

Bank of Canada Statement Summary and Commentary

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Bank of Canada Statement Summary and Commentary: In a widely expected decision the Bank of Canada ("the Bank") today reduced its target for the overnight rate by 25 basis points to 2.25%.

In a decidedly downbeat message the Bank stated "The Canadian economy faces a difficult transition. The structural damage caused by the trade conflict reduces the capacity of the economy and adds costs. This limits the role that monetary policy can play to boost demand while maintaining low inflation." "...The Bank projects GDP will grow by 1.2% in 2025, 1.1% in 2026 and 1.6% in 2027. On a quarterly basis, growth strengthens in 2026 after a weak second half of this year. Excess capacity in the economy is expected to persist and be taken up gradually." "...With ongoing weakness in the economy and inflation expected to remain close to the 2% target, Governing Council decided to cut the policy rate by 25 basis points. If inflation and economic activity evolve broadly in line with the October projection, Governing Council sees the current policy rate at about the right level to keep inflation close to 2% while helping the economy through this period of structural adjustment."

In regard to the state of Canada's economy the Bank pointed out that "Canada's economy contracted by 1.6% in the second quarter, reflecting a drop in exports and weak business investment amid heightened uncertainty. Meanwhile, household spending grew at a healthy pace. US trade actions and related uncertainty are having severe effects on targeted sectors including autos, steel, aluminum, and lumber. As a result, GDP growth is expected to be weak in the second half of the year." "...Canada's labour market remains soft. Employment gains in September followed two months of sizeable losses. Job losses continue to build in trade-sensitive sectors and hiring has been weak across the economy. The unemployment rate remained at 7.1% in September and wage growth has slowed."

The Bank's comments on inflation: "CPI inflation was 2.4% in September, slightly higher than the Bank had anticipated. Inflation excluding taxes was 2.9%. The Bank's preferred measures of core inflation have been sticky around 3%. Expanding the range of indicators to include alternative measures of core inflation and the distribution of price changes among CPI components suggests underlying inflation remains around $2\frac{1}{2}\%$."

Goodwood Portfolio Reaction: The Bank's 25 basis point cut in the policy rate was widely expected. In the table below we set our current internal interest rate forecasts for the remainder of the year, which guide our portfolio positioning. On November 4th we will receive the first Federal budget under Prime Minister Carney - we expect negative surprises in terms of the size of Federal spending and the budget deficit. In the US, interest rates have come down with the FOMC's focus on the weakening US employment situation. A 25 basis point cut in the target range for federal funds was announced this afternoon.

Goodwood Fixed-Income Strategies: Goodwood uses a disciplined, bottom-up, and fundamental approach in analyzing Canadian investment-grade corporate bonds. The investment-grade portfolios seek to preserve capital and provide a high cash coupon income. We have been adding new issues to the portfolios with cash coupons in the 4.0% to 5.0% per annum range. We believe bonds in our portfolios may appreciate as a result of spread tightening from improving company and industry fundamentals. Our strategies are well diversified by position size, industry sectors and term-to-maturity. Goodwood's flexible, tactical approach can capitalize on inefficiencies in the fixed-income markets. The long-only investment-grade bond mandate invests in 20-30 fixed-income securities. Similar Long-Short mandates: Goodwood Milford Fund and RRSP eligible Goodwood Milford Fund Trust. Goodwood also acts as sub-advisor, managing investment grade bond and ESG-conscious investment grade bond mandates for third-party clients, institutions, pensions and endowments.

Historical Interest Rate Trend and Forecast:

Quarter	ВОС	3M	2Y	5Y	10Y	30Y		FED	3M	2Y	5Y	10Y	30Y
Q1'24	5.00	5.01	4.19	3.54	3.47	3.36		5.50	5.36	4.62	4.21	4.19	4.34
Q2'24	4.75	4.66	4.00	3.52	3.51	3.40		5.50	5.36	4.72	4.33	4.34	4.50
Q3'24	4.25	3.94	2.91	2.74	2.96	3.14		4.75	4.63	3.65	3.58	3.80	4.13
Q4'24	3.25	3.20	2.94	2.97	3.24	3.34		4.50	4.33	4.25	4.39	4.58	4.78
Q1'25	2.75	2.64	2.47	2.62	2.97	3.23		4.50	4.30	3.91	3.98	4.35	4.61
Q2'25	2.75	2.68	2.66	2.83	3.29	3.56		4.50	4.30	3.72	3.79	4.23	4.98
Q3'25	2.50	2.44	2.47	2.75	3.19	3.63		4.25	3.95	3.60	3.73	4.15	4.73
Q4'25	2.25	2.25	2.30	2.55	3.00	3.35		3.75	3.50	3.25	3.50	3.80	4.50
Actual	Forecast	Sources: Histori	cal: LSEG; Fore	cast: Goodwood	Inc., internal fore	ecast used to pos	ition	our Goodwood I	ond portfolios				

Corporate Spread (i.e., premium over government bonds) Trend and Forecast:

Corporate bond spreads are 0 to 10 basis points tighter over equivalent term Government of Canada bond yields since the last Bank of Canada announcement on September 17, 2025.

Strategy	Effective Duration*	Yield to Maturity*			
Goodwood Milford Fund LP	5.1	5.4			
Goodwood Investment-Grade Bonds	4.3	3.5			
Goodwood ESG-Conscious Investment-Grade Bonds	3.4	3.4			
iShares Core Canadian Universe Bond ETF	7.0	3.4			
iShares Canadian Corporate Bond ETF	5.5	4.3			
Av ailable through Goodwood Inc.					
Sources: Goodwood Inc., iShares by Blackrock *As at September 30, 2025. See full disclosure below.					

Recent Investment-Grade Additions to Portfolios:

N/A

Recent Investment-Grade Deletions from Portfolios:

TMX Group 4.836% 02/18/2032 [sold] Definity C30 3.709% 09/12/2030 [sold] Stantec Inc. 4.374% 06/10/2032 [sold] Fairstone BK 3.937% 09/18/2028 [sold] Bell Canada 4.7% 03/14/2036 [sold] GoEasy Ltd CB 6% 05/15/2030 [sold] CI Financial Corp 7% 12/02/2025 [sold]



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