

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

LAURENTIAN BANK INCREASES ITS AMERICAN PRIME RATE TO 5.50 %

Montreal, November 10, 2004 — Laurentian Bank of Canada announces that it will increase its American prime lending rate by 25 basis points from 5.25 % to 5.50 % effective Thursday, November 11, 2004.

- 30 -

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