

---

**John Hancock Investment Management, LLC**

200 Berkeley Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

**NEWS**

**Media Contact:** Gordon Haight  
(617) 572-0034

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Investor Contact:** (800) 225-6020

**JOHN HANCOCK CLOSED-END FUNDS ANNOUNCE  
RENEWAL OF SHARE REPURCHASE PLANS**

**BOSTON, MA (December 12, 2019)** – John Hancock Financial Opportunities Fund (NYSE: BTO), John Hancock Hedged Equity & Income Fund (NYSE: HEQ), John Hancock Income Securities Trust (NYSE: JHS), John Hancock Investors Trust (NYSE: JHI), John Hancock Premium Dividend Fund (NYSE: PDT), John Hancock Tax-Advantaged Dividend Income Fund (NYSE: HTD), and John Hancock Tax-Advantaged Global Shareholder Yield (NYSE: HTY) (each a “Fund” and collectively, the “Funds”) announced today that the Board of Trustees has renewed the Funds’ share repurchase plans that are set to expire on December 31, 2019.

The Board of Trustees approved the renewal of the share repurchase plans as part of its ongoing evaluation of options to enhance shareholder value and potentially decrease the discount between the market price and the net asset value per share (“NAV”) of the Funds’ common shares. Under the share repurchase plans, each Fund may purchase, in the open market, between January 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020, up to an additional 10% of its outstanding common shares (based on common shares outstanding as of December 31, 2019). The Board of Trustees will review the plan periodically and may authorize adjustment of its terms and size.

The share repurchase plans allow the repurchase of common shares in the open market at a discount to NAV. The plans could allow the Funds to realize incremental accretion to their NAV to the benefit of existing shareholders. They could also have the benefit of providing additional liquidity in the trading of common shares.

Year-to-date through November 30, 2019, HTY has repurchased the following number of shares: [120,934] (or [1.09%] of outstanding shares), contributing to its NAV by approximately \$0.01. Each other Fund has not repurchased shares for the year-to-date period through November 30, 2019.

*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 and Manulife Financial**

John Hancock is a division of Manulife Financial Corporation, a leading international financial services group that helps people achieve their dreams and aspirations by putting customers’ needs first and providing the right advice and solutions. We operate primarily as John Hancock in the United States and as Manulife elsewhere. We provide financial advice, insurance, and wealth and

asset management solutions for individuals, groups, and institutions. Assets under management and administration by Manulife and its subsidiaries were over CAD\$1.1 trillion (US\$877 billion) as of June 30, 2019. Manulife Financial Corporation trades as MFC on the TSX, NYSE, and PSE, and under 945 on the SEHK. Manulife can be found at [manulife.com](http://manulife.com).

One of the largest life insurers in the United States, John Hancock supports approximately 10 million Americans with a broad range of financial products, including life insurance, annuities, investments, 401(k) plans, and education savings plans. Additional information about John Hancock may be found at [johnhancock.com](http://johnhancock.com).