



## Market Summary

DOW	18134.76	+37.79	PEYTO ENERGY	35.56	-.03	POLARIS	2.52	--
TSE	15144.68	+61.84	WESTERN FOREST	2.08	--	CANADIAN \$	0.8027	-.0015
S&P	2098.96	+.43	CATALYST	5.27	-.01	EURO	1.1032	-.0046
NASDAQ	4984.16	+17.02	CANFOR	27.64	+1.16	COPPER	2.66	--
TSX VENTURE	698.79	+0.70	REDSTAR GOLD	0.045	--	BRENT CRUDE	60.96	+41
SILVER	16.23	+.07	LUMBER	289.20	--	NATURAL GAS	2.77	--
GOLD	1202.60	+1.70	FIRST MAJESTIC	7.25	-.02	PRIME RATE	2.85%	

## Market Commentary

### • Brazil Central Bank hiked rates

BCB raised them 50 Basis Points (1/2%) to bring their internal rate, which they call the Selic Rate to 12.75%.

### • Polish Central Bank (PCB) cut rates yesterday

25 Basis Points (1/4%). Bringing their internal rate to 1.5%.

### • ECB Chair, Draghi announced the ECB's rates and QE plans

No changes to rates but gave details about its QE program, they will commence its monthly 60-billion-euro (\$66.3 billion) bond purchases on March 9, ECB President Mario Draghi said Thursday, after it decided to keep rates at record lows. The central bank also upped its growth forecasts after positive economic data flow from the euro-bloc, while cutting its inflation forecast for 2015. The news sent the Euro even lower.

### • Bank of England keeps rates on hold, six years after crisis cut

The Bank of England marked the sixth anniversary of its cutting interest rates to a record low by keeping them on hold once again, but an improving economy suggests rates are likely to rise at some point over the next 12 months.

### • China moved their forecast for Growth down to 7% from 7.5%

Actual economic growth last year was 7.4 per cent, the lowest since 1990.

### US initial jobs claims slightly higher than forecast

Claims were 320,000 when expectations were for 3294,000

### • AbbVie boosts cancer drug pipeline with \$21 bln Pharmacyclics deal

AbbVie Inc is to buy Pharmacyclics Inc for about \$21 billion, giving it access to what is expected to be one of the world's top-selling cancer drugs and expanding its reach in the profitable oncology field.

A higher opening for the **TSX** despite China lowering growth outlook, supported by a rise in **crude prices**. Ivey PMI data for February is due on the economic calendar. **U.S. stock indexes** slightly higher as investors digest earnings and **European Central Bank's** 1 trillion euro-plus stimulus program. **European markets** were in the green, while **Asian shares** closed mixed. The **euro** slid to an 11-year low against the **dollar**. **Brent** rose above \$61 a barrel as investors focus on the lack of a deal in talks over Iran's nuclear program. **Gold** steadied around \$1,200 an ounce after a three-day losing streak.

• **Canadian Natural Resources Ltd (CNQ)**. The company posted a better-than-expected quarterly profit, helped by higher production, and the oil and gas producer raised its dividend. The company said it had trimmed the budget further by C\$150 million to C\$6.04 billion as oil prices stay weak. Canadian Natural Resources also said its management committee has agreed to a 10 percent salary cut, effective March 1. Its board too agreed to cut its annual cash retainer by 10 percent. The company's net earnings nearly tripled to C\$1.20 billion, or C\$1.09 Canadian cents per share. Excluding items, Canadian Natural Resources earned 69 Canadian cents per share, above the average analyst estimate of 67 Canadian cents. Canadian Natural raised its quarterly cash dividend to 23 Canadian cents per share from 22.5 Canadian cents, payable on April 1.

• **Encana Corp (ECA)**. The natural gas producer said on Wednesday it plans to raise up to C\$1.44 billion through a secondary share issue as the company looks to bolster a balance sheet weakened by low oil and natural gas prices. Encana said it has agreed to sell 85.62 million shares, priced at C\$14.60 each, to a group of underwriters led by RBC Capital Markets, Credit Suisse and the Bank of Nova Scotia, to raise C\$1.25 billion. Encana said it plans to use the money to redeem two series of notes worth a combined \$1.45 billion as it looks to reduce debt while commodity prices remain weak.

## ANALYSTS' RECOMMENDATION

- **Allied Properties** (AP\_u). CIBC raised price target to C\$42 from C\$40 to reflect company's completion of 10 acquisitions in 2014, including two parcels critical to larger land assemblies.
- **Kinross Gold** (KGC). RBC cut price target to \$3.25 from \$4 stating that production and cost profiles deteriorate as reserves are depleted and mines are closed or transitioned to lower-grade resources.
- **Linamar Corp** (LNR). Canaccord Genuity cut rating to hold from buy saying that company is poised for further good EPS growth, but the pace of growth looks likely to slow and our forecast was only modestly increased on the guidance raise.
- **Semafo Inc** (SMF). CIBC raised price target to C\$5.50 from C\$5 considering that company completed its equity financing and taken control of Orbis Gold.

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