



LAURENTIAN BANK
OF CANADA

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

New at the bank branch: Term Note, the latest addition in Laurentian Bank's product offering to avoid becoming 'poorly retired'

Montreal, January 17 2006 – Laurentian Bank of Canada has launched the very first Term Note¹, commonly referred to as a *step-up bond*, to be offered in-branch. Usually distributed through brokers, this investment solution with a potential term to maturity of 5 years offers a higher rate of interest.

Since the Term Note is redeemable annually by Laurentian Bank, this investment product offers a much better return than guaranteed investment certificates. The average annual return on the 5-year Term Note issued during the period from January 16 to February 10, 2006, is 4.17% average return rate. The note pays a 3.60% rate for the first year, a 3.75% rate for the second year, a 4.00% rate for the third year, a 4.50% rate for the fourth year and a 5.00% rate for the fifth year.

"Our new product is the ideal solution for people who look for an investment that would protect their initial investment capital, who want to maximize their return on investment and who prefer to know in advance the future value of their investment. It requires a minimum investment of \$2,500 if placed in a Registered Retirement Savings Plan or \$5,000 if placed in a non-registered account. This investment product is an additional tool to help avoid being "poorly retired" said Bianca Dupuis, Senior Manager, Investment Product Development, Laurentian Bank.

In order to avoid being "poorly retired", or in other words, to retire with insufficient savings to maintain the same standard of living or to carry out your dream projects, it is absolutely essential to start setting aside funds for retirement while you are young, and to do so on a regular and continuous basis. This is the message that Laurentian Bank wants to convey to its clients and to consumers in general.

About Laurentian Bank

Founded in 1846, Laurentian Bank ranks seventh among Canadian Schedule I banks, with assets in excess of \$16 billion and close to \$15 billion in assets under management. The Bank offers highly competitive products and superior personalized service to meet the banking and financial needs of individuals, small and medium-sized businesses and independent financial advisors. The Bank's common shares are traded on the Toronto Stock Exchange (ticker symbol: LB). The address of the Bank's website is www.laurentianbank.ca.

¹ *On each anniversary date only, the Bank may reimburse the full amount of the principal and of the accrued interest. In such a case, the interest earned in the previous year and the principal amount will be remitted at the anniversary date. The Term Note does not qualify as an insured deposit under the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation Act. The rate of interest may vary for each note issue. The announced Term Note rates are the rates on the note issue of January 16 to February 10, 2006.*

-30-

For information:

Manon Stébenne
Senior Advisor
Public Affairs and Communications
Office: (514) 284-4500, extension 8232

Gladys Caron
Vice-President
Public Affairs, Communications and Investor Relations
Office: (514) 284-4500, extension 7511