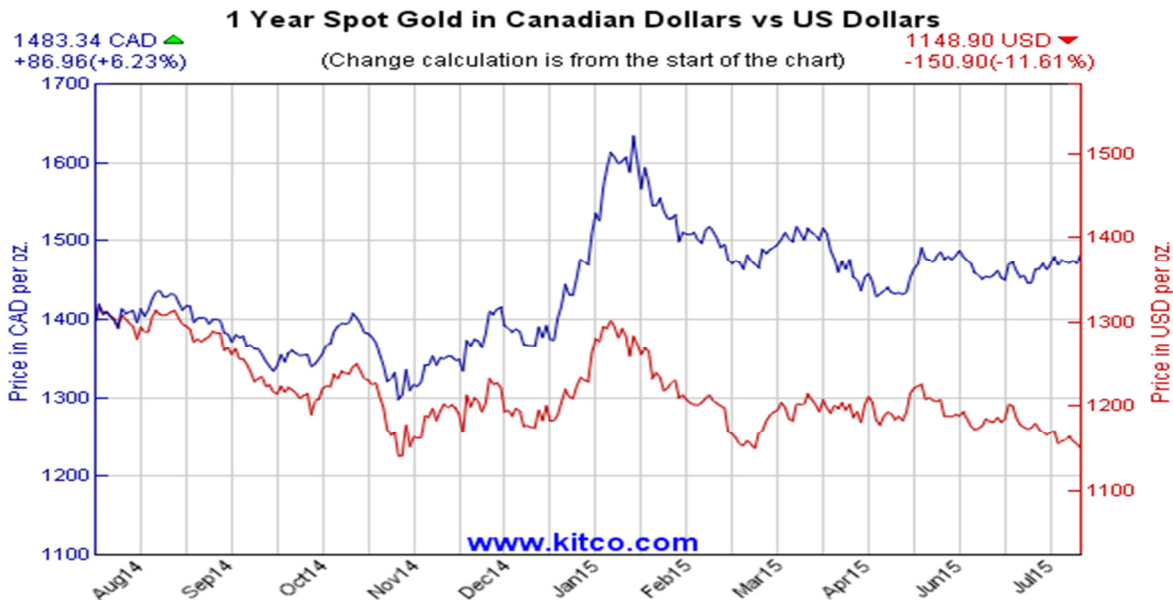


Thanks to a strong U.S. dollar, the Canadian gold industry enjoys a very healthy gold price

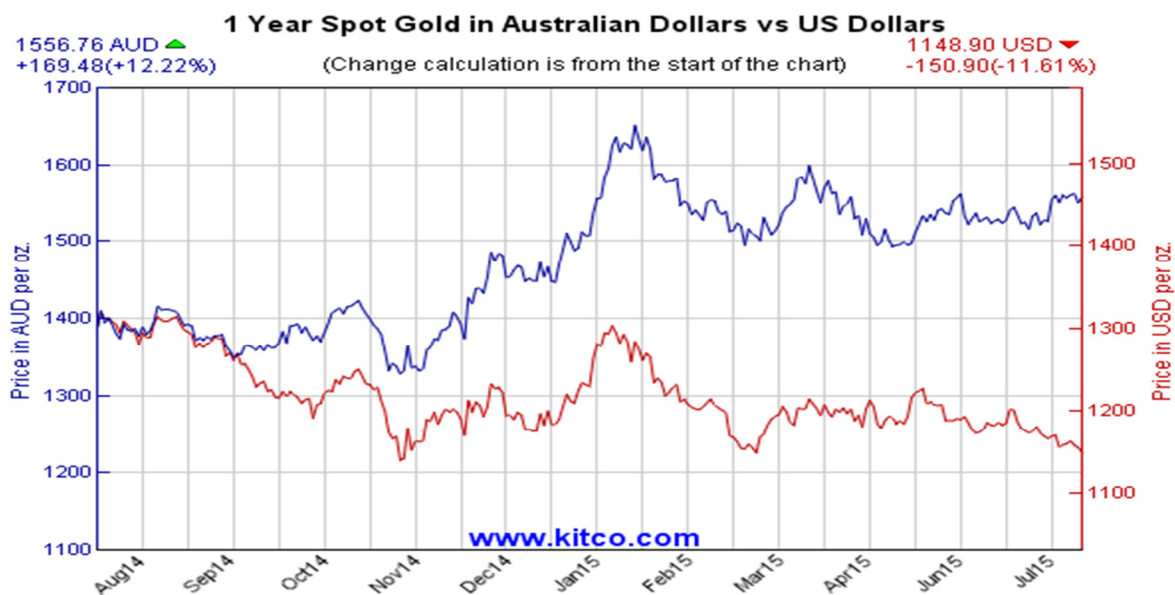
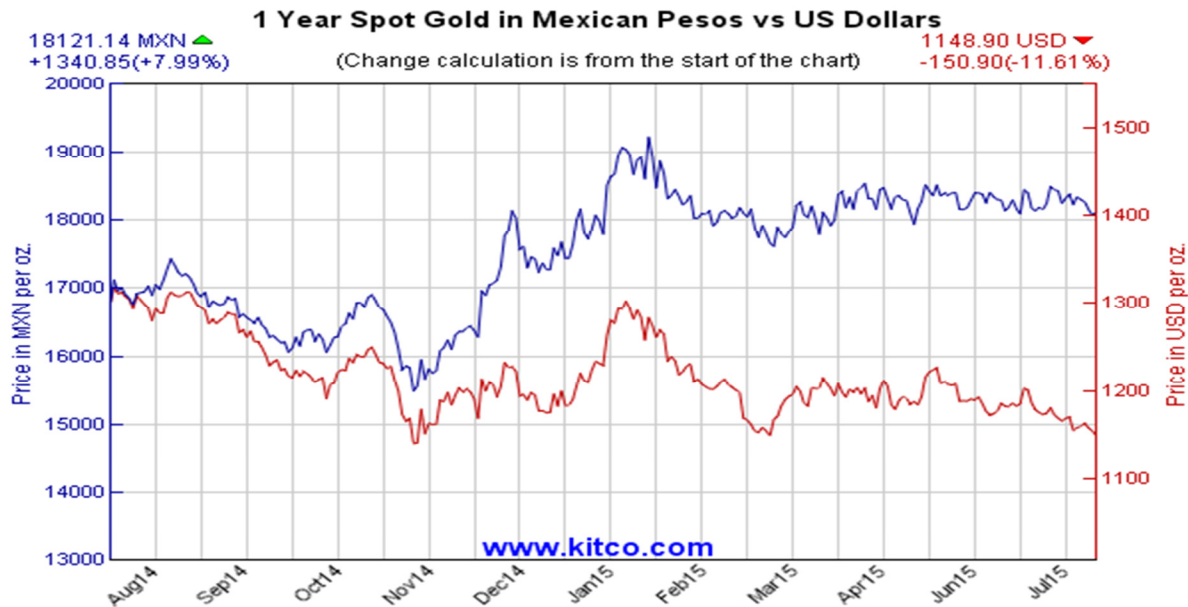
On a year-to-year basis, the price of gold still remains at a very healthy level for the Canadian gold industry quoting \$1483.34CAD an ounce on July 16, 2015

At present, factors that are considered negative for gold by most major U.S. banks have already been discounted in the gold market place, namely the eventual possibility of higher U.S. federal rates resulting in a rising U.S. dollar. However, what has not yet been discounted in the market place is the magnitude of the negative impact higher federal rates and a rising U.S. dollar would have on U.S. exports, quarterly corporate earnings, the overall economy and, finally, the U.S. stock market. While a market correction might influence investors to shift some financial assets out of the U.S. stock market back into gold, a rising US dollar would further depreciate the Canadian dollar to a level anywhere close to US\$0.75 (currently US\$0.7714). So, even if the price of gold was to trade in a range of US\$1,100 to \$1,200 during the next twelve months, which is viewed as pessimistic by most forecasters, the Canadian gold industry would still benefit by receiving a price ranging anywhere between Cdn\$1,450 and \$1,600.



This scenario should be viewed as extremely positive for the Canadian gold sector. In such a context, most Canadian gold producers should be reporting higher earnings in the quarters ahead considering, in addition, that they have all been working aggressively on cost reduction in recent past. As a result, Canadian gold producers are also expected to accelerate merger and acquisition activities in the coming quarters which are very positive for the gold industry as well as for the Northern Partnership's portfolios. Recent merger and acquisition activities leave a good feeling that the Canadian market for gold stocks is awakening.

It is important that investors be aware that the price of gold, expressed in currencies other than the U.S. dollar, the Swiss Franc and the Chinese Yuan which is pegged to the U.S. dollar, is higher today than it was a year ago. Gold producers operating outside the countries mentioned above should all benefit from a stronger U.S. dollar. With a resulting financially strong Canadian gold industry heading for additional merger and acquisition activity, investors are expected to respond to these positive developments soon and their response should have a significant impact on the price of gold stocks in the coming quarters.



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July 16, 2015