

Stanton Report

Fall 2005

Views & Opinions For The Clients & Friends Of Investment Advisor Richard Stanton RBC Dominion Securities Inc.

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If you know anyone who would like to receive a copy of this newsletter or be added to our mailing list, please contact **Shauna Peterson** at (250) 847-6680. Please contact Shauna Peterson if you would like secure internet access to your accounts. Use our toll free number 1-888-834-3311 from anywhere in North America. Volume 1, Number 4

A Word From Richard

Here is an amusing story:

KT&T Communications, not to be confused with AT&T Communications, has registered several new operating units in Texas. Those companies, called "I Don't Know", "I Don't Care", "It Doesn't Matter", and "Whoever", charge about double the cost of some other long distance companies for operator-assisted long distance calls, the Associated Press says.

The choice comes when the operator asks which long distance company you want to complete your call. "It's not deceptive at all," insists Dennis Dees, president of KT&T. Dees won't say how many calls his new companies have completed, but said "I Don't Care" and "It Doesn't Matter" were the most successful. A lot can be said for a somewhat unconventional yet innovative name!

We hope that everyone had a decent summer. It was a little wetter than usual up in the North but our family was able to get out camping several times and the golf course was, as always, in good shape.

September was a big month in our house. Our oldest daughter, Olivia, started French Immersion Kindergarten and seems to be enjoying it. Our youngest daughter, Jenelle, started preschool and is having an opportunity to socialize with kids her own age.

October brings us two birthdays, as both Olivia and myself will be celebrating ours on the same day! Olivia's been planning her party for about six months and she will be having an "Ariel" cake at McDonald's with nine of her closest friends. Our birthdays actually fall on October 26th and the whole family is going to Punta Mita, Mexico to celebrate. Punta Mita is on the West coast of Mexico approximately 45 minutes North of Puerto Vallarta, near the infamous town of Tequila. Tequila lies under the shadow of an extinct volcano and is surrounded by acres of blue spear shaped Agaves Cacti plants from which the famous tequila liquor is extracted. I will provide more details in the next newsletter after we've visited this little town and had a chance to absorb some of the local culture.

Our office renovation is now complete. It took a little longer than expected, but well worth the wait. Stop by if you're out and about for a coffee and have a look.

We've made an addition to our newsletter. We've added a Kids Corner. If you have children or grandchildren make sure you check this out, I am an advocate of educating children early in life about money and investments.

Looking back on the third quarter of 2005 here a few of the highlights:

- Gold Prices hit a 17 year high ending at \$472.35 USD on September 21, 2005.
- 27,500 jobs were added to the economy in August, led by construction companies answering to the demand of the housing boom.
- Natural Gas producer, Encana Corp., has become the countries largest company based on market value (\$53.6 B), topping former largest, RBC.

Is Your Estate Planned? Here's A Quick Quiz

No matter how old you are, making sure your estate plans are in order is important. The process not only makes your executor's job easier, but also ensures that your beneficiaries will be taken care of exactly the way you want. To find out where you stand in your estate planning, below are six questions that once answered, will give you an idea as to how well your estate is planned.

QUESTION #1

Do you have a Will? (1 point) Was it prepared in the jurisdiction in which you now live? (1 Point)

QUESTION #2

When was the last time you reviewed your Will? Was it prepared or reviewed within the last two years? (2 points) In the past five years? (1 point)

QUESTION #3

Have you given anyone power of attorney in the event of your incapacity? (2 points)

QUESTION #4

Would your beneficiaries be taken care of financially if you were to pass away? (2 points)

QUESTION #5

Have you consulted with your investment advisor to make sure your investment program is in line with the planning you have done? (1 point)

QUESTION #6

Do you consult with tax professionals such as lawyers and accountants when you are planning? (1 point)

YOUR TOTAL ____/10



SCORING:

8-10 POINTS: Your planning is probably in good shape and you have taken the appropriate steps to ensure your estate is administered in the manner that you want. Keep doing what you've been doing.

5-7 POINTS: You have a good beginning to your Estate Planning but still have a few things to do to make sure your affairs are in the order that you want them to be. Keep at it!

LESS THAN 5 POINTS: You should likely be doing more to ensure your assets are protected and will be distributed in the manner that you desire.

Consult my office today to get you started on you way.

KIDS CORNER

Give your child an allowance every two weeks so that he/she can learn the importance of real-world money management right away. We want to prevent our children from feeling entitled to their allowance, so set up chores so that they clearly earn



their allowance; they don't just expect that they will receive it. To paraphrase Confucius, "Give a kid a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a kid to fish and you feed him for a lifetime."

In the same vein, we hope to instill the entrepreneurial bug into our kids' minds as soon as possible. Whether it's a snow shovelling "business" or dog walking service, get them business cards and help them set up a filing cabinet to keep all of their receipts and client information. The time will come when we can teach them to be tax savvy as well. Taxes are our biggest expense and the faster we teach our kids not to resent taxes but rather understand the role they play in our society, the better. And of course, explain to them the difference between tax avoidance and tax evasion. *(I think it's about 7 years - ha ha!)*.

A WORD FROM RICHARD CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

- In September the Canadian dollar reached it's highest level since 1991 closing the month at \$.8598 USD.
- The US Federal Reserve raised the fed funds rate for the eleventh consecutive time to 3.75%. The Fed indicated that inflationary risk overshadowed any concerns that Hurricane Katrina might have had on the economy.
- Oil prices hit a high of \$70.05 a barrel on August 5, 2005, as the US hurricane, Katrina, forced the closure of a number of oil refining operations in the Gulf of Mexico.
- Canada's unemployment rate fell to the lowest rate in 30 years to 3.7%, record high oil prices have pushed Alberta's jobless rate to 3.5%.
- Atkins Nutritionals filed for bankruptcy protection. Hit by falling sales, competing food

products and warnings from medical experts, the firm lost \$34MM in 2004. It is estimated that at it's peak, 9% of Americans were on the Atkins diet.

During September, Chinese president, Hu Jintao, made Canadian stops in Ottawa, Niagara Falls, Toronto and Vancouver. The leader of the world's most populous country says he wants Canada and China to increase trade and economic co-operation "with a view to bringing two-way trade to over \$30 billion US by 2010."

My quarterly travel/meeting schedule appears on Page 4. If you haven't booked a review and would like one, please call the office at 1-888-834-3311.

I am looking forward to meeting with you over the next quarter.

Thanks for reading.

Richard



NIGHT BEFORE EGGS BENE (Great for Christmas Morning)

Makes 8 muffins

INGREDIENTS

- Eggs Bene:
- 4 English Muffins, toasted and split
- Back bacon or ham to cover the tops of the 8 halfs
- 8 large eggs

Sauce:

¼ Cup butter
¼ Cup flour
1 tsp paprika
¼ tsp nutmeg
2 Cups milk
2 Cups grated swiss cheese
¼ Cup white wine

Topping:

¹/₂ Cup corn flake Crumbs 1 TBSP butter

DIRECTIONS:

- Put muffins in a buttered 9x13 pan; top with bacon or ham.
- Poach eggs until just set; use slotted spoon to transfer eggs onto bacon or ham.
- Melt ¼ cup butter, stir in flour. Add seasonings, milk and cheese. Cook until cheese is melted. Remove from heat; add wine and stir. Pour over eggs.
- Mix corn flake crumbs and 1 TBSP butter. Sprinkle over sauce, cover and chill overnight.

In the morning, bake eggs bene at 375 degrees for 20 – 25 minutes.

We encourage our clients and readers to submit their favourite recipe. E-mail any suggestions to shauna.peterson@rbc.com.

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INTERESTING TIDBITS

I don't know how factually exact most of these are but they are interesting tidbits!

- \succ Many years ago in Scotland, a new game was invented. It was ruled "Gentlemen Only...Ladies Forbidden"...and thus the word GOLF entered into the English language.
- > Every day more money is printed for Monopoly than by the US Treasury.
- ≻ Coca-Cola was originally green.
- \succ It is impossible to lick your elbow.
- \succ The percentage of Africa that is wilderness: 28% (now get this...)
- > The percentage of North America

that is wilderness: 38%

- ➤ The State with the highest percentage of people who walk to work: Alaska
- > Men can read smaller print than women can: women can hear better.
- ➤ The cost of raising a medium-size dog to the age of eleven: \$6,400
- \succ The average number of people airborne over the US any given hour: 61,000
- \succ Intelligent people have more zinc and copper in their hair.
- > The first novel ever written on a typewriter: Tom Sawyer.
- ➤ The San Francisco Cable cars are the only mobile National Monuments.
- > Each king in a deck of playing cards represents a great king from history:

Spades - King David HEARTS - CHARLEMAGNE CLUBS - ALEXANDER, THE GREAT **DIAMONDS - JULIUS CAESAR**

- ≻ 111,111,111 x 111,111,111 = 12,345,678,987,654,321
- ≻ If a statue in the park of a person on a horse has both front legs in the air, the person died in battle. If the horse has one front leg in the air the person died as a result of wounds received in battle. If the horse has all four legs on the ground, the person died of natural causes.
- > Only two people signed the Declaration Independence on July 4th, John Hancock and Charles Thomson. Most of the rest signed on August 2, but the last signature wasn't added until 5 years later.

AND FINALLY.....

At least 75% of people who read this will try to lick their elbow.



BURNS LAKE

November 18 (morning) December 16 (morning) • January 20 (morning)



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