# How a Little Leverage Can Go A Long Way

**Understanding Enhanced ETFs** 



# How a Little Leverage Can Go A Long Way: Understanding Enhanced ETFs

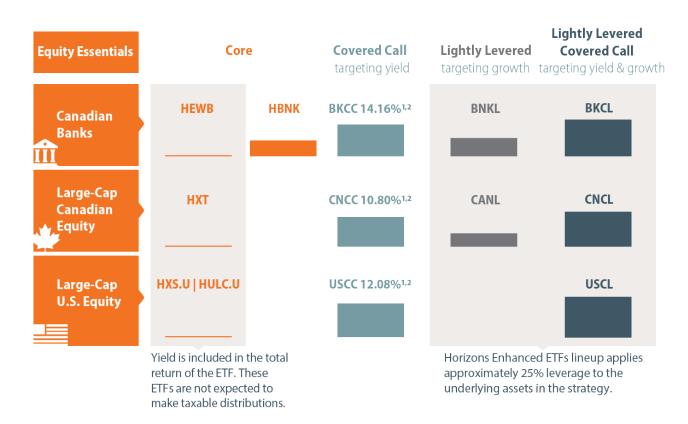
Using a little leverage can potentially enhance returns and provide income benefits for investors. Let's take a look at Horizons ETFs' new "Enhanced" lineup of Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs), which targets approximately 1.25 times (or about 1.25x) leverage, to understand how they work and how they could fit in your portfolio.

# The Highlights:

- Comprehensive and cost-effective lineup of Enhanced ETFs
- Enhanced income and growth prospects can be achieved through light leverage
- ◆ For every \$1 invested in the Enhanced ETFs, leverage is applied by borrowing approximately \$0.25 and combining the investment

# Greater Yield and Return Opportunities - More ways to potentially achieve your investment goals with our new Enhanced ETFs

Horizons ETFs now offers more ways to get exposure to Canadian Banks, Large-Cap Canadian companies, and Large-Cap U.S. companies through its Equity Essentials ETFs suite. The ETF offerings outlined below provide varying potential for yield generation and growth, while also offering different risk-return profiles.

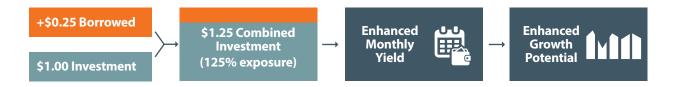


<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Annualized Distribution Yield as at October 31 2023.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Annual management fee reduced from 0.65% to 0.39%, effective July 6, 2023.

# How do these ETFs generate this additional performance?

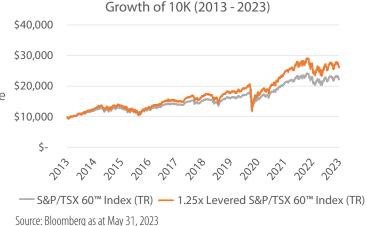
Light leverage (approximately 25%) is applied to select Horizons ETFs' covered call and equity ETFs to magnify exposure to their underlying index or assets. This strategy can increase the monthly income generated and can also provide more growth potential.



Historical return trajectory of the S&P/TSX 60™ Index with and without the usage of 1.25x leverage.

As evidenced in the chart, on a historical basis, employing light leverage would have resulted in a greater total return on the S&P/TSX 60™ Index between May 31, 2013 and May 31, 2023.

The use of leverage can be particularly beneficial in favourable market conditions. However, leverage can also magnify negative performance when the benchmark falls.



FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSES ONLY. THE GROWTH OF \$10K CHART FOR THE 1.25X LEVERAGED S&P/TSX 60™ Index (TR) IS HYPOTHETICAL

The Growth of 10K chart is based on the S&P/TSX 60™ Index (TR) historical annual compounded total return including changes in index unit value and reinvestment of all distributions and does not take into account sales, transaction, brokerage, redemption, distribution or optional charges or income taxes payable by any investor or investment fund in replicating the S&P/TSX 60™ Index (TR), that would have reduced returns. The S&P/TSX 60™ Index (TR) is not directly investible. Index returns are not guaranteed, their values change frequently and past performance may not be repeated.

## **Key Benefits:**



Own major banks and/or large cap companies







Horizons ETFs Equity Essentials ETFs names, tickers and management fees (%):

HEWB	0.25 <sup>1,5</sup>	Horizons Equal Weight Canada Banks Index ETF	BNKL	0.351	Horizons Enhanced Equal Weight Banks Index ETF
HXT	0.071,4	Horizons S&P/TSX 60™ Index ETF	CANL	0.351	Horizons Enhanced S&P/TSX 60 Index ETF
HXS.U	0.101	Horizons S&P 500® Index ETF	BKCL	0.651	Horizons Enhanced Equal Weight Canadian Banks Covered Call ETF
HULC.U	0.081	Horizons US Large Cap Index ETF	CNCL	0.651	Horizons Enhanced Canadian Large Cap Equity Covered Call ETF
HBNK	0.09 <sup>1,3</sup>	Horizons Equal Weight Banks Index ETF	USCL	0.65 1	Horizons Enhanced US Large Cap Equity Covered Call ETF
BKCC	0.391,2	Horizons Equal Weight Canadian Bank Covered Call ETF			
CNCC	0.391,2	Horizons Canadian Large Cap Equity Covered Call ETF			

 $0.39^{1,2}$ 

USCC.U

Horizons US Large Cap Equity Covered Call ETF

### **Disclaimer**

Commissions, management fees and expenses all may be associated with an investment in exchange traded products managed by Horizons ETFs Management (Canada) Inc. (the "Horizons Exchange Traded Products"). The Horizons Exchange Traded Products are not guaranteed, their value changes frequently and past performance may not be repeated. Certain Horizons Exchange Traded Products may have exposure to leveraged investment techniques that magnify gains and losses and which may result in greater volatility in value and could be subject to aggressive investment risk and price volatility risk. Such risks are described in the prospectus. The prospectus contains important detailed information about the Horizons Exchange Traded Products. **Please read the relevant prospectus before investing.** 

Horizons Total Return Index ETFs ("Horizons TRI ETFs") are generally index-tracking ETFs that use an innovative investment structure known as a Total Return Swap to deliver index returns in a low-cost and tax-efficient manner. Unlike a physical replication ETF that typically purchases the securities found in the relevant index in the same proportions as the index, most Horizons TRI ETFs use a synthetic structure that never buys the securities of an index directly. Instead, the ETF receives the total return of the index through entering into a Total Return Swap agreement with one or more counterparties, typically large financial institutions, which will provide the ETF with the total return of the index in exchange for the interest earned on the cash held by the ETF. Any distributions which are paid by the index constituents are reflected automatically in the net asset value (NAV) of the ETF. As a result, the Horizons TRI ETF receives the total return of the index (before fees), which is reflected in the ETF's share price, and investors are not expected to receive any taxable distributions. Certain Horizons TRI ETFs (Horizons Nasdaq-100 ® Index ETF and Horizons US Large Cap Index ETF) use physical replication instead of a total return swap.

BNKL, CANL, BKCL, CNCL, and USCL (or the "Enhanced ETFs") are alternative mutual funds within the meaning of NI 81–102, and are permitted to use strategies generally prohibited by conventional mutual funds, such as the ability to invest more than 10% of the Enhanced ETF's net asset value in securities of a single issuer, the ability to borrow cash and to employ leverage. While these strategies will only be used in accordance with the applicable investment objectives and strategies of the Enhanced ETFs, during certain market conditions they may accelerate the risk that an investment in Units of such Enhanced ETF decreases in value.

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Certain statements may constitute a forward-looking statement, including those identified by the expression "expect" and similar expressions (including grammatical variations thereof). The forward-looking statements are not historical facts but reflect the author's current expectations regarding future results or events. These forward-looking statements are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results or events to differ materially from current expectations. These and other factors should be considered carefully and readers should not place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are made as of the date hereof and the authors do not undertake to update any forward-looking statement that is contained herein, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, unless required by applicable law.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Management Fee plus applicable Sales Tax

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Annual management fee reduced from 0.65% to 0.39%, effective July 6, 2023

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Annual management fee rebated by 0.09bps (0.09%) to an effective management fee of 0.00bps, or 0% until July 31, 2024

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Rebate to the Management Fee expired on December 31, 2022. Effective January 1, 2023, the Annual Management Fee of HXT will be 0.07%, plus applicable sales tax.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>Annual management fee reduced from 0.30% to 0.25%, effective November 2, 2021.