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Morning Need to Know

Getting you ready for your investing day

February 28, 2019

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CANADIAN ANALYSTS' CALLS INITIATIONS

INITIATIONS

People Corp. (TSXV:PEO). CIBC begins coverage with an "outperformer" and a price target of \$9.50 (Canadian), giving the stock a projected return of more than 20%.

PEO was our Digest cover story on January 29 when it was trading just under \$8. It closed Wednesday at \$7.88 and boasts a five-year return of 377%.

Well Health Technologies (TSXV:WELL). Haywood Securities starts coverage with a "buy" and a price target

of \$0.90, which implies **80% upside**, on this owner of health care clinics.

The company is run by a similar management to Tio Networks, which was sold to PayPal for more than \$300 million.

Southern Energy (TSXV:SOU). Mackie Research begins coverage with a "speculative buy" and a target of \$0.30, giving the shares 100% upside potential. You may recall Haywood started coverage last week with a \$0.25 target.

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Valens GroWorks (CSE:VGW). Mackie hikes the target to \$6 from \$4.50, indicating an 86% gain after the cannabis extraction struck a supply deal with Tilray.

Storage Vault Canada (TSXV:SVI) gets upgraded to "buy" by Industrial Alliance and the target goes to \$3.25 from \$3.

Tamarack Valley Energy (TSX:TVE) gets upgraded to "outperform" by RBC with the target moved to \$4 from \$3.50.

Copper Mountain (TSX:CMMC) upgraded to "buy" at GMP with a target of \$1.75.

MedMen (CSE:MMEN). Cormark cuts to "market perform" and maintains \$7.50 target.

Cogeco Inc. (TSX:CGO). CIBC upgrades to "outperformer" and raises the target to \$89 from \$80 after the company said it's selling its cloud services business for \$720 million, which it bought six years ago for \$526 million.

Canadian Apartment REIT (TSX:CAR.UN) upgraded to "buy" at Echelon with a target of \$52.



U.S. ANALYSTS' CALLS

American Tower (NYSE:AMT) gets its target raised by Cowen & Co. to \$182 (U.S.) from \$167.

Best Buy (NYSE:BBY) sees its target hiked to \$78 from \$70 by Credit Suisse.

Boeing (NYSE:BA). Morgan Stanley moves the target to \$500 from \$450.

STOCKS THAT MAY MOVE

Nemaska Lithium (TSX:NMX) says its board of directors has appointed a special committee and financial advisors "to review all strategic alternatives". The company also says it intends to complete the review:

"...in a timely fashion including alternatives which may be available to secure the additional funding required to complete the Whabouchi mine and the Shawinigan plant."

Nemaska's stock is well down and costs for its lithium project have ballooned since we interviewed the CEO in November of 2017.

Cascades (TSX:CAS) will not renew the leases and close two of its Ontario tissue paper plants, which employ 68 people.

Air Canada (TSX:AC) has increased its longterm forecast for core profit margins to 19% to 22% out to 2021, and free cash flow thanks to cost cutting and capacity expansion.

Blackberry (TSX:BB;NASDAQ:BBRY) is suing Twitter for infringing on six of its patents.

Canopy Growth (TSX:WEED;NYSE:CGC) has signed up Martha Stewart as an adviser. She gained some street cred, as if jail time wasn't enough, by co-hosting a show with rapper Snoop Dog.

TD (TSX:TD) and CIBC (TSX:CM) are the latest big Canadian banks out with earnings reports and both fell short of estimates. Both banks raised their dividends.

Encana (TSX:ECA) beat estimates as production rose 20% and it sold crude at prices 7% higher than a year ago. The company has had its \$1.25 billion share buyback approved by the TMX.

JD.com (NYSE:JD) beat estimates with Chinese online retailer's quarterly revenue rising more than 22% and posting a narrower loss than last year.

Liberty Global PLC (NASDAQ:LBTYA) has agreed to sell its Swiss telecom business to Sunrise Communications for 6.3 billion Swiss francs.

HP (TSX:HPQ) is down 14% pre-market following its earnings report.

Apple (NASDAQ:AAPL) is laying off 190 people in its self-driving car program.

Tencent Music (NYSE:TME) and KKR (NYSE:KKR) are said to be preparing rival bids for up to half of Vivendi's Universal Music business in a deal that could be worth 20 billion euros.

MARKETS

The TSX and U.S. equity futures are modestly lower as the U.S. walked away from talks with North Korea because it asked for sanctions to be lifted. Plus, tensions continue between India and Pakistan.

U.S. GDP growth in 2018 came in at a better than expected 2.6%.

Factory activity in China hit a three-year low helping to send Asian indices lower in overnight trading.

CURRENCIES

The Canadian dollar is down 0.3% \$0.7576(U.S.).

COMMODITIES Daily Update

West Texas Intermediate is up a bit to \$57 a barrel.

Gold is ticking higher at \$1,322.50 an ounce.

Daily Update



Playing for Profit in esports

The <u>new Digest</u> examines video gaming and eSports surging popularity and looks at a few names, large and small, for ways to get in the game.

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