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ADVANCED PROJECT GENERATOR
GLOBEX MINING ENTERPRISES HAS ROYALTY REVENUES AND NO DEBT

The expertise of the seven geologists provide ample evidence of Globex Mining Enterprises Inc.'s (GMX: TSX, GLBXF: OTCQX, G1M: FSE) ability to bring advanced mining projects to the point of profitability... using other companies' funds. A good example of this is the Nyrstar Zinc Royalty Agreement which will bring in from $1,500,000 - $2,000,000 annually... subject to metal prices and subject to reaching production goals. This is one of the 157 projects, at last count, in the company's portfolio... many of which are operating under Joint Ventures already, with the company proudly in the position of carrying no debt.

An advanced Project Generator indeed.

By David O'Brien

Jack Stoch, Director, President and CEO is a major shareholder of Globex and is an experienced geologist devoted to building Globex into a successful public mining and exploration company.

After working with Noranda Exploration Ltd. (now part of Glencore (GLEN: LON), the world's largest mining company by revenues: $209Bn) Jack started acquiring and vending exploration projects through his own consulting businesses. At one time, Jack was reported to be the largest private mineral rights holder in Quebec.

In 1983, Jack gained control of Globex and has since amassed a mature exploration portfolio. He has attracted a knowledgeable and well-connected Board of Directors and has expanded the Company's exploration, evaluation and mining team.

As your author discussed with Jack the idea of ‘covering’ the company's activities while in Toronto in September, the sheer weight of the projects demanded that we start with five projects to whet your appetite. More later, I'm certain.

In no particular order, the first five are ‘toplined’ herein: Duquesne West, Timmins Talc Magnesite (TTM), the Braunsdorf Exploration License in Saxony Germany, Francoeur-Arntfield and Magusi-Fabie... something for everyone.
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  - 3 projects in the USA
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www.globexmining.com
DUQUESNE-OTTOMAN PROPERTY - GOLD - DESTOR & DUPERQUET TOWNSHIPS, QUEBEC

- 50% interest in 60 claims totalling 929 Ha located 32 Km northwest of the mining town of Rouyn-Noranda.
- From Globex’s website we see a classic example of the structure of the Option Agreements GMX undertakes: “In 2010, Globex, GJSL (DAL) optioned the Duquesne West and Ottoman Properties to Duquesne-Ottoman Mines Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Toronto based Xmet Inc. The agreement allowed Xmet to earn a 75% interest in the Properties prior to May 31, 2017 subject to:
  a) combined cash and dividend payments totalling $8.81M,
  b) total exploration expenditures of $10M, and
  c) the issuance of 2 million Xmet shares.”
- Also, “In 2013, Globex announced the termination of the option agreement as market conditions prevented Xmet from getting financing.”
- Duquesne has multiple gold zones and many are ‘open’ in terms of potential for growth and of course, it’s now once again back in the fold. Over 310,000 metres of drilling have defined the following: “The drilling has outlined an Inferred Resource in 8 distinct gold zones which total 4,171,000 tonnes grading 5.42 g/t Au (cut) or 6.36 g/t Au (uncut) for 727,000 oz of gold (cut) or 853,000 oz of gold (uncut).”
- With gold once again holding a price of above US$1,200 these numbers should attract new investors.

TTM - TIMMINS TALC-MAGNESITE DEPOSIT - DELORO TOWNSHIP, ONTARIO

It was fascinating to hear Jack talk about the unique attributes and very long life-of-mine of the TTM deposit since talc and magnesite don’t usually appear together, and they do here. The magnesium oxide (MgO) from this deposit is a prime ingredient in a replacement for gyprock because it doesn’t absorb water, of...
its prevention of the growth of black mold, its strength and flexibility, and in refractory brick. Talc itself is used in rubber tires, and the high-brightness (92-94%) of this deposit’s assets is rare and used in plastics for superior ‘whiteness’.

Recently QEMSCAN analysis by Lakefield Labs and Micon determined that there’s 65 years plus in this deposit. Unique, valuable and a producer of revenues for the foreseeable future...

check, check and check again.

What is Talc? from the Industrial Minerals Association North America

“Talc is the world’s softest mineral. Although all talc ores are soft, platy, water repellent and chemically inert, no two talcs are quite the same. Talc is a vital part of everyday life. The magazines we read, the polymers in our cars and houses, the paints we use and the tiles we walk on are just some of the products that talc enhances.”


What is Magnesia? from the Industrial Minerals Association North America

“Magnesia is a term used to describe various products from magnesium rich sources. Magnesium makes up two percent of the earth’s crust and is the eighth most plentiful element. It also is the third most abundant element found in sea water. The two most important magnesium minerals are magnesite (MgCO3) and brucite (Mg(OH)2).

Magnesite is the most common source of magnesia and serves many important industrial applications. Magnesia either is produced from magnesite ore or extracted from seawater or brines as magnesium hydroxide.”


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The recent acquisition of this huge primarily silver property in a jurisdiction which acknowledges mineral rights is another typical example of GMX’s approach... to own the property and its mineral rights outright, which will once again facilitate the Option concept of using other companies’ funds to advance the project and yet still retain equity. From a recent News Release we featured in W.I.T. Mkgt/IMR Inc.’s eNews

News Release Reprint program GMX “acquired a 164 square Km (63.3 square mile) land package measuring 36 Km long by up to 5 Km wide in the State of Saxony in southeast Germany" and “...the Bräunsdorf licence has produced, over a 750 year period, at least 882 tonnes of silver (28.8 million ounces) with a current value of over US$500,000,000 (at US$17.50 per oz).”


FRANCOEUR-ARNTFIELD MINES - GOLD - BEAUCHASTEL & DASSERAT TOWNSHIPS, QUEBEC

In 2016, Globex purchased the Francoeur Mine and Arntfield Mines, Arnoceur and Norex properties from Richmont Mines Inc. 18 Km west of Rouyn-Noranda, Quebec. The purchase included a modern office building, headframe and hoist, core facility, machine shop and sundry equipment. Subsequently, Globex bought out the Net Smelter Royalty (NSR) thus eliminating it. Globex has deposited with the Quebec government the remaining closure funding.

Historical records on the properties are from the 1930s on, so are not to be relied upon, however they are great indicators of the potential and a 10-hole drill program is planned for the new South Zone. As usual, these are high risk, however, management feels that they are of great interest in further defining the resource.

A recently reported channel sample result was 9.5 g/t Au over 7.1 metres... within an 8.5 to 9 Km strike length of a new unexplored shear zone.

Recently Globex has concluded a deal with Falco Resources Ltd. (FPC. TSX-V, FPRGF: OTCMKTS) to acquire their property adjoining the east side of the Francoeur-Arntfield property...

From Falco’s New Release of Sept.27th, 2017, another classic ‘Globex-style’ Option Agreement:

“Falco Resources Ltd. (TSX VENTURE: FPC) (“Falco” or the “Company”) is pleased to announce the execution of a letter of agreement for the acquisition of the Donalda property (“Donalda”) from Globex Mining Enterprises Inc. (“Globex”). Donalda is located near Falco’s 100% owned Horne 5 Project located in Rouyn-Noranda, Québec. In consideration for the acquisition of the Donalda property, Falco has agreed to pay $300,000 in cash and issue 350,000 units to Globex (“Unit”). Each Unit consists of one (1) common share (“Common Share”) of Falco and one (1) common share purchase warrant (“Warrant”) of Falco. Each Warrant will entitle the holder thereof to purchase one (1) Common Share of the Company at a price of C$1.15 per Common Share, for a period of 5 years following the closing date.

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Additionally, Falco has agreed to grant Globex a 2.5 % Gross Metal Royalty on all mineral production from the Donalda property and to transfer a 100% ownership of Falco’s Dickenson property located on the east side and adjoining Globex’s Francoeur/Arntfield gold property.”

The property has been partially developed with a ramp started. With commodity (Cu, Zn, Au, Ag) prices rising this is one of the best opportunities of the bunch.

Well, as we indicated, even if they aren’t the top five, they’re the first five Jack wanted to highlight... for different reasons. ‘Potential’ is the key word in our Forward-Looking Statements. ‘Worth watching’ is what your author says.

If you’re contemplating taking action here are some key investment attributes to consider:
- no grassroots, all advanced projects (as Jack said “...we need a reason...")
- fewer shares outstanding means less dilutive... a result of financing through other companies’ funds
- the geological team is very experienced, and many have the Noranda connection and/or have worked similar geological settings
- the company has revenues and no debt (a rare bird)
- GMX owns all of its offices, equipment, core facilities... everything
- all jurisdictions being operated in have low political risk: Quebec, Ontario, the Maritimes, USA and now Saxony, Germany

As we are wont say: check, check and check again. Do your Due Dili, of course.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Tonnes</th>
<th>Cu%</th>
<th>Zn%</th>
<th>Ag (g/t)</th>
<th>Au (g/t)</th>
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<tr>
<td>High Grade Copper</td>
<td>729,000</td>
<td>3.26</td>
<td>0.58</td>
<td>43.4</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Grade Zinc</td>
<td>580,000</td>
<td>0.39</td>
<td>8.57</td>
<td>42.1</td>
<td>2.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Indicated</td>
<td>1,309,000</td>
<td>1.99</td>
<td>4.12</td>
<td>42.8</td>
<td>1.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inferred</td>
<td>355,000</td>
<td>3.41</td>
<td>0.39</td>
<td>24.2</td>
<td>0.26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Guyana Goldstrike Inc. (GYA: TSX-V, FSE: 1ZT, OTC: GYNAF) reveals, in the ‘macro-geological’ sense, and as the map below shows, that South America and Africa have a continuous gold-in-situ aspect that ‘connects’ both land masses and brings their underlying geological similarities to the fore.

These areas are both related to the original African super-continent.

There are many producing properties in these areas, most now operated by famous majors such as AngloGold Ashanti Ltd. (ANG: JSE), Iamgold Corp. (IMG: TSX), Newmont Mining Corp. (NEM: NYSE) and Kinross Gold Corp. (K: TSX), to name a few. In both the Guiana Shield of S.A. and the West African Birimian Shield. Also, Guyana Goldfields Ltd. (GUY: TSX) has recently advanced its Aurora property to production, and on its Sulphur Rose property is currently conducting assessment work on the economic potential of Sulphur Rose as a stand-alone mining operation. Guyana itself, formerly British Guiana, is the only English-speaking country in S.A. and still has the British Common Law of Precedent, both conducive to having foreign companies do business in this mining-friendly jurisdiction. Check, check...

In our Due Dili checklist on GYA’s Marudi Gold Project, perhaps infrastructure would be a question mark, however since there has been substantial exploration from other past operators the project has all-season road access from the savannah to the property, an established mining camp, and a sketched-in airstrip that is awaiting permitting. Therefore, further build-out would be economical. Check.

A recent advance on that build-out is Guyana Goldstrike’s 3D Modelling of their drill data from mining engineering...
The company's geologist is the renowned Locke Goldsmith, M.Sc., P. Eng., P. Geo., the Qualified Person for reporting, with 45 years of experience worldwide. See his resume here: http://www.guyanagoldstrike.com/index.php/corporate/qualified-person

Pretty impressive...

Geologically, the asset parallels some famous mines such as Musselwhite, Homestake and Lupin, which portends good things to come.

Always important is the community buy-in, and once again Peter is confident in the reaction to the company's plans with both alluvial and artisanal activities continuing. He says the government is 'on-board', too. Check, check...

All in all, with the overview we had in mind to start, there are checkmarks in our Due Dil, with plenty of News to follow on the geological front from all of the exploration activity planned.

Stay tuned! Do your Due Dil, of course.

David O'Brien is the owner of Int'l Mining Research Inc. which employs Media, Event and Online exposure, including eNews News Release Reprints and eNews 3rd-Party Articles. O'Brien also owns W.I.T. Marketing Writing, an Ad Agency, and has been contributing articles to TheProspectorNEWS.com, on demand. He owns no shares in the above companies. dobrien@internationalminingresearch.com
Without an Infrastructure Program, the “Trump Rally” is Doomed

By Chris Temple - Editor/Publisher
The National Investor

As this is written the first weekend of November, I am looking back on a banner year for stocks...a very respectable year for most commodities...and an overall positive attitude throughout much of the world.

Economies are said to be growing in sync. Here in the U.S., we have in just recent days broken previous records in a good way, and not just for the readings of the major stock market indices. From the unemployment rate, to consumer confidence to many other key economic stats—including the positive surprise of a 3% initial GDP reading for the hurricane-hit third quarter—the picture is of an economic expansion that is perhaps not nearing its end after all.

Yet I must still come back to the FACT that for the last generation or so, what economic growth we have enjoyed has not materialized out of the historical factors of hard work, ingenuity, thrift, investment and the like. It instead occurs only after a massive amount of monetary stimulus to get most any traction at all on Main Street, and these episodes augmented, now and then, by fiscal measures.

At long last, the massive quantitative easing, Z.I.R.P. and N.I.R.P. policies of the last several years (STILL ongoing in a BIG way elsewhere, even if the Federal Reserve is not in the game at the moment) does show more traction in real economies, and not just in asset prices. Yet we remain but one accident. Black Swan event. Errant “fat fingered” trade...or God only knows what else away from more market and economic troubles.

What will the central planners do for an encore if faced yet again with the need to “stimulate.” Better still (arguably, for all involved) are they taking any steps NOW to find ways to keep their “Game” humming along with, at least, less of a chance of another comeuppance?

I argued back this Summer in a couple podcast segments on the Korelin Economics Report that it was becoming ever more VITAL that the Trump Administration have some success in the area of a substantial infrastructure spending program. I urge you to take some time to listen to those archived segments at the following link (NOTE: Under Segment One there are two recordings linked; both parts of this conversation):


When you listen to these recordings you’ll understand that the importance of an infrastructure program is not just to do with the basic, physical needs of fixing decayed roads and bridges, modernizing our power grid...cleaning up the environment and waterways in some areas...and in providing the better jobs for Americans that would go with all this. Way beyond this, infrastructure repair/building/spending represents by far the most practical, important and politically “saleable” way for the bankers and Wall Street to have yet one more big part of the U.S. economy on which to work their financial alchemy.

Inspired chiefly by that mad monetary scientist of all time, Former Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan, central bankers have embraced the free-wheeling but occasionally deadly forms of “securitization” he laid the
groundwork for years ago. Most notably in the last decade or so, it was the financialization and then leveraging of the real estate and mortgage markets that led to a bust. Afterward, gobs of cheap credit was force-fed into the energy sector, creating debt mountains and oversupply that is only now relenting (and mercifully, so far anyway, has NOT led to the contagion some of us feared might come.)

Instead, asset prices have “melted up” in a broader fashion lately. But I submit that to sustain this momentum, REAL economic activity must be fostered, and likely in the only way the bankers know how to do so.

Already, some other nations have their infrastructure programs; even, importantly, development banks charged with fostering building/infrastructure programs. China and Russia have led the way on this in their part of the world. Candidate Donald Trump promised that this would be one of his highest priorities.

**But as I write this, President Trump has inexplicably all but abandoned any semblance of pushing for this.** Instead, he is being led down the garden path -- again -- by the Republican leadership in Congress and its current tax proposals (competing ones in the House and Senate which will probably share the same fate as the failed health care “repeal and replace” push of earlier this year.) Those once more are more of a political than practical economic pieces of legislation, simply put, warmed-over supply-side documents that are very unlikely to succeed.

I don’t think Trump--or even the swamp of the Congress--are going to get too many more cracks at this. They might be able to keep the “Everything Bubble” humming along if they step up and finally log some policy success on infrastructure.

If not, then a major infrastructure stimulus package may still come much later, but only, unfortunately, after the next “bust” makes it far more urgent than it appears to be now.

**Investors who are riding gains not only on Wall Street generally but especially where some base metals, energy and other cyclical areas are concerned should take note.** The rallies in 2017 in those latter areas especially assume that there WILL be productive tax and, mostly, infrastructure measures PASSED. If/when investors must finally abandon any realistic hope of this, these moves could reverse viciously; and with little warning.
VANADIUM: THE METAL WE CAN’T DO WITHOUT AND DON’T PRODUCE

By Richard (Rick) Mills
aheadoftheherd.com

As a general rule, the most successful man in life is the man who has the best information

FROM SWORDS TO JET ENGINES

One of the world’s least known metals is also of great importance, and likely to become more so as renewable energies catch up with and possibly eclipse fossil fuels. Yet vanadium’s primary use as a steel alloy is set to keep prices buoyant and North American explorers racing to find a domestic source of the metal that was once used to make swords so strong and sharp the mere sight of them struck fear into the hearts of their enemies.

A sword of Damascus steel – derived from blocks of “wootz”, a form of steel produced from vanadium-rich iron deposits in South India – was said to be so sharp that it could split a hair dropped on the blade, cut a floating feather in half, or crack a steel helmet wide open with ease. The blades were so flexible they could bend 90 degrees without breaking.

“The white gleam of swords, not the black ink of books, clears doubts and uncertainties and bleak outlooks.”
Arab poet Abu Tammam

First discovered in 1801 by a professor of mineralogy in Mexico City, vanadium, whose symbol V is based on the Norse goddess Vanadis, has some rare qualities that give it the ability to make materials stronger, lighter, more efficient and more powerful. Adding small percentages of it to steel and aluminum creates ultra-high-strength, super-light and resilient alloys.

Just two pounds of vanadium added to a tonne of steel doubles its strength, so it is unsurprising that 80% of vanadium is used to make ferrovanadium – a steel additive.

Henry Ford was the first to use vanadium on an industrial scale, in the 1908 Model T car chassis. But it is only recently that auto makers have discovered that adding vanadium to car bodies makes them lighter and stronger.

Since vanadium does not easily absorb neutrons it has important applications in nuclear power. Vanadium pentoxide (V2O5) permanently fixes dyes to fabrics. Vanadium oxide is utilized as a pigment for ceramics and glass, as a chemical catalyst, and to produce superconducting magnets.

Of course, the latest application for vanadium is for batteries, particularly vanadium redox flow batteries used for grid energy storage, of which vanadium pentoxide is the main ingredient.
Vanadium One’s Mont Sorcier Vanadium Project is considered one of the largest and one of the highest grade sources of North American vanadium under development.

WHERE IT’S FOUND AND HOW IT’S MINED

About 85 percent of the world’s vanadium comes from three source countries: South Africa, China and Russia. Vanadium is typically found within magnetite iron ore deposits, and is usually mined as a byproduct and not as a primary mineral. Vanadium is often agglomerated with titanium, which must be separated out as an impurity during processing. The higher the titanium content in the ore, the harder it is to remove the vanadium. The end product is vanadium pentoxide, which can be used for the applications cited above or to make ferrovanadium for use in steel.

“This is a market that should, by all reasonable practical means, grow over the next five to 15, maybe 20 years, as we get more and more into decentralized electrical generation. And the
Fisher Gold Processing Plant selling via Private Treaty

This disassembled gold processing plant presents a wonderful opportunity to a buyer in the mineral mining space. The equipment in this sale represents a total gold processing plant. Please refer to the website for the complete inventory listing.

The unit was purchased and assembled in 2015, but was never used. The unit has since been disassembled and is awaiting sale.

For all inquiries and/or inspection requests, please contact Simon Lovett at 281.543.5657 or slovett@whiterocktrading.com
While V2O₅ currently sells for between US$16,000 and US$17,000 a ton, titanium goes for just US$1,500 a ton, which means a low grade of titanium is an attractive feature of a vanadium prospect. Some of the world’s key vanadium mines include the Bushveld complex in South Africa – responsible for about a quarter of all vanadium supply, the high-grade Maracas mine in Brazil owned by Largo Resources, and EVRAZ’s Vanady Tula mine in Russia, the largest European producer of vanadium pentoxide and ferrovanadium alloys.

CITIES AND ROADS GIRDED WITH STEEL

The world needs more steel, ergo, more vanadium. The latest estimate is that vanadium demand and supply currently intersect at about 80,000 tonnes per year. Market research firm Roskill predicts that by 2020 there will be about a 45 percent increase in the demand for vanadium, driven mostly by China.

As an example of how much steel will be required to build just one new Chinese city – Xiong’an, consider that the city will likely need 20 to 30 million tonnes of steel, which translates to 30,000 tonnes of vanadium – roughly a third of current annual production, albeit over 10 years. That means 3,000 additional tonnes of vanadium a year for the next decade, for just one city – an increase of 5 percent above current supply and demand.

Another thing going for vanadium is China’s reluctance to manufacture low-quality rebar used in building construction. Recent earthquakes in China and Japan have shown the Chinese that using cheap rebar is penny wise and pound foolish.

“They’re increasing the amount of vanadium in the rebar by about 100 percent so that they can end up with structural specifications that are necessary to keep buildings standing for long periods of time. The rebar alone, that’s estimated to bring another

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10,000 tonnes a year of vanadium demand,” said Priestner.

China’s scrap ban will cut 4,500-5,500 tpy of domestic V2O5 production.

The increased use of vanadium in automobiles is worth re-iterating. Auto makers have discovered that adding vanadium to car bodies makes them lighter and stronger.

Twenty years ago no vanadium went into cars, versus around 45 percent today. By 2025, it’s estimated that 85 percent of all automobiles will incorporate vanadium alloy to reduce their weight, thereby increasing their fuel efficiency to conform to stringent fuel economy standards set by the US EPA.

Chinese infrastructure investments in the New Silk Road – a $900-billion project set to open up land and maritime routes between China and its western neighbors, namely Central Asia, the Middle East and Europe – is another massive spend on steel that will inevitably require more vanadium than is currently being mined.

Then there are the new infrastructure demands in the United States that President Donald Trump campaigned on in 2016 and is promising to address. The state of disrepair of much of America’s infrastructure is truly staggering. It’s estimated that 80,000 bridges, or over half the entire stock of U.S. bridge structures, need to be repaired or replaced. Whether or not Trump’s infrastructure bill is passed, there will certainly be a future need for more U.S. steel, and more vanadium.

In March and April of 2017, electricity produced from utility-scale renewable sources exceeded nuclear power generation in the United States for the first time since 1984. It’s also worth mentioning that besides v-flow batteries, vanadium has also begun to play a role in applications for electric and hybrid vehicles.

Vanadium acts as a supercharger for batteries by increasing the energy density and voltage of the battery. This is important for electric and hybrid vehicle performance since energy density equates to range, while voltage equates to torque.

**INSECURITY OF SUPPLY**

With vanadium demand set to soar, it is a valid question as to where new vanadium supply will come from. There are currently no North American reserves, a situation that is and should be deeply alarming to politicians on both sides of the 49th parallel.

A critical or strategic metal is defined as one whose lack of availability during a national emergency would affect the economic and defensive capabilities of that country. The United States and Canada, are completely dependent on recycling (mostly through recovery from spent catalyst from oil refining operations) and imports for 100% of their vanadium supply.

Consider what happened to the rare earths market in the 2000s, when China, which produces 90 percent of REEs, restricted exports, causing prices to spike around the world. Rare earths are used in everything from cell phones to wind turbines to missile guidance systems. With just three countries - South Africa, China and Russia - controlling the supply of vanadium, there is a high risk of that supply either being cut off due to a political or trade conflict, or for the price to suddenly jump.

The current tensions between the United States and North Korea are a perfect example of a situation where without vanadium, North America has no missile defense shield. Tensions are running high between Russia, NATO and the Trump administration. China/U.S. tensions, and trade threats receive headlines weekly. ‘Forever War’ seems to be the norm in many parts of the world as global infrastructure receives a ‘D’ ranking after ranking. South Africa looks set to become a resource extraction basketcase, a ‘has been’ with the left hand not knowing what the right is doing in regards to BEE and new mining regulations.

Add to that the necessity of coming up with the capability of storing renewable energy as the world moves slowly but surely away from fossil fuels, and the vulnerability of North America to foreign vanadium suppliers becomes clear. “The short answer is if you do not have your own source of supply locally, you are subject to foreign geopolitical circumstances,” said Priestner, “so having no supply is pretty darn dangerous, and security is the issue.”
CONCLUSION

While v-flow batteries have tremendous appeal for harnessing the power of the wind and sun, their mass adoption and their direct application to the supply-demand equation for vanadium is probably a few years off. New technologies take a long time to be proven out, tested and adopted by the mainstream.

And that’s probably just as well, because vanadium suppliers simply won’t be able to keep up with the amount of demand that is coming down the pipe for the 22nd most abundant element. Think back to that single Chinese city being built – over a third of the world’s vanadium production over the next decade going into one city. That isn’t counting the expected increase in vanadium needed for steel production, defense, automobiles, aerospace, rebar and all the other vanadium applications.

The answer is to bring new vanadium mines online - especially North American deposits that can produce vanadium pentoxide and ferrovanadium, thus bringing the supply-demand curve down to a point where the price is attractive for both vanadium producers and consumers, while increasing security of supply in an increasingly hostile world.

Because vanadium is a metal that seems destined for a supply crunch, because of its applications for traditional industries like autos, aerospace, defense and steelmaking, and due to its promising potential for long-term battery storage of grid-scale electricity, companies that are developing vanadium deposits in North America need to be on your radar screen.

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WHY I DIDN’T SELL GOLD AND SILVER IN 2011

I’d like to share a personal investment tale with you, the origins of which go back a ways. I became involved in physical precious metals/futures trading in 1972 after reading Harry Browne’s book, How to Profit from the Coming Devaluation.

By David H. Smith

Not unlike David Morgan (before we knew each other) I accumulated metal and silver futures contracts, and rode prices into the March 1980 top. I sold my futures, but held the metal until the Hunt Brothers were knocked out of the game after the CRIMEX changed the rules to contract-offset only, collapsing the silver price. I watched it drop through Harry Browne’s “sell if it goes below $37.50” call to $10.80. Then, during a classic 50% retracement to $25, I asked my broker where he though silver would bottom. His answer - “$5.00”. He called it almost to the dollar, but it took a generation to get there.

In 2000, after buying a one ounce gold Krugerrand for my daughter’s high school graduation and watching people at her party view it with zero interest, I decided to move back into the sector, focusing on physical metals and mining company shares. As the new bull market was getting underway in 2001, I wrote on a piece of paper the following sentence: “On June 22, 2011, win, lose or draw, I will exit my position in the metals and mining shares.”

Fast forward to May, 2011. Having worked with David Morgan at The Morgan Report for a decade, we were following the resource sector on a daily basis for subscribers and for our own accounts. His brilliant call to buy silver in the mid-$20 range enabled his subscribers to re-enter for almost the entire upward surge to just under $50...and then he called that cyclical bull market top - to the day.

You might be asking - “What about that note you wrote to yourself, saying you ‘would get out on June 22, 2011 - win,
lose or draw? My honest answer, unaffected by greed or ego? First, I was definitely aware that we could be looking at a major cyclical top - though I never dreamed it would drag the metals down into a five year bear market. However...

**The Core Reason I stayed in.** My 10 years' earlier intention to sell call was predicated upon the assumption that by 2011 we would have seen massive public participation into a blow-off secular top. But that simply had not taken place. Sitting through the last 5 years was financially painful, but thankfully, instead of just holding onto everything, I moved in and out of mining stocks during the ups and downs into the December, 2015 cyclical bottom, while keeping a physical metals' position.

It wasn’t easy, but knowing that contrarians reap the biggest gains, I re-bought the strongest mining survivors as a new rise seemed likely. While gold and silver prices dropped about 45% and 70% respectively, mining stocks were eviscerated - across the board. Here are the 2011 prices of four stocks I originally held, compared to where I finished buying them back 4 years later:

$26.00 - $3.50; $10.20 - $0.26; $13.00 - $1.00; $3.20 - $0.09 cents.

Recently, I ran across an interesting commentary by Burt Coons - Pen name Plunger - about the three phases of a bull market. He looked into how things were going when the first phase of the great 1949 post-WW II U.S. stock market suffered a devastating triple top correction a few years later. Here’s how Coons discusses it:

**This (correction) convinced the majority of market opinion that the bull was over. However there was a young independent observer by the name of Richard Russell who noted that the market had not yet shown characteristics of a phase III. Instead the market had been busy climbing the wall of worry and hadn’t had time to become manic yet. He therefore made a market call that one should buy the correction and hold on and wait for the phase III. His career took off from there.**

**Richard Russell, first among equals.** Richard Russell went on to become the doyen of financial newsletter writers, publishing until his passing in November, 2015. Notice what factor informed Russell’s advice to “buy the correction and hold on and wait...” Because, as he stated, “the market had not yet shown characteristics of a phase III...and hadn’t had time to become manic yet.”

I am certainly no Richard Russell, but in mid-2011, my metals' decision was motivated by the same reasoning he had reached concerning the DOW.

Over ten years ago, David Morgan made a public comment about silver that I believe is as relevant today as when it was first expressed. He said,

*For the record, I will state, there will be another, more frenzied scramble that will carry silver prices to highs that will repair all the excess paper money creation, price suppression, supply deficit and bearish sentiment over the past two decades. This will become known as “The Great Silver Crisis.”*

**The Bottom Line?** For all sorts of reasons you've heard before, we have not yet witnessed the public mania phase of this bull run. Instead of less than 4% of the investing public then - mostly in North America, plus a few prominent Arabs, we've now got just about the entire world on our side! You may be dispirited watching “the cartel” continually knock down metals' prices, just when they seem ready to fly. You may be tempted to give up on the metals and join the crowd into a stock market bubble that’s been rising for nine years.

We understand your frustration. At first blush, you may not you agree with us. But our message to you is this - when it comes to the upside potential for the metals and miners - take some time to consider the evidence and do the math. Because...in our considered opinion, your biggest mental picture might still not be big enough!

Portions of this essay appeared previously at moneymetals.com
The truth, in regards to the world’s mineral resources, is that we in the western developed countries are usually not in control of supply.

The spectre of resource insecurity has come back with a vengeance. The world is undergoing a period of intensified resource stress, driven in part by the scale and speed of demand growth from emerging economies and a decade of tight commodity markets. Poorly designed and short-sighted policies are also making things worse, not better. Whether or not resources are actually running out, the outlook is one of supply disruptions, volatile prices, accelerated environmental degradation and rising political tensions over resource access.

Chatham House, Resources Futures

There are many serious concerns in regards to global resource extraction that we need to consider:

- Resource nationalism/Country risk, political instability of supplier
- A looming skills shortage
- Competition with Chinese mining investment, smaller areas open for exploration
- Low hanging fruit - the high quality large deposits have already been found, lower economic attractiveness of new projects, cost inflation
- Supply bottlenecks for much needed and scarce equipment
- The manipulation of supplies i.e. speculation and concentrated ownership of LME stocks
- Rising capex/opex, lack of financing options, capital project execution
- Lack of innovation and technological advancements
- Declining open pit production, ongoing operational issues
- Lack of recognition for population growth, growing middle class w/ disposable incomes and urbanization as on-going demand growth factors
- Environmental group and labor risks, mining unrest - lack of a social license to operate, incredibly difficult and lengthy permitting processes
- Climate change, accidents and natural disasters
- Lack of infrastructure or poor infrastructure access, attacks on supply infrastructure
- Price and currency volatility
- Fraud and corruption

Access to raw materials at competitive prices has become essential to the functioning of all industrialized economies.

Accessing a sustainable, and secure, supply of raw materials is going to become the number one priority for all countries. Increasingly we are going to see countries ensuring their own industries have first rights of access to internally produced commodities and they will look for such privileged access from other countries.
Numerous countries are taking steps to safeguard their own supply by:

- Stopping or slowing the export of natural resources
- Shutting down traditional supply markets
- Buying companies for their deposits
- Project finance tied to off-take agreements

Continued growth in consumption resources is being driven by growth in China and the rest of Asia. Chinese companies are increasingly acquiring assets, as are Indian companies, prompting other global miners into a race to secure mineral assets of their own.

George Fang, Standard Bank’s Head of Mining and Metals China

The new competitor’s for the world’s resources have a mandate to secure long term resource deals for domestic use and have the financing capabilities any major mining company, or for that matter any government, would be envious of.

China’s state owned enterprises (SOE) and sovereign wealth funds (SWF) were armed with hundreds of billions of US dollars from the country’s foreign reserves and sent out to scour the globe for resources - they went on the hunt to fuel China’s exploding economy. China wants to diversify out of the massive US dollar component of its Foreign Reserves so the SOE/SWFs have no problem dealing in straight cash and operating in what some might consider high risk areas. The Chinese also have a longer term horizon for their ultimate payoff because they are mostly after off-take supply agreements from early stage development projects.

China, along with Japan (imports 100% of its fossil fuels) and Korea, who have no lithium of their own, have been forming strategic alliances, joint ventures, and acquisitions with lithium exploration companies worldwide.

“Lithium supply security has become a top priority for Asian technology and manufacturing companies. Strategic alliances, joint ventures, joint ventures and acquisitions, continue to be established with lithium exploration companies worldwide. These agreements ensure a reliable and diversified supply of lithium for Asia’s battery suppliers and vehicle manufacturers.

With lithium carbonate being one of the lowest cost components of a lithium-ion battery, the issue that Asian companies are addressing supply security attained which can be achieved by acquiring lithium from various lithium producers. These measures have been ongoing since...
2009 which has seen Asian companies establish joint venture and acquire existing producers.

These strategic moves have allowed battery and vehicle companies to alleviate the possibility of future lithium supply disruptions, which could have devastating consequences in a well-established and productive HEV, PHEV, and EV industry. Consider that both Korea and Japan, who are amongst the largest producers of lithium batteries have no lithium hard rock or salar brine deposits within their borders.”

Livio Filice, Seeking Alpha

The rechargeable power needs of our modern society has made lithium a serious player in the commodity markets.

The reason for the electrification of the global transportation system is clear. Electric vehicles (EVs) have far fewer moving parts than Internal Combustion Engine (ICE) gasoline-powered cars - they don’t have mufflers, gas tanks, catalytic converters or ignition systems, there’s also never an oil change or tune-up to worry about getting done. Plug and go, pretty convenient and very green!

But the clean and green doesn’t end there - electric drives are more efficient then the drives on ICE powered cars. They are able to convert more of the available energy to propel the car therefore using less energy to go the same distance. And applying the brakes converts what was simply wasted energy in the form of heat to useful energy in the form of electricity to help recharge the car’s batteries. The first DVD players, the first flat panel widescreen TV’s, the first production runs of any advanced technology are always more expensive than later unit costs will be. That is a fact, but this author believes that Hybrid and fully Electric Vehicle prices will soon be very affordable and offer cost advantages over their polluting gas guzzling ICE second cousins.

Electric vehicles are totally emission free. China, the world’s second-biggest economy, in a move to cap its carbon emissions by 2030 and curb worsening air pollution said it was preparing to set a deadline for automakers to end sales of fossil-fuel-powered vehicles.

That's a lot of lithium batteries to manufacture – and the Chinese are preparing by locking up a secure supply of lithium. In just a few short years, by 2021, Chinese Gigafactory’s will provide 3.5 times more gigawatt-hours of battery cells than Tesla’s current Gigafactory.

Lithium supply or off-take agreements have been signed with lithium
Southern Silver Exploration Corp. is a precious/base metal exploration and development company with a focus on the discovery of world-class mineral deposits in north-central Mexico and the southern USA. Our specific emphasis is the Cerro Las Minitas silver-lead-zinc project located in the heart of Mexico’s Faja de Plata, which hosts multiple world-class mineral deposits such as Penasquito, San Martin, Naica and Pitarrilla. Southern Silver (40%) and Electrum Global Holdings L.P. (60%) headed by Dr. Thomas Kaplan have formed a J/V to continue to advance the Cerro Las Minitas project. We have assembled a team of highly experienced technical, operational and transactional professionals to support our exploration efforts in developing the Cerro Las Minitas project into a premier, high-grade, silver-lead-zinc mine.

Located in north-central Mexico, 70 km by road from the city of Durango, exploration to date on the Cerro Las Minitas property (108 drill holes, 49,600 metres) has led to identification and delineation of three mineral deposits (the Blind, the El Sol and the Santo Nino). Exploration in 2017 has identified two new step-out targets for drill testing in 2018. Mineralization in the Skarn Front is open for approximately 500 metres along strike to the southeast of drill holes 17CLM-101 and -105 in what is now termed the Las Victorias zone and up to 600 metres along strike to the northeast, where the zone wraps around the northern margin of the Central Intrusion, in the North Skarn zone. In Q4, the Company will be revising its 2016 initial NI-43-101, Mineral Resource at a 150g/t AgEq cut-off, equals: Indicated Resource of 36.5Mozs AgEq: 10.8Mozs Ag, 189Mlbs Pb and 207Mlbs Zn; and Inferred Resource of 77.3Mozs AgEq: 17.5Mozs Ag, 237Mlbs Pb and 626Mlbs Zn. (1-6) (See News Release dated 03/18/16).

On the Oro Project, New Mexico, Southern is near completion of an 8-10 RC drill program for approximately 1,200m on the Stock Pond, gold project. Additionally, the Company has received results from a 300 line-kilometre airborne ZTEM survey over the entire 16.3 sq. km. property at 200m line spacing by Geotech Airborne Geophysical Surveys and have been evaluated, resulting in additional claims being staked to cover new targets that now have been sampled for further evaluation.

Southern Silver Exploration, the right metals, the right time.
focused companies from Australia, Mexico and Argentina to name just a few countries - Jiangxi Ganfeng Lithium Co., a Chinese company, even has an off-take deal with a company operating in Ireland.

Here are a few examples of Chinese, Korean and Japanese lithium off-take deals:

- https://marketintelligence.spglobal.com/our-thinking/ideas/chinese-buyers-snapping-up-future-lithium-supply-through-off-take-deals
- https://www.ft.com/content/724fb6c4-2ba0-11e7-bcac-6d03d067f81f

Lithium production in 2016 was 89% concentrated in three countries: Australia 40%, Chile 33% (added a new royalty regime in 2017 considerably adding to production costs) and current economic basket case Argentina 16%, which together comprised 89% of global supply.

There is no doubt that the three leading countries in lithium-ion battery production for electric vehicles are looking to, or are already close to locking up most of the global supply of lithium for their own use.

Lithium project developers in North...
Electric Will Overtake Gasoline and Diesel

By 2040 almost 80% of new car sales in the U.K. will be electric

- Electric Vehicles
- Internal Combustion Engine

Source: Bloomberg New Energy Finance

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Getting Warmer and Warmer... in the Best Possible Ways

Alternative Clean-Tech Power Sources
Investigate • Invest

Batteries • Biofuels • 'Clean Coal'
Geothermals • Run-of-River Hydro
Solar • Uranium • Waste • Wave • Wind

Coming Soon...
DOBrien@InternationalMiningResearch.com
America should be on every investor's radar screen—the supply of lithium for North American gigafactory's, is going to tighten.

And no wonder Asia is locking up global lithium supply!

China and India are both going to 100% electric vehicles. Every major car manufacturer has electric models. Volvo has even promised to phase out traditional internal combustion engines (ICE) from 2019.

France has promised to end the sale of gasoline and diesel vehicles by 2040, the U.K. quickly followed suit.

Current annual production of lithium carbonate equivalent (LCE), for all purposes, stands at 182,000 metric tonnes, there is a very slight excess in 2017 predicted to disappear in early 2018.

Consider India is going 100% electric and piling on to the existing lithium demand, surely there will be other countries, and companies like Volvo, announcing the phase out of internal combustion engines?

“When you look at all the battery plants being built and the plans for EVs, even if only about 25 percent of those are realized, we’re still going to be short of lithium. It’s a unique once-in-a-generation situation.” Simon Moores, managing director of Benchmark Mineral, Electric Car Boom Drives Rush to Mining’s $90 Billion Hub.

Bloomberg New Energy Finance predicts electric vehicles will make up an astounding 54% of new car sales by 2040.

In 2016, Chinese carmakers sold 28.03 million cars. If China follows through on its promise to go 100% electric that’s a minimum 28.03 million lithium-ion battery packs.

Add in the UK’s 2.7 million car sales in 2016 and France’s 2 million car sales in 2016.

That’s 32.73 million electric vehicles all requiring lithium-ion battery packs, without counting electric buses (a big deal in China, and going to be in India as well) or annual growth rates in auto sales.

ONE TESLA CAR BATTERY USES 45 KG OR 100LBS OF LITHIUM CARBONATE.

Tesla intends to ramp up its vehicle production to 500,000 cars per year by 2018 and 1,000,000 cars by 2020. A million electric cars produced in North America means 45,454,000kg/100,000,000 pounds or 45,454mt/50,000t of lithium carbonate equivalent (LCE) has to be mined just for Tesla’s North American electric vehicle production – and Tesla has promised to source North American Lithium. Elon Musk, Tesla’s CEO also has plans to build four more Gigafactory’s.

Think about those global 32,730,000 lithium battery packs.

If each used the same amount of lithium carbonate as Tesla’s electric vehicles that’s 1,487,727mt/1,636,500t of new lithium carbonate demand.

Bloomberg Electric Car Boom Drives Rush to Mining’s $90 Billion Hub.
LITHIUM SECURITY OF SUPPLY KEY

If we want a lithium-ion battery industry and electric vehicles built in North America we need lithium security of supply. No longer can we rely on the good graces of other countries, we need to develop an energy metals industry in North America — from mine to battery.

Lithium stocks, the producers and the near term producers are expensive, there are few bargains to be found among the more developed plays. Fortunately, for investors and our planet’s health, the move towards electrifying the global transportation system is fully underway and appears unstoppable.

And that means, in this author’s opinion, the earlier stage lithium focused resource plays are going to receive major investor attention. But not just any early stage lithium company is worthy of our attention.

If two or more companies have straws (wells) into the same salar legal battles might result over the sharing of the resources.

That’s not a sustainable business model and lawsuits are liable to erupt.

Many junior exploration companies chasing lithium projects are not cognizant of the economic and technical challenges – no brine mining projects and even fewer hard rock projects have been put into production for the last two decades and when done so it’s been by the major lithium producers – this exposes something in the industry no one talks about – a lack of skilled personnel to get involved with minerology/metallurgy and the engineering side of production.

BRINE VS HARDROCK LITHIUM MINING

Although it’s less expensive than hard rock (Granite pegmatite-ore bodies are the hard-rock source of lithium.

The lithium minerals that occur in granite pegmatites are spodumene, apatite, lepidolite, tourmaline and amblygonite) lithium mining, salar based lithium sources have a self imposed limit to annual production.

You can realistically pump out only as fast as new water comes in and replenishes it. Also, with the brines your grade slowly depletes.

Of course a company should have 100% control over the production rate from their salar. It’s possible an aquifer can become diluted - over producing can impact the brine’s salt concentrations and chemical compositions - or depleted by too many wells sucking up more brine than should be produced.

PARTNER-FUNDED PROGRAMS – Partners spent approximately US$1 million on Bravada’s properties during 2016, resulting in the discovery of shallow, oxide gold mineralization at Baxter and in the refined high-grade gold target that is currently being permitted for 2018 drilling at Quito. A summary follows:

- **Baxter** – a total of 13 RC drill holes for 2,448 metres in 2017 with seven holes intersecting anomalous gold; BAX17-02 intercepted 9.3 m of 0.31 g/t Au beginning at 48.8 m depth and 12.2 m of 0.22 g/t Au beginning at 94.5 m depth. Bravada’s funding partner recently returned 100% ownership to the Company and the Company is evaluating the extensive data provided from their work.
- **Quito** – Due to permitting delays, we expect our funding partner Coeur to begin drilling in the 2nd or 3rd quarter of 2018.
- **Shoshone Pediment** – Mine permitting continues by Baker Hughes, with Bravada holding a royalty on eventual barite production.
- **North Lone Mountain and South Lone Mountain** – Funding partner Nevada Zinc continues to expand the footprint of zinc mineralization on their claims towards Bravada’s South Lone Mountain claims (see Nevada Zinc Corporations news release of January 11, 2017). Should Nevada Zinc complete the purchase of Bravada’s South Lone Mountain claims, Bravada will retain an attractive royalty on base and precious metals. Drill targets have been identified on Bravada’s North Lone Mountain property.

Hard rock lithium miners have large problems facing them when competing with brine economics – firstly most have large capital (capex) costs for start up and secondly their production cost is roughly twice what it is for the brine exploitation process.

Bravada Gold Corporation (BVA-TSX.V; BGAVF-OTCQB; BRTN-Stuttgart) is an exploration and development company with a portfolio of eleven high-quality properties in Nevada, one of the best mining jurisdictions in the world and where important new discoveries continue to be made. During the past 12 years, the Company has successfully identified and advanced properties that have the potential to host high-margin deposits while successfully attracting partners to fund later stages of project development. Currently, three of its Nevada properties are being funded by partners.

BRAVADA-FUNDED PROGRAMS – Bravada plans limited “proof of concept” drilling programs at two of its self-funded projects:

- **Wind Mountain** – Bravada received an independent Resource Update and a positive PEA in 2012 (see news release NR-07-12, dated May 1, 2012) and plans to drill-test for high-grade “Hishikari-type” gold/silver vein mineralization beneath the existing disseminated resource at the Wind Mountain property. Drilling is expected to begin mid-December 2017.
- **SF** – Bravada plans to drill test for high-grade “Carlin-type” gold mineralization at the SF property. Drilling is expected to begin during the 3rd quarter of 2018.
- **Other Nevada Properties** – The Company continues to seek appropriate funding partners to advance its other properties, many of which have significant gold intercepts in drill holes and have targets delineated for additional drilling. A limited amount of targeting is planned for several of these properties to further refine targets.
Lithium products derived from brine operations can be used directly in end-markets, but hard-rock lithium concentrates need to be further refined before they can be used in value-added applications like lithium-ion batteries. Pegmatites are on the small side when it comes to size. A 2012 University of Michigan study, for example found that even the largest pegmatites have estimated resources similar only to that of the average brine, and, on average, brines are an order of magnitude larger in contained lithium than hard-rock pegmatites.

**CLAYTON VALLEY**

The decision by electric car innovator, Tesla, to locate a battery manufacturing plant in the state has triggered a rush of claims in Clayton Valley.

Albermarle’s Silver Peak lithium mine in Clayton Valley, Nevada is the only producing (50 years) lithium brine operation in the United States. Because Clayton Valley is an endorheic basin - endorheic basins are closed drainage basins that retain water and allow no outflow - precipitation and inflow water from the surrounding mountains only leaves the system by evaporation and seepage.

Albermarle production started at upwards of 660 milligrams per liter of lithium in the brine and even though Clayton is a closed basin now they’re mining just over 100 milligrams Li per liter.

Other basins in Nevada are considered open - water travels in and out reducing lithium concentrations. The possibility of finding an economic lithium deposit to compete with Clayton Valley’s is much more difficult.

**THE BEST OF BOTH LITHIUM AND HARD ROCK?**

**Cypress Development Corp.**

This is a heads up to alert my readers to what is a potentially explosive drill program scheduled to start very soon.

One North American lithium focused company I’m extremely high on is Cypress Development Corp. (TSX-V: CYP). New York Governor Andrew M. Cuomo recently stated that Imperium3 New York Inc. will build the state’s first gigafactory producing lithium-ion batteries, aiming to produce three gigawatts of batteries by Q4 2019 and eventually to 15 gigawatts. Cypress is in the unique position of having the best of both worlds - a combination of mining an at-surface leachable deposit, the claystone, that’s capable of producing a ‘synthetic lithium brine.’

With a Clayton Valley, Nevada address, money in the treasury, an unusual lithium source, impressive first phase results regarding assay values and deposit size, low public share float, an immediate drill program and Bill Willoughby (Dr. Willoughby has been a Professional Engineer since 1985 and received his Doctorate in Mining Engineering & Metallurgy from the University of Idaho in 1989) as the CEO this might be, in my opinion, the best early stage lithium play out there.

I’m sure I’ll be writing much more in the near future regarding Cypress and it’s intriguing Clayton Valley project.

**CONCLUSION**

Your author knows the lithium space. I was one of the very first, back in 2009 to be writing about then President Obama’s plans for electrification of America’s transportation system. I was exposing my readers to the Puna Plateau (Lithium Triangle), a brine mining business model, The Lithium Three and the Lithium ABC’s long before most others were even aware of the once in a generation change starting to take place.

Ahead of the Herd readers enjoyed huge success’ such as Salares Lithium (TSX.V:LIT) going from $3 to a buy-out by Talison in 9 months at Cdn$1.29, Rodinia (TSX.V:RM) went from 05 to 85, in 2016 Lithium X went up up and up from a $0.15 IPO and more recently Far Resource went from pennies to $0.18. Tesla Motors Inc. is on record saying it plans to only use raw materials sourced from North America for its $5-billion lithium-ion battery gigafactory.

New York Governor Andrew M. Cuomo recently stated that Imperium3 New York Inc. will build the state’s first gigafactory producing lithium-ion batteries, aiming to produce three gigawatts of batteries by Q4 2019 and eventually to 15 gigawatts.

A Lithium Supercycle, North America’s lack of supply of said commodity, a large enough resource to prevent fragmented supply chains and supply North America for decades, upcoming drill programs, assays, metallurgical work results and Cypress Development Corp. (TSX-V: CYP, OTCBB: CYDVF, Frankfurt: C1Z1) are all on my radar screen. Are they on yours?

If not, maybe they should be.
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