

# TRUMP VERSUS CANNIBIS

29 MARCH 2019

## MAJOR RISK?

I try to avoid being swept away in the Trump Mania of the last several years. I've tried desperately to stay away from the 24/7 bombardment of noise from the News Media on every single bit of minutiae thrown our way for a straightforward reason: SANITY.

Although, I mostly agree: TRUMP MANIA is a global virus and quarantining everyone swallowed by its toxicity may be the best course of action. For pure entertainment value alone – it's hard to look away. Hopefully, the damage caused during the four or eight-year rash isn't too severe for the targeted folks – those "GREAT AMERICA" Trump supporters prefer not to be a part of America's future – and America can return to a calmer inclusive path.

Sure, Trump is the leader today, but will he dominate the News Cycle in 2020, or will one of the many investigations into his behaviour or Climate Change or Healthcare wash him aside in a tsunami of reality sweeping away the truth from the grifter who is leading America toward his, and only his, best interests. I'm skeptical. There's far too much greed amongst the upper echelons of society to worry about the greater good. Maybe in 2020, the Democrats will find a resonating voice capable of replacing fear with hope, and the healing process can begin.

*It's easy to take the bottom rungs of White society and point at them – convincing them as long as they exist: if we put the right policies in place, you will never quite reach the gutter because → Wink. Wink. I've got your back as long as you cast your vote for me. Suckers.*

## WHAT ABOUT UNKNOWN RISKS OF TOO MUCH TRUMP?



There's also a significant long-term risk being faced by all of us diseased by daily Trump News – one that I don't think has been adequately analyzed or discussed. And if TRUMP

continues as the leader of the free world, it's a global pandemic we'll all have to face decades down the road – perhaps even sooner.

The long-term effects of TRUMP MANIA on the human brain are still up for debate, but there's already evidence out there: daily TRUMP consumption might not be the best thing for our grey matter. Studies have linked steady TRUMP news-feed with impaired brain function (especially in adolescents—actually, adolescents may be immune), and researchers are concerned there's a link between following Trump daily and developing psychosis.

It doesn't take a trip through medical college to deduce that following Trump regularly might not be the best thing for your soul, even if it doesn't contain harmful by-products like an un-drained swamp. But there have been few studies on the long-term effects of TRUMP addiction on your brain. We simply don't know if following TRUMP will be harmless – something that can be easily reversed by ingesting politics differently (or quitting altogether) or something that represents a significant long-term health risk.

That's a significant risk facing politics today. If it turns out Trump has an adverse long-term effect, and folks end up clogging the medical system with Trump-related health issues, you can bet State healthcare systems will go after Trump sympathizers. Several States are currently suing TRUMP for costs associated with treating various Trump-related illnesses over the years.

## HOW SIGNIFICANT IS THE RISK, REALLY?

I'm the first to admit this doesn't seem like a big deal today. We're likely decades (I'm lying) away from seeing this issue rear its ugly head, and it would be easy for TRUMP supporters to continue drifting through life chanting "*lock her up*" now "*lock them up*" as they meander past life challenges in a critical thinking void, for the long-term damage to last beyond his presidency (lying again).

I could dig deeper, but I've chosen to stop here. Smoke weed every day, if you'd like. But for sanity's sake: SHUT OFF THE NEWS!

The preceding article was originally on the risks associated with investing heavily in cannabis stocks – I have substituted Trump for Cannabis. But, of course, I took a bit of creative liberty so the story would make sense. However, 95% of the account has been left intact.

## THE ORIGINAL ARTICLE

### MARIJUANA INVESTORS

#### HAVE YOU CONSIDERED THIS MAJOR RISK

*Could long-term health-related lawsuits cripple Canopy Growth Corp?*

*The risk looks small today but could be a very big deal sooner than you think.*

**NELSON SMITH**

**27 MARCH 2019**

I don't own any marijuana stocks. I've stayed away from the sector for one simple reason.

Although I mostly agree that the pot market is poised to be massive here in Canada, and that opportunities exist to expand the drug's appeal to folks who would never consider lighting up a joint (like through cannabis-infused drinks, for example), I just don't know who the winners are going to be.

Sure, **Canopy Growth** (TSX:WEED)(NYSE:CGC) is the leader today, but will that company dominate the pot market in 2024? I'm skeptical. There's just too much money pouring into the sector, and things are changing quickly. Maybe the company gets overtaken by a current competitor. Or maybe there are a bunch of venture capitalists meeting right now, about to start the next great marijuana company.

Compare that to the banking sector, which is the largest overall sector in my portfolio. I'm 100% confident Canada's five largest banks will continue to dominate the industry a decade from now. This makes analysis that much easier.

#### WHAT ABOUT UNKNOWN RISKS?

There's also a major long-term risk being faced by the major pot producers today – one that I don't think has been adequately analyzed or discussed. And if Canopy Growth emerges as the leader in this burgeoning industry, its shareholders may have to face this a couple decades down the road – perhaps even sooner.

The long-term effects of cannabis use on the human brain are still up for debate, but there's already evidence out there that daily marijuana consumption might not be the best thing for our grey matter. Certain studies have linked steady cannabis use with impaired brain function (especially in adolescents), and researchers are somewhat concerned there's a link between cannabis use and developing psychosis.

And it doesn't take a trip through medical college to deduce that smoking cannabis on a regular basis might not be the best thing for your lungs, even if it doesn't contain the kind of harmful byproducts as smoking tobacco. But there have been few studies on the long-term effects of marijuana smoke to your lungs. We simply don't know if smoking the

drug will turn out to be harmless – something that can be easily reversed by ingesting marijuana in a different way (or quitting completely), or something that represents a major long-term health risk.

That's the major risk facing the marijuana industry today. If it does turn out marijuana has an adverse long-term effect, and folks end up clogging the medical system with pot-related health issues, you can bet provincial healthcare systems will go after pot producers. Several provinces are currently suing the big tobacco companies for costs associated with treating various tobacco-related illnesses over the years. And you might remember big tobacco-related lawsuits between the U.S. government and the tobacco companies a couple of decades ago.

### HOW BIG IS THIS RISK, REALLY?

I'm the first to admit this doesn't seem like a big deal today. We're likely decades away from seeing this issue rear its ugly head, and it would be easy for Canopy Growth shareholders to hit the sell button once this issue becomes mainstream.

There are several big risks with owning Canopy today, including the company producing enough to get past Canada's current pot shortage, beating its domestic competition and becoming the dominant pot producer, growing the market beyond current regular users, successfully rolling out hundreds of pot stores, and getting its international expansion efforts right. If the company can do all that, only then could health-related lawsuits become an issue in about 20 years.

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So, at this point, marijuana investors should only consider this a small risk – something to tuck away in the back of their minds.

But that doesn't mean the risk doesn't exist, and I'm willing to bet it doesn't take 50 years to rear its ugly head once a link is established between regular marijuana use and any health issue. Lawyers will be much more nimble this time around, especially knowing how many billions were paid out by tobacco companies.

### SHOULD YOU INVEST \$1,000 IN CANOPY GROWTH CORP RIGHT NOW?

Before you consider Canopy Growth Corp, you may want to hear this.

Motley Fool Canadian Chief Investment Advisor, Iain Butler, and his Stock Advisor Canada team just revealed what they believe are the 10 best stocks for investors to buy right now... and Canopy Growth Corp wasn't one of them.

The online investing service they've run since 2013, Motley Fool Stock Advisor Canada, has beaten the stock market by over 3X. And right now, they think there are 10 stocks that are better buys.

## WHO IS LINDSAY WINCHERAUK?

Lindsay Wincherauk is a fearless writer. He has published two books and has had more than eighteen OPEDs appear in major commuter newspapers. Lindsay wasn't born with a silver spoon in his mouth. His father (who wasn't his father) worked as a mechanic. His mother (who wasn't his mother) worked as an excellent chef in a diner. In fact, his birth was in a secret place where |society deemed| unfit mothers were sent to give birth in isolation – shading families from shame. If the babies survived being born, usually, they were sold to wealthy Americans or adopted out to farm families.

*Lindsay's life began with a lie.*

Despite Lindsay's perilous beginnings, starting with deception, Lindsay knew no better and went through life excelling at things, usually in two-year stints. Be that athletics (hall of fame, record holding, one-eyed quarterback), scholastically, career-wise (generating more than \$70 million in revenue for one company), socially, + without question: creatively!

Lindsay's challenging beginning instilled in Lindsay heaping doses of compassion and empathy. Lindsay's life starting out as a lie gave him a keen sense to spot BS from miles away. It also provided him with a dry sense of humour and an understanding those born with silver spoons in their mouths will never be self-aware enough to understand (or admit) their good fortune.

During Lindsay's work career, he was well-liked by all coworkers. Lindsay was also well respected by his diverse collection of clients, developing several fantastic friendships, primarily because Lindsay is known for his unflinching integrity and ability to hold conversations on most topics.

Lindsay's life mantra is:

*The most valuable part of life is the fabulous people we meet during our journeys. If you treat people with respect (leaving judgment at the door), and more importantly, by opening doors for those less fortunate or who can't speak up for themselves, you are living a good, compassionate life. Making money at all costs is not the only thing mattering. Life can be difficult + devastatingly unfair.*

*Lindsay believes sharing vulnerability is what makes us human. Lindsay will never shy away from being honest about his pain.*

*Lindsay also believes we must stand up for ourselves, + more importantly, for those who are too burdened by the injustices of life, they can't find the strength to stand up for themselves.*

## SOME THINGS LINDSAY IS MOST PROUD OF ARE WHEN:

- A sixty-year-old employee of his, who had entered a point of life where life had become more struggle than joy (it happens to all of us as we age), said to Lindsay, *"I must thank you. I've listened to how you treat people, + by listening, I've learned so much about compassion and patience. Thank you. I consider you a great friend."*
- Another employee who was struggling with addiction thanked Lindsay for his kindness, presenting Lindsay with a Christmas card from him and his girlfriend. Tucked inside the card: lottery tickets.

*LINDSAY WINCHERAUK, compassionate, empathetic, well-read, kind, blessed with unflinching integrity, humour in balance, loved by coworkers + friends alike.*

Lindsay will always stick up for the underdog. Lindsay understands there are countless older people suffering job loss because COVID gave some companies an opportunity to – Lindsay thinks it is essential to draw attention to this life-threatening issue by being the voice for those too broken to speak up for themselves.

Lindsay is currently pitching four manuscripts to publishers and literary agencies. One of the manuscripts (he can't talk about) will blow the roof off the predatory practices of – Lindsay is writing relentlessly and is also pitching OPEDs and short stories, fiction, + non to literary magazines around the globe.

Lindsay has appeared on Breakfast Television, radio programs in Montreal, + several others in the Vancouver area. Lindsay has also been a featured guest on CKNW + CBC, both on several occasions. And Lindsay was a vital witness of a Hate Crime. This led to the first Hate Crime conviction in Canadian legal history, resulting in him being a speaker at an Enough is Enough Rally (anti-violence rally) with dignitaries, politicians, law enforcement, and community leaders in front of a crowd of approximately five thousand.

Lindsay was the **#1 MIXED-TAPE DJ** at the **UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN** for most of the nineteen-eighties, a fact bringing him joy.

Lindsay resides in Vancouver.

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