

ROYAL BANK OF CANADA  
 Form 424B2  
 March 29, 2017

RBC Capital Markets® Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2)  
 Registration Statement No. 333-208507

Pricing Supplement

Dated March 28, 2017 \$795,000  
 To the Product Buffered Enhanced Return Notes  
 Prospectus Supplement Linked to the iShares® Russell Midcap ETF,  
 ERN-ETF-1 Dated Due March 29, 2019  
 January 11, 2016, Royal Bank of Canada  
 Prospectus Supplement  
 Dated January 8, 2016,  
 and Prospectus Dated  
 January 8, 2016

Royal Bank of Canada is offering the Buffered Enhanced Return Notes (the “Notes”) linked to the performance of the iShares® Russell Midcap ETF (the “Reference Asset”).

The CUSIP number for the Notes is 78012KE60. The Notes do not pay interest. The Notes provide a 200.00% leveraged positive return if the share price of the Reference Asset increases from the Initial Level to the Final Level, subject to the Maximum Redemption Amount of 117.00% of the principal amount of the Notes. Investors will lose 1% of the principal amount of the Notes for each 1% decrease from the Initial Level to the Final Level of more than 10.00%. Any payments on the Notes are subject to our credit risk.

Issue Date: March 31, 2017

Maturity Date: March 29, 2019

The Notes will not be listed on any securities exchange.

Investing in the Notes involves a number of risks. See “Risk Factors” beginning on page S-1 of the prospectus supplement dated January 8, 2016, “Additional Risk Factors Specific to the Notes” beginning on page PS-6 of the product prospectus supplement dated January 11, 2016, and “Selected Risk Considerations” beginning on page P-6 of this pricing supplement.

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

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

Non-U.S. holders will not be subject to withholding on dividend equivalent payments under Section 871(m) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code. Please see the section below, “Supplemental Discussion of U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences,” which applies to the Notes.

|  | <u>Per Note</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--|-----------------|--------------|
| Price to public                        | 100.00%         | \$795,000.00 |
| Underwriting discounts and commissions | 0.00%           | \$0.00       |
| Proceeds to Royal Bank of Canada       | 100.00%         | \$795,000.00 |

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The initial estimated value of the Notes as of the date of this pricing supplement is \$981.29 per \$1,000 in principal amount, which is less than the price to public. The actual value of the Notes at any time will reflect many factors, cannot be predicted with accuracy, and may be less than this amount. We describe our determination of the initial estimated value in more detail below.

RBC Capital Markets, LLC, which we refer to as RBCCM, acting as agent for Royal Bank of Canada, did not receive a commission in connection with the sale of the Notes. See “Supplemental Plan of Distribution (Conflicts of Interest)” on page P-13 below.

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**SUMMARY**

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

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| Issuer:                                    | Royal Bank of Canada (“Royal Bank”)  |
| Issue:                                     | Senior Global Medium-Term Notes, Series G  |
| Underwriter:                               | RBC Capital Markets, LLC (“RBCCM”)   |
| Reference Asset:                           | iShares® Russell Midcap ETF  |
| Bloomberg Ticker:                          | IWR  |
| Currency:                                  | U.S. Dollars   |
| Minimum Investment:                        | \$1,000 and minimum denominations of \$1,000 in excess thereof   |
| Pricing Date:                              | March 28, 2017   |
| Issue Date:                                | March 31, 2017   |
| CUSIP:                                     | 78012KE60  |
| Valuation Date:                            | March 27, 2019   |
|  | If, on the Valuation Date, the Percentage Change is positive, then the investor will receive an amount per \$1,000 principal amount per Note equal to the lesser of:   |
|  | 1. Principal Amount + (Principal Amount x Percentage Change x Leverage Factor) and   |
|  | 2. Maximum Redemption Amount   |
| Payment at Maturity (if held to maturity): | If, on the Valuation Date, the Percentage Change is less than or equal to 0%, but not by more than the Buffer Percentage (that is, the Percentage Change is between zero and -10.00%), then the investor will receive the principal amount only. |
|  | If, on the Valuation Date, the Percentage Change is negative, by more than the Buffer Percentage (that is, the Percentage Change is between -10.01% and -100%), then the investor will receive a cash payment equal to:                          |
|  | Principal Amount + [Principal Amount x (Percentage Change + Buffer Percentage)]  |
| Percentage Change:                         | The Percentage Change, expressed as a percentage, is calculated using the following formula:   |
| Initial Level:                             | \$186.18, which was the closing share price of the Reference Asset on the Pricing Date.  |
| Final Level:                               | The closing share price of the Reference Asset on the Valuation Date.  |
| Leverage Factor:                           | 200.00% (subject to the Maximum Redemption Amount)   |

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Maximum Redemption Amount: 117.00% multiplied by the principal amount

Buffer Percentage: 10.00%

Buffer Level: \$167.56 (90.00% of the Initial Level, rounded to two decimal places)

Maturity Date: March 29, 2019, subject to extension for market and other disruptions, as described in the product prospectus supplement dated January 11, 2016.

Term: Approximately two (2) years

Principal at Risk: The Notes are NOT principal protected. You may lose a substantial portion of your principal amount at maturity if there is a percentage decrease from the Initial Level to the Final Level of more than 10.00%.

Calculation Agent: RBCCM

U.S. Tax Treatment: By purchasing a Note, each holder agrees (in the absence of a change in law, an administrative determination or a judicial ruling to the contrary) to treat the Note as a pre-paid cash-settled derivative contract for U.S. federal income tax purposes. However, the U.S. federal income tax consequences of your investment in the Notes are uncertain and the Internal Revenue Service could assert that the Notes should be taxed in a manner that is different from that described in the preceding sentence. Please see the section below, “Supplemental Discussion of U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences,” and the discussion (including the opinion of our counsel Morrison & Foerster LLP) in the product prospectus supplement dated January 11, 2016 under “Supplemental Discussion of U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences,” which apply to the Notes.

Secondary Market: RBCCM (or one of its affiliates), though not obligated to do so, plans to maintain a secondary market in the Notes after the Issue Date. The amount that you may receive upon sale of your Notes prior to maturity may be less than the principal amount of your Notes.

Listing: The Notes will not be listed on any securities exchange.

Clearance and Settlement: DTC global (including through its indirect participants Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg as described under “Description of Debt Securities—Ownership and Book-Entry Issuance” in the prospectus dated January 8, 2016).

Terms Incorporated in the Master Note: All of the terms appearing above the item captioned “Secondary Market” on pages P-2 and P-3 of this pricing supplement and the terms appearing under the caption “General Terms of the Notes” in the product prospectus supplement dated January 11, 2016, as modified by this pricing supplement.

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**ADDITIONAL TERMS OF YOUR NOTES**

You should read this pricing supplement together with the prospectus dated January 8, 2016, as supplemented by the prospectus supplement dated January 8, 2016 and the product prospectus supplement dated January 11, 2016, relating to our Senior Global Medium-Term Notes, Series G, of which these Notes are a part. Capitalized terms used but not defined in this pricing supplement will have the meanings given to them in the product prospectus supplement. In the event of any conflict, this pricing supplement will control. The Notes vary from the terms described in the product prospectus supplement in several important ways. You should read this pricing supplement carefully.

This pricing supplement, together with the documents listed below, contains the terms of the Notes and supersedes all prior or contemporaneous oral statements as well as any other written materials including preliminary or indicative pricing terms, correspondence, trade ideas, structures for implementation, sample structures, brochures or other educational materials of ours. You should carefully consider, among other things, the matters set forth in “Risk Factors” in the prospectus supplement dated January 8, 2016 and “Additional Risk Factors Specific to the Notes” in the product prospectus supplement dated January 11, 2016, as the Notes involve risks not associated with conventional debt securities. We urge you to consult your investment, legal, tax, accounting and other advisors before you invest in the Notes. You may access these documents on the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov) as follows (or if that address has changed, by reviewing our filings for the relevant date on the SEC website):

Prospectus dated January 8, 2016:

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

Prospectus Supplement dated January 8, 2016:

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

Product Prospectus Supplement ERN-ETF-1 dated January 11, 2016:

<https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1000275/000114036116047385/form424b5.htm>

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

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#### HYPOTHETICAL RETURNS

The examples set out below are included for illustration purposes only. The hypothetical Percentage Changes of the Reference Asset used to illustrate the calculation of the Payment at Maturity (rounded to two decimal places) are not estimates or forecasts of the Final Level or the share price of the Reference Asset on any trading day prior to the Maturity Date. All examples are based on the Buffer Percentage of 10.00%, the Leverage Factor of 200.00%, the Maximum Redemption Amount of 117.00% of the principal amount, and assume that a holder purchased Notes with an aggregate principal amount of \$1,000 and that no market disruption event occurs on the Valuation Date.

Example 1—Calculation of the Payment at Maturity where the Percentage Change is positive.

Percentage Change: 5%

Payment at Maturity:  $\$1,000 + (\$1,000 \times 5\% \times 200.00\%) = \$1,000 + \$100.00 = \$1,100.00$

On a \$1,000 investment, a 5% Percentage Change results in a Payment at Maturity of \$1,100.00, a 10.00% return on the Notes.

Example 2—Calculation of the Payment at Maturity where the Percentage Change is positive (and the Payment at Maturity is subject to the Maximum Redemption Amount).

Percentage Change: 20%

Payment at Maturity:  $\$1,000 + (\$1,000 \times 20\% \times 200.00\%) = \$1,000 + \$400.00 = \$1,400.00$   
 However, the Maximum Redemption Amount is \$1,170.00

On a \$1,000 investment, a 20% Percentage Change results in a Payment at Maturity of \$1,170.00, a 17.00% return on the Notes.

Example 3—Calculation of the Payment at Maturity where the Percentage Change is negative (but not by more than the Buffer Percentage).

Percentage Change: -8%

Payment at Maturity: At maturity, if the Percentage Change is negative BUT not by more than the Buffer Percentage, then the Payment at Maturity will equal the principal amount.

On a \$1,000 investment, a -8% Percentage Change results in a Payment at Maturity of \$1,000, a 0% return on the Notes.

Example 4—Calculation of the Payment at Maturity where the Percentage Change is negative (by more than the Buffer Percentage).

Percentage Change: -35%

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Payment at Maturity:  $\$1,000 + [\$1,000 \times (-35\% + 10.00\%)] = \$1,000 - \$250.00 = \$750.00$

On a \$1,000 investment, a -35% Percentage Change results in a Payment at Maturity of \$750.00,  
a -25.00% return on the Notes.

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#### SELECTED RISK CONSIDERATIONS

An investment in the Notes involves significant risks. Investing in the Notes is not equivalent to investing directly in the Reference Asset. These risks are explained in more detail in the section “Additional Risk Factors Specific to the Notes,” beginning on page PS-4 of the product prospectus supplement. In addition to the risks described in the prospectus supplement and the product prospectus supplement, you should consider the following:

**Principal at Risk –** Investors in the Notes could lose a substantial portion of their principal amount if there is a decline in the share price of the Reference Asset. You will lose 1% of the principal amount of your Notes for each 1% that the Final Level is less than the Initial Level by more than 10.00%.

**The Notes Do Not Pay Interest and Your Return May Be Lower than the Return on a Conventional Debt Security of Comparable Maturity –** There will be no periodic interest payments on the Notes as there would be on a conventional fixed-rate or floating-rate debt security having the same maturity. The return that you will receive on the Notes, which could be negative, may be less than the return you could earn on other investments. Even if your return is positive, your return may be less than the return you would earn if you bought a conventional senior interest bearing debt security of Royal Bank.

**Your Potential Payment at Maturity Is Limited –** The Notes will provide less opportunity to participate in the appreciation of the Reference Asset than an investment in a security linked to the Reference Asset providing full participation in the appreciation, because the payment at maturity will not exceed the Maximum Redemption Amount. Accordingly, your return on the Notes may be less than your return would be if you made an investment in the Reference Asset or a security directly linked to the positive performance of the Reference Asset.

**Payments on the Notes Are Subject to Our Credit Risk, and Changes in Our Credit Ratings Are Expected to Affect the Market Value of the Notes –** The Notes are Royal Bank’s senior unsecured debt securities. As a result, your receipt of the amount due on the maturity date is dependent upon Royal Bank’s ability to repay its obligations at that time. This will be the case even if the share price of the Reference Asset increases after the Pricing Date. No assurance can be given as to what our financial condition will be at the maturity of the Notes.

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

**You Will Not Have Any Rights to the Securities Included in the Reference Asset –** As a holder of the Notes, you will not have voting rights or rights to receive cash dividends or other distributions or other rights that holders of securities included in the Reference Asset would have. The Final Level will not reflect any dividends paid on the securities included in the Reference Asset, and accordingly, any positive return on the Notes may be less than the potential positive return on the securities included in the Reference Asset.

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



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

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

**The Initial Estimated Value of the Notes Is an Estimate Only, Calculated as of the Time the Terms of the Notes Were Set** – The initial estimated value of the Notes is based on the value of our obligation to make the payments on the Notes, together with the mid-market value of the derivative embedded in the terms of the Notes. See “Structuring the Notes” below. Our estimate is based on a variety of assumptions, including our credit spreads, expectations as to dividends, interest rates and volatility, and the expected term of the Notes. These assumptions are based on certain forecasts about future events, which may prove to be incorrect. Other entities may value the Notes or similar securities at a price that is significantly different than we do.

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

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

**Changes that Affect the Underlying Index Will Affect the Market Value of the Notes and the Amount You Will Receive at Maturity** — The policies of FTSE Russell, the sponsor of the Underlying Index (the “Index Sponsor”), concerning the calculation of the Underlying Index, additions, deletions or substitutions of the components of the Underlying Index and the manner in which changes affecting those components, such as stock dividends, reorganizations or mergers, may be reflected in the Underlying Index and, therefore, could affect the share price of the Reference Asset, the amount payable on the Notes at maturity, and the market value of the Notes prior to maturity. The amount payable on the Notes and their market value could also be affected if the Index Sponsor changes these policies, for example, by changing the manner in which it calculates the Underlying Index, or if the sponsor discontinues or suspends the calculation or publication of the Underlying Index.

Adjustments to the Reference Asset could adversely affect the Notes — BlackRock, Inc. (collectively with its affiliates, “BlackRock”), as the sponsor of the Reference Asset, is responsible for calculating and maintaining the Reference Asset. BlackRock can add, delete or substitute the stocks comprising the Reference Asset. BlackRock may make other methodological changes that could change the share price of the Reference Asset at any time. If one or more of these events occurs, the calculation of the amount payable at maturity may be adjusted to reflect such event or events. Consequently, any of these actions could adversely affect the amount payable at maturity and/or the market value of the Notes.

**We Have No Affiliation with the Index Sponsor and Will Not Be Responsible for Any Actions Taken by the Index Sponsor** — The Index Sponsor is not an affiliate of ours and will not be involved in the offering of the Notes in any way. Consequently, we have no control over the actions of the Index Sponsor, including any actions of the type that would require the calculation agent to adjust the payment to you at maturity. The Index Sponsor has no obligation of any sort with respect to the Notes. Thus, the Index Sponsor has no obligation to take your interests into consideration for any reason, including in taking any actions that might affect the value of the Notes. None of our proceeds from the issuance of the Notes will be delivered to the Index Sponsor.

We and Our Affiliates Do Not Have Any Affiliation with BlackRock and Are Not Responsible for its Public Disclosure of Information — We and our affiliates are not affiliated with BlackRock in any way and have no ability to control or predict its actions, including any errors in or discontinuance of disclosure regarding its methods or policies relating to the Reference Asset. BlackRock is not involved in the offering of the Notes in any way and has no obligation to consider your interests as an owner of the Notes in taking any actions relating to the

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Reference Asset that might affect the value of the Notes. Neither we nor any of our affiliates has independently verified the adequacy or accuracy of the information about BlackRock or the Reference Asset contained in any public disclosure of information. You, as an investor in the Notes, should make your own investigation into the Reference Asset.

**The Correlation Between the Performance of the Reference Asset and the Performance of the Underlying Index May Be Imperfect** — The performance of the Reference Asset is linked principally to the performance of the Underlying Index. However, because of the potential discrepancies identified in more detail in the product prospectus supplement, the return on the Reference Asset may correlate imperfectly with the return on the Underlying Index.

**The Reference Asset Is Subject to Management Risks** — The Reference Asset is subject to management risk, which is the risk that BlackRock's investment strategy, the implementation of which is subject to a number of constraints, may not produce the intended results. For example, BlackRock may invest a portion of the Reference Asset's assets in securities not included in the relevant industry or sector but which BlackRock believes will help the Reference Asset track the relevant industry or sector.

**Our Business Activities May Create Conflicts of Interest** — We and our affiliates expect to engage in trading activities related to the Reference Asset or Notes held by the Reference Asset that are not for the account of holders of the Notes or on their behalf. These trading activities may present a conflict between the holders' interests in the Notes and the interests we and our affiliates will have in their proprietary accounts, in facilitating transactions, including options and other derivatives transactions, for their customers and in accounts under their management. These trading activities, if they influence the prices of the Reference Asset, could be adverse to the interests of the holders of the Notes. We and one or more of our affiliates may, at present or in the future, engage in business with the issuers of Notes held by the Reference Asset, including making loans to or providing advisory services. These services could include investment banking and merger and acquisition advisory services. These activities may present a conflict between our or one or more of our affiliates' obligations and your interests as a holder of the Notes. Moreover, we and our affiliates may have published, and in the future expect to publish, research reports with respect to the Reference Asset. This research is modified from time to time without notice and may express opinions or provide recommendations that are inconsistent with purchasing or holding the Notes. Any of these activities by us or one or more of our affiliates may affect the price of the Reference Asset, and, therefore, the market value of the Notes.

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INFORMATION REGARDING THE REFERENCE ASSET

We have derived the following information from publicly available documents published by iShares®, a registered investment company. We have not independently verified the accuracy or completeness of the following information. We are not affiliated with the Reference Asset, and the Reference Asset will have no obligations with respect to the Notes.

iShares® consists of numerous separate investment portfolios (the “iShare® Funds”), including the Reference Asset. The Reference Asset seeks investment results that correspond generally to the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of the Underlying Index. The Reference Asset typically earns income dividends from securities included in the Underlying Index. These amounts, net of expenses and taxes (if applicable), are passed along to the Reference Asset’s shareholders as “ordinary income.” In addition, the Reference Asset realizes capital gains or losses whenever it sells securities. Net long-term capital gains are distributed to shareholders as “capital gain distributions.” However, because the Notes are linked only to the share price of the Reference Asset, you will not be entitled to receive income, dividend, or capital gain distributions from the Reference Asset or any equivalent payments. Information provided to or filed with the SEC by iShares® under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940 can be located at the SEC’s facilities or through the SEC’s website by reference to SEC file numbers 033-97598 and 811-09102, respectively. We have not independently verified the accuracy or completeness of the information or reports prepared by iShares®.

The selection of the Reference Asset is not a recommendation to buy or sell the shares of the Reference Asset. Neither we nor any of our affiliates make any representation to you as to the performance of the shares of the Reference Asset. “iShare®” and BlackRock® are registered trademarks of BlackRock®. BlackRock® has licensed certain trademarks and trade names of BlackRock® for our use. The Notes are not sponsored, endorsed, sold, or promoted by BlackRock®, or by any of the iShares® Funds. Neither BlackRock® nor the iShares® Funds make any representations or warranties to the owners of the Notes or any member of the public regarding the advisability of investing in the Notes. Neither BlackRock® nor the iShares® Funds shall have any obligation or liability in connection with the registration, operation, marketing, trading, or sale of the Notes or in connection with our use of information about the iShares® Funds.

The iShares® Russell Midcap ETF

The IWR seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of mid-capitalization U.S. equities, the Russell Midcap® Index. The shares of the Reference Asset trade on the NYSE Arca, Inc. under the symbol “IWR.”

Russell Midcap® Index (The “Underlying Index”)

We have derived all information contained in this document regarding the Underlying Index, including, without limitation, its make-up, method of calculation and changes in its components, from publicly available information. The Underlying Index is designed to track the performance of the mid-capitalization segment of the U.S. equity market. As a subset of the Russell 3000® Index, the Underlying Index consists of the smallest 800 companies included in the Russell 1000® Index. The Russell 1000® Index consists of the largest 1,000 companies included in the Russell 3000® Index. As of February 28, 2017, the average market capitalization of the companies included in the Underlying Index was approximately \$13.97 billion.

The Underlying Index is determined, comprised, and calculated by FTSE Russell. FTSE Russell does not have any obligation to continue to calculate and publish, and may discontinue calculation and publication of the Underlying Index.

Selection of Stocks Comprising the Underlying Index

All companies eligible for inclusion in the Underlying Index must be classified as a U.S. company under the index sponsor’s country-assignment methodology. If a company is incorporated, has a stated headquarters location, and

trades in the same country (American Depositary Receipts and American Depositary Shares are not eligible), then the company is assigned to its country of incorporation. If any of the three factors are not the same, the index sponsor defines three Home Country Indicators (“HCIs”): country of incorporation, country of headquarters, and country of the most liquid exchange (as defined by a two-year average daily dollar trading volume) (“ADDTV”) from all exchanges within a country. Using the HCIs, the index sponsor compares the primary location of the company’s assets with the three HCIs. If the

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primary location of its assets matches any of the HCIs, then the company is assigned to the primary location of its assets. If there is insufficient information to determine the country in which the company's assets are primarily located, the index sponsor will use the primary country from which the company's revenues are primarily derived for the comparison with the three HCIs in a similar manner. The index sponsor uses the average of two years of assets or revenues data to reduce potential turnover. If conclusive country details cannot be derived from assets or revenues data, the index sponsor will assign the company to the country of its headquarters, which is defined as the address of the company's principal executive offices, unless that country is a Benefit Driven Incorporation "BDI" country, in which case the company will be assigned to the country of its most liquid stock exchange. BDI countries include: Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, Bonaire, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Channel Islands, Cook Islands, Curacao, Faroe Islands, Gibraltar, Guernsey, Isle of Man, Jersey, Liberia, Marshall Islands, Panama, Saba, Sint Eustatius, Sint Maarten, and Turks and Caicos Islands. For any companies incorporated or headquartered in a U.S. territory, including countries such as Puerto Rico, Guam, and U.S. Virgin Islands, a U.S. HCI is assigned.

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

An important criterion used to determine the list of securities eligible for the Underlying Index is total market capitalization, which is defined as the market price as of the last trading day in May for those securities being considered at annual reconstitution times the total number of shares outstanding. Where applicable, common stock, non-restricted exchangeable shares and partnership units/membership interests are used to determine market capitalization. Any other form of shares such as preferred stock, convertible preferred stock, redeemable shares, participating preferred stock, warrants and rights, installment receipts or trust receipts, are excluded from the calculation. If multiple share classes of common stock exist, they are combined. In cases where the common stock share classes act independently of each other (e.g., tracking stocks), each class is considered for inclusion separately. If multiple share classes exist, the pricing vehicle will be designated as the share class with the highest two-year trading volume as of the rank day in May.

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

Annual reconstitution is a process by which the Underlying Index is completely rebuilt. On the last trading day of May, all eligible securities are ranked by their total market capitalization. The largest 4,000 become the Russell 3000E Index, and the other of the index sponsor's indexes are determined from that set of securities. Reconstitution of the Underlying Index occurs on the last Friday in June or, when the last Friday in June is the 29th or 30th, reconstitution

occurs on the prior Friday. In addition, the index sponsor adds initial public offerings to the Underlying Index on a quarterly basis based on total market capitalization guidelines ranking within the market-adjusted capitalization breaks established during the most recent reconstitution.

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

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## Buffered Enhanced Return Notes

Linked to the iShares® Russell Midcap ETF,

Due March 29, 2019

## Historical Information

The graph below sets forth the information relating to the historical performance of the Reference Asset. In addition, below the graph is a table setting forth the intra-day high, intra-day low and period-end closing share prices of the Reference Asset. The information provided in this table is for the four calendar quarters of 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016, and for the period from January 1, 2017 through March 28, 2017.

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

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

iShares® Russell Midcap ETF (“IWR”)

| Period-Start Date | Period-End Date | High Intra-Day Share Price of the Reference Asset | Low Intra-Day Share Price of the Reference Asset | Period-End Closing Share Price of the Reference Asset |
|-------------------|-----------------|---|--|---|
| 1/1/2013          | 3/31/2013       | \$127.42  | \$114.91   | \$127.29  |
| 4/1/2013          | 6/30/2013       | \$136.63  | \$123.17   | \$129.89  |
| 7/1/2013          | 9/30/2013       | \$142.53  | \$129.74   | \$139.07  |
| 10/1/2013         | 12/31/2013      | \$150.22  | \$135.81   | \$149.98  |
| 1/1/2014          | 3/31/2014       | \$157.93  | \$142.86   | \$154.76  |
| 4/1/2014          | 6/30/2014       | \$162.56  | \$148.20   | \$162.56  |
| 7/1/2014          | 9/30/2014       | \$165.34  | \$155.33   | \$158.34  |
| 10/1/2014         | 12/31/2014      | \$170.00  | \$145.56   | \$167.04  |
| 1/1/2015          | 3/31/2015       | \$176.48  | \$161.57   | \$173.12  |
| 4/1/2015          | 6/30/2015       | \$176.30  | \$169.79   | \$170.31  |
| 7/1/2015          | 9/30/2015       | \$172.88  | \$138.61   | \$155.56  |
| 10/1/2015         | 12/31/2015      | \$168.06  | \$153.40   | \$160.18  |
| 1/1/2016          | 3/31/2016       | \$163.46  | \$138.63   | \$162.92  |
| 4/1/2016          | 6/30/2016       | \$170.42  | \$158.50   | \$168.20  |
| 7/1/2016          | 9/30/2016       | \$176.68  | \$164.78   | \$174.32  |
| 10/1/2016         | 12/31/2016      | \$183.92  | \$164.99   | \$178.86  |
| 1/1/2017          | 3/28/2017       | \$190.88  | \$179.04   | \$186.18  |

PAST PERFORMANCE IS NOT INDICATIVE OF FUTURE RESULTS.

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Buffered Enhanced Return Notes  
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**SUPPLEMENTAL DISCUSSION OF  
U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES**

The following disclosure supplements, and to the extent inconsistent supersedes, the discussion in the product prospectus supplement dated January 11, 2016 under “Supplemental Discussion of U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences.”

A “dividend equivalent” payment is treated as a dividend from sources within the United States and such payments generally would be subject to a 30% U.S. withholding tax if paid to a non-U.S. holder. Under U.S. Treasury Department regulations, payments (including deemed payments) with respect to equity-linked instruments (“ELIs”) that are “specified ELIs” may be treated as dividend equivalents if such specified ELIs reference an interest in an “underlying security,” which is generally any interest in an entity taxable as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes if a payment with respect to such interest could give rise to a U.S. source dividend. However, U.S. Treasury Department regulations provide that withholding on dividend equivalent payments will not apply to specified ELIs that are not delta-one instruments and that are issued before January 1, 2018. Based on our determination that the Notes are not delta-one instruments, non-U.S. holders should not be subject to withholding on dividend equivalent payments, if any, under the Notes. However, it is possible that the Notes could be treated as deemed reissued for U.S. federal income tax purposes upon the occurrence of certain events affecting the Reference Asset or the Notes, and following such occurrence the Notes could be treated as subject to withholding on dividend equivalent payments. Non-U.S. holders that enter, or have entered, into other transactions in respect of the Reference Asset or the Notes should consult their tax advisors as to the application of the dividend equivalent withholding tax in the context of the Notes and their other transactions. If any payments are treated as dividend equivalents subject to withholding, we (or the applicable paying agent) would be entitled to withhold taxes without being required to pay any additional amounts with respect to amounts so withheld.

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Buffered Enhanced Return Notes  
Linked to the iShares® Russell Midcap ETF,  
Due March 29, 2019

#### SUPPLEMENTAL PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION (CONFLICTS OF INTEREST)

Delivery of the Notes will be made against payment for the Notes on March 31, 2017, which is the third (3rd) business day following the Pricing Date (this settlement cycle being referred to as “T+3”). See “Plan of Distribution” in the prospectus dated January 8, 2016. For additional information as to the relationship between us and RBCCM, please see the section “Plan of Distribution—Conflicts of Interest” in the prospectus dated January 8, 2016.

The value of the Notes shown on your account statement may be based on RBCCM’s estimate of the value of the Notes if RBCCM or another of our affiliates were to make a market in the Notes (which it is not obligated to do). That estimate will be based upon the price that RBCCM may pay for the Notes in light of then prevailing market conditions, our creditworthiness and transaction costs. For a period of approximately three months after the issue date of the Notes, the value of the Notes that may be shown on your account statement may be higher than RBCCM’s estimated value of the Notes at that time. This is because the estimated value of the Notes will not include our hedging costs and profits; however, the value of the Notes shown on your account statement during that period may be a higher amount, reflecting the addition of our estimated costs and profits from hedging the Notes. This excess is expected to decrease over time until the end of this period. After this period, if RBCCM repurchases your Notes, it expects to do so at prices that reflect their estimated value.

We may use this pricing supplement in the initial sale of the Notes. In addition, RBCCM or another of our affiliates may use this pricing supplement in a market-making transaction in the Notes after their initial sale. Unless we or our agent informs the purchaser otherwise in the confirmation of sale, this pricing supplement is being used in a market-making transaction.

#### STRUCTURING THE NOTES

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

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

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



Buffered Enhanced Return Notes  
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#### VALIDITY OF THE NOTES

In the opinion of Norton Rose Fulbright Canada LLP, the issue and sale of the Notes has been duly authorized by all necessary corporate action of the Bank in conformity with the Indenture, and when the Notes have been duly executed, authenticated and issued in accordance with the Indenture and delivered against payment therefor, the Notes will be validly issued and, to the extent validity of the Notes is a matter governed by the laws of the Province of Ontario or Québec, or the laws of Canada applicable therein, and will be valid obligations of the Bank, subject to equitable remedies which may only be granted at the discretion of a court of competent authority, subject to applicable bankruptcy, to rights to indemnity and contribution under the Notes or the Indenture which may be limited by applicable law; to insolvency and other laws of general application affecting creditors' rights, to limitations under applicable limitations statutes, and to limitations as to the currency in which judgments in Canada may be rendered, as prescribed by the Currency Act (Canada). This opinion is given as of the date hereof and is limited to the laws of the Provinces of Ontario and Québec and the federal laws of Canada applicable thereto. In addition, this opinion is subject to customary assumptions about the Trustee's authorization, execution and delivery of the Indenture and the genuineness of signatures and certain factual matters, all as stated in the letter of such counsel dated January 8, 2016, which has been filed as Exhibit 5.1 to Royal Bank's Form 6-K filed with the SEC dated January 8, 2016.

In the opinion of Morrison & Foerster LLP, when the Notes have been duly completed in accordance with the Indenture and issued and sold as contemplated by the prospectus supplement and the prospectus, the Notes will be valid, binding and enforceable obligations of Royal Bank, entitled to the benefits of the Indenture, subject to applicable bankruptcy, insolvency and similar laws affecting creditors' rights generally, concepts of reasonableness and equitable principles of general applicability (including, without limitation, concepts of good faith, fair dealing and the lack of bad faith). This opinion is given as of the date hereof and is limited to the laws of the State of New York. This opinion is subject to customary assumptions about the Trustee's authorization, execution and delivery of the Indenture and the genuineness of signatures and to such counsel's reliance on the Bank and other sources as to certain factual matters, all as stated in the legal opinion dated January 8, 2016, which has been filed as Exhibit 5.2 to the Bank's Form 6-K dated January 8, 2016.

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