

## PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

## CHINA OBJECTIVE NOTE: AN INVESTMENT PRODUCT FROM LAURENTIAN BANK OF CANADA TO DIVERSIFY INTO THE GROWTH POTENTIAL OF CHINA'S ECONOMY

**Montreal, January 24, 2007 –** Laurentian Bank of Canada offers again this year a risk-free principal-protected investment product with exceptional return potential: China Objective Note<sup>1</sup>. Available until April 15, 2007, this financial vehicle allows investors to take advantage of the Asian economy growth through 30 internationally recognized corporations based in 11 countries, excluding China. These corporations with significant market capitalization and current presence in China have publicly announced their intention to expand their operations in the country.

Laurentian Bank's China Objective Note is an ideal investment product for first-rate portfolio diversification by industry sector and by geographic location. It carries stocks of various corporations based in 11 countries on three continents, operating in eight different industry sectors. With the overweight position in the industrial products, basic consumption and information technology sectors, and a moderate weight exposure in the energy, financial services and telecommunications sectors, China Objective Note offers better diversification than the S&P/TSX composite index. Moreover, portfolio performance would not be affected by any currency fluctuations, which reduces risk.

## Key features

- The principal amount is guaranteed at maturity by Laurentian Bank of Canada
- Terms offered: 5 and 10 years
- Maximum return: 65% for a 5-year term and unlimited return for the 10-year term
- Minimum initial investment: \$1,000 (and in increments of \$100 thereafter)
- Eligible products: non-registered accounts, RRSP, RRIF
- Management fee: none
- Issue date: April 16, 2007

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This Note is a principal-protected deposit payable at maturity. Any variation in the reference index will have a direct influence on the interest payable under the Note. This Note offers a maximum return of 65% for the 5-year term, and there is no maximum for the 10-year term. It is possible that no return will be paid at maturity. The return may be limited if certain extraordinary events regarding the reference index should occur. The Note does not constitute a deposit that is insured under the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation Act (CIDC). Some conditions apply. Please consult your financial advisor and read the information statement available at Laurentian Bank's branches

"We renew the offer of this product that was designed for investors looking to tap into the growth potential of China's economy, risk-free. For the past 10 years, China's economy has grown by an average of 9%. According to many economists, it is just the beginning of China's economy boom. They predict that at this rate China, now ranked sixth in the world, will become the second largest world economy by 2016," says François Barrière, Vice-President, Business Development, Foreign Exchange and International Services.

China Objective Notes are offered until April 15, 2007, through Laurentian Bank's 158 branches, the Telebanking Centre at 514 252-1846 or 1 800 252-1846 (toll free) and Laurentian Bank Securities advisors at 1 888 350-8577, as well as through all investment advisors and financial planners in Canada.

## Dare to Grow

Laurentian Bank of Canada is a Quebec banking institution operating across Canada, dedicated to meeting the financial needs of its clients through the excellence of its service, its simplicity and its proximity. The Bank serves individual consumers, small and medium-sized businesses as well as, through B2B Trust, independent financial advisors. It also provides full-service brokerage solutions through the Laurentian Bank Securities subsidiary. Laurentian Bank is well established in the Province of Quebec, operating the third largest retail branch network and is a performing player in specific market segments elsewhere in the country. Laurentian Bank of Canada has over \$17 billion in balance sheet assets and close to \$15 billion in assets under administration. Founded in 1846, the Bank employs more than 3,200 people. Its common shares are listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange (TSX: LB). For more information, please visit www.laurentianbank.ca.

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