Where are credit spreads relative to history?

Another key factor we look at from a Canadian bond market and a global bond market perspective is credit spreads.

Where are credit spreads relative to history?

It provides us a guide to understand the richness and cheapness of a corporate bond market.

So where are we right now?

Are corporate bonds cheap, rich, or fairly valued? Relative to history, we believe credit spreads have cheapened.

There has only been three instances in the last twelve years where we could find credit spreads cheaper than present levels.

First being the Great Financial Crisis in 2009. The second being the 2015/2016 oil crisis. And third being the recent COVID crisis.

Currently, Canadian investment-grade credit spreads are yielding 170 basis points.

We believe, at these levels, there's value in buying Canadian corporate credit.

Add on top of that sovereign yields where yields are, you're getting an overall yield of, like I mentioned before, 4.5% for a corporate credit in Canada. So we believe that value is there in Canadian corporate credits.

Yes, volatility will be there in the short term. But when we look through the short term, there is absolute value in Canadian investment-grade credits.

Intended for Canadian Advisors and Accredited Investors

A widespread health crisis such as a global pandemic could cause substantial market volatility, exchange trading suspensions and closures, and affect fund performance. For example, the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) has resulted in significant disruptions to global business activity. The impact of a health crisis and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, could affect the global economy in ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time. A health crisis may exacerbate other pre-existing political, social and economic risks. Any such impact could adversely affect fund performance, resulting in losses to your investment.

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