

**NEWS**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**JOHN HANCOCK HEDGED EQUITY & INCOME FUND AND JOHN HANCOCK FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES FUND RELEASE EARNINGS DATA**

**BOSTON, MA (January 28, 2016)** –John Hancock Hedged Equity & Income Fund (NYSE: HEQ) and John Hancock Financial Opportunities Fund (NYSE: BTO) announced earnings<sup>1</sup> for the period ended December 31, 2015. The same data for the comparable period ended December 31, 2014 is also available below.

The table reflects the earnings for HEQ over a three-month period beginning October 1 and, for BTO, over a two-month period beginning on November 1. BTO changed its fiscal year-end from October 31 to December 31, effective December 31, 2015.

		Period Ended 12/31/2015					
Ticker	Fund Name	Current Fiscal Year End	Per		NAV	Total Managed Assets	Total Net Assets
			Net Investment Income	Common Share			
HEQ	Hedged Equity & Income Fund	12/31	\$861,129	\$0.069	\$16.78	\$210,029,692	\$210,029,692
BTO	Financial Opportunities Fund	12/31	\$1,793,143	\$0.097	\$26.17	\$595,645,916 *	\$485,645,916

  

		Period Ended 12/31/2014					
Ticker	Fund Name	Current Fiscal Year End	Per		NAV	Total Managed Assets	Total Net Assets
			Net Investment Income	Common Share			
HEQ	Hedged Equity & Income Fund	12/31	\$999,385	\$0.073	\$18.22	\$248,462,676	\$248,462,676
BTO	Financial Opportunities Fund	12/31	\$1,625,442	\$0.088	\$25.59	\$584,128,350 *	\$474,128,350

\* Total managed assets include assets attributable to borrowings under a Committed Facility Agreement

Amounts distributed by the Fund may vary from the earnings shown above and will be announced in separate press releases.

*Statements in this press release that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements as defined by the United States securities laws. You should exercise caution in interpreting and relying on forward-looking statements because they are subject to uncertainties and other factors which are, in some cases, beyond the Fund's control and could cause actual results to differ materially from those set forth in the forward-looking statements.*

*An investor should consider a Fund's investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses carefully before investing.*

**About John Hancock Investments**

<sup>1</sup> Earnings refer to net investment income, which comprises the Fund's interest and dividend income, less expenses. Earnings presented represent past earnings and there is no guarantee of future results

John Hancock Investments provides asset management services to individuals and institutions through a unique manager-of-managers approach. A wealth management business of John Hancock Financial, we managed \$127 billion in assets as of September 30, 2015, across mutual funds, college savings plans, and retirement plans.

**About John Hancock Financial and Manulife Financial**

John Hancock Financial is a division of Manulife Financial, a leading Canada-based financial services group with principal operations in Asia, Canada and the United States. Operating as Manulife Financial in Canada and Asia, and primarily as John Hancock in the United States, the Company offers clients a diverse range of financial protection products and wealth management services through its extensive network of employees, agents and distribution partners. Funds under management by Manulife Financial and its subsidiaries were C\$888 billion (US\$663 billion) as of September 30, 2015. Manulife Financial Corporation trades as 'MFC' on the TSX, NYSE and PSE, and under '945' on the SEHK. Manulife Financial can be found on the Internet at [manulife.com](http://manulife.com).

The John Hancock unit, through its insurance companies, comprises one of the largest life insurers in the United States. John Hancock offers and administers a broad range of financial products, including [life insurance](#), [annuities](#), fixed products, [mutual funds](#), [401\(k\) plans](#), [long-term care insurance](#), [college savings](#), and other forms of business insurance. Additional information about John Hancock may be found at [johnhancock.com](http://johnhancock.com).