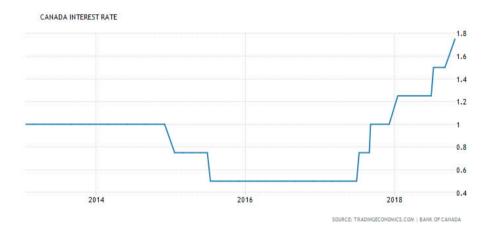




GLOBAL ECONOMIC UPDATE

BANK OF CANADA HIKES BENCHMARK RATE TO 1.75%

The Bank of Canada has raised its benchmark interest rate by 0.25% to 1.75%, its third hike this 2018. It likewise acknowledged the need for a more neutral (not expansionary) monetary policy as the country's inflation number has stayed above the bank's target. While Canada's headline inflation dipped to 2.2% YoY in September from a peak of 3% in July, it is still well above the BOC's 2% target. For 2019, the bank is expected to raise its benchmark rate by at least 0.5%.



OCTOBER 29, 2018





GLOBAL ECONOMIC UPDATE

US GDP GROWS AT 3.5% IN 3Q18

US GDP grew at 3.5%, higher than the 3.3% forecast, in 3Q18. The second quarter's number was also revised upwards to 4.2% from 4.1%. The said jump in growth was boosted by an unexpected 4% rise in personal consumption, which accounts for about 70% of the economy. This helped offset a 7.9% slip in business spending. Government spending likewise rose by 3.3% in the period.



OCTOBER 29, 2018





DISCLAIMER

This document is based on information obtained from sources believed to be reliable, but we do not make any representations as to its accuracy, completeness and correctness. Any information is subject to change without notice and MSI is not under any obligation to update or keep current the information contained herein.

Opinions, estimates, and projections expressed reflect the analyst's personal views. Any recommendation contained in this document does not have regard to specific investment objectives, financial situation and the particular needs of any addresses and are in the form of fundamental and technical ratings. Technical ratings may differ from fundamental ratings as technical analyses involve the application of different methodologies based on price and volume related information.

This document is for the information of the addressee only and is not to be taken on substitution for the exercise of judgment by the addressee. No liability whatsoever is accepted for and direct or consequential loss arising from any usage of this report. This document is not to be construed as an offer or solicitation of an offer to buy or sell securities. In the course of our regular business, we may have a position in the securities mentioned and may make purchases and/or sales of them from time to time in the open market. Any unauthorized distribution, copying or disclosure of this material is strictly forbidden.

CONTACT US

Meridian Securities

Suite 2702-C, 27th Floor, East Tower,
Philippine Stock Exchange Centre,
Ortigas Center, Pasig City,
Metro Manila, Philippines

Web: www.meridiansec.com.ph Email: sales@meridiansec.com.ph Phone: +63.2.634-6931 to 35 Fax: +63.2.634-6937

Mobile: +63.922.847-8883

Meridian Securities, Incorporated Suite 2702-C, 27/F East Tower, Philippine Stock Exchange Centre, Ortigas Center, Pasig City Tels: (63-2) 634-6931 to 35 Facsimile: (63-2) 634-6937 Email: sales@meridiansec.com.ph