

ASA Gold & Precious Metals Ltd  
Form N-CSR  
January 29, 2018

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

**FORM N-CSR**

**CERTIFIED SHAREHOLDER REPORT OF REGISTERED  
MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANIES**

Investment Company Act file number 811-21650

ASA Gold and Precious Metals Limited  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

400 S. El Camino Real, Suite 710, San Mateo, CA  
(Address of principal executive offices)

94402  
(Zip code)

JP Morgan Chase Bank, N.A.  
3 MetroTech Center, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Brooklyn, New York 11245  
(Name and address of agent for service)

Registrant's telephone number,  
including area code: 650-376-3135

Date of fiscal year end: November 30

Date of reporting period: November 30, 2017

**ASA Gold and Precious Metals Limited**

Annual Report and Financial Statements

November 2017

Cover photograph by Jim Van Gundy

**ASA Gold and Precious Metals Limited**

**Annual Report and  
Financial Statements**

**November 30, 2017**

**Table of Contents**

Letter to shareholders 2  
Forward-looking statements 4  
Performance returns 5  
Certain investment policies and restrictions 6  
Report of independent registered public accounting firm 6  
Schedules of investments 7  
Portfolio statistics 9  
Principal portfolio changes 9  
Statements of assets and liabilities 10  
Statements of operations 11  
Statements of changes in net assets 12  
Notes to financial statements 13  
Financial highlights 18  
Certain tax information for U.S. shareholders 19  
Dividend reinvestment and stock purchase plan 19  
Privacy notice 20  
Proxy voting 20  
Form N-Q 20  
Common shares repurchased 20  
Board of directors and officers 21  
Other information 22

## Letter to Shareholders

In 2017, the strong global economic environment, characterized by modest inflation, slowly rising interest rates and one of the strongest equity markets on record, provided little reason for investors to seek gold as a hedge. As a result of these positive economic trends, the gold price was less volatile in 2017 than prior years. The performance of the gold mining shares varied significantly across companies with returns being driven primarily by company specific activities as opposed to sector momentum.

For the fiscal year ended November 30, 2017, ASA Gold and Precious Metals Limited (“ASA” or the “Company”) reported a total return of 0.7% based on its net asset value (“NAV”), including reinvested dividends, compared with a total return of 8.7% for the FTSE Gold Mines Total Return Index (the “FTGMI”). ASA’s investments in diamonds and larger weighting towards junior gold producers versus the FTGMI, negatively affected ASA’s relative performance. The failure of issuers of several important investments to deliver their projects on time, combined with a significant increase in political risk associated with mining, also contributed to the underperformance. The total return for the fiscal year, based on ASA’s share price, was 2.6%. The gold price increased 8.7% during the one year period ending November 30, 2017.

At fiscal year-end, total net assets of ASA were \$244.2 million, \$1.0 million higher than fiscal year-end 2016. The average expense ratio improved to 1.19% during the 2017 fiscal year from 1.26% during fiscal year 2016 as a result of the increase in asset values and a decrease in ASA’s operating expenses.

Investment income generated by dividends received from portfolio investments improved modestly to \$1.4 million during fiscal year 2017 from \$1.2 million during 2016. Cost savings throughout the gold mining industry combined with increased demands for dividends from shareholders helped to drive this improvement. While an improvement in dividend income is possible during the coming year, additional progress is needed to make a meaningful impact to ASA’s dividend distribution.

The discount at which ASA’s shares traded in the market fluctuated during the year from a high of 14.4% to a low of 9.4% and ended the fiscal year at 12.7%. The Board of Directors monitors the Company’s share price and discount to NAV on an ongoing basis and has, in the past, authorized tender offers and created a Share Repurchase Program. At present, the Board does not believe that either a tender offer or share repurchases would significantly benefit long-term shareholders, or accomplish a meaningful narrowing of the discount.

## Geopolitical Risk

Geopolitical risk was at the forefront of the mining industry in 2017. The management of government and community relations have always been a key aspect of operating a successful mining company. It is a delicate balance to maintain

harmony amongst the key stake holders of a mining project and this year witnessed several significant missteps. Mine blockades, revisions to

mining codes and failure to receive permits have negatively affected the performance of miners around the world. Mining companies with a single asset or single country exposure have likely felt the impact of these issues more significantly.

Incidents in Europe, Africa, Asia and the Americas have reminded investors of the importance of managing geopolitical risk. Investors have a renewed interest in assets perceived to be in “safe” jurisdictions with well-defined mining codes, government stability and rule of law. A number of recent acquisitions of assets in the U.S., Canada and Australia are believed to be an attempt by mining companies to diversify their portfolio and minimize risk.

ASA’s management closely monitors the exposure across the world and attempts to achieve portfolio diversification in terms of project stage, size and location. In 2017, some investments were negatively impacted by geopolitical problems but others benefited from the renewed interest in North American assets and royalty companies as investors sought the perceived safety of these investments.

#### **Chart 1: Holdings by Individual Project Location**

*Source: ASA, As of fiscal year-end 2017*

We anticipate the heightened geopolitical sensitivity to continue in 2018 as many of the issues from 2017 remain unresolved. We will continue to closely monitor the portfolio in an attempt to navigate the incidents of geopolitical unrest.

Management evaluates not only geographical exposure, but allocation across stage of production. The Company is diversified amongst senior producers, junior producers, royalty companies, developers and exploration companies. In 2017, many of the developers in the portfolio entered production and a number of them encountered operational hiccups as production rates increased. Mine start-ups are difficult for even the most senior companies, but missteps are highlighted at single asset companies as balance sheets can quickly become strained and investors spooked at these early stages of



production. Management of ASA maintains regular contact with our portfolio companies in an attempt to monitor the issues, understand their implications for the long term success of the operation, and manage the portfolio's exposure. Chart 2 below, highlights the Company's allocation across the various stages of project development.

## **Chart 2: Holdings by Stage of Development**

*Source: ASA, As of fiscal year-end 2017*

### **Portfolio Changes**

While diversification has mitigated the impact of the start-up and geopolitical issues, the portfolio has not been immune to these matters in the last year. The Company has invested in some companies that we believe can improve their projects and work through their issues to generate solid returns for investors. We have exited those we believe no longer offer an attractive risk return profile. In addition, the Company has maintained or increased investments in companies delivering on their operating plans while selling positions that may have limited upside or whose weighting with in the portfolio needed adjustment.

ASA increased its position in Pretium Resources Inc. in the second half of 2017. Pretium is a developer that entered production in late 2017. ASA anticipates that the stock's valuation will re-rate to higher producer peer levels as the company continues to ramp up and start to generate free cash flow.

ASA also added to its position in OceanaGold Corporation during 2017. OceanaGold is well diversified with assets in New Zealand, the Philippines and the U.S. The company was negatively impacted during 2017 following political comments made by the then-Minister of Mines in the Philippines and a slower than anticipated start-up at their new project in the United States. ASA believes the solid operating team has navigated these issues well and that the company is well positioned for the future.

MAG Silver Corp. is a developer with an attractive silver project in Mexico. ASA increased its investment after the company released an expansion study indicating improved economics and the company secured financing for the project.

In the second half of the fiscal year ASA also increased its position in Torex Gold Resources Inc., a newer gold producer in Mexico. Torex's start-up challenges and an illegal blockade by a competing labor union negatively impacted the stock price. However, we believe these issues to be temporary and that the share price will improve



following the recommencement of production.

The final addition to the portfolio in the second half of 2017 was through the exercise of warrants in Lydian International. Lydian is currently constructing a project in Armenia that remains on track and on budget for 2018. The additional financing provided by the exercise of warrants will help facilitate the completion of project construction.

Sales of some investments during 2017 were to manage the weighting of the portfolio. As positions grew too large or valuations appeared high, they were trimmed and cash was reallocated to other opportunities. Several of the positions we exited completely had experienced a negative shift in strategy or decrease in opportunity due to asset quality, management ability or political risk.

### **Chart 3: Investment Holdings by Sector**

*Source: ASA, As of fiscal year-end 2017*

We appreciate the support of both the Board of Directors and our shareholders over the past year. Shareholders are encouraged to contact us directly with any questions that they may have either through the company website at [www.asaltd.com](http://www.asaltd.com) or by calling us at 1-800-432-3378.

David Christensen

*President, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Investment Officer*

January 18, 2018

Copies of financial reports for ASA Gold and Precious Metals Limited, as well as its latest net asset value, may be requested from ASA Gold and Precious Metals Limited, 400 S. El Camino Real, Suite 710, San Mateo, CA (650) 376-3135 or (800) 432-3378, and may be found on the Company's website ([www.asaltd.com](http://www.asaltd.com)). We would like to call to your attention the availability of the Dividend Reinvestment and Stock Purchase Plan. See page 19 of this report for information on how shareholders can participate in this plan.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Annual General Meeting of Shareholders will be held on Thursday, March 15, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. EST at the offices of K&L Gates LLP, 599 Lexington Avenue, 32nd Floor, New York, New York, USA. We look forward to your attendance.

### **Forward-Looking Statements**

This shareholder letter includes forward-looking statements, which involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause the actual results, levels of activity, performance or achievements of the Company, or industry results, to be materially different from any future results, levels of activity, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. The Company's actual performance or results may differ from its beliefs, expectations, estimates, goals and projections, and consequently, investors should not rely on these forward-looking statements as predictions of future events. Forward-looking statements are not historical in nature and generally can be identified by words such as "believe," "anticipate," "estimate," "expect," "intend," "should," "may," "will," "similar expressions or their negative forms, or by references to strategy, plans, goals or intentions. The absence of these words or references does not mean that the statements are not forward-looking. The Company's performance or results can fluctuate from month to month depending on a variety of factors, a number of which are beyond the Company's control and/or are difficult to predict, including without limitation: the Company's investment decisions, the performance of the securities in its investment portfolio, economic, political, market and financial factors, and the prices of gold, platinum and other precious minerals that may fluctuate substantially over short periods of time. The Company may or may not revise, correct or update the forward-looking statements as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

The Company concentrates its investments in the gold and precious minerals sector. This sector may be more volatile than other industries and may be affected by movements in commodity prices triggered by international monetary and political developments. The Company is a non-diversified fund and, as such, may invest in fewer investments than that of a diversified portfolio. The Company may invest in smaller-sized companies that may be more volatile and less liquid than larger more established companies. Investments in foreign securities, especially those in the emerging markets, may involve increased risk as well as exposure to currency fluctuations. Shares of closed-end funds frequently trade at a discount to net asset value. All performance information reflects past performance and is presented on a total return basis. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Current performance may differ from the performance shown.

This shareholder letter does not constitute an offer to sell or solicitation of an offer to buy any securities.

## Performance Returns

### Fiscal Year Total Returns

Best Quarter (NAV): Q2 2009 44.18%  
Worst Quarter (NAV): Q4 2008 -36.19%

### Average Annual Total Returns

For the periods ended November 30, 2017

	<b>1 Year</b>	<b>3 Year</b>	<b>5 Year</b>	<b>10 Year</b>
ASA Gold and Precious Metals – NAV	0.74%	3.65%	-11.62%	-6.42%
ASA Gold and Precious Metals – Share Price	2.57%	1.34%	-12.35%	-6.32%
FTSE Gold Mines Total Return Index (1)	8.69%	10.55%	-11.83%	-5.79%

**The performance data quoted represent past performance and do not indicate future results. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. For more current performance data, please visit <http://www.asaltd.com/investor-information/factsheets>.**

**The results shown in the table reflect the reinvestment of income dividends and other distributions, if any. The results do not reflect the effect of taxes a shareholder would pay on Company distributions or on the sale of the Company's common share.**

**The investment return and market price will fluctuate and the Company's common shares may trade at prices above or below NAV. The Company's common shares, when sold, may be worth more or less than their original cost.**

(1) The FTSE Gold Mines Total Return Index encompasses all gold mining companies that have a sustainable, attributable gold production of at least 300,000 ounces a year and that derive 51% or more of their revenue from mined gold. Please note that the Index is unmanaged, and does not take into account any fees and expenses or any tax consequences of investing in the individual securities that it tracks and one cannot invest directly in the Index.

## Edgar Filing: ASA Gold & Precious Metals Ltd - Form N-CSR

The Company does not attempt to replicate the Index. The Index generally does not reflect investments in other precious metals companies (e.g., silver, platinum, and diamonds) in which the Company invests. Data about the performance of this Index are prepared or obtained by Management and include reinvestment of all income dividends and other distributions, if any. The Fund may invest in securities not included in the Index and generally does not invest in all securities included in the Index.

For more complete information about the Company, please call us directly at 1-800-432-3378, or visit the Company's website at [www.asaltd.com](http://www.asaltd.com).

## **Certain Investment Policies and Restrictions**

The following is a summary of certain of the Company's investment policies and restrictions and is subject to the more complete statements contained in documents filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

**The concentration of investments in a particular industry or group of industries.** It is a fundamental policy (i.e., a policy that may be changed only by shareholder vote) of the Company that at least 80% of its total assets be (i) invested in common shares or securities convertible into common shares of companies engaged, directly or indirectly, in the exploration, mining or processing of gold, silver, platinum, diamonds or other precious minerals, (ii) held as bullion or other direct forms of gold, silver, platinum or other precious minerals, (iii) invested in instruments representing interests in gold, silver, platinum or other precious minerals such as certificates of deposit therefor, and/or (iv) invested in securities of investment companies, including exchange traded funds, or other securities that seek to replicate the price move-

ment of gold, silver or platinum bullion. Compliance with the percentage limitation relating to the concentration of the Company's investments will be measured at the time of investment. If investment opportunities deemed by the Company to be attractive are not available in the types of securities referred to in the preceding paragraph, the Company may deviate from the investment policy outlined in that paragraph and make temporary investments of unlimited amounts in securities issued by the U.S. Government, its agencies or instrumentalities or other high quality money market instruments.

**The percentage of voting securities of any one issuer that the company may acquire.** It is a non-fundamental policy (i.e., a policy that may be changed by the Board of Directors) of the Company that the Company shall not purchase a security if, at the time of purchase, more than 20% of the value of its total assets would be invested in securities of the issuer of such security.

## **Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

To the Board of Directors and Shareholders

ASA Gold and Precious Metals Limited

We have audited the accompanying statements of assets and liabilities of ASA Gold and Precious Metals Limited (the "Company") including the schedules of investments, as of November 30, 2017 and November 30, 2016, and the related statements of operations and the statements of changes in net assets for each of the two years in the period then ended,

and the financial highlights for each of the five years in the period then ended. These financial statements and financial highlights are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and financial highlights based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements and financial highlights are free of material misstatement. The Company is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of its internal control over financial reporting. Our audits included consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as

well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. Our procedures included confirmation of securities owned as of November 30, 2017, by correspondence with the custodian. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements and financial highlights referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company, as of November 30, 2017 and November 30, 2016, and the results of its operations and the changes in its net assets for each of the two years in the period then ended, and the financial highlights for each of the five years in the period then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

TAIT, WELLER & BAKER LLP  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
January 18, 2018

**Schedules of Investments**

November 30, 2017 and November 30, 2016

Name of Company	2017			Percent of Net Assets	2016		
	Shares/ Warrants	Value			Shares/ Warrants	Value	Percent of Net Assets
Common Shares							
Gold and Silver Investments							
Gold mining, exploration, development and royalty companies							
Australia							
Newcrest Mining Limited	1,015,000	\$17,610,250	7.2	%	1,215,000	\$17,222,625	7.1
Perseus Mining Limited, (1)	—	—	—		7,067,700	2,945,532	1.2
		17,610,250	7.2			20,168,157	8.3
Canada							
Agnico Eagle Mines Limited	450,000	19,669,500	8.1		475,000	19,498,750	8.0
Alacer Gold Corp., (1)	2,500,000	4,051,801	1.7		—	—	—
Alamos Gold Inc.	875,000	5,563,956	2.3		600,000	3,817,816	1.6
Asanko Gold Inc., (1)	—	—	—		1,425,000	4,994,977	2.1
Atlantic Gold Corporation – 144A, (1)(2)	2,750,000	3,284,091	1.3		3,000,000	1,987,051	0.8
B2Gold Corp., (1)	1,594,338	4,067,599	1.7		1,594,338	3,856,217	1.6
Barrick Gold Corporation	1,125,000	15,502,500	6.3		1,275,000	19,150,500	7.9
Belo Sun Mining Corp., (1)	2,600,000	897,212	0.4		2,600,000	1,238,372	0.5
Detour Gold Corporation, (1)	450,000	4,885,425	2.0		450,000	5,733,423	2.4
Eldorado Gold Corporation, (3)	1,296,570	1,465,124	0.6		650,000	1,781,000	0.7
Franco-Nevada Corporation	160,000	13,041,449	5.3		160,000	9,291,360	3.8
Goldcorp Inc.	932,400	11,785,536	4.8		932,400	12,298,356	5.1
Guyana Goldfields Inc., (1)	669,500	2,273,979	0.9		857,300	3,509,079	1.4
Integra Gold Corp., (1)	—	—	—		4,250,000	1,992,632	0.8
Kinross Gold Corporation, (1)	800,000	3,328,000	1.4		800,000	2,632,000	1.1
New Gold Inc., (1)	500,000	1,550,000	0.6		500,000	1,790,000	0.7
OceanaGold Corporation	2,654,013	6,832,867	2.8		1,054,013	2,925,853	1.2
Pretium Resources Inc., (1)	725,000	7,757,500	3.2		300,000	2,622,000	1.1
Roxgold Inc., (1)	2,827,200	2,587,023	1.1		2,523,400	2,478,893	1.0
Semafo Inc., (1)	900,000	2,226,358	0.9		900,000	2,739,451	1.1
Tahoe Resources Inc.	708,200	3,141,331	1.3		708,200	6,804,243	2.8
TMAC Resources Inc., (1)	26,500	153,096	0.1		26,500	307,658	0.1
TMAC Resources Inc. – 144A, (1)(2)	185,000	1,068,784	0.4		185,000	2,147,801	0.9
Torex Gold Resources Inc., (1)	330,000	3,267,884	1.3		280,000	4,192,603	1.7
Torex Gold Resources Inc. – 144A, (1)(2)	125,000	1,237,835	0.5		125,000	1,871,698	0.8
		119,638,851	49.0			119,661,731	49.2
Cayman Islands							
Endeavour Mining Corporation, (1)	250,000	4,526,773	1.9		—	—	—
Channel Islands							
Lydian International Limited, (1)	1,780,000	503,819	0.2		1,780,000	390,787	0.2
	12,593,775	3,564,598	1.5		6,879,300	1,510,303	0.6



Edgar Filing: ASA Gold & Precious Metals Ltd - Form N-CSR

Lydian International Limited – 144A, (1)(2)							
Randgold Resources Limited – ADRs	254,100	23,316,216	9.5	282,100	20,277,348	8.3	
		27,384,634	11.2		22,178,437	9.1	
Peru							
Compañía de Minas Buenaventura S.A.A. – ADRs	699,000	9,779,010	4.0	699,000	7,807,830	3.2	
South Africa							
AngloGold Ashanti Limited, (3)	898,420	9,388,489	3.8	898,420	9,828,715	4.0	
Gold Fields Limited	1,029,577	4,355,111	1.8	1,029,577	3,160,801	1.3	
Sibanye-Stillwater	1,050,168	1,462,359	0.6	1,029,577	2,138,946	0.9	
		15,205,959	6.2		15,128,462	6.2	
United States							
Newmont Mining Corporation	570,368	21,097,912	8.6	695,368	22,557,738	9.3	
Royal Gold, Inc.	190,000	15,716,800	6.4	190,000	13,231,600	5.4	
		36,814,712	15.1		35,789,338	14.7	
Total gold mining, exploration, development and royalty companies (Cost \$199,722,344 – 2017, \$204,987,454 – 2016)		\$230,960,189	94.6 %		\$220,733,956	90.8 %	

The notes to financial statements form an integral part of these statements.

**Schedules of Investments (continued)**

November 30, 2017 and November 30, 2016

Name of Company	2017			2016		
	Shares/ Warrants	Value	Percent of Net Assets	Shares/ Warrants	Value	Percent of Net Assets
<b>Silver Mining, Exploration and Development Companies</b>						
<b>Canada</b>						
MAG Silver Corp., (1)	325,000	\$3,445,194	1.4 %	275,000	\$3,409,615	1.4 %
Total silver mining, exploration and development companies		3,445,194	1.4		3,409,615	1.4
(Cost \$2,541,688 – 2017, \$2,007,500 – 2016)						
Total gold and silver investments		234,405,383	96.0		224,143,571	92.2
(Cost \$202,264,032 – 2017, \$206,994,954 – 2016)						
<b>Platinum and Palladium Investments</b>						
<b>Platinum and palladium mining companies</b>						
<b>United States</b>						
Stillwater Mining Company, (1)	—	—	—	375,000	5,636,250	2.3
Total platinum and palladium investments		—	—		5,636,250	2.3
(Cost \$0 – 2017, \$4,672,638 – 2016)						
<b>Diamond Mining, Exploration and Development Companies</b>						
<b>Bermuda</b>						
Petra Diamonds Limited, (1)	1,000,000	909,758	0.4	1,000,000	2,061,154	0.8
<b>Canada</b>						
Stornoway Diamond Corporation, (1)	1,389,500	711,155	0.3	1,389,500	1,044,426	0.4
Stornoway Diamond Corporation – 144A, (1)(2)	9,698,550	4,963,780	2.0	9,698,550	7,289,972	3.0
		5,674,935	2.3		8,334,398	3.4
Total diamond mining, exploration and development companies		6,584,693	2.7		10,395,552	4.3
(Cost \$10,222,660 – 2017, \$10,222,660 – 2016)						
Total common shares		240,990,076	98.7		240,175,373	98.7
(Cost \$212,486,693 – 2017, \$221,890,252 – 2016)						
<b>Warrants</b>						
<b>Gold and Silver Investments</b>						
<b>Gold mining, exploration, development and royalty companies</b>						
<b>Channel Islands</b>						
Lydian International Limited, C\$0.36 Warrants, 11/27/2017, (1)	—	—	—	585,000	30,476	0.0
Lydian International Limited, C\$0.36 Warrants, 11/27/2017 – 144A, (1)(2)	—	—	—	5,159,475	268,783	0.1
		—	—		299,258	0.1
Total gold mining, exploration, development and royalty companies		—	—		299,258	0.1

Edgar Filing: ASA Gold & Precious Metals Ltd - Form N-CSR

(Cost \$0 – 2017, \$260,780 – 2016)				
Total warrants	—	—	299,258	0.1
(Cost \$0 – 2017, \$260,780 – 2016)				
Total investments				
(Cost \$212,486,693 – 2017, \$222,151,032 – 2016),	240,990,076	98.7	240,474,631	98.9
(4)				
Cash, receivables, and other assets less liabilities	3,211,495	1.3	2,754,655	1.1
Net assets	\$244,201,571	100.0 %	\$243,229,286	100.0 %

(1) Non-income producing security.

(2) Restricted security.

(3) Non-income producing security in 2016 only.

(4) Cost of investments shown approximates adjusted basis for U.S. federal income tax purposes, determined in accordance with U.S. federal income tax principles. Gross unrealized appreciation of investments and gross unrealized depreciation of investments at November 30, 2017 were \$80,547,008 and \$52,043,624, respectively, resulting in net unrealized appreciation on investments of \$28,503,384. Gross unrealized appreciation of investments and gross unrealized depreciation of investments at November 30, 2016 were \$66,711,586 and \$48,387,987, respectively, resulting in net unrealized appreciation on investments of \$18,323,599.

ADR – American Depository Receipt.

May not total due to independent rounding.

The notes to financial statements form an integral part of these statements.

**Portfolio Statistics (unaudited)**

November 30, 2017 and November 30, 2016

Geographic Breakdown*	2017		2016	
Australia	7.2	%	8.3	%
Bermuda	0.4	%	0.8	%
Canada	52.7	%	54.0	%
Cayman Islands	1.9	%	0.0	%
Channel Islands	11.2	%	9.2	%
Peru	4.0	%	3.2	%
South Africa	6.2	%	6.2	%
United States	15.1	%	17.0	%
Cash	1.3	%	1.1	%
	100.0	%	100.0	%

Geographic breakdown, which is based on company domiciles, is expressed as a percentage of total net assets  
\*including cash.

Percentage totals may not equal 100.0% due to independent rounding.

**Principal Portfolio Changes in Shares for the Years Ended (unaudited)**

November 30, 2017 and November 30, 2016

	2017		2016	
Investments	Increase	Decrease	Increase	Decrease
Agnico Eagle Mines Limited		25,000		64,300
Alacer Gold Corp.	2,500,000			918,200
Alamos Gold Inc.	275,000			
Amara Mining plc, (1)				5,000,000
Amara Mining plc – 144A, (1)(2)				4,135,000
Anglo American Platinum Limited				135,100
AngloGold Ashanti Limited			75,000	
Argonaut Gold Inc.				430,000
Asanko Gold Inc.	400,000	1,825,000	575,000	
Atlantic Gold Corporation – 144A, (2)		250,000	3,000,000	
Barrick Gold Corporation		150,000		100,000
Centerra Gold Inc.				200,000
Compañía de Minas Buenaventura S.A.A. – ADRs				100,000
Detour Gold Corporation			150,000	
Dominion Diamond Corporation				50,000
Eldorado Gold Corporation, (3)	896,570	250,000		
Endeavour Mining Corporation	250,000			
ETFS Palladium Trust				70,000

Edgar Filing: ASA Gold & Precious Metals Ltd - Form N-CSR

ETFS Platinum Trust				22,500
Franco-Nevada Corporation				25,000
Freeport-McMoRan Inc.				315,000
Guyana Goldfields Inc.	200,000	387,800	278,200	
Impala Platinum Holdings Limited				572,400
Integra Gold Corp, (3)	707,000	4,957,000	4,250,000	
Kinross Gold Corporation				200,000
Lydian International Ltd, (4)			1,780,000	
Lydian International Ltd – 144A, (2)(5)	5,714,475		6,879,300	
Lydian International Ltd, C\$0.36 Warrants, 11/27/2017, (4)		585,000	585,000	
Lydian International Ltd, C\$0.36 Warrants, 11/27/2017 – 144A, (2)(5)		5,159,475	5,159,475	
MAG Silver Corporation	50,000		275,000	
New Gold Inc.				100,000
Newcrest Mining Limited		200,000		
Newmont Mining Corporation		125,000		
OceanaGold Corporation	1,600,000			
Perseus Mining Limited, (1)		7,067,700	9,317,700	2,250,000
Perseus Mining Limited, A\$0.44 Warrants, 04/18/19, (1)			3,105,900	3,105,900
Pretium Resources Inc.	425,000		300,000	
Primero Mining Corporation				200,000
Randgold Resources Limited - ADRs		28,000		15,000
Roxgold Inc.	303,800		2,523,400	
Royal Gold, Inc.				20,000
Semafo Inc.			200,000	
Sibanye Gold Limited, R11.28 Rights, 06/09/2017, (6)	1,323,741	1,323,741		
Sibanye-Stillwater	20,591			
Stillwater Mining Co.		375,000	225,000	
Stornoway Diamond Corporation – 144A, (2)			4,591,350	2,750,000
Stornoway Diamond Corporation				250,000
Stornoway Diamond Corporation, C\$0.90 Warrants, 07/08/2016				819,750
Stornoway Diamond Corporation, C\$0.90 Warrants – 144A, 07/08/2016, (2)				3,928,600
TMAC Resources Inc.			26,500	
Torex Gold Resources Inc.	50,000			

(1) Perseus Mining Limited acquired Amara Mining plc on April 22, 2016 for 0.68 Perseus Mining Limited shares plus 0.34 Perseus Mining Limited A\$0.44 Warrants, 4/18/2019 per 1 Amara Mining plc share.

(2) Restricted security.

(3) Eldorado Gold Corp acquired Integra Gold Corp on July 10, 2017 for \$0.24135 cash plus 0.18087 Eldorado Gold Corp shares per 1 Integra Gold Corp share.

(4) On April 5, 2016 and May 17, 2016 ASA purchased 300,000 and 480,000 Lydian International Ltd Subscription Receipts respectively. Each subscription receipt consisted of 1 share of Lydian International Ltd and 0.75 Lydian International Ltd, C\$0.36 Warrants, 11/27/2017. The subscription receipts were split into their individual pieces on May 26, 2016.

(5) On March 10, 2016 ASA purchased 6,879,300 Lydian International Ltd Subscription Receipts – 144A. Each subscription receipt consisted of 1 share of Lydian International Ltd – 144A and 0.75 Lydian International Ltd, C\$0.36 Warrants, 11/27/2017 – 144A. The subscription receipts were split into their individual pieces on May 26, 2016.

(6) On May 26, 2017, Sibanye conducted a Rights Offer in which 9 Sibanye Gold Limited, R11.28 Rights, 06/09/2017 were issued for every 7 Sibanye Gold Limited shares held.



**Statements of Assets and Liabilities**

November 30, 2017 and November 30, 2016

	2017	2016
<b>Assets</b>		
Investments, at value		
Cost \$212,486,693 in 2017		
\$221,151,032 in 2016	\$240,990,076	\$240,474,631
Cash	3,677,900	4,278,766
Foreign currency at value		
Cost \$0 in 2017	—	144
\$148 in 2016		
Dividends receivable, net of withholding taxes payable	102,264	74,860
Due from broker	615,885	—
Other assets	176,018	191,553
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$245,562,143</b>	<b>\$245,019,954</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Accrued affiliate expenses	\$709,206	\$797,574
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	164,804	162,199
Due to broker	—	250,027
Liability for retirement benefits due to current and future retired directors	486,562	580,868
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>\$1,360,572</b>	<b>\$1,790,668</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>\$244,201,571</b>	<b>\$243,229,286</b>
Common shares \$1 par value		
Authorized: 40,000,000 shares		
Issued and Outstanding: 19,289,905 shares	\$19,289,905	\$19,289,905
Share premium (capital surplus)	1,372,500	1,372,500
Undistributed net investment income (loss)	7,352,171	9,792,914
Undistributed net realized gain (loss) from investments	306,757,097	313,722,363
Undistributed net realized gain (loss) from foreign currency transactions	(119,073,486)	(119,271,990)
Net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments	28,503,384	18,323,599
Net unrealized gain (loss) on translation of assets and liabilities in foreign currency	—	(5 )
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>\$244,201,571</b>	<b>\$243,229,286</b>
<b>Net asset value per share</b>	<b>\$12.66</b>	<b>\$12.61</b>

The closing price of the Company's shares on the New York Stock Exchange was \$11.05 and \$10.81 on November 30, 2017 and November 30, 2016, respectively.

The notes to financial statements form an integral part of these statements.

**Statements of Operations**

For the years ended November 30, 2017 and November 30, 2016

	2017	2016
Investment income		
Dividend income (net of withholding taxes of \$328,728 and \$297,372 respectively, and ADR fees of \$5,082 and \$5,742, respectively)	\$ 1,402,806	\$ 1,203,807
Total investment income	1,402,806	1,203,807
Expenses		
Shareholder reports and proxy expenses	99,654	95,898
Directors' fees and expenses	241,588	241,803
Retired directors' fees	78,750	90,000
Investment research	1,006,310	1,103,113
Administration and operations	1,055,592	1,062,874
Fund accounting	163,076	163,076
Transfer agent, registrar and custodian	144,733	97,804
Legal fees	127,572	156,944
Audit fees	55,000	55,000
Professional fees – other	1,875	1,000
Insurance	164,582	165,581
Dues and listing fees	25,000	25,000
Depreciation expense	2,527	2,527
Total expenses	3,166,259	3,260,620
Change in retirement benefits due to directors	(94,306 )	(54,561 )
Net expenses	3,071,953	3,206,059
Net investment income (loss)	(1,669,147 )	(2,002,252 )
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) from investments and foreign currency transactions		
Net realized gain (loss) from investments		
Proceeds from sales	28,383,529	30,132,790
Cost of securities sold	35,348,795	45,438,792
Net realized gain (loss) from investments	(6,965,266 )	(15,306,002 )
Net realized gain (loss) from foreign currency transactions		
Investments	190,384	(2,788,206 )
Foreign currency	8,120	(1,270 )
Net realized gain (loss) from foreign currency transactions	198,504	(2,789,476 )
Net increase (decrease) in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments		
Balance, beginning of period	18,323,599	(85,031,219 )
Balance, end of period	28,503,384	18,323,599
Net increase (decrease) in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments	10,179,785	103,354,818
Net unrealized gain (loss) on translation of assets and liabilities in foreign currency	5	26
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) from investments and foreign currency transactions	3,413,028	85,259,36
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	\$ 1,743,881	\$ 83,257,114

The notes to financial statements form an integral part of these statements.





**Statements of Changes in Net Assets**

For the years ended November 30, 2017 and 2016

	2017	2016
Net investment income (loss)	\$(1,669,147 )	\$(2,002,252 )
Net realized gain (loss) from investments	(6,965,266 )	(15,306,002 )
Net realized gain (loss) from foreign currency transactions	198,504	(2,789,476 )
Net increase (decrease) in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments	10,179,785	103,354,818
Net unrealized gain (loss) on translation of assets and liabilities in foreign currency	5	26
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	1,743,881	83,257,114
Dividends paid/payable		
From net investment income	(771,596 )	(771,596 )
Net increase (decrease) in net assets	972,285	82,485,518
Net assets, beginning of period	243,229,286	160,743,768
Net assets, end of period (including undistributed net investment income of \$7,352,171 as of November 30, 2017 and \$9,792,914 as of November 30, 2016)	\$244,201,571	\$243,229,286

The notes to financial statements form an integral part of these statements.

## Notes to Financial Statements

Years ended November 30, 2017 and November 30, 2016

### 1. Organization

ASA Gold and Precious Metals Limited (the “Company”) is a closed-end investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “1940 Act”), and was organized as an exempted limited liability company under the laws of Bermuda.

### 2. Investment objective and strategy

The Company is a non-diversified, closed-end, internally managed fund that seeks long-term capital appreciation primarily through investing in companies engaged in the exploration for, development of projects or mining of precious metals and minerals.

It is a fundamental policy of the Company that at least 80% of its total assets must be (i) invested in common shares or securities convertible into common shares of companies engaged, directly or indirectly, in the exploration, mining or processing of gold, silver, platinum, diamonds or other precious minerals, (ii) held as bullion or other direct forms of gold, silver, platinum or other precious minerals, (iii) invested in instruments representing interests in gold, silver, platinum or other precious minerals such as certificates of deposit therefor, and/or (iv) invested in securities of investment companies, including exchange traded funds, or other securities that seek to replicate the price movement of gold, silver or platinum bullion.

The Company employs bottom-up fundamental analysis and relies on detailed primary research including meetings with company executives, site visits to key operating assets, and proprietary financial analysis in making its investment decisions.

### 3. Summary of significant accounting policies

The following is a summary of the significant accounting policies:

#### A. Security valuation

The net asset value of the Company generally is determined as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange (the “NYSE”) or the Toronto Stock Exchange (the “TSX”), whichever is later, on the date for which the valuation is being made (the “Valuation Time”). Portfolio securities listed on U.S. and foreign stock exchanges generally are valued at the last reported sale price as of the Valuation Time on the exchange on which the securities are primarily traded, or the last reported bid price if a sale price is not available. Securities traded over the counter are valued at the last reported sale price or the last reported bid price if a sale price is not available. Securities listed on foreign stock exchanges may be fair valued based on significant events that have occurred subsequent to the close of the foreign markets.

Securities for which current market quotations are not readily available are valued at their fair value as determined in good faith by, or in accordance with procedures approved by, the Company’s Board of Directors. If a security is valued at a “fair value,” that value may be different from the last quoted price for the security. Various factors may be reviewed in order to make a good faith determination of a security’s fair value. These factors include, but are not limited to, the nature of the security; relevant financial or business developments of the issuer; actively traded similar or related securities; conversion rights on the security; and changes in overall market conditions.

Where the Company holds securities listed on foreign stock exchanges and American Depository Receipts (“ADRs”) representing these securities are actively traded in U.S. markets, the securities normally are fair valued based on the last reported sales price of the ADRs.

The difference between cost and market value is reflected separately as net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments. The net realized gain or loss from the sale of securities is determined for accounting purposes on the identified cost basis.

*B. Restricted securities*

At November 30, 2017 and November 30, 2016, the Company held investments in restricted securities of 5.78% and 6.20% of net assets, respectively, valued in accordance with procedures approved by the Company’s Board of Directors as follows:

**Notes to Financial Statements (continued)**

Years ended November 30, 2017 and November 30, 2016

**Restricted Securities****November 30, 2017**

Shares/ Warrants	Cost	Issuer	Value Per Unit	Value	Acquisition Date
5,714,475	\$1,869,119	Lydian International Limited – 144A	\$0.28	\$1,617,451	11/21/2017
1,841,350	1,490,038	Stornoway Diamond Corporation – 144A	0.51	942,415	06/21/2016
6,879,300	1,269,275	Lydian International Limited – 144A	0.28	1,947,148	05/26/2016
2,750,000	1,285,447	Atlantic Gold Corporation – 144A	1.19	3,284,091	05/09/2016
185,000	898,101	TMAC Resources, Inc. – 144A	5.78	1,068,784	06/26/2015
7,857,200	4,641,822	Stornoway Diamond Corporation – 144A	0.51	4,021,366	07/08/2014
125,000	1,351,000	Torex Gold Resources, Inc. – 144A	9.90	1,237,835	01/22/2014

**Restricted Securities****November 30, 2016**

Shares/ Warrants	Cost	Issuer	Value Per Unit	Value	Acquisition Date
1,841,350	\$1,490,038	Stornoway Diamond Corporation – 144A	\$0.75	\$1,384,062	06/21/2016
6,879,300	1,269,275	Lydian International Limited – 144A	0.22	1,510,303	05/26/2016
5,159,475	234,540	Lydian International Limited, C\$0.36 Warrants, 11/27/2017 – 144A	0.05	268,783	05/26/2016
3,000,000	1,402,306	Atlantic Gold Corporation – 144A	0.66	1,987,051	05/09/2016
185,000	898,101	TMAC Resources, Inc. – 144A	11.61	2,147,801	06/26/2015
7,857,200	4,641,822	Stornoway Diamond Corporation – 144A	0.75	5,905,910	07/08/2014
125,000	1,351,000	Torex Gold Resources, Inc. – 144A	14.97	1,871,698	01/22/2014

*C. Fair value measurement*

In accordance with U.S. GAAP, fair value is defined as the price that the Company would receive to sell an investment or pay to transfer a liability in a timely transaction with an independent buyer in the principal market, or in the absence of a principal market the most advantageous market for the investment or liability. U.S. GAAP establishes a three-tier hierarchy to distinguish between (1) inputs that reflect the assumptions market participants would use in pricing an asset or liability developed based on market data obtained from sources independent of the reporting entity (observable inputs) and (2) inputs that reflect the reporting entity's own assumptions about the assumptions market participants would use in pricing an asset or liability developed based on the best information available in the circumstances (unobservable inputs) and to establish classification of fair value measurements for disclosure purposes. Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Company's investments. The inputs are summarized in the three broad levels listed below.

Level 1 – Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the Company has the ability to access.

Edgar Filing: ASA Gold & Precious Metals Ltd - Form N-CSR

Level 2 – Other observable inputs other than quoted prices included in level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability either directly or indirectly. These inputs may include quoted prices for identical instruments on an inactive market, prices for similar investments, interest rates, prepayment speeds, credit risk, yield curves, default rates, and similar data.

Level 3 – Unobservable inputs for the assets or liability to the extent that relevant observable inputs are not available, representing the Company's own assumptions about the assumptions that a market participant would use in valuing the asset or liability, and that would be based on the best information available.

The inputs or methodology used for valuing securities are not necessarily an indication of the risk associated with investing in those securities.

The following is a summary of the inputs used as of November 30, 2017 and November 30, 2016 in valuing the Company's investments at fair value:

**Notes to Financial Statements (continued)**

Years ended November 30, 2017 and November 30, 2016

**Investment in Securities  
Measurements at November 30, 2017**

Description (1)	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Level 2</u>	<u>Level</u> <u>3</u>	<u>Total</u>
Common Shares				
Gold and Silver Investments				
Gold mining, exploration, development and royalty companies	\$188,988,672	\$41,971,517	\$ —	\$230,960,189
Silver mining, exploration and development companies	3,445,194	—	—	3,445,194
Diamond Mining, Exploration and Development Companies	1,620,913	4,963,780	—	6,584,693
Total Investments	\$194,054,779	\$46,935,297	\$ —	\$240,990,076

Transfers into and out of levels are recognized at the end of the period. During the year ended November 30, 2017, there were no transfers into and out of Levels 1, 2, and 3.

(1) See schedules of investments for country classifications.

May not total due to independent rounding.

**Investment in Securities  
Measurements at November 30, 2016**

Description (1)	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Level 2</u>	<u>Level</u> <u>3</u>	<u>Total</u>
Common Shares				
Gold and Silver Investments				
Gold mining, exploration, development and royalty companies	\$180,866,017	\$39,867,939	\$ —	\$220,733,956
Silver mining, exploration and development companies	3,409,615	—	—	3,409,615
Platinum and Palladium Investments				
Platinum and palladium mining companies	5,636,250	—	—	5,636,250
Diamond Mining, Exploration and Development Companies	3,105,579	7,289,972	—	10,395,552
Total Common Shares	193,017,461	47,157,911	—	240,175,373
Warrants				
Gold mining, exploration, development and royalty companies	30,476	268,783	—	299,258
Total Investments	\$193,047,937	\$47,426,694	\$ —	\$240,474,631

Transfers into and out of levels are recognized at the end of the period. During the year ended November 30, 2016, there were no transfers into and out of Levels 1, 2, and 3.

(1) See schedules of investments for country classifications.

May not total due to independent rounding.

#### *D. Foreign Currency Translation*

Portfolio securities and other assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into U.S. dollar amounts at the rate of exchange reported one hour after the Valuation Time. Purchases and sales of investment securities and income and expense items denominated in foreign currencies are translated into U.S. dollar amounts on the respective dates of such transactions. The Company separately reports the effect of changes in foreign exchange rates from changes in market prices of securities held. The resulting net foreign currency gain or loss is included on the Statements of Operations. Realized foreign currency gains or losses arise from sales of foreign currencies, currency gains or losses realized between the trade and settlement dates on securities transactions, fluctuation in exchange rates between the initial purchase date and subsequent sale date on securities transactions, and the difference between the amounts of dividends, interest, and foreign withholding taxes recorded on the Company's books and the U.S. dollar equivalent of the amounts actually received or paid.



**Notes to Financial Statements (continued)**

Years ended November 30, 2017 and November 30, 2016

*E. Securities Transactions and Investment Income*

During year ended November 30, 2017, sales and purchases of portfolio securities (other than temporary short-term investments) amounted to \$25,484,241 and \$23,772,331, respectively. During the year ended November 30, 2016, sales and purchases of portfolio securities (other than temporary short-term investments) amounted to \$30,132,790 and \$26,032,261, respectively.

Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date, net of withholding taxes or ADR fees, if any. Withholding taxes represent amounts withheld by U.S. and foreign tax authorities. Interest income is recognized on the accrual basis.

*F. Dividends to Shareholders*

Dividends to shareholders are recorded on the ex-dividend date. The reporting for financial statement purposes of dividends paid from net investment income and/or net realized gains may differ from their ultimate reporting for U.S. federal income tax purposes, primarily because of the separate line item reporting for financial statement purposes of foreign exchange gains or losses.

*G. Use of Estimates*

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from those estimates. It is management's opinion that all adjustments necessary for a fair statement of the results of the interim periods presented have been made. All adjustments are of a normal recurring nature.

*H. Basis of Presentation*

The financial statements are presented in U.S. dollars.

*I. Income Taxes*

In accordance with U.S. GAAP requirements regarding accounting for uncertainties on income taxes, management has analyzed the Company's tax positions taken on federal and state income tax returns, as applicable, for all open tax years (2013 - 2016). As of November 30, 2017 and November 30, 2016, the Company has not recorded any unrecognized tax benefits. The Company's policy, if it had unrecognized benefits, is to recognize accrued interest and penalties in operating expenses.

#### **4. Tax status of the Company**

The Company is a “passive foreign investment company” (“PFIC”) for the U.S. federal income tax purposes and is not subject to Bermuda tax as an exempted limited liability company organized under the laws of Bermuda. Nor is the Company generally subject to U.S. federal income tax, since it is a non-U.S. corporation whose only business activity in the United States is trading in stocks or securities for its own account; under the U.S. federal tax law that activity does not constitute engaging in the conduct of a trade or business within the United States, even if its principal office is located therein. As a result, its gross income is not subject to U.S. federal income tax, though certain types of income it earns from U.S. sources (such as dividends of U.S. payors) are subject to U.S. federal withholding tax.

#### **5. Exemptive order**

The Company is a closed-end investment company and operates pursuant to an exemptive order issued by the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) pursuant to Section 7(d) of the 1940 Act (the “Order”). The Order was originally conditioned upon, among other things, the Company complying with certain requirements relating to the custody of assets and settlement of securities transactions outside of the United States different than those required of other registered investment companies. These conditions made it more difficult for the Company to implement a flexible investment strategy and to fully achieve its desired portfolio diversification than if it were not subject to such requirements.

#### **6. Retirement plans**

The Company has recorded a liability for retirement benefits due to retired directors and one current director upon retirement. The liability for these benefits at November 30, 2017 and November 30, 2016 was \$486,562 and \$580,868, respectively. A director whose first election to the Board of Directors was prior to January 1, 2008 qualifies to receive retirement benefits if he has served the Company (and any of its predecessors) for at least twelve years prior to retirement. Directors first elected on or after January 1, 2008 are not eligible to participate in the plan.

#### **7. Concentration risk**

The Company invests at least 80% of its total assets in securities of companies engaged, directly or indirectly, in the exploration, mining or processing of gold or other precious minerals. The Company also invests a substantial portion of its assets in companies that are domiciled and/or have operations outside of the United States, including emerging market countries, such as South Africa. The Company is, therefore, subject to gold and precious metals-related risk as well as risk related to investing in foreign securities, including political, economic, regulatory, liquidity, currency



**Notes to Financial Statements (continued)**

Years ended November 30, 2017 and November 30, 2016

fluctuation, and foreign exchange risks. The Company currently is invested in a limited number of securities and thus holds large positions in certain securities. Because the Company's investments are concentrated in a limited number of securities of companies involved in the holding or mining of gold and other precious minerals and related activities, the net asset value of the Company may be subject to greater volatility than that of a more broadly diversified investment company.

**8. Indemnifications**

In the ordinary course of business, the Company enters into contracts that contain a variety of indemnification provisions. The Company's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown.

**9. Compensation matters**

For the years ended November 30, 2017 and November 30, 2016, the aggregate remuneration paid to the Company's officers was \$1,485,685 and \$1,471,405, respectively. In addition, \$602,500 and \$686,500, respectively was accrued for bonuses to the Company's officers and employees. The accrued bonuses are reflected in the "Accrued affiliated expenses" on the Statements of Assets and Liabilities. The aggregate remuneration paid to the Company's directors was \$213,000 and \$213,000, respectively.

**10. Operating lease commitment**

In November 2012, the Company entered into a five-year operating lease agreement in San Mateo, CA for approximately 2,500 square feet to be used as office space for its employees. The lease provides for future minimum rental payments in the aggregate amount of \$32,474 as of November 30, 2017. The lease contains escalation clauses relating to the tenant's share of insurance, operating expenses and tax expenses of the lessor.

Future minimum rental commitments under the lease are as follows:

12/01/2017 – 02/28/2018 \$32,474

In June 2017, the Company extended its current lease and entered into an additional three-year operating lease agreement commencing on March 1, 2018.

Future minimum rental commitments under the lease amendment are as follows:

03/01/2018 – 11/30/2018	\$153,796
12/01/2018 – 11/30/2019	209,584
12/01/2019 – 11/30/2020	215,842
12/01/2020 – 02/28/2021	54,356
Total	\$633,578

## **11. Share repurchase**

The Company may from time to time purchase its common shares at a discount to NAV on the open market in such amounts and at such prices as the Company may deem advisable.

The Company had 19,289,905 shares outstanding as of November 30, 2017 and November 30, 2016. There were no repurchases during the years ended November 30, 2017 and November 30, 2016.

## **12. Subsequent events**

In accordance with U.S. GAAP provisions, management has evaluated the possibility of subsequent events existing in the Company's financial statements through the date the financial statements were issued. The Company believes that there are no material events that would require disclosure.

**Financial Highlights**

	Year ended November 30				
	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Per share operating performance (1)					
Net asset value, beginning of year	\$ 12.61	\$ 8.33	\$ 11.50	\$ 12.98	\$ 24.18
Net investment income (loss)	(0.09 )	(0.10 )	(0.09 )	(0.08 )	0.02
Net realized gain (loss) from investments	(0.36 )	(0.79 )	0.13	(0.48 )	(0.38 )
Net realized gain (loss) from foreign currency transactions	0.01	(0.14 )	(0.21 )	(0.05 )	(0.02 )
Net increase (decrease) in unrealized appreciation on investments	0.53	5.35	(2.96 )	(0.83 )	(10.64 )
Net unrealized (loss) on translation of assets and liabilities in foreign currency	0.00	0.00	(0.00 )	—	0.00
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	0.09	4.32	(3.13 )	(1.44 )	(11.02 )
Dividends					
From net investment income	(0.04 )	(0.04 )	(0.04 )	(0.04 )	(0.18 )
From net realized gain on investments	—	—	—	—	—
Net asset value, end of year	\$ 12.66	\$ 12.61	\$ 8.33	\$ 11.50	\$ 12.98
Market value per share, end of year	\$ 11.05	\$ 10.81	\$ 7.16	\$ 10.74	\$ 12.78
Total investment return					
Based on market price (2)	2.57 %	51.50 %	(33.02 %)	(15.69 %)	(41.07 %)
Based on net asset value (3)	0.74 %	51.86 %	(27.20 %)	(11.11 %)	(45.56 %)
Ratio to average net assets					
Expenses (4)	1.19 %	1.26 %	1.64 %	1.37 %	1.21 %
Net investment income (loss)	(0.65 %)	(0.79 %)	(0.83 %)	(0.54 %)	0.11 %
Supplemental data					
Net assets, end of year (000 omitted)	\$244,202	\$243,229	\$160,744	\$221,800	\$250,347
Portfolio turnover rate	9 %	10 %	10 %	7 %	7 %
Shares outstanding (000 omitted)	19,290	19,290	19,290	19,290	19,290

(1) Per share amounts from operations have been calculated using the average shares method.

(2) Total investment return is calculated assuming a purchase of common shares at the current market price at close the day before and a sale at the current market price on the last day of each year reported. Dividends are assumed, for purposes of this calculation, to be reinvested at prices obtained under the Company's dividend reinvestment plan.

(3) Total investment return is calculated assuming a purchase of common shares at the current net asset value at close the day before and a sale at the current net asset value on the last day of each year reported. Dividends are assumed, for purposes of this calculation, to be reinvested at prices obtained under the Company's dividend reinvestment plan.

(4) "Adviser operating expenses" impacted the expense ratio by 0.02% during fiscal year 2013. The Company's former subsidiary, ASA Gold and Precious Metals Advisors LLC, was discontinued on September 23, 2013.



## Certain Tax Information for U.S. Shareholders

The Company is a “passive foreign investment company” (“PFIC”) for U.S. federal income tax purposes. In view of this, U.S. investors holding common shares in taxable accounts are strongly urged to review the important tax information regarding the consequences of an investment in the common shares of the Company, which may be found at [www.asaltd.com](http://www.asaltd.com) under “Investor

Information | Taxpayer Information - PFIC”. **Due to the complexity and potentially adverse effect of the applicable tax rules, U.S. shareholders are strongly urged to consult their own tax advisors concerning the impact of these rules on their investment in the Company and on their individual situations, and any additional informational filing requirements.**

## Dividend Reinvestment and Stock Purchase Plan

Computershare Trust Company, N.A. (“Computershare”) has been authorized by the Company to offer and administer the Computershare Investment Plan, a dividend reinvestment and stock purchase plan (“CIP”) to shareholders as well as new investors or non-shareholders. Shareholders and new investors may elect to participate in the CIP by signing an enrollment form or by going to [www.computershare.com/investor](http://www.computershare.com/investor) and following the instructions. New investors or non-shareholders must include a minimum initial investment of at least \$500. Computershare as agent will apply to the purchase of common shares of the Company in the open market (i) all cash dividends (after deduction of the service charge described below) that become payable to such participant on the Company’s shares (including shares registered in his or her name and shares accumulated under the CIP) and (ii) any optional cash purchases (\$50 minimum, subject to an annual maximum of \$250,000) received from such participant.

Computershare may combine CIP participant purchase requests with other purchase requests received from other CIP participants and may submit the combined purchase requests in bulk to Computershare’s broker as a single purchase order. Purchase requests may be combined, at Computershare’s discretion, according to one or more factors such as purchase type (e.g., dividend reinvestment, one-time ACH, check, etc.), request date, or request delivery method (e.g., online, regular mail, etc.). Computershare will submit bulk purchase orders to its broker as and when required under the terms of the CIP. Computershare’s broker may execute each bulk purchase order in one or more transactions over one or more days, depending on market conditions. Each participant whose purchase request is included in each bulk purchase order will receive the weighted average market price of all shares purchased by Computershare’s broker for such order. Any stock dividends or split shares distributed on shares held in the CIP will be credited to the participant’s account.



A one-time \$10 enrollment fee to establish a new account for a new investor or non-shareholder will be deducted from the purchase amount. For each participant, each dividend reinvestment will entail a transaction fee of 5% of the amount reinvested, up to a

maximum of \$3 plus \$0.03 per share purchased. Each optional cash purchase by check or one-time online bank debit will entail a transaction fee of \$5 plus \$0.03 per share purchased. If a participant has funds automatically deducted monthly from his or her savings or checking account, for each debit the transaction fee is \$2.50 plus \$0.03 per share purchased. Fees will be deducted from the purchase amount. Each batch order sale will entail a transaction fee of \$15 plus \$0.12 per share sold. Each market order sale will entail a transaction fee of \$25 plus \$0.12 per share sold. Fees are deducted from the proceeds derived from the sale. All per share fees include any brokerage commissions Computershare is required to pay. Any fractional share will be rounded up to a whole share for purposes of calculating the per share fee. Additional fees are charged by Computershare for specific shareholder requests such as copies of account statements for prior years (\$10 per year requested) and a returned check and ACH reject fee of \$25.

Participation in the CIP may be terminated by a participant at any time by written, telephone or Internet instructions to Computershare. Upon termination, a participant will receive a certificate for the whole number of shares credited to his or her account, unless he or she requests the sale of all or part of such shares. Dividends reinvested by a shareholder under the CIP will generally be treated for U.S. federal income tax purposes in the same manner as dividends paid to such shareholder in cash. See "Certain Tax Information for U.S. Shareholders" for more information regarding tax consequences of an investment in shares of the Company, including the effect of the Company's status as a PFIC. The amount of the service charge is deductible for U.S. federal income tax purposes, subject to limitations.

To participate in the CIP, shareholders may not hold their shares in a "street name" brokerage account.

Additional information regarding the CIP may be obtained from Computershare, P.O. Box 505000, Louisville, KY 40233-5000. Information may also be obtained on the Internet at [www.computershare.com/investor](http://www.computershare.com/investor) or by calling Computershare's Telephone Response Center at (800) 317-4445 between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

## **Privacy Notice**

The Company is committed to protecting the financial privacy of its shareholders.

We do not share any nonpublic, personal information that we may collect about shareholders with anyone, including our affiliates, except to service and administer shareholders' share accounts, to process transactions, to comply with shareholders' requests of legal requirements or for other limited purposes permitted by law. For example, the Company may disclose a shareholder's name, address, social security number and the number of shares owned to its administrator, transfer agent or other service providers in order to provide the shareholder with proxy

statements, tax reporting forms, annual reports or other information about the Company. This policy applies to all of the Company's shareholders and former shareholders.

We keep nonpublic personal information in a secure environment. We restrict access to nonpublic personal information to Company employees, agents and service providers who have a need to know the information based on their role in servicing or administering shareholders' accounts. The Company also maintains physical, electronic and procedural safeguards to protect the confidentiality of nonpublic personal information.

## **Form N-PX/Proxy Voting**

The company files a list of its proxy votes with the SEC for the period of July 1 - June 30 of each year on Form N-PX. The policies and procedures used by the Company to determine how to vote proxies relating to portfolio securities and information regarding how the Company voted proxies relating to portfolio securities

during the most recent twelve month period are available on the Company's website at [www.asaltd.com](http://www.asaltd.com) and on the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). A written copy of the Company's policies and procedures is available without charge, upon request, by calling (800) 432-3378.

## **Form N-Q/Portfolio Holdings**

The Company files its complete schedule of portfolio holdings with the SEC for the first and third quarters of each fiscal year on Form N-Q. The Company's Forms N-Q are available on the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). The Company's Forms N-Q also may be reviewed and copied at the Reference Room in Washington, D.C.; information on the operation of the

Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling 1-800-SEC-0330. The schedule of portfolio holdings on Form N-Q also is included in the Company's financial statements for the first and third quarters of each fiscal year which are available on the Company's website at [www.asaltd.com](http://www.asaltd.com).

### **Common Shares Repurchased**

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 23(c) of the 1940 Act that the Company is authorized to purchase its common shares in the open market if the discount to net asset value exceeds a certain threshold as determined by the Board of Directors from time to time. The Company may purchase its common shares in such amounts and at such prices as the Company

may deem advisable. There can be no assurance that such action will reduce the discount. There were no repurchases during the twelve months ended November 30, 2017 or November 30, 2016. The Company had 19,289,905 shares outstanding on November 30, 2017.

**Board of Directors and Officers  
of ASA Gold and Precious  
Metals Limited**

Directors are elected at each annual general meeting of shareholders to serve until the next annual general meeting. The address of each director and officer is c/o ASA Gold and Precious Metals Limited, 400 S. El Camino Real, Suite 710, San Mateo, CA 94402.

**Interested Director\***

**David Christensen (55)**

Position held with the Company: Director since 2008;  
President, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Investment Officer since February 2009.

Other Directorships held by Director: Director of Denver Gold Group from 2010 to 2015.

**Independent Directors**

**Robert Pilkington (72)**

Position held with the Company: Chairman (non-executive) since 2016. Deputy Chairman (non-executive) from 2014 to 2016. Director since 2004 (Director ASA Limited South Africa from 1979 to 2004).

Principal occupations during past 5 years: Investment Banker and Senior Advisor from 2011 to 2015 and prior thereto was Managing Director of UBS Securities LLC.

Other Directorships held by Director: Director of Avocet Mining PLC from 1996 to 2014.

**Mary Joan Hoene, (68)**

Position held with the Company: Deputy Chairman (non-executive) since 2016. Director since 2014.

Principal occupations during past 5 years: Counsel, Carter Ledyard & Milburn LLP since 2010.

Other Directorships held by Director: None.

**Gary Glynn (71)**

Edgar Filing: ASA Gold & Precious Metals Ltd - Form N-CSR

Position held with the Company: Director since 2013. Chairman (non-executive) from 2014 to 2016.

Principal occupations during past 5 years: Retired.

Other Directorships held by Director: Director of Taiwan Opportunities Fund Ltd. since 2012.

**Bruce Hansen (60)**

Position held with the Company: Director since 2014. Principal occupations during past 5 years: Chief Executive Officer, General Moly, Inc. since 2007.

Other Directorships held by Director: Director of Energy Fuels Inc. since 2006; Director of General Moly Inc. since 2007; Director and past Chairman (2011) of the Nevada Mining Association since 2010.

**Other Officers**

**Jack Huntington (47)**

Position held with the Company: Chief Compliance Officer since September 2015.

Principal occupations during past 5 years: Fund Chief Compliance Officer at Foreside Fund Officer Services, LLC since 2015; Senior Vice President and Counsel at Citi Fund Services from 2008 to 2015.

**Danielle Kulp (37)\*\***

Position held with the Company: Corporate Secretary since December 2017 and Deputy Chief Compliance Officer since December 2017.

Principal occupations during past 5 years: Director, Fund Governance Services at Foreside Financial Group since 2016; Consultant and Senior Paralegal in the Legal Department of Lincoln Financial Group from 2013 to 2016.

**Sara Heston (38)**

Position held with the Company: Vice President Investments since December 2013; Analyst from January 2010 to December 2013.

Other Directorships held by Officer: Director of Denver Gold Group since December 2017.

**David Lin (39)**

Position held with the Company: Chief Financial Officer since December 2015; Controller from September 2014 to December 2015.

Other principal occupations during past 5 years: Director of Finance from 2012 to 2014 and Controller from 2008 to 2012 at White Oak Global Advisors, LLC; Chief Financial Officer at White Oak Merchant Partners, LLC from 2010 to 2014.

\* By reason of being an Officer of the Company.

\*\* As of November 30, 2017, James Nash served as Corporate Secretary and Deputy Chief Compliance Officer.

**Other Information**

**Executive Office and Shareholder Services**

ASA Gold and Precious Metals Limited  
400 S. El Camino Real, Suite 710  
San Mateo, CA 94402 U.S.A.

(800) 432-3378

**Registered Office**

Canon's Court  
22 Victoria Street  
Hamilton HM 12, Bermuda

**Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

Tait, Weller & Baker LLP, Philadelphia, PA, U.S.A.

**Counsel**

Appleby, Hamilton, Bermuda

K&L Gates LLP, Washington, DC, U.S.A.

**Custodian**

JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.  
New York, NY, U.S.A.

**Fund Accountants**

ALPS Alternative Investment Services, LLC  
Miami, FL, U.S.A.

**Transfer Agent**

Computershare Trust Company, N.A.  
P.O. Box 505000, Louisville, KY 40233-5000  
(800) 317-4445

**Website:** [www.asaltd.com](http://www.asaltd.com)

*The Semi-annual and Annual Reports of the Company and the latest valuation of net assets per share may be viewed on the Company's website or may be requested from the Executive Office (800-432-3378). Shareholders are reminded to notify Computershare of any change of address.*



[This Page Intentionally Left Blank]

[This Page Intentionally Left Blank]



## Edgar Filing: ASA Gold & Precious Metals Ltd - Form N-CSR

### Item 2. Code of Ethics.

- (a) The registrant has adopted a code of ethics that applies to its principal executive officer and principal financial officer.
- (b) Not applicable.
- (c) During the period covered by this report, there was no amendment to the code of ethics referred to in paragraph (a) of this Item that apply to a covered person and relate to any element of such code set forth in paragraph (b) of this Item 2.
- (d) During the period covered by this report, there were no waivers to the provisions of the code of ethics referred to in paragraph (a) of this Item.
- (e) Not applicable.
- (f) A copy of the registrant's code of ethics is filed herewith.

### Item 3. Audit Committee Financial Expert.

The registrant's board of directors determined that Bruce Hansen, Chairman of the registrant's Audit and Ethics Committee, is an audit committee financial expert as defined in the instructions to Item 3 of Form N-CSR. Mr. Hansen is independent as defined in Item 3 of Form N-CSR.

### Item 4. Principal Accountant Fees and Services.

- (a) **Audit Fees.** The aggregate fees billed for professional services rendered by the independent auditors for the audit of the registrant's annual financial statements and review of the semi-annual financial statements and services rendered in connection with statutory or regulatory filings for 2017 and 2016 were \$50,000 and \$50,000, respectively.
  - (b) **Audit-Related Fees –** There were no fees billed for assurance and related services rendered by the independent auditors that were reasonably related to the performance of the audit or review of the registrant's financial statements for 2017 and 2016.
-

## Edgar Filing: ASA Gold & Precious Metals Ltd - Form N-CSR

- (c) Tax Fees – The aggregate fees billed for professional services rendered by the independent auditors in connection with tax compliance, tax advice and tax planning for 2017 and 2016 were \$5,000 and \$5,000, respectively. The figures for 2017 and 2016 include fees billed for U.S. tax advisory services.
  - (d) All Other Fees – There were no non-audit fees not disclosed above that were billed for products and services provided by the independent auditors for 2017 and 2016.
  - (e)(1) The Audit and Ethics Committee ( Committee ) of the registrant has the sole authority to pre-approve all audit and non-audit services to be provided by the independent auditors, subject to the de minimis exceptions for non-audit services described in Section 10A(i)(1)B of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ( Exchange Act ) which are approved by the Committee prior to the completion of the audit. Any individual project that does not exceed \$25,000 may be pre-approved by the Chairman of the Committee. Any such pre-approval by the Chairman of the Committee must be presented to the full Committee at its next scheduled meeting. Any proposed services exceeding that cost level requires specific pre-approval by the Committee. Pre-approval of audit and non-audit services shall not be required if the engagement to render the services is entered into pursuant to pre-approved policies and procedures established by the Committee, provided the Committee is informed of each such service. The Committee has not established such policies and procedures.
  - (e)(2) None of the services described in paragraphs (b) – (d) above were approved by the Audit and Ethics Committee pursuant to paragraph (c)(7)(i)(C) of Rule 2-01 of Regulation S-X.
  - (f) Not applicable.
  - (g) The aggregate fees billed by the independent auditors for non-audit services rendered to the registrant for 2017 and 2016 were \$5,000 and \$5,000, respectively.
  - (h) Not applicable.
-

Item 5. Audit Committee of Listed Registrants.

- (a) The registrant has a standing audit committee established in accordance with Section 3(a)(58)(A) of the Exchange Act. The members of the audit committee are: Messrs. Bruce Hansen (Chairman), Gary Glynn, Robert Pilkington, Ms. Mary Joan Hoene.
- (b) Not applicable.

Item 6. Schedule of Investments.

Included as part of the report to shareholders filed under Item 1.

Item 7. Disclosure of Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures for Closed-End Management Investment Companies.

## **ASA Gold and Precious Metals Limited**

### **Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures**

The following is a statement of the proxy voting policies and procedures of ASA Gold and Precious Metals Limited ( ASA ).

#### **Proxy Administration**

ASA s portfolio is primarily comprised of holdings in precious metals companies, and thus proxy voting will be done by ASA on proposals made by these issuing companies ( portfolio company or portfolio companies ).

ASA understands its proxy voting responsibilities and that proxy voting decisions may affect the long-term interests of its shareholders. ASA attempts to process every proxy vote it receives. However, voting proxies for shares of certain non- U.S. companies may involve significantly greater effort and cost than voting proxies for shares of U.S. companies. There may be situations where ASA may not or cannot vote a proxy. For example, ASA may receive proxy material too late to act upon or the cost of voting may outweigh the benefit of voting. In addition, ASA may not receive proxy materials when it holds depository receipts, ( ADRs ) as opposed to the underlying securities. Certain issuers do not instruct the holding banks to solicit proxies from depository receipt holders.

Authority and responsibility to vote proxies with respect to ASA's portfolio securities has been delegated to the President and, in his absence or inability to act, the Chief Compliance Officer. In evaluating proxy proposals, the President (or the Chief Compliance Officer, when appropriate) may consider information from various sources, including the board of directors ( board ) of ASA presenting a proposal, as well as independent sources. The ultimate decision rests with the President (or Chief Compliance Officer, when appropriate), who is accountable to the Board of Directors of ASA.

### **General Principles**

For the purposes of ASA, a portfolio company is defined as a company in which ASA holds securities or assets.

In voting proxies, ASA will act solely in the best economic interests of its shareholders with the goal of maximizing the value of ASA's portfolio. These policies and procedures are designed to promote accountability of a portfolio company's management and board to its shareholders and to align the interests of those portfolio companies and their management with those of shareholders.

These policies and procedures recognize that a portfolio company's managers are entrusted with the day-to-day operations of the company, as well as longer-term strategic planning, subject to the oversight of that company's board.

ASA believes that the quality and depth of a portfolio company's management and its board is an important consideration in determining the desirability of an investment. Accordingly, the recommendations of the portfolio company's board on many issues are given substantial weight in determining how to vote a proxy. However, each issue is considered on its own merits, and the position of the portfolio company's board will not be supported whenever it is determined not to be in the best interests of ASA and its shareholders.

## **Specific Policies**

### **A. Routine Matters**

Election of Directors. In general, ASA will vote in favor of the board's director nominees if they are running unopposed. ASA believes that the board is in the best position to evaluate the qualifications of its directors and the needs of a particular board. Nevertheless, ASA will vote against, or withhold its vote for, any nominee whom it feels is not qualified or appears to lack sufficient independence. When the board's nominees are opposed in a proxy contest, ASA will evaluate which nominee's publicly-announced management policies and goals are most likely to maximize shareholder value, as well as the past performance of the incumbent.

Ratification of Selection of Auditors. In general, ASA will rely on the judgment of the board in selecting the independent auditors. Nevertheless, ASA will examine the recommendation of the board in appropriate cases (e.g., where there has been a change in auditors based upon a disagreement on accounting matters).

Stock Option and Other Equity Based Compensation Plan Proposals. ASA will generally approve the board's recommendations with respect to the adoption or amendment of stock option plans and other equity based compensation plans, provided that the total number of shares reserved under all of a company's plans is reasonable and not excessively dilutive.

### **B. Acquisitions, Mergers, Reincorporations, Reorganizations and Other Transactions**

Because voting on transactions such as acquisitions, mergers, reincorporations and reorganizations involve considerations unique to each transaction, ASA does not have a general policy in regard to voting on those transactions. ASA will vote on a case-by-case basis on each transaction.



### **C. Changes in Capital Structure**

ASA evaluates proposed capital actions on a case-by-case basis and will generally defer to the business analysis of the portfolio company's board in support of such actions. In cases where proposed capital actions support proxy defenses or act to reduce or limit shareholder rights, particular consideration will be given to all the effects of the action, and ASA's vote will be made in a manner consistent with the objective of maximizing long-term shareholder value.

### **D. Anti-Takeover Proposals**

In general, ASA will vote against any proposal which ASA believes would materially contribute to preventing a potential acquisition or takeover of the portfolio company, including proposals to:

Stagger the board;

Introduce cumulative voting;

Introduce unequal voting rights;

Create supermajority voting;

Establish preemptive rights.

In general, ASA will vote in favor of any proposals to reverse the above.

### **E. Shareholder Proposals Involving Social, Moral or Ethical Matters**

In general, ASA will vote in accordance with the recommendation of the portfolio company's board on issues that primarily involve social, moral or ethical matters, although exceptions may be made in certain instances where ASA believes a proposal has substantial economic implications.

### **F. Conflicts of Interest**

In view of the fact that ASA is internally managed and does not have an outside investment advisor, it is unlikely that conflicts of interest will arise in voting the proxies of ASA's portfolio companies. ASA maintains a record of affiliated persons and ownership of more than 1/2 of 1% of any publicly traded companies of each director and officer of ASA, including the Chief Executive Officer, Chief Compliance Officer and Chief Financial Officer. The Chief Executive Officer is primarily responsible for voting the proxies of ASA's portfolio companies. In the event that the Chief Executive Officer has a personal conflict of interest or is unable to vote, the proxy may be voted by the Chief Compliance Officer. In cases of a conflict of interest, a record shall be maintained confirming that ASA's vote was made solely in the interests of ASA and without regard to any other consideration.

## **G. Recordkeeping**

ASA uses ProxyEdge, a third party automated proxy voting service. Where appropriate, rationales for No votes cast by ASA will be supported by footnoted documentation on ProxyEdge. According to the Proxy Edge website, this service is a suite of electronic voting services that help simplify the management of institutional proxies. The system manages the process of meeting notifications, voting, tracking, mailing, reporting, record maintenance and even vote disclosure rules enacted by the SEC.

Item 8. Portfolio Managers of Closed-End Management Investment Companies.

Unless otherwise indicated, the information set forth below is as of November 30, 2017.

- (a)(1) As of the date of this filing, January 29, 2018, David J. Christensen, President and Chief Executive Officer of the registrant since February 2009, is responsible for the day-to-day management of the registrant's portfolio. Mr. Christensen joined the registrant in 2007 as Vice President – Investments and served in that capacity until February 2009. He served as Vice President, Corporate Development of Gabriel Resources Ltd. from 2006 to 2008; was an independent financial consultant from 2003 to 2006; and was Director of Fundamental Equity Research for Credit Suisse First Boston from 2002 to 2003.
  - (2) Mr. Christensen is not responsible for the day-to-day management of the portfolio of any other registered investment company, other pooled investment vehicle or other account, except his personal accounts or those of members of his family. Conflicts of interest could arise when a portfolio manager personally buys, holds or sells securities held or to be purchased or sold by the registrant. The registrant has codes of ethics and procedures designed to address potential conflicts of interest. However, there is no guarantee that such procedures will detect each and every situation in which a conflict arises.
  - (3) Mr. Christensen's compensation as Portfolio Manager consists of a fixed salary and a discretionary bonus, each as determined annually by the Board of Directors upon the recommendation of its Compensation Committee. In determining Mr. Christensen's compensation, the Board of Directors and Compensation Committee consider his overall performance and his management responsibilities with the registrant, including those not related to the investment performance of the registrant's portfolio. Investment performance is based on, among other things, relative performance to the Company's benchmark, the FTSE Gold Mines Index. Mr. Christensen also receives reimbursement of medical insurance. The Company pays the premium for Mr. Christensen's life insurance. In addition, under certain circumstances, Mr. Christensen may be entitled to compensation in the event that his services are terminated by the registrant.
-

Edgar Filing: ASA Gold & Precious Metals Ltd - Form N-CSR

- (4) As of the date of this filing, January 29, 2018, Mr. Christensen beneficially owns common shares of registrant having a value over \$100,000.
- (b) Not applicable

Item 9. Purchase of Equity Securities by Closed-end Management Investment Company and Affiliated Purchasers.

	<b>Total Number of Shares (or Units Purchased)</b>	<b>Average Price Paid per Share (or Unit)</b>	<b>Total Number of Shares (or Units) Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs</b>	<b>Maximum Number of Shares (or Units) That May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs</b>
December 2016–November 2017	—	—	—	—
<b>Total</b>	—(1)	—	—(2)	

(1) There were no shares purchased other than through a publicly announced plan or program.

(2) The Board reauthorized the Company's share repurchase plan on June 17, 2011.

Item 10. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders.

There have been no material changes to the procedures by which shareholders may recommend nominees to the registrant's board of directors since the registrant provided disclosure in response to Item 22(b)(15) of Schedule 14A in its proxy statement dated January 29, 2018.

## Edgar Filing: ASA Gold & Precious Metals Ltd - Form N-CSR

### Item 11. Controls and Procedures

- (a) The President and Chief Executive Officer and the Controller, in their capacities as principal executive officer and principal financial officer of the registrant, have concluded that the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 30a-3(c) under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "1940 Act")) are effective, based on their evaluation of these controls and procedures as of a date within 90 days prior to the filing date of this report.
- (b) There were no changes in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 30a-3(d) under the 1940 Act) that occurred during the second fiscal quarter of the period covered by this report that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

### Item 12. Exhibits.

- (a)(1) The code of ethics that is the subject of disclosure under Item 2 above is attached hereto.
  - (2) The certification required by Rule 30a-2(a) under the 1940 Act is attached hereto.
  - (3) Not applicable.
  - (b) The certification required by Rule 30a-2(b) under the 1940 Act, Rule 13a-14(b) under the Exchange Act and Section 1350 of Chapter 63 of Title 18 of the United States Code is attached hereto. This certification is not deemed filed for purposes of Section 18 of the Exchange Act, or otherwise subject to the liability of that section. Such certification will not be deemed to be incorporated by reference into any filing under the Securities Act of 1933 or the Exchange Act, except to the extent that the registrant specifically incorporates it by reference.
-

# Edgar Filing: ASA Gold & Precious Metals Ltd - Form N-CSR

## Signatures

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

ASA Gold and Precious Metals Limited

Date: January 29, 2018

By: /s/ David Christensen  
David Christensen  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
(Principal Executive Officer)

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the date indicated.

Date: January 29, 2018

By: /s/ David Christensen  
David Christensen  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
(Principal Executive Officer)

Date: January 29, 2018

By: /s/ David Lin  
David Lin  
Chief Financial Officer  
(Principal Financial Officer)