit of the First Trust ETF and the Units will be immediately consolidated such that the number of outstanding Units following the distribution will equal the number of Units outstanding prior to the distribution. The tax treatment to Unitholders of reinvested distributions is discussed under the heading "Income Tax Considerations – Taxation of Unitholders – Distributions".

In addition to the distributions described above, a First Trust ETF may from time to time pay additional distributions on its Units, including without restriction in connection with a special dividend or in connection with returns of capital.

In any case in which a subscription order from a Dealer or Designated Broker is received by a First Trust ETF on or after the date of declaration of a distribution by that First Trust ETF payable in cash and before the exdividend date on the Neo Exchange for that distribution (generally, the trading day prior to the record date or such other date where the purchaser becomes entitled to rights connected to the Units subscribed), an additional amount equal to the amount of cash per Unit of that distribution will be added to the NAV per Unit and will be delivered in cash to the First Trust ETF in respect of each issued Unit.

#### **PURCHASES OF UNITS**

#### **Initial Investment**

In compliance with NI 81-102, the First Trust ETFs will not issue Units to the public until orders aggregating not less than \$500,000 have been received and accepted by the applicable First Trust ETF from investors other than the Manager or its directors, officers or securityholders.

#### Offerings and Continuous Distribution

Units of the First Trust ETFs are being issued and sold on a continuous basis and there is no maximum number of Units that may be issued.

#### **Designated Brokers**

The Manager, on behalf of each of the First Trust ETFs, will enter into a Designated Broker Agreement with a Designated Broker pursuant to which the Designated Broker will agree to perform certain duties relating to the First Trust ETF including, without limitation: (i) to subscribe for a sufficient number of Units to satisfy the Neo Exchange's original listing requirements; (ii) to subscribe for Units on an ongoing basis when cash redemptions of Units occur as described under "Redemption and Exchange of Units – Redemption of Units for Cash"; and (iii) to post a liquid two-way market for the trading of Units on the Neo Exchange. The Manager may, in its discretion from time to time, reimburse any Designated Broker for certain expenses incurred by the Designated Broker in performing these duties.

The Designated Broker Agreement will provide that the Manager may from time to time and, in any event not more than once quarterly, require the Designated Broker to subscribe for Units of a First Trust ETF for cash in a dollar amount not to exceed 0.30% of the NAV of the First Trust ETF. The number of Units issued will be the subscription amount divided by the NAV per Unit next determined following the delivery by the Manager of a subscription notice to the Designated Broker. Payment for the Units must be made by the Designated Broker, and the Units will be issued, by no later than the second Trading Day after the subscription notice has been delivered.

#### **Issuance of Units**

### To Designated Brokers and Dealers

All orders to purchase Units directly from the First Trust ETFs must be placed by Designated Brokers or Dealers. The First Trust ETFs reserve the absolute right to reject any subscription order placed by a Designated Broker or Dealer. No fees will be payable by a First Trust ETF to a Designated Broker or Dealer in connection with the issuance of Units. On the issuance of Units, the Manager may, in its discretion, charge an administrative fee to a Designated Broker or Dealer to offset the expenses (including any applicable Neo Exchange additional listing fees) incurred in issuing the Units.

On any Trading Day, a Designated Broker or Dealer may place a subscription order for the Prescribed Number of Units (or an integral multiple thereof) of a First Trust ETF. If a subscription order is received by the First Trust ETF by 9:00 a.m. (Toronto time) on a Trading Day (or such later time on such Trading Day as the Manager may permit), the First Trust ETF will issue to the Designated Broker or Dealer the Prescribed Number of Units (or an integral multiple thereof) by no later than the second Trading Day after the date on which the subscription order is accepted, provided that payment for such Units has been received.

For each Prescribed Number of Units issued, a Designated Broker or Dealer must deliver payment consisting of, in the Manager's discretion: (i) one Basket of Securities and cash in an amount sufficient so that the value of the securities and the cash received is equal to the NAV of the Units next determined following the receipt of the subscription order; (ii) cash in an amount equal to the NAV of the Units next determined following the receipt of the subscription order; or (iii) a combination of securities and cash, as determined by the Manager, in an amount sufficient so that the value of the securities and cash received is equal to the NAV of the Units next determined following the receipt of the subscription order.

The Manager may, in its discretion, increase or decrease the Prescribed Number of Units from time to time. The Prescribed Number of Units will be available on the First Trust ETFs' website at http://www.firsttrust.ca/Retail/ETF/ExchangeTradedFundsBrokerDealerInfo.aspx.

#### To Designated Brokers in Special Circumstances

Units may be issued by a First Trust ETF to Designated Brokers when cash redemptions of Units occur as described below under "Redemption and Exchange of Units – Redemption of Units for Cash".

#### To Unitholders as Reinvested Distributions

Units may be issued by a First Trust ETF to Unitholders of the First Trust ETF on the automatic reinvestment of special dividends and other reinvested distributions. See "Distribution Policy".

# **Buying and Selling Units**

The Units of the First Trust ETFs have been conditionally approved for listing on the Neo Exchange. Subject to satisfying the Neo Exchange's original listing requirements in respect of the First Trust ETFs, Units of the First Trust ETFs will be listed on the Neo Exchange and offered on a continuous basis, and an investor will be able to buy or sell Units of the First Trust ETFs on the Neo Exchange through registered brokers and dealers in the province or territory where the investor resides. There is no maximum number of Units that may be issued. Investors may incur customary brokerage commissions in buying or selling Units of the First Trust ETFs.

### **Special Considerations for Unitholders**

The provisions of the so-called "early warning" requirements set out in Canadian securities legislation do not apply in connection with the acquisition of Units. In addition, the First Trust ETFs have obtained exemptive relief from the securities regulatory authorities to permit Unitholders to acquire more than 20% of the Units of any First Trust ETF through purchases on the Neo Exchange without regard to the take-over bid requirements of Canadian securities legislation, provided that any such Unitholder, and any person acting jointly or in concert with the Unitholder, undertakes to not vote more than 20% of the Units of that First Trust ETF at any meeting of Unitholders.

#### **Non-Resident Unitholders**

At no time may: (i) non-residents of Canada; (ii) partnerships that are not Canadian partnerships; or (iii) a combination of non-residents of Canada and such partnerships (all as defined in the Tax Act) be the beneficial owners of a majority of the Units of a First Trust ETF. The Manager may require declarations as to the jurisdictions in which a beneficial owner of Units is resident and, if a partnership, its status as a Canadian partnership. If the Manager becomes aware, as a result of requiring such declarations as to beneficial ownership or otherwise, that the beneficial owners of 40% of the Units of a First Trust ETF then outstanding are, or may be, non-residents and/or partnerships that are not Canadian partnerships, or that such a situation is imminent, the Manager may make a public announcement thereof. If the Manager determines that more than 40% of such Units are beneficially held by non-residents and/or partnerships that are not Canadian partnerships, the Manager may send a notice to such non-resident Unitholders and partnerships, chosen in inverse order to the order of acquisition or in such manner as the Manager may consider equitable and practicable, requiring them to sell their Units or a portion thereof within a specified period of not less than 30 days. If the Unitholders receiving such notice have not sold the specified number of Units or provided the Manager with satisfactory evidence that they are not non-residents or partnerships other than Canadian partnerships

within such period, the Manager may on behalf of such Unitholders sell such Units and, in the interim, shall suspend the voting and distribution rights attached to such Units. Upon such sale, the affected holders shall cease to be beneficial holders of Units and their rights shall be limited to receiving the net proceeds of sale of such Units.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Manager may determine not to take any of the actions described above if the Manager has been advised by legal counsel that the failure to take any of such actions would not adversely impact the status of the First Trust ETF as a mutual fund trust for purposes of the Tax Act or, alternatively, may take such other action or actions as may be necessary to maintain the status of the First Trust ETF as a mutual fund trust for purposes of the Tax Act.

# **Registration and Transfer through CDS**

Registration of interests in, and transfers of, the Units will be made only through CDS. Units must be purchased, transferred and surrendered for exchange or redemption only through a CDS Participant. All rights of an owner of Units must be exercised through, and all payments or other property to which such owner is entitled will be made or delivered by, CDS or the CDS Participant through which the owner holds such Units. Upon purchase of any Units, the owner will receive only the customary confirmation and physical certificates evidencing ownership will not be issued. References in this prospectus to a holder of Units mean, unless the context otherwise requires, the owner of the beneficial interest in such Units.

Neither the First Trust ETFs nor the Manager will have any liability for: (i) records maintained by CDS relating to the beneficial interests in the Units or the book entry accounts maintained by CDS; (ii) maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records relating to such beneficial ownership interests; or (iii) any advice or representation made or given by CDS and made or given with respect to the rules and regulations of CDS or any action taken by CDS or at the direction of the CDS Participants.

The ability of a beneficial owner of Units to pledge such Units or otherwise take action with respect to such owner's interest in such Units (other than through a CDS Participant) may be limited due to the lack of a physical certificate.

The First Trust ETFs have the option to terminate registration of the Units through the book based system in which case certificates for Units in fully registered form may be issued to beneficial owners of such Units or to their nominees.

### REDEMPTION AND EXCHANGE OF UNITS

#### **Redemption of Units for Cash**

On any Trading Day, Unitholders may redeem Units of any First Trust ETF for cash at a redemption price per Unit equal to the lesser of (a) 95% of the closing price for the Units on the Neo Exchange on the effective day of the redemption; and (b) the NAV per Unit. Because Unitholders will generally be able to sell Units at the market price on the Neo Exchange through a registered broker or dealer subject only to customary brokerage commissions, Unitholders are advised to consult their brokers, dealers or investment advisors before redeeming their Units for cash.

In order for a cash redemption to be effective on a Trading Day, a cash redemption request in the form prescribed by the Manager from time to time must be delivered to the applicable First Trust ETF at its registered office by 9:00 a.m. (Toronto time) on the Trading Day (or such later time on such Trading Day as the Manager may permit). If a cash redemption request is not received by the delivery deadlines noted immediately above on a Trading Day, the cash redemption request will be effective only on the next Trading Day. Payment of the redemption price will be made by no later than the second Trading Day after the effective day of the redemption. The cash redemption request forms may be obtained from any registered broker or dealer.

Investors that redeem Units prior to the distribution record date for any distribution will not be entitled to receive that distribution.

In connection with the redemption of Units, a First Trust ETF may dispose of securities or other assets to satisfy the redemption.

# **Exchange of Units for Baskets of Securities**

On any Trading Day, Unitholders may exchange the Prescribed Number of Units (or an integral multiple thereof) for Baskets of Securities and/or cash in the discretion of the Manager.

To effect an exchange of Units, a Unitholder must submit an exchange request in the form prescribed by the Manager from time to time to the applicable First Trust ETF at its registered office by 9:00 a.m. (Toronto time) on a Trading Day (or such later time on such Trading Day as the Manager may permit). The exchange price will be equal to the NAV of the Units on the effective day of the exchange request, payable by delivery of Baskets of Securities and cash. The Units will be redeemed in the exchange.

If an exchange request is not received by the submission deadlines noted immediately above on a Trading Day, the exchange order will be effective only on the next Trading Day. Settlement of exchanges for Baskets of Securities and cash will be made by no later than the second Trading Day after the effective day of the exchange request. The securities to be included in the Baskets of Securities delivered on an exchange shall be selected by the Sub-Advisor in its discretion.

Unitholders should be aware that the NAV per Unit will decline on the date of declaration of any distribution payable in cash on Units. A Unitholder that is no longer a holder of record on the applicable distribution record date will not be entitled to receive that distribution.

If Constituent Securities are cease traded at any time by order of a securities regulatory authority or other relevant regulator or stock exchange, the delivery of such securities to a Unitholder on an exchange in the Prescribed Number of Units may be postponed until such time as the transfer of the securities is permitted by law.

# **Requests for Exchange and Redemption**

A Unitholder submitting an exchange or redemption request is deemed to represent to the First Trust ETF and the Manager that: (i) it has full legal authority to tender the Units for exchange or redemption and to receive the proceeds of the exchange or redemption; and (ii) the Units have not been loaned or pledged and are not the subject of a repurchase agreement, securities lending agreement or a similar arrangement that would preclude the delivery of the Units to the First Trust ETF. The Manager reserves the right to verify these representations at its discretion. Generally, the Manager will require verification with respect to an exchange or redemption request if there are unusually high levels of exchange or redemption activity or short interest in the applicable First Trust ETF. If the Unitholder, upon receipt of a verification request, does not provide the Manager with satisfactory evidence of the truth of the representations, the Unitholder's exchange or redemption request will not be considered to have been received in proper form and will be rejected.

#### **Suspension of Exchange and Redemption**

The Manager may suspend the redemption of Units or payment of redemption proceeds of a First Trust ETF: (i) during any period when normal trading is suspended on a stock exchange or other market on which securities owned by the First Trust ETF are listed and traded, if these securities represent more than 50% by value or underlying market exposure of the total assets of the First Trust ETF, without allowance for liabilities, and if these securities are not traded on any other exchange that represents a reasonably practical alternative for the First Trust ETF; or (ii) with the prior permission of the securities regulatory authorities, for any period not exceeding 30 days during which the Manager determines that conditions exist that render impractical the sale of assets of the First Trust ETF or that impair the ability of the Valuation Agent to determine the value of the assets of the First Trust ETF. The suspension may apply to all requests for redemption received prior to the suspension but as to which payment has not been made, as well as to all requests received while the suspension is in effect. All Unitholders making such requests shall be advised by the Manager of the suspension and that the redemption will be effected at a price determined on the first Valuation Date following the termination of the suspension. All such Unitholders shall have and shall be advised that they have

the right to withdraw their requests for redemption. The suspension shall terminate in any event on the first day on which the condition giving rise to the suspension has ceased to exist, provided that no other condition under which a suspension is authorized then exists. To the extent not inconsistent with official rules and regulations promulgated by any government body having jurisdiction over the First Trust ETFs, any declaration of suspension made by the Manager shall be conclusive.

#### **Costs Associated with Exchange and Redemption**

Unitholders who buy and sell Units of the First Trust ETFs through the facilities of the Neo Exchange (or other exchange on which Units of the First Trust ETFs are traded) do not pay a fee directly to the Manager or the First Trust ETF in respect of those purchases and sales.

The Manager or a First Trust ETF may, in its discretion, charge Designated Brokers and/or Dealers an administrative fee of up to 0.15% of the exchange or redemption proceeds of the First Trust ETF to offset certain transaction costs associated with the exchange or redemption of Units of the First Trust ETF by such Designated Broker and/or Dealer.

# Allocations of Capital Gains to Redeeming or Exchanging Unitholders

Pursuant to the Declaration of Trust, a First Trust ETF may allocate and designate as payable any capital gains realized by the First Trust ETF as a result of any disposition of property of the First Trust ETF. In addition, a First Trust ETF has the authority to distribute, allocate and designate any capital gains of the First Trust ETF to a Unitholder of the First Trust ETF who has redeemed or exchanged Units during a year. Any such allocations and designations will reduce the redemption price otherwise payable to the redeeming Unitholder.

Legislative Proposals released by the Minister of Finance (Canada) on July 30, 2019 proposed amendments to the Tax Act that would, effective for taxation years of the First Trust ETF beginning on or after March 20, 2020, deny the First Trust ETFs a deduction for the portion of a capital gain designated to a Unitholder on a redemption of Units that is greater than the Unitholder's accrued gain on those Units, where the Unitholder's proceeds of disposition are reduced by the designation. If such proposed amendments to the Tax Act are enacted in their current form, any amounts that would otherwise have been designated to redeeming Unitholders may be made payable to the remaining, non-redeeming Unitholders to ensure the First Trust ETF will not be liable for non-refundable income tax thereon. Accordingly, the amounts of taxable distributions made to Unitholders of a First Trust ETF may be greater than they would have been in the absence of such amendments. See "Income Tax Considerations".

# **Exchange and Redemption of Units through CDS Participants**

The exchange and redemption rights described above must be exercised through the CDS Participant through which the owner holds Units. Beneficial owners of Units should ensure that they provide exchange and/or redemption instructions to the CDS Participants through which they hold Units sufficiently in advance of the cut-off times described above to allow such CDS Participants to notify CDS and for CDS to notify the Manager prior to the relevant cut-off time.

# **Short-Term Trading**

At the present time, the Manager is of the view that it is not necessary to impose any short-term trading restrictions on the First Trust ETFs as Units of the First Trust ETFs are generally traded by investors on an exchange in the secondary market in the same way as other listed securities. In the few situations where the First Trust ETFs are not purchased in the secondary market, purchases usually involve a Designated Broker or a Dealer upon whom the Manager may impose a redemption fee, which is intended to compensate the applicable First Trust ETF for any costs and expenses incurred in relation to the trade.

#### PRICE RANGE AND TRADING VOLUME OF UNITS

This information is not yet available because the First Trust ETFs are new.

# INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS

In the opinion of Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, the following is a summary of the principal Canadian federal income tax considerations under the Tax Act for the First Trust ETFs and for a prospective investor in a First Trust ETF that, for the purpose of the Tax Act, is an individual, other than a trust, is resident in Canada, holds Units of the First Trust ETF, and any securities of Constituent Issuers accepted as payment for Units of a First Trust ETF, as capital property, has not entered into a "derivative forward agreement" as defined in the Tax Act in respect of Units of a First Trust ETF or securities of such Constituent Issuers, and is not affiliated and deals at arm's length with the First Trust ETF. This summary is based upon the current provisions of the Tax Act, all specific proposals to amend the Tax Act that have been publicly announced by the Minister of Finance (Canada) prior to the date hereof ("Tax Proposals"), and counsel's understanding of the current published administrative policies and assessing practices of the Canada Revenue Agency. This summary does not take into account or anticipate any other changes in law whether by legislative, administrative or judicial action and it does not take into account provincial, territorial or foreign income tax legislation or considerations, which may differ from the considerations described below.

This summary is of a general nature only and is not exhaustive of all possible income tax considerations. Prospective investors should therefore consult their own tax advisors about their individual circumstances.

This summary is also based on the assumptions that: (i) none of the issuers of securities held by a First Trust ETF will be a foreign affiliate of the First Trust ETF or any Unitholder; (ii) none of the securities held by a First Trust ETF will be a "tax shelter investment" within the meaning of section 143.2 of the Tax Act; (iii) none of the securities held by a First Trust ETF will be an interest in a non-resident trust other than an "exempt foreign trust" as defined in the Tax Act; and (iv) no First Trust ETF will enter into any arrangement where the result is a dividend rental arrangement for the purposes of the Tax Act.

#### **Status of the First Trust ETFs**

This summary is based on the assumption that each First Trust ETF will comply at all material times with the conditions prescribed in the Tax Act and otherwise so as to qualify as a "mutual fund trust" as defined in the Tax Act.

A First Trust ETF that does not qualify as a mutual fund trust under the Tax Act will be treated as a "financial institution" for purposes of certain special mark-to-market rules in the Tax Act if more than 50% of the Units of the First Trust ETF are held by one or more Unitholders that are themselves considered to be financial institutions under those rules.

In such event, the tax year of the First Trust ETF will be deemed to end immediately before that time and any gains or losses on certain securities accrued before that time will be deemed realized by the First Trust ETF and will be distributed to Unitholders. In addition, the First Trust ETF will be required to recognize at least annually on income account any gains and losses accruing on certain types of debt obligations and equity securities that it holds and also will be subject to special rules with respect to income inclusion on these securities. Any income arising from such treatment will be included in amounts to be distributed to Unitholders. If more than 50% of the Units of such a First Trust ETF cease to be held by "financial institutions", the tax year of the First Trust ETF will be deemed to end immediately before that time and any gains or losses on certain securities accrued before that time will be deemed realized by the First Trust ETF and will be distributed to Unitholders. A new taxation year for the First Trust ETF will then begin and for that and subsequent taxation years, for so long as not more than 50% of the Units of the First Trust ETF are held by "financial institutions", or the First Trust ETF is a mutual fund trust for purposes of the Tax Act, the First Trust ETF will not be subject to these special mark-to-market rules. Given the manner in which Units are distributed, there will be circumstances in which it will not be possible to control or identify whether a First Trust ETF has, or has ceased to, become a "financial institution". As a result, there can be no assurance that a First Trust ETF is not a "financial institution" or will not in the future become, or cease to be, a "financial institution" and no assurance as to when and to whom any distributions arising on the change in "financial institution" status of a First Trust ETF will be made, or that the First Trust ETF will not be required to pay tax on any undistributed income or taxable capital gains realized by the First Trust ETF on such event.

Provided that a First Trust ETF qualifies as a mutual fund trust within the meaning of the Tax Act, is a "registered investment" within the meaning of the Tax Act, or that the Units of the First Trust ETF are listed on a "designated stock exchange" within the meaning of the Tax Act, which includes the Neo Exchange, the Units of such First Trust ETF will be qualified investments for trusts governed by Registered Plans.

In the case of an exchange of Units of a First Trust ETF for a Basket of Securities of the First Trust ETF, or a distribution in kind on the termination of a First Trust ETF, the investor will receive securities. The securities received by an investor as a result of an exchange of Units or a distribution in kind may or may not be qualified investments for Registered Plans. Investors should consult their own tax counsel for advice on whether or not such securities would be qualified investments for Registered Plans.

# **Taxation of the First Trust ETFs**

A First Trust ETF will include in computing its income taxable distributions received on securities held by it, including any special dividends and the taxable portion of capital gains realized by the First Trust ETF on the disposition of securities held by it and income earned by any securities lending activity. Under the SIFT Rules, certain income earned by issuers of Constituent Securities that are SIFT trusts or SIFT partnerships, when such income is distributed or allocated to a First Trust ETF, would be treated as eligible dividends from a taxable Canadian corporation. A First Trust ETF will include in computing its income any interest accruing to it on bonds held by that First Trust ETF. In the case of any other First Trust ETF holding real return or inflation-adjusted bonds, any amounts in respect of inflation-related adjustments to the principal amount of the bonds will be deemed to be interest for this purpose. Any such amounts of accrued interest and amounts deemed to be interest will be reflected in distributions to Unitholders.

The Declaration of Trust governing each of the First Trust ETFs requires that the First Trust ETF distribute its net income and net realized capital gains, if any, for each taxation year of the First Trust ETF to Unitholders to such an extent that the First Trust ETF will not be liable in any taxation year for ordinary income tax (after taking into account any applicable losses of the First Trust ETF and any capital gains refunds (defined below) to which the First Trust ETF is entitled). If in a taxation year the income for tax purposes of a First Trust ETF exceeds the cash available for distribution by the First Trust ETF, such as in the case of the receipt by the First Trust ETF of special dividends, the First Trust ETF will distribute its income through a payment of reinvested distributions.

If a First Trust ETF is not a "mutual fund trust" under the Tax Act throughout a taxation year, the First Trust ETF (i) may become liable for alternative minimum tax under the Tax Act in such year, (ii) may be subject to a special tax under Part XII.2 of the Tax Act in such year and (iii) may be subject to rules applicable to financial institutions discussed above. A First Trust ETF that is a "registered investment" under the Tax Act and is not a "mutual fund trust" may, in some circumstances, be subject to tax under Part X.2 of the Tax Act if the First Trust ETF makes an investment in property that is not a qualified investment for Registered Plans. Any First Trust ETF that is a "registered investment" does not intend to make any investment which would result in the First Trust ETF becoming subject to tax under Part X.2 of the Tax Act.

If a First Trust ETF invests in an Underlying Fund that is a Canadian resident trust, other than a SIFT trust, the Underlying Fund may designate a portion of amounts that it distributes to the First Trust ETF as may reasonably be considered to consist of: (i) taxable dividends (including eligible dividends) received by the Underlying Fund on shares of taxable Canadian corporations; and (ii) net taxable capital gains realized by the Underlying Fund. Any such designated amounts will be deemed for tax purposes to be received or realized by the First Trust ETF as such a taxable dividend or taxable capital gain, respectively. An Underlying Fund that pays foreign withholding tax may make designations such that a First Trust ETF may be treated as having paid its share of such foreign tax for purposes of the foreign tax credit rules in the Tax Act.

The First Trust ETFs may be subject to the suspended loss rules contained in the Tax Act. A loss realized on a disposition of property may be considered to be a suspended loss when a First Trust ETF acquires a property (a "substituted property") that is the same or identical to the property disposed of, within 30 days before and 30 days after the disposition and the First Trust ETF owns the substituted property 30 days after the original disposition. If a loss is suspended, the applicable First Trust ETF cannot deduct the loss from the First Trust ETF's gains until the substituted property is sold and is not reacquired within 30 days before and after the sale.

In determining the income of a First Trust ETF, gains or losses realized upon dispositions of securities in which the First Trust ETF has invested will constitute capital gains or capital losses of the First Trust ETF in the year realized unless the First Trust ETF is a "financial institution" as described above, or is considered to be trading or dealing in securities or otherwise carrying on a business of buying and selling securities, or the First Trust ETF has acquired the securities in a transaction or transactions considered to be an adventure in the nature of trade.

A First Trust ETF will be entitled for each taxation year throughout which it is a "mutual fund trust" for purposes of the Tax Act to reduce (or receive a refund in respect of) its liability, if any, for tax on its net realized capital gains by an amount determined under the Tax Act based on the redemptions of its Units during the year ("capital gains refund"). The capital gains refund in a particular taxation year may not completely offset the tax liability of the First Trust ETF for such taxation year which may arise upon the sale of its investments in connection with redemptions of Units.

Tax Proposals released by the Minister of Finance (Canada) on July 30, 2019 proposed amendments to the Tax Act that would, effective for taxation years of the First Trust ETF beginning on or after March 20, 2020, deny the First Trust ETFs a deduction for the portion of a capital gain designated to a Unitholder on a redemption of Units that is greater than the Unitholder's accrued gain on those Units, where the Unitholder's proceeds of disposition are reduced by the designation. If such proposed amendments to the Tax Act are enacted in their current form, any amounts that would otherwise have been designated to redeeming Unitholders may be made payable to the remaining, non-redeeming Unitholders to ensure the First Trust ETF will not be liable for non-refundable income tax thereon. Accordingly, the amounts of taxable distributions made to Unitholders of a First Trust ETF may be greater than they would have been in the absence of such amendments.

The Manager has advised counsel that, generally, each First Trust ETF will include gains and deduct losses on income account in connection with investments made through derivatives transactions, except where a First Trust ETF is not a "financial institution" for purposes of the Tax Act, such derivatives are not "derivative forward agreements" as defined in the Tax Act, and are entered into in order to hedge securities that are held on capital account by the First Trust ETF, and are sufficiently linked thereto. Such gains or losses will be recognized for tax purposes at the time they are realized by the First Trust ETF.

Each First Trust ETF is required to compute its income and gains for tax purposes in Canadian dollars. Therefore, the amount of income, cost, proceeds of disposition and other amounts in respect of investments that are not Canadian dollar denominated will be affected by fluctuations in the exchange rate of the Canadian dollar against the relevant foreign currency.

A First Trust ETF may pay foreign withholding or other taxes in connection with investments in foreign securities in respect of which foreign tax credits may not be available.

#### **Taxation of Unitholders**

#### Distributions

A Unitholder will be required to include in the Unitholder's income for tax purposes for any year the amount of net income and net taxable capital gains of the First Trust ETF, if any, paid or payable to the Unitholder in the year and deducted by the First Trust ETF in computing its income, whether or not such amounts are reinvested in additional Units.

The non-taxable portion of any net realized capital gains of a First Trust ETF that is not a "financial institution", as described above, that is paid or payable to a Unitholder in a taxation year will not be included in computing the Unitholder's income for the year and will not reduce the adjusted cost base of the Unitholder's Units of that First Trust ETF. Any other non-taxable distribution, such as a return of capital, will not be included in computing the Unitholder's income for the year but will reduce the Unitholder's adjusted cost base (unless the First Trust ETF elects to treat such amount as a distribution of additional income). To the extent that a Unitholder's adjusted cost base would otherwise be a negative amount, the negative amount will be deemed to be a capital gain realized by the Unitholder and the Unitholder's adjusted cost base will be nil immediately thereafter.

Each First Trust ETF will designate, to the extent permitted by the Tax Act, the portion of the net income distributed to Unitholders as may reasonably be considered to consist of, respectively: (i) taxable dividends (including eligible dividends) received or considered to be received by the First Trust ETF on shares of taxable Canadian corporations; and (ii) net taxable capital gains realized or considered to be realized by the First Trust ETF. Any such designated amount will be deemed for tax purposes to be received or realized by Unitholders in the year as a taxable dividend and as a taxable capital gain, respectively. The dividend gross-up and tax credit treatment normally applicable to taxable dividends (including eligible dividends) paid by a taxable Canadian corporation will apply to amounts designated by the applicable First Trust ETF as such taxable dividends. Capital gains so designated will be subject to the general rules relating to the taxation of capital gains described below. In addition, a First Trust ETF may make designations in respect of the income from foreign sources so that Unitholders may be able to claim a foreign tax credit in accordance with the provisions of and subject to the general limitations under the Tax Act for a portion of foreign tax, if any, paid by the First Trust ETF or an Underlying Fund. Any loss realized by the First Trust ETF for purposes of the Tax Act cannot be allocated to, and cannot be treated as a loss of, the Unitholders of such First Trust ETF.

#### Composition of Distributions

Unitholders will be informed each year of the composition of the amounts distributed to them, including amounts in respect of both cash and reinvested distributions. This information will indicate whether distributions are to be treated as ordinary income, taxable dividends (including eligible dividends), taxable capital gains, non-taxable amounts or foreign source income, and as to foreign tax deemed paid by the Unitholder as those items are applicable.

## Disposition of Units

Upon the actual or deemed disposition of a Unit, including the exchange or redemption of a Unit, and including upon the termination of a First Trust ETF, a capital gain (or a capital loss) will generally be realized by the Unitholder to the extent that the proceeds of disposition of the Unit exceed (or are less than) the aggregate of the adjusted cost base to the Unitholder of the Unit and any reasonable costs of disposition. In general, the adjusted cost base of all Units of a particular First Trust ETF held by the Unitholder is the total amount paid for the Units (including brokerage commissions paid and the amount of reinvested distributions), regardless of when the investor bought them, less any non-taxable distributions (other than the non-taxable portion of capital gains) such as a return of capital and less the adjusted cost base of any Units of that First Trust ETF previously redeemed/exchanged by the Unitholder. For the purpose of determining the adjusted cost base of Units to a Unitholder, when Units of a First Trust ETF are acquired, the cost of the newly acquired Units will be averaged with the adjusted cost base of all Units of that First Trust ETF owned by the Unitholder as capital property immediately before that time.

Where Units of a First Trust ETF are exchanged by the redeeming Unitholder for Baskets of Securities, or where securities are received by a Unitholder on a distribution in kind on the termination of a First Trust ETF, the proceeds of disposition to the Unitholder of the Units will be equal to the fair market value of the securities so received, plus the amount of any cash received on the exchange. The cost for tax purposes of securities acquired by a redeeming Unitholder on the exchange or redemption of Units will generally be the fair market value of such securities at that time.

#### Where Securities of Constituent Issuers are Accepted as Payment for Units of a First Trust ETF

Where securities of Constituent Issuers are accepted as payment for Units acquired by a Unitholder, such Unitholder will generally realize a capital gain (or capital loss) in the taxation year of the Unitholder in which the disposition of such securities takes place to the extent that the proceeds of disposition for such securities, net of any reasonable costs of disposition, exceed (or are less than) the adjusted cost base of such securities to the Unitholder. For this purpose, the proceeds of disposition to the Unitholder will equal the aggregate of the fair market value of the Units received and the amount of any cash received in lieu of fractional Units. The cost to a Unitholder of Units so acquired will be equal to the fair market value of the securities of the Constituent Issuers disposed of in exchange for such Units at the time of disposition less any cash received in lieu of fractional Units, which sum would generally be equal to or would approximate the fair market value of the Units received as consideration for the securities of Constituent Issuers. In computing the adjusted cost base of a Unit so acquired by a Unitholder, the cost of such Unit must be averaged with the adjusted cost base of any other Units then held by that Unitholder as capital property.

#### Taxation of Capital Gains and Capital Losses

One-half of any capital gain realized by an investor and the amount of any net taxable capital gains realized or considered to be realized by a First Trust ETF and designated by the First Trust ETF in respect of an investor will be included in the investor's income as a taxable capital gain. One-half of a capital loss realized by an investor will be an allowable capital loss that may be deducted from taxable capital gains subject to and in accordance with detailed rules in the Tax Act.

#### **Taxation of Registered Plans**

In general, a Registered Plan will not be taxable on the amount of a distribution paid or payable to a Registered Plan from a First Trust ETF, nor on gains realized by a Registered Plan on a disposition of a Unit. As is the case for all investments held in Registered Plans, amounts withdrawn from a Registered Plan (other than from a TFSA or a return of contributions from a RESP or RDSP) will generally be subject to tax.

# Tax Implications of the First Trust ETFs' Distribution Policy

When an investor purchases Units, a portion of the price paid may reflect income or capital gains accrued or realized before such person acquired such Units. When these amounts are payable to such Unitholder as distributions, they must be included in the Unitholder's income for tax purposes subject to the provisions of the Tax Act, even though the First Trust ETF earned or accrued these amounts before the Unitholder owned the Units. This may particularly be the case if Units are purchased near year-end before the final year-end distributions have been made.

#### **International Information Reporting**

The First Trust ETFs are required to comply with due diligence and reporting obligations imposed under amendments to the Tax Act that implemented the Canada-United States Enhanced Tax Information Exchange Agreement. As long as Units of the First Trust ETFs continue to be registered in the name of CDS, the First Trust ETFs should not have any U.S. reportable accounts and, as a result, should not be required to provide information to the Canada Revenue Agency in respect of its Unitholders. However, dealers through which Unitholders hold their Units are subject to due diligence and reporting obligations with respect to financial accounts they maintain for their clients. Unitholders (and, if applicable, the controlling person(s) of a Unitholder) may be requested to provide information to their dealer to identify U.S. persons holding Units. If a Unitholder, or its controlling person(s), is a "Specified U.S. Person" (including a U.S. citizen who is a resident of Canada) or if a Unitholder does not provide the requested information and indicia of U.S. or non-Canadian status is present, Part XVIII of the Tax Act will generally require information about the Unitholder's investments held in the financial account maintained by the dealer to be reported to the Canada Revenue Agency, unless the investments are held within a Registered Plan. The Canada Revenue Agency will then provide that information to the U.S. Internal Revenue Service.

In addition, reporting obligations in the Tax Act have been enacted to implement the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development Common Reporting Standard (the "CRS Rules"). Pursuant to the CRS Rules, Canadian financial institutions are required to have procedures in place to identify accounts held by tax residents of foreign countries other than the U.S. ("Reportable Jurisdictions") or by certain entities any of whose "controlling persons" are tax residents of Reportable Jurisdictions. The CRS Rules provide that Canadian financial institutions must report certain account information and other personal identifying details of Unitholders (and, if applicable, of the controlling persons of such Unitholders) who are tax residents of Reportable Jurisdictions to the Canada Revenue Agency annually. Such information would generally be exchanged on a reciprocal, bilateral basis with Reportable Jurisdictions in which the account holders or such controlling persons are tax residents under the provisions and safeguards of the Multilateral Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters or the relevant bilateral tax treaty. Under the CRS Rules, Unitholders will be required to provide such information regarding their investment in the First Trust ETFs to their dealer for the purpose of such information exchange, unless the investment is held within a Registered Plan.

# **ELIGIBILITY FOR INVESTMENT**

In the opinion of Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, provided that a First Trust ETF qualifies as a mutual fund trust within the meaning of the Tax Act, is a registered investment within the meaning of the Tax Act, or that the Units of the First Trust ETF are listed on a "designated stock exchange" within the meaning of the Tax Act, which includes the Neo Exchange, the Units of that First Trust ETF will be qualified investments for trusts governed by Registered Plans.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, if Units are a "prohibited investment" for a TFSA, RESP, RDSP, RRSP or a RRIF that acquires Units, the holder, subscriber, or annuitant will be subject to a penalty tax as set out in the Tax Act. A "prohibited investment" includes a unit of a trust that does not deal at arm's length with the controlling individual. Controlling individuals of Registered Plans should consult with their tax advisors in this regard.

In the case of an exchange of Units of a First Trust ETF for a Basket of Securities of the First Trust ETF, the investor will receive securities. The securities received by an investor as a result of an exchange of Units or a distribution in kind may or may not be qualified investments for Registered Plans. Investors should consult their own tax counsel for advice on whether or not such securities would be qualified investments for Registered Plans.

#### ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT DETAILS

# The Trustee, Manager and Promoter

FT Portfolio Canada Co. is the trustee, manager and promoter of the First Trust ETFs and is responsible for the administration of the First Trust ETFs. FT Portfolios Canada Co. is registered with the Ontario Securities Commission as a mutual fund dealer and investment fund manager. Its head office and principal place of business is located at 40 King Street West, Suite 5102, Toronto, Ontario M5H 3Y2. It is a privately owned company and an affiliate of First Trust Portfolios L.P., a U.S. registered broker-dealer, and First Trust Advisors L.P., a U.S. registered investment advisor. The First Trust companies are a global enterprise with a history in the U.S. market since 1991 and in Canada since 1996.

### Duties and Services to be Provided by the Trustee, Manager and Promoter

FT Portfolios Canada Co. is the trustee, manager and promoter of each of the First Trust ETFs and, as such, is responsible for providing managerial, administrative and compliance services to the First Trust ETFs including, without limitation, authorizing the payment of operating expenses incurred on behalf of the First Trust ETFs, preparing financial statements and financial and accounting information as required by the First Trust ETFs, ensuring that Unitholders are provided with financial statements (including interim and annual financial statements) and other reports as are required by applicable law from time to time, ensuring that the First Trust ETFs comply with regulatory requirements and applicable stock exchange listing requirements, preparing the First Trust ETFs' reports to Unitholders and the securities regulatory authorities, determining the amount of distributions to be made by the First Trust ETFs and negotiating contractual agreements with third-party providers of services, including Designated Brokers, the Custodian, the Registrar and Transfer Agent, the auditor and printers.

FT Portfolios Canada Co. is required to exercise its powers and discharge its duties honestly, in good faith and in the best interests of Unitholders, and in connection therewith, to exercise the degree of care, diligence and skill that a reasonably prudent trustee and manager would exercise in similar circumstances.

FT Portfolios Canada Co. may resign as trustee and/or manager of any of the First Trust ETFs upon 60 days' notice to the Unitholders. If the Manager resigns it may appoint its successor but, unless its successor is an affiliate of the Manager, its successor must be approved by the Unitholders. If the Manager is in material default of its obligations under the Declaration of Trust and such default has not been cured within 30 days after notice of the same has been given to the Manager, the Unitholders may remove the Manager and appoint a successor trustee and/or manager.

FT Portfolios Canada Co. is entitled to fees for its services as manager under the Declaration of Trust as described under "Fees and Expenses – Management Fees". In addition, FT Portfolios Canada Co. and its affiliates and

each of their directors, officers, employees and agents will be indemnified by each of the First Trust ETFs for all liabilities, costs and expenses incurred in connection with any action, suit or proceeding that is proposed or commenced or other claim that is made against any of them in the exercise of FT Portfolios Canada Co.'s duties under the Declaration of Trust, if they do not result from FT Portfolios Canada Co.'s wilful misconduct, bad faith, gross negligence or material breach of its obligations thereunder.

The management and trustee services of FT Portfolios Canada Co. are not exclusive and nothing in the Declaration of Trust or any agreement prevents FT Portfolios Canada Co. from providing similar services to other investment funds and other clients (whether or not their investment objectives and policies are similar to those of the First Trust ETFs) or from engaging in other business activities.

FT Portfolios Canada Co. has taken the initiative in founding and organizing the First Trust ETFs and is, accordingly, the promoter of the First Trust ETFs within the meaning of securities legislation of certain provinces and territories of Canada.

# Officers and Directors of the Trustee, Manager and Promoter

The name and municipality of residence of each of the directors and executive officers of FT Portfolios Canada Co., the trustee, manager, and promoter of the First Trust ETFs, and their principal occupations are as follows:

Name and Municipality of Residence	Position with Manager	Principal Occupation
ANDREW ROGGENSACK Western Springs, Illinois	Chair (as chief executive officer), Corporate Secretary and Director	President, First Trust Portfolios L.P., First Trust Advisors L.P. and First Trust Global Enterprises L.P.
DAVID G. MCGAREL Western Springs, Illinois	Director	Managing Director, Chief Investment Officer and Chief Operating Officer of First Trust Portfolios L.P., and First Trust Advisors L.P., and Chief Operating Officer of First Trust Global Enterprises L.P.
ERIC ANDERSON West Chicago, Illinois	Director	Senior Vice President, First Trust Portfolios L.P. and First Trust Advisors L.P.
SUSAN JOHNSON Oakville, Ontario	Chief Financial Officer, Ultimate Designated Person and Chief Compliance Officer	Chief Financial Officer of FT Portfolios Canada Co.
KARL CHEONG Toronto, Ontario	Director	Head of Distribution, Canada of FT Portfolios Canada Co.

Each of the foregoing individuals has held his or her current office or a senior position with the Manager or an affiliate thereof during the past five years other than Susan Johnson who was appointed Chief Financial Officer on September 1, 2017, Andrew Roggensack who was appointed Chair and a director on July 18, 2017, Eric Anderson who was appointed a director on July 18, 2017 and Karl Cheong who was appointed a director on July 18, 2017.

As the table illustrates, Mr. Roggensack is President of First Trust Portfolios L.P., First Trust Advisors L.P. and First Trust Global Enterprises L.P. Mr. McGarel is Managing Director, Chief Investment Officer and the Chief Operating Officer of First Trust Portfolios L.P., First Trust Advisors L.P. and Chief Operating Officer of First Trust Global Enterprises L.P. Mr. Anderson is a Senior Vice President of First Trust Portfolio L.P. and First Trust Advisors L.P. First Trust Global Enterprises L.P., is a holding company that indirectly holds all of the shares of the Manager through FDPM Trust and First Trust Portfolios L.P. is a privately owned investment manager, affiliated with the Manager and located in Wheaton, Illinois.

#### The Portfolio Advisor

First Trust Advisors L.P. is the Portfolio Advisor of the First Trust ETFs and is responsible for providing investment advisory services to the First Trust ETFs. First Trust Advisors L.P. is registered with the Ontario Securities Commission as a portfolio manager. The Portfolio Advisor was established in 1991 and together with its affiliate, First Trust Portfolios L.P., has over 900 employees in North America. The principal office of First Trust Advisors L.P. is located at 120 E Liberty Drive, #400, Wheaton, Illinois, 60187, United States.

#### Duties and Services to be Provided by the Portfolio Advisor

The Portfolio Advisor Agreement sets out the duties of the Portfolio Advisor. Under the Portfolio Advisor Agreement, the Portfolio Advisor is responsible for the implementation of the overall investment strategy of the First Trust ETFs which includes the acquisition of the securities for the portfolio of the First Trust ETFs.

Under the Portfolio Advisor Agreement, the Portfolio Advisor is required to act at all times on a basis which is fair and reasonable to the First Trust ETFs, to act honestly and in good faith with a view to the best interests of the Unitholders of the applicable Fund, and, in connection therewith, to exercise the degree of care, diligence and skill that a reasonably prudent portfolio advisor would exercise in comparable circumstances. The Portfolio Advisor Agreement provides that the Portfolio Advisor shall not be liable to the Manager, the First Trust ETFs, a Unitholder thereof or any other person for any loss in respect of an investment decision if such decision shall have been made with due care and in good faith, provided the Portfolio Advisor has satisfied the duties and standard of care, diligence and skill set forth above and further provided the Portfolio Advisor has not acted with wilful misconduct, bad faith, reckless disregard or gross negligence in the performance of its obligations and duties under the Portfolio Advisor Agreement or materially breached the terms of such agreement. The First Trust ETFs shall indemnify the Portfolio Advisor and its directors, officers, employees and agents and save them harmless in respect of all losses, liabilities, damages, expenses and costs incurred in connection with any action, suit or proceeding or other claim that is made against the Portfolio Advisor or any of its directors, officers, employees or agents in the exercise of their duties under the Portfolio Advisor Agreement, except those resulting from the Portfolio Advisor's wilful misconduct, bad faith, reckless disregard, gross negligence or material breach of its obligations and duties under such agreement.

The Portfolio Advisor Agreement, unless terminated in accordance with its terms, will continue in effect until the termination of the Manager as manager of the First Trust ETFs. The Manager can terminate the Portfolio Advisor Agreement at any time on 30 days' notice for breach thereof by the Portfolio Advisor. The Portfolio Advisor's appointment under the Portfolio Advisor Agreement may be immediately terminated by the Manager if (i) the Portfolio Advisor shall cease to carry on business, become bankrupt or insolvent, resolve to wind up, dissolve or liquidate, if a receiver of any of the assets of the Portfolio Advisor is appointed or if the Portfolio Advisor makes a general assignment for the benefit of its creditors, (ii) the Manager establishes that the Portfolio Advisor has committed any fraud or material wrongdoing in conducting its business, generally or under the Portfolio Advisor Agreement or (iii) the Portfolio Advisor has lost any registration, license or other authorization required of it to perform its services under the Portfolio Advisor Agreement. The Portfolio Advisor Agreement may be terminated by either party on 60 days' notice to the other party. The Portfolio Advisor Agreement may be assigned by the Portfolio Advisor to an affiliate thereof. In addition, pursuant to the terms of the Portfolio Advisor Agreement, the Portfolio Advisor may retain a subadvisor to provide investment advisory and portfolio management services.

The Portfolio Advisor is entitled to fees for providing investment management services. All such fees will be paid to the Portfolio Advisor by the Manager.

The services of the Portfolio Advisor and its officers and directors are not exclusive to the Manager. The Portfolio Advisor or any of its affiliates and associates may, at any time, engage in the promotion, management or investment management of any other entity which invests primarily in the same securities as those held by the First Trust ETFs and provide similar services to other investment funds and other clients and engage in other activities. Investment decisions for the First Trust ETFs will be made independently of those made for other clients and independently of investments of the Portfolio Advisor. On occasion, however, the Portfolio Advisor may identify the same investment for the First Trust ETFs and for one or more of its other clients. If the First Trust ETFs and one or more of the other clients of the Portfolio Advisor are engaged in the purchase or sale of the same security, the transactions will be effected on an equitable basis.

The Portfolio Advisor has retained the Sub-Advisor to provide investment advisory and portfolio management services in respect of the First Trust ETFs.

#### The Sub-Advisor

Jarislowsky, Fraser Limited is the investment sub-advisor of the First Trust ETFs and is responsible for the selection and ongoing monitoring of the securities in each fund's portfolio. The Sub-Advisor was established in 1955, has 193 employees in North America and as of June 30, 2020, had approximately \$41.7 billion in assets under management or committed to management. The Sub-Advisor is an investment advisor located at 20 Queen Street West, Toronto, Ontario M5H 3R3. The Sub-Advisor is registered as (a) a portfolio manager in each of the provinces and territories of Canada and (b) an investment fund manager in Alberta, British Columbia, Newfoundland and Labrador, Ontario and Quebec.

# Duties and Services to be Provided by the Sub-Advisor

The Sub-Advisory Agreement sets out the duties of the Sub-Advisor. Under the Sub-Advisory Agreement, the Sub-Advisor is responsible for the implementation of the overall investment strategy of the First Trust ETFs which includes the acquisition of the securities for the portfolio of the First Trust ETFs.

Under the Sub-Advisory Agreement, the Sub-Advisor is required to act at all times on a basis which is fair and reasonable to the First Trust ETFs, to act honestly and in good faith and in the best interests of the applicable First Trust ETF and its Unitholders, and, in connection therewith, to exercise the degree of care, diligence and skill that a reasonably prudent portfolio manager would exercise in comparable circumstances. The Sub-Advisory Agreement provides that the Sub-Advisor shall not be liable to the Portfolio Advisor, the Manager, the First Trust ETFs, a Unitholder thereof or any other person for any default, failure or defect in any of the assets forming part of a First Trust ETF's portfolio, nor shall it be liable for any losses in the NAV of a First Trust ETF if it has satisfied the duties and standard of care, diligence and skill set forth above and further provided the Sub-Advisor has not acted with wilful misconduct, bad faith, reckless disregard or negligence in the performance of its duties, obligations and responsibilities under the Sub-Advisory Agreement or breached the terms of such agreement. The Sub-Advisory Agreement also provides that the Sub-Advisor shall be responsible to the First Trust ETFs for any loss that arises out of the failure of the Sub-Advisor to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of its office honestly, in good faith and in the best interests of the First Trust ETF and its Unitholders or to exercise the degree of care, diligence and skill that a reasonably prudent portfolio manager would exercise in the circumstances. The First Trust ETFs shall indemnify the Sub-Advisor and its directors, officers, employees and agents in respect of all losses, liabilities, damages, expenses and costs incurred in connection with any action, suit or proceeding or other claim that is made against the Sub-Advisor or any of its directors, officers, employees or agents in the exercise of their duties under the Sub-Advisory Agreement, except those resulting from the Sub-Advisor's wilful misconduct, bad faith, reckless disregard or negligence or breach of its duties, obligations and responsibilities under such agreement.

The Sub-Advisory Agreement, unless terminated in accordance with its terms, will continue in effect until the termination of the Portfolio Advisor, as portfolio advisor of the First Trust ETFs. The Sub-Advisor's appointment under the Sub-Advisory Agreement may be immediately terminated by the Portfolio Advisor if (i) the Sub-Advisor shall cease to carry on business, become bankrupt or insolvent, resolve to wind up, dissolve or liquidate, if a receiver of any of the assets of the Sub-Advisor is appointed or if the Sub-Advisor makes a general assignment for the benefit of its creditors, (ii) the Portfolio Advisor establishes that the Sub-Advisor has committed any fraud or material wrongdoing in conducting its business, generally or under the Sub-Advisory Agreement or (iii) the Sub-Advisory has lost any registration, license or other authorization required of it to perform its services under the Sub-Advisory Agreement. The Sub-Advisory Agreement may be terminated by either party on 60 days' written notice to the other party.

The Sub-Advisor is entitled to fees for providing investment management services. All such fees will be paid to the Sub-Advisor by the Portfolio Advisor.

The services of the Sub-Advisor and its officers and directors are not exclusive to the Manager. The Sub-Advisor or any of its affiliates and associates may, at any time, engage in the promotion, management or investment management of any other entity which invests primarily in the same securities as those held by the First Trust ETFs

and provide similar services to other investment funds and other clients and engage in other activities. Investment decisions for the First Trust ETFs will be made independently of those made for other clients and independently of investments of the Sub-Advisor. On occasion, however, the Sub-Advisor may identify the same investment for the First Trust ETFs and for one or more of its other clients. If the First Trust ETFs and one or more of the other clients of the Sub-Advisor are engaged in the purchase or sale of the same security, the transactions will be effected on a fair and equitable basis.

There is no one individual primarily responsible for investment management decisions made by the Sub-Advisor for the First Trust ETFs. Rather, investment decisions are made under the direction of the following individuals.

First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF

Name	Title with the Sub-Advisor	Length of Service
Chris Kresic	Head of Fixed Income and Asset	Since 2010
	Allocation and Portfolio Manager,	
	Fixed Income	
Antoine Potter	Director and Associate Portfolio	2016
	Manager, Fixed Income	
Nitin Patel	Director and Senior Analyst, Fixed	2001
	Income	
Vincent Ng	Research Analyst	2018
Bryan Rock	Research Analyst	2018

# First Trust JFL Global Equity ETF

Name	Title with the Sub-Advisor	Length of Service
Marc A. Novakoff	Managing Director and Portfolio	Since 2003
	Manager, Emerging Markets and	
	Global Equities	
Kelly Patrick	Co-Head of Equities and Portfolio	Since 2006
	Manager, International and Global	
	Equities	

Each of the foregoing individuals has held his or her current office or a senior position with the Sub-Advisor or an affiliate thereof during the past five years other than (a) Vincent Ng who was previously a Research Analyst at Aegon Asset Management and (b) Bryan Rock who was previously a member of the investment team at PCJ Investment Counsel.

#### **Brokerage Arrangements**

The Sub-Advisor is responsible for decisions to buy and sell securities for the First Trust ETFs and for the placement of the First Trust ETFs' securities business, the negotiation of the commissions to be paid on brokered transactions, the prices for principal trades in securities, and the allocation of portfolio brokerage and principal business. It is the policy of the Sub-Advisor to seek best execution with respect to each transaction, and with respect to brokered transactions in light of the overall quality of brokerage and research services provided to the Sub-Advisor and its clients. The best price to the First Trust ETF means the best net price without regard to the mix between purchase or sale price and commission, if any. Purchases may be made from underwriters, dealers and, on occasion, the issuers. Commissions will be paid on a First Trust ETF's futures and options transactions, if any. The purchase price of portfolio securities purchased from an underwriter or dealer may include underwriting commissions and dealer spreads. The First Trust ETFs may pay markups on principal transactions. In selecting broker-dealers and in negotiating commissions, the Sub-Advisor considers, among other things, the firm's reliability, the quality of its execution services on a continuing basis and its financial condition. Portfolio transactions may be effected with broker-dealers who have assisted investors in the purchase of shares.

The Sub-Advisor has advised the Portfolio Advisor and Manager that it may use soft dollars. In selecting brokers, the Sub-Advisor will consider investment and market information and other research, such as economic, securities and performance measurement research, provided by such brokers, and the quality and reliability of brokerage services, including execution capability, performance and financial responsibility. Accordingly, the commissions charged by any such broker may be greater than the amount another firm might charge if the Sub-Advisor determines in good faith that the amount of such commissions is reasonable in relation to the value of the research information and brokerage services provided by such broker to the Sub-Advisor or the First Trust ETF. In addition, the Sub-Advisor must determine that the research information received in this manner provides the First Trust ETFs with benefits by supplementing the research otherwise available to the First Trust ETFs. The higher commissions will not be paid by the First Trust ETFs unless the Manager determines in good faith that the amount is reasonable in relation to the services provided. The investment advisory fees paid by the First Trust ETFs to the Manager would not be reduced as a result of receipt by the Sub-Advisor of research services.

The Sub-Advisor places portfolio transactions for other advisory accounts advised by it, and research services furnished by firms through which the First Trust ETFs effect securities transactions may be used by the Sub-Advisor in servicing all of its accounts; not all of such services may be used by the Sub-Advisor in connection with the First Trust ETFs. The Sub-Advisor believes it is not possible to measure separately the benefits from research services to each of the accounts (including the First Trust ETFs) advised by it. Because the volume and nature of the trading activities of the accounts are not uniform, the amount of commissions in excess of those charged by another broker paid by each account for brokerage and research services will vary. However, the Sub-Advisor believes such costs to the First Trust ETFs will not be disproportionate to the benefits received by the First Trust ETFs on a continuing basis. The Sub-Advisor seeks to allocate portfolio transactions equitably whenever concurrent decisions are made to purchase or sell securities by a First Trust ETF and another advisory account. In some cases, this procedure could have an adverse effect on the price or the amount of securities available to a First Trust ETF. In making such allocations between a First Trust ETF and other advisory accounts, the main factors considered by the Sub-Advisor are the respective investment objective, the relative size of portfolio holding of the same or comparable securities, the availability of cash for investment and the size of investment commitments generally held.

Additional information including the services supplied by each broker can be obtained from the Manager upon request, at no cost, by calling 1-877-622-5552.

### **Conflicts of Interest**

The directors and officers of the Manager may be directors, officers, shareholders or Unitholders of one or more issuers in which the First Trust ETFs may acquire securities. The Manager and its affiliates, including other First Trust Group entities, may be managers or portfolio advisors of one or more issuers in which the First Trust ETFs may acquire securities and may be managers or portfolio advisors of funds that invest in the same securities as the First Trust ETFs. Such transactions will only be undertaken where permitted by applicable securities legislation and upon obtaining any required regulatory or IRC approvals.

## **Independent Review Committee**

The Manager has appointed an IRC for the First Trust ETFs under NI 81-107. The IRC currently consists of three members, each of whom is independent of the Manager.

The mandate of the IRC is to review conflict of interest matters identified and referred to the IRC by the Manager and to give an approval or a recommendation, depending on the nature of the conflict of interest matter. At all times, the members of the IRC are required to act honestly and in good faith in the best interests of the First Trust ETFs and, in connection therewith, will exercise the degree of care, diligence and skill that a reasonably prudent person would exercise in comparable circumstances.

The Manager has established written policies and procedures for dealing with each conflict of interest matter. At least annually, the IRC will review and assess the adequacy and effectiveness of the Manager's written policies and procedures relating to conflict of interest matters and will conduct a self-assessment of the IRC's independence, compensation and effectiveness.

The Manager will maintain records of all matters and/or activities subject to the review of the IRC, including a copy of the Manager's written policies and procedures dealing with conflict of interest matters, minutes of IRC meetings, and copies of materials, including any written reports, provided to the IRC. The Manager will also provide the IRC with assistance and information sufficient for the IRC to carry out its responsibilities under NI 81-107.

The members of the IRC are entitled to be compensated by the First Trust ETFs and reimbursed for all reasonable costs and expenses for the duties they perform as IRC members. In addition, the members of the IRC are entitled to be indemnified by the First Trust ETFs, except in cases of wilful misconduct, bad faith, negligence or breach of their standard of care.

The name and municipality of residence of each of the members of the IRC is as follows:

PAUL DUFFY (CHAIR) PETER M. LYNCH ANNE BELL

Toronto, Ontario Toronto, Ontario Mississauga, Ontario

The initial compensation and reimbursement policy for costs and expenses of the IRC was established by the Manager. As at the date of this prospectus, each IRC member will be paid a fixed annual fee of \$16,000 and fee per meeting of \$1,500 for the IRC chair and \$1,000 for the other IRC members, for the duties they perform as IRC members in relation to all of the First Trust ETFs managed by the Manager. This amount will be allocated among such First Trust ETFs in a manner that is fair and reasonable.

The IRC is subject to requirements to conduct regular assessments and, for each financial year of the First Trust ETFs, will prepare a report to Unitholders that describes the IRC and its activities for the financial year. A copy of this report can be obtained from the Manager upon request, at no cost, by calling 1-877-662-5552 or is available on the First Trust ETFs' website at www.firsttrust.ca or SEDAR at www.sedar.com.

# **Custodian and Valuation Agent**

Pursuant to the Custodian Agreement, CIBC Mellon Trust Company is the custodian of the assets of the First Trust ETFs and has been given authority to appoint sub-custodians. The address of the Custodian is 1 York Street, Suite 900, Toronto, Ontario M5J 0B6. The Manager on behalf of the First Trust ETFs, or CIBC Mellon Trust Company may terminate the Custodian Agreement upon at least 90 days' written notice or immediately in the event of a bankruptcy event in respect of a party that is not cured within 30 days. The Manager on behalf of the First Trust ETFs may terminate the Custodian Agreement immediately if the Custodian ceases to be qualified to act as a custodian of the First Trust ETFs under applicable law. The Custodian is entitled to receive fees from the Manager as described under "Fees and Expenses – Operating Expenses" and to be reimbursed for all expenses and liabilities that are properly incurred by the Custodian in connection with the activities of the First Trust ETFs. CIBC Mellon Global Securities Services Company acts as the Valuation Agent of the First Trust ETFs. The Valuation Agent is responsible for calculating NAV, NAV per Unit, net income and net realized capital gains of the First Trust ETFs.

#### Auditor

The auditor of the First Trust ETFs is Deloitte LLP, Chartered Professional Accountants, located at 8 Adelaide Street West, Suite 200, Toronto, Ontario M5H 0A9.

#### **Registrar and Transfer Agent**

TSX Trust Company, at its principal offices in Toronto, is the registrar and transfer agent for the Units. The register of the First Trust ETFs is kept in Toronto.

### **Securities Lending Agent**

The Bank of New York Mellon ("BNY Mellon"), at its principal offices in New York, is the securities lending agent for the First Trust ETFs. The Manager is party to a Securities Lending Authorization Agreement and Supplement (the "Securities Lending Agreement") with Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, CIBC Mellon Global Securities

Services Company, CIBC Mellon Trust Company and BNY Mellon. Under the Securities Lending Agreement, the responsibilities of the securities lending agent is to manage and administer a securities lending program by entering into loan transactions on behalf of the Manager. The securities lending agent is responsible for selecting both the securities to be loaned under the program and the borrowers, which are subject to approval by the Manager. The Securities Lending Agreement requires that collateral with a value of between 102-105% of the market value of the loaned securities be delivered to the securities lending agent by the borrower in connection with any securities lending transaction. Under the agreement, each of the parties have agreed to indemnify the other for any failure to perform its obligations under the agreement. Additionally, the agreement may be terminated by either party upon 30 days prior written notice to the other party. BNY Mellon is not an affiliate or associate of the Manager.

#### CALCULATION OF NET ASSET VALUE

The NAV of the Units of a First Trust ETF on a particular date will be equal to the aggregate value of the assets of the First Trust ETF less the aggregate value of the liabilities of the First Trust ETF, expressed in Canadian dollars at the applicable exchange rate on such date. The NAV will be calculated using the fair value of the First Trust ETF's assets and liabilities. The NAV per Unit on any day will be obtained by dividing the NAV of the First Trust ETF on such day by the number of Units of the First Trust ETF then outstanding. The NAV is expected to be calculated by the Custodian or an affiliate.

#### **Valuation Policies and Procedures**

In determining the NAV of a First Trust ETF, at any time the Manager will take into account the following:

- (a) the value of any cash on hand, on deposit or on call loan, prepaid expenses, cash dividends declared on an ex-dividend basis and interest accrued and not yet received, shall be deemed to be the face amount thereof, unless the Manager determines that any such deposit or call loan is not worth the face amount thereof, in which event the value thereof shall be deemed to be such value as the Manager determines to be the fair value thereof;
- (b) the value of any bonds, debentures, and other debt obligations shall be valued by taking the average of the bid and ask prices on a Valuation Date at such times as the Manager, in its discretion, deems appropriate. Short-term investments including notes and money market instruments shall be valued at cost plus accrued interest;
- (c) the value of any security which is listed on any recognized exchange and is not security of an ETF, shall be determined by the closing sale price at the Valuation Time or, if there is no closing sale price, the average between the closing bid and the closing asked price on the day on which the NAV of the First Trust ETF is being determined, all as reported by any report in common use or authorized as official by a recognized stock exchange; provided that if such stock exchange is not open for trading on that date, then on the last previous date on which such stock exchange was open for trading;
- (d) the value of any security which is listed on any recognized exchange and is a security of an ETF, shall be determined by the closing sale price at the Valuation Time as reported by any report in common use or authorized as official by a recognized stock exchange; provided that if there is no such price, the value of such security shall be its reported net asset value as at such time;
- (e) the value of any security or other asset for which a market quotation is not readily available shall be its fair market value as determined by the Manager;
- (f) the value of any security, the resale of which is restricted or limited, shall be the lesser of the value thereof based on reported quotations in common use and that percentage of the market value of securities of the same class, the trading of which is not restricted or limited by reason of any representation, undertaking or agreement or by law, equal to the percentage that the First Trust ETF's acquisition cost was of the market value of such securities at the time of acquisition; provided

that a gradual taking into account of the actual value of the securities may be made where the date on which the restriction will be lifted is known:

- (g) the value of a forward contract shall be the gain or loss with respect thereto that would be realized if, at the Valuation Time, the position in the forward contract were to be closed out unless daily limits are in effect in which case fair value shall be based on the current market value of the underlying interest;
- (h) margin paid or deposited in respect of forward contracts shall be reflected as an account receivable and margin consisting of assets other than cash shall be noted as held as margin;
- (i) all First Trust ETF property valued in a foreign currency and all liabilities and obligations of the First Trust ETF payable by the First Trust ETF in foreign currency shall be converted into Canadian funds by applying the rate of exchange obtained from the best available sources to the Manager, including, but not limited to, the Manager or any of its affiliates;
- (j) all expenses or liabilities (including fees payable to the Manager) of the First Trust ETF shall be calculated on an accrual basis; and
- (k) all other assets of the First Trust ETF will be valued in the manner determined by the Manager or its delegate(s) to reflect their fair market value.

The NAV per Unit is calculated in Canadian dollars in accordance with the rules and policies of the Canadian Securities Administrators or in accordance with any exemption therefrom that the First Trust ETF may obtain. The NAV per Unit determined in accordance with the principles set out above may differ from NAV per Unit determined under International Financial Reporting Standards.

#### **Reporting of Net Asset Value**

The NAV and NAV per Unit will be calculated at the Valuation Time on each Valuation Date. Such information will be provided by the Manager to Unitholders on the following business day via the internet at www.firsttrust.ca.

#### ATTRIBUTES OF THE UNITS

#### **Description of the Securities Distributed**

Each of the First Trust ETFs is authorized to issue an unlimited number of redeemable, transferable units designated as "units" which represents an equal, undivided interest in the net assets of the First Trust ETF.

On December 16, 2004, the *Trust Beneficiaries' Liability Act, 2004* (Ontario) came into force. This statute provides that holders of units of a trust are not, as beneficiaries, liable for any default, obligation or liability of the trust if, when the default occurs or the liability arises: (i) the trust is a reporting issuer under the *Securities Act* (Ontario); and (ii) the trust is governed by the laws of the Province of Ontario. Each of the First Trust ETFs will be a reporting issuer under the *Securities Act* (Ontario) and each First Trust ETF is governed by the laws of the Province of Ontario by virtue of the provisions of the Declaration of Trust.

#### **Certain Provisions of the Units**

All Units of a First Trust ETF have equal rights and privileges. Each whole Unit is entitled to one vote at all meetings of Unitholders and is entitled to participate equally with respect to any and all distributions made by a First Trust ETF to Unitholders, including distributions of net income and net realized capital gains and distributions upon the termination of the First Trust ETF. Units are issued only as fully-paid and are non-assessable.

#### Exchange of Units for Baskets of Securities

On any Trading Day, Unitholders may exchange the Prescribed Number of Units (or an integral multiple thereof) for Baskets of Securities and cash or, in the discretion of the Manager, cash only. See "Redemption and Exchange of Units – Exchange of Units for Baskets of Securities".

## Redemption of Units for Cash

On any Trading Day, Unitholders may redeem Units of any First Trust ETF for cash at a redemption price per Unit equal to the lesser of (i) 95% of the closing price for the Units on the Neo Exchange on the effective day of the redemption; and (ii) the NAV per Unit on the effective day of the redemption. See "Redemption and Exchange of Units – Redemption of Units for Cash".

# No Voting Rights

Unitholders of a First Trust ETF will not have any right to vote securities held by that First Trust ETF.

# **Modification of Terms**

The rights attached to the Units of a First Trust ETF may only be modified, amended or varied in accordance with the terms of the Declaration of Trust. See "Unitholder Matters – Matters Requiring Unitholder Approval".

#### UNITHOLDER MATTERS

# **Meeting of Unitholders**

A meeting of the Unitholders of a First Trust ETF may be called at any time by the Manager and shall be called by the Manager upon written request of Unitholders of a First Trust ETF holding in the aggregate not less than 5% of the Units of the First Trust ETF. Except as otherwise required or permitted by law, meetings of Unitholders of a First Trust ETF will be held if called by the Manager upon written notice of not less than 21 days nor more than 50 days before the meeting. At any meeting of Unitholders of a First Trust ETF, a quorum shall consist of two or more Unitholders of the First Trust ETF present in person or by proxy and holding 10% of the Units of the First Trust ETF. If no quorum is present at such meeting, the meeting, if convened upon the request of Unitholders or for the purpose of considering a change in the manager of the First Trust ETF, shall be cancelled, but in any other case, the meeting shall stand adjourned and will be held at the same time and place on the day which is not less than 10 days later. The Manager will give at least three days' notice by press release to Unitholders of the date of the reconvened meeting, and at the reconvened meeting, Unitholders present in person or represented by proxy will constitute a quorum.

#### **Matters Requiring Unitholder Approval**

NI 81-102 requires a meeting of Unitholders of a First Trust ETF to be called to approve certain changes as follows:

- (a) the basis of the calculation of a fee or expense that is charged to the First Trust ETF is changed in a way that could result in an increase in charges to the First Trust ETF, except where:
  - (i) the First Trust ETF is at arm's length with the person or company charging the fees;
  - (ii) the Unitholders have received at least 60 days' notice before the effective date of the change; and
  - (iii) the right to notice described in (ii) is disclosed in the prospectus of the First Trust ETF;

- (b) a fee or expense is introduced that is to be charged to a First Trust ETF or directly to its Unitholders by the First Trust ETF or the Manager in connection with the holding of Units of the First Trust ETF that could result in an increase in charges to the First Trust ETF or its Unitholders, except where;
  - (i) the First Trust ETF is at arm's length with the person or company charging the fees;
  - (ii) the Unitholders have received at least 60 days' notice before the effective date of the change; and
  - (iii) the right to notice described in (ii) is disclosed in the prospectus of the First Trust ETF;
- (c) the Manager is changed, unless the new manager of the First Trust ETF is an affiliate of the Manager;
- (d) a fundamental investment objective of the First Trust ETF has changed;
- (e) the First Trust ETF decreases the frequency of calculating its NAV per Unit;
- (f) the investment restrictions of the First Trust ETF are changed, unless such change is necessary to ensure compliance with all applicable laws, regulations or other requirements imposed by applicable regulatory authorities from time to time;
- (g) the First Trust ETF undertakes a reorganization with, or transfers its assets to, another mutual fund, if the First Trust ETF ceases to continue after the reorganization or transfer of assets and the transaction results in the Unitholders of the First Trust ETF becoming securityholders in the other mutual fund unless:
  - (i) the IRC of the First Trust ETF has approved the change;
  - (ii) the First Trust ETF is being reorganized with, or its assets are being transferred to, another mutual fund that is managed by the Manager, or an affiliate of the Manager;
  - (iii) the Unitholders have received at least 60 days' notice before the effective date of the change;
  - (iv) the right to notice described in (iii) is disclosed in the prospectus of the First Trust ETF; and
  - (v) the transaction complies with certain other requirements of applicable Canadian securities legislation;
- (h) the First Trust ETF undertakes a reorganization (other than a Permitted Merger as defined below) with, or acquisition of assets of, a mutual fund trust, if
  - (i) the First Trust ETF continues after the reorganization or acquisition of assets;
  - (ii) the transaction results in the securityholders of the mutual fund trust becoming Unitholders of the First Trust ETF: and
  - (iii) the transaction would be a material change to the First Trust ETF;
- (i) a reorganization that results in a First Trust ETF becoming a non-redeemable investment fund or an issuer that is not an investment fund; or

(j) any matter which is required by the constating documents of the First Trust ETF or by the laws applicable to the First Trust ETF or by any agreement to be submitted to a vote of the Unitholders of the First Trust ETF.

Approval of the foregoing matters will be deemed to have been given by a resolution passed by at least a majority of the votes cast at a meeting called and held for such purpose. Unitholders are entitled to one vote per whole Unit held on the record date established for voting at any meeting of Unitholders.

A First Trust ETF may, without Unitholders' approval, enter into a merger or other similar transaction that has the effect of combining the funds or their assets (a "**Permitted Merger**") with any other investment fund or funds managed by the Manager or an affiliate of the Manager that have investment objectives that are substantially similar to those of the First Trust ETF, subject to:

- (a) approval of the merger by the IRC;
- (b) compliance with certain merger pre-approval conditions set out in section 5.6 of NI 81-102; and
- (c) written notice to Unitholders at least 60 days before the effective date of the merger.

In connection with a Permitted Merger, the merging funds will be valued at their respective net asset values for the purpose of such transaction.

In addition, the auditor of a First Trust ETF may not be changed unless:

- (a) the IRC has approved the change; and
- (b) Unitholders have received at least 60 days' notice before the effective date of the change.

#### **Amendments to the Declaration of Trust**

The Manager may, without the approval of or notice to Unitholders, amend the Declaration of Trust for certain limited purposes specified therein, including to:

- (a) remove any conflicts or other inconsistencies which may exist between any terms of the Declaration of Trust and any provisions of any law or regulation applicable to or affecting the First Trust ETF;
- (b) make any change or correction in the Declaration of Trust which is of a typographical nature or is required to cure or correct any ambiguity or defective or inconsistent provision, clerical omission, mistake or manifest error contained therein;
- (c) bring the Declaration of Trust into conformity with applicable laws, including the rules and policies of Canadian securities regulators or with current practice within the securities or investment fund industries provided that any such amendment does not adversely affect the rights, privileges or interests of Unitholders;
- (d) maintain, or permit the Manager to take such steps as may be desirable or necessary to maintain, the status of the First Trust ETF as a "mutual fund trust" and a "unit trust" for the purposes of the Tax Act or to respond to amendments to the Tax Act or to the interpretation or administration thereof; or
- (e) provide added protection to Unitholders.

Except for changes to the Declaration of Trust which require the approval of Unitholders or changes described above which do not require approval of or prior notice to Unitholders, the Declaration of Trust may be amended from time to time by the Manager upon not less than 30 days' prior written notice to Unitholders.

#### **Reporting to Unitholders**

A First Trust ETF's fiscal year is the calendar year or such other fiscal period permitted under the Tax Act as the First Trust ETF elects. The annual financial statements of a First Trust ETF shall be audited by the First Trust ETF's auditor in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. The auditor will be asked to report on the fair presentation of the annual financial statements in accordance with IFRS. The Manager will ensure that the First Trust ETF complies with all applicable reporting and administrative requirements.

The Manager, on behalf of each First Trust ETF, will furnish Unitholders of that First Trust ETF with unaudited interim financial statements, audited annual financial statements, interim MRFPs and the most recently-filed annual MRFPs of that First Trust ETF, in accordance with applicable laws.

Any tax information necessary for Unitholders to prepare their annual federal income tax returns will be distributed to them within 90 days after the end of each financial year of the First Trust ETFs.

The Manager will keep adequate books and records reflecting the activities of the First Trust ETFs. A Unitholder or his or her duly authorized representative has the right to examine the books and records of the applicable First Trust ETF during normal business hours at the registered office of the Manager. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a Unitholder shall not have access to any information that, in the opinion of the Manager, should be kept confidential in the interests of the First Trust ETFs.

#### TERMINATION OF THE FIRST TRUST ETFS

A First Trust ETF may be terminated by the Manager on at least 60 days' notice to Unitholders of such termination and the Manager will issue a press release in advance thereof. Upon termination of a First Trust ETF, the cash and other assets remaining after paying or providing for all liabilities and obligations of the First Trust ETF, determined in accordance with the First Trust ETF's valuation policies and procedures, shall be distributed *pro rata* among the Unitholders of the First Trust ETF.

The rights of Unitholders to exchange and redeem Units described under "Redemption and Exchange of Units" will cease as and from the date of termination of the applicable First Trust ETF.

#### INTERESTS OF MANAGEMENT AND OTHERS IN MATERIAL TRANSACTIONS

The Manager will receive fees for its services to the First Trust ETFs. See "Fees and Expenses – Management Fees".

#### PROXY VOTING DISCLOSURE FOR PORTFOLIO SECURITIES HELD

The Portfolio Advisor has established a proxy voting policy (the "**Proxy Voting Policy**") that provides that the Manager will vote the securities in the Portfolio in the best interests of the Unitholders of a First Trust ETF. The Proxy Voting Policy provides that routine, uncontested matters to be considered at annual general meetings will generally be voted in accordance with management's recommendations. More complex, non-routine matters (i.e. certain issues related to the compensation and liability of directors, amendments to the constating documents of an issuer, share and debt issuances, related party transactions, reorganizations, restructurings, shareholder proposals and proposals relating to corporate social responsibility) will be decided on a case-by-case basis.

The Proxy Voting Policy also provides procedures for dealing with potential conflicts of interest, the delegation of proxy voting services to third party service providers such as Institutional Shareholder Services Canada Corp. and recordkeeping obligations whereby the Manager will maintain records of all votes cast by the First Trust ETFs. The Manager will publish these records on an annual basis on the First Trust ETFs' website at www.firsttrust.ca. A copy of the Proxy Voting Policy is available on request by contacting the Manager at 1-877-622-5552.

# MATERIAL CONTRACTS

The following contracts can reasonably be regarded as material to purchasers of Units:

- (a) the Declaration of Trust see "Organization and Management Details The Trustee, Manager and Promoter Duties and Services to be Provided by the Trustee, Manager and Promoter";
- (b) the Custodian Agreement see "Organization and Management Details Custodian and Valuation Agent";
- (c) the Portfolio Advisor Agreement see "Organization and Management Details The Portfolio Advisor"; and
- (d) the Sub-Advisory Agreement see "Organization and Management Details The Sub-Advisor".

Copies of the agreements referred to above may be inspected during business hours at the registered office of the Manager.

#### LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS

The First Trust ETFs are not involved in any legal proceedings nor is the Manager aware of existing or pending legal or arbitration proceedings involving any of the First Trust ETFs.

#### **EXPERTS**

Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, legal counsel to the First Trust ETFs and the Manager, has provided certain legal opinions on the principal Canadian federal income tax considerations that apply to an investment in the Units by an individual resident in Canada. See "Income Tax Considerations" and "Eligibility for Investment". As of the date hereof, partners and associates of Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP beneficially owned, directly or indirectly, less than 1% of the outstanding securities of each of the First Trust ETFs.

Deloitte LLP, Chartered Professional Accountants, is the auditor of the First Trust ETFs and has consented to the incorporation by reference of its report on the First Trust ETFs dated January 21, 2021. Deloitte LLP has confirmed that it is independent with respect to the First Trust ETFs within the meaning of the Rules of Professional Conduct of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Ontario.

## **EXEMPTIONS AND APPROVALS**

Each First Trust ETF has received exemptive relief from the Canadian securities regulatory authorities to permit the following:

- (a) the purchase by a Unitholder of a First Trust ETF of more than 20% of the Units of that First Trust ETF through purchases on the Toronto Stock Exchange or Neo Exchange, as applicable, without regard to the take-over bid requirements of Canadian securities legislation;
- (b) to relieve the First Trust ETFs from the requirement that a prospectus contain a certificate of the underwriters; and
- (c) to relieve the First Trust ETFs from the requirement to include in the prospectus a statement respecting purchasers' statutory rights of withdrawal and remedies of rescission as prescribed in item 36.2 of Form 41-101F2 *Information Required in an Investment Fund Prospectus*.

# PURCHASERS' STATUTORY RIGHTS OF WITHDRAWAL AND RESCISSION

Securities legislation in certain of the provinces and territories of Canada provides purchasers with the right to withdraw from an agreement to purchase ETF securities within 48 hours after the receipt of a confirmation of a purchase of such securities. In several of the provinces and territories, the securities legislation further provides a purchaser with remedies for rescission or, in some jurisdictions, revisions of the price or damages if the prospectus and any amendment contains a misrepresentation, or for non-delivery of the ETF Facts, provided that the remedies for rescission, revisions of the price or damages are exercised by the purchaser within the time limit prescribed by the securities legislation of the purchaser's province or territory.

The purchaser should refer to the applicable provisions of the securities legislation of the province or territory for the particulars of these rights or consult with a legal advisor.

# DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Additional information about the First Trust ETFs is or will be available in the following documents:

- (a) the most recently-filed comparative annual financial statements of the First Trust ETFs, together with the accompanying report of the auditor;
- (b) any interim financial statements of the First Trust ETFs filed after the most recently-filed comparative annual financial statements of the First Trust ETFs;
- (c) the most recently-filed annual MRFP of the First Trust ETFs;
- (d) any interim MRFP of the First Trust ETFs filed after that most recently-filed annual MRFP of the First Trust ETFs; and
- (e) the most recently filed ETF Facts of the First Trust ETFs.

These documents are or will be incorporated by reference in this prospectus, which means that they legally form part of this prospectus. An investor can get a copy of these documents, when available, upon request and at no cost by calling the Manager at 1-877-622-5552 or by contacting a registered dealer. These documents are or will also be available on the First Trust ETFs' website at <a href="www.firsttrust.ca">www.firsttrust.ca</a> as well as on SEDAR at <a href="www.sedar.com">www.sedar.com</a>. In addition, any such types of documents, if filed by the First Trust ETF after the date of this prospectus and before the termination of the distribution of Units, are deemed to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus.

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Directors of FT Portfolios Canada Co., the manager of:

First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF First Trust JFL Global Equity ETF (each individually, the "ETF")

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statement of the ETF, which comprises the statement of financial position as at January 21, 2021 and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies (collectively referred to as the "financial statement").

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statement of the ETF presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the ETF as at January 21, 2021 in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS").

# **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards ("Canadian GAAS"). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statement section of our report. We are independent of the ETF in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statement 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.

#### Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statement

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statement in accordance with IFRS, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statement, 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.

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

# Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statement

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

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

• Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statement, 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, if any, 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 statement 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 statement, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statement represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

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

(Signed) "Deloitte LLP"
Chartered Professional Accountants
Licensed Public Accountants
Toronto, Ontario
January 21, 2021

# FIRST TRUST JFL FIXED INCOME CORE PLUS ETF STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

# January 21, 2021

ASSETS	
Cash	\$20.00
Total	\$20.00
UNITHOLDER'S EQUITY (Note 3)	
	420.00
Unitholder's equity (1 unit)	\$20.00
Approved on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Manager:	
(Signed) "Eric Anderson" (Sig	gned) "Karl Cheong"
Director	Director

# FIRST TRUST JFL GLOBAL EQUITY ETF STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

# January 21, 2021

ASSETS	
Cash	\$20.00
Total	\$20.00
UNITHOLDER'S EQUITY (Note 3)	
Unitholder's equity (1 unit)	\$20.00
Approved on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Manager:	
	Karl Cheong" rector

#### NOTES TO STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

January 21, 2021

#### 1. **Establishment of the Fund**

First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF and First Trust JFL Global Equity ETF (collectively, the "First Trust ETFs") were established under the laws of the Province of Ontario on January 21, 2021 pursuant to a master declaration of trust (the "Declaration of Trust"), as may be amended or amended and restated from time to time, by FT Portfolios Canada Co. (the "Manager"), as trustee. The address of the First Trust ETFs' registered office is located at 40 King Street West, Suite 5102, Toronto, Ontario M5H 3Y2.

#### **Significant Accounting Policies**

This financial statement has been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS"). The financial statement of each of the First Trust ETFs was approved by the board of directors of the Manager on January 21, 2021.

#### 3. **Units Authorized and Outstanding**

Each of the First Trust ETFs is authorized to issue an unlimited number of redeemable, transferable units of an unlimited number of classes, each of which represents an equal, undivided interest in the net assets of that First Trust ETF. Currently each of the First Trust ETFs has one class of units designated as "units". On January 21, 2021, each First Trust ETF issued one unit for \$20.00.

#### 4. **Commitments**

The First Trust ETFs will pay the Manager a management fee as set forth in the table below based on the average daily net asset value of the applicable First Trust ETF. The management fee, plus applicable taxes including goods and services tax or harmonized sales tax, will be accrued daily and paid monthly in arrears. The Manager may, from time to time in its discretion, waive a portion of the management fee charged at any given time.

First Trust ETF	Annual Management Fee (%)	
First Trust JFL Fixed Income Core Plus ETF	0.70% of NAV of the First Trust ETF <sup>(1)</sup>	
First Trust JFL Global Equity ETF	0.85% of NAV of the First Trust ETF	

<u>Note:</u> (1)

The Manager has agreed to waive a portion of the management fee equal to 0.10% of average daily net assets of the First Trust ETF until December 31, 2021 in response to the current low interest rate environment. The Manager anticipates that if the trailing average 30-day yield of the current 10-year Canadian Treasury Bond exceeds 3.50% before December 31, 2021, the fee waiver may not be continued past December 31, 2021. Given that the 0.10% waiver is on an annualized basis, if the waiver is for less than a year, the net management fee will be higher than 0.60%. Following December 31, 2021, the Manager may waive a portion of the management fee at any time in its discretion.

In the event that a First Trust ETF invests in another exchange-traded fund (an "Underlying Fund"), the First Trust ETF will pay the Underlying Fund's management fee on the portion of the First Trust ETF's portfolio assets invested in the Underlying Fund, regardless of whether the Underlying Fund is managed by the Manager or an affiliate of the Manager. The management fee payable to the Manager will not be payable in respect of the portion of the First Trust ETF portfolio assets invested in the Underlying Fund to the extent that such fee would be duplicative.

#### CERTIFICATE OF THE FIRST TRUST ETFs AND THE TRUSTEE, MANAGER AND PROMOTER

Dated: January 21, 2021

This prospectus, together with the documents incorporated herein by reference, constitutes full, true and plain disclosure of all material facts relating to the securities offered by this prospectus as required by the securities legislation of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Québec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and Labrador, Yukon Territory, Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

# FT PORTFOLIOS CANADA CO., as Trustee and Manager of the First Trust ETFs

(Signed) "Andrew Roggensack"

(Signed) "Susan Johnson"

Chair (as chief executive officer)

Chief Financial Officer

On behalf of the Board of Directors of FT Portfolios Canada Co.

(Signed) "Karl Cheong" Director (Signed) "David McGarel" Director

FT PORTFOLIOS CANADA CO., as Promoter of the First Trust ETFs

(Signed) "Andrew Roggensack"
Chair
(as chief executive officer)