

5 Canadian Large Caps Pressing Their 52-Week Highs

Description

It's been well-documented that the Canadian market has been left in the dust by its U.S. peers. Day after day, whether it's the S&P 500 or the Dow Jones Industrial Average, the U.S. market seems to be setting a new all-time high.

The reason for the discrepancy has been the poor performance of resource stocks, which account for about 50% of the S&P/TSX Composite Index.

If, however, we look away from the train wrecks that exist in the resource space, Materials especially, we find a collection of stocks that are doing very well. In fact, 15 of the 60 companies that make up the large cap S&P/TSX 60 currently trade within 2% of their 52-week high (as of May 7th). A large majority of the remainder are resource based.

Who?

Tabled below are 5 of these well-performing companies along with their year-to-date returns (as of May 7th).

| Company Name | YTD % Return |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Magna Int'l (TSX:MG) | 26.7% |
| Tim Horton's (TSX:THI) | 20.1% |
| Manulife Financial (TSX:MFC) | 17.5% |
| BCE Inc. (TSX:BCE) | 11.8% |

| Enbridge (TSX:ENB) | 10.5% |
|--------------------|-------|
| S&P TSX Composite | 0.9% |

Source: Capital IQ

The tailwind created by a rebounding North American auto market has grabbed Magna and lifted it to the top of our list. As long as economic fundamentals remain in-tact, there's little reason to believe this momentum will stop anytime soon. Magna's valuation metrics however are beginning to approach the top end of their range. A similar theme throughout this collection of names.

Tim Horton's stock received a recent bump when a U.S. based hedge fund indicated it wants the Canadian icon to <u>alter its course</u>. Manulife reported better than expected results which boosted its shares and BCE and Enbridge just keep doing what great blue chip stocks do – go up.

Foolish Takeaway

The Canadian market has become even more difficult than usual for investors to navigate in recent months. Resource oriented stocks are clearly in a funk, however, it seems like everything else is performing very well. For those seeking value-oriented opportunities, it's a frustrating time to say the least.

If you're an investor who would love to own the world's greatest businesses, you need to <u>click here</u> to receive our special **FREE** report "3 **U.S. Stocks Every Canadian Should Own**". Your portfolio will thank you!

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Fool contributor lain Butler owns shares in Magna International. The Motley Fool has no positions in the stocks mentioned above.

CATEGORY

1. Investing

TICKERS GLOBAL

- 1. TSX:BCE (BCE Inc.)
- 2. TSX:ENB (Enbridge Inc.)
- 3. TSX:MFC (Manulife Financial Corporation)
- 4. TSX:MG (Magna International Inc.)

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Date

2025/09/01

Date Created 2013/05/08 Author tmfohcanada

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