

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

LAURENTIAN BANK, SPONSOR OF THE UPCOMING MAISON THÉÂTRE SEASON

Montreal, May 29, 2006 – Laurentian Bank of Canada is pleased to announce that it renews its sponsorship of the *Maison Théâtre* productions in the 2006-2007 season. Partner of *Maison Théâtre* for many years now, Laurentian Bank actively contributes to the efforts of this organization to help young audiences discover, understand and enjoy theatre.

Maison Théâtre creates and hosts theatre productions for young audiences between 2 and 17 years old. Founded in 1982, the company, which is loved by children and appreciated by their parents and teachers, has been in continuous growth ever since. Located in the heart of Montreal, *Maison Théâtre* is known for being a true artistic forum dedicated to the promotion and development of theatre for children and youth.

Maison Théâtre plays a key role in the rise and success of children's theatre. This dynamic, constantly evolving company DARES to be different and unique, thus sharing the slogan carried by Laurentian Bank. This cultural organization is renowned for its originality, from its show selection to its overall design: its chairs are adapted for the youngest theatre lovers and its entrance hall has a library corner where kids flock to before the show.

This commitment to support a cultural organization dedicated to children is well in line with Laurentian Bank's emphasis on the family and with its efforts to promote various activities where parents and children share emotions, fun and discoveries. The Bank strives to be increasingly accessible to families through its client-centred approach and its commitment to excellence in services tailored to individual needs.

Each year, through Laurentian Bank's sponsorship and donation program, the Bank and its employees support hundreds of organizations renowned for the excellence of their work. This sponsorship is one of numerous initiatives the Bank undertakes to contribute to community development.

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 \$16 billion in balance sheet assets and close to \$15 billion in assets under administration. Founded in 1846,

the Bank employs more than 3,000 people. Its common shares are listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange (TSX: LB). For more information, please visit <u>www.laurentianbank.ca</u>.

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