



B2B TRUST

A SUBSIDIARY OF LAURENTIAN BANK

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

**ACUITY FUNDS LTD. AND B2B TRUST SIGN AGREEMENT
FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF INVESTMENT LOANS**

Toronto, April 20, 2005 – B2B Trust, a subsidiary of Laurentian Bank, has announced the signing of an agreement with Acuity Funds Ltd. for the distribution of investment loans. Under the terms of this agreement, B2B Trust will make available investment loans to financial advisors for their clients purchasing Acuity investment products.

The investment loans offer a wide range of loans with margin and no-margin call options. B2B Trust will be responsible for the underlying credit services, and Acuity Funds Ltd. will make the program available to investors through investment professionals.

Al Spadaro, Vice-President, Business Development for B2B Trust, stated, “We are pleased to have concluded this agreement with Acuity Funds Ltd., a company that has a tradition of excellence in both product and service offerings. Using the loan program, advisors will have additional ways to incorporate the Acuity Funds Ltd. investment products into their client portfolios. This program once again demonstrates B2B Trust’s position as a major provider of investment loan programs to the Financial Advisor Community.”

Acuity Funds Ltd. is one of Canada’s fastest growing mutual fund companies. The company manages over \$2.6 billion in mutual funds and pooled funds. It also serves as manager to seven structured products totaling an excess of \$1 billion. Stephen Crawford, Senior Vice-President & National Sales Manager stated that “We are excited to team up with B2B Trust. Their wide range of loan options combined with Acuity’s pooled and mutual funds will benefit Financial Advisors across Canada.”

B2B Trust, a subsidiary of Laurentian Bank is a Canadian leader in providing generic and complementary banking and financial products to independent financial advisors, non-bank financial institutions and retailers across Canada. Its head office is located in Toronto. The address of the B2B Trust website is www.b2b-trust.com.

– 30 –

For information:

B2B Trust

Gladys Caron

Vice-President

Public Affairs, Communications and Investor Relations

(416) 865-5952