

# MM Fund



## Spartan Overview

Spartan, established in 2006, is a Toronto-based investment management company that specializes in niche investment strategies managed by experienced investment managers with proven track records. Spartan's infrastructure adheres to institutional standards with independent risk management and compliance, and well-known third party service providers. This allows our investment management teams to focus on investing and provides investors with the comfort that their money is being managed to the same standard as larger funds.

## Fund Overview, Objectives and Strategy

The MM Fund invests utilizing a "core and more" approach. The core portfolio consists of sustainable high yielding or dividend paying Canadian equity securities and, to a lesser extent, real estate investment trusts, convertibles, debt securities, preferred shares and U.S. equity securities.

The "more" consists of equity and debt, plus potentially warrants, small and micro capitalization stocks, that will likely have more volatility but a higher potential for capital gains. We will focus on inexpensive secular growth securities or beaten down stocks that have turnaround potential, because of new management, or because of an improvement in their macro-economic factors. We may also look to shorter-term event driven trading opportunities around, for instance, earnings, politics, war, famine, scandal, seasonality, apathy, etc.

Investments will mostly be made in Canadian equity securities and, to a lesser extent, debt securities and U.S. equity securities. The holdings in the core portfolio will typically be held for longer periods.

## Monthly Performance<sup>1</sup>

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year	TSX
2023	+8.37%	-1.63%	+0.54%	+0.14%	-4.57%	+1.09%	+8.38%	-0.71%					+11.43%	+6.94%
2022	-1.14%	+2.95%	+2.21%	-4.78%	+0.92%	-9.33%	+6.18%	-2.52%	-6.53%	+8.34%	+0.98%	-3.18%	-7.13%	-5.84%
2021	+7.45%	+6.55%	+0.57%	+1.94%	-0.44%	-1.26%	-1.95%	+1.25%	-1.02%	+3.58%	-3.25%	+1.29%	+15.09%	+25.09%
2020	+0.30%	-7.54%	-23.34%	+19.79%	+11.07%	+4.95%	+8.08%	+3.50%	-2.21%	+2.85%	+10.98%	+11.25%	+37.90%	+5.60%
2019	+8.01%	+7.55%	+4.14%	+0.83%	-4.33%	+1.10%	+0.95%	-4.72%	+1.49%	+1.76%	+3.43%	+1.91%	+23.54%	+22.88%
2018	+0.20%	-2.07%	-1.86%	+1.99%	+1.54%	-0.22%	+0.29%	-1.24%	-1.29%	-9.57%	-4.79%	-6.07%	-21.32%	-8.89%
2017	-0.72%	+1.54%	+0.68%	+5.44%	+4.30%	+1.41%	-1.65%	-0.67%	+1.45%	+2.38%	+2.80%	+0.61%	+18.79%	+9.10%
2016	-6.98%	+5.47%	+4.15%	+0.68%	+3.53%	+0.50%	+0.97%	+5.78%	+3.49%	+3.17%	+1.08%	+1.73%	+25.52%	+21.08%
2015							-2.26%	-7.08%	-4.17%	+7.06%	+3.69%	+1.56%	-1.87%	-9.93%

## Statistics<sup>1</sup>

Cumulative Return (since inception) 133.57%  
 Annualized Compound Return 77.17%  
 Last 12 Months Return 11.00%  
 Sharpe Ratio 7.29%  
 Avg. Monthly Gain 10.32%  
 Avg. Monthly Loss 8.49%  
 Max. Drawdown 0.60  
 Annualized Std. Deviation 3.66%  
 % of Winning Months 2.67%  
 Correlation -3.97%

## MM Fund

TSX 133.57%  
 77.17%  
 11.00%  
 7.29%  
 10.32%  
 8.49%  
 0.60  
 3.66%  
 -3.97%  
 31.03%  
 18.36%  
 65.31%  
 0.81

## Fund Information

RSP Eligible? Yes  
 Minimum Investment \$500  
 Invest/Redeem Frequency Weekly  
 Short Term Trading Fee 2% if < 30 days  
 Redemption Notice 1 day  
 'A' Class Fees (SPA520) 2.00% pa  
 'F' Class Fees (SPA521) 1.00% pa  
 Incentive Fee 10%  
 Hurdle  
 TSX Total Return Index

## Service Providers

Advisor Spartan Fund Management Inc.  
 Custodian Laurentian Bank Securities  
 Auditor Deloitte LLP  
 Administrator SGGG Fund Services  
 Legal Counsel Borden Ladner Gervais

## NAV/Unit

- Class A 214.0678  
 - Class F 233.5732

<sup>1</sup> Performance numbers are net of management and performance fees for the period commencing July 15, 2015 for the Class F units, but do not take into account early redemption fees if investments are held less than 1 year. Returns and statistics for other classes are available on request. 'Monthly' returns are simple returns and are not annualized. 'Annualized Std. Deviation' is the standard deviation, which measures the amount of variability of returns that has historically occurred relative to the average return. 'Max. Drawdown' is the maximum percentage decline, from the highest point to the lowest point. 'Sharpe Ratio' is the Annualized Compound Return divided by the Annualized Std. Deviation, both measured since inception. 'Correlation' measures the degree to which two securities move in relation to each other.

## Monthly Commentary

MM benefited from the surge in oil prices in late August and early September to their highest level in 9 months.

The combination of increased bond supply and the US debt downgrade has pushed US ten-year bond yields over 4.3%, versus 3.3% in May, the highest level since 2007. Rising interest rates have pushed mortgage rates up to 23-year highs in the US, while affordability is down to 16 year lows, despite the "strong" economy.

We believe that rising rates are the principal risk to equity valuations through the rest of this year. We want to continue to increase our fixed income exposure from 10.2% to take advantage of these higher rates.

The Fed has signalled that it will not cut rates until inflation falls significantly more, and markets are now anticipating "higher for longer". Given that the Fed Funds rate is about 100 bps above the ten-year bond yield (4.3%), the longer the Fed remains tight, the greater the pressure for ten-year yields to move higher because of yield curve arbitrage along the curve from higher short rates. This will pressure the

economy through higher mortgage rates and borrowing rates, while equity valuations would be pressured by higher discount rates on future earnings. Growth stocks in particular are especially vulnerable to higher interest rates as their high valuations are premised on growing future earnings which are discounted more heavily due to higher rates. This put further pressure on the NASDAQ in early September.

The long-awaited recession from historically aggressive Fed tightening continues to be a mirage, as it is always just on the horizon. The US has been adding jobs at a steady pace all year, and unemployment at 3.8% is near generational low levels.

Strategically, we want to "let our winners run", and take losses more quickly. Over the last 6 years, the average holding period for our investments is 4.4 years. This is generally a tax-efficient strategy, as we are able to defer capital gains very far in the future with our long-term holdings, while we have been aggressive in crystallizing our losses this year.

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Please review the most recent offering memorandum for a detailed description of the Fund's strategy, objectives and risk factors. The above is provided for informational purposes only and is qualified in its entirety by way of the most recent offering documents, which is only available to qualified investors. Prospective investors should consult with a professional financial advisor before investing. Past performance cannot predict future results. Share value and yields will fluctuate. There can be no assurances that any of the Fund's objectives will be met. See Terms and Conditions of our website ([www.spartanfunds.ca](http://www.spartanfunds.ca)) for important information and qualifications regarding the use of benchmarking and indices. The index above was chosen as it is a widely used benchmark of the Canadian equity market. While the Fund uses this index for long-term performance comparisons, it is not managed relative to the composition of the index. There are differences which include security holdings, geographic and sector allocation which impact comparability. As a result, the Fund may experience periods when its performance differs materially from the index. Commissions, trailing commissions, management fees and expenses all may be associated with mutual fund investments. Please read the prospectus before investing. Unless otherwise indicated, rates of return for periods greater than one year are historical annual compound total returns including changes in unit or share value and reinvestment of all distributions, and do not take into account any sales, redemption, distribution or optional charges or income taxes payable by any security holder that would have reduced returns. Mutual funds are not guaranteed, their values change frequently and past performance may not be repeated.

The Fund is a related and connected issuer of Spartan Fund Management Inc. Spartan may act as dealer in connection with the distribution of securities of the Fund and will also receive management and performance fees from the Fund.