



LEADING AUTHORITY ON SEASONAL INVESTMENT ANALYSIS

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- Research Analyst, Horizons ETFs Management (Canada) Inc.
- 17 years of investment-related experience
- Authored 11 books on seasonal investing
- Frequently quoted and interviewed in the news media



# **AGENDA**

- Understanding Seasonal Investing
- Seasonal Trends
- Seasonal Investment Opportunities
- HAC





# SEASONAL PROCESS



#### WHAT IS SEASONAL INVESTING?

- Investing in the market at a time of year when it historically does well, or investing in a sector of the market when it typically outperforms a broad market, such as the S&P 500®
- The markets are influenced by seasonally recurring tendencies, including:
  - Economic tendencies
  - Corporate earnings
  - Consumer and business spending patterns
  - Announcements
  - Events





#### THE TWO GOALS OF SEASONAL INVESTING

- Get into a sector of the market before other investors are attracted to it because of an annual
  event that is expected to push the sector higher.
- 2. Exit the sector typically when the event is about to occur and investor interest has peaked.





#### SEASONAL INVESTING — APPLICABLE IN MANY MARKETS

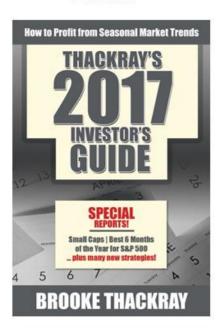
- Broad Markets S&P 500® and S&P/TSX Composite Index™
- Sectors Technology, Financials, Materials, etc.
- Commodities Gold, Silver, Platinum, Oil, Natural Gas, etc.
- Bonds Government, Corporate and High Yield Bonds
- Currencies USD, CAD, etc.



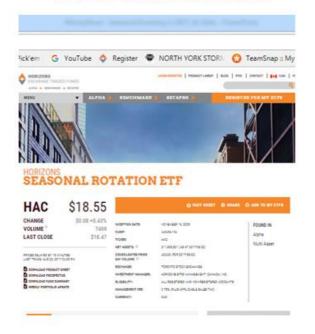


#### FOLLOWING THE SEASONAL ROTATION STRATEGY

#### BOOK



#### HORIZONSETFS.COM



#### WEBSITE/NEWSLETTER



# HORIZONS WEEKLY UPDATE



www.alphamountain.com





#### SIX-MONTH CYCLE WELL DOCUMENTED

- The "Halloween Effect" has been the subject of numerous academic studies
- Jacobsen and Zhang looked at more than 300 years of market data in 108 countries. The study found stock market returns from November through April are on average 4.52% greater than those over the summer
- A "Sell in May" trading strategy beats the market more than 80% of the time over five-year horizons

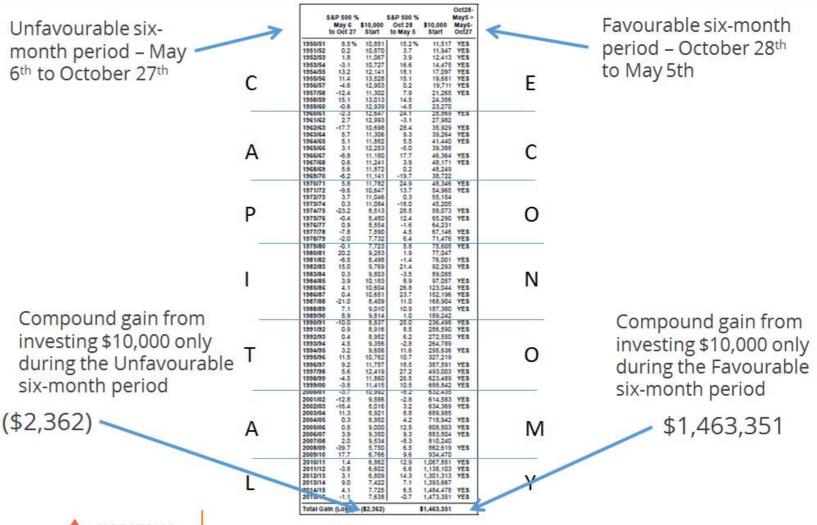




#### GROWTH OF \$10,000 IN FAVOURABLE SIX-MONTH PERIOD AND UNFAVOURABLE SIX-MONTH PERIOD (1950-2015)

 Historically and on average, the favourable six-month period has outperformed the unfavourable six-month period since 1950

Source: Thackray's 2017 Investor's Guide.



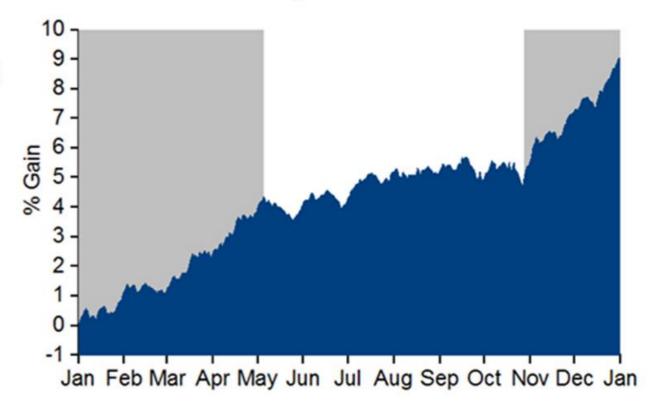




# S&P 500<sup>®</sup> FAVOURABLE AND UNFAVOURABLE SEASONS

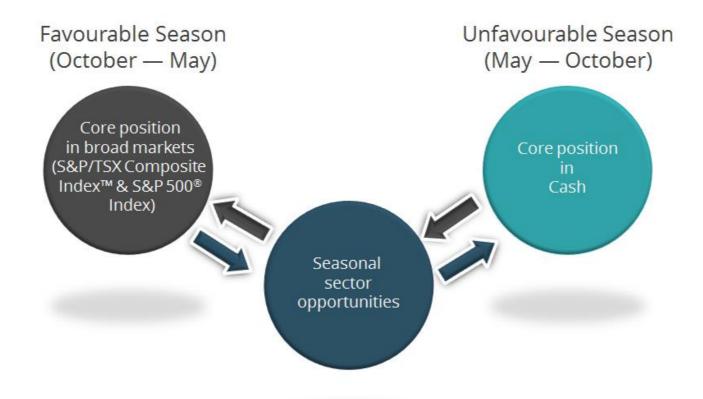
- Historically favourable six-month period for stocks – October 28<sup>th</sup> to May 5<sup>th</sup>
- Historically unfavourable six-month period for stocks – May 6<sup>th</sup> to October 27<sup>th</sup>
- Historically generated a 7.8% average annual geometric return

S&P 500® Avg. % Gain 1950-2015





## **SEASONAL GUIDELINES FOR MARKETS**

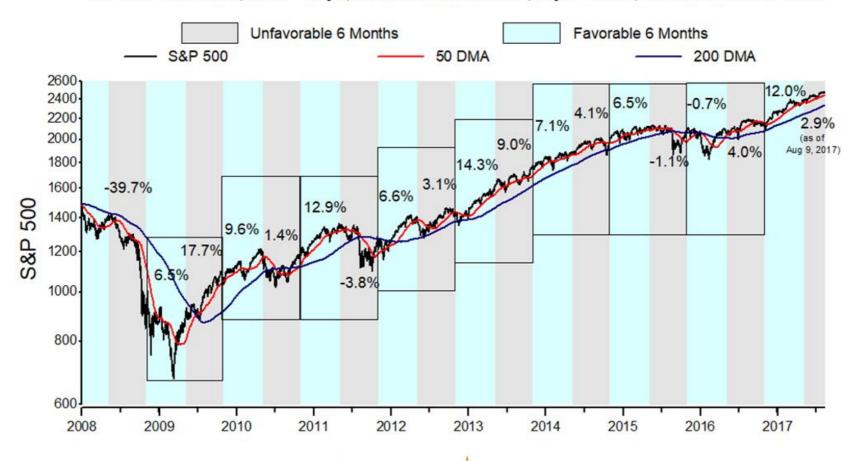




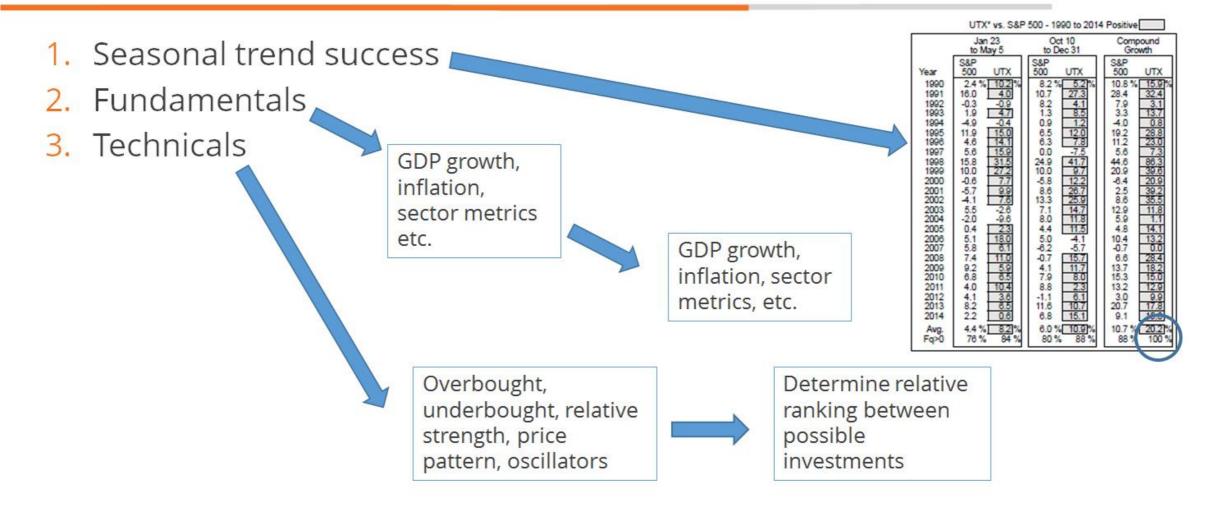


# S&P 500<sup>®</sup> FAVORABLE & UNFAVORABLE PERIOD PERFORMANCE — 2008-2017

S&P 500 Favourable (Oct 28 - May 5) & Unfavourable Period (May 6 - Oct 27) Performance 2008 - 2017



#### SEASONAL INVESTING MORE THAN BUY AND SELL DATES







# LATE STAGE BULL MARKET SEASONALITY



#### THE UPCOMING DECADE IS PROBABLY DIFFERENT COMPARED TO LAST DECADE

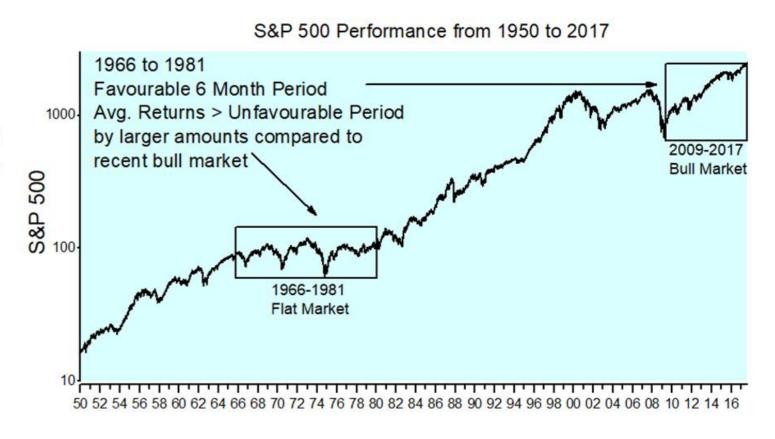
- Increasing probability that the S&P 500® is in the late stage of the bull market; moving into low-growth/flat/down part of the cycle
- Low probability of similar large stock market gains compared to the period since 2009
- Seasonal investing typically works well in flat/low growth/down market environments





### S&P 500® FAVOURABLE 6 MONTH SEASONAL PERFORMANCE BETTER IN FLAT MARKETS

In down markets, seasonal cycles tend to become more pronounced (profitable) relative to the S&P 500®







### SEASONAL STRATEGY ADJUSTS RISK THROUGHOUT YEAR

- Buy-and-hold has a constant risk level assigned to equities as a class, during the full year
- Seasonal strategy adjusts risks throughout the year based upon historical trends for the broad market and for sectors of the market
  - Reduced broad market exposure when the stock market has historically performed poorly in the year
  - Increase emphasis on defensive sectors when market is "riskier" on a seasonal basis





#### SEASONALITY FOR DOWN MARKETS

- Sectors tend to have less correlation compared to bull markets
- Sector rotation increases
- Sector momentum can run longer but turn down sharply when finished
- Cyclical and high beta sectors tend to have shorter periods of seasonal outperformance

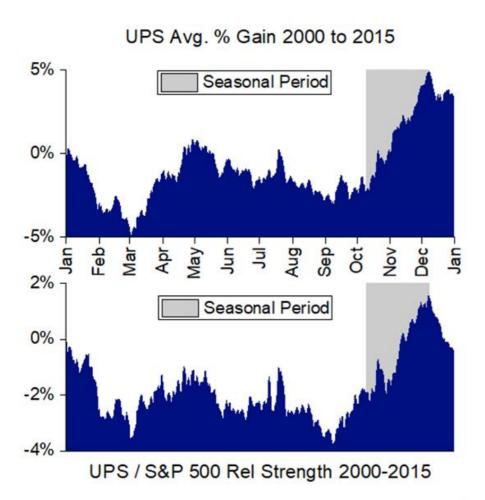




CURRENT & UPCOMING INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES



## **UPS**



#### Seasonal Period - Oct 10th to Dec 8th

- From 2000 to 2015, UPS produced an average gain of 7.8% and was positive 88% of the time
- UPS benefits from increased investor interest during the holiday season





### UPS

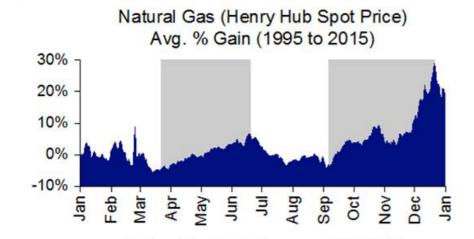


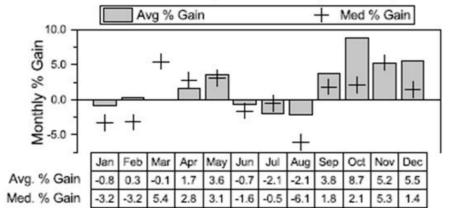
- UPS has performed well in its seasonal period over the last few years
- In 2016/17, UPS rallied in its seasonal period and then dropped sharply in January



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#### NATURAL GAS (HENRY HUB SPOT PRICE)





43

62

38

57

52

62

HORIZONS

NatGas Monthly Performance (1995-2015)

#### Seasonal periods:

- March 22<sup>nd</sup> to June 19<sup>th</sup> &
- September 5<sup>th</sup> to December 21<sup>st</sup>
- From 1995 to 2015, Natural Gas (Henry Hub Spot Price) has produced an average gain of 39.1% in its September to December seasonal period
- Spring seasonal period is driven by demand for electricity for air conditioning
- Autumn seasonal period is driven by demand for heating

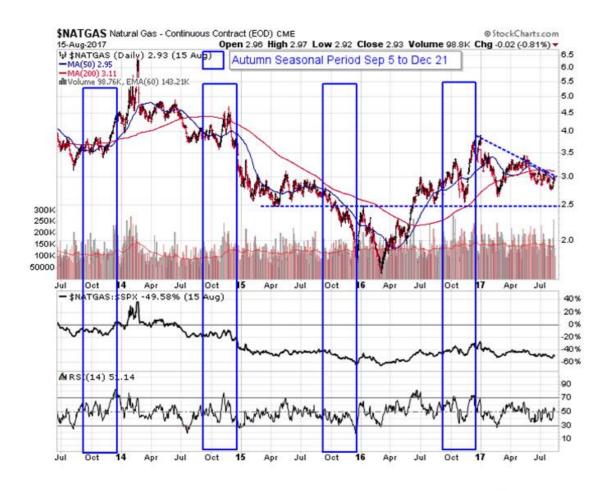


Fq %>S&P 500

67

67 67

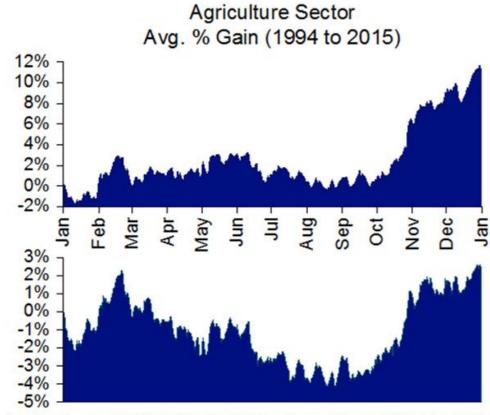
#### NATURAL GAS (HENRY HUB SPOT PRICE)



- Natural gas bottomed in early 2016 right before the start of the spring seasonal period and peaked at the end of 2016
- In 2017, natural gas declined in price after its spring seasonal period



#### **AGRICULTURE**



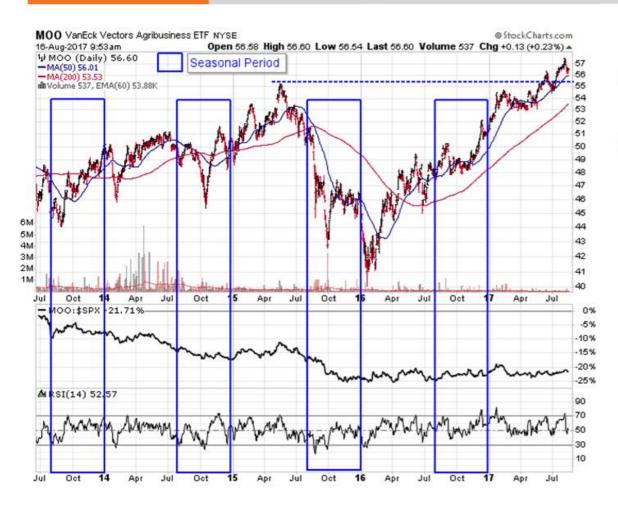
Agriculture / S&P 500 Rel Str. Avg. Year 1994 to 2015

#### Seasonal Period - Aug 1st to Dec 31st

- From 1994 to 2015, the agriculture sector produced an average gain of 12.1% and was positive 77% of the time
- Cash flow for farmers increases in the second half of the year with the harvest, which allows for purchases of fertilizer and equipment



#### **AGRICULTURE**

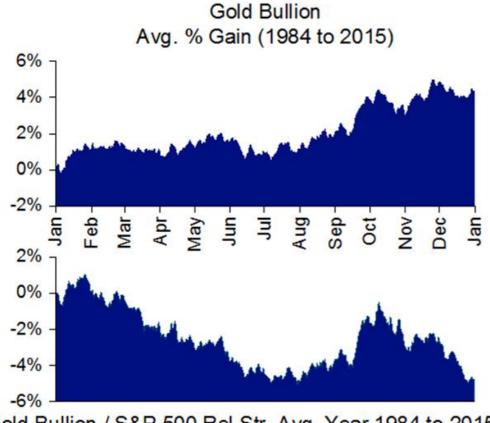


- The agriculture sector lost ground in 2015 and then was positive in 2016
- Generally, the agriculture sector has been performing at market in 2016 and 2017



MIRAE ASSET

#### **GOLD BULLION**



#### Gold Bullion / S&P 500 Rel Str. Avg. Year 1984 to 2015

#### Seasonal Period – July 12th to October 9th

- From 1984 to 2015, gold bullion has produced an average gain of 3.7% and positive 66% of the time
- Sector benefits from increased demand for gold in October and November



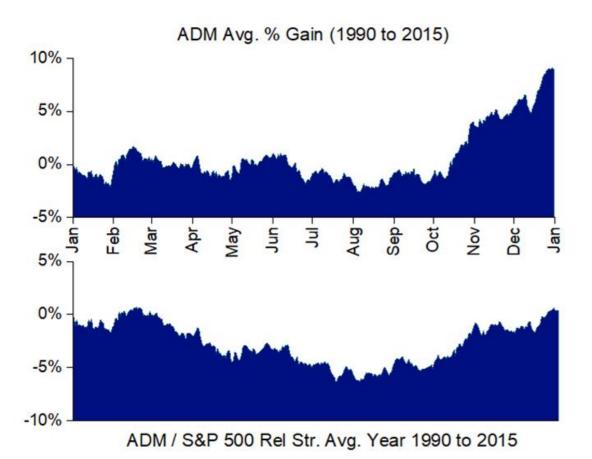
#### **GOLD BULLION**



- In 2016, gold bullion produced a strong rally at the beginning of the year into July
- In 2017, gold bullion had a strong rally at the beginning of the year but has been recently consolidating



# **ADM**



#### Seasonal Period Aug 7th to Dec 31st

- From 1990 to 2015, ADM has produced an average gain of 12.3% and has been positive 81% of the time
- ADM benefits from increased spending in the agriculture sector in the second half of the year



# **ADM**



- ADM has been underperforming the S&P 500® over the last few years
- ADM has managed to outperform the S&P 500® in three out of its last four seasonal periods



# HORIZONS SEASONAL ROTATION ETF

HAC



#### HAC PERFORMANCE

# Horizons Seasonal Rotation ETF, S&P/TSX 60™ Index, S&P/TSX Composite Index and S&P 500® Index Performance Comparison Since HAC Inception: November 19, 2009



Source: Bloomberg, between November 19, 2009, the inception date of HAC, and July 31, 2017.

The rates of return shown in the chart are used only to illustrate the effects of the compound growth rate and are not intended to reflect future values of the Horizons Seasonal Rotation ETF. The Indices are not directly investable.





#### **PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS**

Product Name	1 Month	3 Month	6 Month	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	Since Inception	St. Dev (%)	Sharpe Ratio	HAC Correlation	Max Drawdown
Horizons Seasonal Rotation ETF	0.07%	-1.24%	0.16%	1.58%	5.14%	8.30%	8.37%	8.33%	8.41%	0.90	1.0000	-11.48%
S&P/TSX 60™ Index	0.05%	-2.29%	-0.55%	0.67%	8.22%	3.29%	9.26%	6.42%	13.15%	0.43	0.5624	-21.04%
S&P 500® Index <sup>1</sup>	-1.90%	-4.75%	4.89%	3.61%	10.87%	16.02%	19.92%	15.88%	13.65%	1.11	0.4917	-15.50%
S&P/TSX Composite Index™	-0.06%	-2.13%	-0.17%	0.67%	6.81%	2.58%	8.55%	6.58%	12.80%	0.46	0.5645	-21.53%

Source: Bloomberg, as at July 31, 2017.

The indicated rates of return in the Performance Table are the historical annual compounded total returns including changes in per unit value and reinvestment of all dividends and distributions and do not take into account sales, redemption, distribution or optional charges or income taxes payable by any unitholder that would have reduced returns. The rates of return shown in the table are not intended to reflect future values of the ETF or returns on investment in the ETF. The Indices are not directly investable.





<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Performance in CAD.

<sup>\*</sup>Since inception returns, standard deviation, Sharpe ratio, and max drawdown are from November 19, 2009, the inception date of HAC.

#### HAC: PERFORMANCE<sup>1</sup>

- Annualized return since inception\*: 8.33%
- Standard deviation since inception\*: 10.27% versus 15.89% for S&P/TSX 60™ Index and 17.46% for S&P 500®
- Sharpe Ratio since inception\*: 0.90
- Maximum drawdown\*: -11.48% versus -21.04% for S&P/TSX 60™ Index and -15.31% for S&P 500®

Source: Bloomberg, as at July 31, 2017.

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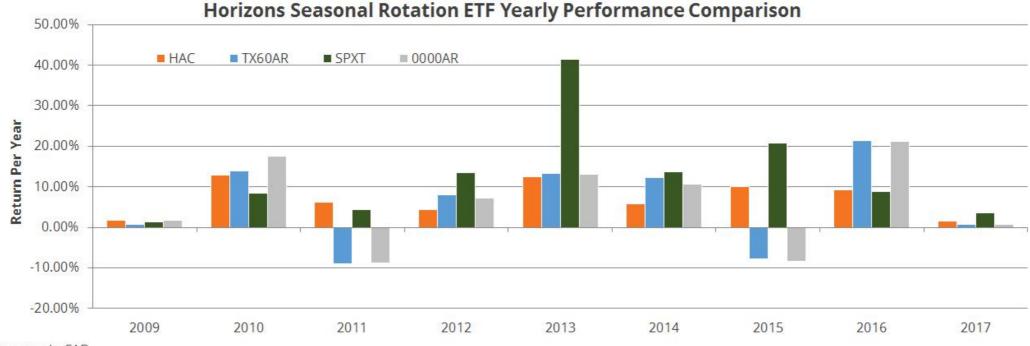


<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Performance in CAD.

<sup>\*</sup>Since inception returns are from November 19, 2009, the inception date of HAC.

#### YEARLY BREAKDOWN OF PERFORMANCE<sup>1</sup>

 The following chart shows the cumulative historical yearly performance versus the S&P 500<sup>®</sup> Index and the S&P/TSX 60<sup>™</sup> Index



<sup>1</sup>Performance in CAD.

Source: Bloomberg, between November 19, 2009, the inception date of HAC, and July 31, 2017.

The rates of return shown in the chart are yearly cumulative total returns including changes in per unit value and do not take into account sales, redemption, distribution or optional charges or income taxes payable by any unitholder that would have reduced returns. These returns are are not intended to reflect future values of the Horizons Seasonal Rotation ETF or the indices shown, or returns on investment in the Seasonal Rotation ETF. The Indices are not directly investable.





#### HORIZONS SEASONAL ROTATION ETF (HAC)

#### **Key Details:**

- Management Fee: 0.75%<sup>1</sup>
- Performance Fee: 20% of outperformance over High Water Mark plus Benchmark of annualized return of 5%\*
- **Investment Manager:** Horizons ETFs Management (Canada) Inc.
- Research Analyst: Brooke Thackray
- Distribution Frequency: Annually, if any
- Eligibility: All registered and non-registered investment accounts



#### BENEFITS OF HAC

- Seeks to profit from seasonal periods which have historically generated positive returns for certain sectors
- Historically low correlation to broad equity markets
- Low-cost, actively managed solution
- Seasoned research analysts with more than 17 years of seasonal and technical analysis experience

#### WHERE DOES HAC FIT IN YOUR PORTFOLIO?

The Horizons Seasonal Rotation ETF (HAC) is a versatile ETF that can be used in a variety of portfolio strategies



- Primarily Large Cap Equity
- Tactical Sector Rotation
- Four-Year Track Record
- Low Standard Deviation

#### Alternatives:

- Opportunistic
- Low Standard Deviation
- Defensive Stance
- Low Correlation to Equities



### **SUMMARY**

- Recognize that Markets are Affected by Seasonal Tendencies
- Be Aware of Seasonal Investment Opportunities
- Consider the Advantages of HAC



#### **DISCLAIMER**

Horizons ETFs is a member of Mirae Asset Global Investments. Commissions, trailing commissions, management fees and expenses all may be associated with an investment in the Horizons Seasonal Rotation ETF, managed by Horizons ETFs Management (Canada) Inc. The ETF is not guaranteed, its values change frequently and past performance may not be repeated. The ETF may have exposure to leveraged investment techniques that magnify gains and losses and which may result in greater volatility in value and could be subject to aggressive investment risk and price volatility risk. Such risks are described in the ETF's prospectus. The prospectus contains important detailed information about the ETF. Please read the prospectus before investing.

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