



## **Important Tax Notice to U.S. Investors Who are U.S. Taxpayers**

This statement is provided to shareholders who are United States persons for purposes of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (“IRC”) and the regulations thereunder. It is not relevant to other shareholders.

Manulife Multifactor Canadian SMID Cap Index ETF (the “Fund”) may be deemed to be classified as a Passive Foreign Investment Company (“PFIC”) as defined in Section 1297(a) of the IRC for the year ending December 31, 2017 and thus, its securityholders are shareholders of the PFIC.

We recommend that all U.S. taxpayer clients consult a tax advisor concerning the overall tax consequences of their ownership of securities of the Fund and their U.S. tax reporting requirements. You can also find information on U.S. tax rules applicable to investments in a PFIC on the IRS website, [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov), by searching “Form 8621 Instructions”.

Please find below a PFIC Annual Information Statement (“AIS”) for the Fund. The PFIC AIS is being provided pursuant to the requirements of Treasury Regulation §1.1295-1(g)(1). The PFIC AIS contains information to enable you, should you so choose based on the advice of your tax advisor in light of your personal tax circumstances, to elect to treat the Fund as a qualified electing fund (“QEF”).

Generally, an election is filed for each mutual fund for which you wish to make a QEF election. If you hold securities of the Fund and the Fund holds securities of one or more underlying mutual funds, you will receive a combined PFIC AIS containing information that will enable you to elect to treat any or all of the funds as a QEF as you choose, as well as information relating to your securities and values in your indirect holdings.

Note that the information attached with this letter is intended to help you make one or more QEF elections, if you decide to do so, and neither such information nor this letter constitutes tax advice. The taxpayer should seek advice based on their particular circumstances from an independent tax advisor.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact your advisor or a U.S. tax advisor or Client Relations at [manulifemutualfunds.ca](http://manulifemutualfunds.ca). Thank you for investing in Manulife Investments Mutual Funds.

**Manulife Multifactor Canadian SMID Cap Index ETF  
PFIC Annual Information Statement  
For the Year Ending December 31, 2017**

1) This Information Statement applies to the taxable year of the Fund for the year beginning November 20, 2017 and ending on December 31, 2017.

2) Your pro-rata per share amounts of ordinary earnings and net capital gains for each Series of the Fund for the period specified in paragraph (1) is as follows:

Series	Ordinary Earnings (US\$)	Net Capital Gains (US\$)
Unhedged Units	\$0.07829	\$0.00000

To determine your pro-rata share of the amounts above, multiply the amounts by the number of securities of each Series you held during the year.

- i. If you owned the same number of securities from November 20, 2017 through December 31, 2017, multiply the number of such securities by the amounts above.
- ii. If you did not own the same number of securities from November 20, 2017 through December 31, 2017, multiply the number of securities you owned by the amounts above as well as by the number of days the securities were held in 2017 and divide the result by 42.

*Example 1: On November 20, 2017, you acquired 10,000 units of Unhedged Units which earned \$0.07829 ordinary earnings per unit and \$0.00000 net capital gains per unit, and held them throughout the year. Your pro-rata share of Unhedged Units' ordinary earnings and net capital gains would be US\$782.90 (i.e., 10,000 units x \$0.07829) and US\$0.00 (i.e., 10,000 units x \$0.00000) respectively.*

*Example 2: On December 1, 2017, you acquired 10,000 units of Unhedged Units which earned \$0.07829 ordinary earnings per unit, and \$0.00000 net capital gains per unit, and held them throughout the remainder of the year (31 days). Your pro rata share of Unhedged Units' ordinary earnings and net capital gains per unit would be US\$577.85 (i.e., 10,000 units x \$0.07829 x 31/42) and US\$0.00 (i.e., 10,000 units x \$0.00000 x 31/42) respectively.*

*Example 3: On December 15, 2017, you acquired another 2,000 units of Unhedged Units in addition to the 10,000 units in example 1 and held 12,000 units for the remainder of the year, (17 days). Your total pro-rata share of Unhedged Units' ordinary earnings would be US\$846.28 (\$782.90 + (2,000 units x \$0.07829 x 17/42)). Your total pro-rata share of Unhedged Units' net capital gains would be US\$0.00 (\$0.00 + (2,000 units x \$0.00000 x 17/42)).*



## Investments

3) Your pro-rata share of cash distributions<sup>1</sup> and property distributions for each Series of the Fund for the period specified in paragraph (1) are as follows:<sup>2</sup>

Series	Property Distributions (US\$)	Cash Distributions (US\$)
Unhedged Units	\$0.02740	\$0.00000

To determine your pro-rata share of the amounts above, multiply the amounts by the number of securities of each Series you held during the year.

- i. If you owned the same number of securities from November 20, 2017 through December 31, 2017, multiply the number of such securities by the amounts above.
- ii. If you did not own same number of securities from November 20, 2017 through December 31, 2017, multiply the number of securities you owned by the amounts above as well by the number of days the securities were held in 2017 and divide the result by 42.

4) The Fund will, upon receipt of a request, permit you to inspect and copy its permanent books of account, records, and other such documents as may be maintained by the Fund that are necessary to establish its ordinary earnings and net capital gains are computed in accordance with U.S. income tax principles under IRC Section 1293 and to verify these amounts and your pro-rata share thereof.<sup>3</sup>

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By: Jean-Pierre Morier  
Title: Associate Vice President, Investment Fund Taxation  
Date: March 26, 2018

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<sup>1</sup> Under U.S. tax reporting rules, cash distributions only include distributions denominated in U.S. currency. Distributions denominated in Canadian currency are reported as property distributions.

<sup>2</sup> All amounts are reported in U.S. dollars. Distributions represent average distributions that are not reinvested in the fund. If you have elected to reinvest your distributions, the above amount may not be reflective of the actual distribution amount you received during the year. If you have made a QEF election, your basis in your fund securities is based on your investment in the fund before the election, plus your share of ordinary earnings and/or net capital gains less the actual distributions you have received during the year. You should consult your U.S. tax advisor to determine your U.S. tax basis in the fund securities during the year.

<sup>3</sup> The per unit amount of ordinary earnings and net capital gains for each Series of the Fund for the period are calculated under U.S. tax principles and may not be reflective of the per unit Canadian dollar amounts reported in your fund account statement.



## Investments

THIS INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS TAKEN FROM THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE VARIOUS MANULIFE INVESTMENTS MUTUAL FUNDS AND IS PROVIDED IN ORDER TO ASSIST SHAREHOLDERS IN MAKING CALCULATIONS AND DOES NOT CONSTITUTE TAX ADVICE. COPIES OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE AVAILABLE AT [MANULIFEMUTUALFUNDS.CA](http://MANULIFEMUTUALFUNDS.CA). SHAREHOLDERS ARE ADVISED TO CONSULT THEIR OWN TAX ADVISORS CONCERNING THE OVERALL TAX CONSEQUENCES OF THE OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES ARISING IN THEIR OWN PARTICULAR SITUATIONS UNDER UNITED STATES FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL OR FOREIGN LAW.

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