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**Listing:** TSX (Toronto Stock Exchange)

**Symbol:** XUS

**BlackRock® Canada Announces Special Cash Distribution for iShares Core S&P 500 Index ETF**

**Toronto, March 28, 2019** – BlackRock Asset Management Canada Limited (“BlackRock Canada”), an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of BlackRock, Inc. (NYSE: BLK), today announced a special cash distribution for **iShares Core S&P 500 Index ETF (“XUS”)**. On March 22, 2019, RBC Global Asset Management Inc. announced that unitholders of the RBC U.S. Equity Index ETF (“RUSA”) had approved a merger of RUSA with XUS, whereby RUSA unitholders will become unitholders of XUS (the “Merger”). This special cash distribution is being made prior to the Merger, which is expected to take place on or about April 8, 2019. Unitholders of XUS do not need to take any action with respect to the merger with RUSA. XUS will continue to seek to track the S&P 500 Index and units of XUS will continue to be listed and traded on the TSX under the symbol “XUS”.

Unitholders that have elected to participate in the XUS distribution reinvestment plan should note that these distributions will not be eligible for the plan. Unitholders of record of XUS on April 5, 2019 will receive cash distributions payable in respect of that fund on April 10, 2019.

Details regarding the “per unit” distribution amounts are as follows:

| <b>Fund Name</b>               | <b>Fund Ticker</b> | <b>Cash Distribution Per Unit (\$)</b> |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|--|
| iShares Core S&P 500 Index ETF | XUS                | 0.277                                  |

Information on the tax characteristics of the special cash distribution will be posted to CDS Clearing and Depository Services Inc. (“CDS”) in accordance with standard industry practice.

Further information on the iShares Funds can be found at <http://www.blackrock.com/ca>.

**About BlackRock**

BlackRock helps investors build better financial futures. As a fiduciary to investors and a leading provider of financial technology, our clients turn to us for the solutions they need when planning for their most important goals. As of December 31, 2018, the firm managed approximately



US\$5.98 trillion in assets on behalf of investors worldwide. For additional information on BlackRock, please visit [www.blackrock.com/ca](http://www.blackrock.com/ca) | Twitter: @BlackRockCA | Blog: [www.blackrockblog.com/can](http://www.blackrockblog.com/can) | LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/blackrock](http://www.linkedin.com/company/blackrock).

### **About iShares ETFs**

iShares unlocks opportunity across markets to meet the evolving needs of investors. With more than twenty years of experience, a global line-up of 800+ exchange traded funds (ETFs) and US\$1.7 trillion in assets under management as of December 31, 2018, iShares continues to drive progress for the financial industry. iShares funds are powered by the expert portfolio and risk management of BlackRock, trusted to manage more money than any other investment firm<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Based on US\$5.98 trillion in AUM as of 12/31/18

iShares® ETFs are managed by BlackRock Asset Management Canada Limited.

*Commissions, trailing commissions, management fees and expenses all may be associated with investing in iShares ETFs. Please read the relevant prospectus before investing. The funds are not guaranteed, their values change frequently and past performance may not be repeated. Tax, investment and all other decisions should be made, as appropriate, only with guidance from a qualified professional.*

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