## CHOU FUNDS TAX-FREE SAVINGS ACCOUNT DECLARTION OF TRUST

We, CIBC Mellon Trust Company, are a trust company incorporated under the laws of Canada, with our head office located at Toronto, Ontario. You are the holder, as defined in the Tax Act, named in the Application (your "Application") on the other side of this Declaration. We agree to act as trustee of your **Chou Funds Tax-Free Savings Account** (your "Account") on the following terms and conditions.

- 1. Registration and Compliance: We will file an election to register your qualifying arrangement under the *Income Tax Act* (Canada) (the "Tax Act") as a tax-free savings account ("TFSA"). For greater certainty, unless you have attained at least 18 years of age at the time that this arrangement is entered into, it shall not constitute a qualifying arrangement as that term is defined in subsection 146.2(1) of the Tax Act. It is intended that, at all times, your Account will comply with all relevant provisions of the Tax Act and, if applicable, the *Taxation Act* (Quebec) with respect to a TFSA. You will be bound by the terms and conditions imposed on your Account by all applicable legislation.
- 2. Contributions to your Account: You may make cash contributions to your Account. We will also accept transfers of cash to your Account from any source permitted by the Tax Act. In addition to cash, in our sole discretion, we may accept securities and other investments acceptable to us, if accompanied by properly executed transfer documents. We will hold contributions and transfers made to your Account, investments made with those contributions and any income or capital gains realized in respect of those investments in trust in accordance with Section 146.2 of the Tax Act.
- 3. Investments: Contributions and transfers to your Account will be invested and reinvested from time to time according to your investment instructions in securities of the investment funds of the fund manager (the "Manager") listed on the Application or such other investments as we may permit from time to time. However, your Account may not hold prohibited investments. We will not be limited to investments authorized by law governing the investment of property held in trust. Before we will act on your investment instructions, the instructions must be in a form acceptable to us and be accompanied by related documentation as we may require in our sole discretion. We may accept and act on any investment instructions which we believe in good faith to be given by you. Cash distributions received and capital gains realized on investments held in your Account will be invested in additional investments of the same type from which the distribution or gain was made unless you instruct otherwise. We may retain any cash balances in your Account in our deposit department or in the deposit department of one of our Affiliates; but we and our Affiliates shall not be liable to account for any profit to any person other than at a rate, if any, established from time to time by us or our Affiliates. For the purposes of this paragraph 3, "Affiliate" means affiliated companies within the meaning of the Business Corporations Act (Ontario) ("OBCA"); and includes Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, CIBC Mellon Global Securities Services Company and The Bank of New York Mellon and each of their affiliates within the meaning of the OBCA.

We shall have no responsibility or obligation with respect to the performance of any investment or reinvestment of the property held in your Account. Our obligations relating to the investment of the property held in your Account shall be to: (i) register the investments of your Account in our own name, in the name of our nominee, in bearer form or in such other name as we may determine; (ii) exercise all powers or rights of an owner with respect to all securities held by us for your Account, including the right to vote or give proxies to vote in respect thereof, and to pay any assessment, taxes or charges in connection therewith or the income or gains derived therefrom; and (iii) exercise, or caused to be exercised, the care diligence and skill of a reasonably prudent person to minimize the possibility that your Account holds a non-qualified investment.

- 4. Your Responsibility: You are responsible for: (a) ensuring that contributions to your Account do not exceed the maximum limits permitted by the Tax Act; (b) ensuring that any transfers to your Account are permitted by the Tax Act; and (c) ensuring that the investments held in your Account are qualified investments for your Account under the Tax Act. If your Account becomes liable for tax, interest or penalties under the Tax Act (other than those imposed on the trustee under the Tax Act) or similar provincial legislation, we may realize sufficient investments of your Account, selected in our sole discretion, to pay the liability and we will not be liable for any resulting loss.
- 5. Delegation to Manager by Trustee: You expressly authorize us to delegate to the Manager the performance of certain of our administrative and custodial duties and obligations under your Account as the Manager is prepared to accept and acknowledges that, to the extent we delegate any of such duties or obligations, we shall thereby be absolutely released and discharged from performing such duties and obligations. Such duties and obligations which may be delegated include but are not limited to the following:
- a) receiving and processing contributions under your Account from you;
- $b) \quad \hbox{receiving and forwarding your investment instructions to us; and} \\$
- receiving and forwarding your instructions relating to distributions out of your Account to us pursuant to the provisions provided herein.
- 6. Distributions: Following the receipt of your written instructions in a form acceptable to us, we will make a payment from your Account in the amount specified by you in such instructions or where such amount is required to be paid to the taxpayer to reduce the taxes otherwise payable by the taxpayer under Part X1.01 of the Tax Act ("distribution"). We may realize investments of your Account selected by us in our sole discretion for the purposes of making the distribution and will not be liable for any resulting loss. Distributions will be made net of all proper charges.
- 7. Transfers from your Account: Following the receipt of your written instructions in a form acceptable to us, we will transfer all or part of the assets of your Account (net of all proper charges) to another TFSA for which you are the holder, as instructed by you in the notice. Upon request, we will provide the issuer of the recipient Account with all relevant information in our possession. We will sell or transfer specific investments of your Account to effect the transfer if instructed by you in writing. In the absence of satisfactory written instructions, we may sell or transfer any investments of your Account selected by us in our sole discretion to effect the transfer and will not be liable for any resulting loss. The transfer of assets will be made subject to any restrictions under the Tax Act or the terms and conditions of the investments in your Account.
- 8. Beneficiary Designation: If you are domiciled in a jurisdiction which by law permits you to validly designate a beneficiary other than by Will, you may designate a beneficiary to receive the proceeds of your Account in the event of your death before the maturity of your Account. You may make, change or revoke your designation by written notice signed by you in a form acceptable to us. Any designation, amended designation or revoked designation will be valid on the day following its receipt by us. If we receive more than one beneficiary designation from you, the latest designation shall revoke all previous designations.
- 9. Death: Upon receipt of satisfactory evidence of your death and any other documents as we may require and provided that you made the spousal election on the Application, we will hold the assets of your Account with your spouse as the successor holder; if your spouse was living at the date of your death. If your spouse becomes the successor holder of your Account, your spouse will be deemed to be the holder of your Account with the same rights as if your spouse had been the original holder.

If your spouse is not the successor holder or does not become the successor holder, we will hold the assets of your Account for payment in a lump sum to your designated beneficiary, in accordance with Section 8 herein, if that person was living at the date of your death. If you are not permitted to designate a beneficiary, have not designated a beneficiary or if the designated beneficiary predeceases you; the assets of your Account will be paid to your legal representatives. The lump sum payment will be paid subject to the deduction of all proper charges and any applicable taxes after we receive the releases and other documents that we require in our sole discretion. Any reference to "successor

holder" in this Declaration of Trust or in the Application means a Survivor as that term is defined in subsection 146.2(1) of the Tax Act and who is the spouse of the holder immediately before the holder's death.

**10. Prohibition:** Except as specifically permitted under the Tax Act, no advantage that is conditional in any way on the existence of your Account may be extended to you or a person with whom you do not deal at arm's length. You may use your interest in the TFSA as security for a loan or other indebtedness if the terms and conditions of the indebtedness are in accordance with Section 146.2(4) of the Tax Act... We will not make any payments from your Account except those specifically permitted under the provisions of this Declaration or the Tax Act.

Your Account shall be maintained for your exclusive benefit and prohibits

- a) while there is a holder of the Chou Funds Tax-Free Savings Account, anyone that is neither you nor us from having rights under your Account relating to the amount and timing of distributions and the investing of funds of your Account;
- b) anyone other than you from making contributions under your Account; and c) the trust from borrowing money or other property for the purposes of your Account.
- 11. Date of Birth and Social Insurance Number: The statement of your birth date and social insurance number in your Application is deemed to be a certification of its truth and your undertaking to provide proof, satisfactory to us in our sole discretion, if we request.
- 12. Accounting and Reporting: We will maintain an account of your Account containing such information with respect to the Account as required for purposes of the Tax Act. We will send you at least annually a statement of your account. We will provide any applicable tax reporting required to be filed with your personal income tax return relating to contributions to or withdrawals from your Account for the previous year, in accordance with the Tax Act.
- 13. Notice: Any notice required or permitted to be given to you by us will be sufficiently given if mailed, postage prepaid, to you at your address as indicated on your Application or any subsequent address that you have provided to us in writing for that purpose. Notice will be deemed to have been received by you on the day of mailing. Any notice required or permitted to be given to us by you will be sufficiently given if mailed, postage prepaid, to us at our head office in Toronto. Notice will be deemed to have been given on the actual date received by us.
- 14. Fees and Expenses: We may charge you or your Account fees for our services under this Declaration. We are entitled to reimbursement from your Account for all disbursements and expenses (including taxes, interest and penalties, other than those imposed on the trustee under the Tax Act) reasonably incurred by us in connection with your Account. If these fees apply to you, we will give you notice of our fees and at least 30 days' notice of any increase, from time to time, in our fees. We are entitled to deduct our unpaid fees, disbursements and expenses from the assets of your Account and for this purpose you authorize us to realize sufficient assets of your Account selected in our sole discretion. We will not be responsible for any resulting loss.
- **15. Delegation of Duties:** In addition to Section 5 herein, we may appoint agents and may delegate to our agents the performance of clerical, administrative and other duties under this Declaration. We may employ or engage accountants, brokers, lawyers or others and may rely on their advice and services. We will not be liable for the acts or omissions of any of our advisors or agents. We may pay to any advisor or agent all or part of the fees received by us under the provisions of this Declaration.
- 16. Our Responsibility: We acknowledge that we are ultimately responsible for the administration of your Account. We, our officers, employees and agents are indemnified by you and your Account from and against all expenses (including reasonable counsel fees and expenses, but excluding those taxes and penalties imposed on the trustee under the Tax Act) liabilities, claims and demands that may arise from holding the assets of your Account; dealing with the assets of your Account in accordance with investment instructions which we, our officers, employees or agents believe in good faith to be given by you or your properly authorized agent; delivering or releasing assets of your Account in accordance with this Declaration; and performing our obligations hereunder; except to the extent that such expenses, liabilities, claims and demands are caused by our gross negligence, wilful misconduct, fraud or bad faith. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Declaration, we will not be liable for any loss or penalty suffered as a result of any act done by us in reasonable reliance of your authority or the authority of your properly authorized agent or legal representatives, except for penalties that the issuer is liable for under the Tax Act. This indemnification shall survive the termination of this Declaration of trust and your Account.
- 17. Successor Trustee: We may resign and be discharged from all duties and liabilities under this Declaration by giving you at least 90 days' written notice. The Manager is nominated to appoint a successor trustee. Upon acceptance of the office of trustee of your Account, the successor trustee will be trustee of your Account as if it had been the original declarant of your Account. Notwithstanding any other provision herein, any corporation which may result from our merger or amalgamation with one or more other corporations or any trust company that succeeds to or acquires all or substantially all of our trust business shall thereupon become the successor trustee for all purposes hereunder without any further act or formality provided that your Account remains registered in accordance with Section 1 herein.
- **18. Discharge of Trustee:** Upon the final payment or transfer out of all the assets in your Account in accordance with the terms hereof, we shall be fully and finally discharged of all obligations hereunder, and the trusts created hereby shall cease and be of no further force or effect.
- 19. Amendments: From time to time, we may amend this Declaration with the approval of Canada Revenue Agency provided that the amendment does not disqualify your Account as a TFSA under the Tax Act. Any amendment to ensure that your Account continues to comply with the Tax Act will be effective without notice. Any other amendment will be effective not less than 30 days' after written notice has been provided to you.
- **20. Entire Agreement:** The Application, this Declaration of Trust shall constitute the entire agreement between you and us with respect to the Account.
- 21. Language: You have requested that your Application, this Declaration and all ancillary documents be provided to you in English. Vous avez exigé que votre demande, la présente déclaration et tous les documents accessoires vous soient fournis en anglais.
- **22. Privacy and Complaints:** We will collect, use and disclose personal information to establish and service your Account, as required or permitted by law and as disclosed in our Privacy Policy. We may, from time to time, disclose or transfer personal information given to us by you to the agents and/or the Manager. By applying for your Account, you are consenting to these collections, uses and disclosures. Our Privacy Policy is available on request from any of our offices.

If you have a concern or complaint, please refer to the <u>Contact Us</u> section of our website (which is <u>www.cibcmellon.com</u>) for a list of departments that can assist you

23. Governing Laws: This Declaration will be governed, construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of Ontario (or, if applicable, Quebec) and Canada except that the word "spouse" as used in this Declaration and your Application will have the same meaning as for the purposes of the Tax Act and shall include common-law partner as defined in the Tax Act.

Revised: December 2024