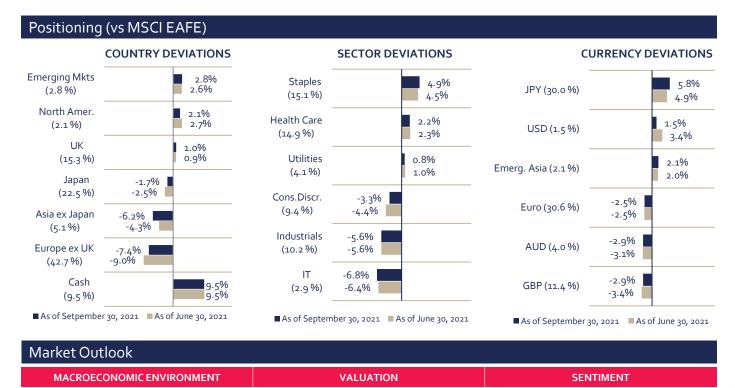


# International Equities

HEYAVEST

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Performance (CAD)										
Annualized (%)	3 months		YTD	1 year	3 years	5 ye	ars	10 years	Since in	ception
Hexavest EAFE Composite	1.12		3.92	8.69	2.00	3	3.63	8.15		7.25
MSCI EAFE (net)	1.85		7.74	19.25	6.90	8	3.02	10.23		5.98
VALUE ADDED	-0.73		-3.82	-10.56	-4.90	-4.39		-2.08		1.27
Ten last years (%)	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Hexavest EAFE Composite	-6.43	11.99	29.69	4.97	19.02	0.73	10.26	-2.51	11.47	-5.41
MSCI EAFE (net)	-9.97	14.72	31.02	3.67	18.95	-2.49	16.82	-6.03	15.85	5.92
VALUE ADDED	3.54	-2.73	-1.33	1.30	0.07	3.22	-6.56	3.52	-4.38	-11.33



The global vaccination campaign, the accommodative monetary policy and some government stimulus measures implemented over the past year and a half continued to support growth during the Summer. However, COVID-19 variants are holding back the recovery, as are labor shortages and persistent supply problems. Inflation, which we think is becoming more persistent, is adding to the uncertainty. Together, all these factors will erode profit margins. We have therefore revised our macroeconomic vector downward, from double positive to neutral.

Global stock valuations are pricing in strong, sustainable economic growth, combined with interest rates that will remain very low. On average, the MSCI World Index's top valuation metrics were in the 93<sup>rd</sup> percentile of their historical distribution at the end of the quarter. Such overvaluation has left very little room for bad news about economic growth, inflation or public health. We are keeping a triple negative rating on the valuation vector.

During the month of September, Investors seemed a little more nervous in the context of growing economic uncertainty and extremely expensive financial markets. While short-term sentiment indicators were volatile in September, investors' exposure to risky assets remains very high in relation to the historical norm; the starting point is risky. For that reason, we are keeping a triple negative rating on the sentiment vector.

Our analysis of the three vectors has prompted us to maintain a defensive positioning and a high weighting of cash. We continue to be concerned about the still-high valuations of equities and the highly risky positioning of investors as the economic uncertainty is rising.

# International Equities

### HEXAVEST

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### Summary

Benchmark MSCI EAFE (net)

Value added objective 2% (4-year rolling periods)

Active risk 3% to 5%

Number of holdings 200 to 250 (higher if exposure to EM)

Currency management Active
Maximum cash exposure 10%

### **DEVIATIONS VS. BENCHMARK**

Regions: +/- 15%
Countries: +/- 15%
Currencies: +/- 15%
Sectors: +/- 10%

### **MANAGEMENT FEES**

Commingled vehicle Separate accounts

 First \$10 million:
 0.60%
 First \$20 million:
 0.70%

 Next \$30 million:
 0.50%
 Next \$30 million:
 0.60%

 > \$40 million:
 0.40%
 Next \$50 million:
 0.50%

Next \$100 million: 0.40%

Administrative fees: 0.08% > \$200 million: 0.30%

(2020)

### Investment Team

Marc C. Lavoie, CPA, CA, CFA

Manager, Core strategy Experience: 21 years Team member since 2003

Christian Crête, CFA

Senior Portfolio Manager Experience: 22 years Team member since 2012

Amélie Nolin, LL.B., M.Sc.

Analyst

Experience: 2 years
Team member since 2019

Jean-Pierre Couture, M.Sc.

**Economist** 

Experience: 26 years Team member since 2010

Jean-Benoit Leblanc, M.Sc., CFA

Senior Portfolio Manager Experience: 22 years Team member since 2009

Julien Tousignant, M.Sc., CFA

Portfolio Manager Experience: 8 years Team member since 2013

### **ESG** Research

Véronique Marchetti, CFA

Analyst

Experience: 16 years
Team member since 2010

### Investment Approach

- Top-down and contrarian approach
- Diversified sources of alpha: regions, countries, currencies, sectors, industries, stocks
- Strong focus on downside protection
- Systematic integration of ESG factors
- Experienced and nimble investment team
- Clearly defined process, applied for nearly 30 years

## Contact Us

service@hexavest.com

# TOP-DOWN DECISIONS REGIONS COUNTRIES CURRENCIES SECTORS INDUSTRIES VECTORS OF ANALYSIS Macro Macro Valuation Valuation Sentiment Macro ---/+++ Sentiment PORTFOLIO CONSTRUCTION Initial universe - 900 stocks Top-down decisions Top-down portfolio ≈ 225 stocks Currency overlay and derivatives

Sources: MSCI, Hexavest, as of Sept. 30, 2021

### FOR CANADIAN INSTITUTIONAL INVESTOR USE ONLY

The performance shown is that of a composite of international equity mandates managed by Mr. Vital Proulx and his team at St. Lawrence Financial Consultants (1991 to 1996), Kogeva (1997 to 1998), Natcan (1998 to 2004), and Hexavest (since May 2004). Accounts in the composite may have investment guidelines that differ from those of the representative account. The inception date of the composite is May 1, 1991. Performance results are presented gross of management and custodial fees but net of all trading commissions. Returns for periods greater than 12 months are annualized. Past performance is not necessarily indicative of future performance.

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