### Gold Market Update February 2, 2021

## Inflation will Come Back with a Vengeance SEABRIDGE GOLD



Louis-Vincent Gave, Founding Partner and CEO

### The Great Reversal...

- The three great prices that turn the globe: US 10-year yield, oil price and the U.S. dollar
- One year ago: the 10-year yield and oil price were falling while the U.S. dollar was rising
- Today, the 10-year yield and oil price are rising while the U.S. dollar is falling - <u>the world has changed</u>
- "When I see a market where interest rates are rising and the currency is falling, alarm bells go off"

### Devaluation of U.S. dollar and rise in gold...

- U.S. government debt has increased by >US\$4 trillion
- This new debt is unproductive (no major investments)
- U.S. forced to cap interest rates to keep borrowing costs low. When they do, U.S. dollar will take a 20% hit
- Near-term growth expected to drive inflation over 2%

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• "So come this spring, if the Fed caps interest rates, gold will thrive"

## Western Economies are Returning to Stagflation

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- We have entered a new inflationary era: think the stagflation of the 70s
- The labor market recovery is very weak, requiring stimulus
- Huge deficits need to be monetized without raising rates
- Massive stimulus is going into the mainstream economy, not just banks, supporting consumption, not productive assets
- Supply chains have been disrupted, causing shortages
- Vaccines will bring excess savings into consumption
- Strengthening Renminbi driving up price of Chinese imports
- U.S. companies restocking low inventories with a falling dollar
- Money supply is rising at an unprecedented rate







#### 40% of today's dollars are less than 1 year old



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## **Economic Snapshot: a Weak Labour Market**

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- Initial jobless claims are still running at 4X pre-Covid levels
- The latest ISM data was negative
- The December jobs report was a disaster... 140K jobs lost
- Half the jobs lost to COVID are still not back



#### Fiscal Stimulus is Desperately Needed

- Nearly 20M adults currently behind in rent or mortgage payments
- In 3Q 2020, nearly 25% of household income came from government transfer payments
- 50% of Americans don't have US\$400 to meet an emergency
- In 2021, Congress is expected to approve US\$2.6T in stimulus on top of budgeted deficit

#### The Fed Must Fund the Stimulus

- The fiscal 2020 deficit was US\$3.1T
  - Federal expenditures were double tax revenues
- Another US\$3T+ deficit projected for 2021 or US\$30T in debt by year-end
- In 2020, the Fed's addition to its balance sheet was almost exactly equal to the increase in the deficit (monetization)
- The Fed will have to fund at least US\$3T in quantitative easing this year to fund the deficit
  - The current pace is 'just' US\$1.44T
- Foreign ownership of Treasuries at a 10-year low



#### **U.S. Total Public Debt vs. GDP**

U.S. debt hit US\$27 trillion in Q3 2020. Since 2008, the U.S. has added US\$17 trillion in debt (63% of its entire debt)

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## The Fed's Dilemma

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- The Treasury is going to flood the market with new net issuance, putting upward pressure on interest rates
- Market expectations of an economic recovery have also boosted rates
  - +50bp increase = budget of the US Navy
- The economy can't afford higher rates
  - 20%+ of US public companies are zombies with operating income < interest expense</li>
- Fed is likely to implement yield control in 2021



# Gold Friendly Fed Policy Expected in Q1 2021 SEABRIDGE GOLD

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- Increased QE/Fiscal Stimulus will further weaken the U.S. dollar
- Yield control will lower real yields
- Low yields will drive investors from bonds to gold. Global bonds have grown to more than US\$100 trillion





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## The Gold Bull Market Has Just Begun

- The global supply of gold is growing at about 1.3% per year vs. >28% for U.S. dollars
- Global above ground gold is less than 0.5% of global money supply
- Gold's share of global assets is less that 3%
- Apple's market cap is equal to 2.5x the entire gold industry





#### Gold's share of global assets remains near multi-year lows

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