



## Responsible Investing Framework

### Introduction

The King's University College Foundation's mandate is to raise support for King's University College through the deployment of an appropriate mix of fundraising programs and campaigns, prudent management of funds, and thoughtful stewardship of donors' intentions.

The Foundation recognizes the ever-evolving impact Responsible Investing ("RI") and Environmental/Sustainability/Governance ("ESG") have on raising, managing, and stewarding donor intentions.

The Foundation is committed to continuous monitoring and refinement of its RI guidelines with a goal of enhancing the Foundation's mandate along with its various stakeholders.

### Working Group Formation

The Foundation has established a "RI Working Group" consisting of current Foundation and Finance & Investment Committee members who provide expertise and knowledge of RI issues.

### RI Working Group Mandate

The RI Working Group's current mandate is:

- to research RI/ESG trends and best practices within our peer group;
- engage in RI/ESG discussions with Foundation stakeholders;
- draft and maintain the Foundation's RI framework;
- present the RI framework to the Foundation Board for review;
- continuously review / report to the Foundation Board on RI/ESG issues.

### Monitoring Managers

Given the relatively small size of the portfolios and the fact that all investments are held in pooled vehicles, it is not practical at this time for the Foundation to directly engage individual companies on RI related issues. Instead, the Foundation will monitor any investment counsel or managers it hires to manage the portfolios on how they integrate RI factors into their portfolio building process.

### **Current Manager Practices**

Currently, the Foundation has engaged a global asset manager to provide investment management services. This manager has allocated the Foundation funds across a variety of asset classes including equities, fixed income, and cash.

Across all asset classes, the manager has adopted “Principles for Responsible Investment” (PRI) - an investor initiative developed in partnership with the United Nations Environment Program Finance Initiative and the United Nations Global Compact.

PRI’s best practices are based on six principles:

- Incorporate ESG issues in investment analysis and decision-making processes
- Actively own and incorporate ESG issues in ownership policies and practices
- Seek appropriate disclosure on ESG issues from the entities invested in
- Promote acceptance and implementation of the principles within the investment industry
- Work together to enhance effectiveness in implementing the principles
- Report on activities and progress towards implementing the principles

The manager is committed to embedding the PRI’s six principles where consistent with its fiduciary responsibilities. In 2019, it received an A/ A+ rating in all assessment modules reported on. In 2022, it received 4 stars for Investment & Stewardship Policy and all direct listed equity categories. The manager will continue to strive to improve our ranking as clarity of PRI’s new methodology becomes available.

### **Disclosure**

The Foundation will make available, upon request, the most recent RI Framework and the investment manager’s statement of RI. Questions regarding the Foundation’s investment policy or its RI Framework should be directed to the Chair of the KUC Foundation Board or the Executive Director.

### **Engagement**

The Foundation is committed to remaining up to date on sustainability investing issues and the impact of ESG factors on its Fund. In order to maintain its knowledge of the field of sustainability investing and to contribute to its development, the Foundation will liaise with other institutional investors and industry associations to discuss key issues.

The RI Working Group will meet as needed and at least once per year to review this Framework.

As at March 11, 2021

As at November 13, 2023