



The Week of March 19<sup>th</sup> to March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
“A Brief Look Back Into Tomorrow”

**Good Day**

The new North American trading week began on **Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup>** with investors caught in the crosshairs of the major markets that seemingly gyrated at random from multi-point up or down days.

The **Canadian Federal Government** announced they will work with the provinces of Ontario and Quebec to provide a **5G wireless corridor** from Toronto to Ottawa and Montreal.

**Alio Gold ‘ALO-T’** and **Rye Patch Gold ‘RPM-V’** announced the companies **will merge** on a 53% - 47% basis to form a 165,000-ounce gold producer.

Similarly, the price of **Klondex Mines ‘KDX-T’** soared **up by almost 59% to \$2.86** on word the junior gold producer had **agreed to a cash & stock takeover from Hecla Mining ‘HL-N’**.

**Facebook Inc. ‘FB-N’** shares **sank by almost 7% to US\$172.51** on word that data firm **Cambridge Analytica** had managed to **collect data on 50-million Facebook users** in order to enhance the Donald Trump election campaign.

**Tuesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>** saw the price of **Antibe Therapeutic ‘ATE-V’** stock **soar up by 78% to \$0.64** after the company’s lead drug **ATB-346** met its **primary endpoint in a Phase 2B gastrointestinal safety study**.

**Ballard Power ‘BLDP-T’** shares **rose by almost 10% to \$4.59** after the alternative energy company announced a **trial deal to supply delivery giant United Parcel Service ‘UPS-N’** with fuel cell modules.

The price of **First Quantum Minerals ‘FM-T’** shares **dropped by over 12% to \$18.00** after **Zambia’s tax collection agency** announced the miner had **not reported some \$8-billion in unspecified taxes**.

**New U.S. Fed Chairman Jerome Powell** did as expected on **Wednesday, March 21<sup>st</sup>** by announcing the central bank was **raising the country’s benchmark overnight lending**

rate by another 0.25% to the 1.50% – 1.75% range.

The National Association of Realtors reported that the median American home price rose by 5.9% in the past year to US\$241,700.

**BRP Inc.** ‘DOO-T’ shares’ surged up by 9.5% to \$49.88 after the SkiDoo & SeaDoo recreation vehicle manufacturer reported a healthy 4<sup>th</sup>-quarter financial report and better yet – raised its quarterly dividend by 12.5%.

Conversely, the price of **General Mills** ‘GIS-N’ stock dropped by almost 9% to US\$45.51 after the giant foods company sighted higher freight and commodity costs for lowering its earnings forecast for the rest of 2018.

Thursday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> had the markets drop across the board after the U.S. Government announced some US\$60-billion of proposed tariffs against goods imported from China.

Marijuana stocks rose in unison after the Canadian Senate approved the Federal Government’s recreational marijuana legislation.

**Eldorado Gold** ‘ELD-T’ shares’ fell by 11% to \$1.20 after the miner announced year-end 2017 production figures that failed to meet the market’s expectations and worse yet - suspended its quarterly dividend as a cost saving measure.

**Statistics Canada** announced on Friday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> that the nation’s inflation rate rose by a higher than expected 0.5% in February to an annualized 2.2%.

Petroleum industry consultant **Baker Hughes** ‘BHGE-N’ reported that the number of active American drilling rigs rose by 5-rigs last week to 995 active drilling rigs. On the north side of the border – the number of active Canadian rigs fell by 68-rigs to just 161 active drilling rigs.

**Leonovus Inc.** ‘LTV-V’ shares’ soared up by over 42% to \$0.24 after the company announced a proof of concept company had purchased its Leonovous 3.0 blockchain technology.

**During the Week** – The CBOE Volatility Index or VIX rose to a new 2-month high of 24.87.

**Brick Brewing** ‘BRB-T’ at \$4.75, **InterRent REIT** ‘IIP.UN-T’ at \$10.21 and **Mitel Networks** ‘MNW-T’ at \$12.52 all rose to new TSX 52-week trading highs while **Africa Oil** ‘AOI-T’ at \$1.23, **Enbridge Inc.** ‘ENB-T’ at \$38.40 and **Tricon Capital** ‘TCN-T’ at \$9.82 all fell to new 52-week trading lows.

**For the Week** – the Dow industrials fell by 5.67% to 23,533, with the S&P 500 down by 6.0% to 2,588 and the NASDAQ Exchange off by 6.53% to 6,993. To the north – the TSX Composite Index dropped by 3.10% to 15,224 and the TSX Venture Exchange

was lower by **1.92%** to **818**.

With Commodities – gold bullion gained **3.13%** to **US\$1,353**, while copper lost **4.18%** to **US\$2.98**, as crude oil rose by **5.61%** to **US\$65.91** and natural gas fell by **3.31%** to **US\$2.63**. Overall – the **CRB Spot Commodity Index** was off by **1.13%** to end the week at **339**.

The **Canadian dollar** gained **1.35%** against the American greenback to finish the week at **US\$0.7769**.

And the closely watched **CBOE volatility Index** or **VIX** surged **higher by 9.07-points** to end the week a much more nervous level of **24.87**.

**And Finally** – No sooner than we hear of the potential abuse of client data coming from social media site Facebook ‘FB-Q’ and now we see that **Farmers Business Network has signed up and is beginning to collect data on over 200 Canadian prairie farmers**.

Sources: Bloomberg, Thomson Reuters, MarketWatch, Globe & Mail, Wall Street Journal, Dow Jones, Financial Times, National Post, Briefing.com, Credit Suisse, and StreetAccount.

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