Morning Letter October 2, 2013 7:09 AM Mitch Gardner CFP, Robin Nadig B 5262 Argyle St., Port Alberni, BC V9Y 1T9 Ph. 723-4970 fax 723-4980

Dow	15085.02	-106.68	Peyto Energy	20.23	23	Polaris	1.52	+.01
TSE	12817.51	-29.93	Western For.	1.44	+.01	Canadian \$	0.9677	0009
S&P	1684.14	-10.86	Catalyst	1.22		Euro	1.3590	+.0065
Nasdaq	3797.63	-20.35	Canfor	23.45	+.10	Copper	3.29	+.01
TSX Venture	944.09	+2.05	Redstar Gold	.115		Crude Oil	101.93	+.24
Silver	21.57	+.39	Lumber	338.10		Natural Gas	3.59	02
Gold	1306.50	+20.40	Tim Horton's	59.44	60	Prime Rate	3.00 %	

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• In first day of U.S. shutdown, no sign how it will end

President Barack Obama and congressional Republicans came no closer to ending a standoff on Tuesday that has forced the first government shutdown in 17 years and thrown hundreds of thousands of federal employees out of work.

• ECB holds rates, waiting to see how recovery fares

The European Central Bank left interest rates unchanged, holding off any fresh policy action for now while it waits to see whether a fragile euro zone recovery strengthens.

• Berlusconi defections boost Italian PM for confidence vote

Italian Prime Minister Enrico Letta appeared on course to win a confidence vote following a flood of defections from media tycoon Silvio Berlusconi's centre-right party.

• Microsoft investors push for chairman Gates to step down

Three of the top 20 investors in Microsoft Corp are lobbying the board to press for Bill Gates to step down as chairman of the software company he co-founded 38 years ago, according to people familiar with matter.

• Tesco's UK problems exposed by Sainsbury's surging sales

Tesco, Britain's biggest retailer, posted flat sales 18 months into a 1 billion pound recovery plan for its main home market, a lack of growth exposed by accelerating sales at rival J Sainsbury.

Canada's main stock index reversed previous session's gains as a partial U.S. government shutdown entered its second day with investors worrying about its implications on debt ceiling talks later this month. **Wall Street** opened much lower, and **European shares** were pulled lower by Tesco. **Asian markets** ended higher with **Japan's Nikkei index** bucking the trend to end about 2 percent down. **Oil** was mixed, while **gold** rose nicely higher.

• Agrium Inc (AGU). The fertilizer company said on Tuesday it has completed its purchase of Viterra Inc's Canadian farm retail stores. The company said it expects the former Viterra stores to contribute C\$75 million to C\$90 million in annual EBITDA and sees synergies of C\$15 million to C\$20 million by the end of 2015.

• **Pacific Rubiales** (PRE). The company will offer more Colombian crude on the open market by December after it takes over the production of **Petrominerales** (PMG), two sources with knowledge of the deal said. Pacific Rubiales currently offers four to six tenders of Vasconia and Castilla crude cargoes on the open market, which account for as many as 4.5 million barrels per month.

ANALYSTS' RECOMMENDATIONS

• IMAX Corp (IMX). Benchmark starts with hold rating on its U.S. listed shares; price target of \$29.42, says it remains optimistic near term over the IMAX brand and premium ticket experience they offer to a rapidly unfolding international growth opportunity

• Milestone Apartments REIT (MST_u). National Bank Financial starts with outperform rating; target C\$11.60, says the company's integrated management platform is poised for outsized growth in strong U.S. markets

• Paladin Labs Inc (PLB). BMO starts with market perform rating; target price C\$66, says the company has good growth potential partly offset by risks

• Valeant Pharmaceuticals International Inc (VRX). BMO raises target price of its U.S. listed shares to \$123 from \$109 following Merck's announcement that it will focus its operations in its top ten geographic markets

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