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NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JOHN HANCOCK TAX-ADVANTAGED GLOBAL SHAREHOLDER YIELD FUND LOWERS ADVISORY FEE

BOSTON, MA (June 30, 2017) – John Hancock Tax-Advantaged Global Shareholder Yield Fund (NYSE:HTY) (the “Fund”), a John Hancock Closed-End Fund, announced today that the Board of Trustees approved a proposal to reduce the Fund’s advisory fee rate, effective July 1, 2017, to 0.95%, a decrease of 0.05% from the prior advisory fee rate of 1.00%.

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

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 more than \$140 billion in assets as of March 31, 2017 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\$1 trillion (US\$754 billion) as of March 31, 2017. 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.

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](#), [college savings](#), and other forms of business insurance. Additional information about John Hancock may be found at johnhancock.com.