Q1 2026

# TRADING ACTIVITY

## BARRANTAGH INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

### Canadian Equities Income

The year began with a renewed sense of economic optimism. As the tariff pressures that weighed on growth in 2025 faded, markets anticipated an acceleration in activity and potential monetary policy support. Concurrently, the rapid evolution of agentic AI capabilities challenged investor perceptions of the business models and competitive moats of many software companies. This shift also contributed to instability within certain software-heavy private credit portfolios that had opened to retail participation. In some instances, liquidity management protocols even led to gated redemptions. While these developments created localized volatility, it was the outbreak of conflict in the Middle East that challenged broader market momentum. Fortunately, signs of de-escalation provided a boost to sentiment as the quarter came to a close.

Hostilities in the Middle East disrupted global energy markets as approximately one-fifth of global oil and LNG supply became stranded with the closure of the Strait of Hormuz. In the years ahead, Canada will have an increasing presence in LNG exports, with several facilities in the pipeline, a few of which are earmarked for fast-tracking by Canada's Major Projects Office. With Qatar having sustained damage to its current LNG production capacity and timelines for its growth projects extended, natural gas importing nations will be closely watching Canada's buildout to provide alternative sources of supply. Two of our midstream holdings with exposure to Canada's increasing role in LNG exports include TC Energy and Pembina Pipeline. Energy projects are just one component of the nation building infrastructure agenda, with the resource related buildout gaining momentum. Engineering and construction expertise will be required to execute this growth. A new portfolio holding, Bird Construction (profiled in greater detail below), is well-positioned to thrive in this environment.

Significant contributors of relative outperformance at the sector level during the first quarter included Information Technology, Industrials, and Utilities. Materials, Energy, and Real Estate negatively impacted relative performance.

Versus the benchmark, the largest sector overweights include Industrials, Utilities and Financials, and the largest underweights are Materials and Information Technology.

Bird Construction (BDT) was introduced to the portfolio and Bank of Montreal (BMO) and TFI International (TFII) were topped up while a number of trims were conducted.

## BUYS

Bird Construction (BDT) provides a comprehensive range of construction services and innovative solutions to the industrial, buildings, and infrastructure markets. While the construction sector has historically been disparaged for thin and sometimes volatile margins, industry and company-specific developments have driven Bird toward consistently higher returns. Investment in technology, strategic acquisitions, an increased focus on collaborative project delivery, and greater self-performance of services (versus the use of subcontractors) have aided in this regard. The most recent example of management creating value via acquisition was last year's Fraser River Pile & Dredge transaction, which brought in new specialized expertise in marine infrastructure. The demand outlook for Bird is exceptionally bright as evidenced by a robust backlog. A potentially multi-year tailwind moving forward is the federal government's acceleration of the nation building infrastructure agenda. This policy supports spending in resource exports, nuclear energy, ports, and other sectors where Bird competes. Overall, we see significant potential for upside surprises to organic revenue growth in the years ahead.

## SELLS

None.


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