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PORTFOLIO STRATEGIES

c o r p o r a t i o n

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Random Thoughts

Wherever you see a successful business, someone once made a courageous decision.

- Peter Drucker

When life gives you a hundred reasons to cry, show life that you have a thousand reasons to smile.

- Unknown

If you think it's expensive to hire a professional to do the job, wait until you hire an amateur.

- Nathan Gilkarov



Did you Know...

-the names of all continents both start and end with the same letter

-the longest street in the world is Yonge Street in Toronto, measuring 1,896 km

-a 'jiffy' is actually 1/100th of a second

-the average golf ball has 336 dimples

A Happy Update

On October 2, 2011, after 3 months of bed rest for my wife and several concerning ultrasounds, our daughter, Emery Hope was born. As many of you know, she was very premature (2.5 months early) and extremely small (840grams or 1lb 13 oz).

Tests had shown that her lungs were pretty much sealed, and the doctors weren't sure if it was due to a chromosomal problem or some other complication. Emery surprised everyone with all genetic testing coming back perfectly normal. However, Emery still had to deal with extremely under developed lungs, which were also adding a lot of stress on her heart.

She spent 4 months in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at the Foothills hospital in Calgary. In late January she was transferred to the NICU at the Children's Hospital (also in Calgary). There, the doctors continued to keep her on a high flow of oxygen to assist her with her breathing. Emery also had a nasty bout of pneumonia as well as a surgery to repair a couple of hernias that had developed. She became the oldest and longest-staying patient at the NICU in the history of the Children's Hospital.

I am very happy to announce that after 9 very difficult months, Emery finally came home on June 25th. We are so happy to have our baby home at last!

Things are looking distinctly more hopeful, but Emery is still not out of the woods. She will remain on oxygen for the foreseeable future, as she deals with her chronic lung disease. This whole experience has been filled with gratitude and worry, but we are excited for this new chapter.

I am so appreciative of the many people who have helped me and my family during this difficult time:

Our clients:

I feel that we have an excellent group of clients. You are great people and a real joy to be able to work with. Any time that Emery came up in our conversations, you were

very supportive, always offered encouragement and prayers – greatly appreciated.

Launa and Mary:

Both really stepped up and made sure that our level of service to our clients never faltered while I was having to make frequent trips to and from Calgary

The medical staff:

The doctors and staff were wonderful as they worked through a very difficult set of circumstances. We are especially grateful to the nurses, who went above and beyond in caring for our precious daughter. Many would skip their breaks and come in on days off to be with her.

Friends and Family:

They were always available to take care of our son, cook meals, or do whatever was necessary to help us get through things.

Ronald McDonald House:

This was my wife's home for the past 9 months and where my son and I would stay each weekend. These accommodations provided us with a cost effective and convenient way to stay close to Emery.

As many of you know first hand, experiences like this help us to refocus our lives and remind us of what is really important. We feel very blessed to have had things turn out as well as they have.

We are now, and will remain, committed supporters of the Children's Hospital as well as the Ronald McDonald House. We will continue to support these charities for the rest of our lives.

I am sure you have many causes that are near and dear to your heart. If there is a charity that you are interested in supporting, come talk to me. We can look at some strategies that will help maximize your donation dollars, whether it be through Flow-through shares, insurance policies, or another donation strategy.

