# INTERIM MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE

**June 30 2025** 

# **CHOU BOND FUND**

CHOU ASSOCIATES MANAGEMENT INC.

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This interim management report of fund performance contains financial highlights but does not contain the complete financial statements of the Fund. You can get a copy of the annual financial statements at your request, and at no cost, by calling Toll-free: 1-888-357-5070, by writing to us at 110 Sheppard Ave. East, Suite 301, Box 18, Toronto, Ontario M2N 6Y8 or by visiting our website at <a href="www.choufunds.com">www.choufunds.com</a> and SEDAR+ at <a href="www.sedarplus.ca">www.sedarplus.ca</a>.

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.

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 onour 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 Simplified Prospectus. 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 family of Chou Funds 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.

Chou Associates Management Inc. ("the Manager") manages the overall business of the Fund, including the selection of the securities in the Fund's portfolio and promoting sales of the Fund's units. For the purposes of this document, the terms Chou Associates Management Inc. and "the Manager" are interchangeable. Full contact information for the Manager is located at the end of this report.

# **Management Discussion of Fund Performance**

#### **Investment Objective and Strategies**

Chou Bond Fund's (the "Fund") objective is to provide conservation of principal and income production with capital appreciation as a secondary consideration. The Fund invests primarily in Canadian and U.S. fixed income instruments considered by Chou Associates Management Inc. (the "Manager") to be undervalued. These bonds include, but are not limited to, Government of Canada, provincial, municipal and corporate issues, including convertibles and high yield bonds. Investments may be made in bonds outside of Canada and the U.S. The Fund may also use derivatives such as, but not limited to, futures, options, swaps and forward contracts to gain exposure to securities and asset classes consistent with the objectives of the Fund, and to hedge portfolio exposure against losses from foreign currency and domestic currency exposure and changes in securities prices.

#### Risk

The risks of investing in the Fund are disclosed in the Fund's most recently filed Simplified Prospectus which can be found on the Fund's website at <a href="https://www.sedarplus.ca">www.sedarplus.ca</a>.

During the period ended June 30, 2025, there were no material changes that affected the Fund's overall level of risk.

#### **Market Review**

For the first six months of 2025, the Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Corporate High Yield index, delivered a positive return of 4.6% in US dollars, driven by declining yields, steady credit fundamentals, and strong investor demand. Credit spreads tightened notably in May, narrowing by 61 basis points to 363 bps, while yields fell to around 7.8%. Lower-rated CCC bonds outperformed their BB and B counterparts. New issuance rebounded in the second quarter, reaching \$123.9 billion, with a clear shift toward higher-quality, senior-secured deals. Default rates remained low at about 1.4%, well below historical averages, supported by stable corporate fundamentals.

#### **Results of Operations**

For the period ended June 30, 2025, the Fund increased by 0.3% for Series A units and 0.4% for Series F units after fees and expenses, while Barclays Capital U.S. Corporate High Yield Index decreased 0.8% in Canadian dollars. In U.S. dollars, the Fund increased 5.9% for Series A units and 6.0% for Series F units, while Barclays Capital U.S. Corporate High Yield Index increased 4.6%.

The top gainers in the first half of 2025 were the debt holding of Bausch Health Companies Inc., 11.000% due September 30, 2028. and the equity holding of EXCO Resources Inc.

The major underperformers in the period were the debt holding of Avation Capital SA, 8.25% due October 31, 2026 and Bausch Health Companies Inc., 14.000% due October 15, 2030.

The Canadian currency appreciated against the US dollar, which also negatively affected the Fund.

#### Portfolio Update

The Fund initiated investments in the debt holdings of Strathcona Resources Limited., 6.875% due August 1, 2026 and Allegiant Travel Company, 7.250% due August 15, 2027. The fund also initiated investments in the preferred shares of Enbridge Inc. Series 3.

The Fund sold the preferred shares of B Riley Financial Inc. and the debt holding of 1375209 BC Limited., 9.000% due January 30, 2028.

In the first half of 2025, the Fund received \$1,114 in income from its securities lending program.

The Fund did not enter into any foreign currency contracts in the first half of 2025.

The Fund's net subscriptions for the period ended June 30, 2025 were approximately \$39,244 for Series A units and approximately \$1,689,667 for Series F units. Out of the net purchases for Series F units, \$1,203 was switched from Series A units following the Order Execution Only ("OEO") trailer ban. The Fund's average month-end cash and cash equivalent position for the period was 57.0% of the Fund's net assets.

#### **Recent Developments**

U.S. markets experienced heightened volatility in response to newly imposed tariffs, leading to a sharp sell-off in April before recovering swiftly to reach record highs. Elevated margin debt levels point to increased speculation and potential overheating within the market. Globally, rising oil prices and ongoing trade tensions have weighed on emerging economies. As a result, we anticipate some impacts on the portfolio performance of the Fund in the near term.

#### **Related Party Transactions**

The Manager manages the overall business of the Fund, including selection of the securities in the Fund's portfolio, and promoting the sale of the Fund's units.

The Manager is also the trustee of the Fund. Investors receive units of a trust when they invest in the Fund. The Manager, as trustee, holds the actual title to the property in the Fund, the cash and portfolio securities, on behalf of the Fund's investors.

The Manager, its officers and directors invest in units of the Fund from time to time in the normal course of business. As of June 30, 2025, the Manager, its officers and directors do not hold any units of the Fund. All transactions with the Manager are carried out at the Fund's net asset value as at the transaction date.

During the period ended June 30, 2025, there were no transactions with related parties except in the capacities and instances set out above.

#### **Financial Highlights**

The following tables show 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, 2025, and for each of the past five years ended December 31.

## The Fund's Net Assets per Unit<sup>1</sup> - Series A Units

	Jı	ın 2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	 2020
Net Assets, beginning of year	\$	9.83	\$ 8.66	\$ 9.33	\$ 8.79	\$ 6.53	\$ 5.91
Increase (decrease) from operations:							
Total revenue	\$	0.28	\$ 0.65	\$ 0.65	\$ 0.37	\$ 0.47	\$ 0.41
Total expenses	\$	(0.08)	\$ (0.16)	\$ (0.16)	\$ (0.17)	\$ (0.11)	\$ (0.10)
Realized gains (losses) for the year	\$	(0.06)	\$ 0.20	\$ (0.09)	\$ 0.03	\$ (2.35)	\$ (1.29)
Unrealized gains (losses) for the year	\$	(0.11)	\$ 0.87	\$ (0.57)	\$ 0.38	\$ 4.69	\$ 2.47
<b>Total increase (decrease) from operations</b> <sup>2</sup>	\$	0.03	\$ 1.56	\$ (0.17)	\$ 0.61	\$ 2.70	\$ 1.49
Distributions:							
From income (excluding dividends)	\$	-	\$ 0.40	\$ 0.50	\$ 0.17	\$ 0.43	\$ 0.85
From dividends	\$	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
From capital gains	\$	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Return of capital	\$	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Distributions <sup>3</sup>	\$	-	\$ 0.40	\$ 0.50	\$ 0.17	\$ 0.43	\$ 0.85
Net Assets, end of year	\$	9.86	\$ 9.83	\$ 8.66	\$ 9.33	\$ 8.79	\$ 6.53
Net Assets, end of year (USD)	\$	7.24	\$ 6.84	\$ 6.53	\$ 6.89	\$ 6.95	\$ 5.13

#### Ratios and Supplemental Data - Series A Units

	J	un 2025	2024	 2023	 2022		2021		2020
Total Net Asset Value (000s) <sup>4</sup>	\$	5,044	\$ 4,989	\$ 4,897	\$ 5,648	\$	9,235	\$	7,224
Number of Redeemable Units Outstanding		511,571	507,644	565,643	605,477	1,	050,115	1,	105,932
Management Expense Ratio <sup>5</sup>		1.62%	1.78%	1.76%	1.78%		1.37%		1.42%
Management Expense Ratio before waivers									
or absorption <sup>5</sup>		1.62%	1.78%	1.76%	1.78%		1.37%		1.42%
Trading Expense Ratio <sup>6</sup>		0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.04%		0.00%		0.00%
Portfolio Turnover Rate <sup>7</sup>		52.36%	0.00%	0.00%	78.25%		44.47%		54.84%
Net Asset Value per Unit	\$	9.86	\$ 9.83	\$ 8.66	\$ 9.33	\$	8.79	\$	6.53

The Fund's Net Assets per Unit<sup>1</sup> - Series F Units

	J	un 2025	2024	 2023	2022	2021	2020
Net Assets, beginning of year	\$	10.01	\$ 8.84	\$ 9.52	\$ 9.06	\$ 6.71	\$ 6.06
Increase (decrease) from operations:							
Total revenue	\$	0.29	\$ 0.65	\$ 0.67	\$ 0.41	\$ 0.49	\$ 0.45
Total expenses	\$	(0.07)	\$ (0.15)	\$ (0.15)	\$ (0.16)	\$ (0.10)	\$ (0.09)
Realized gains (losses) for the year	\$	(0.06)	\$ 0.28	\$ (0.09)	\$ (0.16)	\$ (2.52)	\$ (0.91)
Unrealized gains (losses) for the year	\$	(0.12)	\$ 0.92	\$ (0.58)	\$ 0.77	\$ 5.00	\$ 2.22
Total increase (decrease) from operations <sup>2</sup>	\$	0.04	\$ 1.70	\$ (0.15)	\$ 0.86	\$ 2.87	\$ 1.67
Distributions:							
From income (excluding dividends)	\$	-	\$ 0.46	\$ 0.52	\$ 0.26	\$ 0.44	\$ 0.91
From dividends	\$	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
From capital gains	\$	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Return of capital	\$	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 
Total Distributions <sup>3</sup>	\$	-	\$ 0.46	\$ 0.52	\$ 0.26	\$ 0.44	\$ 0.91
Net Assets, end of year	\$	10.05	\$ 10.01	\$ 8.84	\$ 9.52	\$ 9.06	\$ 6.71
Net Assets, end of year (USD)	\$	7.38	\$ 6.96	\$ 6.67	\$ 7.03	\$ 7.16	\$ 5.27

#### Ratios and Supplemental Data - Series F Units

	J	un 2025	2024	<u> </u>	2023	2022	2021	2020
<b>Total Net Asset Value (000s)</b> <sup>4</sup>	\$	11,947	\$ 10,210	\$	5,984	\$ 5,544	\$ 1,229	\$ 1,408
Number of Redeemable Units Outstanding	1,	188,725	1,020,102		640,839	582,040	135,676	209,838
Management Expense Ratio <sup>5</sup>		1.45%	1.60%	ó	1.59%	1.66%	1.18%	1.25%
Management Expense Ratio before waivers								
or absorption <sup>5</sup>		1.45%	1.60%	ó	1.59%	1.66%	1.18%	1.25%
Trading Expense Ratio <sup>6</sup>		0.00%	0.00%	ó	0.00%	0.04%	0.00%	0.00%
Portfolio Turnover Rate <sup>7</sup>		52.36%	0.00%	ó	0.00%	78.25%	44.47%	54.84%
Net Asset Value per Unit	\$	10.05	\$ 10.01	9	8.84	\$ 9.52	\$ 9.06	\$ 6.71

<sup>(1)</sup> This information is derived from the Fund's audited annual and unaudited semi-annual financial statements.

<sup>(2)</sup> Net assets and distributions are based on the actual number of redeemable units outstanding at the relevant time. The increase/decrease from operations is based on the weighted average number of redeemable units outstanding over the financial period.

<sup>(3)</sup> Distributions were reinvested in additional units of the Fund or paid in cash upon request.

<sup>(4)</sup> This information is provided as at the period end shown and is rounded to the nearest thousand.

<sup>(5)</sup> Management expense ratio ("MER") is based on total expenses (excluding commissions and other portfolio transaction costs) for the stated period and is expressed as an annualized percentage of weekly average net asset value during the period. The Manager may, at its discretion, waive or absorb certain operating expenses. MER includes the waiver or absorption by the Manager of certain operating expenses, while the MER before absorption shows the MER prior to operating expenses being waived or absorbed by the Manager.

<sup>(6)</sup> The trading expense ratio represents total commissions and other portfolio transaction costs expressed as an annualized percentage of weekly average net asset value during the period.

<sup>(7)</sup> The Fund's portfolio turnover rate indicates how actively the Fund's portfolio adviser manages its portfolio investments. A portfolio turnover rate of 100% is equivalent to the Fund buying and selling all of the securities in its portfolio once in the course of the financial period. The higher a fund's portfolio turnover rate in a year, the greater the trading costs payable by the fund in the year, and the greater the chance of an investor receiving taxable capital gains in the year. There is not necessarily a relationship between a high turnover rate and the performance of a fund.

#### **Management Fees**

The Manager manages the Fund. The Manager is entitled to an investment management fee calculated daily as a percentage of the market value of the net assets equal to 1.15% per annum for Series A units and 1.0% per annum for Series F units, payable monthly. The Manager pays 15 basis points per year trailer fees to dealers out of management fees for Series A units. There is no trailer fee paid out for Series F units.

#### **Past Performance**

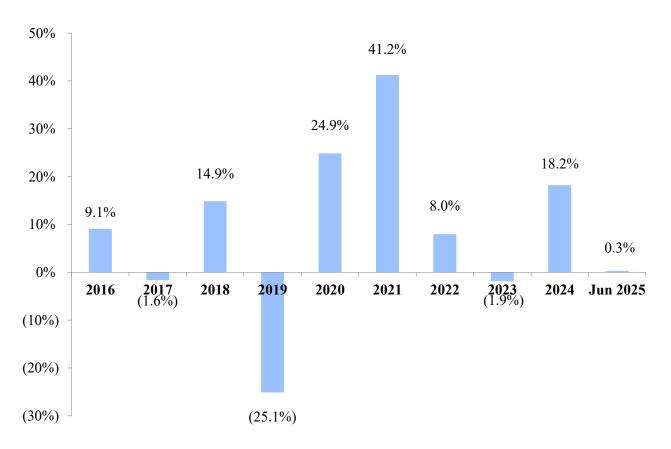
#### General

The following charts and tables show the Fund's past performance. Rates of return are historical total returns that include changes in unit prices and assume the reinvestment of all distributions. These returns do not take into account any sales charges, redemption fees, other optional expenses or income taxes that the Fund's investors have to pay and which could reduce these returns. The Fund's past performance does not necessarily indicate its future performance.

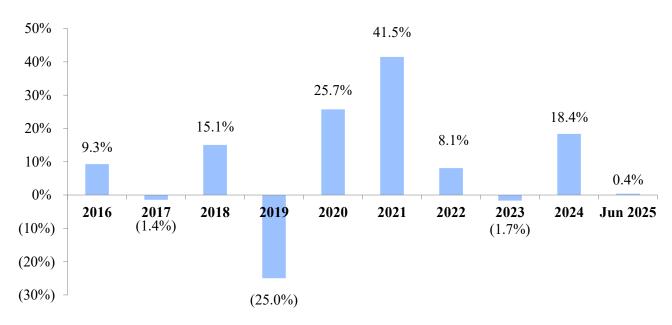
#### Year-by-Year Returns

The following bar charts show the annual performance for each of the Series A and Series F units of the Fund for each of the years shown. Each chart shows, in percentage terms, how an investment on January 1 would have increased or decreased by December 31 for each of the years, and how the performance of the Fund varied from year to year. The return for 2025 is for the six-month period from January 1 to June 30.

#### Series A



Series F



#### **Annual Compound Returns**

The following tables<sup>(1)</sup> show the annual compound total return for each of the Series A and Series F units of the Fund. The tables outline the Fund's past performance for the one-, three-, five-, ten-, and fifteen-year periods ended on June 30, 2025. Also shown for the same periods are the respective historical annual compound total returns of the Barclays U.S. Corporate High Yield Index (the "Index"). The Index is a broad-based benchmark that measures the non-investment grade, fixed-rate, corporate bond market. It includes \$U.S.-denominated securities publicly issued by U.S. and non-U.S. industrial, utility and financial issuers that meet specified maturity, liquidity, and quality requirements. The Index is calculated without the deduction of management fees and fund expenses, whereas the performance of the Fund is calculated after deducting such fees and expenses.

Series A

June 30, 2025	Past Year	Past 3 Years	Past 5 Years	Past 10 Years	Past 15 Years
Chou Bond Fund	10.72%	6.40%	13.29%	7.04%	6.83%
Barclays U.S. Corp. High Yield Index (\$CAN)	9.97%	11.99%	6.00%	6.31%	8.23%

#### Series F

June 30, 2025	Past Year	Past 3 Years	Past 5 Years	Past 10 Years	Past 15 Years
Chou Bond Fund	10.90%	6.56%	13.47%	7.27%	7.04%
Barclays U.S. Corp. High Yield Index (\$CAN)	9.97%	11.99%	6.00%	6.31%	8.23%

<sup>(1)</sup> Tables assume the reinvestment of all distributions.

# **Summary of Investment Portfolio**

The following tables provide a summary of the Fund's portfolio as at June 30, 2025.

Geographic Distribution	% of Fund's Net Assets
United States	25.6%
Canada	12.9%
Luxembourg	6.1%
Net Cash & Equivalents	55.4%
Total Portfolio	100.0%
Total Issuers	% of Fund's Net Assets
(excluding cash equivalents)	
Equities	
EXCO Resources Inc.	3.6%
Enbridge Inc., Preferred	1.8%
Total Equities - Long	5.4%
Fixed Income	
Strathcona Resources Limited, 6.875%, August 1, 2026, Callable	8.0%
World Acceptance Corporation, 7.000%, November 1, 2026	8.0%
Allegiant Travel Company, 7.250%, August 15, 2027, Callable	8.0%
Avation Capital SA, 8.250%, October 31, 2026, Callable	6.1%
MBIA Global Funding LLC, Zero Coupon, December 15, 2031	6.0%
Bausch Health Companies Inc., 11.000%, September 30, 2028	2.6%
Bausch Health Companies Inc., 14.000%, October 15, 2030, Callable	0.5%
Fortress Global Enterprises Inc., 9.750%, December 31, 2025, Convertible	
Bonds, Callable	0.0%
Total Fixed Income	39.2%
Total Holdings	44.6%

The summary of the Fund's investment portfolio may change due to ongoing portfolio transactions of the Fund. The next quarterly update as at September 30, 2025 will be in the Quarterly Portfolio Disclosure and will be posted on our website www.choufunds.com on or before October 31, 2025.

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# Recordkeeping and Custodian

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#### **Auditors**

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## **Legal Counsel**

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