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# The Growth Portfolio

#### **Portfolio Objective:**

The primary objective of the Growth Focus portfolio is to invest in a portfolio of equities with an emphasis on returns earned primarily through capital appreciation. There will be risk to capital.

#### **Investment Advisor:**

The Investment Advisor is RBC Investment Management (Caribbean) Limited. The Investment Advisor provides advice on portfolio allocation, ETF selection and portfolio rebalancing.

#### **Portfolio Strategy:**

The strategy provides a diversified exposure to USD-denominated equities using Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs). The selection of ETFs will be primarily equity ETFs with a strong focus on high growth sectors and companies. The equity ETFs held will include small and mid-sized companies that are expected to grow faster than average over time, albeit with a higher level of volatility than large companies. Small and medium-sized companies generally do not pay much by way of dividends and as such most of the return acheived will be via price appreciation.

# Target Portfolio Allocation:



Large Cap Growth Equities
Mid Cap Growth Equities
Small Cap Growth Equities
Small Cap Growth Equities
Technology Sector
Health Care Sector
Consumer Discretionary Sector

## Target Portfolio Holdings:

| SPDR S&P 500 ETF                               | 20% |
|--|-----|
| Vanguard Mid-Cap Growth Index Fund ETF         | 20% |
| iShares Russel 2000 Growth ETF                 | 20% |
| Vanguard Information Technology Index Fund ETF | 20% |
| iShares Nasdaq Biotechnology ETF               | 10% |
| Vanguard Consumer Discretionary Index Fund ETF | 10% |

## Historical Return to Dec. 31, 2023:



<sup>-30</sup> 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 These returns do not include fees

## Who should invest? Market Outlook:

Investors seeking higher returns and those who can withstand a moderate level of risk. There is risk to capital, however, over the long-term this portfolio should outperform deposits and other shortterm instruments. It is recommended investors have an investment time horizon of at least 5 years.

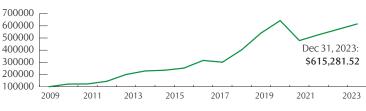
The U.S. Federal Reserve has been in a holding pattern since the July 2023 rate increase and has penciled in a projected 3 rate decreases in 2024. This caused some jubilation in markets in the last quarter with the 10-year UST yield falling to 3.88% over the quarter, from 4.59% as at the end of Q3. Headline inflation remains steady but above target at 3.4% in December 2023. The labour market was strong with unemployment at 3.7% and 216,000 jobs added. Despite anticipated rate decreases in 2024, we expect the initial enthusiasm to

#### Average Annualised Return:

| Returns to<br>Dec. 31, 2023 | 1 Year | 3 Year | 5 Year | 10 Year |
|-----------------------------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| Growth                      | 28.5%  | 4.1%   | 15.0%  | 11.6%   |
| Benchmark                   | 27.9%  | 3.6%   | 14.7%  | 11.2%   |

These returns do not include fees

## The Value of a US\$100,000 Investment:



These returns do not include fees

wear as the year goes by as economic data remains too strong for rate cuts but not strong enough for rate hikes. This "higher for longer" period will require some patience, especially as many geopolitical risks remain and elections in several major economies taking place this year, including the U.S. The S&P 500 had a negative Q3, down 3.65%, but recovered strongly in Q4 to end the year up 24.23%. Investors cheered the anticipated rate declines by the Federal Reserve in 2024.

<sup>\*</sup>Based on investment returns from Dec 31, 2009 to Dec 31, 2023



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# Disclaimer:

The preceding information displays historical market performance of certain securities which would fall within the investment strategy of the portfolio and is for illustrative and education purposes only. Please remember that past performance of the securities identified is not indicative of future performance and there can be no assurance that the future performance of the securities referred to will meet the historical performance levels, or that the identified securities are the specific securities that will comprise the portfolio. Due to various factors, including changing market conditions, the content of the portfolio may be different.

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#### Contact:

Visit us at 4th Floor West, St Clair Place, 7 - 9 St Clair Avenue, Port-of-Spain Call (868) 628-WISE (9473) Email wiseinfo@wisett.com Or visit www.wisett.com