

TSX Today: What to Watch for in Stocks on Friday, January 20

### Description

<u>Stocks in Canada</u> remained weak for the second consecutive session on Thursday, as investors continued to assess the possibility of a near-term recession. The **TSX Composite Index** fell 35 points, or 0.2%, yesterday to settle at 20,341.

Although a strong rally in commodity prices across the board took metal mining and <u>energy stocks</u> higher, big losses in other key <u>market sectors</u> like healthcare, technology, and real estate drove the Canadian market benchmark downward. With this, the TSX Composite is now down 19 points on a week-to-date basis after gaining 5% in the first two weeks of January.

## **Top TSX movers and active stocks**

**Ballard Power Systems**, **Canopy Growth**, **goeasy**, **Quebecor**, and **Cargojet** were the worstperforming TSX stocks yesterday, as they fell by more than 4% each.

On the positive side, strengthening gold prices drove <u>gold stocks</u> like **Equinox Gold**, **Fortuna Silver Mines**, **Sandstorm Gold**, and **Osisko Gold Royalties** up by at least 5% each, making them the top performers on the <u>Toronto Stock Exchange</u>.

Based on their daily trade volume, **Tourmaline Oil**, **B2Gold**, **Suncor Energy**, and **Cenovus Energy** were the most active stocks on the exchange.

## Latest earnings update

**Richelieu Hardware** (TSX:RCH) <u>announced</u> its November quarter financial results on January 19. The Montréal headquartered specialty hardware company registered a 1.3% year-over-year increase in its adjusted quarterly earnings to \$0.80 per share, beating Street's estimates of \$0.75 per share. Richelieu's total revenue for the quarter rose 14.9% from a year ago to \$457.5 million, helped by 6.7% internal growth and 8.2% growth from acquisitions. However, its quarterly revenue figure fell short of analysts' expectations of \$463.1 million. This could be one of the key reasons why RCH stock largely remained mixed yesterday to end the session with a minor 0.8% gain, despite its earnings beat.

# TSX today

Early Monday morning, commodity prices were going sideways, pointing to a flat open for the resourceheavy main TSX index today. Besides the Canadian monthly retail sales numbers, investors may want to keep a close eye on the existing home sales data from the U.S. market this morning.

Overall, I expect TSX stocks to remain <u>volatile</u> in the next few sessions, as investors await the Bank of Canada's interest rate decision and monetary policy report due on Wednesday next week.

#### CATEGORY

- 1. Investing
- 2. Stocks for Beginners

#### **TICKERS GLOBAL**

1. TSX:RCH (Richelieu Hardware Ltd.)

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