



LAURENTIAN BANK
OF CANADA

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

**Launch of the new Laurentian Bank *Xtra* Multi-Rater GIC*
with a 7.00% return in the fifth year**

Montreal, January 27, 2006 – Laurentian Bank of Canada launches its new *Xtra* Multi-Rater GIC. This new investment product protects the capital invested and guarantees the return, and offers a five-year average annual return of 3.808%. The *Xtra* Multi-Rater GIC pays a 2.70% rate for the first year, a 2.80% rate for the second year, a 3.20% rate for the third year, a 3.40% rate for the fourth year and a 7.00% rate for the fifth year.

The *Xtra* Multi-Rater GIC allows investors to take advantage of higher returns typically associated with long-term investments while having total peace of mind. Rates are locked in for five years, thus shielding the investment against a potential market downturn. It also offers flexibility if interest rates go up since it can be reinvested on each anniversary date.

“This new investment solution was designed specifically for people looking for a secure investment that would protect their invested capital and guarantee the return, and also wishing to know the future value of their investment. It offers better returns over a five-year period while ensuring some degree of flexibility thanks to the additional reinvestment option. It requires a minimum investment of \$500 if placed in a RRSP or \$1,000 if placed in a non-registered account. The *Xtra* Multi-Rater GIC suits any investor profile since this product was designed for the low-risk portion of an investment portfolio. It combines such features as capital security, higher returns as well as flexibility to reinvest if interest rates go up,” said Bianca Dupuis, Senior Manager, Investment Product Development, Laurentian Bank.

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.

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** Can be reinvested, at each anniversary date, in a GIC with a term equal to or greater than the term balance. Average 5-year rate of 3.808%. Five-year term. Rate effective on January 24, 2006. Rates may change without notice. At the end of the five-year term, and if not reinvested, the principal and the accrued interest will be paid to the client.*

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