

# The Daily Roll

Market Recap March 16, 2015



### Today's Commentary

Investors in North American equities faced a gloomy end of the week, as the S&P 500 declined 12.55 (0.61%) to 2,053.40 and the Dow fell 145.91 (0.82%) to finish at 17,749.31 Friday afternoon. The strength of the US dollar is the talk of the town, as it continued its ascent against major currencies and threatens to further harm American based multinationals' profits. The greenback climbed to 1.278 CAD (0.79%) as a larger than expected rise in Canada's unemployment rate in February sparked a sell-off in the loonie. Crude oil also put downside pressure on the Canadian dollar, as April futures contracts dropped \$2.21 to US\$44.84, extending last week's decline to almost 10%. The TSX was pushed down by the energy sector, as it finished Friday 39.22 (0.27%) off of the previous day's close to 14,731.50. More volatility in currency markets is expected this week, as the US Federal Reserve will begin a two-day interest rate policy meeting on Tuesday.

After the 11-day session of the National People's Congress in China, Premier Li Keqiang stated that the government has "more tools in our toolbox" if growth and employment become adversely affected by the downward pressure faced by the economy. This signals that China is likely working on measures to combat the weak demand and slowing economic growth. Premier Li also said that in the case that economic growth does fall below a comfortable level, the government would reduce taxes on some businesses and improve the conditions for private companies through long term restructuring, but did not mention any more aggressive methods that may be employed. Economists are currently speculating on further interest rate cuts, as thus far, there is little evidence to suggest that the last interest rate cut has helped to reverse the economic slowdown.

Statistics Canada released the Canadian labour force survey on Friday which showed virtually no change in employment, while an increased number of people searching for jobs caused the unemployment rate to rise 0.2% in February to 6.8%. Full time employment was up 0.8% y/y with 121,000 people gaining fulltime work, while total number of hours worked also rose 0.2%. February showed gains in construction and educational services, but fewer jobs in information, manufacturing, and natural resources; the latter having seen a 6.8% drop in the past two months. Putting Canadian Jabour numbers in US terms, the unemployment rate is up 0.3% from January to 5.9%, but still down 0.1% y/y. American labour numbers seem very strong, with unemployment down 1.2% over the year to 5.5%, but the comparison of Canadian and US labour markets is not as clear cut as it may seem. The US still lags behind its lowest pre-recession employment rate of 63%, currently sitting at only 59.3%.

The Daily Roll is written by MFE Candidates Mark Belisle, Radu Dragomir and Kathleen Glofcheskie in partnership with the Rotman Finance Association. economics.utoronto.ca to subscribe/unsubscribe.

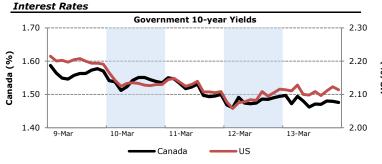
### Today's Major Economic Releases

Master of Financial Economics Program

| United States         | Period | Survey | <u>Actual</u> | Prior |
|-----------------------|--------|--------|---------------|-------|
| Industrial Production |        | 0.2K   | 0.2K          | -0.1K |
| Housing Starts        |        | 1040K  |               | 1065K |
| Leading Indicators    |        | 0.2%   |               | 0.2%  |

Canada Period Survey Actual <u>Prior</u>

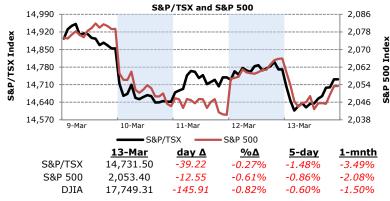
# None Scheduled



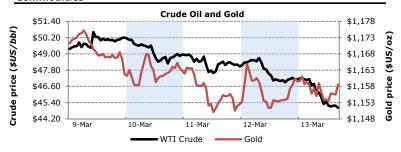
#### The Master of Financial Economics Program at the University of Toronto is a FINANCIAL collaborative program of the Department of Economics and the Rotman ECONOMICS School of Management. The program's key objective is to provide a broad understanding of Financial Theory and the Economics framework upon which that theory is based. Students follow a three-term, 16-month program, with 12 one-term courses and a four-month summer internship. For more information on the program and its students please see the website below. STUDENTS

http://www.economics.utoronto.ca/index.php/index/mfe/

### **Equities**



#### **Commodities**



|                | <u>13-Mar</u> | <u>day ∆</u> | <u>%∆</u> | <u>5-day</u> | <u>1-mnth</u> |
|----------------|---------------|--------------|-----------|--------------|---------------|
| Oil (\$US/BbI) | \$44.84       | -2.21        | -4.70%    | -9.61%       | -8.19%        |
| Gold (\$US/oz) | \$1,159       | 4.87         | +0.42%    | -0.74%       | -4.96%        |

# Foreign Exchange



|   | (USDCAD in                | nplies \$1-USD to | Historical levels |         |                |         |
|---|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------|----------------|---------|
|   | Spot                      | <u>13-Mar</u>     | <u>day ∆</u>      | -5 days | <u>-1 mnth</u> | -1 year |
|   | USDCAD                    | \$1.278           | +0.010            | 1.262   | 1.263          | 1.108   |
| _ | EURUSD                    | \$1.050           | -0.014            | 1.084   | 1.134          | 1.387   |
| 8 | USDJPY                    | ¥121.40           | +0.110            | 120.830 | 120.46         | 101.84  |
| S | Government 10-year Yields |                   |                   | Hi      | storical leve  | ls      |
|   |                           | <u>13-Mar</u>     | <u>day ∆</u>      | -1 mnth | -3 mnths       | -1 year |

-0.018%

-0.002%

1.76%

2.08%

2.38%

2.64%

### Rotman Finance Association

1.48%

2.11%

Canada

**United States** 



The purpose of the Rotman Finance Association is to bridge the gap between classroom financial theory and finance-based careers by offering students industry speaker sessions, alumni networking seminars and competitions. For more information please see the website below.

1.45%

2.02%

http://www.rotmanfinanceassociation.com

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12-months

+2.85%

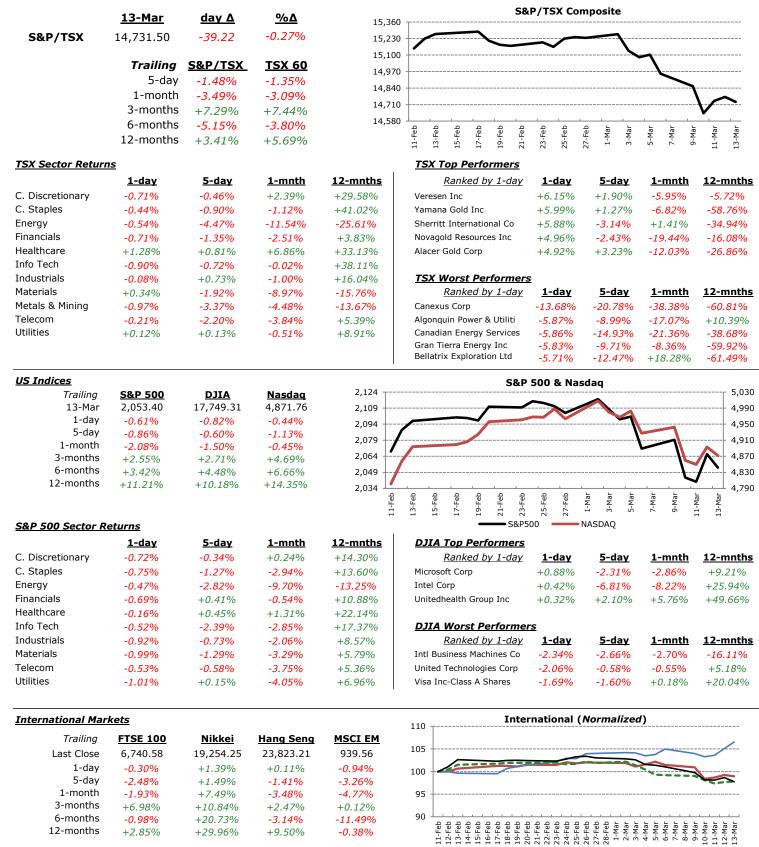
+29.96%

+9.50%

# The Equities Roll

March 16, 2015





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FTSE

NIK

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ΕM

-0.38%

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Precious Metals
\$US/oz 13-

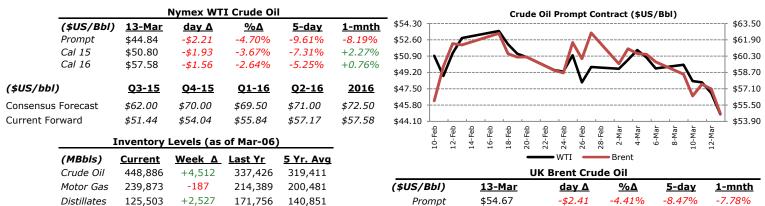
<u>13-Mar</u>

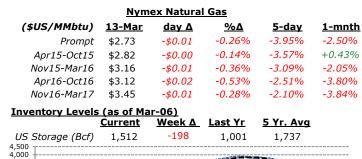
day ∆

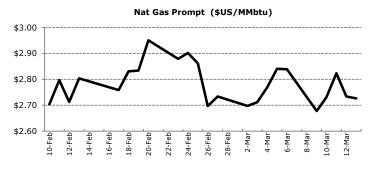
## The Commodities Roll

March 16, 2015









|     |                         |               |            |              |            | _            |
|-----|-------------------------|---------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
|     | US Storage (Bcf         | ) 1,512       | -198       | 1,001        | 1,737      |              |
|     | 4,000 +                 |               |            |              |            |              |
|     | 3,500<br>3,000<br>2,500 |               |            |              |            |              |
| Bcf | 2,000                   |               |            |              |            |              |
|     | 1,500<br>1,000<br>500   |               |            |              |            |              |
|     |                         |               |            |              |            |              |
|     | 0 4 4 4                 | 4 4           | 4 4        | 4 4          | 15         | 2 2          |
|     | M-14<br>M-14<br>M-14    | -14<br>-14    | -1-<br>41- | 0-14<br>N-14 | 1 1        | J-15<br>M-15 |
|     | Σ < Σ                   | ם ה           | A N        | 0 Z          | ا ا        | - Σ          |
|     |                         | 35-year range | 5-yea      | ar Avg —     | Storage Le | vel          |

| Alberta Natural Gas |            |               |              |       |  |  |  |
|---------------------|------------|---------------|--------------|-------|--|--|--|
|                     | (\$CAD/GJ) | <u>13-Mar</u> | <u>day ∆</u> | %Δ    |  |  |  |
| AEC                 | O Apr-15   | \$2.54        | +\$0.00      | +0.0% |  |  |  |

| Gold                          | 1       | \$1,158.55                 | +\$4.87                    | +0.4%                      | -0.7%                   | -5.0%                     | -3.4%               |
|-------------------------------|---------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Silve                         | er      | \$15.66                    | +\$0.06                    | +0.4%                      | -1.5%                   | -6.8%                     | -1.4%               |
| Plati                         | num     | \$1,119                    | +\$1.25                    | +0.1%                      | -3.8%                   | -6.4%                     | -6.8%               |
|                               |         |                            | Gold                       | d and Silver               |                         |                           |                     |
|                               | \$1,240 | T                          |                            |                            |                         |                           | - \$18.00           |
| (Z                            | \$1,220 |                            |                            |                            |                         |                           | - \$17.50 👸         |
| 2\$/                          | \$1,200 |                            | <u> </u>                   |                            |                         |                           | - \$17.00 <b>§</b>  |
| Gold price ( <i>US\$/O</i> z) | \$1,180 | ļ                          |                            |                            |                         |                           | φ±0.50 6            |
| Ë                             |         |                            |                            |                            |                         | _                         | - \$16.00 💆         |
| 亨                             | \$1,160 | +                          |                            |                            |                         |                           | - \$15.50 <b>5</b>  |
| Ğ                             | \$1,140 | +                          |                            |                            |                         |                           | - \$15.00 <b>ភ៏</b> |
|                               | \$1,120 | 9 9 9                      | 9 9 9                      | 9 9 9                      | E E E E                 | # # #                     | \$14.50             |
|                               |         | 11-Feb<br>13-Feb<br>15-Feb | 17-Feb<br>19-Feb<br>21-Feb | 23-Feb<br>25-Feb<br>27-Feb | 1-Mar<br>3-Mar<br>5-Mar | 9-Mar<br>11-Mar<br>13-Mar |                     |
|                               |         |                            |                            |                            |                         |                           |                     |

Silver

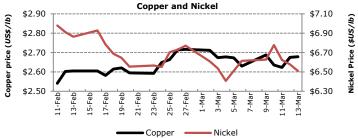
%Δ

1-mnth

<u>5-day</u>

3-mnth

| <u>Industrial</u> | Metals        |              |       |              |        |        |
|-------------------|---------------|--------------|-------|--------------|--------|--------|
| \$US/Ib           | <u>13-Mar</u> | <u>day ∆</u> | %Δ    | <u>5-day</u> | 1-mnth | 3-mnth |
| Copper            | \$2.68        | +\$0.00      | +0.1% | +1.9%        | +5.4%  | -6.8%  |
| Nickel            | \$6.51        | -\$0.07      | -1.0% | -1.6%        | -6.7%  | -10.1% |
| Zinc              | \$0.99        | -\$0.00      | -0.3% | -0.6%        | -5.2%  | -5.2%  |
| Aluminum          | \$0.85        | -\$0.01      | -1.2% | -2.3%        | -5.6%  | -6.6%  |
| Uranium           | \$39.25       | -\$0.15      | -0.4% | -1.0%        | +3.3%  | +6.8%  |
|                   |               |              |       |              |        |        |



| Agriculture & Other   | <u>13-Mar</u> | day ∆   | <u>%∆</u> | <u>5-day</u> | 1-mnth |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------|-----------|--------------|--------|
| Corn (\$US/bu)        | \$3.81        | -\$0.08 | -2.1%     | -1.4%        | -2.7%  |
| Wheat (\$US/bu)       | \$5.02        | -\$0.05 | -1.0%     | +4.0%        | -3.4%  |
| Soybeans (\$US/bu)    | \$9.74        | -\$0.16 | -1.7%     | -1.1%        | -1.3%  |
| Rough Rice (\$US/cwt) | \$10.58       | -\$0.10 | -0.9%     | +1.0%        | +0.1%  |
| Sugar #11 (¢US/lb)    | ¢12.70        | -¢0.51  | -3.9%     | -5.5%        | -14.8% |
| Lean Hogs (¢US/lb)    | ¢75.43        | -¢0.35  | -0.5%     | -5.8%        | -3.9%  |
| Live Cattle (¢US/lb)  | ¢145.28       | -¢1.35  | -0.9%     | -1.2%        | +1.0%  |
| Cotton No.2 (\$US/lb) | \$0.61        | -\$0.01 | -1.2%     | -3.9%        | -3.7%  |
| Lumber (\$US/Mbft)    | \$274.00      | -\$5.40 | -1.9%     | -2.8%        | -11.1% |
|                       |               |         |           |              |        |

■ Gold

| Commodity ETFs   |         |              |           |              |        |
|------------------|---------|--------------|-----------|--------------|--------|
| \$CAD            | 13-Mar  | <u>day Δ</u> | <u>%∆</u> | <u>5-day</u> | 1-mnth |
| HBP Crude Oil U  | \$7.11  | -\$0.54      | -7.1%     | -15.5%       | -19.1% |
| HBP Nat Gas U    | \$4.05  | -\$0.04      | -1.0%     | -8.2%        | -9.8%  |
| iShares Gold ETF | \$10.26 | +\$0.00      | +0.0%     | -1.3%        | -5.4%  |
| \$USD            | 13-Mar  |              |           |              |        |
| US Crude Oil     | \$16.80 | -\$0.64      | -3.7%     | -7.89%       | -11.3% |
| US Nat Gas       | \$13.81 | -\$0.09      | -0.6%     | -3.90%       | +0.7%  |
| PSDB Agriculture | \$22.07 | -\$0.34      | -1.5%     | -2.30%       | -5.4%  |
| PSDB Base Metals | \$14.86 | +\$0.08      | +0.5%     | 0.88%        | -1.7%  |

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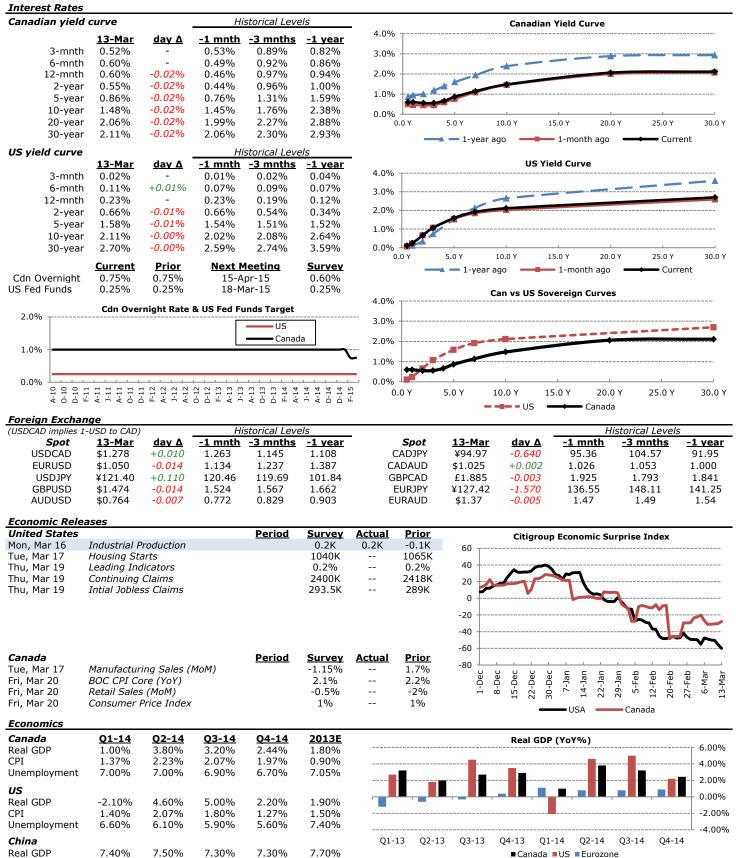
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# The Rates, FX, & Economics Roll

March 16, 2015





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