# AGF investments

ETF

#### Liquid Alternatives - Alternative Market Neutral

As of May 31, 2025

## Key Reasons to Invest

- Can be used as an effective equity hedge designed to lower portfolio volatility and reduce the impact of drawdowns.
- Potential to generate positive returns regardless of the direction of the general market, so long as low-beta stocks outperform high-beta stocks.
- For investors who are looking for a strategic or tactical hedge for equity portfolios.

### **Investment Objective**

The ETF seeks to provide a consistent negative beta exposure to the U.S. equity market by investing primarily in long positions in low beta U.S. equities and short positions in high beta U.S. equities on a dollar neutral basis, within sectors. The ETF will use leverage, which may be created through the use of cash borrowing, short sales and/or derivatives. The ETF's maximum aggregate exposure to these sources of leverage will not exceed 300% of the ETF's net asset value.

### Investment Strategy

In seeking to achieve its investment objective, the AGF US Market Neutral Anti-Beta CAD-Hedged ETF will invest primarily in long positions in low beta U.S. equities and short positions in high beta U.S. equities on a dollar neutral basis, within sectors. The ETF will invest primarily in the constituent securities of the Dow Jones U.S. Thematic Market Neutral Low Beta Index (the "Index") in approximately the same weight as they appear in the Index, subject to certain rules-based adjustments. The performance of the ETF will depend on the difference in the rate of returns between its long positions and short positions.

The universe for the Index is comprised of the top 1,000 eligible securities by market capitalization, including REITs (the "universe"). Eligible securities are those that are in the top 1,000 securities by market capitalization in the Dow Jones U.S. Index, which satisfy certain minimum average daily trading volumes as determined by the Index provider. The Index maintains sector neutrality by determining a defined number of constituent issuers from each sector based on the proportion that each sector makes up in the composition of the universe. As a result, the Index identifies approximately the 20% of securities with the lowest betas within each sector as equal-weighted long positions and approximately the 20% of securities with the highest betas within each sector as equal-weighted short positions. To provide more consistent negative beta exposure, the ETF applies a rules-based methodology to neutralize the portfolio's exposure to certain risk factors. The portfolio asset allocation will be rebalanced and reconstituted on a quarterly basis. The ETF will seek to hedge all of the direct foreign currency exposure back to the Canadian dollar.

Morningstar CategoryAlternative Market NeutralTickerQBTLCUSIP00111C109ExchangeToronto Stock Exchange (TSX)Performance Start Date (PSD)October 7, 2019Overall Fund Net Assets\$287.4 millionMER10.55%Trading Expense Ratio2.11%Risk ProfileLow				
CUSIP 00111C109   Exchange Toronto Stock Exchange (TSX)   Performance Start Date (PSD) October 7, 2019   Overall Fund Net Assets \$287.4 million   MER <sup>1</sup> 0.55%   Trading Expense Ratio 2.11%	Morningstar Category			
Exchange Toronto Stock Exchange (TSX)   Performance Start Date (PSD) October 7, 2019   Overall Fund Net Assets \$287.4 million   MER <sup>1</sup> 0.55%   Trading Expense Ratio 2.11%   Risk Profile Image: Contract of the second se	Ticker	QBTL		
Exchange Exchange (TSX)   Performance Start Date (PSD) October 7, 2019   Overall Fund Net Assets \$287.4 million   MER <sup>1</sup> 0.55%   Trading Expense Ratio 2.11%   Risk Profile Image: Comparison of the second	CUSIP	00111C109		
(PSD) October 7, 2019   Overall Fund Net Assets \$287.4 million   MER <sup>1</sup> 0.55%   Trading Expense Ratio 2.11%   Risk Profile Image: Comparison of the second seco	Exchange			
MER <sup>1</sup> 0.55% Trading Expense Ratio 2.11% Risk Profile		October 7, 2019		
Trading Expense Ratio 2.11%	Overall Fund Net Assets	\$287.4 million		
Risk Profile	MER <sup>1</sup>	0.55%		
	Trading Expense Ratio	2.11%		
	Risk Profile	Low Med High		

Benchmark Dow Jones U.S. Thematic Market Neutral Low Beta Index [CAD-Hedged]

## **Distributions (ETF)**

	2024	2023	2022
\$Amount/ Unit	N/A	N/A	0.60
Annual Frequency <sup>2</sup>			

Please refer to AGF.com for distribution information.

On January 28, 2022, AGF US Market Neutral Anti-Beta CAD-Hedged ETF (QBTL) investment objectives changed from a passive index-tracking strategy to an active, rules-based approach that seeks to provide a consistent negative beta exposure to the U.S. equity market. Performance prior to this date would have been different had the current investment objectives been in effect.

Source: AGF Investments, Morningstar. This document is not complete without the end disclosures. See the end of document for term definitions.

<sup>1</sup> MER as of March 31, 2025. AGFI may, in its discretion, temporarily waive some or all of the expenses of the Fund, which will result in a reduction in the MER. AGFI may cease to offer any such waiver at any time without notice.

<sup>2</sup> The distribution is not guaranteed, may be adjusted from time to time at the discretion of the fund manager and may vary from payment to payment.

# AGF | investments

ETF		Liquid Alternatives - Alternative Market Neutral		leutral	As of May 31, 2025					
Net Compound Returns (CA	D) (%)									
	1 MO.	3 MO.	6 MO.	YTD	1 YR.	2 YR.	3 YR.	5 YR.	10 YR.	PSD <sup>†</sup>
Fund	-4.6	-1.2	5.5	3.4	2.2	3.1	1.3	-3.5	-	-2.2
Morningstar Quartile Ranking*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of Funds in the Category	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

\* Performance start date as of October 7, 2019. Past performance is not indicative of future results. Rates of return for greater than one year have been annualized.

## Net Annual Returns (CAD) (%)

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Fund	12.5	-15.5	20.8	-8.0	-12.6	-	-	-	-	-
Pact porformanco is not indicativo of futuro rosulto										

Past performance is not indicative of future results.

## Top 10 Holdings (% of Total Net Assets)

Long Positions Total Holdings: 200

Company Name	Weight
Dow Jones US Thematic Low Beta TRS	34.62%
Autozone Inc.	0.51%
HEICO Corp.	0.41%
CACI International Inc.	0.41%
Informatica Inc.	0.39%
Pegasystems Inc.	0.39%
Cardinal Health Inc.	0.38%
W. R. Berkley Corp.	0.38%
O'Reilly Automotive Inc.	0.37%
VeriSign Inc.	0.37%
Total	38.2%

## Top 10 Holdings (% of Total Net Assets)

Short Positions Total Holdings: 201

Company Name	Weight
Dow Jones US Thematic High Beta TRS	-31.74%
Axon Enterprise Inc.	-0.51%
NRG Energy Inc.	-0.51%
elf Beauty Inc.	-0.51%
MicroStrategy Inc.	-0.50%
Carvana Co.	-0.49%
Palantir Technologies Inc.	-0.49%
Avis Budget Group Inc.	-0.48%
Robinhood Markets Inc.	-0.48%
ATI Inc.	-0.47%
Total	-36.2%



TF			Liquid Alternatives - Alternative Market Neutral	As of May
Portfolio Characteri	stics			
	Long	Short		
Price to Earnings	20.9	27.5		
Forward Sales Growth	2.3%	4.1%		
Forward Earnings Growth	16.0%	27.6%		
Forward Price to Earnings	16.9	19.7		
Return on Equity	13.9%	11.1%		
Weighted Average Market Cap (\$ billions)	80.1	95.6		
Beta	0.7	1.3		

## **Sector Allocation**

	Long	Short
Industrials	16.7%	-18.0%
Financials	15.7%	-14.7%
Information Technology	13.3%	-13.9%
Consumer Discretionary	11.1%	-11.4%
Health Care	10.1%	-10.2%
Real Estate	5.7%	-5.5%
Materials	5.3%	-4.5%
Consumer Staples	5.1%	-5.8%
Utilities	4.4%	-4.8%
Energy	3.7%	-3.5%
Communication Services	3.5%	-3.7%
Cash & Cash Equivalents	103.6%	-2.2%

#### **Risk Characteristics** (3 & 5 Year Annualized)

Portfolio	3-Year	5-Year
Standard Deviation	16.6%	16.5%
Sharpe Ratio	-0.17	-0.36
Beta	-0.65	-0.61
Tracking Error	29.8%	29.0%
Upside Capture	-22.1%	-13.2%
Downside Capture	-143.0%	-126.8%



ETF

#### Liquid Alternatives - Alternative Market Neutral

### **Investment Management Team**

AGF Investments' quantitative investment team is intellectually diverse and multidisciplined with a focus on factor-based investing. The team's approach is grounded in the belief that investment outcomes can be improved by assessing and targeting the factors that drive market returns.

## **Portfolio Managers**



### Grant Wang, M.A. (Econ.), Ph.D., CFA®

SVP, Head of Quantitative Research & Chief Data Scientist AGF Investments Inc. • Industry Exp: since 2001

• Firm Exp: since 2012



## Robert Yan, Ph.D., CFA®

VP & Portfolio Manager AGF Investments Inc. • Industry Exp: since 2006 • Firm Exp: since 2008



#### **Jeff Kay, M.Sc.** VP & Portfolio Manager AGF Investments Inc.

Industry Exp: since 2003

• Firm Exp: since 2011



## Bill DeRoche, MBA, CFA®

SVP, Head of Quantitative Investing AGF Investments LLC • Industry Exp: since 1995 • Firm Exp: since 2010

## Investment Team/Resources

Josh Belko, CFA® Portfolio Manager AGF Investments LLC

**Ian Rake, CFA®** Analyst AGF Investments Inc. **Philip Lee, M.E., Ph.D.** Portfolio Manager AGF Investments LLC

#### As of May 31, 2025

## **Quantitative Research Team**

Russell (Dezhao) Han, Ph.D., FSA Senior Analyst, Research

**Brian Jia**, **Ph.D.** Senior Analyst

Zheng Liu, MBA, Ph.D. Fin., CFA® Senior Analyst

Tingting Lu, Ph.D., CFA® Portfolio Manager

## Data Engineering Team

Cally Cheung, MBA, CFA® VP, Data Engineering

**Joanna Malec** Developer

**Yuyi You** Research Analyst

AGF | investments

ETF

Liquid Alternatives - Alternative Market Neutral

As of May 31, 2025

## **About AGF Management Limited**

Founded in 1957, AGF Management Limited (AGF) is an independent and globally diverse asset management firm. Our companies deliver excellence in investing in the public and private markets through three business lines: AGF Investments, AGF Capital Partners and AGF Private Wealth.

AGF brings a disciplined approach, focused on incorporating sound, responsible and sustainable corporate practices. The firm's collective investment expertise, driven by its fundamental, quantitative and private investing capabilities, extends globally to a wide range of clients, from financial advisors and their clients to high-net worth and institutional investors including pension plans, corporate plans, sovereign wealth funds, endowments and foundations.

Headquartered in Toronto, Canada, AGF has investment operations and client servicing teams on the ground in North America and Europe. AGF serves more than 815,000 investors. AGF trades on the Toronto Stock Exchange under the symbol AGF.B.

### About AGF Investments

AGF Investments represents AGF's group of companies who manage and advise on a variety of investment solutions managed by its fundamental and quantitative investing teams. AGF Investments Inc. is a wholly-owned subsidiary of AGF Management Limited and conducts the management and advisory of mutual funds in Canada.



For more information, contact: AGF Client Services Toll Free: 1-800-268-8583 Web: AGF.com

AGF | investments

ETF

Liquid Alternatives - Alternative Market Neutral

As of May 31, 2025

## Disclosures

All information is provided by AGF Investments in Canadian dollars as of May 31, 2025, unless otherwise indicated. The performance presented is net of fees. Rates of return for periods greater than one year have been annualized.

Commissions, trailing commissions, management fees and expenses all may be associated with investment fund investments. Please read the prospectus before investing. The indicated rates of return are the historical annual compounded total returns including changes in share or unit value and reinvestment of all dividends or distributions and do not take into account sales, redemption, distribution or optional charges or income taxes payable by any securityholder that would have reduced returns. Investment funds are not guaranteed, their values change frequently and past performance may not be repeated. AGF ETFs are ETFs offered by AGF Investments Inc. ETFs are listed and traded on organized Canadian exchanges and may only be bought and sold through licensed dealers.

This material is for informational and educational purposes only. It is not a recommendation of any specific investment product, strategy, or decision, and is not intended to suggest taking or refraining from any course of action. It is not intended to address the needs, circumstances, and objectives of any specific investor. This information is not meant as tax or legal advice. Investors should consult a financial advisor and/or tax professional before making investment, financial and/or tax-related decisions.

For a summary of the risks of an investment in a particular AGF Fund, please see the specific risks set out in the fund's prospectus. Market conditions may change, impacting the composition of a portfolio. AGF Investments assumes no responsibility for any investment decisions made based on the information provided herein.

Holdings are subject to change and do not represent all of the securities purchased, sold or recommended for the portfolio. It should not be assumed that investments in the securities identified were or will be profitable and should not be considered an endorsement or recommendation by AGF Investments.

The payment of distributions should not be confused with a fund's performance, rate of return or yield. If distributions paid by the fund are greater than the performance of the fund, the original investment will shrink. Distributions paid as a result of capital gains realized by a fund, and income and dividends earned by a fund, are taxable to the investor in the year they are paid. The adjusted cost base will be reduced by the amount of any returns of capital. If the adjusted cost base falls below zero, the investor will have to pay capital gains tax on the amount below zero.

The Dow Jones U.S. Thematic Market Neutral Low Beta Index (CAD Hedged) is a product of S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC or its affiliates ("SPDJI") and has been licensed for use. Standard & Poor's<sup>®</sup> and S&P<sup>®</sup> are registered trademarks of Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC ("S&P"); Dow Jones<sup>®</sup> is a registered trademark of Dow Jones Trademark Holdings LLC ("Dow Jones"). The AGF US Market Neutral Anti-Beta CAD-Hedged ETF is not sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by SPDJI, Dow Jones, S&P or their respective affiliates, and none of such parties make any representation regarding the advisability of investing in such product nor do they have any liability for any errors, omissions, or interruptions of the Dow Jones U.S. Thematic Market Neutral Low Beta Index (CAD Hedged).

© 2025 Morningstar, Inc. All Rights Reserved. The information contained herein: (1) is proprietary to Morningstar and/or its content providers; (2) may not be copied or distributed; and (3) is not warranted to be accurate, complete or timely. Neither Morningstar nor its content providers are responsible for any damages or losses arising from any use of this information. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

<sup>®</sup> <sup>™</sup> The "AGF" logo and all associated trademarks are registered trademarks or trademarks of AGF Management Limited and used under licence.

This report may not be reproduced (in whole or in part), transmitted or made available to any other person without the prior written permission of AGF Investments Inc.



For more information, contact: AGF Client Services Toll Free: 1-800-268-8583 Web: AGF.com



ETF

Liquid Alternatives - Alternative Market Neutral

As of May 31, 2025

**Disclosures** 

Published: June 11, 2025.



For more information, contact: AGF Client Services Toll Free: 1-800-268-8583 Web: AGF.com

## AGF | investments

ETF

Liquid Alternatives - Alternative Market Neutral

As of May 31, 2025

## **Term Definitions**

## **Active Share**

Active Share tracks the disparity between a portfolio manager's holdings and that of its benchmark index. A low Active Share score indicates that a portfolio manager is closely replicating the target index, while a high Active Share score indicates that a fund's holdings diverge significantly from the target index.

### Beta

A measure of a fund's sensitivity to market movements (as represented by a benchmark index). The benchmark index has a Beta of 1.0. A Beta of more (less) than 1.0 indicates that a fund's historical returns have fluctuated more (less) than the benchmark index. For example, a Beta of 1.10 shows that the fund performed 10% better than its benchmark index in up markets and 10% worse in down markets, assuming all other factors remain constant.

### Downside Capture (Ratio)

The Downside Capture Ratio is calculated by taking the portfolio's return and dividing it by the benchmark's return in periods when the benchmark return was negative. A Downside Capture Ratio of less than 100% is considered desirable.

### **Forward Earnings Growth**

Forward Earnings are an estimate of a company's earnings for an upcoming period; their growth rate is calculated based on forecasted earnings.

## Forward Price/Earnings (Forward P/E)

A Forward P/E is calculated based on forecasted earnings per share; a stock's current price divided by next year's expected earnings.

### **Forward Sales Growth**

Forward Sales are an estimate of a company's revenues for an upcoming period; their growth rate is calculated based on forecasted revenue.

### **Information Ratio**

The Information Ratio is the ratio of the portfolio returns above the returns of the blended benchmark to the volatility of those returns. It's designed to measure the ability to generate excess returns relative to a benchmark on a risk-adjusted basis.

### Management Expense Ratio (MER)

The Management Expense Ratio, commonly referred to as MER, is a measure of the total expenses (fees and other costs) borne by the mutual fund or ETF, expressed as a percentage of the fund's net asset value. The ratio is calculated by dividing the total annual expenses by the average net asset value of the fund for the given year.

### **Price/Earnings**

(P/E ratio or P/E) The ratio of share price to earnings per share.

### **Return on Equity**

A profitability ratio calculated as net income divided by average shareholders' equity.

## **Risk Profile**

The Risk Profile is based on the historical volatility of a fund, as measured by the 10-year annualized standard deviation of the 10-year average returns of the fund. The investment risk level is required to be determined in accordance with the Canadian Securities Administrators' standardized risk classification methodology.

#### **Sharpe Ratio**

Sharpe Ratio characterizes how well the return of a fund compensates the investor for each unit of absolute risk they assume, as measured by the Standard Deviation of the fund. The greater a fund's Sharpe Ratio, the better its risk-adjusted performance has been.

## AGF | investments

ETF

Liquid Alternatives - Alternative Market Neutral

As of May 31, 2025

## **Term Definitions**

## **Standard Deviation**

A statistical measure of the range/dispersion of a fund's performance. The more variable the returns, the larger the Standard Deviation. When a fund has a high Standard Deviation, it means that its range of performance was wide for the given period, i.e. greater historical volatility. Standard Deviation does not predict the future volatility of a fund.

## **Tracking Error**

The Tracking Error represents a fund manager's added value variability. It reports the difference between the return received and that of the benchmark being compared to. It is reported as a Standard Deviation percentage difference.

## Trading Expense Ratio (TER)

The total gross expenses divided by the fund's average net assets.

### Turnover (Ratio)

The portfolio Turnover Ratio is the rate at which assets in a fund are bought and sold by the portfolio managers. It is calculated as the minimum of securities bought or sold divided by the average assets over the period.

### Upside Capture (Ratio)

The Upside Capture Ratio is calculated by taking the portfolio's return and dividing it by the benchmark's return in periods when the benchmark return was positive. An Upside Capture Ratio of greater than 100% is considered desirable.

### Weighted Average Market Cap

Market cap is the market value of all the outstanding shares in a company. In a portfolio the Weighted Average Market Cap is the sum of the products of a company's market cap and its percentage allocation in the portfolio.