

Market Update

Dec 2023

Both Canadian and U.S. markets have surged upward in November on anticipation that interest rate hikes may be over. Earnings season has held some positive surprises including the consumer who is still spending. Retail sales were stronger than expected in September and more so in October despite economists expecting - nothing.

Canada's market remains range bound but has rallied off the Oct 27th bottom in the TSX by 7.3%. The TSX is +3.7% ytd.

The U.S. market has recovered from seasonal September and October pullback in markets. The S&P 500 (SPX) has rallied off Oct 27th bottom by 10.7%. The SPX is +18.75% ytd and within a few points of a new high.

The Nasdaq (tech index) has recovered from seasonal September and October pullback as well. The Nasdaq has rallied off Oct 27th bottom by 15%. The Nasdaq is +36.15% ytd and the best performing market so far this year.

As quarterly earnings season draws toward a close, the Canadian banks start reporting next week. Perhaps we see more dividend hikes.

TFSA contributions get a boost in 2024.

Individual contribution room jumps to \$7,000 for 2024.

Leslie Vieites is Retiring Nov 30th!

I want to acknowledge Leslie's contribution to my team since joining me over ten years ago, in May of 2013. You may not know, but working with me was just the tip of the iceberg. She has been working in the securities industry since December 1986 – for 37 years! Fortunately, she has spent most of her career with us at National Bank Financial - 21 years. We are going to miss her but extend our very best wishes for a well-deserved retirement.

I have prepared this commentary to give you my thoughts on various investment alternatives and considerations which may be relevant to your portfolio. This commentary reflects my opinions alone and may not reflect the views of National Bank Financial Group. In expressing these opinions, I bring my best judgment and professional experience from the perspective of someone who surveys a broad range of investments. Therefore, this report should be viewed as a reflection of my informed opinions rather than analyses produced by the Research Department of National Bank Financial.

Best,

National Bank Financial

Rob Hunter
Senior Wealth Advisor

Sources: Technical Speculator, Stockcharts.com, BNN, Bloomberg, Globe & Mail,

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Risk/Reward of the strategy = Strike price minus the purchase price of the underlying plus the premium received from the sale of the call. The maximum loss is the same as holding a long position less the premium received.

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