MORNING NEWS CALL

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TOP NEWS

China expels Canadian diplomat in retaliatory move

China expelled a Canadian diplomat in Shanghai in a tit-for-tat move after Ottawa told a Toronto-based Chinese diplomat to leave, escalating tense relations amid concerns about Chinese influence in Canada.

- · Biden, McCarthy start debt ceiling talks as clock ticks to default
- U.S. President Joe Biden and top Republican lawmakers will declare their positions face to face on raising the \$31.4 trillion U.S. debt ceiling, with an unprecedented default looming in three weeks if Congress does not act.
- · Suncor Energy's quarterly profit beats estimates on strong demand

Canada's Suncor Energy reported a better-than-expected first-quarter profit on Monday, helped by steady demand for energy amid crimped global supplies.

• PacWest, Western Alliance lead slide in regional bank stocks

Shares of regional lenders PacWest Bancorp and Western Alliance resumed their slide in premarket trading as investors feared the ongoing banking crisis could deepen.

• Drugmakers set strategy for legal fight against US pricing regulation

Some of the world's biggest drugmakers are laying legal groundwork to fight the U.S. plan to negotiate drug prices for its Medicare health coverage, including the argument that a ban against speaking about these talks violates constitutional rights, according to six industry sources.

BEFORE THE BELL

Futures tracking Canada's resources-dominated main stock index fell as **oil** prices slumped due to a wary market in the days leading up to U.S. inflation figures for April. **U.S. stock index futures** slipped on disappointing forecasts from PayPal and Skyworks. **European shares** were trading lower after a string of downbeat corporate updates soured sentiment. Meanwhile, upbeat earnings from the steelmakers boosted **Japanese shares**, sending the benchmark **Nikkei** gauge to the highest close in 16 months. **Gold** prices gained and the **U.S. dollar** edged up.

STOCKS TO WATCH

• Suncor Energy Inc: The Canadian refiner reported a better-than-expected first-quarter profit on Monday, helped by steady demand for energy amid crimped global supplies. On an adjusted basis, the company earned C\$1.36 per share, compared with analysts' estimates of C\$1.32 per share. Suncor, however, reported a fall in total upstream production to 742,100 barrels of oil equivalent per day (boepd) in the first quarter, lower than 766,100 boepd a year earlier due to unplanned maintenance during the quarter. Its refinery utilization averaged 76% and the crude throughput was 367,700 barrels per day (bpd), compared with 436,500 bpd last year.



COLUMN

China's imports of major commodities lose steam in April: Russell

China's imports of major commodities lost momentum in April as the strong start to the year faded amid uncertainty about the strength and composition of the recovery in the world's second-biggest economy.

ANALYSTS' RECOMMENDATION

- Ensign Energy Services Inc: CIBC cuts target price to C\$4.25 from C\$5, after the company reported an EBITDA miss in its first-quarter results due to lower-than-expected U.S. drilling activity.
- **Ero Copper Corp**: CIBC raises target price to C\$27 from C\$23.5, as the company beat first-quarter estimates and reaffirmed its 2023 guidance.
- **Galiano Gold Inc**: Berenberg raises target price to C\$1.00 from C\$0.90, after the company beat market expectations for its first quarter operating and financial results.
- Westshore Terminals Investment Corp: CIBC raises target price to C\$29 from C\$28, based on the company's better-than-expected first-quarter results and increased volume/pricing guidance.

COMPANIES REPORTING RESULTS

May 9:

B2Gold Corp: Expected Q1 earnings of 7 cents per share **Cronos Group Inc**: Expected Q1 loss of 4 cents per share

Element Fleet Management Corp: Expected Q1 earnings of 27 Canadian cents per share

Exchange Income Corp: Expected Q1 earnings of 35 Canadian cents per share **Galaxy Digital Holdings Ltd**: Expected Q1 earnings of 58 cents per share

George Weston Ltd: Expected Q1 earnings of C\$2.30 per share

goeasy Ltd: Expected Q1 earnings of C\$3.03 per share

Great-West Lifeco Inc: Expected Q1 earnings of 88 Canadian cents per share **Innergex Renewable Energy Inc**: Expected Q1 loss of 4 Canadian cents per share

Keyera Corp: Expected Q1 earnings of 54 Canadian cents per share **Kinross Gold Corp**: Expected Q1 earnings of 4 cents per share

Northland Power Inc: Expected Q1 earnings of 50 Canadian cents per share Pet Valu Holdings Ltd: Expected Q1 earnings of 34 Canadian cents per share Snc-Lavalin Group Inc: Expected Q1 earnings of 27 Canadian cents per share Superior Plus Corp: Expected Q1 earnings of 53 Canadian cents per share

Tricon Residential Inc: Expected Q1 earnings of 8 cents per share

Triple Flag Precious Metals Corp: Expected Q1 earnings of 11 cents per share

Xenon Pharmaceuticals Inc: Expected Q1 loss of 62 cents per share

May 10:

Athabasca Oil Corp: Expected Q1 earnings of 2 Canadian cents per share Ballard Power Systems Inc: Expected Q1 loss of 10 cents per share Boralex Inc: Expected Q1 earnings of 42 Canadian cents per share Boyd Group Services Inc: Expected Q1 earnings of 84 cents per share CCL Industries Inc: Expected Q1 earnings of 84 Canadian cents per share Endeavour Silver Corp: Expected Q1 earnings of 3 cents per share Filo Mining Corp: Expected Q1 loss of 16 Canadian cents per share

Home Capital Group Inc: Expected Q1 earnings of C\$1.10 per share iA Financial Corporation Inc: Expected Q1 earnings of C\$2.18 per share

Intact Financial Corp: Expected Q1 earnings of C\$2.96 per share **Linamar Corp**: Expected Q1 earnings of C\$1.75 per share

Lundin Gold Inc: Expected Q1 earnings of 28 cents per share

Manulife Financial Corp: Expected Q1 earnings of 80 Canadian cents per share

Nutrien Ltd: Expected Q1 earnings of \$1.51 per share **Nuvei Corp**: Expected Q1 earnings of 44 cents per share

Osisko Gold Royalties Ltd: Expected Q1 earnings of 13 Canadian cents per share

Pan American Silver Corp: Expected Q1 earnings of 3 cents per share Parex Resources Inc: Expected Q1 earnings of 91 cents per share

Ritchie Bros Auctioneers Inc: Expected Q1 earnings of 48 cents per share

Sandstorm Gold Ltd: Expected Q1 earnings of 3 cents per share



Savaria Corp: Expected Q1 earnings of 16 Canadian cents per share **Stantec Inc**: Expected Q1 earnings of 72 Canadian cents per share

Stelco Holdings Inc: Expected Q1 earnings of 47 Canadian cents per share **Stella-Jones Inc**: Expected Q1 earnings of 78 Canadian cents per share

Sunopta Inc: Expected Q1 loss of 1 cent per share

Torex Gold Resources Inc: Expected Q1 earnings of 43 cents per share

Wesdome Gold Mines Ltd: Expected Q1 earnings of 3 Canadian cents per share

WSP Global Inc: Expected Q1 earnings of C\$1.32 per share

CORPORATE EVENTS (All timings in U.S. Eastern Time)

0800 Ag Growth International Inc: Q1 earnings conference call

0830 Cronos Group Inc: Q1 earnings conference call

0830 Galaxy Digital Holdings Ltd: Q1 earnings conference call

0830 **Hudbay Minerals Inc**: Q1 earnings conference call

0830 Pet Valu Holdings Ltd: Q1 earnings conference call

0830 Snc-Lavalin Group Inc: Q1 earnings conference call

0900 Russel Metals Inc: Q1 earnings conference call

0930 **Altius Minerals Corp**: Q1 earnings conference call 0930 **Suncor Energy Inc**: Q1 earnings conference call

1000 Finning International Inc: Q1 earnings conference call

1000 Keyera Corp: Q1 earnings conference call

1000 Russel Metals Inc: Annual Shareholders Meeting

1100 Centerra Gold Inc: Annual Shareholders Meeting

1100 George Weston Ltd: Annual Shareholders Meeting

1130 Ero Copper Corp: Q1 earnings conference call

1200 Keyera Corp: Annual Shareholders Meeting

1230 Suncor Energy Inc: Annual Shareholders Meeting

1400 Pet Valu Holdings Ltd: Annual Shareholders Meeting

1600 Innergex Renewable Energy Inc: Annual Shareholders Meeting

1600 New Gold Inc: Annual Shareholders Meeting

1600 Superior Plus Corp: Annual Shareholders Meeting

1700 **Finning International Inc**: Annual Shareholders Meeting

1700 Nuvista Energy Ltd: Annual Shareholders Meeting

1900 Element Fleet Management Corp: Q1 earnings conference call

EX-DIVIDENDS

Metro Inc: Amount C\$0.30

Waste Connections Inc: Amount \$0.25

(All analysts' estimates are according to I/B/E/S Refinitiv data)



PICTURE OF THE DAY



Explosions light up the sky after the Israeli military said in a statement that it has struck Islamic Jihad targets, in Gaza, May 9. REUTERS/Mohammed Salem

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