

ROYAL BANK OF CANADA
 Form FWP
 April 03, 2018

RBC Capital Markets® Filed Pursuant to Rule 433
 Registration Statement No. 333-208507

The information in this preliminary terms supplement is not complete and may be changed.

Preliminary Terms

Supplement

Subject to Completion:

Dated April 3, 2018

Pricing Supplement

Dated April __, 2018 to Barrier Absolute Return Notes Linked to the Lesser
 the Product Prospectus Performing of Two Equity Indices, Due October 30,
 Supplement ERN-EI-1 2023

Dated January 12, 2016, Royal Bank of Canada
 the Prospectus

Supplement Dated

January 8, 2016, and the

Prospectus Dated

January 8, 2016

Royal Bank of Canada is offering Barrier Absolute Return Notes Linked to the Lesser Performing of Two Equity Indices (the “Notes”) linked to the lesser performing of two equity indices (each, a “Reference Asset” and collectively, the “Reference Assets”). The Notes offered are senior unsecured obligations of Royal Bank of Canada and will have the terms described in the documents described above, as supplemented or modified by this terms supplement.

Reference Assets	Initial Levels* Barrier Levels
Dow Jones Industrial Average® (“INDU”)	75.00% of its Initial Level
Russell 2000® Index (“RTY”)	75.00% of its Initial Level

* For each Reference Asset, the Initial Level will be its closing level on the Pricing Date.

The Notes do not guarantee any return of principal at maturity. Any payments on the Notes are subject to our credit risk.

Investing in the Notes involves a number of risks. See “Additional Risk Factors Specific to the Notes” beginning on page PS-4 of the product prospectus supplement dated January 12, 2016, “Risk Factors” beginning on page S-1 of the prospectus supplement dated January 8, 2016, and “Selected Risk Considerations” beginning on page P-7 of this terms supplement.

The Notes will not constitute deposits insured by the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation, the U.S. Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other Canadian or U.S. government agency or instrumentality.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of the Notes or determined that this terms supplement is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

Issuer:	Royal Bank of Canada Stock Exchange Listing: None		
Pricing Date:	April 25, 2018	Principal Amount:	\$1,000 per Note
Issue Date:	April 30, 2018	Maturity Date:	October 30, 2023
Valuation Date:	October 25, 2023	Booster Coupon	50.00%
Initial Level:	For each Reference Asset, its closing level on the Pricing Date.		
Final Level:	For each Reference Asset, its closing level on the Valuation Date.		
Payment at Maturity:			

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF CANADA - Form FWP

If the Final Level of the Lesser Performing Index is greater than or equal to its Initial Level but its Percentage Change does not exceed the Booster Percentage of 50.00%, the Notes provide a fixed return equal to the Principal Amount plus the Booster Coupon.

If the Final Level of the Lesser Performing Index is greater than its Initial Level and its Percentage Change exceeds the Booster Percentage of 50.00%, the Notes provide a one-for-one positive return based upon the increase in the level of that Reference Asset.

If the Final Level of the Lesser Performing Index is less than zero but greater than or equal to the Barrier Level (75.00% of its Initial Level), you will receive a 1% positive return for each 1% negative return of the Lesser Performing Index up to the Barrier Amount.

If the Final Level of the Lesser Performing Index is less than its Barrier Level (75.00% of its Initial Level), you will receive an amount at maturity that is proportionate to the decrease in that Reference Asset over the term of the Notes, and you may lose up to 100% of your initial investment.

Lesser Performing Index: The Reference Asset which has the lowest Percentage Change.

Interest Payments: None.

CUSIP: 78013XHZ4

	Per Note	Total
Price to public ⁽¹⁾	100.00%	\$
Underwriting discounts and commissions ⁽¹⁾	3.00%	\$
Proceeds to Royal Bank of Canada	97.00%	\$

⁽¹⁾Certain dealers who purchase the Notes for sale to certain fee-based advisory accounts may forego some or all of their underwriting discount or selling concessions. The public offering price for investors purchasing the Notes in these accounts may be between \$970.00 and \$1,000 per \$1,000 in principal amount.

The initial estimated value of the Notes as of the date of this terms supplement is \$920.12 per \$1,000 in principal amount, which is less than the price to public. The final pricing supplement relating to the Notes will set forth our estimate of the initial value of the Notes as of the Pricing Date, which will not be less than \$900.12 per \$1,000 in principal amount. The actual value of the Notes at any time will reflect many factors, cannot be predicted with accuracy, and may be less than this amount. We describe our determination of the initial estimated value in more detail below.

If the Notes priced on the date of this terms supplement, RBC Capital Markets, LLC, which we refer to as RBCCM, acting as agent for Royal Bank of Canada, would receive a commission of approximately \$30.00 per \$1,000 in principal amount of the Notes and would use a portion of that commission to allow selling concessions to other dealers of up to approximately \$30.00 per \$1,000 in principal amount of the Notes. The other dealers may forgo, in their sole discretion, some or all of their selling concessions. See "Supplemental Plan of Distribution (Conflicts of Interest)" below.

RBC Capital Markets, LLC

Barrier Absolute Return Notes Linked to the
Lesser Performing of Two Equity Indices,
Due October 30, 2023
Royal Bank of Canada

SUMMARY

The information in this “Summary” section is qualified by the more detailed information set forth in this terms supplement, the product prospectus supplement, the prospectus supplement, and the prospectus.

General: This terms supplement relates to an offering of Barrier Absolute Return Notes Linked to the Lesser Performing of Two Equity Indices (the “Notes”) linked to the lesser performing of two equity indices (the “Reference Assets”).

Issuer: Royal Bank of Canada (“Royal Bank”)

Issue: Senior Global Medium-Term Notes, Series G

Pricing Date: April 25, 2018

Issue Date: April 30, 2018

Term: Approximately five (5) years and six (6) months

Denominations: Minimum denomination of \$1,000, and integral multiples of \$1,000 thereafter.

Designated Currency: U.S. Dollars

Valuation Date: October 25, 2023

Maturity Date: October 30, 2023

Initial Level: For each Reference Asset, its closing level on the Pricing Date.

Final Level: For each Reference Asset, its closing level on the Valuation Date.

Barrier Level: For each Reference Asset, 75.00% of its Initial Level.

Booster Coupon: 50.00%

Payment at Maturity: If, on the Valuation Date, the Percentage Change of the Lesser Performing Reference Asset is zero or positive, but does not exceed the Booster Percentage, then the investor will receive an amount equal to the principal amount plus the Booster Coupon.

If, on the Valuation Date, the Percentage Change of the Lesser Performing Reference Asset is greater than the Booster Percentage, then the investor will receive an amount equal to:

$\text{Principal Amount} + (\text{Principal Amount} \times \text{Percentage Change of Lesser Performing Asset})$

If, on the Valuation Date, the Percentage Change of the Lesser Performing Asset is less than 0%, but not by more than the Barrier Percentage (that is, the Percentage Change is between -0.01% and -25.00%), then the investor will receive a cash payment equal to:

$\text{Principal Amount} + [-1 \times (\text{Principal Amount} \times \text{Percentage Change})]$

In this case, the return on the Notes will be positive, even though the Percentage Change is negative.

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF CANADA - Form FWP

If, on the Valuation Date, the Percentage Change of the Lesser Performing Asset is negative, by more than the Barrier Percentage (that is, the Percentage Change is between -25.01% and -100%), then the investor will receive a cash payment equal to:

Principal Amount + (Principal Amount x Percentage Change of Lesser Performing Reference Asset)

In this case, you will lose all or a portion of the principal amount of the Notes.

Percentage
Change:

With respect to each Reference Asset:

$\frac{\text{Final Level} - \text{Initial Level}}{\text{Initial Level}}$

Lesser
Performing
Index:

The Reference Asset which has the lowest Percentage Change.

P-2 RBC Capital Markets, LLC

Barrier Absolute Return Notes Linked to the
Lesser Performing of Two Equity Indices,
Due October 30, 2023
Royal Bank of Canada

Market Disruption Events:	If a market disruption event occurs on the Valuation Date as to a Reference Asset, the determination of the Final Level of that Reference Asset will be postponed. However, the determination of the Final Level of any Reference Asset that is not affected by that market disruption event will not be postponed.
Calculation Agent:	RBC Capital Markets, LLC (“RBCCM”)
U.S. Tax Treatment:	By purchasing a Note, each holder agrees (in the absence of a change in law, an administrative determination or a judicial ruling to the contrary) to treat the Note as a pre-paid cash-settled derivative contract in respect of the Reference Assets for U.S. federal income tax purposes. However, the U.S. federal income tax consequences of your investment in the Notes are uncertain and the Internal Revenue Service could assert that the Notes should be taxed in a manner that is different from that described in the preceding sentence. Please see the section below, “Supplemental Discussion of U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences”, and the discussion (including the opinion of our counsel Morrison & Foerster LLP) in the product prospectus supplement dated January 12, 2016 under “Supplemental Discussion of U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences,” which apply to the Notes.
Secondary Market:	RBCCM (or one of its affiliates), though not obligated to do so, may maintain a secondary market in the Notes after the Issue Date. The amount that you may receive upon sale of your Notes prior to maturity may be less than the principal amount.
Listing:	The Notes will not be listed on any securities exchange.
Settlement:	DTC global (including through its indirect participants Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg as described under “Description of Debt Securities—Ownership and Book-Entry Issuance” in the prospectus dated January 8, 2016).
Terms Incorporated in the Master Note:	All of the terms appearing above the item captioned “Secondary Market” on the cover page and pages P-2 and P-3 of this terms supplement and the terms appearing under the caption “General Terms of the Notes” in the product prospectus supplement dated January 12, 2016, as modified by this terms supplement.

P-3 RBC Capital Markets, LLC

Barrier Absolute Return Notes Linked to the
Lesser Performing of Two Equity Indices,
Due October 30, 2023
Royal Bank of Canada

ADDITIONAL TERMS OF YOUR NOTES

You should read this terms supplement together with the prospectus dated January 8, 2016, as supplemented by the prospectus supplement dated January 8, 2016 and the product prospectus supplement dated January 12, 2016, relating to our Senior Global Medium-Term Notes, Series G, of which these Notes are a part. Capitalized terms used but not defined in this terms supplement will have the meanings given to them in the product prospectus supplement. In the event of any conflict, this terms supplement will control. The Notes vary from the terms described in the product prospectus supplement in several important ways. You should read this terms supplement carefully.

This terms supplement, together with the documents listed below, contains the terms of the Notes and supersedes all prior or contemporaneous oral statements as well as any other written materials including preliminary or indicative pricing terms, correspondence, trade ideas, structures for implementation, sample structures, brochures or other educational materials of ours. You should carefully consider, among other things, the matters set forth in “Risk Factors” in the prospectus supplement dated January 8, 2016 and “Additional Risk Factors Specific to the Notes” in the product prospectus supplement dated January 12, 2016, as the Notes involve risks not associated with conventional debt securities. We urge you to consult your investment, legal, tax, accounting and other advisors before you invest in the Notes. You may access these documents on the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) website at www.sec.gov as follows (or if that address has changed, by reviewing our filings for the relevant date on the SEC website):

Prospectus dated January 8, 2016:

<http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1000275/000121465916008810/j18160424b3.htm>

Prospectus Supplement dated January 8, 2016:

<http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1000275/000121465916008811/p14150424b3.htm>

Product Prospectus Supplement ERN-EI-1 dated January 12, 2016:

<https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1000275/000114036116047560/form424b5.htm>

Our Central Index Key, or CIK, on the SEC website is 1000275. As used in this terms supplement, “we,” “us,” or “our” refers to Royal Bank of Canada.

Royal Bank of Canada has filed a registration statement (including a product prospectus supplement, a prospectus supplement, and a prospectus) with the SEC for the offering to which this terms supplement relates. Before you invest, you should read those documents and the other documents relating to this offering that we have filed with the SEC for more complete information about us and this offering. You may obtain these documents without cost by visiting EDGAR on the SEC website at www.sec.gov. Alternatively, Royal Bank of Canada, any agent or any dealer participating in this offering will arrange to send you the product prospectus supplement, the prospectus supplement and the prospectus if you so request by calling toll-free at 1-877-688-2301.

P-4 RBC Capital Markets, LLC

Barrier Absolute Return Notes Linked to the
 Lesser Performing of Two Equity Indices,
 Due October 30, 2023
 Royal Bank of Canada

HYPOTHETICAL EXAMPLES

The examples set out below are included for illustration purposes only. The hypothetical Percentage Changes of the Lesser Performing Reference Asset used to illustrate the calculation of the Payment at Maturity (rounded to two decimal places) are not estimates or forecasts of its Initial Level, its Final Level or the level of either Reference Asset on any trading day prior to the Maturity Date. All examples assume that a holder purchased Notes with an aggregate principal amount of \$1,000, a Barrier Percentage of 25.00% (the Barrier Level of each Reference Asset is 75.00% of its Initial Level), a Booster Percentage of 50.00%, a Booster Coupon of 50.00% of the principal amount, and that no market disruption event occurs on the Valuation Date as to either Reference Asset.

Example 1— Calculation of the Payment at Maturity where the Percentage Change of the Lesser Performing Reference Asset is positive, but less than the Booster Percentage.

Percentage Change: 10%, which is less than the Booster Percentage

Payment at Maturity: $\$1,000 + (\$1,000 \times 50\%) = \$1,000 + \$500.00 = \$1,500.00$

On a \$1,000 investment, a 10% Percentage Change for the Lesser Performing Reference Asset results in a Payment at Maturity of \$1,500.00, a 50% return on the Notes.

Example 2— Calculation of the Payment at Maturity where the Percentage Change of the Lesser Performing Reference Asset is positive and exceeds the Booster Percentage.

Percentage Change: 75%

Payment at Maturity: $\$1,000 + (\$1,000 \times 75\%) = \$1,000 + \$750 = \$1,750$

On a \$1,000 investment, a 75% Percentage Change in the Lesser Performing Reference Asset results in a Payment at Maturity of \$1,750, a 75% return on the Notes.

Example 3— Calculation of the Payment at Maturity where the Percentage Change of the Lesser Performing Reference Asset is negative (but not by more than the Barrier Percentage).

Percentage Change: -10%

Payment at Maturity: $\$1,000 + [-1 \times (\$1,000 \times -10\%)] = \$1,000 + \$100 = \$1,100.00$

In this case, on a \$1,000 investment, a -10% Percentage Change results in a Payment at Maturity of \$1,100, a 10% return on the Notes.

In this case, even though the Percentage Change is negative, you will receive a positive return equal to the absolute value of the Percentage Change.

Calculation of the Payment at Maturity where the Percentage Change of the Example 4—Lesser Performing Reference Asset is negative (by more than the Barrier Percentage).

Percentage Change: -35%

Payment at Maturity: $\$1,000 + (\$1,000 \times -35\%) = \$1,000 - \$350.00 = \$650.00$

On a \$1,000 investment, a -35% Percentage Change in the Lesser Performing Reference Asset results in a Payment at Maturity of \$650.00, a -35% return on the Notes.

P-5 RBC Capital Markets, LLC

Barrier Absolute Return Notes Linked to the
Lesser Performing of Two Equity Indices,
Due October 30, 2023
Royal Bank of Canada

SELECTED RISK CONSIDERATIONS

An investment in the Notes involves significant risks. Investing in the Notes is not equivalent to investing directly in the Reference Assets. These risks are explained in more detail in the section “Additional Risk Factors Specific to the Notes” in the product prospectus supplement. In addition to the risks described in the prospectus supplement and the product prospectus supplement, you should consider the following:

Principal at Risk – Investors in the Notes could lose all or a substantial portion of their principal amount if there is a decline in the level of the Lesser Performing Index between the Pricing Date and the Valuation Date of more than 25%. You will lose one percent of the principal amount of your Notes for each one percent that the Lesser Performing Index has declined if the Final Level of the Lesser Performing Index is less than its Barrier Level.

Your Redemption Amount Will Be Determined Solely by Reference to the Lesser Performing Index Even if the Other Reference Asset Performs Better – Your Redemption Amount will be determined solely by reference to the performance of the Lesser Performing Index. Even if the Final Level of the other Reference Asset has increased compared to its Initial Level, or has experienced a decrease that is less than that of the Lesser Performing Index, your return will only be determined by reference to the performance of the Lesser Performing Index, regardless of the performance of the other Reference Asset. The Notes are not linked to a weighted basket, in which the risk may be mitigated and diversified among each of the basket components.

For example, in the case of notes linked to a weighted basket, the return would depend on the weighted aggregate performance of the basket components reflected as the basket return. As a result, the depreciation of one basket component could be mitigated by the appreciation of the other basket components, as scaled by the weighting of that basket component. However, in the case of the Notes, the individual performance of each of the Reference Assets would not be combined, and the depreciation of one Reference Asset would not be mitigated by any appreciation of the other Reference Asset. Instead, your return will depend solely on the Final Level of the Lesser Performing Index. Because each Reference Asset tracks a different segment of the U.S. equities market, they may both decrease in a comparable manner.

The Notes Do Not Pay Interest and Your Return May Be Lower than the Return on a Conventional Debt Security of Comparable Maturity – You will not receive any interest payments on the Notes as there would be on a conventional fixed-rate or floating-rate debt security having the same maturity. The return that you will receive on the Notes, which could be negative, may be less than the return you could earn on other investments. Your return may be less than the return you would earn if you bought a conventional senior interest bearing debt security of Royal Bank. **Payments on the Notes Are Subject to Our Credit Risk, and Changes in Our Credit Ratings Are Expected to Affect the Market Value of the Notes** – The Notes are Royal Bank’s senior unsecured debt securities. As a result, your receipt of the Redemption Amount is dependent upon Royal Bank’s ability to repay its obligations at that time. This will be the case even if the levels of the Reference Assets increase after the Pricing Date. No assurance can be given as to what our financial condition will be at the maturity of the Notes.

There May Not Be an Active Trading Market for the Notes – Sales in the Secondary Market May Result in Significant Losses – There may be little or no secondary market for the Notes. The Notes will not be listed on any securities exchange. RBCCM and other affiliates of Royal Bank may make a market for the Notes; however, they are not required to do so. RBCCM or any other affiliate of Royal Bank may stop any market-making activities at any time. Even if a secondary market for the Notes develops, it may not provide significant liquidity or trade at prices advantageous to you. We expect that transaction costs in any secondary market would be high. As a result, the difference between bid and asked prices for your Notes in any secondary market could be substantial.

Owning the Notes Is Not the Same as Owning the Securities Represented by the Reference Assets — The return on your Notes is unlikely to reflect the return you would realize if you actually owned the securities represented by the Reference Assets. For instance, you will not receive or be entitled to receive any dividend payments or other

distributions on those securities during the term of your Notes. As an owner of the Notes, you will not have voting rights or any other rights that holders of the Reference Assets may have.

The Initial Estimated Value of the Notes Will Be Less than the Price to the Public — The initial estimated value set forth on the cover page and that will be set forth in the final pricing supplement for the Notes does not represent a minimum price at which we, RBCCM or any of our affiliates would be willing to purchase the Notes in any secondary market (if any exists) at any time. If you attempt to sell the Notes prior to maturity, their market value may be lower than the price you paid for them and the initial estimated value. This is due to, among other things, changes in the levels of the Reference Assets, the borrowing rate we pay to issue securities of this kind, and the inclusion in the price to the public of the underwriting discount and the estimated costs relating to our hedging of the Notes.

These factors, together with various credit, market and economic factors over the term of the Notes, are expected to reduce the price at which you may be able to sell the Notes in any secondary market and will affect the value of the Notes in complex and unpredictable ways. Assuming no change in market conditions or any other relevant factors, the price, if any, at which you may be able to sell your Notes prior to maturity may be less than your original

P-6 RBC Capital Markets, LLC

Barrier Absolute Return Notes Linked to the
Lesser Performing of Two Equity Indices,
Due October 30, 2023
Royal Bank of Canada

purchase price, as any such sale price would not be expected to include the underwriting discount and the hedging costs relating to the Notes. In addition to bid-ask spreads, the value of the Notes determined by RBCCM for any secondary market price is expected to be based on the secondary rate rather than the internal funding rate used to price the Notes and determine the initial estimated value. As a result, the secondary price will be less than if the internal funding rate was used. The Notes are not designed to be short-term trading instruments. Accordingly, you should be able and willing to hold your Notes to maturity.

The Initial Estimated Value of the Notes on the Cover Page of this Terms Supplement and that We Will Provide in the Final Pricing Supplement Are Estimates Only, Calculated as of the Time the Terms of the Notes Are Set — The initial estimated value of the Notes will be based on the value of our obligation to make the payments on the Notes, together with the mid-market value of the derivative embedded in the terms of the Notes. See “Structuring the Notes” below. Our estimates are based on a variety of assumptions, including our credit spreads, expectations as to dividends, interest rates and volatility, and the expected term of the Notes. These assumptions are based on certain forecasts about future events, which may prove to be incorrect. Other entities may value the Notes or similar securities at a price that is significantly different than we do.

The value of the Notes at any time after the Pricing Date will vary based on many factors, including changes in market conditions, and cannot be predicted with accuracy. As a result, the actual value you would receive if you sold the Notes in any secondary market, if any, should be expected to differ materially from the initial estimated value of your Notes.

Inconsistent Research — Royal Bank or its affiliates may issue research reports on securities that are, or may become, components of the Reference Assets. We may also publish research from time to time on financial markets and other matters that may influence the levels of the Reference Assets or the value of the Notes, or express opinions or provide recommendations that may be inconsistent with purchasing or holding the Notes or with the investment view implicit in the Notes or the Reference Assets. You should make your own independent investigation of the merits of investing in the Notes and the Reference Assets.

An Investment in the Notes Is Subject to Risks Associated in Investing in Stocks With a Small Market Capitalization - The RTY consists of stocks issued by companies with relatively small market capitalizations. These companies often have greater stock price volatility, lower trading volume and less liquidity than large-capitalization companies. As a result, the level of the RTY may be more volatile than that of a market measure that does not track solely small-capitalization stocks. Stock prices of small-capitalization companies are also generally more vulnerable than those of large-capitalization companies to adverse business and economic developments, and the stocks of small-capitalization companies may be thinly traded, and be less attractive to many investors if they do not pay dividends. In addition, small capitalization companies are typically less well-established and less stable financially than large-capitalization companies and may depend on a small number of key personnel, making them more vulnerable to loss of those individuals. Small capitalization companies tend to have lower revenues, less diverse product lines, smaller shares of their target markets, fewer financial resources and fewer competitive strengths than large-capitalization companies. These companies may also be more susceptible to adverse developments related to their products or services.

Market Disruption Events and Adjustments – The Redemption Amount and the Valuation Date are subject to adjustment as to each Reference Asset as described in the product prospectus supplement. For a description of what constitutes a market disruption event as well as the consequences of that market disruption event, see “General Terms of the Notes—Market Disruption Events” in the product prospectus supplement.

Barrier Absolute Return Notes Linked to the
Lesser Performing of Two Equity Indices,
Due October 30, 2023
Royal Bank of Canada

INFORMATION REGARDING THE REFERENCE ASSETS

All disclosures contained in this terms supplement regarding the Reference Assets, including, without limitation, their make-up, method of calculation, and changes in their components, have been derived from publicly available sources. The information reflects the policies of, and is subject to change by the applicable index sponsor. Each of these sponsors has no obligation to continue to publish, and may discontinue publication of, the applicable Reference Asset. The consequences of an index sponsor discontinuing publication of a Reference Asset are discussed in the section of the product prospectus supplement entitled “General Terms of the Notes— Unavailability of the Level of the Reference Asset.” Neither we nor RBCCM accepts any responsibility for the calculation, maintenance or publication of either Reference Asset or any successor index.

We obtained the information regarding the historical performance of each Reference Asset set forth below from Bloomberg Financial Markets.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average[®] (“INDU”)

The INDU is a price-weighted index, which means an underlying stock’s weight in the INDU is based on its price per share rather than the total market capitalization of the issuer. The INDU is designed to provide an indication of the composite performance of 30 common stocks of corporations representing a broad cross-section of U.S. industry. The corporations represented in the INDU tend to be market leaders in their respective industries and their stocks are typically widely held by individuals and institutional investors.

The INDU is maintained by an Averages Committee comprised of the Managing Editor of The Wall Street Journal (“WSJ”), the head of Dow Jones Indexes research and the head of CME Group Inc. research. The Averages Committee was created in March 2010, when Dow Jones Indexes became part of CME Group Index Services, LLC, a joint venture company owned 90% by CME Group Inc. and 10% by Dow Jones & Company. Generally, composition changes occur only after mergers, corporate acquisitions or other dramatic shifts in a component's core business. When such an event necessitates that one component be replaced, the entire INDU is reviewed. As a result, when changes are made they typically involve more than one component. While there are no rules for component selection, a stock typically is added only if it has an excellent reputation, demonstrates sustained growth, is of interest to a large number of investors and accurately represents the sector(s) covered by the average.

Changes in the composition of the INDU are made entirely by the Averages Committee without consultation with the corporations represented in the INDU, any stock exchange, any official agency or us. Unlike most other indices, which are reconstituted according to a fixed review schedule, constituents of the INDU are reviewed on an as-needed basis. Changes to the common stocks included in the INDU tend to be made infrequently, and the underlying stocks of the INDU may be changed at any time for any reason. The companies currently represented in the INDU are incorporated in the United States and its territories and their stocks are listed on the New York Stock Exchange and NASDAQ.

The INDU initially consisted of 12 common stocks and was first published in the WSJ in 1896. The INDU was increased to include 20 common stocks in 1916 and to 30 common stocks in 1928. The number of common stocks in the INDU has remained at 30 since 1928, and, in an effort to maintain continuity, the constituent corporations represented in the INDU have been changed on a relatively infrequent basis.

Computation of the INDU

The level of the INDU is the sum of the primary exchange prices of each of the 30 component stocks included in the INDU, divided by a divisor that is designed to provide a meaningful continuity in the level of the INDU. Because the INDU is price-weighted, stock splits or changes in the component stocks could result in distortions in the index level.

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF CANADA - Form FWP

In order to prevent these distortions related to extrinsic factors, the divisor is periodically changed in accordance with a mathematical formula that reflects adjusted proportions within the INDU. The current divisor of the INDU is published daily in the WSJ and other publications. In addition, other statistics based on the INDU may be found in a variety of publicly available sources.

P-8 RBC Capital Markets, LLC

Barrier Absolute Return Notes Linked to the
Lesser Performing of Two Equity Indices,
Due October 30, 2023
Royal Bank of Canada

License Agreement

S&P® is a registered trademark of Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC ("S&P") and Dow Jones is a registered trademark of Dow Jones Trademark Holdings LLC ("Dow Jones"). These trademarks have been licensed for use by S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC. "DJIA®" is a trademark of Dow Jones. The trademark has been sublicensed for certain purposes by us. The INDU is a product of S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC and/or its affiliates and has been licensed for use by us.

The Notes are not sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC, Dow Jones, S&P or any of their respective affiliates (collectively, "S&P Dow Jones Indices"). S&P Dow Jones Indices make no representation or warranty, express or implied, to the holders of the Notes or any member of the public regarding the advisability of investing in securities generally or in the Notes particularly or the ability of the INDU to track general market performance. S&P Dow Jones Indices' only relationship to us with respect to the INDU is the licensing of the INDU and certain trademarks, service marks and/or trade names of S&P Dow Jones Indices and/or its third party licensors. The INDU is determined, composed and calculated by S&P Dow Jones Indices without regard to us or the Notes. S&P Dow Jones Indices have no obligation to take our needs or the needs of us or holders of the Notes into consideration in determining, composing or calculating the INDU. S&P Dow Jones Indices are not responsible for and have not participated in the determination of the prices, and amount of the Notes or the timing of the issuance or sale of the Notes or in the determination or calculation of the equation by which the Notes are to be converted into cash. S&P Dow Jones Indices have no obligation or liability in connection with the administration, marketing or trading of the Notes. There is no assurance that investment products based on the INDU will accurately track index performance or provide positive investment returns. S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC and its subsidiaries are not investment advisors. Inclusion of a security or futures contract within an index is not a recommendation by S&P Dow Jones Indices to buy, sell, or hold such security or futures contract, nor is it considered to be investment advice. Notwithstanding the foregoing, CME Group Inc. and its affiliates may independently issue and/or sponsor financial products unrelated to the Notes currently being issued by us, but which may be similar to and competitive with the Notes. In addition, CME Group Inc. and its affiliates may trade financial products which are linked to the performance of the INDU. It is possible that this trading activity will affect the value of the Notes.

S&P DOW JONES INDICES DO NOT GUARANTEE THE ADEQUACY, ACCURACY, TIMELINESS AND/OR THE COMPLETENESS OF THE INDU OR ANY DATA RELATED THERETO OR ANY COMMUNICATION, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ORAL OR WRITTEN COMMUNICATION (INCLUDING ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS) WITH RESPECT THERETO. S&P DOW JONES INDICES SHALL NOT BE SUBJECT TO ANY DAMAGES OR LIABILITY FOR ANY ERRORS, OMISSIONS, OR DELAYS THEREIN. S&P DOW JONES INDICES MAKE NO EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES, AND EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS ALL WARRANTIES, OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR USE OR AS TO RESULTS TO BE OBTAINED BY US, HOLDERS OF THE NOTES, OR ANY OTHER PERSON OR ENTITY FROM THE USE OF THE INDU OR WITH RESPECT TO ANY DATA RELATED THERETO. WITHOUT LIMITING ANY OF THE FOREGOING, IN NO EVENT WHATSOEVER SHALL S&P DOW JONES INDICES BE LIABLE FOR ANY INDIRECT, SPECIAL, INCIDENTAL, PUNITIVE, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, LOSS OF PROFITS, TRADING LOSSES, LOST TIME OR GOODWILL, EVEN IF THEY HAVE BEEN ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGES, WHETHER IN CONTRACT, TORT, STRICT LIABILITY, OR OTHERWISE. THERE ARE NO THIRD PARTY BENEFICIARIES OF ANY AGREEMENTS OR ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN S&P DOW JONES INDICES AND US, OTHER THAN THE LICENSORS OF S&P DOW JONES INDICES.

P-9 RBC Capital Markets, LLC

Barrier Absolute Return Notes Linked to the
 Lesser Performing of Two Equity Indices,
 Due October 30, 2023
 Royal Bank of Canada

Historical Information

The graph below sets forth the information relating to the historical performance of the INDU. In addition, below the graph is a table setting forth the intra-day high, intra-day low and period-end closing levels of this Reference Asset. The information provided in this table is for 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017, and the period from January 2, 2018 to March 29, 2018.

The red line represents the Barrier Level of 18,077.33, which is equal to 75% of 24,103.11, which was the closing level of this Reference Asset as of March 29, 2018, rounded to two decimal places. (The actual Barrier Level of this Reference Asset will be determined on the pricing date.)

We obtained the information regarding the historical performance of the INDU in the chart below from Bloomberg Financial Markets. We have not independently verified the accuracy or completeness of the information obtained from Bloomberg Financial Markets. The historical performance of the INDU should not be taken as an indication of its future performance, and no assurance can be given as to the Final Level of the INDU. We cannot give you assurance that the performance of the INDU will result in any positive return on your initial investment.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average[®] Index (“INDU”)

Period-Start Date	Period-End Date	High Intra-Day Level of this Reference Asset	Low Intra-Day Level of this Reference Asset	Period-End Closing Level of this Reference Asset
1/1/2013	3/31/2013	14,585.10	13,104.30	14,578.54
4/1/2013	6/30/2013	15,542.40	14,434.43	14,909.60
7/1/2013	9/30/2013	15,709.58	14,760.41	15,129.67
10/1/2013	12/31/2013	16,588.25	14,719.43	16,576.66
1/1/2014	3/31/2014	16,573.07	15,340.69	16,457.66
4/1/2014	6/30/2014	16,978.02	16,015.32	16,826.60
7/1/2014	9/30/2014	17,350.64	16,333.78	17,042.90
10/1/2014	12/31/2014	18,103.45	15,855.12	17,823.07
1/1/2015	3/31/2015	18,288.63	17,037.76	17,776.12
4/1/2015	6/30/2015	18,351.36	17,576.50	17,619.51
7/1/2015	9/30/2015	18,137.12	15,370.33	16,284.70
10/1/2015	12/31/2015	17,977.85	16,013.66	17,425.03
1/1/2016	3/31/2016	17,790.11	15,450.56	17,685.09
4/1/2016	6/30/2016	18,167.63	17,063.08	17,929.99
7/1/2016	9/30/2016	18,668.44	17,713.45	18,308.15
10/1/2016	12/31/2016	19,987.63	17,883.56	19,762.60
1/1/2017	3/31/2017	21,169.11	19,677.94	20,663.22
4/1/2017	6/30/2017	21,535.03	20,379.55	21,349.63
7/1/2017	9/30/2017	22,419.51	21,279.30	22,405.09
10/1/2017	12/31/2017	24,876.07	22,416.00	24,719.22
1/1/2018	3/29/2018	26,616.71	23,360.29	24,103.11

PAST PERFORMANCE IS NOT INDICATIVE OF FUTURE RESULTS.

P-10 RBC Capital Markets, LLC

Barrier Absolute Return Notes Linked to the
Lesser Performing of Two Equity Indices,
Due October 30, 2023
Royal Bank of Canada

Russell 2000[®] Index (“RTY”)

The RTY

The RTY was developed by Russell Investments (“Russell”) before FTSE International Limited and Russell combined in 2015 to create FTSE Russell, which is wholly owned by London Stock Exchange Group. Russell began dissemination of the RTY (Bloomberg L.P. index symbol “RTY”) on January 1, 1984. FTSE Russell calculates and publishes the RTY. The RTY was set to 135 as of the close of business on December 31, 1986. The RTY is designed to track the performance of the small capitalization segment of the U.S. equity market. As a subset of the Russell 3000[®] Index, the RTY consists of the smallest 2,000 companies included in the Russell 3000[®] Index. The Russell 3000[®] Index measures the performance of the largest 3,000 U.S. companies, representing approximately 98% of the investable U.S. equity market. The RTY is determined, comprised, and calculated by FTSE Russell without regard to the Notes.

Selection of Stocks Underlying the RTY

All companies eligible for inclusion in the RTY must be classified as a U.S. company under FTSE Russell’s country-assignment methodology. If a company is incorporated, has a stated headquarters location, and trades in the same country (American Depositary Receipts and American Depositary Shares are not eligible), then the company is assigned to its country of incorporation. If any of the three factors are not the same, FTSE Russell defines three Home Country Indicators (“HCIs”): country of incorporation, country of headquarters, and country of the most liquid exchange (as defined by a two-year average daily dollar trading volume) (“ADDTV”) from all exchanges within a country. Using the HCIs, FTSE Russell compares the primary location of the company’s assets with the three HCIs. If the primary location of its assets matches any of the HCIs, then the company is assigned to the primary location of its assets. If there is insufficient information to determine the country in which the company’s assets are primarily located, FTSE Russell will use the primary country from which the company’s revenues are primarily derived for the comparison with the three HCIs in a similar manner. FTSE Russell uses the average of two years of assets or revenues data to reduce potential turnover. If conclusive country details cannot be derived from assets or revenues data, FTSE Russell will assign the company to the country of its headquarters, which is defined as the address of the company’s principal executive offices, unless that country is a Benefit Driven Incorporation “BDI” country, in which case the company will be assigned to the country of its most liquid stock exchange. BDI countries include: Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, Bonaire, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Channel Islands, Cook Islands, Curacao, Faroe Islands, Gibraltar, Guernsey, Isle of Man, Jersey, Liberia, Marshall Islands, Panama, Saba, Sint Eustatius, Sint Maarten, and Turks and Caicos Islands. For any companies incorporated or headquartered in a U.S. territory, including countries such as Puerto Rico, Guam, and U.S. Virgin Islands, a U.S. HCI is assigned.

All securities eligible for inclusion in the RTY must trade on a major U.S. exchange. Stocks must have a closing price at or above \$1.00 on their primary exchange on the last trading day in May to be eligible for inclusion during annual reconstitution. However, in order to reduce unnecessary turnover, if an existing member’s closing price is less than \$1.00 on the last day of May, it will be considered eligible if the average of the daily closing prices (from its primary exchange) during the month of May is equal to or greater than \$1.00. Initial public offerings are added each quarter and must have a closing price at or above \$1.00 on the last day of their eligibility period in order to qualify for index inclusion. If an existing stock does not trade on the “rank day” (typically the last trading day in May but a confirmed timetable is announced each spring) but does have a closing price at or above \$1.00 on another eligible U.S. exchange, that stock will be eligible for inclusion.

An important criterion used to determine the list of securities eligible for the RTY is total market capitalization, which is defined as the market price as of the rank day in May for those securities being considered at annual reconstitution times the total number of shares outstanding. Where applicable, common stock, non-restricted exchangeable shares and partnership units/membership interests are used to determine market capitalization. Any other form of shares such

as preferred stock, convertible preferred stock, redeemable shares, participating preferred stock, warrants, rights, installment receipts or trust receipts, are excluded from the calculation. If multiple share classes of common stock exist, they are combined to determine total shares outstanding. In cases where the common stock share classes act independently of each other (e.g., tracking stocks), each class is considered for inclusion separately. If multiple share classes exist, the pricing vehicle will be designated as the share class with the highest two-year trading volume as of the rank day in May.

Companies with a total market capitalization of less than \$30 million are not eligible for the RTY. Similarly, companies with only 5% or less of their shares available in the marketplace are not eligible for the RTY. Royalty trusts, limited liability companies, closed-end investment companies (companies that are required to report Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses, as defined by the SEC, including business development companies), blank check companies, special purpose acquisition companies, and limited partnerships are also ineligible for inclusion. Exchange traded funds and mutual funds are also excluded. Bulletin board, pink sheets, and over-the-counter (“OTC”) traded securities are not eligible for inclusion.

Annual reconstitution is a process by which the RTY is completely rebuilt. Based on closing levels of the company’s common stock on its primary exchange on the rank day of May of each year, FTSE Russell reconstitutes the composition of the RTY using the then existing market capitalizations of eligible companies. Reconstitution of the RTY occurs on the last Friday in June or, when the last Friday in June is the 29th or 30th, reconstitution occurs on the prior Friday. In addition, FTSE Russell adds initial public offerings to the RTY on

P-11 RBC Capital Markets, LLC

Barrier Absolute Return Notes Linked to the
Lesser Performing of Two Equity Indices,
Due October 30, 2023
Royal Bank of Canada

a quarterly basis based on total market capitalization ranking within the market-adjusted capitalization breaks established during the most recent reconstitution.

After membership is determined, a security's shares are adjusted to include only those shares available to the public. This is often referred to as "free float." The purpose of the adjustment is to exclude from market calculations the capitalization that is not available for purchase and is not part of the investable opportunity set.

License Agreement

FTSE Russell and Royal Bank have entered into a non-exclusive license agreement providing for the license to Royal Bank, and certain of its affiliates, in exchange for a fee, of the right to use indices owned and published by FTSE Russell in connection with some securities, including the Notes.

FTSE Russell does not guarantee the accuracy and/or the completeness of the RTY or any data included in the RTY and has no liability for any errors, omissions, or interruptions in the RTY. FTSE Russell makes no warranty, express or implied, as to results to be obtained by the calculation agent, holders of the Notes, or any other person or entity from the use of the RTY or any data included in the RTY in connection with the rights licensed under the license agreement described in this document or for any other use. FTSE Russell makes no express or implied warranties, and hereby expressly disclaims all warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose with respect to the RTY or any data included in the RTY. Without limiting any of the above information, in no event will FTSE Russell have any liability for any special, punitive, indirect or consequential damages, including lost profits, even if notified of the possibility of these damages.

The Notes are not sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by FTSE Russell. FTSE Russell makes no representation or warranty, express or implied, to the owners of the Notes or any member of the public regarding the advisability of investing in securities generally or in the Notes particularly or the ability of the RTY to track general stock market performance or a segment of the same. FTSE Russell's publication of the RTY in no way suggests or implies an opinion by FTSE Russell as to the advisability of investment in any or all of the stocks upon which the RTY is based. FTSE Russell's only relationship to Royal Bank is the licensing of certain trademarks and trade names of FTSE Russell and of the RTY, which is determined, composed and calculated by FTSE Russell without regard to Royal Bank or the Notes. FTSE Russell is not responsible for and has not reviewed the Notes nor any associated literature or publications and FTSE Russell makes no representation or warranty express or implied as to their accuracy or completeness, or otherwise. FTSE Russell reserves the right, at any time and without notice, to alter, amend, terminate or in any way change the RTY. FTSE Russell has no obligation or liability in connection with the administration, marketing or trading of the Notes.

"Russell 2000" and "Russell 3000" are registered trademarks of FTSE Russell in the U.S. and other countries.

P-12 RBC Capital Markets, LLC

Barrier Absolute Return Notes Linked to the
 Lesser Performing of Two Equity Indices,
 Due October 30, 2023
 Royal Bank of Canada

Historical Information

The graph below sets forth the information relating to the historical performance of the RTY. In addition, below the graph is a table setting forth the intra-day high, intra-day low and period-end closing levels of this Reference Asset. The information provided in this table is for 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017, and the period from January 2, 2018 to March 29, 2018.

The red line represents the Barrier Level of 1,147.070, which is equal to 75% of 1,529.427, which was the closing level of this Reference Asset as of March 29, 2018, rounded to three decimal places. (The actual Barrier Level of this Reference Asset will be determined on the pricing date.)

We obtained the information regarding the historical performance of the RTY in the chart below from Bloomberg Financial Markets.

We have not independently verified the accuracy or completeness of the information obtained from Bloomberg Financial Markets. The historical performance of the RTY should not be taken as an indication of its future performance, and no assurance can be given as to the Final Level of the RTY. We cannot give you assurance that the performance of the RTY will result in any positive return on your initial investment.

Russell 2000® Index (“RTY”)

Period-Start Date	Period-End Date	High Intra-Day Level of this Reference Asset	Low Intra-Day Level of this Reference Asset	Period-End Closing Level of this Reference Asset
1/1/2013	3/31/2013	954.000	849.330	951.542
4/1/2013	6/30/2013	1,008.230	898.400	977.475
7/1/2013	9/30/2013	1,082.000	981.300	1,073.786
10/1/2013	12/31/2013	1,167.960	1,037.860	1,163.637
1/1/2014	3/31/2014	1,212.823	1,082.717	1,173.038
4/1/2014	6/30/2014	1,193.964	1,082.531	1,192.964
7/1/2014	9/30/2014	1,213.550	1,101.675	1,101.676
10/1/2014	12/31/2014	1,221.442	1,040.472	1,204.696
1/1/2015	3/31/2015	1,268.162	1,151.295	1,252.772
4/1/2015	6/30/2015	1,295.996	1,211.126	1,253.947
7/1/2015	9/30/2015	1,275.899	1,078.633	1,100.688
10/1/2015	12/31/2015	1,205.079	1,080.606	1,135.889
1/1/2016	3/31/2016	1,134.078	943.097	1,114.028
4/1/2016	6/30/2016	1,190.172	1,085.883	1,151.923
7/1/2016	9/30/2016	1,263.460	1,131.713	1,251.646
10/1/2016	12/31/2016	1,392.714	1,156.085	1,357.130
1/1/2017	3/31/2017	1,414.824	1,335.038	1,385.920
4/1/2017	6/30/2017	1,433.790	1,345.244	1,415.359
7/1/2017	9/30/2017	1,493.555	1,349.354	1,490.861
10/1/2017	12/31/2017	1,559.607	1,454.165	1,535.511
1/2/2018	3/29/2018	1,615.517	1,436.427	1,529.427

PAST PERFORMANCE IS NOT INDICATIVE OF FUTURE RESULTS.

P-13 RBC Capital Markets, LLC

Barrier Absolute Return Notes Linked to the
Lesser Performing of Two Equity Indices,
Due October 30, 2023
Royal Bank of Canada

SUPPLEMENTAL DISCUSSION OF U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES

The following disclosure supplements, and to the extent inconsistent supersedes, the discussion in the product prospectus supplement dated January 12, 2016 under “Supplemental Discussion of U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences.” The discussions below and in the accompanying product prospectus supplement do not address the tax consequences applicable to holders subject to Section 451(b) of the Code.

Under Section 871(m) of the Code, a “dividend equivalent” payment is treated as a dividend from sources within the United States. Such payments generally would be subject to a 30% U.S. withholding tax if paid to a non-U.S. holder. Under U.S. Treasury Department regulations, payments (including deemed payments) with respect to equity-linked instruments (“ELIs”) that are “specified ELIs” may be treated as dividend equivalents if such specified ELIs reference an interest in an “underlying security,” which is generally any interest in an entity taxable as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes if a payment with respect to such interest could give rise to a U.S. source dividend. However, the IRS has issued guidance that states that the U.S. Treasury Department and the IRS intend to amend the effective dates of the U.S. Treasury Department regulations to provide that withholding on dividend equivalent payments will not apply to specified ELIs that are not delta-one instruments and that are issued before January 1, 2019. Based on our determination that the Notes are not delta-one instruments, non-U.S. holders should not be subject to withholding on dividend equivalent payments, if any, under the Notes. However, it is possible that the Notes could be treated as deemed reissued for U.S. federal income tax purposes upon the occurrence of certain events affecting the Reference Assets or the Notes (for example, upon a Reference Asset rebalancing), and following such occurrence the Notes could be treated as subject to withholding on dividend equivalent payments. Non-U.S. holders that enter, or have entered, into other transactions in respect of the Reference Assets or the Notes should consult their tax advisors as to the application of the dividend equivalent withholding tax in the context of the Notes and their other transactions. If any payments are treated as dividend equivalents subject to withholding, we (or the applicable withholding agent) would be entitled to withhold taxes without being required to pay any additional amounts with respect to amounts so withheld.

SUPPLEMENTAL PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION (CONFLICTS OF INTEREST)

We expect that delivery of the Notes will be made against payment for the Notes on or about April 30, 2018, which is the third (3rd) business day following the Pricing Date (this settlement cycle being referred to as “T+3”). See “Plan of Distribution” in the prospectus dated January 8, 2016. For additional information as to the relationship between us and RBCCM, please see the section “Plan of Distribution—Conflicts of Interest” in the prospectus dated January 8, 2016. In the initial offering of the Notes, they will be offered to investors at a purchase price equal to par, except with respect to certain accounts as indicated on the cover page of this document.

We expect that delivery of the Notes will be made against payment for the Notes on or about the Original Issue Date set forth on the inside cover page of this document, which is more than two business days following the Trade Date. Under Rule 15c6-1 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, trades in the secondary market generally are required to settle in two business days, unless the parties to that trade expressly agree otherwise. Accordingly, purchasers who wish to trade the Notes more than two business days prior to the Original Issue Date will be required to specify an alternate settlement cycle at the time of any such trade to prevent a failed settlement, and should consult their own advisors.

The value of the Notes shown on your account statement may be based on RBCCM’s estimate of the value of the Notes if RBCCM or another of our affiliates were to make a market in the Notes (which it is not obligated to do). That estimate will be based upon the price that RBCCM may pay for the Notes in light of then prevailing market conditions, our creditworthiness and transaction costs. For a period of approximately 12 months after the issue date of the Notes, the value of the Notes that may be shown on your account statement may be higher than RBCCM’s

estimated value of the Notes at that time. This is because the estimated value of the Notes will not include the underwriting discount and our hedging costs and profits; however, the value of the Notes shown on your account statement during that period may be a higher amount, reflecting the addition of RBCCM's underwriting discount and our estimated costs and profits from hedging the Notes. This excess is expected to decrease over time until the end of this period. After this period, if RBCCM repurchases your Notes, it expects to do so at prices that reflect their estimated value.

No Prospectus (as defined in Directive 2003/71/EC (as amended, the "Prospectus Directive")) will be prepared in connection with the Notes. Accordingly, the Notes may not be offered to the public in any member state of the European Economic Area (the "EEA"), and any purchaser of the Notes who subsequently sells any of the Notes in any EEA member state must do so only in accordance with the requirements of the Prospectus Directive, as implemented in that member state.

The Notes are not intended to be offered, sold or otherwise made available to, and should not be offered, sold or otherwise made available to, any retail investor in the EEA. For these purposes, the expression "offer" includes the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and the Notes to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to

P-14 RBC Capital Markets, LLC

Barrier Absolute Return Notes Linked to the
Lesser Performing of Two Equity Indices,
Due October 30, 2023
Royal Bank of Canada

purchase or subscribe the Notes, and a “retail investor” means a person who is one (or more) of: (a) a retail client, as defined in point (11) of Article 4(1) of Directive 2014/65/EU (as amended, “MiFID II”); or (b) a customer, within the meaning of Insurance Distribution Directive 2016/97/EU, as amended, where that customer would not qualify as a professional client as defined in point (10) of Article 4(1) of MiFID II; or (c) not a qualified investor as defined in the Prospectus Directive. Consequently, no key information document required by Regulation (EU) No 1286/2014 (as amended, the “PRIIPs Regulation”) for offering or selling the Notes or otherwise making them available to retail investors in the EEA has been prepared, and therefore, offering or selling the Notes or otherwise making them available to any retail investor in the EEA may be unlawful under the PRIIPs Regulation.

STRUCTURING THE NOTES

The Notes are our debt securities, the return on which is linked to the performance of the Reference Assets. As is the case for all of our debt securities, including our structured notes, the economic terms of the Notes reflect our actual or perceived creditworthiness at the time of pricing. In addition, because structured notes result in increased operational, funding and liability management costs to us, we typically borrow the funds under these Notes at a rate that is more favorable to us than the rate that we might pay for a conventional fixed or floating rate debt security of comparable maturity. Using this relatively lower implied borrowing rate rather than the secondary market rate, is a factor that is likely to reduce the initial estimated value of the Notes at the time their terms are set. Unlike the estimated value included in this terms supplement or in the final pricing supplement, any value of the Notes determined for purposes of a secondary market transaction may be based on a different funding rate, which may result in a lower value for the Notes than if our initial internal funding rate were used.

In order to satisfy our payment obligations under the Notes, we may choose to enter into certain hedging arrangements (which may include call options, put options or other derivatives) on the issue date with RBCCM or one of our other subsidiaries. The terms of these hedging arrangements take into account a number of factors, including our creditworthiness, interest rate movements, the volatility of the Reference Assets, and the tenor of the Notes. The economic terms of the Notes and their initial estimated value depend in part on the terms of these hedging arrangements.

The lower implied borrowing rate is a factor that reduces the economic terms of the Notes to you. The initial offering price of the Notes also reflects the underwriting commission and our estimated hedging costs. These factors result in the initial estimated value for the Notes on the Pricing Date being less than their public offering price. See “Selected Risk Considerations—The Initial Estimated Value of the Notes Will Be Less than the Price to the Public” above.

P-15 RBC Capital Markets, LLC
