

The CSE on the Benefits of a Virtual #PDAC2021

In a recent InvestorIntel interview, Peter Clausi speaks with Barrington Miller of the Canadian Securities Exchange (CSE) about the upcoming Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) Mining Conference to be held from March 8-11, 2021.

In this InvestorIntel interview, which may also be viewed on YouTube (click here to subscribe to the InvestorIntel Channel), Barrington talks about the upcoming PDAC mining conference, its new digital format, and the CSE's participation in PDAC 2021. Barrington discusses the challenges of running a mining conference digitally, but also the perks. Having a digital mining conference makes it more accessible to companies that are located internationally and also means that investors and media who may be occupied during the conference can access the conference later. While the pandemic has changed the format, Barrington thinks that may be a good thing and that PDAC 2021 may be the best year yet.

To watch the full interview, click here.

About the Canadian Securities Exchange

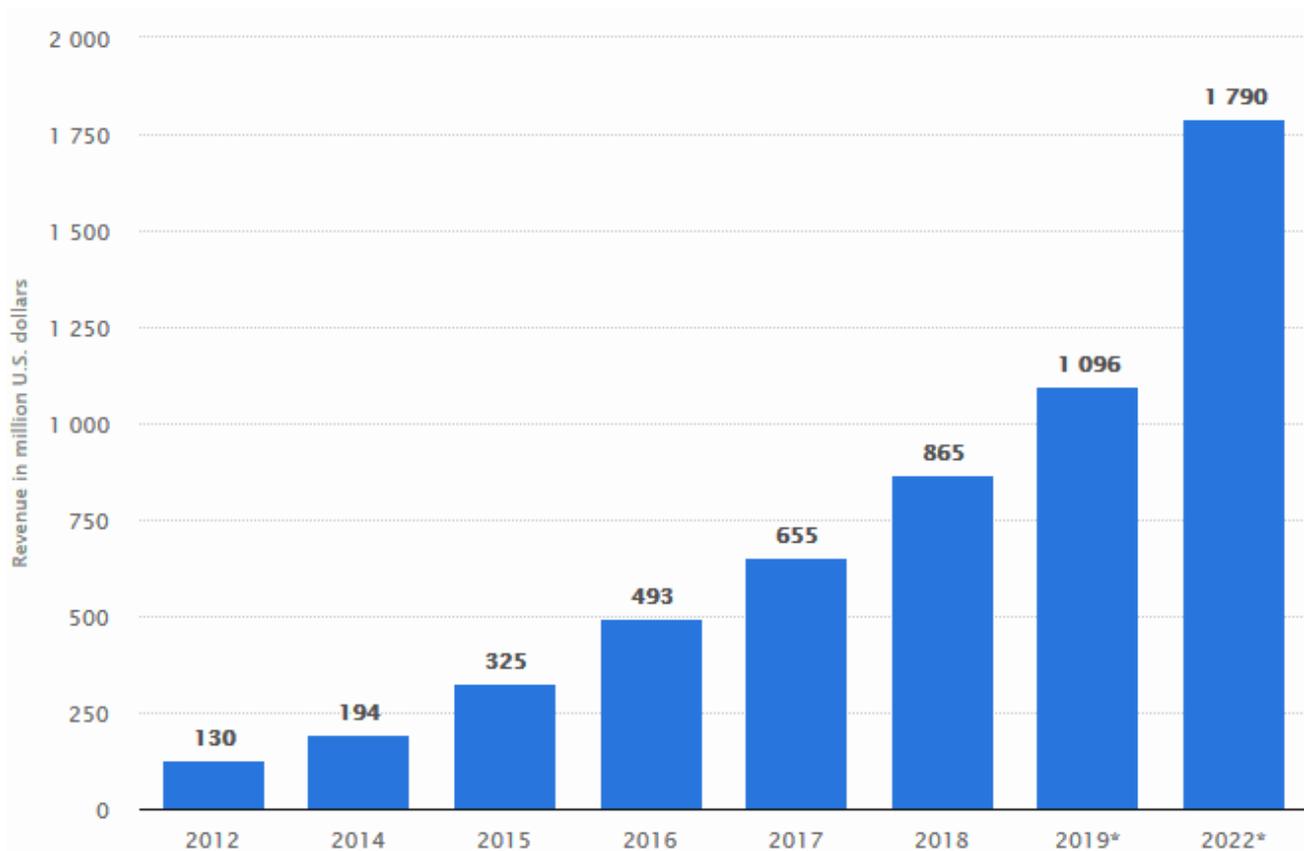
The Canadian Securities Exchange, or CSE, is operated by CNSX Markets Inc. Recognized as a stock exchange in 2004, the CSE began operations in 2003 to provide a modern and efficient alternative for companies looking to access the Canadian public capital markets.

To learn more about the Canadian Securities Exchange, click here

Rising eSports market provides Canadian cannabis cash a place to run to

2018 was a landmark year that cemented eSports as the next billion-dollar industry. With US\$865 million in market revenue, the global eSports market revenue is forecast to reach US\$1.79 billion in 2022, growing at a CAGR of 22.3%. Note the revenue in the graph below is forecast to double from 2018 to 2022.

eSports global revenue is forecast to grow at a CAGR of 22.3%



eSports market revenue worldwide from 2012 to 2022 (in million U.S. dollars) (Source: Statista)

Like the game developers, various third-party companies run their own competitions, whilst also planning and producing coverage around them. The rights to these broadcasts are then sold to streaming platforms (or TV), or tickets to watch an event are sold online. Online betting can also add to revenues.

eSports competitions

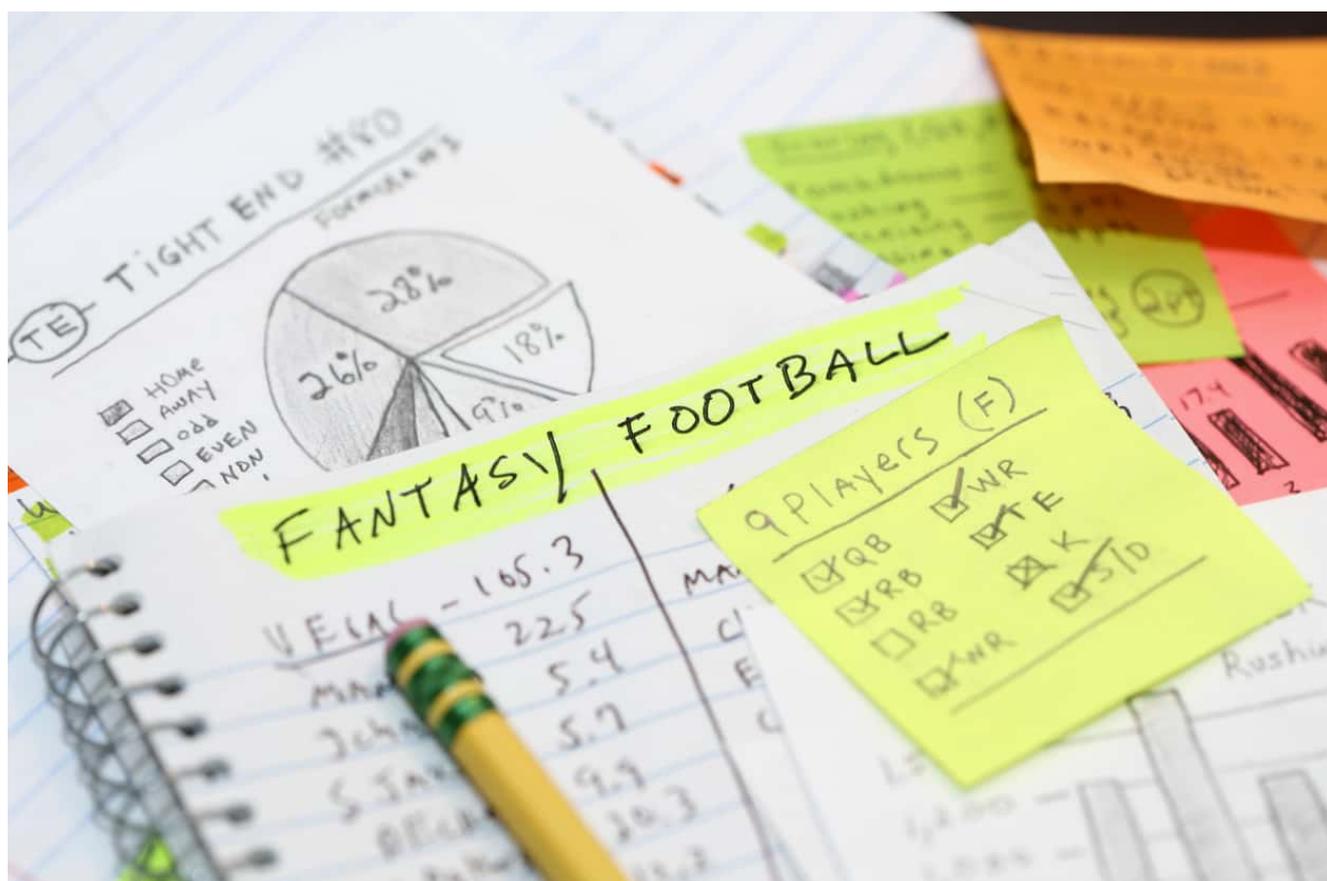
In recent years eSport competitions have become very popular. Some examples are League of Legends, StarCraft, WarCraft, Hearthstone, Overwatch, Player Unknown's Battlegrounds (PUBG), Dota 2, and Fortnite. Players compete online for huge price pools as much as US\$25 million.

eSports in Canada

Back in 2015, the Canadian League of Gamers kicked into the eSports scene in Canada offering a \$20,000 prize pool for players of Counter-Strike: Global Offensive, during the Canadian Video Game Awards. This major event in Toronto captured the nation's attention, as only two years later the event offered a tenfold \$200,000 prize pool. The event has successfully capitalized on the growth of eSports in both Canada and the US, becoming a leader in the industry.

The professional competition scene is continually growing in Canada and is seen as a legitimate career option by many of today's Canadian millennials. The industry is taking this gaming growth so seriously it's been revealed that Canada's first ever professional gaming stadium will open in Richmond, British Columbia in the summer of 2019. This will not only be a massive training facility for professional gamers, but it's also going to be the coolest place to hang out. In addition a gaming stadium, there's also going to a VIP lounge, a bar, training centers, and three cafe options, as after all gamers do get hungry. The entire facility will cover two floors and will be stocked with equipment for gamers.

eSports is creating a new industry bringing millions of dollars in new revenue and a potential career path for the millennial generation. Generation Z (ages of 8-15) are expected to follow the trend and make eSports revenues even larger over time. The industry's increase in popularity is being recognized and embraced on a global scale making eSports companies major new players in the burgeoning gaming industry.



Daily Fantasy Football lineup research.

How to invest in eSports?

It's very much an open field when it comes to any technology-based industry. If you asked a millennial their answer they would most likely say buy a new gaming console, a high-end gaming PC, or even an entry sponsorship in the next online gaming tournament. But the safe investment bet looks to be in the hardware, software, and marketing/organizing companies that drive this industry that is yet to reach its full potential.

Made enough money in the Canadian cannabis market? Here's our starting list (with links) of Canadian gaming companies to start placing bets on...

- Axion Ventures Inc. (TSXV: AXV | OTCQX: AXNVF)
- Backstageplay Inc. (TSXV: BP)
- Bragg Gaming Group Inc. (TSXV: BRAG)
- Contagious Gaming Inc. (TSXV: CNS)
- Enthusiast Gaming Holdings Inc. (TSXV: EGLX | OTCQB: EGHIF)
- ePlay Digital Inc. (CSE: EPY)
- Fandom Sports Media Corp. (CSE: FDM)
- Global Gaming Technologies Corp. (CSE: BLOC.U)
- Kuuhubb Inc. (TSX: KUU)
- Mad Catz Interactive Inc. (TSX: MCZ)
- Millennial Esports Corp. (TSXV: GAME | OTCQB: MLLLF)
- The Stars Group Inc. (TSX: TSGI | NASDAQ: TSG)
- Versus Systems Inc. (CSE: VS | OTCQB: VRSSF)
- Victory Square Technologies Inc. (CSE: VST | OTCQX: VSQTF)

Rob Cook on why ‘they come to raise money’ on The Canadian Securities Exchange

“It has been very gratifying this year. We profited from a fairly buoyant market, but at the same time we are just getting people coming at us from all directions. They come to raise money. They raised a lot of money. Our listed companies in November raised something like \$1.2 billion. Last year I think it was \$3.5 billion in a year. It is roundabout \$5

billion so far this year. That has been great.” States Rob Cook, Senior Vice President of Market Development at The Canadian Securities Exchange, in an interview with InvestorIntel Corp. CEO Tracy Weslosky.

Tracy Weslosky: How many new listings have you had since I saw you last, roundabout?

Rob Cook: About 20. That was just a month ago. Right?

Tracy Weslosky: In other words you continue to progress with your hockey stick expansion and growth?

Rob Cook: It has been very gratifying this year. We profited from a fairly buoyant market, but at the same time we are just getting people coming at us from all directions. They come to raise money. They raised a lot of money. Our listed companies in November raised something like \$1.2 billion. Last year I think it was \$3.5 billion in a year. It is roundabout \$5 billion so far this year. That has been great.

Tracy Weslosky: I think there is a lot of incorrect data out there so I am so happy you were able to join us. Is this market specific? I mean there are rumors on the streets, it is all cannabis growth, but I have seen other types of companies listed on the CSE. Can you talk to us about that?

Rob Cook: You have. We have had some interesting tech companies list recently. One is called Nerds On Site. They offer desktop support to small businesses. They have been in business for 23 years. They are located in London, Ontario. They are doing a big expansion in the United States. They did an IPO; just listed a couple of weeks ago.

Tracy Weslosky: That is an excellent example because we at InvestorIntel actually utilize Nerds On Site.

Rob Cook: Do you?

Tracy Weslosky: Yeah, but I think that is an excellent example

where there are misnomers out there that many of your clients are just Canadian-based. I know Nerds On Site, for instance, have expansion plans into the United States.

Rob Cook: Yes.

Tracy Weslosky: Many of your companies now are actually Americans coming to list on the CSE. Can you talk to us about that?

Rob Cook: It has always been a bit cheaper to go public in Canada than the United States. Currently we have experienced quite a few fairly large companies from the United States, most of them in the cannabis sector. Not all of them are cannabis growers or sellers. A lot of them are more suppliers and ciliary businesses. We just listed one called Cresco Labs. They are in several states. They are providing services to cannabis growers across the United States. That has been very interesting. We continue to get a lot of interest from further afield, Mexico, Colombia, Jamaica. I am going to Jamaica in January for Capital Markets Conference there, also Europe and Asia and even Israel.

Tracy Weslosky: What you are saying is that the CSE has really gone global here in the last year or two..to access the complete interview, [click here](#)

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Outperforming the TSX and

Venture Exchange – The Canadian Securities Exchange or CSE woos Americans

“One of the things that we look at is the turnover ratio, which measures the value of the trading divided by the market cap of the stocks. Despite the fact that our market cap has been rising so has the trading volume. We routinely look at it on a monthly basis. Using that measure, the liquidity on the CSE has exceeded that of the TSX and the Venture Exchange for well over 2 years. We do not tell people that that means we have a more liquid market. We tell people that that means we have a no less liquid market.” States Rob Cook, Senior Vice President of Market Development of The Canadian Securities Exchange, in an interview with InvestorIntel Corp. CEO Tracy Weslosky.

Tracy Weslosky: Hockey stick performance in the market, let us talk about the CSE. You have outperformed pretty much everybody. Can you give us some of the highlights Rob?

Rob Cook: The highlights have gone on for many years, but it has been the last couple of years that we have seen the hockey stick that we were always hoping would come about and we had a lot of confidence that it would because we just went over 1% at a time to our exchange, to our market model, to the way that we do business. It has been very gratifying to see the recent results. The number of companies that are listing, the amount of money that they are raising and financing has just been tremendous.

Tracy Weslosky: Let us talk to the numbers. Many investors out there are a little more short-term memory and they are looking forward. With the CSE, your market cap has increased from X to X in the last year.

Rob Cook: It has increased from a little over \$4 billion to close to \$14 billion.

Tracy Weslosky: In addition to that, how many new companies have listed in the last year?

Rob Cook: Could not tell you in 12 months, but I do know in 9 months. I think we are up 126 companies, which is going to already exceed our largest year before.

Tracy Weslosky: I have always perceived it to be a fallacy that your volume of trading is lower than other exchanges. Can you correct that fallacy?

Rob Cook: Yes, quite easily. One of the things that we look at is the turnover ratio, which measures the value of the trading divided by the market cap of the stocks. Despite the fact that our market cap has been rising so has the trading volume. We routinely look at it on a monthly basis. Using that measure, the liquidity on the CSE has exceeded that of the TSX and the Venture Exchange for well over 2 years. We do not tell people that that means we have a more liquid market. We tell people that that means we have a no less liquid market. What we have today, and the recent past, is we have stocks that investors are really interested in trading so it is extremely active.

Tracy Weslosky: I was recently speaking at an investment conference and I was stating that one of the areas we are following are the Americans that have started to trade in Canada and list specifically on the CSE. Are they all cannabis stocks or are you actually getting other types of stories right now Rob?

Rob Cook: We are getting a few other stories. Because of the increased interest in the cannabis sector and the fact that we have had several from the United States that have come to us already it has broadened the awareness, but we have always had a few. When we launched our exchange in 2003 we only had 3 companies and 1 of those was American. That company raised

about \$100 million dollars while it was listed on the CSE...to access the complete interview, [click here](#)

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Cannabis and Blockchain, the CSE's record breaking year

May 31, 2018 – “I am here to give you an update on the CSE. In a word we are busy. 2017, we were busy. It was a record year. We have had a record year almost every year, but this one exceeded all others. At the end of the year we had 35 companies with a market cap each of over \$100 million dollars. It was the first time that our companies collectively and there were about 310 on average last year I would say, that raised over a billion dollars in financing.” states Rob Cook, Senior Vice President of Market Development of the Canadian Securities Exchange, in a recent presentation at the 7th Annual InvestorIntel Summit – Buds, Batteries & Blockchain 2018.

Rob Cook: I am here to give you an update on the CSE. In a word we are busy. 2017, we were busy. It was a record year. We have had a record year almost every year, but this one exceeded all others. At the end of the year we had 35 companies with a market cap each of over \$100 million dollars. It was the first time that our companies collectively and there were about 310 on average last year I would say, that raised over a billion dollars in financing. Due to the volume of our trading, it was the first time that our 300 odd companies traded more on a couple of days in December more

than all of the companies on the TSX Venture Exchange in each of volume, value and trades. We had a lot of trading. Here is our 5-year trading trend. I think it is fair to call this a hockey stick. There are not too many hockey sticks that you will see in a graph that are not projections. This one is historical. We are happy with that. You can see there is active trading, but is there liquidity? It is a small stock exchange. Most people seem to assume that there is going to be less liquidity on the CSE than on other stock exchanges that have a much bigger list. Turnover is a measure of liquidity. It is one that is easy to find. You take the value of the trading of all the shares and you divide that by the market cap of the companies whose shares you are trading. This is a monthly slide. I think you can guess that the red line is the CSE because it is the highest on the slide. I may not be showing it to you if it was not, right? The black line is the TSX and it is a more stable trading environment partly because it is larger, partly because it is large cap stocks. Typically it runs 4% to 5% a month turnover in trading. Our peak was over 30% in December. Yes, that was powered largely by cannabis. Some people claimed it was all cannabis. It is not true. It is only about 90%. It has obviously come off quite a bit since then, but in March our turnover was 13% compared with 5% on the other exchanges in Canada. We are not actually showing this to tell you that our market is more liquid than their market. What we have always told people is that the stock exchange does not give you liquidity. Liquidity is a function of investors' interest in trading the securities that are listed on your exchange. Obviously there was a lot of investor interest. All of the investors in our marketplace are part of the Canadian capital markets so we have the same dealers, the same investors. We do have different companies. That was a very big year for us. This slide shows growth in listings on the CSE. It goes back to 2007...to access the complete presentation, [click here](#)

Carleton says CSE understands what junior miners “are going through”

✘ Richard Carleton, Chief Executive Officer of the Canadian Securities Exchange, presented at the 5th Annual Cleantech and Technology Metals Summit, held recently in Toronto.

The Canadian Securities Exchange, or CSE, is operated by CNSX Markets Inc. Recognized as a stock exchange in 2004, the CSE began operations in 2003 to provide a modern and efficient alternative for companies looking to access the Canadian public capital markets. The most recent listings include a company with a global mobile app and another offering drone delivery services.

Launched in September 2007, the CSE became the first trading venue in Canada with a continuous auction market to compete with the incumbent stock exchanges. Defined in the CSE Trading rules as “Alternative Market Securities”, securities listed on any Canadian exchange are eligible. Currently, all securities listed on the TSX and TSX Venture Exchange are traded on the CSE as Alternative Market Securities.

In this video of his presentation, Richard Carleton:

- Outlines the progress at CSE from three companies listed in 2004 to 328 today.
- Explains that, like junior miners, the CSE has had to be entrepreneurial, which means it understands the cost pressures that face junior miners, adding “we know what you’re going through”.
- Shows that CSE is attracting new cleantech company

listings.

Just as importantly, he provides some very useful advice for foreign companies looking at dual-listing on CSE to attract North American capital, suggesting several steps these companies could take to improve their profile in Canada.

The CSE takes a ride on the entrepreneurial roller coaster.

The future of the global markets are bringing everyone into the same system. There is really only one economic system now and the internet makes it so there will likely be a consolidated exchange one day. Perhaps it will come from an off-shore haven or a mobile entrepreneur with the right device and the right vision. But right now the most cost effective place to go public in the world is the Canadian Securities Exchange (CSE).

✘ Modern companies are being created by entrepreneurs, and those willing to invest in ideas. There are 40 million self directed investors in the US alone. Since every company wants to become big enough to go public, and the CSE is the least expensive way to do so, the start ups that are fuelling today's innovation are likely to continue to turn to the company-friendly CSE. Going public is about raising money, not spending it, and the exchange with the lowest rates to do so will continue to attract businesses with their technology directed approach.

The global market already has a global meeting place, the internet, and eventually one of these exchanges will become the go-to site for world markets. Obviously sooner than later technology advances may create one market. The CSE is the only exchange where all securities listed on Canadian exchanges may be traded in a single trading system. This kind of streamlined approach positions the CSE to continue to be Canada's fastest growing exchange. Regardless of whether trading will be done on one exchange, at the moment, the CSE is the least expensive place for any company to go public. And the internet allows anyone to do business from anywhere.

Toronto's CSE is the first full stock market to be approved by the Ontario securities commission in 70 years. Though an alternative to the Toronto Stock Exchange, companies often use the CSE as a shortcut to being listed on the TSX. But the TSX and the NYSE are so big and expensive now that they are not as friendly to small cap companies and entrepreneurs, yet the next google or apple is likely to look small time at first. Entrepreneurs are tired of paying fees to institutions that don't provide a service.

The big exchanges are public and are focused on profit for shareholders and so their vision is not as friendly to the forward thinking start-ups. The CSE is a private company with less need to please investors in the near term. This makes them more open to the junior companies that need a place to get started. The CSE is the most entrepreneur-friendly place for new companies to start their empires.

The CSE is looking to grow, and they could expand to listing all exchanges on one site. The regulations are not in place for that of course, but the way that technology and the internet has revolutionized international trade, it only makes sense that exchanges will be revolutionized as well. Perhaps before actual trading is done this way, exchanges might start by listing the information from other exchanges. Maybe the CSE could grow into a place where this could be done?