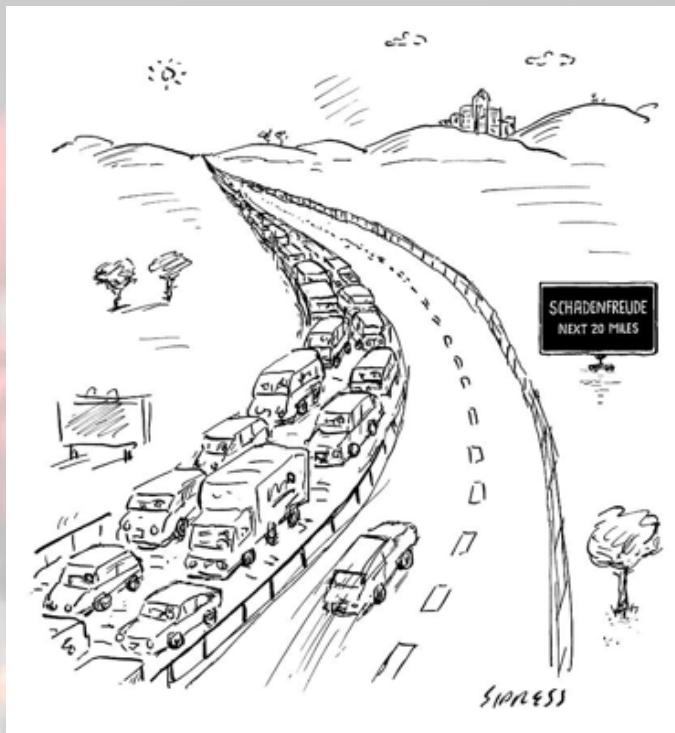


It's Monday morning and we're off to the races! Friday's announcement by Premier Ford that more businesses will be allowed to re-open (including my car wash!) was welcome news, and put a spring in the step of many of us. The attached article [here](#) from today's Globe & Mail speaks to this and I believe marks the TSN (remember sports?) turning point in the Covid-19 crisis. The article focuses on life returning to normal -slowly- starting with the need for all of us to get out of our homes and back out into fresh air and sunshine. Yesterday saw great weather across the province and many of us took that opportunity to do just that. On a personal note, I went for a 2 hour walk and covered about 15km taking in vitamin D and Mother Nature in the process. Exhilarating! Tonight I'll be filling the tires on my old bike and engaging in a little cross training with a long ride and tomorrow I take up running after a year hiatus (not proud of that fact, but there it is).



Loosening the shackles is a turn of phrase found in the article and one that is appropriate. The lockdown was never meant to be forever and has served it's purpose of levelling the curve. Whether the curve could have been flattened by other less drastic measures is something that perhaps we'll never know. But officials made the call and are now relaxing that call just in time for better weather. FYI, I always thought the closure of parks and trails was misguided and just plain wrong, but it wasn't my call to make.

Markets in the meantime and doing what Markets do -factor all known information into stock prices. This has put stocks under more pressure and, as mentioned in Friday's blog, this is likely to continue throughout May and June (at least). But a lessening of restrictions on movement and allowing more businesses to open is a major step in the right direction and it's importance cannot be overemphasized enough. More, it is the beginning of the road to recovery. This road will be longer than we'd like and have twists and turns that we don't even know of yet, as, despite what Premier Ford said, there is no roadmap. So keep your seatbelt buckled and know that our hands are firmly at 10 and 2 on the wheel. We'll get you to your intended destination, and in one piece.

Be safe, be well!

Martin  
519.546.5088