

THE National Investor

Company profile

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June, 2020

PROFILE: OMINECA MINING & METALS (TSXV-OMM; OTC-OMMSF)



The following is adapted from my March, 2019 initial recommendation of Omineca to Members, and subsequent updates, company news, etc.

I had been familiar with the story and potential of *uber* micro-cap (a valuation of little more than C\$3 million or so for a LONG time!) Omineca for *years*. But as gold was beginning to percolate and other necessary ingredients came together as last year got underway it was time for me to bring this incredible opportunity to my Members.

I and others that are in the business of researching and recommending "story" companies—especially in the resource space—continuously stress **the CRITICAL element of management**. Many a promising company and project has been destroyed by *bad* management; whether that is of greedy execs milking an emerging company dry via high salaries, simply not having the right talent for the specific jobs at hand or whatever.

Over the years, few managements have served our Members better than have those led or initiated by the MacNeill family of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. "Dad" Bill is one of the most accomplished resource investors in the province; most notably, for our purposes, as the founder and long-time Chairman of the former **Claude Resources**, which was bought out in 2016 by **SSR Mining (Nasdaq-SSRM.)** And as some of you know, SSRM has since demonstrated what Bill and many of us long believed: this little gold mine he founded is the anchor of one of Canada's emerging new *districts*.



*A trip down Memory Lane; the 1997 construction of the head frame at Claude's Seabee Mine.
The MacNeill clan L to R: Tom, Ken, Dad Bill, Mom Sharon and Jon.*

One son Ken, of course, is the president and C.E.O. of **Star Diamond Corporation**. As I have said in years past upon my recommendation initially of the former Shore Gold and subsequently, I have seldom met a more frank, honest and understated chief executive of a company; notable—among other reasons—especially given that the company owns the largest diamond-bearing kimberlites *in the world*. These days, Rio Tinto has joined Star as an advanced exploration and potential development partner.

Our longest-tenured Members remember Star as **one of THE most rewarding picks I've ever passed on; one of my Top Ten most profitable individual stocks ever**. Getting into both Shore / Star and former fellow SK diamond explorer **Kensington Resources** (which Shore later absorbed) not too far from the C10 cents/share area, most of my recommended selling came in the neighborhood later of C\$5.00/share. Those awesome gains were realized when the company's kimberlite bodies in Saskatchewan's Fort a la Corne provincial forest likewise vindicated what the MacNeills had believed: that *much* better, larger and higher-grade diamonds existed there than what had been seen in scant prior exploration.



Years later the family re-gathers (save for Tom who couldn't make it, but was replaced by geologist daughter Laura) on the occasion of the one millionth ounce of gold poured at Seabee.

And as I first expressed back last March when I added Omineca to my recommended list, signs have been increasing here as well (not the least of which has been evidenced by that enviable stock price chart on the first page!) that it is now THIS MacNeill-run company's turn to shine!

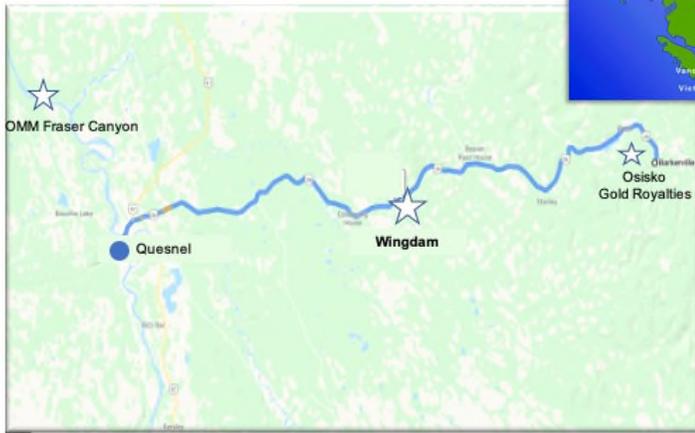
As you'll see on Omineca's web site -- <https://www.ominecaminingandmetals.com/> -- **its chief asset is the Wingdam Gold Project, about 45 km east of Quesnel, British Columbia.** Past exploration and sampling work there suggests that the area of a unique *alluvial* gold-bearing deposit OMM controls here has *the richest gold grades of anything known of in the entire Cariboo District.*

The material in question is what's called an "unconsolidated conglomerate" about 50 meters below the present-day surface of Lightning Creek. *Think of a typical stream channel that was at one point buried by gravel and glacial till.* That there is such an apparent high grade of gold in this underground paleo channel is because it is so "hidden"; the prospectors who flocked to this area of British Columbia

Wingdam Project - Midway between Osisko Gold Royalties' "Cariboo Gold Project" at Barkerville and town of Quesnel along Lightning Creek on Highway 26



around 1860 after gold was discovered in the *surface* streams of Lightning and Williams Creeks in the Cariboo recovered what they could *see*. Obviously, they could not see the older *buried* stream below the one they were panning gold in!



Of course, recovering this gold is challenging due to the "loose" nature of the material and the 50 meters or so of gravel, etc. on top of it. **But back in 2012, management demonstrated that gold could be recovered from this underground paleo channel by freeze mining: freezing solid the area**

surrounding gold-bearing gravels so as to make it safe to take one "slice" at a time from the underground channel. Indeed, it was "sister" company 49 North Resources, Inc. (TSXV-FNR; OTC-FNINF) that was an original funder, bringing to Saskatchewan this kind of freezing technology.

Under the leadership of Len Sinclair and OMM's lead geologist Steve Kocsis (left/right, respectively, in the nearby photo, examining some of the gold recovered) Wingdam (then a private company before being brought under the ownership of Omineca) successfully recovered 5.4 kilos of placer gold in one narrow "crosscut" underneath about 40 meters, in that location, of wet overburden underneath Lightning Creek. Sinclair is still part of the project, serving on Omineca's Advisory Board. Kocsis—"Mr. Cariboo" as C.E.O. MacNeill calls him due to his vast experience in the area—is *heading up exploration*.

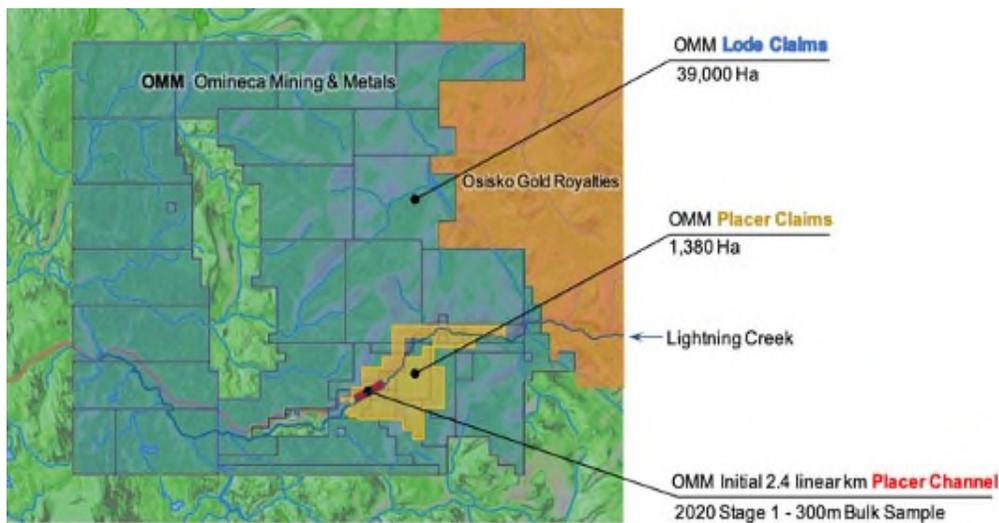


Two things were demonstrated in that successful recovery. The first was that this kind of freeze mining (still used to this day to mine potash and phosphates from underground mines in the province) could work to cover buried alluvial gold as well. So while a tedious preparation process is required, *this can be done!*

Second—and more exciting—is that the gold recovered in 2012 was *double* what management had expected to see in this one cross-cut. This further bolsters the company's own estimate and that of geologists and engineers that have been involved that there could be in the neighborhood of 200,000 - 250,000 ounces of gold within the 2.4 kilometer-long focus area under Lightning Creek.

Yet management decided for a couple reasons to "sit" on Wingdam for a while. First of all, as you likely remember, this was the point at which the torrid gold run of late 2008-2011 was reversing. So with a falling gold price, financing the work and/or finding a partner here was not an attractive option. That

was made more of a challenge by the fact that there is *not* an NI 43-101-compliant resource estimate at Wingdam. And as C.E.O. Tom MacNeill has pointed out to me over time in our conversations, the C\$10 million-plus that would have to be spent to confirm a resource to that standard would largely be wasted money, since *the company* was confident of what it has.



The process to, at last, exploit the potential at Wingdam restarted in earnest last March 1, when Omineca announced (see <https://www.ominecamininandmetals.com/news/omineca-executes-binding-letter-agreement-to-commence-bulk-sample-operations-at-the-wingdam-project/>) that it had contracted with HCC Mining and Demolition, Inc. of

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan to be its partner at Wingdam. A 125 year-old company that Omineca knows well, HCC is supplying all the equipment and up-front capital necessary to, initially, start a “bulk sampling” program in the paleo channel. Omineca gets half of the gold recovered at an all-in, fixed cost to OMM of C\$850.00 per ounce. *The Canadian currency price of gold as of this writing is around C\$2,350.00/ounce.*

Compared to most any other kind of gold *recovery* (and with this alluvial deposit, it can't be more simple as virtually all is so-called “free” gold) the process of recovering gold in the first bulk sample contemplated in the agreement will be relatively easy and likely won't take terribly long. Having already successfully “plugged” an upstream source of water—and preparing the paleo channel as we speak—it **seems as though the first freezing and cross-cuts will be taking place this Summer.** Barring any surprises, the companies believe they can fully bulk sample an initial 1.5 kilometer area (working out from the middle of the 2.4 kilometer target) in the next 18 – 24 months.

Keeping in mind that 1. There is NOT an NI 43-101-compliant “resource” and 2. There is **no guarantee of anything** (which is why Omineca is necessarily characterized a *speculative stock*) let's “speculate” and say that the companies ultimately recover *but 10%* of the gold believed to be in the paleo channel. That to OMM would mean its share would be between 10,000-12,500 ounces. *I'll use the smaller number.*



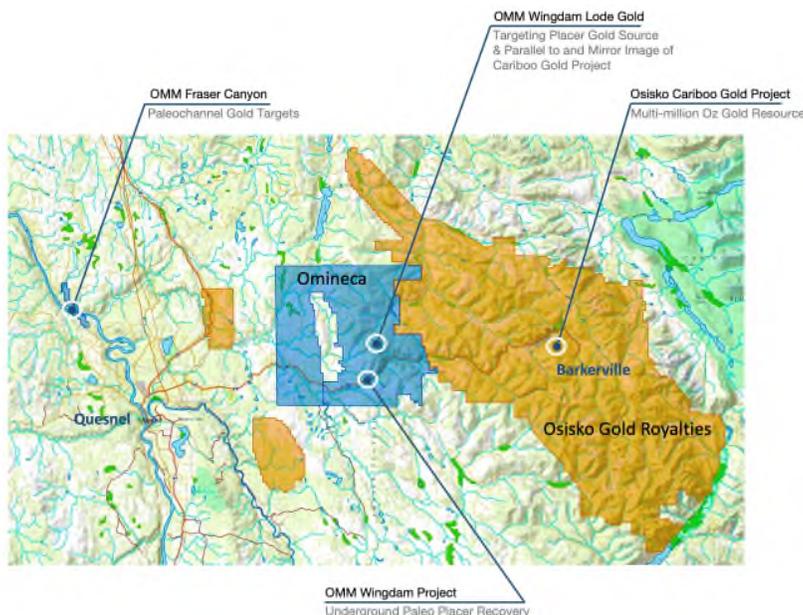
At a net to Omineca of C\$1,500/ounce, that would mean cash to the company of C\$15 million, or HALF its current market cap even after the strong move of recent months. **If the companies' prior estimates are realized, that's C\$150 million in cash for Omineca; FIVE TIMES ITS MARKET CAP.**

Take your pick. But on this potential cash flow alone, I and others who listened to me were sufficiently excited in the recent past to participate in two private placements the company offered to fund *an even more staggering potential*. In the end, this could be even more of a blockbuster story than I first thought; and why I have on a few recent occasions suggested that one day Omineca Mining and Metals could supplant biotech Sarepta Therapeutics (NASDAQ:SRPT) as my MOST profitable recommendation *ever*.

NOW WE'LL MAKE THINGS REALLY INTERESTING!

As the attention of a few people was beginning to turn to Omineca's story last year, the potential of the broader Cariboo area got a much higher-profile shot in the arm. In late September, Osisko Gold Royalties (NYSE:OR) announced that it was paying a 44% premium for Barkerville Gold Mines which—as you see in the below graphic—is essentially Omineca's "next-door neighbor." The acquisitive-minded Osisko was animated not only by Barkerville's existing high-grade gold resource, *but believe there's more where that came from*.

Omineca has long had its eye on the area surrounding what it already held at Wingdam, believing there to be numerous attractive exploration—and ultimately drilling—targets for hard rock or "lode" gold around the paleo channel area. But when the company announced back on January 17 that it had increased its claims 13-fold in and around the ground it already held, a powerful story already became a *potentially explosive one*.



It needs to be understood that **there is no place in the province of British Columbia that has ever produced higher gold grades than the Cariboo** (for some very interesting history, check out [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cariboo Gold Rush](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cariboo_Gold_Rush) for some of the back story; indeed, B.C. became a province on the strength of the first Cariboo Gold Rush back when!)

It's one thing to understand the hidden nature of the underground gold in the buried paleo channel at Wingdam. **But it's the potential "lode" (hard rock) gold nearby Wingdam that may be about to take on new meaning for Omineca as well.**

Back around the time of the first announcement (January 17, which you can read with other recent news at <https://www.ominecaminingandmetals.com/news/2020/>) that Omineca had considerably increased its own foot print to, now, being the second-largest land holder in the Cariboo behind Osisko) I had a particularly fascinating conversation with Tom. In fact, it stretched into parts of two days, and was incredibly detailed to me by a man who is characteristically VERY understated as are his father and brother Ken, *but who was now bubbling over with excitement.*

Among other things, Omineca had come into possession of additional historical information on Wingdam and the surrounding area; specifically for our present discussion purposes here, SKYTem geophysical data from a different company back in 2012 that had flown over the Wingdam area. *Over a few days' time, I went through the nearly 200-page wrap-up of that survey.*

MacNeill and his brain trust began connecting some dots once they started to study this information. **Previously, on the past small bulk sample at Wingdam, he had remarked, "One of the striking things that came out is the nature of the gold."** Without getting into *technical* details/definitions, it was clear by the coarse and "nuggety" nature of the gold recovered—and the relative lack of "fine" gold—that *what was recovered so far at Wingdam did not travel very far at all.*

Often times—in most *any* setting where there is placer gold—a search will ensue for the possible lode, or hard rock, source. Again, in simple terms, a combination of factors initially led to such gold being liberated from *someplace* and settling in one or more downstream places. That's where gold ever found in streams came from, by and large. And MacNeill has always suspected that the gold they have seen thus far could well have come from a *nearby* source, given its appearance. Indeed—as he also mentioned to me during one of our past discussions—even during that prior 2012 bulk sample, as the underground recovery finished gathering the unconsolidated/buried placer material—**noticeable in the wall was visible gold within quartz veining.**

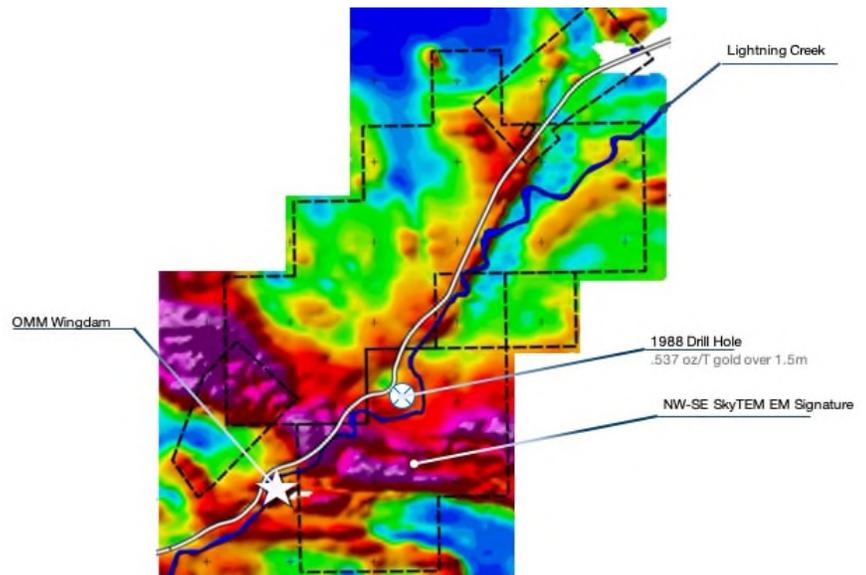
As other data—including that 2012 survey—have been compiled, one astonishing possibility that has been revealed is that **even that underground gold-bearing paleo channel about to be bulk sampled may be sitting right on top of or VERY near a heavily-mineralized lode deposit.**



Nearby, you see one graphic from that 2012 survey which is a “magnetic” look of the Wingdam area proper. The highly magnetic (purplish) signature is from a depth of 99 to 115 meters below surface.

Two things were immediately evident, even to me. First, the purplish coloration from, roughly, more West-to-East near the bottom of the graphic is *hot*. Typically, metals, etc. *associated with gold* will give off such a magnetic signal; this is always what you look for in doing airborne or other magnetic surveys.

Second, this area is not only fairly well-defined/constrained but the paleo channel and modern-day river bed above, cross-cut right through the anomaly. Further, it is a bit upstream from the Wingdam camp area (which is specifically the thin white area in the bottom left portion of the nearby graphic, marked with a star.)



The hypothesis, in part, is that 1. Past activity could have ripped apart some of the “wall” in that purple/surrounding area and deposited some gold in the paleo channel area at Wingdam and 2. Almost all of that past wall appears still intact and heavily mineralized. So the *second* major priority for 2020—**and a potentially HUGE second catalyst for the company’s story and its stock**—will be for Omineca to start drilling these and other nearby hard rock targets for gold.

GETTING TO WORK!

On June 10, Omineca announced (see <https://www.ominecaminingandmetals.com/news/after-completing-over-subscribed-financing-omineca-commences-field-program-at-wingdam/>) that it had closed an oversubscribed private placement and had commenced field work at Wingdam. Stephen Kocsis, P. Geo has been appointed the lead geologist for the Wingdam hard rock exploration project. Based in nearby Quesnel, B.C., Kocsis has spent his career exploring for gold and other mineral deposits in the Cariboo Mining District and has authored numerous papers and technical reports covering the project area, including on Wingdam itself.

With snow cover now receded, management, Stephen and the geological team from Axiom Exploration Group have been to the site and surveyed the initial locations of interest identified by geophysics to coordinate plans and procedures for the 2020 exploration and drilling program. As you can read in the above-cited news release, ultimately the plan is to drill some 8,000 meters of core in 27 specific targets within about a three-kilometer “sphere” of the underground paleo channel area, once the work to narrow the specific targets is done and permits are in hand.

Separately, I expect before much longer to see an update on the underground bulk sample program work’s progress as well.

SUMMING THINGS UP

Those of you particularly who have more experience than the average investor in gold exploration know that the majority of smaller exploration companies do NOT make it for one reason or another. They are inherently speculative; *but can carry very high rewards if things work out, to go along with the risk.*

As I have shared Omineca's story with, first, my Members at *The National Investor* as well as colleagues, it's exhibited itself as one that is truly unique. With not one but two major projects for a small company such as it is—the underground bulk sample-gold recovery via its partner HCC and now the aggressive hard rock exploration in its own right—Omineca's potential is mind-boggling if even just one of these gambits is a success. *If both are, this company could be one of those once-in-a-generation wealth builders for those who get in before the (hoped-for) fireworks start.*



I need to quickly discuss the chart from the front page of this Special Issue again. **Among the important points I really need to drive home here is that—back in late February/early March when gold stocks got annihilated for a while along with the broader market—Omineca didn't flinch.** The share price has fairly methodically “stair-stepped” higher for a while now.

About 75% of Omineca is owned by management and insiders (the lion's share of that by 49 North.) None of them are going to take a five-bagger of recent months and cash in *anything* with such potential lying ahead. Likewise, those of us who have been getting into Omineca for the last year or so now understand the huge potential here; and I, for one, want to be along for ALL of this ride!



I urge you to do your own “homework” on Omineca; *and quickly*. Among other things, take the time to check out Omineca’s just-updated Corporate Presentation, at https://www.ominecaminingandmetals.com/site/assets/files/5602/compressed_150dpi_omm_deck_february-march_2020.pdf.

Another good “primer” of sorts for you would be C.E.O. Tom MacNeill’s presentation at the Metals Investor Forum in Vancouver earlier this year; it can be seen at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PqTYcEKkl34&feature=youtu.be>

Finally, here’s a lengthy interview as well with Tom (at <https://ceo.ca/@newton/newtoninterviews-omm-tom-macneill>) given to our mutual friend Peter Bell (on the far left in the photo at left, visiting with Tom at the M.I.F.)

Wrapping it all up from the end of that interview to bring my own interest in and excitement about Omineca back home, here’s that interview’s close, after kudos to analyst David Morgan for highlighting Omineca at that Forum:

Peter Bell: And a shout-out to Chris Temple, as well. Another voice in the wilderness there.

Tom MacNeill: He was the first person to talk about us in print. And that's because Chris, very much like you Peter, is early onto stories. He was up in Saskatchewan back in the 1980s when my father was originally developing the Seabee project in Saskatchewan. Like you, he gets there early because he's a deep thinker and he knows exactly where to look for wins. One of the things I think he understands is to bet on the jockey, not the horse.

Don't forget that those of you so inclined can follow my thoughts, focus and all *daily!!!*

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A Reminder...

HOW TO PURCHASE SHARES OF OMINECA MINING AND METALS IF YOU ARE A U.S. INVESTOR USING A U.S.-BASED BROKERAGE ACCOUNT

For those of you who are not already used to buying shares of companies such as Omineca that are *listed* primarily in Canada, I want to give you a quick and easy "tutorial." It's MUCH easier than you think, if you have never done so, to buy such companies in any U.S. brokerage account. Indeed, as I have explained in my investor tutorials, it's just as easy and inexpensive to buy shares in an Omineca as it is to buy Apple!

Many larger Canadian and other foreign companies have primary listings on more than one major exchange. For those listed on the New York Stock Exchange or the Nasdaq as well as Toronto, you need only buy/sell using the U.S. market. Generally, there would be no reason to check prices and such on the Toronto Exchange first.

More often than not, smaller companies—for both cost and logistical reasons—do not LIST their shares on a major U.S. exchange. **But they are still easily TRADABLE in the U.S. via the OTC Market.** All you need to know is the company's U.S. symbol; unlike most U.S.-*listed* companies, it will always be a five-letter symbol ending with an "F."

In Omineca's case, its ticker symbol in the U.S. is **OMMSF**, while on the Toronto Venture Exchange in Canada it is **OMM**.

The main consideration in buying shares of Canadian stocks via the U.S. OTC market is that SOMETIMES--if you look at the OTC quote *first*--you are not getting as fresh and accurate a price as you would if you went to the Venture Exchange. This is because with most, the majority of their activity is on the Canadian market where it is listed; sometimes hours can go by between trades on the OTC, if the company you're looking to buy isn't actively traded at the time. Thus, you simply need to insure, via a simple process, that you are neither overpaying for a stock when you buy it, nor getting less than you should when you sell. That is easy to accomplish.

The most reliable and current quotes for shares of companies such as Omineca are to be found *first* on the Canadian Exchange where they are primarily LISTED. Prices and volume activity are updated all through the trading day on the Toronto Exchange and TSXV, just as they are on the N.Y.S.E. or Nasdaq, and are generally fresh/instantaneous.

I will use the following example to show the simple process that will normally take you LESS THAN TWO MINUTES to enter a trade to buy Omineca's stock via the OTC market in the U.S. in a typical U.S.-domiciled brokerage account:

1. First check the Canadian quote for the company, via its ticker symbol on the TSXV, which is OMM. You'll find this at the Exchange's web site, <https://tmx.com/>. Plug in "OMM." We'll say for purposes of this lesson that the current asked price for OMM's shares is C\$0.30, or 30 cents per share in Canadian currency.

2. Next determine what that price is **in U.S. currency**. If you don't follow exchange rates on a daily basis, you can get a fresh picture by going to Kitco's web site, at www.kitco.com (or your own

favorite one that lists currency differentials; there are many.) Near the bottom of Kitco's front page, you will find a table of various currency exchange rates. *At this writing the Canadian dollar, rounded off, is worth 73.5 cents in U.S. currency.*

3. Do the math as to what OMM's U.S. asked (selling) price on the OTC market should be:

C 30 cents per share X .735 = **US 22.05 cents** per share.

4. Finally, **enter a LIMIT ORDER** to buy the number of shares of Omineca you want in your U.S. brokerage account at or very near that price. Personally, I would first start with US 22.1 cents per share. If the order doesn't fill right away, bump it up by a tenth of a cent once or twice until it does (these days, most online brokers will allow you to use tenths of a cent in pricing.) *You would use the company's 5-letter symbol, which is OMMSF.*

It's that simple! And, of course, you would do much the same thing when it was time to sell some of your holdings. But in the case of a sale, you would focus on the bid price listed on the TSX's site for the company in question.

As always, if you have any comments or questions, let me know!

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