



LifePath® Index Retirement Fund (BlackRock)
Manulife LifePath® Index Retirement Fund (BlackRock)
BlackRock Asset Management Canada Limited

December 31, 2016

Lead manager(s):	Amy Whitelaw	Investment style:	Target Date
Investment objective:	To track the return and risk profile of a blended benchmark.		
Last meeting date:	Q1 2016	Next estimated meeting date:	Q1 2017
Current rating:	IN GOOD STANDING		

Annual fund performance (%)

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	5 yrs
LifePath® Index Retirement Fund (BlackRock)	6.79	5.60	9.11	4.77	4.30	6.10
Blend: BR LifePath Idx Retirement*	7.00	5.64	9.12	4.89	4.42	6.20
Value added (+) / lost (-)	-0.20	-0.05	-0.02	-0.12	-0.12	-0.10

*Effective July 1, 2016, benchmark weights for the Fund are as follows: 49.31% FTSE TMX Canada Universe Bond Index, 10.73% FTSE TMX Canada Real Return Bond Index, 7.95% S&P®/TSX® Capped Composite Index, 11.54% S&P 500® Index, 1.01% Russell 2000 Index, 7.86% MSCI EAFE Index, 2.29% MSCI Emerging Markets Index, 5.29% S&P GSCI Commodity Index, 2.71% FTSE EPRA/NAREIT Developed Index, 1.31% Dow Jones Brookfield Global Infrastructure Index

Short-term performance analysis

- Over the last 12 months, the Fund produced returns in line with its stated benchmark.
- The Fund's objective is to track the return of its benchmark, which it has historically accomplished. There are no concerns.

Long-term performance analysis

- The Fund has respected its long term tracking error guideline of +/- 50 basis points versus its stated benchmark.

Significant corporate events

Corporate

- In September 2016, Mark Wiseman joined BlackRock as Head of Global Active Equity. A Senior Managing Director, Mark also joined the Global Executive Committee and became Chairman of the BlackRock Global Investment Committee. Mark previously served as President and Chief Executive Officer of CPP Investment Board (CPPIB).
- In September 2015, former Head of US and Canada Defined Contribution of the BlackRock LifePath Funds, Chip Castille, took on a new role as Chief Retirement Strategist for the firm. Anne Ackerley has succeeded Chip in his role on the team and has been with BlackRock for over 15 years.

Fund specific

- In February 2016, BlackRock Asset Management announced that they would be implementing changes to the glidepath of the BlackRock LifePath Funds in the second quarter of 2016. These changes result in a modest increase to equity and equity-like allocations for some of the longer-dated Funds and the removal of the discrete allocation to long duration bonds from the portfolios.

IMS commentary

- The LifePath® Index Retirement Fund (BlackRock) has reached its most conservative risk level, and is designed to provide those who are withdrawing money from their plan with an appropriate blend of income and inflation protection. It does this by holding a mix of equity and equity-like asset classes (approximately 40%) and fixed income instruments. Investment may include exposure across the following asset classes: Canadian and non-Canadian equities, Canadian and global fixed income as well as alternative asset classes.
- Based on our due diligence, we are confident that the manager has remained within the stated investment philosophy and style.
- IMS recently met with BlackRock's Head of Defined Contribution Research Matthew O'Hara who discussed the research that led to the changes in the Fund's glidepath. There are no concerns with the proposed changes, the changes to the glidepath are not expected to be sizable and are backed by a prolonged research effort by Fund management

Conclusion:

- Due to the fact that 1) the Fund's asset allocation is in line with expectations (given its target date profile) and 2) the Fund has met its long term tracking error objectives, IMS continues to rate this Fund In Good Standing.

⁽¹⁾ Quartile rankings are based on the underlying fund's returns.

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* Sources may include, but are not limited to, Mercer MPA, Morningstar, Principia and Thomson Baseline

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