



First Trust Indxx Innovative Transaction and Process
ETF • BLCK

Annual Management Report of Fund Performance
December 31, 2019

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ANNUAL MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE

December 31, 2019

First Trust Indxx Innovative Transaction and Process ETF (the “First Trust ETF”)

This annual management report of fund performance contains financial highlights, but does not contain the complete audited annual financial statements of the First Trust ETF. All references to dollars contained herein are to Canadian dollars.

Securityholders may also contact us to request a copy of the First Trust ETF’s proxy voting policies and procedures, proxy voting disclosure record, or quarterly portfolio disclosures relating to the First Trust ETF by calling 1-877-622-5552, by writing to us at FT Portfolios Canada Co., 40 King Street West, Suite 5102, Scotia Plaza, Box 312, Toronto, Ontario M5H 3Y2 or by visiting our website at www.firsttrust.ca or SEDAR at www.sedar.com.

Forward-looking Statements

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 beliefs regarding future events. By their nature, forward-looking statements are based on assumptions and are subject to inherent risks and uncertainties. There is significant risk that forward-looking statements will not prove to be accurate. Readers of this document should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements as a number of factors could cause actual future results, conditions, actions or events to differ materially from the expectations, estimates or intentions expressed or implied in the forward-looking statements. These factors include but are not limited to market and general economic conditions, interest rates, foreign currency exchange rates, the extent of industry sector exposure, the performance of the securities of the issuers held in the portfolio and regulatory developments and the risks detailed in the First Trust ETF’s prospectus. The Manager 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.

First Trust Indxx Innovative Transaction and Process ETF

Management Report of Fund Performance

For the year ended December 31, 2019

Investment Objective and Strategy

The fundamental investment objective of **First Trust Indxx Innovative Transaction and Process ETF** (the “First Trust ETF”) is to replicate, to the extent possible, the performance of an innovative transaction and process index. Currently, the First Trust ETF seeks to replicate, to the extent possible, the performance of the Indxx Blockchain Index (the “Index”), provided by Indxx, LLC, net of expenses.

The investment strategy of the First Trust ETF is to obtain exposure to the Index by holding shares of a U.S.-listed index ETF, the First Trust Indxx Innovative Transaction & Process ETF (“LEGR”), which replicates or substantially replicates the performance of the Index by directly holding the Constituent Securities of the Index. The First Trust ETF may also hold cash and cash equivalents or other money market instruments to fund current liabilities. The Index seeks to track the performance of exchange-listed common shares (or corresponding ADRs or GDRs) of companies in various industries with their primary listing in developed or emerging market countries that are actively using, investing in, developing or have products that are poised to benefit from blockchain technology and/or the potential for increased efficiency that it provides to various business processes. The Index seeks to include only companies that have devoted material resources to the use of blockchain technologies. However, the Index may contain securities of issuers whose primary business operations are not blockchain related or do not include blockchain related activities.

Risk

The risks associated with an investment in the First Trust ETF remain as discussed in the First Trust ETF’s most recent prospectus. There have been no significant changes during the year that affected the overall level of risk associated with the First Trust ETF.

Results of Operations

General

The First Trust ETF’s net asset value as of December 31, 2019 was \$2,090,768 or \$20.91 per unit. The First Trust ETF’s net asset value as of December 31, 2018 was \$4,425,059 or \$17.70 per unit.

For the year ended December 31, 2019, the First Trust ETF paid total cash distributions of \$0.3809. In addition, the First Trust ETF declared cash distributions per unit of \$0.2900 for record date of December 31, 2019 with payment date of January 8, 2020.

Investment Performance

For the year ended December 31, 2019, the First Trust ETF returned 21.14% compared to S&P 500 Index (the “benchmark”) total return of 24.84%. Unlike the benchmark, the First Trust ETF’s return is net of fees and expenses.

The First Trust ETF’s only holding, LEGR, held 100 equity securities as of December 31, 2019. The top ten equity holdings for LEGR accounted for 16.76% of the portfolio within LEGR.

LEGR underperformed due to stock selection. Poor selection in the Information Technology, Communication Services, and Financials sectors detracted from relative performance, including four of the bottom five contributors to return. Mitigating underperformance was positive sector allocation as the First Trust ETF was significantly overweight the Information Technology sector which was the best performing sector in the benchmark during the period.

LEGR’s top five stocks by contribution to return were Advanced Micro Devices, Inc., Micron Technology, Inc., NVIDIA Corporation, Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company, and Microsoft Corporation. The bottom five stocks by contribution to return were Baidu, Inc. Sponsored ADR Class A, Software AG, Nokia Oyj Sponsored ADR, Lotte Shopping Co., Ltd, and Wirecard AG.

Recent Developments

The First Trust ETF was created in March of 2018 to give investors exposure to companies that are either actively using, investing in, developing, or have products that are poised to benefit from blockchain technology and/or the

First Trust Indxx Innovative Transaction and Process ETF

Management Report of Fund Performance

For the year ended December 31, 2019

potential for increased efficiency that it provides to various business processes. 2019 was a year of increased uptake in many blockchain related applications as CEOs began looking for tangible uses of the nascent technology in fintech, logistics, banking, and health care. Two industries poised to be transformed by the blockchain revolution in 2020 are the \$300 billion videogame industry and the \$94 billion online gambling industry as the development of digital tokens and internet aliases continues. Facebook announced in the summer of 2019 that it planned to issue its own digital currency called Libra which was quickly met with high scrutiny from regulators and central bankers. China, Singapore, Israel, and several countries in Africa appear to be the emerging hotbeds for blockchain adoption which could experience the most growth in 2020.

Bitcoin remains the strong market leader in the cryptocurrency space at about 73% market share. A wild ride in 2019 started with a strong rally to a price of \$12,733 on June 26th, only to retrace gains by over 43% until the end of the year. The currency still ended the calendar year up almost 95%. Initial Coin Offering activity slowed down significantly in the second half of the year as the SEC began litigation against companies that sought to use the mechanism to bring their companies public. The Chinese central bank announced plans to issue a digitized version of its renminbi in 2020. Central bankers are expected to fight disruption from outside by issuing their own sovereign digital currencies.

Blockchain and bitcoin experienced a fundamental shift in 2019 as governments and businesses alike sought ways to harness the innovative technology that has been talked about for years but proved little. Investment is still ongoing and 2020 will hopefully bring the promised efficiency, cost reduction, and added security in areas such as financial technology, smart contracts, digital currencies, and life sciences.

Related Party Transactions

FT Portfolios Canada Co. is the Manager of the First Trust ETF and is a Canadian affiliate of First Trust Advisors L.P., the investment advisor (the "Advisor") of the First Trust ETF.

Pursuant to terms of the declaration of trust of the First Trust ETF, the Manager provides or arranges for all management, administrative and other services required by the First Trust ETF. The Manager receives a management fee from the First Trust ETF. For further details, please see "Management Fees".

The Manager has retained the Advisor to provide certain services to the First Trust ETF pursuant to an investment advisory agreement. The Advisor receives advisory fees from the Manager out of the management fee.

First Trust Indxx Innovative Transaction and Process ETF
Management Report of Fund Performance
For the year ended December 31, 2019

Financial Highlights

The following tables show selected key financial information about the First Trust ETF and are intended to help you understand the First Trust ETF's financial performance for the past year. This information is derived from the First Trust ETF's audited annual financial statements.

Net Asset Value per Unit

BLCK	December 31, 2019	December 31, 2018 ^(a)
Net asset value, beginning of period/year ⁽¹⁾	\$17.70	\$20.00 ^(b)
Increase (Decrease) from operations:		
Total revenue	0.38	0.26
Total expenses	(0.09)	(0.06)
Realized gains (losses) for the period/year	0.22	-
Unrealized gains (losses) for the period/year	3.41	(3.07)
Total increase (decrease) from operations ⁽²⁾	\$3.92	\$(2.87)
Distributions:		
From income (excluding dividends)	(0.52)	(0.15)
From dividends	-	-
From capital gains	-	-
Return of capital	-	-
Total annual distributions ⁽³⁾	\$(0.52)	\$(0.15)
Net asset value, end of period/year ⁽⁴⁾	\$20.91	\$17.70

(a) December 31, 2018 does not relate to the full year as the First Trust ETF commenced operations on March 23, 2018.

(b) Initial offering price

(1) This information is provided as at December 31 of the period/year shown and is prepared under IFRS.

(2) Net asset value and distributions are based on the actual number of units outstanding at the relevant time. The increase/decrease from operations is based on the weighted average number of units outstanding over the period/year.

(3) Distributions were paid in cash or reinvested in additional units of the First Trust ETF, or both. Non-cash distributions are reinvested in additional units of the First Trust ETF and subsequently consolidated. Neither the number of units held by the unitholder, nor the net asset per unit of the First Trust ETF change as a result of any non-cash distributions.

(4) This table is not intended to be a reconciliation of beginning to ending net asset value per unit.

Ratios and Supplemental Data

BLCK	December 31, 2019	December 31, 2018
Net asset value (000's)	\$2,091	\$4,425
Number of units outstanding	100,000	250,000
Management expense ratio ⁽¹⁾	0.81%	0.81%
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorption	0.83%	0.83%
Trading expense ratio ⁽²⁾	0.00%	0.00%
Portfolio turnover rate ⁽³⁾	0.42%	0.25%
Net asset value per unit	\$20.91	\$17.70

(1) Management expense ratio is based on total expenses (excluding commissions and other portfolio transaction costs) for the stated period/year, including the First Trust ETF's proportionate share of the MER of any underlying fund in which the First Trust ETF has invested, and is expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average net asset value during the period/year.

(2) The trading expense ratio represents total commissions and other portfolio transaction costs expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average net asset value during the period/year. This includes the First Trust ETF's proportionate share of the commissions of any underlying fund in which the First Trust ETF has invested.

(3) The First Trust ETF's portfolio turnover rate indicates how actively the First Trust ETF's portfolio advisor manages its portfolio investments. A portfolio turnover rate of 100% is equivalent to the First Trust ETF buying and selling all of the securities in its portfolio once in the course of the period/year. The higher a First Trust ETF's portfolio turnover rate in a period/year, the greater the trading cost payable by the First Trust ETF in the period/year, and the greater the chance of an investor receiving taxable capital gains in the period/year. There is not necessarily a relationship between high turnover rate and the performance of a First Trust ETF.

First Trust Indxx Innovative Transaction and Process ETF Management Report of Fund Performance For the year ended December 31, 2019

Management Fees

The First Trust ETF will pay the Manager a management fee of 0.15% based on the average daily NAV of the First Trust ETF. The management fee, plus applicable taxes including HST, will be accrued daily and paid monthly in arrears. The Manager may, from time to time in its discretion, waive all or a portion of the management fee charged at any given time.

The First Trust ETF will bear the Underlying Fund's, a US-listed index ETF (the "First Trust Indxx Innovative Transaction & Process ETF [Ticker: LEGR]"), management fee of 0.65% per annum on average daily net assets on the First Trust ETF's portfolio assets invested in the Underlying Fund. Accordingly, the management fee cost to unitholders of their investment will be 0.80% per annum of NAV of the Units plus applicable taxes.

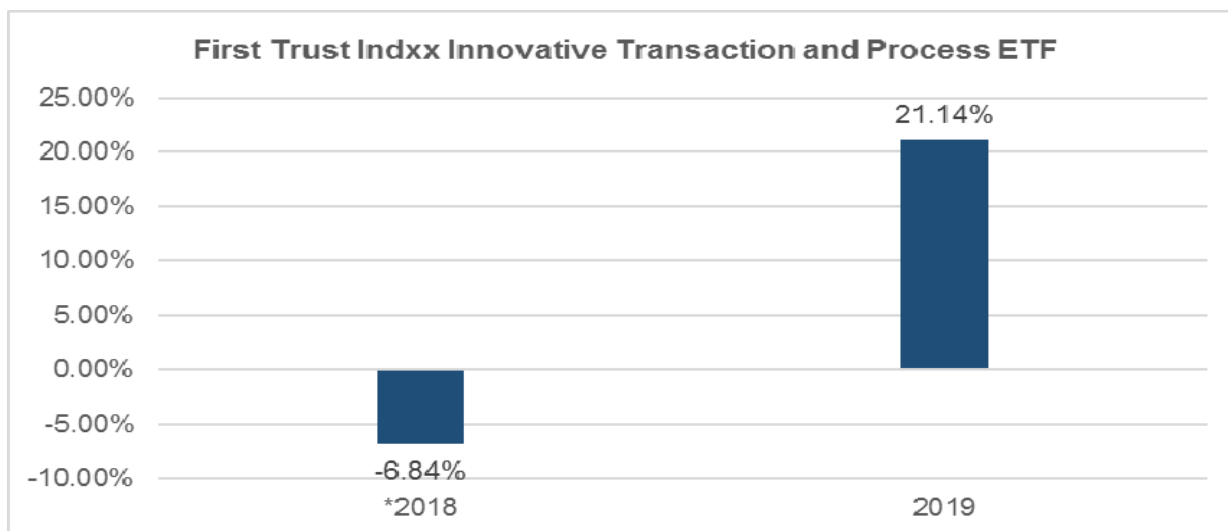
Past Performance

General

The past performance information shown assumes that all distributions made by the First Trust ETF in the period shown were reinvested in additional securities of the First Trust ETF. The performance information does not take into account sales, redemption, distribution or other optional charges that would have reduced returns or performance. How the First Trust ETF has performed in the past does not necessarily indicate how it will perform in the future.

Year by Year Returns

The bar chart below shows the First Trust ETF's performance for year ended December 31, 2019 and for the period from commencement of operations to December 31, 2018 and illustrates how the investment fund's performance has changed from year to year. The chart also shows, in percentage terms, how much an investment made on the first day of each financial year would have grown or decreased by the last day of each financial year.



*First Trust ETF Commencement: March 23, 2018

Annual Compound Returns

The table below shows the First Trust ETF's annual compound total return since inception and for the year ended December 31, 2019. The annual compound return is compared to the returns of the relevant benchmark; however, the First Trust ETF's return is net of fees and expenses. See Results of Operations section of this report for further information regarding the current period performance of the First Trust ETF relative to the benchmark.

	1-year	Since Inception
First Trust Indxx Innovative Transaction and Process ETF	21.14%	7.04%
S&P 500® Index*	24.84%	14.35%

*The S&P 500® or Standard & Poor's 500 Index is widely regarded as the best gauge of large-cap U.S. equities. The index includes 500 leading companies and covers approximately 80% of available market capitalization.

First Trust Indxx Innovative Transaction and Process ETF
Management Report of Fund Performance
For the year ended December 31, 2019

Summary of Investment Portfolio

The table below sets out the percentage (based on total net asset value) of the First Trust ETF's holdings as at December 31, 2019. This summary of portfolio holdings may change due to ongoing portfolio transactions of the First Trust ETF. A quarterly update is available at www.firsttrust.ca.

Holdings	% of ETF Total Net Asset Value
First Trust Indxx Innovative Transaction & Process ETF ("LEGR")	99.61%
Cash and Cash Equivalents	1.78%
Other Assets, Less Liabilities	(1.39)%
Total	100.00%

Portfolio Breakdown

The table below sets out the percentage (based on total net asset value) of the First Trust ETF's portfolio as at December 31, 2019.

Sector Weightings	% of ETF Total Net Asset Value
Exchange-Traded Fund	99.61%
Cash and Cash Equivalents	1.78%
Other Assets, Less Liabilities	(1.39)%
Total	100.00%

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