



**LAURENTIAN BANK  
OF CANADA**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

For immediate release

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**LAURENTIAN BANK INCREASES ITS PRIME RATE TO 5.25%**

**Montreal**, January 24, 2006 — Laurentian Bank of Canada announces that it will increase its prime lending rate by 25 basis points from 5,00% to 5.25% effective Wednesday, January 25, 2006.

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Contacts :

Bernard Piché  
Senior Executive Vice-President,  
Treasury, Capital Market and Brokerage  
(514) 284-4500 ext. 7562

Gladys Caron  
Vice-President, Public Affairs, Communications and  
Investor Relations  
Office: (514) 284-4500 extension 7511  
Cellular: (514) 893-3963  
gladys.caron@banquelaurentienne.ca