



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

INVITATION TO THE ANNUAL MEETINGS OF LAURENTIAN BANK AND ITS B2B TRUST SUBSIDIARY AND TO A PRESS CONFERENCE

Montreal, March 12, 2004 – The annual meetings of the shareholders of B2B Trust and Laurentian Bank will be held at the Mount Royal Centre at 4:30 p.m. on March 16, 2004, and at 9:00 a.m. on March 17, 2004, respectively.

Journalists are welcome to attend the meetings as observers. As in previous years, no television or other cameras or videotape recorders will be allowed, except during a five-minute period immediately prior to the meetings. Camera operators and photographers will be asked to leave once the meetings begin.

Media representatives are also invited to attend a joint press conference in connection with the annual meetings of the shareholders of Laurentian Bank and its B2B Trust subsidiary. The press conference will be held around 11:30 a.m. on March 17, 2004, in Salon International 1 and II of the Mount Royal Centre. The press conference will be led by Raymond McManus, President and Chief Executive Officer of Laurentian Bank of Canada, and Bernard Piché, President and Chief Executive Officer of B2B Trust.

B2B Trust Tuesday, March 16, 2004, 4:30 p.m.

Annual Mount Royal Centre
Shareholders' 2200 Mansfield Street
Meeting Montreal, Quebec

Laurentian Bank Wednesday, March 17, 2004, 9:00 a.m.

Annual Mount Royal Centre
Shareholders' 2200 Mansfield Street
Meeting Montreal, Quebec

Joint Press Wednesday, March 17, 2004, around 11:30 a.m. (following the

Conference Laurentian Bank annual meeting)

Mount Royal Centre (Salon International 1 and II)

2200 Mansfield Street Montreal, Quebec

Webcast

Laurentian Bank The audio presentations of Raymond McManus, President and Chief

Executive Officer, and L. Denis Desautels, Chairman of the Board, will be

broadcast on the Bank's website:

www.laurentianbank.com

B2B Trust The audio presentations of Bernard Piché, President and Chief Executive

Officer, and Raymond McManus, Chairman of the Board, will be broadcast

on B2B Trust's website: www.b2b-trust.com

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