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## INTERIM MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE

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### HARVEST Brand Leaders Plus Income ETF (formerly Brand Leaders Plus Income ETF)

June 30, 2018



The Fund's proxy voting policies and procedures, proxy voting disclosure record, or quarterly portfolio disclosure, can be obtained at your request, and at no cost, by calling us at 1-866-998-8298; by writing to us at Harvest Portfolios Group Inc., 710 Dorval Drive, Suite 209, Oakville, Ontario, L6K 3V7; by visiting our website at [www.harvestportfolios.com](http://www.harvestportfolios.com); or on SEDAR at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com).

# **Harvest Brand Leaders Plus Income ETF (formerly Brand Leaders Plus Income ETF)**

## **CORPORATE OVERVIEW**

Harvest Portfolios Group Inc. (“Harvest”) is a Canadian Investment Manager founded in 2009. Harvest is focused on developing investment products that follow three investment criteria:

1. Clear investment objectives
2. Transparency
3. Consistent income and growth

Harvest endeavours to develop investment products that are clear in their mandate and easy for our investors to understand. We strive to be transparent, so that our investors can open their financial reports and know exactly what they own. Our funds are invested to provide investors with consistent monthly or quarterly income; therefore, we seek to invest our fund portfolios in well managed companies that have a history of steady cash flow and pay dividends.

## **INVESTMENT PRODUCT**

Harvest Brand Leaders Plus Income ETF (formerly Brand Leaders Plus Income ETF) (the “Fund”) invests in an equally-weighted underlying portfolio of twenty of the world’s top one hundred rated brand companies, each with a market capitalization of at least US\$10 billion. As the US and global economy generally expands, Harvest believes that a diversified portfolio invested in blue chip companies will provide investors with an attractive yield and strong capital appreciation potential.

# Harvest Brand Leaders Plus Income ETF (formerly Brand Leaders Plus Income ETF)

## MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION OF FUND PERFORMANCE

The interim management report of fund performance contains financial highlights but does not contain the complete interim financial statements of the Fund. For your reference, the interim financial statements of the Fund are attached to the interim management report of fund performance. You may obtain additional copies of these documents at your request, and at no cost, by calling toll free at 1(866) 998-8298; by writing to us at Harvest Portfolios Group Inc., 710 Dorval Drive, Suite 209, Oakville, Ontario, L6K 3V7; or by visiting our website at [www.harvestportfolios.com](http://www.harvestportfolios.com); or on SEDAR at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com).

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

## INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGY

The Fund's investment objectives are to provide Unitholders with:

- (i) monthly cash distributions;
- (ii) the opportunity for capital appreciation; and
- (iii) lower overall volatility of Portfolio returns than would otherwise be experienced by owning Equity Securities of the Brand Leaders directly.

To achieve its investment objectives, the Fund will invest in an equally-weighted portfolio of Equity Securities of 20 Brand Leaders from the Brand Leaders Investable Universe that have a market capitalization of at least US\$10 billion at the time of investment and meet the investment characteristics described below. In order to seek to generate additional returns, the Fund's manager and investment manager, Harvest Portfolios Group Inc. ("Harvest") may sell call options on no more than 33% of the Equity Securities of each Brand Leader held in the Fund.

Harvest will quarterly reconstitute and rebalance the Portfolio such that, at the time of the initial investment and immediately following each quarterly reconstitution and rebalancing, the Portfolio will have the following investment characteristics:

- Value** – An average Price-to-Earnings ratio lower than the average for the Brand Leaders Investable Universe;
- Yield** – An average Yield greater than the average for the Brand Leaders Investable Universe; and
- Quality** – An average 5-year Return on Equity growth greater than the average for the Brand Leaders Investable Universe.

## RISK

The risks associated with investing in the Fund are as described in the prospectus. There were no material changes to the Fund over the period that affected the overall level of risk of the Fund.

## RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The Harvest Brand Leaders Plus Income ETF (formerly the Brand Leaders Plus Income ETF) returned -1.19% for Series A and -0.80% for Series U compared to the S&P 100 Index Total Return in USD of 1.69% for the period ended June 30, 2018.

The US economy started 2018 with strong momentum following a positive finish to 2017. Synchronized global economic momentum continued to lay the backdrop for positive returns for companies positioned to benefit from the growth. US equity markets also started strongly despite the fears that the world could be facing a trade war over the potential tariffs the United States is planning to impose. Volatility did pick up in the equity markets as political rhetoric surrounding trade tariffs increased. However, robust earnings seasons, domestic tax cuts and tax repatriation were key drivers for the broader markets to regain some ground following a pullback early in the period. The Fund's overweight exposure towards the outperforming Information Technology sector had a positive impact on the Funds performance while the Consumer Staples sector, where the Fund has a relatively modest weighting, tended to lag the broader market.

The Fund sold call options on underlying holdings held in the Portfolio during the year in order to meet its investment and income objectives. The Fund was invested in 20 Brand Leaders during the period.

# Harvest Brand Leaders Plus Income ETF (formerly Brand Leaders Plus Income ETF)

## RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

On June 14, 2018, the Fund changed its name from Brand Leaders Plus Income ETF to Harvest Brand Leaders Plus Income ETF. No changes were made to the investment objective, strategies or management of the Fund.

## RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There were no related party transactions during the reporting period, except for management fees and other expense reimbursements paid to Harvest, as noted below in Management and Other Fees.

## MANAGEMENT AND OTHER FEES

Harvest Portfolios Group Inc. is the Manager of the Fund and is responsible for managing the Fund's overall business and operations and provides key management personnel to the Fund. The Fund pays the Manager an annual management fee, plus applicable taxes, of 0.75% based on a percentage of the average daily net asset value ("NAV") of the Fund.

### Operating expenses

The Fund is responsible for operating expenses relating to the carrying on of its business, including custodial services, interest, taxes, legal, audit fees, transfer agency services relating to the issue and redemption of units, and the cost of financial and other reports, costs and expenses for the Fund's Independent Review Committee ("IRC"), including fees and expenses of the IRC members and compliance with applicable laws, regulations and policies. The Manager pays for such expenses on behalf of the Fund, except for certain expenses such as interest, and is then reimbursed by the Fund.

The Manager may, in some cases, absorb a portion of the Fund's operating expenses. The management expense ratios of the Fund with and without the absorptions are reported in the Ratios and Supplemental Data table.

### Other expenses

The Manager will be reimbursed by the Fund for all reasonable costs, expenses and liabilities incurred by the Manager for performance of services on behalf of the Fund in connection with the discharge by the Manager of its duties hereunder. Such costs and expenses may include, without limitation: mailing and printing expenses for reports to unitholders and other unitholder communications; a reasonable allocation of salaries, benefits and consulting fees; independent directors of the Manager and other administrative expenses and costs incurred in connection with the Fund's continuous public offering and other obligations. These expenses were \$51,562 for the period ended June 30, 2018 (2017 - \$35,377) and are included in the unitholder reporting costs on the Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss).

## RECOMMENDATIONS OR REPORTS BY THE INDEPENDENT REVIEW COMMITTEE

The Independent Review Committee tabled no special reports and made no extraordinary material recommendations to management of the Fund during the period ended June 30, 2018.

# Harvest Brand Leaders Plus Income ETF (formerly Brand Leaders Plus Income ETF)

## FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The following tables present selected key financial information about the Fund and are intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the period ended June 30, 2018 and past annual periods. This information is derived from the Fund's interim financial statements and past audited annual financial statements.

### Series A

<b>THE FUND'S NET ASSETS PER UNIT</b>										
	<b>2018</b>		<b>2017</b>		<b>2016</b>		<b>2015</b>		<b>2014</b>	
<b>Net assets - beginning of the period<sup>2</sup></b>	\$	<b>9.44</b>	\$	<b>8.54</b>	\$	<b>8.45</b>	\$	<b>9.09</b>	\$	<b>9.33</b>
<b>Increase (decrease) from operations</b>										
Total revenue		0.08		0.15		0.21		0.26		0.11
Total expenses		(0.06)		(0.13)		(0.14)		(0.12)		(0.07)
Realized gains (losses) for the period		-		0.52		1.19		(1.16)		(0.56)
Unrealized gains (losses) for the period		(0.18)		1.18		(0.72)		1.04		0.55
<b>Total increase (decrease) from operations<sup>1</sup></b>	\$	<b>(0.16)</b>	\$	<b>1.72</b>	\$	<b>0.54</b>	\$	<b>0.02</b>	\$	<b>0.03</b>
<b>Distributions<sup>3</sup></b>										
From income		(0.33)		-		-		-		-
Return of capital		-		(0.65)		(0.65)		(0.65)		(0.27)
<b>Total annual distributions<sup>3</sup></b>	\$	<b>(0.33)</b>	\$	<b>(0.65)</b>	\$	<b>(0.65)</b>	\$	<b>(0.65)</b>	\$	<b>(0.27)</b>
<b>Net assets - end of the period<sup>1</sup></b>	\$	<b>9.01</b>	\$	<b>9.44</b>	\$	<b>8.54</b>	\$	<b>8.45</b>	\$	<b>9.09</b>

<b>RATIOS AND SUPPLEMENTAL DATA</b>										
	<b>2018</b>		<b>2017</b>		<b>2016</b>		<b>2015</b>		<b>2014</b>	
<b>Total net asset value</b>	\$	<b>97,685,664</b>	\$	<b>64,392,746</b>	\$	<b>30,481,665</b>	\$	<b>39,562,092</b>	\$	<b>41,584,318</b>
Number of units outstanding		10,844,039		6,819,039		3,569,039		4,683,168		4,572,949
Management expense ratio <sup>5</sup>		1.20%		1.38%		1.58%		1.44%		9.41%
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions <sup>4</sup>		1.20%		1.50%		1.58%		1.44%		9.41%
Trading expense ratio <sup>5</sup>		0.14%		0.14%		0.15%		0.12%		0.23%
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>6</sup>		13.51%		59.26%		55.68%		19.97%		17.97%
<b>Net asset value per unit</b>	\$	<b>9.01</b>	\$	<b>9.44</b>	\$	<b>8.54</b>	\$	<b>8.45</b>	\$	<b>9.09</b>
<b>Closing market price (HBF)*</b>	\$	<b>9.03</b>	\$	<b>9.45</b>	\$	<b>8.59</b>	\$	<b>8.37</b>	\$	<b>8.73</b>

\* On conversion to an ETF, Series A traded under the symbol HBF. Prior to conversion, Series A traded under the symbol HBF.UN as a closed end fund.

# Harvest Brand Leaders Plus Income ETF (formerly Brand Leaders Plus Income ETF)

## Series U (CAD)

THE FUND'S NET ASSETS PER UNIT						
	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	
Net assets - beginning of the period <sup>2</sup>	\$ 12.16	\$ 11.67	\$ 11.82	\$ 10.48	\$ 10.02	
<b>Increase (decrease) from operations</b>						
Total revenue	0.11	0.20	0.29	0.32	0.13	
Total expenses	(0.08)	(0.17)	(0.18)	(0.16)	(0.08)	
Realized gains (losses) for the period	0.20	0.59	1.42	0.51	0.10	
Unrealized gains (losses) for the period	0.28	1.01	(1.25)	1.15	0.61	
<b>Total increase (decrease) from operations<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>\$ 0.51</b>	<b>\$ 1.63</b>	<b>\$ 0.28</b>	<b>\$ 1.82</b>	<b>\$ 0.76</b>	
<b>Distributions<sup>3</sup></b>						
From income	(0.42)	-	-	-	-	
Return of capital	-	(0.84)	(0.86)	(0.84)	(0.27)	
<b>Total annual distributions<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>\$ (0.42)</b>	<b>\$ (0.84)</b>	<b>\$ (0.86)</b>	<b>\$ (0.84)</b>	<b>\$ (0.27)</b>	
<b>Net assets - end of the period<sup>1,7</sup></b>	<b>\$ 12.24</b>	<b>\$ 12.16</b>	<b>\$ 11.67</b>	<b>\$ 11.82</b>	<b>\$ 10.48</b>	

RATIOS AND SUPPLEMENTAL DATA						
	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	
<b>Total net asset value</b>	<b>\$ 17,887,213</b>	<b>\$ 7,139,199</b>	<b>\$ 1,889,722</b>	<b>\$ 2,341,210</b>	<b>\$ 3,391,226</b>	
Number of units outstanding	1,461,950	586,950	161,950	198,150	323,550	
Management expense ratio <sup>4</sup>	1.18%	1.37%	1.58%	1.45%	9.15%	
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions <sup>4</sup>	1.18%	1.49%	1.58%	1.45%	9.15%	
Trading expense ratio <sup>5</sup>	0.14%	0.14%	0.15%	0.12%	0.23%	
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>6</sup>	13.51%	59.26%	55.68%	19.97%	17.97%	
<b>Net asset value per unit</b>	<b>\$ 12.24</b>	<b>\$ 12.16</b>	<b>\$ 11.67</b>	<b>\$ 11.82</b>	<b>\$ 10.48</b>	
<b>Closing market price -USD (HBF.U)*</b>	<b>\$ 9.39</b>	<b>\$ 9.82</b>	<b>\$ 8.84</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	

\* On conversion to an ETF, Series U traded under the symbol HBF.U. Prior to conversion Series U units did not trade.

### Explanatory Notes:

- Net assets and distributions are based on the actual number of units outstanding at the relevant time. The increase (decrease) from operations is based on the weighted average number of units outstanding over the reporting period. It is not intended that the Fund's net assets per unit table act as a continuity of opening and closing net assets per unit.
- Net assets, at the commencement of operations on July 24, 2014 was \$9.33, net of agents' commissions and issuance costs of \$0.67 per unit for Series A and was \$10.02 (\$9.33 USD), net of agents' commissions and issuance costs of \$0.73 (\$0.67 USD) per unit for Series U.
- Distributions were paid in cash or reinvested in additional units of the Fund.
- Management expense ratio ("MER") is based on total expenses (excluding commissions and other portfolio transaction costs) of the stated period and is expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average net asset value during the period. The MER for 2014 the year of inception, included agents' fees of \$2,458,549 and issue costs of \$702,443 for Series A and agents' fees of \$187,340 and issue costs of \$53,526 for Series U, which were treated as one-time expenses and therefore were not annualized. The MER without these costs is 1.85% for both Series A and Series U.
- The trading expense ratio represents total commissions and other portfolio transaction costs expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average net asset value during the period.
- The Fund's portfolio turnover rate indicates how actively the Fund's portfolio advisor manages its portfolio investments. A portfolio turnover of 100% is equivalent to the Fund buying and selling all of the securities in its portfolio once in the course of the period. The higher a Fund's portfolio turnover rate, the greater the trading costs payable by the Fund and the greater the chance of an investor receiving taxable capital gains. There is not necessarily a relationship between a high turnover rate and the performance of a Fund.
- The USD amount of the net assets at the end of the period was \$9.30 USD.

# Harvest Brand Leaders Plus Income ETF (formerly Brand Leaders Plus Income ETF)

## Past Performance

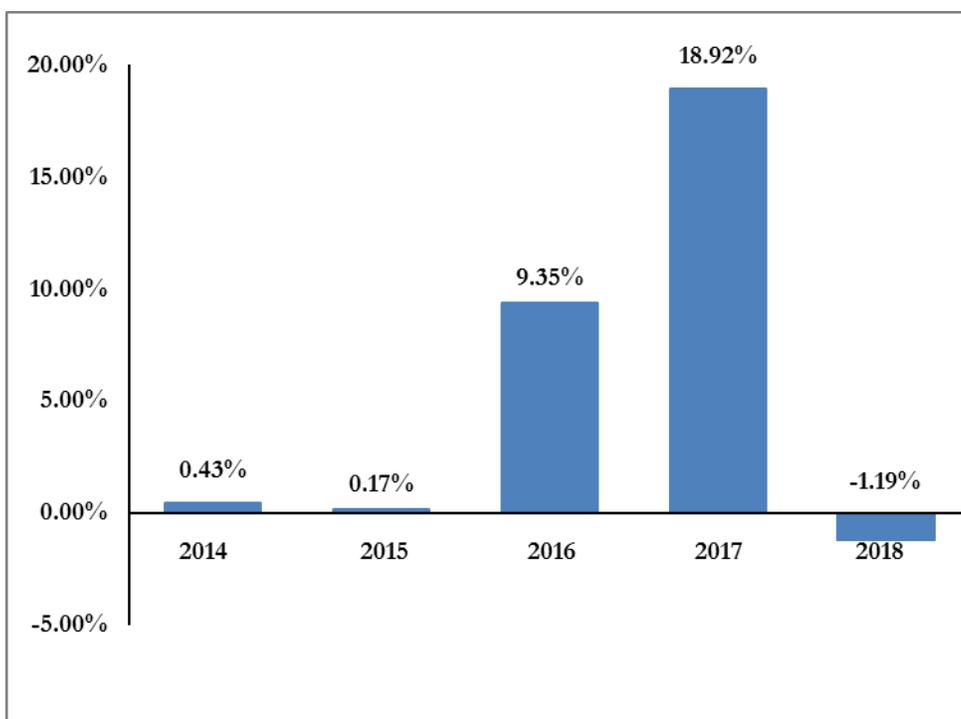
The performance information presented herein assumes all dividends of the Fund during the periods presented were reinvested in additional securities of the Fund. The performance information does not take into account sales, redemptions, or other charges that would have reduced returns or affected performance. Past performance of the Fund is not necessarily indicative of how it will perform in the future.

## YEAR-BY-YEAR RETURNS

The following charts present the Fund's performance for each of the years shown and illustrate how the Fund's performance varied for Series A and Series U. The charts show, in percentage terms, how much an investment made on the first day of each financial year would have grown or decreased by the last day of each financial year except for the 2018 period which represents the interim period.

## Fund Performance

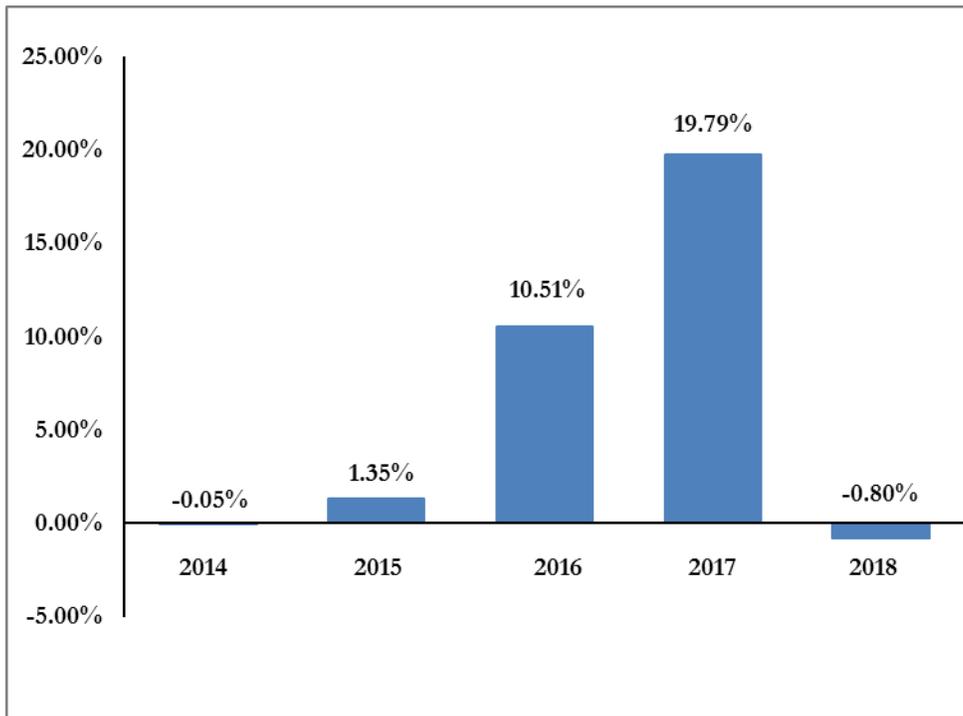
### Series A



2014 represents the period from July 24 to December 31

# Harvest Brand Leaders Plus Income ETF (formerly Brand Leaders Plus Income ETF)

Series U (USD)



2014 represents the period from July 24 to December 31

# Harvest Brand Leaders Plus Income ETF (formerly Brand Leaders Plus Income ETF)

## SUMMARY OF INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO

The Portfolio by Sector chart below provides a portfolio breakdown based on the total transactional net asset value of the Fund's portfolio holdings. A detailed breakdown of the Fund's holdings is available in the "Schedule of Investments" section of the Fund's interim financial statements.

As at June 30, 2018

Top Holdings	% of Net Asset Value
NIKE, Inc. Class B	5.3
PepsiCo, Inc.	5.2
Kimberly-Clark Corporation	5.0
Royal Dutch Shell PLC ADR	5.0
Apple Inc.	4.9
Citigroup Inc.	4.9
Alphabet Inc. Class A	4.9
Visa Inc. Class A	4.9
Cash and other assets and liabilities	4.9
The Walt Disney Company	4.8
3M Company	4.8
Microsoft Corporation	4.8
Cisco Systems, Inc.	4.8
Deere & Company	4.8
JPMorgan Chase & Co.	4.8
YUM! Brands, Inc.	4.8
Intel Corporation	4.8
Morgan Stanley	4.7
McDonald's Corporation	4.7
Johnson & Johnson	4.7
United Parcel Service, Inc. Class B	4.7
Options	(0.5)
Foreign currency forwards contracts	(1.7)
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>

This summary of investment portfolio may change due to the ongoing portfolio transactions of the Fund. Quarterly updates of the Fund's investment portfolio are available from Harvest Portfolios Group Inc. at [www.harvestportfolios.com](http://www.harvestportfolios.com).

## Harvest Brand Leaders Plus Income ETF (formerly Brand Leaders Plus Income ETF)

### SECTOR ALLOCATION

Sector	% of Net Asset Value
Information Technology	29.1
Consumer Discretionary	19.6
Financials	14.4
Industrial	14.3
Consumer Staples	10.2
Energy	5.0
Cash and other assets and liabilities	4.9
Health Care	4.7
Options	(0.5)
Foreign currency forward contracts	(1.7)
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>



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#### CAUTION REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This document may contain forward-looking statements relating to anticipated future events, results, circumstances, performance or expectations that are not historical facts but instead represent our beliefs regarding future events. By their nature, forward-looking statements require us to make assumptions and are subject to inherent risks and uncertainties. There is significant risk that predictions and other forward-looking statements will not prove to be accurate. We caution readers of this document not to place undue reliance on our forward-looking statements as a number of factors could cause actual future results, conditions, actions or events to differ materially from the targets, expectations, estimates or intentions expressed or implied in the forward-looking statements. Actual results may differ materially from management expectations as projected in such forward-looking statements for a variety of reasons, including but not limited to market and general economic conditions, interest rates, regulatory and statutory developments, the effects of competition in the geographic and business areas in which the Fund may invest and the risks detailed from time to time in the Fund's prospectus or offering memorandum. We caution that the foregoing list of factors is not exhaustive and that when relying on forward-looking statements to make decisions with respect to investing in the Fund, investors and others should carefully consider these factors, as well as other uncertainties and potential events, and the inherent uncertainty of forward-looking statements. Due to the potential impact of these factors, the Fund does not undertake, and specifically disclaims, any intention or obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, unless required by applicable law.