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**LAURENTIAN BANK AND THE LITTLE HEROES CLUB TO TAKE TO THE SLOPES TO  
ENCOURAGE YOUNG SKIERS DURING THE DÉFI DU CARNAVAL**

**Montréal, February 2, 2012** - The Le Relais Ski Centre will host once again this year the *Défi alpin du Carnaval* which will be taking place February 4-5. This provincial skiing competition for 5 to 10-year-olds is being presented jointly by Ski Québec Alpin (SQA) and Laurentian Bank. More than 450 athletes originating from across the province will enjoy some friendly competition in a festive carnival atmosphere.

The Laurentian Bank's Little Heroes Club is pleased to take part in the event to get the little ones moving by encouraging them to participate in an amusing race for a chance to obtain a special Club surprise.

Laurentian Bank was pleased to recently renew its support of Ski Quebec Alpin for a period of three years to encourage young skiers to excel on the ski hill as in life itself and by helping them pursue their efforts and to showcase their accomplishments.

**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 simplicity and proximity, the Bank serves individual consumers and small and medium-sized businesses. The Bank also offers its products to a wide network of independent financial intermediaries through B2B Trust, as well as full-service brokerage solutions through Laurentian Bank Securities.

Laurentian Bank is well established in the Province of Québec, operating the third-largest retail branch network. Elsewhere throughout Canada, it operates in specific market segments where it holds an enviable position. Laurentian Bank of Canada has more than \$24 billion in balance sheet assets and more than \$35 billion in assets under administration. Founded in 1846, it has been selected as the Québec and Atlantic Canada regional winner of the Canada's 10 Most Admired Corporate Cultures™ program presented by Waterstone Human Capital. The Bank employs close to 3,700 people.

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