

# LifePath® Index 2020 Fund (BlackRock) Manulife LifePath® Index 2020 Fund (BlackRock) BlackRock Asset Management Canada Limited

**December 31, 2016** 

Lead manager(s): Amy Whitelaw Investment style: Target Date

**Investment objective:** Designed for investors planning to retire in or around 2020. The objective is to maximize total

return with a risk level that may be appropriate for the fund's particular time frame.

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 2020 Fund (BlackRock)	8.89	8.83	12.66	5.73	5.47	8.29
Blend: BR LifePath Index 2020*	9.09	8.79	12.69	5.81	5.52	8.35
Value added (+) / lost (-)	-0.20	0.04	-0.03	-0.08	-0.05	-0.06
Quartile ranking (1)	2nd	4th	1st	2nd	3rd	3rd

<sup>\*</sup>Effective July 1, 2016, benchmark weights for the Fund are as follows: 39.50% FTSE TMX Canada Universe Bond Index, 8.59% FTSE TMX Canada Real Return Bond Index, 11.08% S&P®/TSX® Capped Composite Index, 14.27% S&P 500® Index, 1.24% Russell 2000 Index, 9.71% MSCI EAFE Index, 2.83% MSCI Emerging Markets Index, 4.84% S&P GSCI Commodity Index, 5.48% FTSE EPRA/NAREIT Developed Index, 2.46% Dow Jones Brookfield Global Infrastructure Index

## Short-term performance analysis

- In the last 12 months, the Fund produced returns that are 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 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
  servied 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 glide path of the BlackRock LifePath Funds in the second quarter of 2016. These changes resulted 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 Fund 2020 (BlackRock) is designed for participants who will retire between 2018 and 2022. The fund will reach its most conservative risk level at the end of 2019, at which time it will hold the same asset allocation as the LifePath® Index Retirement Fund (BlackRock), which is designed to provide those who are withdrawing money from their plan with an appropriate blend of income and inflation protection. Investment may include exposures to Canadian equity, foreign equity, Canadian and global fixed income as well as alternatives.
- 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 glide path. There are no concerns with the proposed changes, the changes to the glide path are not
  expected to be sizable and are backed by a prolonged research effort by the 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.

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 $<sup>^{\</sup>mbox{\scriptsize (1)}}$  Quartile rankings are based on the underlying fund's returns.

<sup>\*</sup> Sources may include, but are not limited to, Mercer MPA, Morningstar, Principia and Thomson Baseline