



LAURENTIAN BANK PUBLISHES ITS 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

Montreal, January 27, 2009 – Laurentian Bank today announces that its Annual Report for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2008 is now available on its web site.

Laurentian Bank's 2008 Annual Report outlines the details pertaining to the organization's strategy and its financial results for fiscal 2007-2008. With a 9% increase in net income during the reporting period, the year just ended marks the Bank's fourth consecutive year of significant growth. In fact, the organization's net income per share grew by an average of 30% annually between 2004 and 2008. These results serve to illustrate management's firm commitment to the organization's development and long-term growth. They also confirm that Laurentian Bank is a solid, well-capitalized institution whose activities are highly diversified, with 59% of its loans originating from Quebec and 41% from other Canadian provinces.

This material can be viewed on Laurentian Bank's web site at www.laurentianbank.ca, under the tab Laurentian Bank, in the Investors section. Documents relating to the Annual Meeting of Shareholders will be mailed to Laurentian Bank shareholders during this week.

Laurentian Bank will hold its Annual Meeting of Shareholders in Montreal on Tuesday, March 10, 2009 at 9:30 a.m. The meeting will take place at the Monument-National, Salle Ludger-Duvernay, 1182 St. Laurent Blvd.

The Annual Report's concept

The concept of the 2008 Annual Report is aimed at highlighting the Bank's solidity and reliability despite the difficulties currently plaguing the global economy. Using a clear and simple approach, the document underlines the institution's ready accessibility to and close relations with its clients, shareholders and employees. The cover page takes the form of a handwritten note signed by the President and Chief Executive Officer, and each of the organization's four business segments is profiled via testimonials focused on client relations. The use of black and white photos gives the publication a timeless look reflecting the Bank's durability and its longstanding and firm roots within the economic and financial milieu.

In addition to reviewing the organization's activities and excellent results posted during fiscal 2007-2008, the content of the Annual Report demonstrates innovation with the integration of a piece entitled, *Why invest in Laurentian Bank?* Among the various reasons to do so, this section cites the fact that the Bank is a solid, well-managed and growing financial institution.

About Laurentian Bank

Laurentian Bank of Canada is a banking institution operating across Canada and offering its clients diversified financial services. Distinguishing itself through excellence in service, as well as through its accessibility, the Bank serves individual consumers and small and medium-sized businesses. The Bank offers its products to a wide network of independent financial advisors through B2B Trust, as well as full-service brokerage solutions through Laurentian Bank Securities.

With 156 branches and 342 automated banking machines, Laurentian Bank of Canada is well established in the Province of Quebec, operating the third-largest branch network. Elsewhere throughout Canada, it operates in specific market segments where it holds an enviable position. Laurentian Bank of Canada has more than \$19 billion in balance sheet assets. Founded in 1846, the Bank employs nearly 3,400 people.



Press release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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