

Morning Letter

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Market Summary

DOW	18057.37	+33.20	PEYTO ENERGY	33.01	41	POLARIS	2.15	
TSE	14608.86	+14.82	WESTERN FOREST	2.47		CANADIAN \$	0.8610	+.0003
S&P			CATALYST	3.01		EURO	1.2197	+.0026
NASDAQ	4773.00	+7.38	CANFOR	29.12	11	COPPER	2.85	02
TSX VENTURE	673.78	-3.67	REDSTAR GOLD	0.04		BRENT CRUDE	60.19	-1.49
SILVER	15.73	03	LUMBER	335.10		NATURAL GAS	3.15	05
GOLD	1174.10	-3.90	FIRST MAJESTIC	5.34	+.05	PRIME RATE	3.00%	

Market Commentary

· Russia to help large borrowers as S&P mulls junk rating

Russia's central bank offered on Wednesday to help top exporters refinance foreign debts next year, expected to be one of the toughest of President Vladimir Putin's 15-year rule for the economy due to Western sanctions and a plunge in oil prices.

Minimum wage hikes to impact 1,400-plus Walmart stores

Minimum wage increases across the United States will prompt Wal-Mart Stores Inc to adjust base salaries at 1,434 stores, impacting about a third of its U.S. locations, according to an internal memo reviewed by Reuters.

In plot reversal, Sony sends 'The Interview' to 200 theaters

Sony Pictures will allow "The Interview" to play in more than 200 U.S. theaters as of Christmas Day, reversing its decision to pull the film, after coming under criticism from President Barack Obama and others for caving into pressure from North Korea.

Stocks opened flat for **Canada's main stock index**, with weak commodity prices, investors finding few reasons to buy in the absence of any major economic catalyst. **U.S. stock indexes** opened up slightly. **European stocks** traded mixed ahead of the Christmas break, while **Asian markets** were broadly higher. The **dollar** held near its highest point in almost nine years against a basket of currencies. **Brent** fell, weighed down by strong supply in the U.S., and **gold** fell.

Markets close at 10 AM our time today.

TSX Closed Thursday and Friday meanwhile the US Markets close tomorrow also but are open Friday.

Merry Christmas to all Morning Letter readers and a Healthy Prosperous New Year



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