

Hello,

I consider myself to be fairly intelligent (have a Masters degree and part of a PHD), but I can never figure out the financial world. Talk to an advisor about an index fund and, well, you know what happens. Low cost and MER is low. As an investor, I always feel somewhat guilty talking about index funds because most financial advisors (I have had a couple) push active funds. I have read everything, I have seen the data, and yes, not many folks or funds out there can beat the indexes they are attempting to beat. The price is CRAZY! Seriously, MER fees of over 2% on balance funds! I get it for equity funds, but... The best is the 1% fee charged on accounts by banks on TFSAs, even if you only want GICs! Please tell me who manages a GIC! Sorry, off track.....

My biggest question is why do I need to go through many pages of annual reports to find essentially nothing. Most folks could not care one ounce how many transactions happened, or even the cost of them, JUST GIVE ME MY PERSONAL ANNUAL RATE OF RETURN ON MY FUND! We as consumers are either too stupid to ask or they are too clever to hide it. I care about how my fund (after fees) does against an index, but what I really care about is what is my ACTUAL PERSONAL return. One company adds dividends, etc. to my growth, the other does not. It is really a joke - and we are suckers to play along!

The biggest scam on the planet will be you guys if you do not put an end to this. The fees are crazy! I get it, people need to get paid. I agree 100%. I ask myself everyday, why do I have so many active funds when I can be just doing the passive index investing at a much lower cost (I have a strong stomach for fluctuation). If the advisors want the big fees, fine, then make them accountable for their transactions and their rates of return. Funny how they never lose but the investor does! Bottom line, make them have to provide us our personal rates of return on our funds. It is the least they can do for the fees they charge! Sure, they will say it is complicated, everyone is different, etc. = BS - they can track every cent! If not, make them do it!