

Investment Management Services



Notice

Fund Manager Franklin Bissett, Franklin Templeton

Date June 2017

Notice

Effective June 30th, 2017, Garey Aitken, Chief Investment Officer (CIO) of Franklin Bissett Investment Management's equity team, will be appointed as CIO of Developed Markets Equity – Franklin Local Asset Management. The firm's developed markets equity local asset managers (LAMs) include investment teams in Canada, Australia, Germany and the UK.

Products Affected

Manulife Bissett Canadian Small Cap (GRS)
Manulife Bissett Canadian Equity Fund (GRS, IWM)
Franklin Bissett Canadian Balanced Fund (SL Seg)
Bissett Canadian Dividend Fund (IWM, MMF)
Franklin Global World Growth (GRS)
Templeton Global Equity (GRS)
Templeton International Equity (GRS)
Frankling Lifesmart Target Date Funds (GRS)
Franklin Quotential Funds(SEG)

Impact

Investment Process and Team

Mr. Aitken has been with Franklin Bissett Investment Management for close to two decades and has served as its CIO since 2008. He brings a wealth of experience and relationships to his new role. He will retain all of his current responsibilities, including continuing to be a named portfolio manager on several funds and accounts. Mr. Aitken will continue his direct CIO responsibilities for Franklin Bissett's equity team in Canada and the head of each of the other countries (Andrew Sisson, Uwe Zoellner and Colin Morton, respectively) will report to him. Mr. Aitken will continue to report into Stephen Dover, Head of Equities.

Closing Remarks

Mr. Aitken's new appointment will not result in any changes to portfolio management assignments or investment strategies. At this time the IMS team does not have strong concerns about Mr. Aitken's appointment, though it would be expected to absorb time from his other duties. Of note, all Franklin Bissett equity and balanced strategies have at least two Co-Lead Portfolio Managers and are supported by an experienced team of over 20 portfolio managers and research analysts. The IMS group has a planned visit with Bissett in their Calgary offices in later July and will further discuss the impact of this announcement. IMS will report any material concerns should they arise.

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