

FIRST QUARTER REPORT MARCH 31, 2005

# NOTICE OF NO AUDITOR REVIEW OF INTERIM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Section 4.3(3)(a) of National Instrument 51-102, *Continuous Disclosure Obligations*, provides that if an auditor has not performed a review of the interim financial statements, the interim financial statements must be accompanied by a notice indicating that the financial statements have not been reviewed by an auditor.

The Company's external auditors, Pricewaterhouse Coopers LLP, have not performed a review of these interim financial statements of Economic Investment Trust Limited.

signed "Duncan N.R. Jackman"

Duncan N.R. Jackman Chairman and President

signed "Travis R. Epp"

Travis R. Epp Treasurer

May 11, 2005

# THE PERIOD AT A GLANCE (Unaudited)

	As at March 31 2005 (1)	As at Dec. 31 2004 (1)
Net assets	\$ 478,586	\$459,290
Net equity value per common share	\$ 84.95	\$ 81.52
Number of common shares outstanding at period end	5,615,535	5,615,535

## Three months ended March 31

	Maronon				
	1	2005 (1)	2	2004 (1)	
Investment income	\$	2,279	\$	2,343	
Net investment income	\$	1,316	\$	1,389	
Net investment income per common share	\$	0.23	\$	0.24	
Regular cash dividends per common share	\$	0.15	\$	0.15	

<sup>(1)</sup> In thousands of dollars, except number of common shares outstanding and per share amounts.

#### MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

The following Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) of the unaudited consolidated operating results and financial condition of Economic Investment Trust Limited ("Economic" or the "Company") for the first quarter of 2005 should be read in conjunction with the MD&A for the year ended December 31, 2004, the Company's annual audited consolidated financial statements, the notes relating thereto, supplementary financial information included in the Company's Annual Report, the quarterly unaudited financial statements and notes contained in this report, as well as the Corporation's MD&A and unaudited interim financial statements for the quarters of 2004. The unaudited consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP"). The reporting currency for the Company is the Canadian dollar, and all amounts in the following discussions are in Canadian dollars.

MD&A contains certain forward-looking statements that are subject to risks and uncertainties that may cause the results or events mentioned in this discussion to differ materially from actual results or events. No assurance can be given that results, performance or achievement expressed in, or implied by, forward-looking statements within this disclosure will occur, or if they do, that any benefits may be derived from them.

#### **Market Review**

Global stock markets generally posted negative results in the quarter ended March 31, 2005. Canada was one of the exceptions due to its relatively heavy weighting in energy stocks. The Canadian dollar was relatively flat compared to the U.S. dollar in the quarter. In Canadian dollar terms, in the first quarter of fiscal 2005 the S&P/TSX Composite Index increased 4.4%, the MSCI World Index decreased 0.6% and the S&P 500 Index decreased 1.7%.

The net equity value of the Company's common shares is determined by deducting the outstanding preferred shares at their cost of redemption from the net assets of the Company. The net equity value per common share is the net equity value divided by the number of common shares outstanding. For the quarter ended March 31, 2005, the Company's net asset value per share increased to \$84.95 from \$81.52 at December 31, 2004, an increase of 4.4% (based on the reinvestment of distributions at monthend net asset values).

### **Operating Results**

#### Net investment income

The Company's net investment income in the first quarter of 2005 was \$1,316,000 compared to 2004 net investment income of \$1,389,000. On a per common share basis, net investment income for the quarter was \$0.23 in 2005 compared to \$0.24 in 2004.

Foreign dividend income of \$1,784,000 in the first quarter of 2005 was similar to the foreign dividend income of \$1,777,000 in 2004. Canadian dividend income in the first quarter decreased to \$461,000 in 2005 from \$486,000 in 2004. Interest, including secruities lending income in the first quarter amounted to \$34,000 in 2005, compared to \$80,000 in 2004. The balance in 2004 included interest on tax refunds.

Operating expenses in the quarter amounted to 479,000 (2004 - 446,000). The rise in expenses from the prior period is mainly due to an increase in management and administration fees.

### Net gain on investments

The Company realized a net gain on investments sold of \$2,152,000 in the first quarter of 2005 (2004 - \$2,164,000). The majority of the realized gains were from dispositions of The Bank of Nova Scotia, ConocoPhillips, Continental AG, RMC Group PLC and Arcelor. The gains realized in the quarter offset the loss that occurred upon the sale of Pfizer Inc.

### MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (continued)

The Company's unrealized appreciation of investments increased by \$16,538,000 in the quarter compared to an increase of \$23,458,000 in the same period last year. The majority of the increase in fiscal 2005 was due to Canadian investments. In particular, E-L Financial Corporation Limited and Algoma Central Corporation performed very well.

#### **Assets**

Total assets increased to \$521,102,000 at March 31, 2005 from \$502,175,000 at December 31, 2004, an increase of 3.8%. The cost of investments in foreign equities at March 31, 2005 was \$256,202,000 compared to \$258,706,000 at December 31, 2004. The market value of foreign equities of \$285,443,000 at March 31, 2005 was relatively unchanged from \$285,451,000 at December 31, 2004. The cost of Canadian equities at March 31, 2005 was \$19,735,000 compared to \$23,091,000 at December 31, 2004. The market value of the Canadian equities increased to \$225,624,000 at March 31, 2005 from \$210,010,000 at December 31, 2004.

#### **Quarterly Results**

The following table summarizes various financial results on a quarterly basis for the most recent quarters (in thousands of dollars, except per share amounts):

		rch 31 2005	ec. 31 2004	ept. 30 2004	une 30 2004	N	larch 31 2004	ec. 31 2003		ept. 30 2003		une 30 2003
Investment income	\$	2,279	\$ 3,105	\$ 1,880	\$ 5,517	\$	2,343	\$ 1,446	\$	1,579	\$	3,121
Increase (decrease in net assets from operations	,	20,006	\$ 15,854	\$ (1,495)	\$ 16,253	\$	27,011	\$ 17,539	\$ 2	24,218	\$ -	44,665
Increase (decrease in net assets from operations per share <sup>1</sup>	) \$	3.56	\$ 2.82	\$ (0.27)	\$ 2.89	\$	4.81	\$ 3.12	\$	4.31	\$	7.95

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Net of dividends on preferred shares

#### **Dividends**

Regular quarterly dividends were paid on our preferred shares. The year to date dividends paid out of net investment income on the common shares outstanding totalled \$0.15 per share in both 2005 and 2004.

#### **Investment Strategy**

Economic is a closed-end investment corporation that trades on the Toronto Stock Exchange. Economic has always been an investment vehicle for long-term growth through investments in common equities, as management believes that over long periods of time, common equities, as an asset class, will outperform fixed income instruments or balanced funds. From time to time, however, assets of the Company may be invested in interest bearing short-term securities pending the selection of suitable equity investments.

### MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (continued)

The objective of the Company is to earn an above average rate of return primarily through long-term capital appreciation and dividend income. Commencing with the fiscal 2002 year, the investment strategy of the Company changed to allow for increased investment in non-Canadian capital markets. The equity investments in the portfolio currently reflect investment opportunities all over the world.

The investment portfolio of the Company is comprised of a mix of high yielding and low yielding foreign and Canadian equities. Net investment income, net realized gains (losses) on investments, net change in unrealized appreciation of investments and net equity value per share will vary significantly from period to period depending on the selection of the global equities which moves with the constantly changing economic environment and market conditions.

The majority of the investment portfolio is managed by Sanford C. Bernstein & Co. Inc., LLC ("Bernstein"), a wholly owned subsidiary of Alliance Capital Management L.P. Bernstein is a global investment manager that commenced operations in 1967. Bernstein has a global equity mandate and is allowed to hedge the foreign currency exposure of any non-Canadian investment.

The Company's management is responsible for a portion of the Canadian investments in the portfolio. The performance of this portfolio is primarily derived from investments in E-L Financial Corporation Limited, The Bank of Nova Scotia and Algoma Central Corporation.

As the Company's investment philosophy is of a long-term nature, short-term volatility is expected and tolerated. We remain confident that our investment strategy will reward our shareholders over the long-term.

#### **Risks**

The Company faces a broad range of risks and uncertainties in managing a global equity portfolio. Risks of investing in Economic include, amongst others, equity risk, international market risk, foreign currency risk, concentration risk, emerging markets risk, liquidity risk, regulatory risk and securities lending risk. These risks are described in the Risk section of the Company's Annual Information Form.

#### **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

Liquidity refers to the Company's ability to maintain a cash flow adequate to fund operations and capital investments on a timely and cost efficient basis. The Company's income from operations after payment of taxable dividends is used to fund operating costs as well as provide resources for additional investments.

#### **Additional information**

Additional information relating to Economic, including the Company's Annual Information Form, may be found on SEDAR at www.sedar.com.

May 11, 2005

Duncan N.R. Jackman Chairman of the Board

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS (Unaudited)

Assets	March 31 2005	December 31 
Investments, at indicated market value   (cost - \$275,937; December 31, 2004 - \$281,797)	\$ 510,628 8,131 254 980 912 197 521,102	\$ 496,304 4,982 251 — 435 203 502,175
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	303 659 333 41,221	209 — 5,414 37,262
Net assets	42,516 \$ 478,586	42,885 \$ 459,290
Shareholders' Equity		
Capital stock	\$ 206,142 1,493 193,807 77,144 \$ 478,586	\$ 206,142 1,493 177,269 74,386 \$ 459,290

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS (Unaudited)

	Three months ended Marc				
	2005	2004			
		(000's)			
INVESTMENTINCOME					
Dividends:					
Foreign	\$ 1,784	\$ 1,777			
Canadian	461	486			
	2,245	2,263			
Interest, including securities lending income	34	80			
	2,279	2,343			
Expenses:					
Operating	479	446			
Income taxes	484	508			
	963	954			
NET INVESTMENT INCOME	1,316	1,389			
NET REALIZED AND UNREALIZED GAIN ON INVESTMENTS					
Net realized gain on investments	2,152	2,164			
Net change in unrealized appreciation of investments	16,538	23,458			
NET GAIN ON INVESTMENTS	18,690	25,622			
INCREASE IN NET ASSETS FROM OPERATIONS	\$ 20,006	\$ 27,011			
INCREASE IN NET ASSETS FROM OPERATIONS PER SHARE	\$ 3.56	\$ 4.81			

# ${\bf CONSOLIDATED\,STATEMENTOF\,RETAINED\,EARNINGS} \\ (Unaudited)$

	Three months ended March				arch 31
	2005		2005		2004
			(000's)		
BEGINNING OF PERIOD	\$ 74	,386		\$	58,878
Net investment income	1.	316			1,389
Net realized gain on investments	2	152			2,164
Refundable dividend taxes recovered		287			98
	78.	141			62,529
Deduct:					
Dividends from net investment income					860
Provision for refundable dividend taxes		137		_	136
		997			996
END OF PERIOD	\$ 77	,144		\$	61,533
				_	

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS (Unaudited)

	Three months ended March 3			
	2005	2005		2004
INCREASE IN NET ASSETS FROM OPERATIONS	\$ 20,006	(000's)	\$	27,011
DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS  Common shareholders	(842) (18) (860)		_	(842) (18) (860)
CAPITAL SHARE TRANSACTIONS  Purchase of preferred shares for cancellation				(5)
TAXATION CHANGES  Net decrease (increase) in refundable dividend tax on hand	150			(38)
INCREASE IN NET ASSETS	19,296			26,108
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF PERIOD	459,290			407,911
NET ASSETS, END OF PERIOD	\$ 478,586		\$	434,019

## ${\color{blue} \textbf{CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF NETREALIZED GAIN ON INVESTMENTS}} \\ (Unaudited)$

	Three months ended Mare			
	2005	2004		
		(000's)		
Proceeds on sales of investments	\$ 25,778	\$ 38,260		
Cost of investments, beginning of period	281,797	259,458		
Cost of investments purchased during the period	17,292	35,435		
	299,089	294,893		
Cost of investments, end of period	275,937	259,274		
Cost of investments sold during the period	23,152	35,619		
Realized gain on investments sold before taxes	2,626	2,641		
Provision for taxes on realized net taxable capital				
gains	474	477		
Net realized gain on investments	\$ 2,152	\$ 2,164		

## $\begin{tabular}{ll} \textbf{CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS AS AT MARCH 31, 2005} \\ \textbf{(Unaudited)} \end{tabular}$

Number of of shares			Cost		Market value	% of Market
			(00	0's)		
	North America					
	Canada					
50,200	Alcan Inc.	\$	2,518		\$ 2,309	
212,638	Algoma Central Corporation		2,973		17,117	
27,542	Bank of Nova Scotia		357		1,089	
341,806 33,101	E-L Financial Corporation Limited Ecando Investments Limited		6,790		131,766	
33,101	Classes A, B and common		4,139		32,055	
176,414	The Fulcrum Investment Company		4,100		02,000	
,	Limited		464		8,607	
2,440	Novelis, Inc.		61		65	
216,900	NVG Holdings Limited *					
	Classes B, C, D, E and common		2,115		25,529	
4,837	TGV Holdings Limited Class B *		318		7,087	
			19,735		225,624	44.2
	United States					
69,300	Altria Group, Inc		5,771		5,481	
103,200	Bank of America Corporation		5,050		5,505	
58,100	Chubb Corporation		5,531		5,571	
125,100	Citigroup Inc		7,678		6,800	
153,400	Comcast Corp. Special Class A		6,142		6,205	
69,200	ConocoPhillips		5,310		9,027	
86,100	Fannie Mae		7,048		5,671	
36,300	Freddie Mac		2,712		2,775	
129,500	General Electric Company		5,456		5,649	
70,300	Hartford Financial Services Group Inc		5,682		5,830	
74,600	HCA Inc.		4,105		4,834	
371,400	Hewlett-Packard Company		9,850		9,856	
125,600 219,600	JPMorgan Chase & Co Kroger Co		6,342 5,028		5,257 4,258	
45,000	Metlife, Inc.		1,672		2,128	
93,300	Microsoft Corporation		3,243		2,728	
15,900	PartnerRe Ltd.		1,104		1,242	
16,800	Occidental Petroleum Corporation		1,108		1,446	
190,400	Safeway Inc.		5,116		4,268	
156,900	Smurfit-Stone Container Corporation		3,541		2,936	
49,408	St. Paul Travelers Companies Inc		2,488		2,195	
19,000	Textron Inc.		1,434		1,715	
290,600	Time Warner Inc		6,489		6,169	
30,800	XL Capital Ltd. Class A	_	3,367		2,696	
		1	11,267		110,242	21.6
	Total North America	1	31,002		335,866	65.8

<sup>\*</sup> The net assets of NVG Holdings Limited and TGV Holdings Limited are invested primarily in the shares of Bank of Nova Scotia.

# ${\bf CONSOLIDATED\,STATEMENT\,OF\,INVESTMENTS\,AS\,AT\,MARCH\,31,2005\,(Continued)} \ (Unaudited)$

Number of of shares		Cost	Market value	% of Market
		(000's	3)	
119,100	Latin America Petroleo Brasileiro SA ADR	3,534	5,542	
110,500	Votorantim Celulose e Papel SA ADR.	1,911	1,738	
		5,445	7,280	1.4
	Europe, excluding United Kingdom			
178,580	Arcelor	3,564	4,939	
70,000	Assurance Generales de France	5,249	6,655	
73,300	Continental AG	3,114	6,870	
117,600	Credit Suisse Group	5,587	6,110	
19,200	Delhaize Group	1,217	1,592	
74,640	Depfa Bank PLC	1,515	1,429	
48,000	Endesa SA	1,355	1,307	
181,400	ENI S.P.A	3,978	5,703	
47,312	HeidelbergCement AG	2,476	3,592	
3,639	HeidelbergCement AG - New	204	273	
82,900	ING Groep NV	2,973	3,030	
45,000	Man AG	2,094	2,430	
7,700	Muenchener			
	Rueckversicherungs-Gesellschaft AG.		1,134	1,121
50,600	Renault SA	5,493	5,470	
200,700	Repsol YPF, S.A	5,512	6,430	
22,825	Sanofi-Aventis	1,366	2,329	
120,800	Svenska Cellulosa AB	6,236	5,512	
		53,067	64,792	12.7
	United Kingdom			
269,887	Aviva PLC	2,636	3,916	
453,700	BP PLC	5,386	5,686	
332,930	InterContinental Hotels Group PLC	3,156	4,697	
1,592,000	Vodafone Group PLC	4,005	5,111	
120,500	Whitbread PLC	1,619	2,565	
160,000	Xstrata PLC	2,808	3,691	
100,000	Addition 120 mmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmm			F 0
		19,610	25,666	5.0
05.400	Asia	F F00	0.004	
65,400	Aiful Corporation	5,523	6,331	
840,000	Bank Hapoalim Ltd	2,525	3,421	
58,900	Canon Inc.	3,277	3,821	
5,576,000	China Petroleum & Chemical	2.020	0.704	
744.000	Corporation (Sinopec)	2,028	2,724	
744,683	Compal Electronics Inc.	5,343	4,234	
31,463	Emerging Markets Investor Fund	1,100	1,294	
132,000	Flextronics International Ltd.	2,489	1,922	
88,000	Honda Motor Company Limited	5,696	5,332	
42,900	Hyundai Motor Co. Limited	2,379	2,810	
78,200	JFE Holdings Inc.	2,683	2,638	
51,200	Kookmin Bank	2,077	2,765	
383,100	Nissan Motor Co. Ltd	4,172	4,750	
31,500	Posco	4,060	7,541	
32,300	Promise Co., Ltd.	1,457	2,671	
5,110	Samsung Electronics Co. Ltd	3,166	3,055	

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS AS AT MARCH 31, 2005 (Continued) (Unaudited)

Number of of shares		Cost	Market value	% of Market
		(000)	s)	
	Asia (continued)	•	•	
128,360	Shinhan Financial Group Co., Ltd	1,640	4,158	
1,755,930	Singapore Telecommunications Ltd,	3,093	3,320	
925	Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group Inc	6,918	7,577	
435,052	Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing			
	Company Ltd. ADR	4,601	4,463	
414	UFJ Holdings Inc	2,586	2,636	
		66,813	77,463	15.2
	Total equities	275,937	511,067	100.1
	Forward Currency Contracts, net -			
	Schedule 1		(439)	(0.1)
	Total investments	\$ 275,937	\$ 510,628	100.0

### Schedule 1 - Forward Currency Contracts, net

### Forward contracts to sell foreign currencies for Canadian dollars:

Par value (in millions)	Currency	Number of Contracts	Contract Rates	Settlement Date	Unrealized loss
77.4	USD	2	1.2031 - 1.2037	June 15, 2005	\$ (439)

All counterparties have an approved credit rating equivalent to A-1+.

# NOTE TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)

### Summary of significant accounting policies

### 1. Basis of presentation

The accompanying unaudited interim consolidated financial statements are prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP") and follow the same accounting policies and methods as the most recent annual financial statements and should be read in conjunction with the notes to the Company's audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2004.

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AUDITORS PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, Toronto

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STOCK EXCHANGE LISTINGS

Common EVT
Series A Preferred EVT.PR.A

### **NET EQUITY VALUE**

The Company's Net Equity Value per share is published every Saturday in the Mutual fund section of the Globe and Mail (under "Fund Asset Values") and in the National Post (under "Closed End Funds").

WEBSITE www.evt.ca