## **Bank of Canada Statement Summary and Commentary**



December 10, 2025

Bank of Canada Statement Summary and Commentary: In a widely expected decision the Bank of Canada ("the Bank") today kept its target for the overnight rate at 2.25%. The press release stated "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. Uncertainty remains elevated."

On the state of Canada's economy the Bank pointed out that "Canada's economy grew by a surprisingly strong 2.6% in the third quarter, even as final domestic demand was flat. The increase in GDP largely reflected volatility in trade. The Bank expects final domestic demand will grow in the fourth quarter, but with an anticipated decline in net exports, GDP will likely be weak." In the press conference after the press release Governor Macklem did

repeat his view that Canada is undergoing a structural transition and the Canada may not be able to replace lost supply.

The Bank's comments on inflation: "measures of core inflation remain in the range of  $2\frac{1}{2}$ % to 3%. The Bank assesses that underlying inflation is still around  $2\frac{1}{2}$ %. In the near term, CPI inflation is likely to be higher due to the effects of last year's GST/HST holiday on the prices of some goods and services. Looking through this choppiness, the Bank expects ongoing economic slack to roughly offset cost pressures associated with the reconfiguration of trade".

The Bank saw improvement in the labour market after a difficult start to the year when unemployment reached 7%." Canada's labour market is showing some signs of improvement. Employment has shown solid gains in the past three months and the unemployment rate declined to 6.5% in November. Nevertheless, job markets in trade-sensitive sectors remain weak and economy-wide hiring intentions continue to be subdued'.

Goodwood Portfolio Reaction: The Bank's no change 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 and 2026, which guide our portfolio positioning. The Canadian dollar has been rallying for the past two weeks as result of a number of factors. A key factor is the increased rhetoric from President Trump on appointing an FOMC Chair who will carry out his goal of lowering interest rates. This has had the result of weakening the US dollar which benefits the Canadian dollar and also improves the outlook for emerging markets and commodities. Commodities are a positive contributor to the Canadian economy. The US FOMC cut its target for the fed funds rate by 25 bps from 3.75% - 4.00% to 3.50% - 3.75% 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
Q1'25	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	2.20	2.55	2.55	3.40	3.80		3.75	3.70	3.55	3.75	4.15	4.75
Q1'26	2.25	2.20	2.65	2.90	3.40	3.80		3.50	3.70	3.30	3.50	4.05	4.60
Q2'26	2.25	2.20	2.75	2.90	3.50	3.85		3.25	3.50	3.00	3.40	3.90	4.50
Q3'26	2.25	2.30	2.80	2.95	3.50	3.90		3.25	3.25	2.75	3.30	3.80	4.50
Q4'26	2.50	2.50	2.85	3.00	3.70	3.90		3.00	3.25	2.75	3.00	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 have ranged from -5 basis points wider to 5 basis points tighter over equivalent term Government of Canada bond yields since the last Bank of Canada announcement on October 29, 2025.

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Strategy	Effective Duration*	Yield to Maturity*					
Goodwood Milford Fund LP	4.6	4.7					
Goodwood Investment-Grade Bonds	4.1	3.4					
Goodwood ESG-Conscious Investment-Grade Bonds	3.3	3.3					
iShares Core Canadian Universe Bond ETF	7.0	3.4					
iShares Canadian Corporate Bond ETF	5.5	3.9					
Av ailable through Goodwood Inc.							
Sources: Goodwood Inc., iShares by Blackrock *As at November 28, 2025. See full disclosure below							

**Recent Investment-Grade Additions to Portfolios:** 

Secure Waste 5.75% 11/20/2032 [Buy]

Recent Investment-Grade Deletions from Portfolios:
Boyd Group Services Inc 5.50% 11/06//2030 [sold]
Royal Bank 4.632% 05/01/2028 [sold]
Waste Connections 4.50% 06/14/29 [sold]
Ford Credit CDA 4.819% 09/11/28 [sold]
BMO U\$ 2.65% 03/08/2027 [sold]
CPP BND REGS 4.375% 01/30/27 [sold]
TD BND 4.108% 06/08/2027 U [sold]
BMO BND 4.70% 09/14/2027 U [sold]



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