

VAN KAMPEN HIGH INCOME TRUST II  
Form N-CSR  
February 27, 2009

**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 811-5769

**Van Kampen High Income Trust II**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)  
522 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York 10036

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip code)  
Edward C. Wood III  
522 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York 10036

(Name and address of agent for service)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: 212-762-4000

Date of fiscal year end: 12/31

Date of reporting period: 12/31/08

Item 1. Report to Shareholders.

The Trust's annual report transmitted to shareholders pursuant to Rule 30e-1 under the Investment Company Act of 1940 is as follows:

Welcome, Shareholder

In this report, you will learn about how your investment in Van Kampen High Income Trust II performed during the annual period. The portfolio management team will provide an overview of the market conditions and discuss some of the factors that affected investment performance during the reporting period. In addition, this report includes the trust's financial statements and a list of trust investments as of December 31, 2008.

**Market forecasts provided in this report may not necessarily come to pass. There is no assurance that the trust will achieve its investment objective. Trusts are subject to market risk, which is the possibility that the market values of securities owned by the trust will decline and that the value of trust shares may therefore be less than what you paid for them. Accordingly, you can lose money investing in this trust.**

**NOT FDIC INSURED  
NOT INSURED BY ANY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY**

**OFFER NO BANK GUARANTEE**

**MAY LOSE VALUE  
NOT A DEPOSIT**

Performance Summary as of 12/31/2008

**High Income Trust II**

**Symbol: VLT**

**Average Annual  
Total Returns**

	<b>Based on NAV</b>	<b>Based on Market Price</b>
Since Inception (4/28/89)	2.35%	1.49%
10-year	2.35	5.17
5-year	5.92	10.88
1-year	42.30	45.03

**Performance data quoted represents past performance, which is no guarantee of future results, and current performance may be lower or higher than the figures shown. For the most recent month-end performance figures, please visit [vankampen.com](http://vankampen.com) or speak with your financial advisor. Investment returns, net asset value (NAV) and common share market price will fluctuate and trust shares, when sold, may be worth more or less than their original cost.**

NAV per share is determined by dividing the value of the trust's portfolio securities, cash and other assets, less all liabilities and preferred shares, by the total number of common shares outstanding. The common share market price is the price the market is willing to pay for shares of the trust at a given time. Common share market price is influenced by a range of factors, including supply and demand and market conditions. Total return assumes an investment at the beginning of the period, reinvestment of all distributions for the period in accordance with the trust's dividend reinvestment plan, and sale of all shares at the end of the period. The trust's adviser has waived or reimbursed fees and expenses from time to time; absent such waivers/ reimbursements the trust's returns would have been lower. Periods of less than one year are not annualized.

The Lehman Brothers U.S. Corporate High Yield 2% Issuer Cap Index, which has been shown in the trust's previous shareholder reports changed its name to Barclays Capital U.S. Corporate High Yield 2% Issuer Cap Index as of November 3, 2008.

The Barclays Capital U.S. Corporate High Yield 2% Issuer Cap Index is an unmanaged, broadbased index that reflects the general performance of the U.S. dollar denominated, fixed-rate, non-investment grade, taxable corporate bond market. Issuers are capped at 2% of the index. It is not possible to invest directly in an index.

Trust Report

**For the 12-month period ended December 31, 2008**

### **Market Conditions**

Although the bond market was highly volatile throughout the reporting year, by all accounts the third and fourth quarters of the year marked a watershed for the credit markets. In September, the announcement that the federal government was placing Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac into conservatorship and shortly thereafter, that Lehman Brothers was filing for bankruptcy sparked a downward spiral in the market that accelerated at an alarming pace. Investor confidence plummeted as several other financial institutions were forced into mergers, rescued by the government, or failed altogether. Government officials took unprecedented steps to fortify the precarious financial system, including the passage of the Troubled Asset Relief Plan (TARP) and several reductions in the target federal funds rate. By year end, however, these efforts had seemingly brought little relief to the fear-driven markets. Investor confidence was further undermined by news that the economy had, in fact, been in recession since the start of the year.

Investors fled riskier assets for the relative safety of Treasury securities and cash, causing credit spreads to dramatically widen. This flight to quality, the weakening economy, and forced liquidations in the market led to the worst quarterly performance on record for the high yield sector in the last quarter of 2008, despite a significant rally in the second half of December. During the quarter, high yield spreads widened by 720 basis points to end the year at 1,784 basis points over Treasuries, while the yield to maturity of the Barclays Capital U.S. Corporate High Yield 2% Issuer Cap Index rose 582 basis points to 19.50 percent. Industry returns varied considerably but all sectors of the high yield market had negative returns for the year. Environmental, wireless and health care were the top-performing sectors and real estate investment trusts (REITs), gaming and media were the worst performers. As is typical in a down market, the higher quality segment of the market outperformed the lower quality segment.

**Performance Analysis**

The Trust's return can be calculated based upon either the market price or the net asset value (NAV) of its shares. NAV per share is determined by dividing the value of the Trust's portfolio securities, cash and other assets, less all liabilities and preferred shares, by the total number of common shares outstanding, while market price reflects the supply and demand for the shares. As a result, the two returns can differ, as they did during the reporting period. On both an NAV and a market price basis, the Trust underperformed the Barclays Capital U.S. Corporate High Yield 2% Issuer Cap Index (the Index).

**Total return for the 12-month period ended December 31, 2008**

<b>Based on NAV</b>	<b>Based on Market Price</b>	<b>Barclays Capital U.S. Corporate High Yield 2% Issuer Cap Index</b>
42.30%	45.03%	25.88%

*Performance data quoted represents past performance, which is no guarantee of future results, and current performance may be lower or higher than the figures shown. Investment return, net asset value and common share market price will fluctuate and Trust shares, when sold, may be worth more or less than their original cost. See Performance Summary for additional performance information and index definition.*

The Trust had an allocation to mortgage securities, which are not included in the Index. The fundamentals of the mortgage market deteriorated as delinquencies rose and home prices declined and therefore, the portfolio's holdings in the sector detracted from relative performance. This position was eliminated, however, early in the fourth quarter of the year. The Trust held an overweight allocation to the gaming sector relative to the Index, which also hindered performance as the sector turned in the second-worst returns in the high-yield market for the year.

Other positions, however, were additive to performance. The Trust was positioned more defensively throughout the year, with a focus on larger, more liquid companies and less exposure to the riskiest segment of the market, which was beneficial to performance given the risk-averse environment and underperformance of lower-rated securities. Additionally, an underweight to building product/home builders was advantageous given the sector's poor performance, as was an overweight to health care, one of the best performing sectors.

Despite the rally in the second half of December, spread, yield and price levels in the high yield market at year end were at levels much worse than those seen in the last two recessions, and appeared to reflect expectations for a period of record defaults. As such, we believe there will be considerable opportunities in the high yield market once the perception emerges that the economy is headed in a positive direction. We are poised to move the portfolio more aggressively in 2009 to take advantage of this potential opportunity.

In closing, a reminder that the Trust's Board of Trustees has approved a procedure whereby the Trust may, when appropriate, repurchase its shares in the open market or in privately negotiated transactions at a price not above market value or NAV, whichever is lower at the time of purchase. This may help support the market value of the Trust's shares.

*There is no guarantee that any sectors mentioned will continue to perform as discussed herein or that securities in such sectors will be held by the Trust in the future.*

**Ratings Allocation as of 12/31/08 (Unaudited)**

BBB/Baa	11.2%
BB/Ba	50.2
B/B	32.8
CCC/Ca	4.0
Not Rated	1.8

**Summary of Investments by Industry Classification as of 12/31/08 (Unaudited)**

Energy	12.6%
Healthcare	12.0
Utility	11.1
Cable	6.0
Telecommunications	5.8
Gaming & Leisure	5.8
Retail	5.1
Food & Tobacco	4.0
Forest Products	3.9
Chemicals	3.8
Wireless Communications	3.4
Manufacturing	3.3
Transportation	2.4
Financial	2.2
Food & Drug	2.1
Metals	1.9
Information Technology	1.5
Diversified Media	1.4
Consumer Products	1.4
Pipelines	1.4
Aerospace & Defense	1.3
Housing	1.3
Broadcasting	0.9
Wireline	0.8
Environmental & Facilities Services	0.7
Services	0.3
United States Treasury Obligation	0.0*
Apparel, Accessories & Luxury Goods	0.0*
Highways & Railtracks	0.0*
IT Consulting & Other Services	0.0*
Total Long-Term Investments	96.4
Total Short-Term Investments	3.6
Total Investments	100.0%

\* Amount is less than 0.1%

Subject to change daily. Provided for informational purposes only and should not be deemed as a recommendation to buy or sell the securities mentioned or securities in the sectors shown above. Ratings allocation percentages are as a percentage of long-term debt investments. Summary of investments by industry classification percentages are as a percentage of total investments. Securities are classified by sectors that represent broad groupings of related industries. Rating allocations based upon ratings as issued by Standard and Poor's and Moody's, respectively. Van Kampen is a wholly owned subsidiary of a global securities firm which is engaged in a wide range of financial services including, for example, securities trading and brokerage activities, investment banking, research and analysis, financing and financial advisory services.



### **Portfolio Management Change**

Van Kampen High Income Trust II is managed by members of the Adviser's Taxable High Yield team. The Taxable High Yield team consists of portfolio managers and analysts. The current members of the team jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Trust's portfolio are Andrew Findling, an Executive Director of the Adviser, and Dennis M. Schaney, a Managing Director of the Adviser.

Mr. Findling has been associated with the Adviser in an investment management capacity since October 2008 and began managing the Trust in October 2008. Prior to October 2008, Mr. Findling was associated with Raven Asset Management as Head Trader from July 2005 to September 2008 and prior to that, he was associated with the High Yield team at BlackRock, Inc. in various capacities including portfolio manager and trader from 2003 to 2004, assistant portfolio manager and trader from 2002 to 2003 and assistant trader from 2000 to 2002. Mr. Schaney has been associated with the Adviser in an investment management capacity since September 2008 and began managing the Trust in October 2008. Prior to September 2008, Mr. Schaney served as Global Head of Fixed Income at Credit Suisse Asset Management from October 2003 to April 2007 and prior to that, he was Head of Leveraged Finance at BlackRock, Inc. from January 1998 to October 2003. All team members are responsible for the execution of the overall strategy of the Trust's portfolio. The composition of the team may change from time to time.

### **For More Information About Portfolio Holdings**

Each Van Kampen fund provides a complete schedule of portfolio holdings in its semiannual and annual reports within 60 days of the end of the fund's second and fourth fiscal quarters. The semiannual reports and the annual reports are filed electronically with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) on Form N-CSRS and Form N-CSR, respectively. Van Kampen also delivers the semiannual and annual reports to fund shareholders, and makes these reports available on its public Web site, [www.vankampen.com](http://www.vankampen.com). In addition to the semiannual and annual reports that Van Kampen delivers to shareholders and makes available through the Van Kampen public Web site, each fund files a complete schedule of portfolio holdings with the SEC for the fund's first and third fiscal quarters on Form N-Q. Van Kampen does not deliver the reports for the first and third fiscal quarters to shareholders, nor are the reports posted to the Van Kampen public Web site. You may, however, obtain the Form N-Q filings (as well as the Form N-CSR and N-CSRS filings) by accessing the SEC's Web site, <http://www.sec.gov>. You may also review and copy them at the SEC's Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C. Information on the operation of the SEC's Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling the SEC at (800) SEC-0330.

You can also request copies of these materials, upon payment of a duplicating fee, by electronic request at the SEC's e-mail address ([publicinfo@sec.gov](mailto:publicinfo@sec.gov)) or by writing the Public Reference section of the SEC, Washington, DC 20549-0102.

You may obtain copies of a fund's fiscal quarter filings by contacting Van Kampen Client Relations at (800) 341-2929.

**Proxy Voting Policy and Procedures and Proxy Voting Record**

You may obtain a copy of the Trust's Proxy Voting Policy and Procedures without charge, upon request, by calling toll free (800) 341-2929 or by visiting our Web site at [www.vankampen.com](http://www.vankampen.com). It is also available on the Securities and Exchange Commission's Web site at <http://www.sec.gov>.

You may obtain information regarding how the Trust voted proxies relating to portfolio securities during the most recent twelve-month period ended June 30 without charge by visiting our Web site at [www.vankampen.com](http://www.vankampen.com). This information is also available on the Securities and Exchange Commission's Web site at <http://www.sec.gov>.

**Van Kampen High Income Trust II**  
**Portfolio of Investments n December 31, 2008**

<b>Par Amount (000)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Coupon</b>	<b>Maturity</b>	<b>Value</b>
<b>Corporate Bonds 173.8%</b>				
<b>Aerospace &amp; Defense 2.4%</b>				
\$ 780	Bombardier, Inc. (Canada) (a)	6.300%	05/01/14	\$ 645,450
395	Hexcel Corp.	6.750	02/01/15	302,175
				947,625
<b>Broadcasting 1.6%</b>				
420	LIN Television Corp.	6.500	05/15/13	202,650
335	LIN Television Corp., Ser B	6.500	05/15/13	158,287
515	Salem Communications Corp.	7.750	12/15/10	257,500
				618,437
<b>Cable 10.9%</b>				
785	Charter Communications Operating LLC (a)	10.875	09/15/14	631,925
1,510	CSC Holdings, Inc. (a)	8.500	06/15/15	1,336,350
115	DirecTV Holdings LLC	6.375	06/15/15	106,662
1,045	DirecTV Holdings LLC	7.625	05/15/16	1,018,875
780	Echostar DBS Corp.	6.375	10/01/11	727,350
340	Echostar DBS Corp.	6.625	10/01/14	284,750
145	NTL Cable PLC (United Kingdom)	8.750	04/15/14	109,475
100	NTL Cable PLC (United Kingdom)	9.125	08/15/16	74,500
				4,289,887
<b>Chemicals 6.9%</b>				
740	Innophos, Inc.	8.875	08/15/14	521,700
705	Koppers, Inc.	9.875	10/15/13	652,125
505	Nalco Co.	7.750	11/15/11	487,325
750	Terra Capital, Inc.	7.000	02/01/17	555,000
834	Westlake Chemical Corp.	6.625	01/15/16	487,890
				2,704,040
<b>Consumer Products 2.5%</b>				
635	Oxford Industrials, Inc.	8.875	06/01/11	482,600
740	Steinway Musical Instruments, Inc. (a)	7.000	03/01/14	518,000
				1,000,600

<b>Diversified Media 2.6%</b>				
1,425	CanWest Media, Inc. (Canada)	8.000	09/15/12	634,125
685	Dex Media West LLC, Ser B	9.875	08/15/13	164,400
2,610	Idearc, Inc.	8.000	11/15/16	208,800
				1,007,325
<b>Energy 22.8%</b>				
1,825	Chesapeake Energy Corp.	6.625	01/15/16	1,450,875
230	Cimarex Energy Co.	7.125	05/01/17	180,550
565	Compagnie Generale de Geophysique, SA (France)	7.500	05/15/15	353,125
60	Forest Oil Corp.	7.250	06/15/19	44,100
275	Forest Oil Corp.	7.750	05/01/14	232,375
1,500	Frontier Oil Corp.	6.625	10/01/11	1,365,000
625	Hilcorp Energy/Finance Corp. (a)	7.750	11/01/15	443,750
430	Key Energy Services, Inc.	8.375	12/01/14	285,950

**Van Kampen High Income Trust II**  
**Portfolio of Investments n December 31, 2008** *continued*

<b>Par Amount (000)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Coupon</b>	<b>Maturity</b>	<b>Value</b>
	<b>Energy (Continued)</b>			
\$ 346	Kinder Morgan, Inc.	6.500%	09/01/12	\$ 294,100
1,310	Massey Energy Co.	6.875	12/15/13	975,950
400	Mirant North America LLC	7.375	12/31/13	386,000
730	Newfield Exploration Co.	6.625	09/01/14	602,250
195	Newfield Exploration Co.	7.125	05/15/18	155,025
620	OPTI Canada, Inc. (Canada)	8.250	12/15/14	337,900
650	Pacific Energy Partners LP	7.125	06/15/14	568,346
210	Plains Exploration & Production Co.	7.625	06/01/18	144,900
770	Plains Exploration & Production Co.	7.750	06/15/15	585,200
750	Williams Cos, Inc.	7.625	07/15/19	586,905
				8,992,301
	<b>Environmental &amp; Facilities Services 1.3%</b>			
560	Allied Waste North America, Inc.	7.250	03/15/15	521,431
	<b>Financial 3.8%</b>			
500	Alfa MTN Invest Ltd. (Cyprus) (a)	9.250	06/24/13	287,500
1,355	GMAC LLC (a)	6.875	09/15/11	1,112,273
83	GMAC LLC (a)	7.500	12/31/13	60,611
79	GMAC LLC (a)	8.000	12/31/18	41,477
				1,501,861
	<b>Food &amp; Drug 3.7%</b>			
355	Axcan Intermediate Holdings, Inc.	12.750	03/01/16	299,975
1,030	Rite Aid Corp.	8.625	03/01/15	360,500
560	SUPERVALU, Inc.	7.500	05/15/12	495,600
365	SUPERVALU, Inc.	7.500	11/15/14	301,125
				1,457,200
	<b>Food &amp; Tobacco 7.3%</b>			
465	Constellation Brands, Inc.	7.250	05/15/17	441,750
635	Michael Foods, Inc.	8.000	11/15/13	549,275
800	Smithfield Foods, Inc., Ser B	8.000	10/15/09	764,000
1,500	Tyson Foods, Inc.	7.850	04/01/16	1,117,500

				2,872,525
	<b>Forest Products 7.0%</b>			
1,270	Crown Americas LLC	7.625	11/15/13	1,263,650
850	Georgia-Pacific Corp. (a)	7.125	01/15/17	718,250
500	Graphic Packaging International, Inc.	9.500	08/15/13	347,500
320	P.H. Glatfelter Co.	7.125	05/01/16	280,000
395	Verso Paper Holdings LLC	9.125	08/01/14	158,000
				2,767,400
	<b>Gaming &amp; Leisure 10.4%</b>			
1,297	Harrah s Operating Co., Inc. (a)	10.000	12/15/15	551,225
750	Host Marriott LP	6.375	03/15/15	562,500
1,135	Host Marriott LP, Ser J	7.125	11/01/13	919,350
860	Las Vegas Sands Corp.	6.375	02/15/15	503,100

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*See Notes to Financial Statements*

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**Van Kampen High Income Trust II**  
**Portfolio of Investments n December 31, 2008** *continued*

<b>Par Amount (000)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Coupon</b>	<b>Maturity</b>	<b>Value</b>
<b>Gaming &amp; Leisure (Continued)</b>				
\$ 245	MGM Mirage, Inc. (a)	13.000%	11/15/13	\$ 234,588
1,400	MGM Mirage, Inc.	6.000	10/01/09	1,344,000
				4,114,763
<b>Health Care 21.7%</b>				
490	Biomet, Inc.	11.625	10/15/17	421,400
960	Community Health Systems, Inc.	8.875	07/15/15	888,000
625	DaVita, Inc.	6.625	03/15/13	596,875
1,485	Fisher Scientific International, Inc.	6.125	07/01/15	1,310,342
665	FMC Finance III SA (Luxembourg)	6.875	07/15/17	625,100
1,290	Fresenius Medical Care Capital Trust IV	7.875	06/15/11	1,231,950
1,345	HCA, Inc.	9.125	11/15/14	1,250,850
455	Healthsouth Corp.	10.750	06/15/16	419,737
165	Invacare Corp.	9.750	02/15/15	146,850
500	Medco Health Solutions, Inc.	7.125	03/15/18	462,802
710	Omnicare, Inc.	6.875	12/15/15	585,750
750	Res-Care, Inc.	7.750	10/15/13	615,000
				8,554,656
<b>Housing 2.3%</b>				
1,090	Interface, Inc., Ser B	9.500	02/01/14	877,450
80	Pulte Homes, Inc.	6.375	05/15/33	42,800
				920,250
<b>Information Technology 2.7%</b>				
840	Iron Mountain, Inc.	8.625	04/01/13	793,800
725	NXP BV / NXP Funding LLC (Netherlands)	7.875	10/15/14	286,375
				1,080,175
<b>Manufacturing 5.9%</b>				
330	Baldor Electric Co.	8.625	02/15/17	247,500
1,200	Case New Holland, Inc.	7.125	03/01/14	858,000
925	JohnsonDiversey, Inc., Ser B	9.625	05/15/12	763,125
605	RBS Global, Inc. & Rexnord Corp.	9.500	08/01/14	453,750

				2,322,375
	<b>Metals 3.4%</b>			
280	Evrax Group SA (Luxembourg) (a)	9.500	04/24/18	141,400
245	Foundation PA Coal Co.	7.250	08/01/14	202,125
130	Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold, Inc.	8.375	04/01/17	106,748
1,505	Novelis, Inc. (Canada)	7.250	02/15/15	880,425
				1,330,698
	<b>Pipelines 2.5%</b>			
1,000	El Paso Corp.	12.000	12/12/13	985,000
	<b>Retail 9.1%</b>			
1,045	Brown Shoe Co., Inc.	8.750	05/01/12	778,525
690	Eye Care Centers of America	10.750	02/15/15	658,950
750	Neiman Marcus Group, Inc. (b)	9.000	10/15/15	333,750



**Van Kampen High Income Trust II**  
**Portfolio of Investments n December 31, 2008** *continued*

<b>Par Amount (000)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Coupon</b>	<b>Maturity</b>	<b>Value</b>
	<b>Retail (Continued)</b>			
\$ 1,310	Phillips-Van Heusen Corp.	7.250%	02/15/11	\$ 1,152,800
790	Sally Holdings LLC/Sally Capital, Inc.	9.250	11/15/14	683,350
				3,607,375
	<b>Services 0.5%</b>			
215	Aramark Services, Inc.	8.500	02/01/15	195,650
	<b>Telecommunications 10.6%</b>			
375	Citizens Communications Co.	6.250	01/15/13	320,625
124	Exodus Communications, Inc. (c) (d) (e)	11.250	07/01/08	0
750	Intelsat Corp. (a)	9.250	06/15/16	686,250
300	L-3 Communications Corp.	7.625	06/15/12	294,000
290	Nordic Telephone Co., Holdings (Denmark) (a)	8.875	05/01/16	204,450
1,000	Qwest Corp.	8.875	03/15/12	930,000
750	Sprint Capital Corp.	6.900	05/01/19	533,375
815	Wind Acquisition Finance, SA (Luxembourg) (a)	10.750	12/01/15	704,975
345	Windstream Corp.	8.125	08/01/13	319,125
720	XM Satellite Radio Holdings, Inc. (a)	13.000	08/01/13	169,200
				4,162,000
	<b>Transportation 4.4%</b>			
730	ArvinMeritor, Inc.	8.750	03/01/12	397,850
1,535	Ford Motor Credit Co.	7.000	10/01/13	1,061,545
160	KAR Holdings, Inc.	8.750	05/01/14	71,200
490	Sonic Automotive, Inc., Ser B	8.625	08/15/13	184,975
				1,715,570
	<b>Utility 20.0%</b>			
1,275	AES Corp.	7.750	03/01/14	1,128,375
740	AES Corp. (a)	8.750	05/15/13	714,100
615	CMS Energy Corp.	6.300	02/01/12	567,627
700	CMS Energy Corp.	8.500	04/15/11	692,864
795	Dynegy Holdings, Inc.	7.750	06/01/19	552,525
425	Edison Mission Energy	7.750	06/15/16	380,375

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800	Intergen NV (Netherlands) (a)	9.000	06/30/17	660,000
405	IPALCO Enterprises, Inc.	8.625	11/14/11	380,700
510	Nevada Power Co., Ser A	8.250	06/01/11	523,062
765	NRG Energy, Inc.	7.375	01/15/17	705,712
735	Reliant Energy, Inc.	7.875	06/15/17	599,025
315	Sierra Pacific Power Co., Ser H	6.250	04/15/12	300,510
950	Texas Competitive Electric Holdings Co., LLC, Ser A (a)	10.500	11/01/15	679,250
				7,884,125
	<b>Wireless Communications 6.1%</b>			
240	American Tower Corp.	7.125	10/15/12	237,600

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*See Notes to Financial Statements*

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**Van Kampen High Income Trust II**  
**Portfolio of Investments n December 31, 2008** *continued*

<b>Par Amount (000)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Coupon</b>	<b>Maturity</b>	<b>Value</b>
	<b>Wireless Communications (Continued)</b>			
\$ 1,425	American Tower Corp.	7.500%	05/01/12	\$ 1,410,750
1,775	Nextel Communications, Inc., Ser E	6.875	10/31/13	754,757
				2,403,107
	<b>Wireline 1.4%</b>			
815	Citizens Communications Co.	7.125	03/15/19	550,125
	<b>Total Corporate Bonds 173.8%</b>			68,506,501
	<b>Equities 0.2%</b>			
	DecisionOne Corp. (5,483 Common Shares) (e) (f)			0
	Federal National Mortgage Association (8.750%, 3,080 Convertible Preferred Shares)			3,234
	Hosiery Corp. of America, Inc., Class A (1,000 Common Shares) (e) (f)			0
	Preferred Blocker, Inc. (GMAC) (287 Preferred Shares) (a) (f)			90,333
	VS Holdings, Inc. (20,207 Common Shares) (e) (f)			0
	<b>Total Equities</b>			93,567
	<b>Total Long-Term Investments 174.0%</b> (Cost \$89,913,113)			68,600,068
	<b>Short-Term Investments 6.6%</b>			
	<b>Repurchase Agreements 5.1%</b>			
	Banc of America Securities (\$622,156 par collateralized by U.S. Government obligations in a pooled cash account, interest rate of 0.03%, dated 12/31/08, to be sold on 01/02/09 at \$622,157)			622,156
	Banc of America Securities (\$225,086 par collateralized by U.S. Government obligations in a pooled cash account, interest rate of 0.01%, dated 12/31/08, to be sold on 01/02/09 at \$225,086)			225,086
	Citigroup Global Markets, Inc. (\$237,766 par collateralized by U.S. Government obligations in a pooled cash account, interest rate of 0.05%, dated 12/31/08, to be sold on 01/02/09 at \$237,767)			237,766
	Citigroup Global Markets, Inc. (\$673,672 par collateralized by U.S. Government obligations in a pooled cash account, interest rate of 0.01%, dated 12/31/08, to be sold on 01/02/09 at \$673,672)			673,672
	JPMorgan Chase & Co. (\$237,766 par collateralized by U.S. Government obligations in a pooled cash account, interest rate of 0.02%, dated 12/31/08, to be sold on 01/02/09 at \$237,767)			237,766
	<b>Total Repurchase Agreements 5.1%</b>			1,996,446



**Van Kampen High Income Trust II**  
**Portfolio of Investments n December 31, 2008** *continued*

Description	Value
<b>United States Government Agency Obligation 1.5%</b>	
United States Treasury Bill (\$600,000 par, yielding 0.001%, 01/15/09 maturity)	\$ 600,000
<b>Total Short-Term Investments 6.6%</b>	
(Cost \$2,596,446)	2,596,446
<b>Total Investments 180.6%</b>	
(Cost \$92,509,559)	71,196,514
<b>Other Assets in Excess of Liabilities 1.7%</b>	658,813
<b>Preferred Shares (including accrued distributions) (82.3%)</b>	(32,441,611)
<b>Net Assets 100.0%</b>	\$ 39,413,716

Percentages are calculated as a percentage of net assets applicable to common shares.

- (a) 144A-Private Placement security which is exempt from registration under Rule 144A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. This security may only be resold in transactions exempt from registration which are normally those transactions with qualified institutional buyers.
- (b) Payment-in-kind security.
- (c) Non-income producing as security is in default.
- (d) This borrower has filed for protection in federal bankruptcy court.
- (e) Market value is determined in accordance with procedures established in good faith by the Board of Trustees.
- (f) Non-income producing security.

*See Notes to Financial Statements*

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**Van Kampen High Income Trust II**  
**Financial Statements**

Statement of Assets and Liabilities  
 December 31, 2008

**Assets:**

Total Investments (Cost \$92,509,559)	\$ 71,196,514
Cash	570,244
Receivables:	
Interest	1,607,107
Investments Sold	38
Other	1,152
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>73,375,055</b>

**Liabilities:**

Payables:	
Investment Advisory Fee	37,261
Income Distributions Common Shares	35,390
Other Affiliates	26,545
Trustees Deferred Compensation and Retirement Plans	424,678
Accrued Expenses	148,399
Other	847,455
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>1,519,728</b>
Preferred Shares (including accrued distributions)	32,441,611

**Net Assets Applicable to Common Shares** \$ 39,413,716

**Net Asset Value Per Common Share** (\$39,413,716 divided by 18,851,327 shares outstanding) \$ 2.09

**Net Assets Consist of:**

Common Shares (\$0.01 par value with an unlimited number of shares authorized, 18,851,327 shares issued and outstanding)	\$ 188,513
Paid in Surplus	129,726,991
Accumulated Undistributed Net Investment Income	(871,416)
Net Unrealized Depreciation	(21,313,045)
Accumulated Net Realized Loss	(68,317,327)

**Net Assets Applicable to Common Shares** \$ 39,413,716

**Preferred Shares** (\$0.01 par value, authorized 100,000,000 shares, 1,296 issued with liquidation preference of \$25,000 per share) \$ 32,400,000

**Net Assets Including Preferred Shares** \$ 71,813,716



**Van Kampen High Income Trust II**  
**Financial Statements** *continued*

Statement of Operations  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2008

**Investment Income:**

Interest	\$ 10,324,605
Dividends	5,917
Other	88,720
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>10,419,242</b>

**Expenses:**

Investment Advisory Fee	854,584
Professional Fees	200,082
Preferred Share Maintenance	175,952
Accounting and Administrative Expenses	50,694
Transfer Agent Fees	46,361
Custody	42,164
Reports to Shareholders	38,250
Registration Fees	20,045
Trustees Fees and Related Expenses	14,941
Depreciation in Trustees Deferred Compensation	(177,675)
Other	14,335
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>1,279,733</b>
Investment Advisory Fee Reduction	61,040
<b>Net Expenses</b>	<b>1,218,693</b>
<b>Net Investment Income</b>	<b>\$ 9,200,549</b>

**Realized and Unrealized Gain/Loss:**

Realized Gain/Loss:	
Investments	\$ (22,064,262)
Futures	(1,438,985)
Swap Contracts	3,683,408
Foreign Currency Transactions	(1,560)
<b>Net Realized Loss</b>	<b>(19,821,399)</b>
Unrealized Appreciation/Depreciation:	
Beginning of the Period	(3,891,900)
End of the Period:	(21,313,045)
<b>Net Unrealized Depreciation During the Period</b>	<b>(17,421,145)</b>



<b>Net Realized and Unrealized Loss</b>	\$ (37,242,544)
<b>Distributions to Preferred Shareholders</b>	\$ (3,820,943)
<b>Net Decrease in Net Assets Applicable to Common Shares from Operations</b>	\$ (31,862,938)

*See Notes to Financial Statements*

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**Van Kampen High Income Trust II**  
**Financial Statements** *continued*

Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	<b>For The Year Ended December 31, 2008</b>	<b>For The Year Ended December 31, 2007</b>
<b>From Investment Activities:</b>		
Operations:		
Net Investment Income	\$ 9,200,549	\$ 9,584,360
Net Realized Loss	(19,821,399)	(406,871)
Net Unrealized Depreciation During the Period	(17,421,145)	(3,331,551)
Distributions to Preferred Shareholders:		
Net Investment Income	(3,820,943)	(3,530,876)
Change in Net Assets Applicable to Common Shares from Operations	(31,862,938)	2,315,062
Distributions to Common Shareholders:		
Net Investment Income	(5,721,394)	(6,224,682)
<b>Net Change in Net Assets Applicable to Common Shares from Investment Activities</b>	<b>(37,584,332)</b>	<b>(3,909,620)</b>
<b>From Capital Transactions:</b>		
Repurchase of Shares	-0-	(173,301)
<b>Total Decrease in Net Assets Applicable to Common Shares</b>	<b>(37,584,332)</b>	<b>(4,082,921)</b>
<b>Net Assets Applicable to Common Shares:</b>		
Beginning of the Period	76,998,048	81,080,969
End of the Period (Including accumulated undistributed net investment income of \$(871,416) and \$(1,243,964), respectively)	\$ 39,413,716	\$ 76,998,048

**Van Kampen High Income Trust II**  
**Financial Highlights**

The following schedule presents financial highlights for one common share of the Trust outstanding throughout the periods indicated.

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004
<b>Net Asset Value, Beginning of the Period</b>	\$ 4.08	\$ 4.29	\$ 4.28	\$ 4.76	\$ 4.57
Net Investment Income	0.49(a)	0.51(a)	0.49(a)	0.52	0.52
Net Realized and Unrealized Gain/Loss	(1.98)	(0.20)	0.05	(0.45)	0.16
Common Share Equivalent of Distributions Paid to Preferred Shareholders:					
Net Investment Income	(0.20)	(0.19)	(0.17)	(0.11)	(0.05)
Total from Investment Operations	(1.69)	0.12	0.37	(0.04)	0.63
Distributions Paid to Common Shareholders:					
Net Investment Income	(0.30)	(0.33)	(0.36)	(0.44)	(0.44)
<b>Net Asset Value, End of the Period</b>	\$ 2.09	\$ 4.08	\$ 4.29	\$ 4.28	\$ 4.76
Common Share Market Price at End of the Period	\$ 1.78	\$ 3.63	\$ 4.02	\$ 4.14	\$ 5.14
Total Return* (b)	45.03%	1.71%	6.02%	11.46%	10.83%
Net Assets Applicable to Common Shares at End of the Period (In millions)	\$ 39.4	\$ 77.0	\$ 81.1	\$ 80.8	\$ 38.6
Ratio of Expenses to Average Net Assets Applicable to Common Shares* (c)	1.94%	1.84%	2.00%	2.43%	2.12%
Ratio of Net Investment Income to Average Net Assets Applicable to Common Shares* (c)	14.65%	12.06%	11.69%	11.89%	11.51%
Portfolio Turnover	46%	37%	48%	62%	86%
* If certain expenses had not been voluntarily assumed by Van Kampen, total return would have been lower and the ratios would have been as follows:					
Ratio of Expenses to Average Net Assets Applicable to Common Shares (c)	2.04%	1.93%	2.05%	N/A	N/A
Ratio of Net Investment Income to Average Net Assets Applicable to Common Shares (c)	14.55%	11.97%	11.64%	N/A	N/A

**Supplemental Ratios:**

Ratio of Expenses to Average Net Assets Including Preferred Shares (c)	1.00%	1.01%	1.10%	1.37%	1.21%
Ratio of Net Investment Income to Average Net Assets Applicable to Common Shares (d)	8.56%	7.61%	7.70%	9.24%	10.40%

**Senior Securities:**

Total Preferred Shares Outstanding	1,296	2,616	2,616	2,616	1,112
Asset Coverage Per Preferred Share (e)	\$ 55,444	\$ 54,487	\$ 56,040	\$ 55,933	\$ 59,715
Involuntary Liquidating Preference Per Preferred Share	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000
Average Market Value Per Preferred Share	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000

- (a) Based on average shares outstanding.
- (b) Total return assumes an investment at the common share market price at the beginning of the period indicated, reinvestment of all distributions for the period in accordance with the Trust's dividend reinvestment plan, and sale of all shares at the closing common share market price at the end of the period indicated.
- (c) Ratios do not reflect the effect of dividend payments to preferred shareholders.
- (d) Ratios reflect the effect of dividend payments to preferred shareholders.
- (e) Calculated by subtracting the Trust's total liabilities (not including the preferred shares) from the Trust's total assets and dividing this by the number of preferred shares outstanding.

N/A = Not Applicable

**Van Kampen High Income Trust II**  
**Notes to Financial Statements n December 31, 2008**

**1. Significant Accounting Policies**

Van Kampen High Income Trust II (the Trust ) is registered as a diversified, closed-end management investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the 1940 Act ). The Trust s investment objective is to provide high current income, while seeking to preserve shareholders capital through investment in a professionally managed diversified portfolio of income producing, fixed income securities. The Trust commenced investment operations on April 28, 1989.

The following is a summary of significant accounting policies consistently followed by the Trust in the preparation of its financial statements. The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**A. Security Valuation** Investments are stated at value using market quotations or indications of value obtained from an independent pricing service. For those securities where quotations or prices are not readily available, valuations are obtained from yield data relating to instruments or securities with similar characteristics in accordance with procedures established in good faith by the Board of Trustees. Factors considered in making this determination may include, but are not limited to, information obtained by contacting the issuer, analysts, or the appropriate stock exchange (for exchange-traded securities), analysis of the issuer s financial statements or other available documents and, if necessary, available information concerning other securities in similar circumstances. Futures contracts are valued at the settlement price established each day on the exchange on which they are traded. Short-term securities with remaining maturities of 60 days or less are valued at amortized cost, which approximates market value.

The Trust adopted Financial Accounting Standards Board Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 157, *Fair Value Measurements* (FAS 157), effective January 1, 2008. In accordance with FAS 157, fair value is defined as the price that the Trust would receive to sell an investment or pay to transfer a liability in an orderly 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. FAS 157 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 Trust s investments. The inputs are summarized in the three broad levels listed below.

- Level 1 quoted prices in active markets for identical investments
- Level 2 other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar investments, interest rates, prepayment speeds, credit risk, etc.)
- Level 3 significant unobservable inputs (including the Trust s own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments)

**Van Kampen High Income Trust II****Notes to Financial Statements n December 31, 2008** *continued*

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 December 31, 2008 in valuing the Trust's investments carried at value:

<b>Valuation Inputs</b>	<b>Investments in Securities</b>
Level 1 Quoted Prices	\$ 3,234
Level 2 Other Significant Observable Inputs	71,193,280
Level 3 Significant Unobservable Inputs	-0-
Total	\$ 71,196,514

**B. Security Transactions** Security transactions are recorded on a trade date basis. Realized gains and losses are determined on an identified cost basis. The Trust may purchase and sell securities on a when-issued or delayed delivery basis with settlement to occur at a later date. The value of the security so purchased is subject to market fluctuations during this period. The Trust will segregate assets with the custodian having an aggregate value at least equal to the amount of the when-issued or delayed delivery purchase commitments until after payment is made. At December 31, 2008, the Trust had no when-issued or delayed delivery purchase commitments.

The Trust may invest in repurchase agreements, which are short-term investments in which the Trust acquires ownership of a debt security and the seller agrees to repurchase the security at a future time and specified price. The Trust may invest independently in repurchase agreements, or transfer uninvested cash balances into a pooled cash account along with other investment companies advised by Van Kampen Asset Management (the Adviser) or its affiliates, the daily aggregate of which is invested in repurchase agreements. Repurchase agreements are fully collateralized by the underlying debt security. The Trust will make payment for such securities only upon physical delivery or evidence of book entry transfer to the account of the custodian bank. The seller is required to maintain the value of the underlying security at not less than the repurchase proceeds due the Trust.

**C. Investment Income** Interest income is recorded on an accrual basis. Bond discount is accreted and premium is amortized over the expected life of each applicable security. Other income is comprised primarily of consent fees. Consent fees are earned as compensation for agreeing to changes in the terms of debt instruments.

**D. Federal Income Taxes** It is the Trust's policy to comply with the requirements of Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code applicable to regulated investment companies and to distribute substantially all of its taxable income to its shareholders. Therefore, no provision for federal income taxes is required. Financial Accounting Standards Board Interpretation No. 48 *Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes* (FIN 48) sets forth a minimum threshold for financial statement recognition of the benefit of a tax position taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. Management has concluded there are no significant uncertain tax positions that would require recognition in the financial statements. If applicable, the Trust recognizes interest accrued related to unrecognized tax benefits in Interest Expense and penalties in Other expenses on the Statement of Operations. The Trust files tax returns with



**Van Kampen High Income Trust II****Notes to Financial Statements n December 31, 2008** *continued*

the U.S. Internal Revenue Service and New York. Generally, each of the tax years in the four year period ended December 31, 2008, remains subject to examination by taxing authorities.

The Trust intends to utilize provisions of the federal income tax laws which allow it to carry a realized capital loss forward for eight years following the year of the loss and offset these losses against any future realized capital gains. At December 31, 2008, the Trust had an accumulated capital loss carry forward for tax purposes of \$56,587,916 which will expire according to the following schedule:

<b>Amount</b>	<b>Expiration</b>
\$ 17,412,110	December 31, 2009
17,027,138	December 31, 2010
6,782,916	December 31, 2011
875,105	December 31, 2012
565,263	December 31, 2013
4,400,827	December 31, 2014
47,559	December 31, 2015
9,476,998	December 31, 2016

Due to a merger with another regulated investment company, a portion of the capital loss carry forward referred to above may be limited under Internal Revenue Code Section 382.

At December 31, 2008, the cost and related gross unrealized appreciation and depreciation were as follows:

Cost of investments for tax purposes	\$ 93,008,773
Gross tax unrealized appreciation	432,219
Gross tax unrealized depreciation	(22,244,478)
Net tax unrealized depreciation on investments	\$ (21,812,259)

***E. Distribution of Income and Gains*** The Trust declares and pays monthly dividends from net investment income to common shareholders. Net realized gains, if any, are distributed at least annually on a pro rata basis to common and preferred shareholders. Distributions from net realized gains for book purposes may include short-term capital gains and a portion of futures gains, which are included in ordinary income for tax purposes.

The tax character of distributions paid during the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007 was as follows:

	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
Distributions paid from:		
Ordinary income	\$ 9,651,700	\$ 9,733,991

Permanent differences, primarily due to the capital loss carryforward in the amount of \$9,851,557 expiring in the current year and a reclassification of swap income from gains,





**Van Kampen High Income Trust II****Notes to Financial Statements n December 31, 2008** *continued*

resulted in the following reclassifications among the Trust's components of net assets at December 31, 2008:

<b>Accumulated Undistributed Net Investment Income</b>	<b>Accumulated Net Realized Loss</b>	<b>Paid in Surplus</b>
\$ 714,336	\$ 9,137,221	\$ (9,851,557)

As of December 31, 2008, the components of distributable earnings on a tax basis were as follows:

Undistributed ordinary income	\$ 15,297
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Net realized gains or losses may differ for financial reporting and tax purposes primarily as a result of gains or losses recognized on securities for tax purposes but not for book purposes, post-October losses of \$11,661,931 which are not recognized for tax purposes until the first of the following fiscal year, and the deferral of losses relating to wash sale transactions.

**F. Foreign Currency Translation** Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into U.S. dollars at the mean of the quoted bid and asked prices of such currencies against the U.S. dollar. Purchases and sales of portfolio securities are translated at the rate of exchange prevailing when such securities were acquired or sold. Realized gain and loss on foreign currency transactions on the Statement of Operations includes the net realized amount from the sale of foreign currency, the amount realized between trade date and settlement date on securities transactions and the foreign currency portion of gain and losses on the sale of securities. Income and expense are translated at rates prevailing when accrued.

## **2. Investment Advisory Agreement and Other Transactions with Affiliates**

Under the terms of the Trust's Investment Advisory Agreement, the Adviser will provide investment advice and facilities to the Trust for an annual fee payable monthly of .70% of the average daily net assets including current preferred shares of the Trust. For the year ended December 31, 2008, the Adviser voluntarily waived approximately \$61,000 of its advisory fees or other expenses. This represents .05% of the average daily net assets including preferred shares of the Trust. This waiver is voluntary and can be discontinued at any time.

For the year ended December 31, 2008, the Trust recognized expenses of approximately \$117,900 representing legal services provided by Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP, of which a trustee of the Trust is a partner of such firm and he and his law firm provide legal services as legal counsel to the Trust.

Under separate Legal Services, Accounting Services and Chief Compliance Officer (CCO) Employment agreements, the Adviser provides accounting and legal services and the CCO provides compliance services to the Trust. The costs of these services are allocated to each trust. For the year ended December 31, 2008, the Trust recognized expenses of approximately \$42,900 representing Van Kampen Investments Inc.'s or its affiliates (collectively Van Kampen) cost of providing accounting and legal services to the Trust, as well as the salary, benefits and related costs of the CCO and related support staff paid by Van Kampen. Services provided pursuant to the Legal Services agreement are reported as part of Professional Fees on the Statement of Operations. Services provided pursuant to the Accounting

**Van Kampen High Income Trust II****Notes to Financial Statements n December 31, 2008** *continued*

Services and CCO Employment agreement are reported as part of Accounting and Administrative Expenses on the Statement of Operations.

Certain officers and trustees of the Trust are also officers and directors of Van Kampen. The Trust does not compensate its officers or trustees who are also officers of Van Kampen.

The Trust provides deferred compensation and retirement plans for its trustees who are not officers of Van Kampen. Under the deferred compensation plan, trustees may elect to defer all or a portion of their compensation to a later date. Benefits under the retirement plan are payable upon retirement for a ten-year period and are based upon each trustee's years of service to the Trust. The maximum annual benefit per trustee under the plan is \$2,500.

**3. Capital Transactions**

For the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007, transactions in common shares were as follows:

	<b>Year Ended December 31, 2008</b>	<b>Year Ended December 31, 2007</b>
Beginning Shares	18,851,327	18,893,621
Shares Repurchased*	-0-	(42,294)
Ending Shares	18,851,327	18,851,327

\* For the period ended December 31, 2007, the Trust repurchased 42,294 of its shares at an average discount of 6.269% from net asset value per share.

**4. Investment Transactions**

During the period, the cost of purchases and proceeds from sales of investments, excluding short-term investments and U.S. Government securities, were \$52,305,449 and \$77,236,451, respectively. The cost of purchases and proceeds from sales of long-term U.S. Government securities, including paydowns on mortgage-backed securities, for the period were \$0 and \$3,650,725, respectively.

**5. Derivative Financial Instruments**

A derivative financial instrument in very general terms refers to a security whose value is derived from the value of an underlying asset, reference rate or index.

The Trust may use derivative instruments for a variety of reasons, such as to attempt to protect the Trust against possible changes in the market value of its portfolio or to generate potential gain. All of the Trust's portfolio holdings, including derivative instruments, are marked to market each day with the change in value reflected in the unrealized appreciation/depreciation. Upon disposition, a realized gain or loss is recognized accordingly, except when taking delivery of a security underlying a futures contract. In these instances, the recognition of gain or loss is postponed until the disposal of the security underlying the futures contract. Risks may arise as a result of the potential inability of the counterparties to meet the terms of their contracts.

Summarized below are the specific types of derivative financial instruments used by the Trust.

**A. Futures Contracts** A futures contract is an agreement involving the delivery of a particular asset on a specified future date at an agreed upon price. The Trust generally invests in futures



**Van Kampen High Income Trust II****Notes to Financial Statements n December 31, 2008** *continued*

on U.S. Treasury Bonds or Notes. Upon entering into futures contracts, the Trust maintains an amount of cash or liquid securities with a value equal to a percentage of the contract amount with either a futures commission merchant pursuant to rules and regulations promulgated under the 1940 Act, or with its custodian in an account in the broker's name. This amount is known as initial margin. During the period the futures contract is open, payments are received from or made to the broker based upon changes in the value of the contract (the variation margin). The risk of loss associated with a futures contract is in excess of the variation margin reflected on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

Transactions in futures contracts for the year ended December 31, 2008 were as follows:

	<b>Contracts</b>
Outstanding at December 31, 2007	290
Futures Opened	1,613
Futures Closed	(1,903)
Outstanding at December 31, 2008	-0-

**B. Swap Contracts** The Trust adopted the provisions of the FASB Staff Position Paper No. FAS 133-1 and FIN 45-4, *Disclosures about Credit Derivatives and Certain Guarantees: An Amendment of FASB Statement No. 133 and FASB Interpretation No. 45* (FSP FAS 133-1 and FIN 45-4), effective November 30, 2008. FSP FAS 133-1 and FIN 45-4 requires the seller of credit derivatives to provide additional disclosure about its credit derivatives.

The Trust may enter into credit default swap contracts, a type of credit derivative, for hedging purposes or to gain exposure to a credit or index of credits in which the Trust may otherwise invest. A credit default swap is an agreement between two parties to exchange the credit risk of an issuer or index of issuers. A buyer of a credit default swap is said to buy protection by paying periodic fees in return for a contingent payment from the seller if the issuer has a credit event such as bankruptcy, a failure to pay outstanding obligations or deteriorating credit while the swap is outstanding. A seller of a credit default swap is said to sell protection and thus collects the periodic fees and profits if the credit of the issuer remains stable or improves while the swap is outstanding. The seller in a credit default swap contract would be required to pay an agreed-upon amount, to the buyer in the event of an adverse credit event of the issuer. This agreed-upon amount approximates the notional amount of the swap as disclosed in the table following the Portfolio of Investments and is estimated to be the maximum potential future payment that the seller could be required to make under the credit default swap contract. In the event of an adverse credit event, the seller generally does not have any contractual remedies against the issuer or any other third party. However, if a physical settlement is elected, the seller would receive the defaulted credit and, as a result, become a creditor of the issuer.

The current credit rating of each individual issuer is listed in the table following the Portfolio of Investments and serves as an indicator of the current status of the payment/performance risk of the credit derivative. Alternatively, for credit default swaps on an index of credits, the quoted market prices and current values serve as an indicator of the current status of the payment/performance risk of the credit derivative. Generally, lower credit ratings and increasing market values, in absolute terms, represent a deterioration of the credit and a greater likelihood of an adverse credit event of the issuer.

The Trust accrues for the periodic fees on credit default swaps on a daily basis with the net amount accrued recorded within unrealized appreciation/ depreciation of swap contracts.



**Van Kampen High Income Trust II****Notes to Financial Statements n December 31, 2008** *continued*

Upon cash settlement of the periodic fees, the net amount is recorded as realized gain/loss on swap contracts on the Statement of Operations. Net unrealized gains are recorded as an asset or net unrealized losses are reported as a liability on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. The change in value of the swap contracts is reported as unrealized gains or losses on the Statement of Operations. Payments received or made upon entering into a credit default swap contract, if any, are recorded as realized gain or loss on the Statement of Operations upon termination or maturity of the swap. Credit default swaps may involve greater risks than if a Trust had invested in the issuer directly. Credit default swaps are subject to general market risk, counterparty risk and credit risk.

The Trust may also enter into interest rate swaps primarily to preserve a return or spread on a particular investment or portion of its portfolio, as a duration management technique or to protect against any increase in the price of securities the Trust anticipates purchasing at a later date. Interest rate swaps are contractual agreements to exchange interest payments calculated on a predetermined notional principal amount. Interest rate swaps generally involve one party paying a fixed interest rate and the other party paying a variable rate. The Trust will usually enter into interest rate swaps on a net basis, i.e., the two payments are netted out in a cash settlement on the payment date or dates specified in the instrument, with the Trust receiving or paying, as the case may be, only the net amount of the two payments. The Trust accrues the net amount with respect to each interest rate swap on a daily basis. This net amount is recorded within unrealized appreciation/depreciation on swap contracts. Upon cash settlement of the payments, the net amount is recorded as realized gain/loss on swap contracts on the Statement of Operations. Risks may arise as a result of the potential inability of the counterparties to meet the terms of their contracts.

Swap agreements are not entered into or traded on exchanges and there is no central clearing or guaranty function for swaps. Therefore, swaps are subject to the risk of default or non-performance by the counterparty. If there is a default by the counterparty to a swap agreement, the Trust will have contractual remedies pursuant to the agreements related to the transaction. Counterparties are required to pledge collateral daily (based on the valuation of each swap) on behalf of the Trust with a value approximately equal to the amount of any unrealized gain. Reciprocally, when the Trust has an unrealized loss on a swap contract, the Trust has instructed the custodian to pledge cash or liquid securities as collateral with a value approximately equal to the amount of the unrealized loss. Collateral pledges are monitored and subsequently adjusted if and when the swap valuations fluctuate. Cash collateral is disclosed in the table following the Portfolio of Investments. Cash collateral has been offset against open swap contracts under the provisions of FASB Interpretation No. 39 *Offsetting of Amounts Related to Certain Contracts an interpretation of APB Opinion No. 10 and FASB Statement No. 105* and are included within Swap Contracts on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. For cash collateral received, the Trust pays a monthly fee to the counterparty based on the effective rate for Federal Trusts. This fee, when paid, is included within realized loss on swap contracts on the Statement of Operations.

**6. Mortgage Backed Securities**

The Trust may invest in various types of Mortgage Backed Securities. A Mortgage Backed Security (MBS) is a pass-through security created by pooling mortgages and selling participations in the principal and interest payments received from borrowers. Most of these securities are guaranteed by federally sponsored agencies Government National Mortgage Association (GNMA), Federal National Mortgage Association (FNMA) or Federal Home Loan Mortgage

## Van Kampen High Income Trust II

### Notes to Financial Statements n December 31, 2008 *continued*

Corporation (FHLMC). A Collateralized Mortgage Obligation (CMO) is a bond which is collateralized by a pool of MBS s.

These securities derive their value from or represent interests in a pool of mortgages, or mortgage securities. Mortgage securities are subject to prepayment risk the risk that, as mortgage interest rates fall, borrowers will refinance and prepay principal. A trust holding mortgage securities that are experiencing prepayments will have to reinvest these payments at lower prevailing interest rates. On the other hand, when interest rates rise, borrowers are less likely to refinance resulting in lower prepayments. This can effectively extend the maturity of a Trust s mortgage securities resulting in greater price volatility. It can be difficult to measure precisely the remaining life of a mortgage security or the average life of a portfolio of such securities.

To the extent a trust invests in mortgage securities offered by non-governmental issuers, such as commercial banks, savings and loan institutions, private mortgage insurance companies, mortgage bankers and other secondary market issuers, the Trust may be subject to additional risks. Timely payment of interest and principal of non-governmental issuers are supported by various forms of private insurance or guarantees, including individual loan, title, pool and hazard insurance purchased by the issuer. There can be no assurance that the private insurers can meet their obligations under the policies.

An unexpectedly high rate of defaults on the mortgages held by a mortgage pool may adversely affect the value of a mortgage backed security and could result in losses to a trust. The risk of such defaults is generally higher in the case of mortgage pools that include subprime mortgages. Subprime mortgages refer to loans made to borrowers with weakened credit histories or with a lower capacity to make timely payment on their mortgages.

#### 7. Preferred Shares

The Trust has outstanding 1,296 Auction Preferred Shares (APS). Series A contains 551 shares and Series B contains 745 shares. Dividends are cumulative and the dividend rate on each series is currently reset every 28 days through an auction process. Beginning on February 20, 2008 and continuing through December 31, 2008, all series of preferred shares of the Trust were not successfully remarketed. As a result, the dividend rates of these preferred shares were reset to the maximum applicable rate on APS. If the preferred shares are unable to be remarketed on a remarketing date, the Trust would be required to pay the maximum applicable rate on APS to holders of such shares for successive dividend periods until such time when the shares are successfully remarketed. The maximum rate on APS is equal to 150% of the applicable commercial paper rate on the date. The average rate in effect on December 31, 2008 was 4.763%. During the year ended December 31, 2008, the rates ranged from 4.358% to 7.103%.

The Trust pays annual fees equivalent to .25% of the preferred share liquidation value for the remarketing efforts associated with the preferred auctions. These fees are included as a component of Preferred Share Maintenance expense on the Statement of Operations.

The APS are redeemable at the option of the Trust in whole or in part at the liquidation value of \$25,000 per share plus accumulated and unpaid dividends. The Trust is subject to certain asset coverage tests and the APS are subject to mandatory redemption if the tests are



**Van Kampen High Income Trust II****Notes to Financial Statements n December 31, 2008** *continued*

not met. During the year ended December 31, 2008 the Trust redeemed a portion of its preferred shares as follows:

	<b>Series A Shares</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Series B Shares</b>	<b>Value</b>
Outstanding at 12/31/07	1,112	\$ 27,800,000	1,504	\$ 37,600,000
Shares Retired	(561)	(14,025,000)	(759)	(18,975,000)
Outstanding at 12/31/08	551	\$ 13,775,000	745	\$ 18,625,000

**8. Indemnifications**

The Trust enters into contracts that contain a variety of indemnifications. The Trust's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown. However, the Trust has not had prior claims or losses pursuant to these contracts and expects the risk of loss to be remote.

**9. Accounting Pronouncement**

On March 19, 2008, Financial Accounting Standards Board released Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 161, *Disclosures about Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities* (FAS 161). FAS 161 requires qualitative disclosures about objectives and strategies for using derivatives, quantitative disclosures about fair value amounts of and gains and losses on derivative instruments, and disclosures about credit-risk-related contingent features in derivative agreements. The application of FAS 161 is required for fiscal years and interim periods beginning after November 15, 2008. At this time, management does not believe the adoption of FAS 161 will impact the financial statement amounts; however, additional footnote disclosures may be required about the use of derivative instruments and hedging items.

**Van Kampen High Income Trust II**  
**Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

To the Board of Trustees and Shareholders of Van Kampen High Income Trust II:

We have audited the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities of Van Kampen High Income Trust II (the Trust ), including the portfolio of investments, as of December 31, 2008, 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 Trust 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 Trust 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 Trust 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 December 31, 2008, by correspondence with the Trust s 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 Van Kampen High Income Trust II as of December 31, 2008, the results of its operations for the year then ended, 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.

DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP  
Chicago, Illinois  
February 17, 2009

## **Van Kampen High Income Trust II Dividend Reinvestment Plan**

The dividend reinvestment plan (the **Plan** ) offers you a prompt and simple way to reinvest your dividends and capital gains distributions into additional shares of Van Kampen High Income Trust II (the **Trust** ). Under the Plan, the money you earn from dividends and capital gains distributions will be reinvested automatically in more shares of the Trust, allowing you to potentially increase your investment over time. All shareholders in the Trust are automatically enrolled in the Plan when shares are purchased.

### **Plan benefits**

#### **Add to your account**

You may increase your shares in the Trust easily and automatically with the Plan.

#### **Low transaction costs**

Transaction costs are low because the new shares are bought in blocks and the brokerage commission is shared among all participants.

#### **Convenience**

You will receive a detailed account statement from Computershare Trust Company, N.A., which administers the Plan, whenever shares are reinvested for you. The statement shows your total distributions, date of investment, shares acquired, and price per share, as well as the total number of shares in your reinvestment account. You can also access your account via the Internet. To do this, please go to [vankampen.com](http://vankampen.com).

#### **Safekeeping**

Computershare Trust Company, N.A. will hold the shares it has acquired for you in safekeeping.

### **How to participate in the Plan**

If you own shares in your own name, you can participate directly in the Plan. If your shares are held in **street name** in the name of your brokerage firm, bank, or other financial institution you must instruct that entity to participate on your behalf. If they are unable to participate on your behalf, you may request that they reregister your shares in your own name so that you may enroll in the Plan.

If you choose to participate in the Plan, whenever the Trust declares a dividend or capital gains distribution, it will be invested in additional shares of your Trust that are purchased on the open market.

**Van Kampen High Income Trust II**  
**Dividend Reinvestment Plan** *continued*

**How to enroll**

To enroll in the Plan, please read the Terms and Conditions in the Plan brochure. You can obtain a copy of the Plan Brochure and enroll in the Plan by visiting [vankampen.com](http://vankampen.com), calling toll-free (800) 341-2929 or notifying us in writing at Van Kampen Closed End Funds, Computershare Trust Company, N.A., P.O. Box 43078, Providence, RI 02940-3011. Please include the Trust name and account number and ensure that all shareholders listed on the account sign these written instructions. Your participation in the Plan will begin with the next dividend or capital gains distribution payable after Computershare Trust Company, N.A. receives your authorization, as long as they receive it before the record date, which is generally ten business days before the dividend is paid. If your authorization arrives after such record date, your participation in the Plan will begin with the following dividend or distribution.

**Costs of the plan**

There is no direct charge to you for reinvesting dividends and capital gains distributions because the Plan's fees are paid by the Fund. However, when applicable, you will pay your portion of any brokerage commissions incurred when the new shares are purchased on the open market. These brokerage commissions are typically less than the standard brokerage charges for individual transactions, because shares are purchased for all participants in blocks, resulting in lower commissions for each individual participant. Any brokerage commissions or service fees are averaged into the purchase price.

**Tax implications**

The automatic reinvestment of dividends and capital gains distributions does not relieve you of any income tax that may be due on dividends or distributions. You will receive tax information annually to help you prepare your federal and state income tax returns.

*Van Kampen does not offer tax advice. The tax information contained herein is general and is not exhaustive by nature. It was not intended or written to be used, and it cannot be used by any taxpayer, for avoiding penalties that may be imposed on the taxpayer under U.S. federal tax laws. Federal and state tax laws are complex and constantly changing. Shareholders should always consult a legal or tax advisor for information concerning their individual situation.*

**Van Kampen High Income Trust II**  
**Dividend Reinvestment Plan** *continued*

**How to withdraw from the Plan**

To withdraw from the Plan please visit [vankampen.com](http://vankampen.com) or call (800) 341-2929 or notify us in writing at the address below.

Van Kampen Closed-End Funds  
Computershare Trust Company, N.A.  
P.O. Box 43078  
Providence, RI 02940-3011

All shareholders listed on the account must sign any written withdrawal instructions. If you withdraw, you have three options with regard to the shares held in your account:

1. If you opt to continue to hold your non-certificated shares, they will be held by Computershare Trust Company N.A.
2. If you opt to sell your shares through Van Kampen, we will sell all full and fractional shares and send the proceeds via check to your address of record after deducting brokerage commissions and a \$2.50 service fee.
3. You may sell your shares through your financial advisor through the Direct Registration Systems ( DRS ). DRS is a service within the securities industry that allows Trust shares to be held in your name in electronic format. You retain full ownership of your shares, without having to hold a stock certificate.

*The Trust and Computershare Trust Company, N.A. may amend or terminate the Plan. Participants will receive written notice at least 30 days before the effective date of any amendment. In the case of termination, Participants will receive written notice at least 30 days before the record date for the payment of any dividend or capital gains distribution by the Trust. In the case of amendment or termination necessary or appropriate to comply with applicable law or the rules and policies of the Securities and Exchange Commission or any other regulatory authority, such written notice will not be required.*

**To obtain a complete copy of the Dividend Reinvestment Plan, please call our Client Relations department at 800-341-2929 or visit [vankampen.com](http://vankampen.com).**

**Van Kampen High Income Trust II**  
**Board of Trustees, Officers and Important Addresses**

**Board of Trustees**

**David C. Arch**  
**Jerry D. Choate**  
**Rod Dammeyer**  
**Linda Hutton Heagy**  
**R. Craig Kennedy**  
**Howard J Kerr**  
**Jack E. Nelson**  
**Hugo F. Sonnenschein**  
**Wayne W. Whalen\*** Chairman  
**Suzanne H. Woolsey**

**Officers**

**Edward C. Wood III**  
President and Principal Executive Officer  
**Kevin Klingert**  
Vice President  
**Amy R. Doberman**  
Vice President  
**Stefanie V. Chang Yu**  
Vice President and Secretary  
**John L. Sullivan**  
Chief Compliance Officer  
**Stuart N. Schuldt**  
Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

**Investment Adviser**

**Van Kampen Asset Management**  
522 Fifth Avenue  
New York, New York 10036

**Custodian**

**State Street Bank  
and Trust Company**  
One Lincoln Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02111

**Transfer Agent**

**Computershare Trust Company, N.A.**  
c/o Computershare Investor Services  
P.O. Box 43078  
Providence, Rhode Island 02940-3078

**Legal Counsel**

**Skadden, Arps, Slate,  
Meagher & Flom LLP**  
333 West Wacker Drive  
Chicago, Illinois 60606

**Independent Registered**

**Public Accounting Firm**  
**Deloitte & Touche LLP**  
111 South Wacker Drive  
Chicago, Illinois 60606-4301

\* Interested persons of the Trust, as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended.

## Van Kampen High Income Trust II Trustee and Officer Information

The business and affairs of the Trust are managed under the direction of the Trust's Board of Trustees and the Trust's officers appointed by the Board of Trustees. The tables below list the trustees and executive officers of the Trust and their principal occupations during the last five years, other directorships held by trustees and their affiliations, if any, with Van Kampen Investments, the Adviser, the Distributor, Van Kampen Advisors Inc., Van Kampen Exchange Corp. and Investor Services. The term "Fund Complex" includes each of the investment companies advised by the Adviser as of the date of this Annual Report. Trustees of the Trust, generally serve three year terms or until their successors are duly elected and qualified. Officers are annually elected by the trustees.

### Independent Trustees:

<b>Name, Age and Address of Independent Trustee</b>	<b>Position(s) Held with Trust</b>	<b>Term of Office and Length of Time Served</b>	<b>Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years</b>	<b>Number of Funds in Fund Complex Overseen By Trustee Held by Trustee</b>	<b>Other Directorships</b>
David C. Arch (63) Blistex Inc. 1800 Swift Drive Oak Brook, IL 60523	Trustee	Trustee since 1989	Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Blistex Inc., a consumer health care products manufacturer.	84	Trustee/Director/Managing General Partner of funds in the Fund Complex. Director of the Heartland Alliance, a nonprofit organization serving human needs based in Chicago. Board member of the Illinois Manufacturers' Association. Member of the Board of Visitors, Institute for the Humanities, University of Michigan.

**Van Kampen High Income Trust II**  
**Trustee and Officer Information** *continued*

<b>Name, Age and Address of Independent Trustee</b>	<b>Position(s) Held with Trust</b>	<b>Term of Office and Length of Time Served</b>	<b>Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years</b>	<b>Number of Funds in Fund Complex Overseen By Trustee</b>	<b>Other Directorships Held by Trustee</b>
Jerry D. Choate (70) 33971 Selva Road Suite 130 Dana Point, CA 92629	Trustee	Trustee since 2003	Prior to January 1999, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Allstate Corporation ( Allstate ) and Allstate Insurance Company. Prior to January 1995, President and Chief Executive Officer of Allstate. Prior to August 1994, various management positions at Allstate.	84	Trustee/Director/Managing General Partner of funds in the Fund Complex. Director of Amgen Inc., a biotechnological company, and Valero Energy Corporation, an independent refining company.
Rod Dammeyer (68) CAC, LLC 4370 La Jolla Village Drive Suite 685 San Diego, CA 92122-1249	Trustee	Trustee since 1989	President of CAC, LLC, a private company offering capital investment and management advisory services.	84	Trustee/Director/Managing General Partner of funds in the Fund Complex. Director of Quidel Corporation, Stericycle, Inc., and Trustee of The Scripps Research Institute. Prior to February 2008, Director of Ventana Medical Systems, Inc. Prior to April 2007, Director of GATX Corporation. Prior to April 2004, Director of TheraSense, Inc. Prior to January 2004, Director of TeleTech Holdings Inc. and Arris Group, Inc.



**Van Kampen High Income Trust II**  
**Trustee and Officer Information** *continued*

<b>Name, Age and Address of Independent Trustee</b>	<b>Position(s) Held with Trust</b>	<b>Term of Office and Length of Time Served</b>	<b>Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years</b>	<b>Number of Funds in Fund Complex Overseen By Trustee</b>	<b>Other Directorships Held by Trustee</b>
Linda Hutton Heagy (60) 4939 South Greenwood Chicago, IL 60615	Trustee	Trustee since 2003	Prior to February 2008, Managing Partner of Heidrick & Struggles, an international executive search firm. Prior to 1997, Partner of Ray & Berndtson, Inc., an executive recruiting firm. Prior to 1995, Executive Vice President of ABN AMRO, N.A., a bank holding company. Prior to 1990, Executive Vice President of The Exchange National Bank.	84	Trustee/Director/Managing General Partner of funds in the Fund Complex. Trustee on the University of Chicago Medical Center Board, Vice Chair of the Board of the YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago and a member of the Women's Board of the University of Chicago.
R. Craig Kennedy (57) 1744 R Street, NW Washington, DC 20009	Trustee	Trustee since 2003	Director and President of the German Marshall Fund of the United States, an independent U.S. foundation created to deepen understanding, promote collaboration and stimulate exchanges of practical experience between Americans and Europeans. Formerly, advisor to the Dennis Trading Group Inc., a managed futures and option company that invests money for individuals and institutions. Prior to 1992, President and Chief	84	Trustee/Director/Managing General Partner of funds in the Fund Complex. Director of First Solar, Inc.

Executive Officer,  
Director and member of  
the Investment Committee  
of the Joyce Foundation, a  
private foundation.

Howard J Kerr (73)  
14 Huron Trace  
Galena, IL 61036

Trustee

Trustee  
since 1992

Prior to 1998, President  
and Chief Executive  
Officer of Pocklington  
Corporation, Inc., an  
investment holding  
company.

84

Trustee/Director/Managing  
General Partner of funds in  
the Fund Complex. Director  
of the Lake Forest Bank &  
Trust. Director of the  
Marrow Foundation.

**Van Kampen High Income Trust II**  
**Trustee and Officer Information** *continued*

Name, Age and Address of Independent Trustee	Position(s) Held with Trust	Term of Office and Length of Time Served	Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years	Number of Funds in Fund Complex Overseen By Trustee Other Directorships Held by Trustee
Jack E. Nelson (73) 423 Country Club Drive Winter Park, FL 32789	Trustee	Trustee since 2003	President of Nelson Investment Planning Services, Inc., a financial planning company and registered investment adviser in the State of Florida. President of Nelson Invest Brokerage Services Inc., a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ( FINRA ), Securities Investors Protection Corp. and the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board. President of Nelson Sales and Services Corporation, a marketing and services company to support affiliated companies.	84 Trustee/Director/Managing General Partner of funds in the Fund Complex.
Hugo F. Sonnenschein (68) 1126 E. 59th Street Chicago, IL 60637	Trustee	Trustee since 1994	President Emeritus and Honorary Trustee of the University of Chicago and the Adam Smith Distinguished Service Professor in the Department of Economics at the University of Chicago. Prior to July 2000, President of the University of Chicago.	84 Trustee/Director/Managing General Partner of funds in the Fund Complex. Trustee of the University of Rochester and a member of its investment committee. Member of the National Academy of Sciences, the American Philosophical Society and a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.



**Van Kampen High Income Trust II**  
**Trustee and Officer Information** *continued*

Name, Age and Address of Independent Trustee	Position(s) Held with Trust	Term of Office and Length of Time Served	Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years	Number of Funds in Fund Complex Overseen By Trustee Other Directorships Held by Trustee
Suzanne H. Woolsey, Ph.D. (67) 815 Cumberstone Road Harwood, MD 20776	Trustee	Trustee since 2003	Chief Communications Officer of the National Academy of Sciences/National Research Council, an independent, federally chartered policy institution, from 2001 to November 2003 and Chief Operating Officer from 1993 to 2001. Prior to 1993, Executive Director of the Commission on Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education at the National Academy of Sciences/National Research Council. From 1980 through 1989, Partner of Coopers & Lybrand.	84 Trustee/Director/Managing General Partner of funds in the Fund Complex. Trustee of Changing World Technologies, Inc., an energy manufacturing company, since July 2008. Director of Fluor Corp., an engineering, procurement and construction organization, since January 2004. Director of Intelligent Medical Devices, Inc., a symptom based diagnostic tool for physicians and clinical labs. Director of the Institute for Defense Analyses, a federally funded research and development center, Director of the German Marshall Fund of the United States, Director of the Rocky Mountain Institute and Trustee of California Institute of Technology and the Colorado College.

**Van Kampen High Income Trust II**  
**Trustee and Officer Information** *continued*  
**Interested Trustees:\***

<b>Name, Age and Address of Interested Trustee</b>	<b>Position(s) Held with Trust</b>	<b>Term of Office and Length of Time Served</b>	<b>Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years</b>	<b>Number of Funds in Fund Complex Overseen By Trustee</b>	<b>Other Directorships Held by Trustee</b>
Wayne W. Whalen* (69) 333 West Wacker Drive Chicago, IL 60606	Trustee	Trustee since 1989	Partner in the law firm of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP, legal counsel to funds in the Fund Complex.	84	Trustee/Director/Managing General Partner of funds in the Fund Complex. Director of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Foundation.

As indicated above, prior to February 2008, Ms. Heagy was an employee of Heidrick and Struggles, an international executive search firm ( Heidrick ). Heidrick has been (and may continue to be) engaged by Morgan Stanley from time to time to perform executive searches. Such searches have been done by professionals at Heidrick without any involvement by Ms. Heagy. Ethical wall procedures exist to ensure that Ms. Heagy will not have any involvement with any searches performed by Heidrick for Morgan Stanley. Ms. Heagy does not receive any compensation, directly or indirectly, for searches performed by Heidrick for Morgan Stanley.

\* Mr. Whalen is an interested person (within the meaning of Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act) of certain funds in the Fund Complex by reason of he and his firm currently providing legal services as legal counsel to such funds in the Fund Complex.

**Van Kampen High Income Trust II**  
**Trustee and Officer Information** *continued*

**Officers:**

<b>Name, Age and Address of Officer</b>	<b>Position(s) Held with Trust</b>	<b>Term of Office and Length of Time Served</b>	<b>Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years</b>
Edward C. Wood III (53) 1 Parkview Plaza - Suite 100 Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181	President and Principal Executive Officer	Officer since 2008	President and Principal Executive Officer of funds in the Fund Complex since November 2008. Managing Director of Van Kampen Investments Inc., the Adviser, the Distributor, Van Kampen Advisors Inc. and Van Kampen Exchange Corp. since December 2003. Chief Administrative Officer of Van Kampen Investments Inc., the Adviser, Van Kampen Advisors Inc. and Van Kampen Exchange Corp. since December 2002. Chief Operating Officer of the Distributor since December 2002. Director of Van Kampen Advisors Inc., the Distributor and Van Kampen Exchange Corp. since March 2004. Director of the Adviser since August 2008. Director of Van Kampen Investments Inc. and Van Kampen Investor Services Inc. since June 2008. Previously, Director of the Adviser and Van Kampen Investments Inc. from March 2004 to January 2005.
Kevin Klingert (45) 522 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10036	Vice President	Officer since 2008	Vice President of funds in the Fund Complex since May 2008. Global Head, Chief Operating Officer and acting Chief Investment Officer of the Global Fixed Income Group of Morgan Stanley Investment Management Inc. and Morgan Stanley Investment Advisors Inc. since April 2008. Head of Global Liquidity Portfolio Management and co-Head of Liquidity Credit Research of Morgan Stanley Investment Management since December 2007. Managing Director of Morgan Stanley Investment Management Inc. and Morgan Stanley Investment Advisors Inc. from December 2007 to March 2008. Previously, Managing Director on the Management Committee and head of Municipal Portfolio Management and Liquidity at BlackRock from October 1991 to January 2007.
Amy R. Doberman (46) 522 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10036	Vice President	Officer since 2004	Managing Director of Morgan Stanley Investment Management Inc., Morgan Stanley Investment Advisors Inc. and the Adviser since July 2004. Vice President of the Morgan Stanley Institutional and Retail Funds since July

2004 and Vice President of funds in the Fund Complex since August 2004. Previously, Managing Director and General Counsel of Americas, UBS Global Asset Management from July 2000 to July 2004.

Stefanie V. Chang Yu (42) 522 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10036	Vice President and Secretary	Officer since 2003	Managing Director of Morgan Stanley Investment Management Inc. Vice President and Secretary of funds in the Fund Complex.
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**Van Kampen High Income Trust II****Trustee and Officer Information** *continued*

<b>Name, Age and Address of Officer</b>	<b>Position(s) Held with Trust</b>	<b>Term of Office and Length of Time Served</b>	<b>Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years</b>
John L. Sullivan (53) 1 Parkview Plaza - Suite 100 Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181	Chief Compliance Officer	Officer since 1996	Chief Compliance Officer of funds in the Fund Complex since August 2004. Prior to August 2004, Director and Managing Director of Van Kampen Investments, the Adviser, Van Kampen Advisors Inc. and certain other subsidiaries of Van Kampen Investments, Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer of funds in the Fund Complex and head of Fund Accounting for Morgan Stanley Investment Management Inc. Prior to December 2002, Executive Director of Van Kampen Investments, the Adviser and Van Kampen Advisors Inc.
Stuart N. Schuldt (47) 1 Parkview Plaza - Suite 100 Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181	Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer	Officer since 2007	Executive Director of Morgan Stanley Investment Management Inc. since June 2007. Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer of funds in the Fund Complex since June 2007. Prior to June 2007, Senior Vice President of Northern Trust Company, Treasurer and Principal Financial Officer for Northern Trust U.S. mutual fund complex.

In accordance with Section 303A.12(a) of the New York Stock Exchange Listed Company Manual, the Trust's Chief Executive Officer has certified to the New York Stock Exchange that, as of June 25, 2008, he was not aware of any violation by the Trust of NYSE corporate governance listing standards.

The certifications by the Trust's principal executive officer and principal financial officer required by Rule 30a-2 under the 1940 Act were filed with the Trust's report to the SEC on Form N-CSR and are available on the Securities and Exchange Commission's web site at <http://www.sec.gov>.

Van Kampen High Income Trust II  
An Important Notice Concerning Our  
U.S. Privacy Policy

We are required by federal law to provide you with a copy of our Privacy Policy annually.

This Policy applies to current and former individual clients of Van Kampen Investments Inc., Van Kampen Asset Management, Van Kampen Advisors Inc., Van Kampen Funds Inc., Van Kampen Investor Services Inc. and Van Kampen Exchange Corp., as well as current and former individual investors in Van Kampen mutual funds, unit investment trusts, and related companies.

This Policy is not applicable to partnerships, corporations, trusts or other non-individual clients or account holders, nor is this Policy applicable to individuals who are either beneficiaries of a trust for which we serve as trustee or participants in an employee benefit plan administered or advised by us. This Policy is, however, applicable to individuals who select us to be a custodian of securities or assets in individual retirement accounts, 401(k) accounts, 529 Educational Savings Accounts, accounts subject to the Uniform Gifts to Minors Act, or similar accounts. Please note that we may amend this Policy at any time, and will inform you of any changes to this Policy as required by law.

### **We Respect Your Privacy**

We appreciate that you have provided us with your personal financial information and understand your concerns about safeguarding such information. We strive to maintain the privacy of such information while we help you achieve your financial objectives. This Policy describes what nonpublic personal information we collect about you, how we collect it, when we may share it with others, and how others may use it. It discusses the steps you may take to limit our sharing of information about you with affiliated Van Kampen companies ( *affiliated companies* ). It also discloses how you may limit our affiliates' use of shared information for marketing purposes. Throughout this Policy, we refer to the nonpublic information that personally identifies you or your accounts as *personal information*.

#### **1. What Personal Information Do We Collect About You?**

To better serve you and manage our business, it is important that we collect and maintain accurate information about you. We obtain this information from applications and other forms you submit to us, from your dealings with us, from consumer reporting agencies and from third parties and other sources. For example:

We collect information such as your name, address, e-mail address, phone number and account title.

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Van Kampen High Income Trust II  
An Important Notice Concerning Our  
U.S. Privacy Policy *continued*

We may obtain information about account balances, your use of account(s) and the types of products and services you prefer to receive from us through your dealings and transactions with us and other sources.

We may obtain information about your creditworthiness and credit history from consumer reporting agencies.

We may collect background information from and through third-party vendors to verify representations you have made and to comply with various regulatory requirements.

If you interact with us through our public and private Web sites, we may collect information that you provide directly through online communications (such as an e-mail address). We may also collect information about your Internet service provider, your domain name, your computer's operating system and Web browser, your use of our Web sites and your product and service preferences, through the use of cookies. Cookies recognize your computer each time you return to one of our sites, and help to improve our sites' content and personalize your experience on our sites by, for example, suggesting offerings that may interest you. Please consult the Terms of Use of these sites for more details on our use of cookies.

## **2. When Do We Disclose Personal Information We Collect About You?**

To provide you with the products and services you request, to better serve you, to manage our business and as otherwise required or permitted by law, we may disclose personal information we collect about you to other affiliated companies and to nonaffiliated third parties.

***A. Information We Disclose to Our Affiliated Companies.*** In order to manage your account(s) effectively, including servicing and processing your transactions, to let you know about products and services offered by us and affiliated companies, to manage our business, and as otherwise required or permitted by law, we may disclose personal information to other affiliated companies. Offers for products and services from affiliated companies are developed under conditions designed to safeguard your personal information.

***B. Information We Disclose to Third Parties.*** We do not disclose personal information that we collect about you to nonaffiliated third parties except to enable them to provide marketing services on our behalf, to perform joint marketing agreements with other financial institutions, and as otherwise required or permitted by law. For example, some instances where we may disclose information about you to third

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Van Kampen High Income Trust II  
An Important Notice Concerning Our  
U.S. Privacy Policy *continued*

parties include: for servicing and processing transactions, to offer our own products and services, to protect against fraud, for institutional risk control, to respond to judicial process or to perform services on our behalf. When we share personal information with a nonaffiliated third party, they are required to limit their use of personal information to the particular purpose for which it was shared and they are not allowed to share personal information with others except to fulfill that limited purpose.

**3. How Do We Protect the Security and Confidentiality of Personal Information We Collect About You?**

We maintain physical, electronic and procedural security measures to help safeguard the personal information we collect about you. We have internal policies governing the proper handling of client information. Third parties that provide support or marketing services on our behalf may also receive personal information, and we require them to adhere to confidentiality standards with respect to such information.

**4. How Can You Limit the Sharing of Certain Types of Personal Information With Affiliated Companies?**

We respect your privacy and offer you choices as to whether we share with affiliated companies personal information that was collected to determine your eligibility for products and services you request ( *eligibility information* ). Please note that, even if you direct us not to share eligibility information with affiliated companies ( *opt-out* ), we may still share personal information, including eligibility information, with those companies in circumstances excluded from the opt-out under applicable law, such as to process transactions or to service your account. We may also share certain other types of personal information with affiliated companies such as your name, address, telephone number, e-mail address and account number(s), and information about your transactions and experiences with us.

**5. How Can You Limit the Use of Certain Types of Personal Information by Affiliated Companies for Marketing?**

You may limit affiliated companies from marketing their products or services to you based on your personal information that they receive from affiliated companies. This information includes your income, assets and account history. Your choice to limit marketing offers from affiliated companies will apply until you tell us to change your choice.

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Van Kampen High Income Trust II  
An Important Notice Concerning Our  
U.S. Privacy Policy *continued*

If you wish to opt-out of sharing and to limit marketing offers, you may do so by:

Calling us at (800) 847-2424  
Monday-Friday between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. (ET)

Writing to us at the following address:  
Van Kampen Privacy Department  
Harborside Financial Center, Plaza Two, 3rd Floor  
Jersey City, NJ 07311

If you choose to write to us, your written request should include your name, address, telephone number and account number(s) to which the opt-out applies and should not be sent with any other correspondence. In order to process your request, we require that the request be provided by you directly and not through a third party.

If you have previously notified us about your privacy preferences, it is not necessary to do so again unless you decide to change your preferences. Your opt-out preference will remain in effect with respect to this Policy (as it may be amended) until you notify us otherwise in writing. If you have a joint account, your direction for us not to share this information with other affiliated companies and for those affiliated companies not to use your personal information for marketing will be applied to all account holders on that account.

Please understand that if you opt-out, you and any joint account holders may not receive information about affiliated company products and services that could help you manage your financial resources and achieve your investment objectives.

If you hold more than one account with Van Kampen, you may receive multiple privacy policies from us, and would need to follow the directions stated in each particular policy for each account you have with us.

#### **SPECIAL NOTICE TO RESIDENTS OF VERMONT**

**This section supplements our Policy with respect to our individual clients who have a Vermont address and supersedes anything to the contrary in the above Policy with respect to those clients only.**

The State of Vermont requires financial institutions to obtain your consent prior to sharing personal information that they collect about you with affiliated companies and nonaffiliated third parties other than in certain limited circumstances. Except as permitted by law, we will not share personal information we collect about you with nonaffiliated third parties or other affiliated companies unless you provide us with your written consent to share such information ( *opt-in* ).

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Van Kampen High Income Trust II  
An Important Notice Concerning Our  
U.S. Privacy Policy *continued*

If you wish to receive offers for investment products and services offered by or through other affiliated companies, please notify us in writing at the following address:

Van Kampen Privacy Department  
Harborside Financial Center, Plaza Two, 3rd Floor  
Jersey City, NJ 07311

Your authorization should include your name, address, telephone number and account number(s) to which the opt-in applies and should not be sent with any other correspondence. In order to process your authorization, we require that the authorization be provided by you directly and not through a third-party.

Van Kampen Funds Inc.  
522 Fifth Avenue  
New York, New York 10036  
[www.vankampen.com](http://www.vankampen.com)

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Item 2. Code of Ethics.

(a) The Trust has adopted a code of ethics (the Code of Ethics ) that applies to its principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer or controller, or persons performing similar functions, regardless of whether these individuals are employed by the Trust or a third party.

(b) No information need be disclosed pursuant to this paragraph.

(c) Due to personnel changes at the Adviser, the list of covered officers set forth in Exhibit B was amended in June 2008 and November 2008 and the general counsel s designee set forth in Exhibit C was amended in January 2008. All three editions of Exhibit B and both editions of Exhibit C are attached.

(d) Not applicable.

(e) Not applicable.

(f)

(1) The Trust s Code of Ethics is attached hereto as Exhibit 12(1).

(2) Not applicable.

(3) Not applicable.

Item 3. Audit Committee Financial Expert.

The Trust s Board of Trustees has determined that it has three audit committee financial experts serving on its audit committee, each of whom are independent Trustees : Rod Dammeyer, Jerry Choate and R. Craig Kennedy. Under applicable securities laws, a person who is determined to be an audit committee financial expert will not be deemed an expert for any purpose, including without limitation for the purposes of Section 11 of the Securities Act of 1933, as a result of being designated or identified as an audit committee financial expert. The designation or identification of a person as an audit committee financial expert does not impose on such person any duties, obligations, or liabilities that are greater than the duties, obligations, and liabilities imposed on such person as a member of the audit committee and Board of Trustees in the absence of such designation or identification.

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## Item 4. Principal Accountant Fees and Services.

(a)(b)(c)(d) and (g). Based on fees billed for the periods shown:

	<b>Registrant</b>	<b>Covered Entities<sup>(1)</sup></b>
<b>2008</b>		
<b>Audit Fees</b>	\$51,745	N/A
<b>Non-Audit Fees</b>		
<b>Audit-Related Fees</b>	\$ 830 <sup>(2)</sup>	\$ 244,200 <sup>(3)</sup>
<b>Tax Fees</b>	\$ 1650 <sup>(4)</sup>	\$ 0
<b>All Other Fees</b>	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b>Total Non-Audit Fees</b>	\$ 2480	\$ 244,200
<b>Total</b>	\$54,225	\$ 244,200
<b>2007</b>		
<b>Audit Fees</b>	\$48,525	N/A
<b>Non-Audit Fees</b>		
<b>Audit-Related Fees</b>	\$ 800 <sup>(2)</sup>	\$ 180,000 <sup>(3)</sup>
<b>Tax Fees</b>	\$ 1,600 <sup>(4)</sup>	\$ 0
<b>All Other Fees</b>	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b>Total Non-Audit Fees</b>	\$ 2,400	\$ 180,000
<b>Total</b>	\$50,925	\$ 180,000

N/A- Not applicable, as not required by Item 4.

(1) Covered Entities include the Adviser (excluding sub-advisors) and any entity controlling, controlled by or under common control with the Adviser that provides ongoing services to the Registrant.

(2) Audit-Related Fees represent assurance and related services provided that are reasonably related to the performance of the audit of the financial statements of the



Covered Entities and funds advised by the Adviser or its affiliates, specifically attestation services provided in connection with a SAS 70 Report.

- (3) Tax Fees represent tax advice and compliance services provided in connection with the review of the Registrant's tax.
  - (4) Audit-Related Fees represent agreed upon procedures provided that are reasonably related to the performance of the audit of the financial statements of the Registrant.
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(e)(1) The audit committee's pre-approval policies and procedures are as follows:

**JOINT AUDIT COMMITTEE  
AUDIT AND NON-AUDIT SERVICES  
PRE-APPROVAL POLICY AND PROCEDURES  
OF THE  
VAN KAMPEN FUNDS**

**AS ADOPTED JULY 23, 2003 AND AMENDED MAY 26, 2004<sup>1</sup>**

**1. STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES**

The Audit Committee of the Board is required to review and, in its sole discretion, pre-approve all Covered Services to be provided by the Independent Auditors to the Fund and Covered Entities in order to assure that services performed by the Independent Auditors do not impair the auditor's independence from the Fund.

The SEC has issued rules specifying the types of services that an independent auditor may not provide to its audit client, as well as the audit committee's administration of the engagement of the independent auditor. The SEC's rules establish two different approaches to pre-approving services, which the SEC considers to be equally valid. Proposed services either: may be pre-approved without consideration of specific case-by-case services by the Audit Committee (general pre-approval); or require the specific pre-approval of the Audit Committee (specific pre-approval). The Audit Committee believes that the combination of these two approaches in this Policy will result in an effective and efficient procedure to pre-approve services performed by the Independent Auditors. As set forth in this Policy, unless a type of service has received general pre-approval, it will require specific pre-approval by the Audit Committee (or by any member of the Audit Committee to which pre-approval authority has been delegated) if it is to be provided by the Independent Auditors. Any proposed services exceeding pre-approved cost levels or budgeted amounts will also require specific pre-approval by the Audit Committee.

For both types of pre-approval, the Audit Committee will consider whether such services are consistent with the SEC's rules on auditor independence. The Audit Committee will also consider whether the Independent Auditors are best positioned to provide the most effective and efficient services, for reasons such as its familiarity with the Fund's business, people, culture, accounting systems, risk profile and other factors, and whether the service might enhance the Fund's ability to manage or control risk or improve audit quality. All such factors will be considered as a whole, and no one factor should necessarily be determinative.

The Audit Committee is also mindful of the relationship between fees for audit and non-audit services in deciding whether to pre-approve any such services and may determine for each fiscal year, the appropriate ratio between the total amount of fees for Audit, Audit-related and Tax services for the Fund (including any Audit-related or Tax service fees for Covered Entities that were subject to pre-approval), and the total amount of fees for certain permissible non-audit services classified as All Other services for the Fund (including any such services for Covered Entities subject to pre-approval).

The appendices to this Policy describe the Audit, Audit-related, Tax and All Other services that have the general pre-approval of the Audit Committee. The term of any general pre-approval is 12 months from the date of pre-approval, unless the Audit Committee considers and provides a different period and states otherwise. The Audit Committee will annually review and pre-approve the services that may be provided by the Independent Auditors without obtaining specific pre-approval

<sup>1</sup> This Joint Audit Committee Audit and Non-Audit Services Pre-Approval Policy and Procedures (the Policy),

amended as of the date above, supercedes and replaces all prior versions that may have been amended from time to time.

- <sup>2</sup> Terms used in this Policy and not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings as defined in the Joint Audit Committee Charter.
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from the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee will add to or subtract from the list of general pre-approved services from time to time, based on subsequent determinations.

The purpose of this Policy is to set forth the policy and procedures by which the Audit Committee intends to fulfill its responsibilities. It does not delegate the Audit Committee's responsibilities to pre-approve services performed by the Independent Auditors to management.

The Fund's Independent Auditors have reviewed this Policy and believes that implementation of the Policy will not adversely affect the Independent Auditors' independence.

## **2. Delegation**

As provided in the Act and the SEC's rules, the Audit Committee may delegate either type of pre-approval authority to one or more of its members. The member to whom such authority is delegated must report, for informational purposes only, any pre-approval decisions to the Audit Committee at its next scheduled meeting.

## **3. Audit Services**

The annual Audit services engagement terms and fees are subject to the specific pre-approval of the Audit Committee. Audit services include the annual financial statement audit and other procedures required to be performed by the Independent Auditors to be able to form an opinion on the Fund's financial statements. These other procedures include information systems and procedural reviews and testing performed in order to understand and place reliance on the systems of internal control, and consultations relating to the audit. The Audit Committee will monitor the Audit services engagement as necessary, but no less than on a quarterly basis, and will also approve, if necessary, any changes in terms, conditions and fees resulting from changes in audit scope, Fund structure or other items.

In addition to the annual Audit services engagement approved by the Audit Committee, the Audit Committee may grant general pre-approval to other Audit services, which are those services that only the Independent Auditors reasonably can provide. Other Audit services may include statutory audits and services associated with SEC registration statements (on Forms N-1A, N-2, N-3, N-4, etc.), periodic reports and other documents filed with the SEC or other documents issued in connection with securities offerings.

The Audit Committee has pre-approved the Audit services in Appendix B.1. All other Audit services not listed in Appendix B.1 must be specifically pre-approved by the Audit Committee (or by any member of the Audit Committee to which pre-approval has been delegated).

## **4. Audit-related Services**

Audit-related services are assurance and related services that are reasonably related to the performance of the audit or review of the Fund's financial statements or, to the extent they are Covered Services, the Covered Entities' financial statements, or that are traditionally performed by the Independent Auditors. Because the Audit Committee believes that the provision of Audit-related services does not impair the independence of the auditor and is consistent with the SEC's rules on auditor independence, the Audit Committee may grant general pre-approval to Audit-related services. Audit-related services include, among others, accounting consultations related to accounting, financial reporting or disclosure matters not classified as Audit services; assistance with understanding and implementing new accounting and financial reporting guidance from rulemaking authorities; agreed-upon or expanded audit procedures related to accounting and/or billing records required to respond to or comply with financial, accounting or regulatory reporting matters; and assistance with internal control reporting requirements under Forms N-SAR and/or N-CSR.

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The Audit Committee has pre-approved the Audit-related services in Appendix B.2. All other Audit-related services not listed in Appendix B.2 must be specifically pre-approved by the Audit Committee (or by any member of the Audit Committee to which pre-approval has been delegated).

#### **5. Tax Services**

The Audit Committee believes that the Independent Auditors can provide Tax services to the Fund and, to the extent they are Covered Services, the Covered Entities, such as tax compliance, tax planning and tax advice without impairing the auditor's independence, and the SEC has stated that the Independent Auditors may provide such services. Hence, the Audit Committee believes it may grant general pre-approval to those Tax services that have historically been provided by the Independent Auditors, that the Audit Committee has reviewed and believes would not impair the independence of the Independent Auditors, and that are consistent with the SEC's rules on auditor independence. The Audit Committee will not permit the retention of the Independent Auditors in connection with a transaction initially recommended by the Independent Auditors, the sole business purpose of which may be tax avoidance and the tax treatment of which may not be supported in the Internal Revenue Code and related regulations. The Audit Committee will consult with Director of Tax or outside counsel to determine that the tax planning and reporting positions are consistent with this policy.

Pursuant to the preceding paragraph, the Audit Committee has pre-approved the Tax Services in Appendix B.3. All Tax services involving large and complex transactions not listed in Appendix B.3 must be specifically pre-approved by the Audit Committee (or by any member of the Audit Committee to which pre-approval has been delegated), including tax services proposed to be provided by the Independent Auditors to any executive officer or trustee/director/managing general partner of the Fund, in his or her individual capacity, where such services are paid for by the Fund (generally applicable only to internally managed investment companies).

#### **6. All Other Services**

The Audit Committee believes, based on the SEC's rules prohibiting the Independent Auditors from providing specific non-audit services, that other types of non-audit services are permitted. Accordingly, the Audit Committee believes it may grant general pre-approval to those permissible non-audit services classified as All Other services that it believes are routine and recurring services, would not impair the independence of the auditor and are consistent with the SEC's rules on auditor independence.

The Audit Committee has pre-approved the All Other services in Appendix B.4. Permissible All Other services not listed in Appendix B.4 must be specifically pre-approved by the Audit Committee (or by any member of the Audit Committee to which pre-approval has been delegated).

A list of the SEC's prohibited non-audit services is attached to this policy as Appendix B.5. The SEC's rules and relevant guidance should be consulted to determine the precise definitions of these services and the applicability of exceptions to certain of the prohibitions.

#### **7. Pre-Approval Fee Levels or Budgeted Amounts**

Pre-approval fee levels or budgeted amounts for all services to be provided by the Independent Auditors will be established annually by the Audit Committee. Any proposed services exceeding these levels or amounts will require specific pre-approval by the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee is mindful of the overall relationship of fees for audit and non-audit services in determining whether to pre-approve any such services. For each fiscal year, the Audit Committee may determine the appropriate ratio between the total amount of fees for Audit, Audit-related, and Tax services for the Fund (including any Audit-related or Tax services fees for Covered Entities subject to pre-approval), and the total amount of fees for certain permissible non-audit services classified as All Other services for the Fund (including any such services for Covered Entities subject to pre-approval).

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## **8. Procedures**

All requests or applications for services to be provided by the Independent Auditors that do not require specific approval by the Audit Committee will be submitted to the Fund's Chief Financial Officer and must include a detailed description of the services to be rendered. The Fund's Chief Financial Officer will determine whether such services are included within the list of services that have received the general pre-approval of the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee will be informed on a timely basis of any such services rendered by the Independent Auditors. Requests or applications to provide services that require specific approval by the Audit Committee will be submitted to the Audit Committee by both the Independent Auditors and the Fund's Chief Financial Officer, and must include a joint statement as to whether, in their view, the request or application is consistent with the SEC's rules on auditor independence.

The Audit Committee has designated the Fund's Chief Financial Officer to monitor the performance of all services provided by the Independent Auditors and to determine whether such services are in compliance with this Policy. The Fund's Chief Financial Officer will report to the Audit Committee on a periodic basis on the results of its monitoring. A sample report is included as Appendix B.7. Both the Fund's Chief Financial Officer and management will immediately report to the chairman of the Audit Committee any breach of this Policy that comes to the attention of the Fund's Chief Financial Officer or any member of management.

## **9. Additional Requirements**

The Audit Committee has determined to take additional measures on an annual basis to meet its responsibility to oversee the work of the Independent Auditors and to assure the auditor's independence from the Fund, such as reviewing a formal written statement from the Independent Auditors delineating all relationships between the Independent Auditors and the Fund, consistent with Independence Standards Board No. 1, and discussing with the Independent Auditors its methods and procedures for ensuring independence.

## **10. Covered Entities**

Covered Entities include the Fund's investment adviser(s) and any entity controlling, controlled by or under common control with the Fund's investment adviser(s) that provides ongoing services to the Fund(s). Beginning with non-audit service contracts entered into on or after May 6, 2003, the Fund's audit committee must pre-approve non-audit services provided not only to the Fund but also to the Covered Entities if the engagements relate directly to the operations and financial reporting of the Fund. This list of Covered Entities would include:

Van Kampen Investments Inc.

Van Kampen Asset Management

Van Kampen Advisors Inc.

Van Kampen Funds Inc.

Van Kampen Investor Services Inc.

Morgan Stanley Investment Management Inc.

Morgan Stanley Trust Company

Morgan Stanley Investment Management Ltd.

Morgan Stanley Investment Management Company

Morgan Stanley Asset & Investment Trust Management Company Ltd.

(e)(2) Beginning with non-audit service contracts entered into on or after May 6, 2003, the audit committee also is required to pre-approve services to Covered Entities to the extent that the services



are determined to have a direct impact on the operations or financial reporting of the Registrant. 100% of such services were pre-approved by the audit committee pursuant to the Audit Committee's pre-approval policies and procedures (included herein).

(f) Not applicable.

(g) See table above.

(h) The audit committee of the Board of Trustees has considered whether the provision of services other than audit services performed by the auditors to the Registrant and Covered Entities is compatible with maintaining the auditors independence in performing audit services.

Item 5. Audit Committee of Listed Registrants.

(a) The Trust has a separately-designated standing audit committee established in accordance with Section 3(a)(58)(A) of the Exchange Act whose members are: Craig Kennedy, Jerry Choate and Rod Dammeyer.

(b) Not applicable.

Item 6. Schedule of Investments.

(a) Please refer to Item #1.

(b) Not applicable.

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

The Trust's and its investment advisor's Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures are as follows:

**MORGAN STANLEY INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT  
PROXY VOTING POLICY AND PROCEDURES**

**I. POLICY STATEMENT**

**Introduction** Morgan Stanley Investment Management's (MSIM) policy and procedures for voting proxies (Policy) with respect to securities held in the accounts of clients applies to those MSIM entities that provide discretionary investment management services and for which an MSIM entity has authority to vote proxies. This Policy is reviewed and updated as necessary to address new and evolving proxy voting issues and standards.

The MSIM entities covered by this Policy currently include the following: Morgan Stanley Investment Advisors Inc., Morgan Stanley AIP GP LP, Morgan Stanley Investment Management Inc., Morgan Stanley Investment Management Limited, Morgan Stanley Investment Management Company, Morgan Stanley Asset & Investment Trust Management Co., Limited, Morgan Stanley Investment Management Private Limited, Van Kampen Asset Management, and Van Kampen Advisors Inc. (each an MSIM Affiliate and collectively referred to as the MSIM Affiliates or as we below). Each MSIM Affiliate will use its best efforts to vote proxies as part of its authority to manage, acquire and dispose of account assets. With respect to the MSIM registered management investment companies (Van Kampen, Institutional and Advisor Funds collectively referred to herein as the MSIM Funds), each MSIM Affiliate will vote proxies under this Policy pursuant to authority granted under its applicable investment advisory agreement or, in the absence of such authority, as authorized by the Board of Directors/Trustees of the MSIM Funds. An MSIM Affiliate will not vote proxies if the named fiduciary for an ERISA account has reserved the authority for itself, or in the case of an account not governed by ERISA, the investment management or investment advisory agreement does not authorize the MSIM Affiliate to vote proxies. MSIM Affiliates will vote proxies

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in a prudent and diligent manner and in the best interests of clients, including beneficiaries of and participants in a client's benefit plan(s) for which the MSIM Affiliates manage assets, consistent with the objective of maximizing long-term investment returns ( Client Proxy Standard ). In certain situations, a client or its fiduciary may provide an MSIM Affiliate with a proxy voting policy. In these situations, the MSIM Affiliate will comply with the client's policy.

Proxy Research Services RiskMetrics Group ISS Governance Services ( ISS ) and Glass Lewis (together with other proxy research providers as we may retain from time to time, the Research Providers ) are independent advisers that specialize in providing a variety of fiduciary-level proxy-related services to institutional investment managers, plan sponsors, custodians, consultants, and other institutional investors. The services provided include in-depth research, global issuer analysis, and voting recommendations. While we may review and utilize the recommendations of the Research Providers in making proxy voting decisions, we are in no way obligated to follow such recommendations. In addition to research, ISS provides vote execution, reporting, and recordkeeping.

Voting Proxies for Certain Non-U.S. Companies Voting proxies of companies located in some jurisdictions, particularly emerging markets, may involve several problems that can restrict or prevent the ability to vote such proxies or entail significant costs. These problems include, but are not limited to: (i) proxy statements and ballots being written in a language other than English; (ii) untimely and/or inadequate notice of shareholder meetings; (iii) restrictions on the ability of holders outside the issuer's jurisdiction of organization to exercise votes; (iv) requirements to vote proxies in person; (v) the imposition of restrictions on the sale of the securities for a period of time in proximity to the shareholder meeting; and (vi) requirements to provide local agents with power of attorney to facilitate our voting instructions. As a result, we vote clients' non-U.S. proxies on a best efforts basis only, after weighing the costs and benefits of voting such proxies, consistent with the Client Proxy Standard. ISS has been retained to provide assistance in connection with voting non-U.S. proxies.

## **II. GENERAL PROXY VOTING GUIDELINES**

To promote consistency in voting proxies on behalf of its clients, we follow this Policy (subject to any exception set forth herein), including the guidelines set forth below. These guidelines address a broad range of issues, and provide general voting parameters on proposals that arise most frequently. However, details of specific proposals vary, and those details affect particular voting decisions, as do factors specific to a given company. Pursuant to the procedures set forth herein, we may vote in a manner that is not in accordance with the following general guidelines, provided the vote is approved by the Proxy Review Committee (see Section III for description) and is consistent with the Client Proxy Standard. Morgan Stanley AIP GP LP will follow the procedures as described in Appendix A.

We endeavor to integrate governance and proxy voting policy with investment goals and to follow the Client Proxy Standard for each client. At times, this may result in split votes, for example when different clients have varying economic interests in the outcome of a particular voting matter (such as a case in which varied ownership interests in two companies involved in a merger result in different stakes in the outcome). We also may split votes at times based on differing views of portfolio managers, but such a split vote must be approved by the Proxy Review Committee. We may abstain on matters for which disclosure is inadequate.

**A. Routine Matters.** We generally support routine management proposals. The following are examples of routine management proposals:

Approval of financial statements and auditor reports.

General updating/corrective amendments to the charter, articles of association or bylaws.

Most proposals related to the conduct of the annual meeting, with the following exceptions. We generally oppose proposals that relate to the transaction of such other business which may come before the meeting, and open-ended requests for adjournment. However, where management specifically states the reason for requesting an adjournment and the requested

adjournment would facilitate passage of a proposal that would otherwise be supported under this Policy (i.e. an uncontested corporate transaction), the adjournment request will be supported.

We generally support shareholder proposals advocating confidential voting procedures and independent tabulation of voting results.

**B. Board of Directors**

1. Election of directors: In the absence of a proxy contest, we generally support the board's nominees for director except as follows:
    - a. We consider withholding support from or voting against interested directors if the company's board does not meet market standards for director independence, or if otherwise we believe board independence is insufficient. We refer to prevalent market standards as promulgated by a stock exchange or other authority within a given market (e.g., New York Stock Exchange or Nasdaq rules for most U.S. companies, and The Combined Code on Corporate Governance in the United Kingdom). Thus, for an NYSE company with no controlling shareholder, we would expect that at a minimum a majority of directors should be independent as defined by NYSE. Where we view market standards as inadequate, we may withhold votes based on stronger independence standards. Market standards notwithstanding, we generally do not view long board tenure alone as a basis to classify a director as non-independent, although lack of board turnover and fresh perspective can be a negative factor in voting on directors.
      - i. At a company with a shareholder or group that controls the company by virtue of a majority economic interest in the company, we have a reduced expectation for board independence, although we believe the presence of independent directors can be helpful, particularly in staffing the audit committee, and at times we may withhold support from or vote against a nominee on the view the board or its committees are not sufficiently independent.
      - ii. We consider withholding support from or voting against a nominee if he or she is affiliated with a major shareholder that has representation on a board disproportionate to its economic interest.
    - b. Depending on market standards, we consider withholding support from or voting against a nominee who is interested and who is standing for election as a member of the company's compensation, nominating or audit committee.
    - c. We consider withholding support from or voting against a nominee if we believe a direct conflict exists between the interests of the nominee and the public shareholders, including failure to meet fiduciary standards of care and/or loyalty. We may oppose directors where we conclude that actions of directors are unlawful, unethical or negligent. We consider opposing individual board members or an entire slate if we believe the board is entrenched and/or dealing inadequately with performance problems, and/or acting with insufficient independence between the board and management.
    - d. We consider withholding support from or voting against a nominee standing for election if the board has not taken action to implement generally accepted governance practices for which there is a "bright line" test. For example, in the context of the U.S. market, failure to eliminate a dead hand or slow hand poison pills would be seen as a basis for opposing one or more incumbent nominees.
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- e. In markets that encourage designated audit committee financial experts, we consider voting against members of an audit committee if no members are designated as such.
  - f. We consider withholding support from or voting against a nominee who has failed to attend at least 75% of board meetings within a given year without a reasonable excuse.
  - g. We consider withholding support from or voting against a nominee who serves on the board of directors of more than six companies (excluding investment companies). We also consider voting against a director who otherwise appears to have too many commitments to serve adequately on the board of the company.
2. Board independence: We generally support U.S. shareholder proposals requiring that a certain percentage (up to 66<sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> %) of the company's board members be independent directors, and promoting all-independent audit, compensation and nominating/governance committees.
  3. Board diversity: We consider on a case-by-case basis shareholder proposals urging diversity of board membership with respect to social, religious or ethnic group.
  4. Majority voting: We generally support proposals requesting or requiring majority voting policies in election of directors, so long as there is a carve-out for plurality voting in the case of contested elections.
  5. Proxy access: We consider on a case-by-case basis shareholder proposals to provide procedures for inclusion of shareholder nominees in company proxy statements.
  6. Proposals to elect all directors annually: We generally support proposals to elect all directors annually at public companies (to declassify the Board of Directors) where such action is supported by the board, and otherwise consider the issue on a case-by-case basis based in part on overall takeover defenses at a company.
  7. Cumulative voting: We generally support proposals to eliminate cumulative voting in the U.S. market context. (Cumulative voting provides that shareholders may concentrate their votes for one or a handful of candidates, a system that can enable a minority bloc to place representation on a board). U.S. proposals to establish cumulative voting in the election of directors generally will not be supported.
  8. Separation of Chairman and CEO positions: We vote on shareholder proposals to separate the Chairman and CEO positions and/or to appoint a non-executive Chairman based in part on prevailing practice in particular markets, since the context for such a practice varies. In many non-U.S. markets, we view separation of the roles as a market standard practice, and support division of the roles in that context.
  9. Director retirement age and term limits: Proposals recommending set director retirement ages or director term limits are voted on a case-by-case basis.
  10. Proposals to limit directors' liability and/or broaden indemnification of directors. Generally, we will support such proposals provided that the officers and directors are eligible for indemnification and liability protection if they have acted in good faith on company business and were found innocent of any civil or criminal charges for duties performed on behalf of the company.
- C. Corporate transactions and proxy fights.** We examine proposals relating to mergers, acquisitions and other special corporate transactions (i.e., takeovers, spin-offs, sales of assets, reorganizations, restructurings and recapitalizations) on a case-by-case basis. However, proposals for mergers or other significant transactions that are friendly and approved by the Research Providers generally will be supported and in those instances will not need to be reviewed by the Proxy Review
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Committee, where there is no portfolio manager objection and where there is no material conflict of interest. We also analyze proxy contests on a case-by-case basis.

**D. Changes in capital structure.**

1. We generally support the following:

Management and shareholder proposals aimed at eliminating unequal voting rights, assuming fair economic treatment of classes of shares we hold.

Management proposals to increase the authorization of existing classes of common stock (or securities convertible into common stock) if: (i) a clear business purpose is stated that we can support and the number of shares requested is reasonable in relation to the purpose for which authorization is requested; and/or (ii) the authorization does not exceed 100% of shares currently authorized and at least 30% of the total new authorization will be outstanding.

Management proposals to create a new class of preferred stock or for issuances of preferred stock up to 50% of issued capital, unless we have concerns about use of the authority for anti-takeover purposes.

Management proposals to authorize share repurchase plans, except in some cases in which we believe there are insufficient protections against use of an authorization for anti-takeover purposes.

Management proposals to reduce the number of authorized shares of common or preferred stock, or to eliminate classes of preferred stock.

Management proposals to effect stock splits.

Management proposals to effect reverse stock splits if management proportionately reduces the authorized share amount set forth in the corporate charter. Reverse stock splits that do not adjust proportionately to the authorized share amount generally will be approved if the resulting increase in authorized shares coincides with the proxy guidelines set forth above for common stock increases.

Management proposals for higher dividend payouts.

2. We generally oppose the following (notwithstanding management support):

Proposals to add classes of stock that would substantially dilute the voting interests of existing shareholders.

Proposals to increase the authorized or issued number of shares of existing classes of stock that are unreasonably dilutive, particularly if there are no preemptive rights for existing shareholders.

Proposals that authorize share issuance at a discount to market rates, except where authority for such issuance is de minimis, or if there is a special situation that we believe justifies such authorization (as may be the case, for example, at a company under severe stress and risk of bankruptcy).

Proposals relating to changes in capitalization by 100% or more.

We consider on a case-by-case basis shareholder proposals to increase dividend payout ratios, in light of market practice and perceived market weaknesses, as well as individual company payout history and current circumstances. For example, currently we perceive low payouts to shareholders as a

concern at some Japanese companies, but may deem a low payout ratio as appropriate for a growth company making good use of its cash, notwithstanding the broader market concern.

**E. Takeover Defenses and Shareholder Rights**

1. Shareholder rights plans: We generally support proposals to require shareholder approval or ratification of shareholder rights plans (poison pills). In voting on rights plans or similar takeover defenses, we consider on a case-by-case basis whether the company has demonstrated a need for the defense in the context of promoting long-term share value; whether provisions of the defense are in line with generally accepted governance principles; and the specific context if the proposal is made in the midst of a takeover bid or contest for control.
2. Supermajority voting requirements: We generally oppose requirements for supermajority votes to amend the charter or bylaws, unless the provisions protect minority shareholders where there is a large shareholder. In line with this view, in the absence of a large shareholder we support reasonable shareholder proposals to limit such supermajority voting requirements.
3. Shareholder rights to call meetings: We consider proposals to enhance shareholder rights to call meetings on a case-by-case basis.
4. Reincorporation: We consider management and shareholder proposals to reincorporate to a different jurisdiction on a case-by-case basis. We oppose such proposals if we believe the main purpose is to take advantage of laws or judicial precedents that reduce shareholder rights.
5. Anti-greenmail provisions: Proposals relating to the adoption of anti-greenmail provisions will be supported, provided that the proposal: (i) defines greenmail; (ii) prohibits buyback offers to large block holders (holders of at least 1% of the outstanding shares and in certain cases, a greater amount, as determined by the Proxy Review Committee) not made to all shareholders or not approved by disinterested shareholders; and (iii) contains no anti-takeover measures or other provisions restricting the rights of shareholders.
6. Bundled proposals: We may consider opposing or abstaining on proposals if disparate issues are bundled and presented for a single vote.

**F. Auditors.** We generally support management proposals for selection or ratification of independent auditors. However, we may consider opposing such proposals with reference to incumbent audit firms if the company has suffered from serious accounting irregularities and we believe rotation of the audit firm is appropriate, or if fees paid to the auditor for non-audit-related services are excessive. Generally, to determine if non-audit fees are excessive, a 50% test will be applied (i.e., non-audit-related fees should be less than 50% of the total fees paid to the auditor). We generally vote against proposals to indemnify auditors.

**G. Executive and Director Remuneration.**

1. We generally support the following proposals:  
Proposals for employee equity compensation plans and other employee ownership plans, provided that our research does not indicate that approval of the plan would be against shareholder interest. Such approval may be against shareholder interest if it authorizes excessive dilution and shareholder cost, particularly in the context of high usage ( run rate ) of equity compensation in the recent past; or if there are objectionable plan design and provisions.
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Proposals relating to fees to outside directors, provided the amounts are not excessive relative to other companies in the country or industry, and provided that the structure is appropriate within the market context. While stock-based compensation to outside directors is positive if moderate and appropriately structured, we are wary of significant stock option awards or other performance-based awards for outside directors, as well as provisions that could result in significant forfeiture of value on a director's decision to resign from a board (such forfeiture can undercut director independence).

Proposals for employee stock purchase plans that permit discounts up to 15%, but only for grants that are part of a broad-based employee plan, including all non-executive employees.

Proposals for the establishment of employee retirement and severance plans, provided that our research does not indicate that approval of the plan would be against shareholder interest.

2. Shareholder proposals requiring shareholder approval of all severance agreements will not be supported, but proposals that require shareholder approval for agreements in excess of three times the annual compensation (salary and bonus) generally will be supported. We generally oppose shareholder proposals that would establish arbitrary caps on pay. We consider on a case-by-case basis shareholder proposals that seek to limit Supplemental Executive Retirement Plans (SERPs), but support such proposals where we consider SERPs to be excessive.
3. Shareholder proposals advocating stronger and/or particular pay-for-performance models will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis, with consideration of the merits of the individual proposal within the context of the particular company and its labor markets, and the company's current and past practices. While we generally support emphasis on long-term components of senior executive pay and strong linkage of pay to performance, we consider whether a proposal may be overly prescriptive, and the impact of the proposal, if implemented as written, on recruitment and retention.
4. We consider shareholder proposals for U.K.-style advisory votes on pay on a case-by-case basis.
5. We generally support proposals advocating reasonable senior executive and director stock ownership guidelines and holding requirements for shares gained in option exercises.
6. Management proposals effectively to re-price stock options are considered on a case-by-case basis. Considerations include the company's reasons and justifications for a re-pricing, the company's competitive position, whether senior executives and outside directors are excluded, potential cost to shareholders, whether the re-pricing or share exchange is on a value-for-value basis, and whether vesting requirements are extended.

**H. Social, Political and Environmental Issues.** We consider proposals relating to social, political and environmental issues on a case-by-case basis to determine whether they will have a financial impact on shareholder value. However, we generally vote against proposals requesting reports that are duplicative, related to matters not material to the business, or that would impose unnecessary or excessive costs. We may abstain from voting on proposals that do not have a readily

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determinable financial impact on shareholder value. We generally oppose proposals requiring adherence to workplace standards that are not required or customary in market(s) to which the proposals relate.

**I. Fund of Funds.** Certain Funds advised by an MSIM Affiliate invest only in other MSIM Funds. If an underlying fund has a shareholder meeting, in order to avoid any potential conflict of interest, such proposals will be voted in the same proportion as the votes of the other shareholders of the underlying fund, unless otherwise determined by the Proxy Review Committee.

### **III. ADMINISTRATION OF POLICY**

The MSIM Proxy Review Committee (the Committee) has overall responsibility for creating and implementing the Policy, working with an MSIM staff group (the Corporate Governance Team). The Committee, which is appointed by MSIM's Chief Investment Officer of Global Equities (CIO), consists of senior investment professionals who represent the different investment disciplines and geographic locations of the firm. Because proxy voting is an investment responsibility and impacts shareholder value, and because of their knowledge of companies and markets, portfolio managers and other members of investment staff play a key role in proxy voting, although the Committee has final authority over proxy votes.

The Committee Chairperson is the head of the Corporate Governance Team, and is responsible for identifying issues that require Committee deliberation or ratification. The Corporate Governance Team, working with advice of investment teams and the Committee, is responsible for voting on routine items and on matters that can be addressed in line with these Policy guidelines. The Corporate Governance Team has responsibility for voting case-by-case where guidelines and precedent provide adequate guidance, and to refer other case-by-case decisions to the Proxy Review Committee.

The Committee will periodically review and have the authority to amend, as necessary, the Policy and establish and direct voting positions consistent with the Client Proxy Standard.

#### **A. Committee Procedures**

The Committee will meet at least monthly to (among other matters) address any outstanding issues relating to the Policy or its implementation. The Corporate Governance Team will timely communicate to ISS MSIM's Policy (and any amendments and/or any additional guidelines or procedures the Committee may adopt).

The Committee will meet on an ad hoc basis to (among other matters): (1) authorize split voting (i.e., allowing certain shares of the same issuer that are the subject of the same proxy solicitation and held by one or more MSIM portfolios to be voted differently than other shares) and/or override voting (i.e., voting all MSIM portfolio shares in a manner contrary to the Policy); (2) review and approve upcoming votes, as appropriate, for matters for which specific direction has been provided in this Policy; and (3) determine how to vote matters for which specific direction has not been provided in this Policy.

Members of the Committee may take into account Research Providers' recommendations and research as well as any other relevant information they may request or receive, including portfolio manager and/or analyst research, as applicable. Generally, proxies related to securities held in accounts that are managed pursuant to quantitative, index or index-like strategies (Index Strategies) will be voted in the same manner as those held in actively managed accounts, unless economic interests of the accounts differ. Because accounts managed using Index Strategies are passively managed accounts, research from portfolio managers and/or analysts related to securities held in these accounts may not be available. If the affected securities are held only in accounts that are managed pursuant to Index Strategies, and the proxy relates to a matter that is not described in this Policy, the Committee will consider all available information from the Research Providers, and to the extent that the holdings are significant, from the portfolio managers and/or analysts.

#### **B. Material Conflicts of Interest**

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In addition to the procedures discussed above, if the Committee determines that an issue raises a material conflict of interest, the Committee will request a special committee to review, and recommend a course of action with respect to, the conflict(s) in question ( Special Committee ).

The Special Committee shall be comprised of the Chairperson of the Proxy Review Committee, the Chief Compliance Officer or his/her designee, a senior portfolio manager (if practicable, one who is a member of the Proxy Review Committee) designated by the Proxy Review Committee, and MSIM's relevant Chief Investment Officer or his/her designee, and any other persons deemed necessary by the Chairperson. The Special Committee may request the assistance of MSIM's General Counsel or his/her designee who will have sole discretion to cast a vote. In addition to the research provided by Research Providers, the Special Committee may request analysis from MSIM Affiliate investment professionals and outside sources to the extent it deems appropriate.

### **C. Identification of Material Conflicts of Interest**

A potential material conflict of interest could exist in the following situations, among others:

1. The issuer soliciting the vote is a client of MSIM or an affiliate of MSIM and the vote is on a material matter affecting the issuer.
2. The proxy relates to Morgan Stanley common stock or any other security issued by Morgan Stanley or its affiliates except if echo voting is used, as with MSIM Funds, as described herein.
3. Morgan Stanley has a material pecuniary interest in the matter submitted for a vote (e.g., acting as a financial advisor to a party to a merger or acquisition for which Morgan Stanley will be paid a success fee if completed).

If the Chairperson of the Committee determines that an issue raises a potential material conflict of interest, depending on the facts and circumstances, the Chairperson will address the issue as follows:

1. If the matter relates to a topic that is discussed in this Policy, the proposal will be voted as per the Policy.
2. If the matter is not discussed in this Policy or the Policy indicates that the issue is to be decided case-by-case, the proposal will be voted in a manner consistent with the Research Providers, provided that all the Research Providers have the same recommendation, no portfolio manager objects to that vote, and the vote is consistent with MSIM's Client Proxy Standard.
3. If the Research Providers' recommendations differ, the Chairperson will refer the matter to the Committee to vote on the proposal. If the Committee determines that an issue raises a material conflict of interest, the Committee will request a Special Committee to review and recommend a course of action, as described above. Notwithstanding the above, the Chairperson of the Committee may request a Special Committee to review a matter at any time as he/she deems necessary to resolve a conflict.

### **D. Proxy Voting Reporting**

The Committee and the Special Committee, or their designee(s), will document in writing all of their decisions and actions, which documentation will be maintained by the Committee and the Special Committee, or their designee(s), for a period of at least 6 years. To the extent these decisions relate to a security held by an MSIM Fund, the Committee and Special Committee, or their designee(s), will report their decisions to each applicable Board of Trustees/Directors of those Funds at each Board's next regularly scheduled Board meeting. The report will contain information concerning decisions made by the Committee and Special Committee during the most recently ended calendar quarter immediately preceding the Board meeting.

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The Corporate Governance Team will timely communicate to applicable portfolio managers and to ISS, decisions of the Committee and Special Committee so that, among other things, ISS will vote proxies consistent with their decisions.

MSIM will promptly provide a copy of this Policy to any client requesting it. MSIM will also, upon client request, promptly provide a report indicating how each proxy was voted with respect to securities held in that client's account. MSIM's Legal Department is responsible for filing an annual Form N-PX on behalf of each MSIM Fund for which such filing is required, indicating how all proxies were voted with respect to such Fund's holdings.

#### **APPENDIX A**

The following procedures apply to accounts managed by Morgan Stanley AIP GP LP ( "AIP" ).

Generally, AIP will follow the guidelines set forth in Section II of MSIM's Proxy Voting Policy and Procedures. To the extent that such guidelines do not provide specific direction, or AIP determines that consistent with the Client Proxy Standard, the guidelines should not be followed, the Proxy Review Committee has delegated the voting authority to vote securities held by accounts managed by AIP to the Liquid Markets investment team and the Private Markets investment team of AIP. A summary of decisions made by the investment teams will be made available to the Proxy Review Committee for its information at the next scheduled meeting of the Proxy Review Committee.

In certain cases, AIP may determine to abstain from determining (or recommending) how a proxy should be voted (and therefore abstain from voting such proxy or recommending how such proxy should be voted), such as where the expected cost of giving due consideration to the proxy does not justify the potential benefits to the affected account(s) that might result from adopting or rejecting (as the case may be) the measure in question.

#### **Waiver of Voting Rights**

For regulatory reasons, AIP may either 1) invest in a class of securities of an underlying fund (the "Fund" ) that does not provide for voting rights; or 2) waive 100% of its voting rights with respect to the following:

1. Any rights with respect to the removal or replacement of a director, general partner, managing member or other person acting in a similar capacity for or on behalf of the Fund (each individually a "Designated Person," and collectively, the "Designated Persons" ), which may include, but are not limited to, voting on the election or removal of a Designated Person in the event of such Designated Person's death, disability, insolvency, bankruptcy, incapacity, or other event requiring a vote of interest holders of the Fund to remove or replace a Designated Person; and
2. Any rights in connection with a determination to renew, dissolve, liquidate, or otherwise terminate or continue the Fund, which may include, but are not limited to, voting on the renewal, dissolution, liquidation, termination or continuance of the Fund upon the occurrence of an event described in the Fund's organizational documents; provided, however, that, if the Fund's organizational documents require the consent of the Fund's general partner or manager, as the case may be, for any such termination or continuation of the Fund to be effective, then AIP may exercise its voting rights with respect to such matter.

#### **APPENDIX B**

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The following procedures apply to the portion of the Van Kampen Dynamic Credit Opportunities Fund ( VK Fund ) sub advised by Avenue Europe International Management, L.P. ( Avenue ). (The portion of the VK Fund managed solely by Van Kampen Asset Management will continue to be subject to MSIM s Policy.)

1. **Generally:** With respect to Avenue s portion of the VK Fund, the Board of Trustees of the VK Fund will retain sole authority and responsibility for proxy voting. The Adviser s involvement in the voting process of Avenue s portion of the VK Fund is a purely administrative function, and serves to execute and deliver the proxy voting decisions made by the VK Fund Board in connection with the Avenue portion of the VK Fund, which may, from time to time, include related administrative tasks such as receiving proxies, following up on missing proxies, and collecting data related to proxies. As such, the Adviser shall not be deemed to have voting power or shared voting power with Avenue with respect to Avenue s portion of the Fund.
2. **Voting Guidelines:** All proxies, with respect to Avenue s portion of the VK Fund, will be considered by the VK Fund Board or such subcommittee as the VK Fund Board may designate from time to time for determination and voting approval. The VK Board or its subcommittee will timely communicate to MSIM s Corporate Governance Group its proxy voting decisions, so that among other things the votes will be effected consistent with the VK Board s authority.
3. **Administration:** The VK Board or its subcommittee will meet on an adhoc basis as may be required from time to time to review proxies that require its review and determination. The VK Board or its subcommittee will document in writing all of its decisions and actions which will be maintained by the VK Fund, or its designee(s), for a period of at least 6 years. If a subcommittee is designated, a summary of decisions made by such subcommittee will be made available to the full VK Board for its information at its next scheduled respective meetings.

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

#### TRUST MANAGEMENT

PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT. The Trust is managed by members of the Adviser s Taxable High Yield team. The Taxable High Yield team consists of portfolio managers and analysts. The current members of the team jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Trust s portfolio are Andrew Findling, an Executive Director of the Adviser, and Dennis M. Schaney, a Managing Director of the Adviser. Mr. Findling has been associated with the Adviser in an investment management capacity since October 2008 and began managing the Trust in October 2008. Prior to October 2008, Mr. Findling was associated with Raven Asset Management as Head Trader from July 2005 to September 2008 and prior to that, he was associated with the High Yield team at BlackRock, Inc. in various capacities including portfolio manager and trader from 2003 to 2004, assistant portfolio manager and trader from 2002 to 2003 and assistant trader from 2000 to 2002. Mr. Schaney has been associated with the Adviser in an investment management capacity since September 2008 and began managing the Trust in October 2008. Prior to September 2008, Mr. Schaney served as Global Head of Fixed Income at Credit Suisse Asset Management from October 2003 to April 2007 and prior to that, he was Head of Leveraged Finance at BlackRock, Inc. from January 1998 to October 2003. All team members are responsible for the execution of the overall strategy of the Trust s portfolio. The composition of the team may change from time to time.

#### OTHER ACCOUNTS MANAGED BY THE PORTFOLIO MANAGERS

As of December 31, 2008:

Mr. Schaney managed nine registered investment companies with a total of approximately \$794 million in assets; no pooled investment vehicles other than registered investment companies; and no other accounts.

Mr. Findling managed six registered investment companies with a total of approximately \$629.8 billion in assets; no pooled investment vehicles other than registered investment companies; and no other accounts.

Because the portfolio managers manage assets for other investment companies, pooled investment vehicles, and/or other accounts (including institutional clients, pension plans and certain high net worth individuals), there may be an incentive to favor one client over another resulting in conflicts of interest. For instance, the Adviser may receive fees from certain accounts that are higher than the fee it receives from the Fund, or it may receive a performance-based fee on certain accounts. In those instances, the portfolio managers may have an incentive to favor the higher and/or performance-based fee accounts over the Fund. The portfolio managers of the Fund do not currently manage assets for other investment companies, pooled investment vehicles or other accounts that charge a performance fee. In addition, a conflict of interest could exist to the extent the Adviser has proprietary investments in certain accounts, where portfolio managers have personal investments in certain accounts or when certain accounts are investment options in the Adviser's employee benefits and/or deferred compensation plans. The portfolio manager may have an incentive to favor these accounts over others. If the Adviser manages accounts that engage in short sales of securities of the type in which the Fund invests, the Adviser could be seen as harming the performance of the Fund for the benefit of the accounts engaged in short sales if the short sales cause the market value of the securities to fall. The Adviser has adopted trade allocation and other policies and procedures that it believes are reasonably designed to address these and other conflicts of interest.

#### **PORTFOLIO MANAGER COMPENSATION STRUCTURE**

Portfolio managers receive a combination of base compensation and discretionary compensation, comprised of a cash bonus and several deferred compensation programs described below. The methodology used to determine portfolio manager compensation is applied across all accounts managed by the portfolio manager.

**BASE SALARY COMPENSATION.** Generally, portfolio managers receive base salary compensation based on the level of their position with the Adviser.

**DISCRETIONARY COMPENSATION.** In addition to base compensation, portfolio managers may receive discretionary compensation.

Discretionary compensation can include:

Cash Bonus;

Morgan Stanley's Long-Term Incentive Compensation Program awards a mandatory program that defers a portion of discretionary year-end compensation into restricted stock units or other awards or other investments based on Morgan Stanley common stock that are subject to vesting and other conditions;

Investment Management Alignment Plan (IMAP) awards a mandatory program that defers a portion of discretionary year-end compensation and notionally invests it in designated funds advised by the Adviser or its affiliates. The award is subject to vesting and other conditions. Portfolio managers must notionally invest a minimum of 25% to a maximum of 100% of their IMAP deferral account into a combination of the designated open-end funds they manage that are included in the IMAP Fund menu;

Voluntary Deferred Compensation Plans voluntary programs that permit certain employees to elect to defer a portion of their discretionary year-end compensation and notionally invest the deferred amount across a range of designated investment funds, including funds advised by the Adviser or its affiliates; and/or (2) in Morgan Stanley stock units. Several factors determine discretionary compensation, which can vary by portfolio management team and circumstances. In order of relative importance, these factors include:

Investment performance. A portfolio manager's compensation is linked to the pre-tax investment performance of the funds/accounts managed by the portfolio manager. Investment performance is calculated for one-, three- and five-year periods measured against an appropriate securities market index (or indices) for the funds/accounts managed by the portfolio manager. The assets managed by the portfolio managers in funds, pooled investment vehicles and other accounts are described in Other Accounts Managed by the Portfolio Managers above. Generally, the greatest weight is placed on the three- and five-year periods.

Revenues generated by the investment companies, pooled investment vehicles and other accounts managed by the portfolio manager.

Contribution to the business objectives of the Adviser.

The dollar amount of assets managed by the portfolio manager.

Market compensation survey research by independent third parties.



Other qualitative factors, such as contributions to client objectives.

Performance of Morgan Stanley and Morgan Stanley Investment Management Inc., and the overall performance of the investment team(s) of which the portfolio is a member.

**SECURITIES OWNERSHIP OF PORTFOLIO MANAGERS**

As of December 31, 2008, the portfolio managers did not own any shares of the Fund.

Item 9. Purchase of Equity Securities by Closed-End Management Investment Company and Affiliated Purchasers.  
Not Applicable.

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

Not Applicable.

Item 11. Controls and Procedures

(a) The Trust's principal executive officer and principal financial officer have concluded that the Trust's disclosure controls and procedures are sufficient to ensure that information required to be disclosed by the Trust in this Form N-CSR was recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules and forms, based upon such officers' evaluation of these controls and procedures as of a date within 90 days of the filing date of the report.

(b) There were no changes in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the second fiscal quarter of the period covered by this report that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Item 12. Exhibits.

(1) The Code of Ethics for Principal Executive and Senior Financial Officers is attached hereto.

(2)(a) A certification for the Principal Executive Officer of the registrant is attached hereto as part of EX-99.CERT.

(2)(b) A certification for the Principal Financial Officer of the registrant is attached hereto as part of EX-99.CERT.

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**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.

(Registrant) Van Kampen High Income Trust II

By: /s/ Edward C. Wood III

Name: Edward C. Wood III

Title: Principal Executive Officer

Date: February 19, 2009

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

By: /s/ Edward C. Wood III

Name: Edward C. Wood III

Title: Principal Executive Officer

Date: February 19, 2009

By: /s/ Stuart N. Schuldt

Name: Stuart N. Schuldt

Title: Principal Financial Officer

Date: February 19, 2009