## COMMITTED

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104 Shareholder information agencies, in reports to shareholders and in other communications. These forward looking-statements include, among others, statements regarding the business and objectives for the coming years, medium- and long-term strategies to achieve these objectives and statements with respect to the Bank's beliefs, plans, expectations, anticipations, estimates and intentions. These statements typically use the conditional and words such as prospects, believe, estimate, forecast, project, should, could and would. By their very nature, forward-looking statements involve inherent risks and uncertainties, and it is possible that the forecasts, projections and other forward-looking statements will not be achieved. The Bank cautions readers against placing undue reliance on these statements when making decisions, as the actual results could differ appreciably from the opinions, plans, objectives, expectations, forecasts, estimates and intentions expressed in such forward-looking statements due to various material factors. These factors include, among other things, capital market activity, changes in government monetary, economic and fiscal policies, changes in interest rates, inflation levels and general economic conditions, legislative and regulatory developments, competition, credit ratings, scarcity of human resource and technological change, as well as the Bank's success at increasing revenues and managing costs related to carrying out its business plan. The Bank cautions that the foregoing list of factors is not exhaustive. The Bank does not undertake to update any forward-looking statements, oral or written, made by itself or on its behalf.

## TOWARDS OUR CLIENTS,

BY GIVING THE HIGHEST PRIORITY TO THE SATISFACTION OF THEIR FINANCIAL SERVIGES NEEDS AND TO THE ONGOING IMPROVEMENT OF THE CLIENT EXPERIENCE.

## TOWARDS OUR SHAREHOLDERS,

 by ensuring the profitable growth of our organization in keeping WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF TRANSPARENGY, INTEGRITY AND ETHICS.TOWARDS OUR EMPLOYEES, BY RECOGNIZING AND ACKNOWLEDGING THE QUALITY OF THEIR WORK AND THEIR DEDICATION, ENCOURAGING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR COMPETENCIES AND OFFERING A WORK ENVIRONMENT OF EQUITY, DYNAMISM AND RESPECT.

TOWARDS OUR COMMUNITY, BY PURSUING AND SUPPORTING ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT.

## YEAR 2004

A FIRM COMMITMENT TO

## OUR GOALS




## YEAR 2005

## DETERMINED TO DEPLOY <br> OUR PLAN

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Implementation of the Western Union product offering at all
Laurentian Bank branches
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Five-year contract for the operation of ATMs inside several Montreal Metro stations
$\qquad$

RENEWAL OF
THE COLLEGTIVE
AGREEMENT WITH
THE UNIONIZED EMPLOYEES

Opening
of a new Commercial
Banking Centre
in Longueuil

OPENING
of the first Financial Services
Boutique in Blainville and subsequent openings in:

Gatineau (Hull) December 8, 2004
Mascouche December 8, 2004
Sainte-Dorothée December 8, 2004
La Prairie February 2, 2005
Vaudreuil-Dorion August 29, 2005


Launch of<br>the Laurentian Bank<br>Complicité Program for the<br>550,000 FTQ members



# EVERY ACTION COUNTS 

Two years ago, Laurentian Bank of Canada adopted an extensive business plan with a specific goal: to significantly improve the Bank's financial results and further its growth. To reach this goal, the Bank renewed its focus on its core market and activities, while implementing a series of initiatives to capitalize on its distinct competitive advantages.

The Bank's results as at the end of fiscal 2005 provide measurable indications of the progress we have made over this short period of time, and attest to the positive impact our plan has had on our operational efficiency and on our balance sheet.

Our business plan would have remained a mere plan however, were it not for the strong support of our employees. At all levels within our organization, employees have adhered to the strategies and objectives of our business plan with enthusiasm and determination. Given such an asset, we are confident of holding all the necessary tools to pursue our plan to its full implementation.

## TANGIBLE RESULTS

With a strong sense of achievement we can report that, at the close of fiscal 2005, the Bank has reached its earnings objectives as set out in its business plan. Moreover, our core business lines - most notably Retail Financial Services and B2B Trust-have enhanced their performances, thereby accounting for a significant portion of the increase in the Bank's revenues.

Net interest income increased from $\$ 267.2$ million in 2004 to $\$ 325.7$ million in 2005. This result is largely attributable to the sound management strategies we put into place within the framework of our business plan, as well as to the growth in loan portfolios and the increase in net interest margins.

Given the economic and competitive environment in the banking industry, increasing net interest margins is a critical factor in furthering revenue growth. Over the course of fiscal 2005, the Bank has actually succeeded in improving its net interest margins on a continuing basis, thereby measurably improving its overall results. At year end, the margin stood at 1.99\%, compared to $1.64 \%$ in 2004.

We are also satisfied with our 2005 results with regard to return on common shareholders' equity. While we had set a realistic objective of $4.5 \%$ to $5.5 \%$ in our business plan, return on common shareholders' equity stood at $7.8 \%$ ( $6.4 \%$ from continuing operations) on October 31, 2005, compared to $4.6 \%$ on October 31, 2004.

The Bank's financial condition remains sound. Tier 1 capital ratio is strong at $10.2 \%$, compared to $10.5 \%$ at year end in 2004. At year end, the Bank's total capital ratio stood at $12.3 \%$, compared to our 2005 objective of $13 \%$. This ratio decreased as a result of the repurchase of debentures and the actual growth of our loan volumes.

While we are certainly satisfied with the Bank's results for fiscal 2005, we must not lose sight of our long-term objectives nor, given the economic climate

and our competitive environment, waver in our resolution to enhance the Bank's profitability. In this view, becoming even better managers is an imperative requirement for the attainment of our financial objectives. Continue to adhere to the best management and operating practices will enable us to realize this goal and is an integral part of our commitment to the Bank's shareholders.

## CONCRETE REALIZATIONS

Through the implementation of our business plan's initiatives, we also aim at becoming better operators. In this regard, fiscal 2005 has seen some significant steps being taken in the development of our range of products and services, as well as in the overall enhancement of our operations.

In March 2005, the Bank and the Union representing some 2,000 of our employees accepted the arbitration board's decision relative to the collective agreement. Both parties expressed their satisfaction with this agreement which will be valid until December 2007.

Moreover, the renewed dialogue between the Bank and its employees' representatives has given rise to an innovative partnership between the Bank, its employees' Union and the union's confederation, the Fédération des travailleurs et travailleuses du Québec (FTQ). The three organizations developed strong work relations which, in turn, led to the launch of the Laurentian Bank Complicité program offering a score of highly competitive banking and financial products to the 550,000 FTQ members and their families.

I am confident that the collective agreement and our partnership with the Union, at both the local and provincial levels, will benefit the Bank as well as its employees in the short and long terms. I would also like to gratefully acknowledge the valued collaboration and input of the president of the Bank employees' union, as well as that of the members of the FTQ executive.

Another partnership that is proving beneficial for both parties is the one between the Bank and Industrial Alliance. Following the purchase of BLCEdmond de Rothschild, Asset Management Inc. by Industrial Alliance, completed in December 2004, the Bank concluded a 10 -year distribution agreement whereby the Bank continues offering R Funds, along with Industrial Alliance's mutual funds, to its clients through various distribution channels. Sharing the same values with regard to product quality and customer service has been instrumental in making this collaboration work effectively.

In this regard, it is well worth noting that the Bank has recorded net sales of mutual funds well above the sales thresholds set in its agreement with Industrial Alliance. This result is attributable to the hard work, dedication and business "savvy" of those employees and managers who are on the front line, while carefully respecting their clients' needs and the Bank's products and services.

The Bank's comprehensive program of optimization and expansion of the branch network has also generated promising results in 2005 . For one, the implementation of our "financial services boutique"
concept-already fully operational in fiteen locations, of which six are completely new branches, - has been very well received. Thanks to our employees' dedication, as well as specific promotional campaigns and direct marketing initiatives, the Bank's financial services boutiques stand out as an innovative environment for clients to access quality products and services.

Similarly, we are giving special consideration to the specific needs of our commercial and brokerage clienteles, particularly with regard to access to our products and services. During fiscal 2005, Commercial Financial Services opened two new commercial banking centres in order to bring account managers closer to their clients and enhance business development. Laurentian Bank Securities has also opened a new office and plans to open others in carefully targeted regions, with a view to better serve its clients and increase its share of the retail brokerage market.

During fiscal 2005, the Bank has given in-depth consideration to all aspects of its management processes and practices. Moreover, our structure has been modified. From now on, Retail Financial Services, Commercial Financial Services, and B2B Trust are grouped under one executive officer, Réjean Robitaille, in order to enhance operational synergies between these three business lines.

We also plan to pursue the development of the training programs offered to employees and managers alike. These programs will be instrumental in refining our managing and operating skills, and should contribute to our ability to attract and retain the best candidates. Consequently, we will be giving partic-
ular attention to these matters during fiscal 2006 with an aim at encouraging all employees to put their best qualities forward.

## THE ROAD AHEAD

At this point, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the Bank's shareholders. Over the last few years, they have shown remarkable patience in the face of significant changes and somewhat underwhelming results. They have also expressed their steadfast support for the Bank's management and Board of Directors. I wish to assure them that their best interests are foremost in our daily pursuits.

I am equally grateful to all of our employees for their dedication to the Bank and to our business plan. One need only set foot inside one of our branches today to sense the infectious enthusiasm and strong work ethic of our staff.

In many aspects, 2005 has been an eventful and rewarding period in the Bank's development. Our financial results provide a tangible indication of the success of our business plan and the soundness of our objectives. Nevertheless, we recognize that our accomplishments to date are merely stepping stones toward reaching the levels that we are confident we can attain in the months and years ahead.

Laurentian Bank is committed to becoming a leading financial institution in Quebec and a performing player elsewhere in Canada, recognized for offering the best products to its various clienteles with a quality of service unsurpassed by any bank.


RAYMOND McMANUS

## GUIDED BY RIGOUR AND TRANSPARENCY

Over the last few years, Laurentian Bank of Canada has made significant changes to its business strategies and structures.

BY L. DENIS DESAUTELS, O.C.
Fiscal 2005 has been an eventful period, and we are starting to see positive results produced from our business plan. It encourages us to stay the course and to pursue our goals to their full realization.

Laurentian Bank operates in a heavily regulated and strictly monitored industry within the context of a highly competitive economic environment. Given these circumstances, especially in light of the financial scandals that have shaken the business world in recent years, the role of sound corporate governance built on solid foundations of clear rules and regulations and of transparency becomes absolutely critical.

Fortunately, we can count on Laurentian Bank's life-long tradition of high standards of corporate governance, making it one of Canada's most reputable financial institutions in this regard.

Furthermore, we also benefit from a spirit of close collaboration between the Bank's Board of Directors and Management. These relations are in constant evolution, further refining their respective roles and responsibilities. More precisely, this true partnership is based on the ongoing commitment of all concerned to act in the best interests of the Bank, of its employees, of its clients and of its shareholders.

The members of the Board therefore act as fiduciairies of the Bank's values and guardians of the shareholders' assets. We advocate long-term growth vision and strategy for the Bank with focus on its profitability, viability and sustainability. Moreover, we are convinced that the principles of transparency and integrity are of the utmost importance for the sound management of our financial institution. These qualities are essential to safeguard the best interests of the shareholders whom we represent.

In this regard, the work of the Board committees becomes crucial. It is at the committee level that

all the rigour and transparency prescribed by the applicable laws and regulations and vital for the implementation of appropriate policies and procedures become most apparent.

In short, the Board and the Management Committee have proven again that the synergy they have developed in discharging their duties and responsibilities is a valuable asset for the Bank's development. Each has shown discipline and constancy necessary to reach the set targets within the framework of a welldefined business plan and in the best interests of our employees, clients and shareholders.

Therefore, I would like to thank and congratulate all members of the Management Committee on their great performance. Their steadfast efforts, their dedication and their commitment to the Bank's success and progress, as well as their rigour, expertise and knowledge became a determining factor in the financial results for fiscal 2005 and are a guarantee for the remaining stretch of our business plan. On behalf of the Board of Directors, I therefore wish to reiterate our support to them.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Ronald Corey and Mr. Gordon Ritchie, who will have stepped down as directors at the time of the Annual Meeting of Shareholders, for their invaluable contribution to the work and deliberations of the Board. After more than ten years of dedicated service, Mr . Corey is retiring pursuant to the retirement policy for the Board of Directors. Recognized for his commitment to social issues in Montreal and elsewhere in Canada, he also made a significant contribution to the consolidation of the Bank's relations with the business circles, as well as of the Bank's relations with the communities in which we operate. The contribution of Mr. Ritchie, in particular his work on the Audit Committee, has been greatly appreciated. We are grateful to both Mr. Corey and Mr. Ritchie for their support and their contribution.

L. DENIS DESAUTELS, O.C

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2002 JEAN BAZIN Q.C. PARTNER, FRASER MILNER CASGRAIN Attorney since 1965, appointed Queen's Counsel in 1984 and a member of the Senate from 1986 to 1989, Jean Bazin chaired the Canadian Bar Association in 1987-1988 and the Quebec-Japan Business Forum in 1999. Jean Bazin has sat on the board of directors of the Bank from 1990 to 2000 and was Chairman of B2B Trust from 2000 to 2002. Very active within the business community and various cultural organizations, he is known for his discipline and rigour. Mr. Bazin sits on the boards of directors of different companies, including the Société générale de financement du Québec.

2003 RICHARD BÉLANGER PRESIDENT, TORYVEL GROUP INC.
A chartered accountant since 1980, Richard Bélanger was awarded the Prix Émérite and the designation "Fellow" by the Ordre des comptables agréés du Québec in May 2004. Toryvel Group Inc. is a holding company which main investment fields lie in the forest and transportation sectors, as well as in that of private and stock market investment. Mr. Bélanger is President and co-owner of this company and he is also President of Stetson Timberlands Inc. as well as of Theseus Capital Inc., a Capital Pool Company ("CPC") listed on the Toronto TSX Venture Exchange. He sits on the board of directors and the audit committee of Stella-Jones Inc. and he is a member of the board of InterTrade Systems Inc.

## 2003 ĖVE-LYNE BIRON PRESIDENT AND

GENERAL MANAGER, LABORATOIRE MÉDICAL BIRON INC.
With a Master degree in administration to her credit, Eve-Lyne Biron is a young manager who aims for very concrete results and who is actively involved in her community. Her company was ranked 37th of the top 100 Canadian companies directed by women in 2003. She was a 2004 award winner of the Nouveaux Performants competition, "Entrepreneur" category and finalist for the 2005 Femmes d'affaires du Québec award. Ms. Biron sits on the board of directors of the Orchestre symphonique de Longueuil, the Armand-Frappier Foundation and of DEL (Développement économique Longueuil).

## 1994 RONALD COREY C.M. PRESIDENT,

RONALD COREY GROUPE CONSEIL LTĖE
Member of the Order of Canada, Ronald Corey has displayed exceptional strategic abilities and exemplary social involvement throughout his career, both as honorary president of large fund-raising campaigns and foundations, and as president and CEO of Molson Centre or chairman of the board of the Port of Montreal. The organizations with which he collaborates benefit greatly from his rich experience in the business world.

2001 L. DENIS DESAUTELS O.C. CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD,
LAURENTIAN BANK OF CANADA, EXECUTIVE-IN-RESIDENCE
SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT, UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA
Officer of the Order of Canada, Fellow of the Ordre des comptables agréés du Québec and of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario, and involved with a number of professional committees including the Accounting Standards Oversight Council of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants, Denis Desautels is a recognized Canadian authority on governance. He was Auditor General of Canada from 1991 to 2001. He also sits on the boards of directors of Alcan Inc., Bombardier Inc., The Jean Coutu Group (PJC) Inc. and CARE Canada.

1990 GEORGES HÉBERT PRESIDENT, PROSYS-TEC INC.
George Hébert is, since July 2003, president of ProSys-Tech, one of the largest assemblers of computers, laptops and servers in Canada. Mr. Hébert has long been active in the transport sector. He was notably president of Clarke Transport Inc. before acquiring, in 1988, J.A. Provost Inc., a supplier of home and commercial security systems. He also sits on the board of directors of MDS Aerospace and Vitran Corporation.

2001 VERONICA S. MAIDMAN CHAIR ADVISORY COUNCIL,

## EQUIFAX CANADA INC

Veronica Maidman is an executive with outstanding strategic vision and a great capacity to meet challenges in a constantly evolving environment. Having recently completed her term as Vice-Chair of Sunnybrook \& Women's College Health Sciences Centre, Mrs. Maidman is now a member of the Sunnybrook \& Women's Foundation Gouverning Council. She also sits on different corporate boards. Throughout the years she's worked with all levels of government concerning legislative and regulatory issues with particular emphasis on consumer privacy. She was featured in a report on the leaders of tomorrow in Canadian Business Magazine.

1988 RAYMOND McMANUS PRESIDENT AND
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, LAURENTIAN BANK OF CANADA
Raymond McManus has worked in the banking industry since 1960. On the strength of the expertise he developed in corporate loans early in his career, he was promoted to positions of increasing responsibility, including that of Senior Vice-President at the Mercantile Bank. He also founded Cafa Financial Corporation, a private investment bank specializing in mergers and acquisitions, corporate financing and real estate. Mr. McManus is president and chief executive officer of the Bank since August 2002.

1990 PIERRE MICHAUD, C.M. VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD,
LAURENTIAN BANK OF CANADA, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD, PROVIGO INC. Member of the Order of Canada, Pierre Michaud has a vast experience in the retail business as much as in corporate governance. He is director of different companies including Loblaw Companies Limited, Bombardier Recreational Products Inc., Gaz Métro Inc. and Old Port of Montreal Corporation Inc.. Very active in many charitable organizations, Mr. Michaud is a member of the board of governors of Centraide, the Fondation de l'Hôpital Sainte-Justine and the Fondation du Centre hospitalier universitaire de Montréal (CHUM).

2004 CARMAND NORMAND CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD,
CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND INVESTMENT OFFICER, ADDENDA CAPITAL INC.
With over 35 years of experience in the field of finance, Carmand Normand is an accomplished businessman with a keen entrepreneurial sense. An excellent investment strategist, Mr. Normand won particular recognition in 2000, when he received the Hermès Award for outstanding career accomplishments from the Faculty of Business Administration of Université Laval. His vast professional involvement includes extensive work as Vice-Chairman of the Board and member of the Audit Committee of the Montreal Exchange,. Mr. Normand is also a co-author of Caisses de retraite et placements, in bookstores since September 1994.

2003 GORDON RITCHIE CHAIRMAN,
PUBLIC AFFAIRS, HILL \& KNOWLTON CANADA
Gordon Ritchie was one of the main architects of the Free Trade Agreement between Canada and the United States. Throughout his illustrious career within the federal public service, he focused on economic development and international trade. On leaving government, he became a business consultant and is now Chairman of Hill \& Knowlton Canada. He is also serving on the board of directors of Maple Leaf Foods Inc.

1998 DOMINIC J. TADDEO PRESIDENT AND
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, MONTREAL PORT AUTHORITY
Dominic Taddeo has dedicated most of his career to the maritime industry. Appointed president and chief executive officer of the Montreal Port Authority in 1984, he has played a pivotal role in the economic development of Montreal. He has received many honours and merits, including Transport Personality of the Year for the Province of Quebec and awards of distinction from the Faculty of Commerce and Administration of Concordia University and the Corporation professionnelle des administrateurs agréés du Québec. He is chairman of the board of EDICOM, a Montreal-based EDI project of strategic importance to Canada's transportation and trade community.

1998 JONATHAN I. WENER, C.M. CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD,
CANDEREL MANAGEMENT INC.
Member of the Order of Canada, Jonathan Wener, a renowned expert in the real estate sector, has vast experience in the commercial, industrial, residential, recreational and hotel sectors. Associated for 30 years with the success of Canderel Management, Mr. Wener contributes to the well-being of the community through his involvement in numerous professional associations and charitable organizations. Mr. Wener is Vice-Chair of Concordia University and he also sits on different boards of directors including The Foundation of the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, Fondation du Grand Montreal, The Jewish General Hospital and its Foundation and the Festival des Arts de Mont St-Sauveur.

## FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

| (in millions of dollars, except per share amounts) |  | 2005 |  | 2004 |  | 2003 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Per common share |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Diluted net income | \$ | 2.26 | \$ | 1.33 | \$ | 3.32 |
| Diluted income from continuing operations | \$ | 1.85 | \$ | 1.33 | \$ | 3.32 |
| Dividends | \$ | 1.16 | \$ | 1.16 | \$ | 1.16 |
| Book value | \$ | 29.85 | \$ | 28.78 | \$ | 28.73 |
| Share price |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| High | \$ | 32.79 | \$ | 29.35 | \$ | 29.25 |
| Low | \$ | 22.51 | \$ | 25.42 | \$ | 24.91 |
| Close | \$ | 30.35 | \$ | 25.45 | \$ | 27.75 |
| Financial ratios |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Price / earnings ratio |  | 13.4x |  | 19.1 x |  | 8.3 x |
| Market to book value |  | 102\% |  | 88\% |  | 97\% |
| Dividend yield |  | 3.82\% |  | 4.56\% |  | 4.18\% |
| Net interest income as a percentage of average assets |  | 1.99\% |  | 1.64\% |  | 1.81\% |
| Earnings |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total revenue | \$ | 502.1 | \$ | 466.1 | \$ | 622.2 |
| Net income | \$ | 65.3 | \$ | 39.9 | \$ | 84.0 |
| Net income from continuing operations | \$ | 55.6 | \$ | 39.9 | \$ | 84.0 |
| Efficiency ratio |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Non-interest expenses as a \% of total revenue |  | 76.1\% |  | 79.3\% |  | 71.0\% |
| Return on common shareholders' equity |  | 7.8\% |  | 4.6\% |  | 12.4\% |
| Financial position |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Balance sheet assets | \$16,507 |  | \$16,607 |  | \$16,738 |  |
| Loans, bankers' acceptances and assets purchased |  |  |  |  |  | \$12,151 |
| Net impaired loans | \$ | (8.9) | \$ | (13.0) | \$ | 22.0 |
| Net impaired loans as a \% of loans, bankers' acceptances and assets purchased under reverse repurchase agreements | Net impaired loans as a \% of loans, bankers' acceptances |  |  | (0.1)\% |  | 0.2\% |
| Personal deposits |  | 0,575 |  | 0,454 |  | 0,509 |
| Assets under administration and assets under management |  | 3,766 |  | 4,878 |  | 5,488 |
| Personal deposits |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| As a \% of total deposits |  | 77.2\% |  | 81.0\% |  | 79.1\% |
| Number of common shares (in thousands) |  | 23,557 |  | 23,511 |  | 23,436 |
| Capitalization |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Shareholders' equity, non-controlling interest in a subsidiary and debentures ${ }^{(1)}$ | \$ | 1,063 | \$ | 1,137 | \$ | 1,315 |
| BIS capital ratios |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Tier I |  | 10.2\% |  | 10.5\% |  | 10.2\% |
| Total capital |  | 12.3\% |  | 14.0\% |  | 15.2\% |
| Tangible common equity as a percentage of risk-weighted assets |  | 7.5\% |  | 7.6\% |  | 7.8\% |
| Other information |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Number of full-time equivalent employees |  | 3,180 |  | 3,125 |  | 3,159 |
| Number of branches |  | 157 |  | 153 |  | 155 |
| Number of automated banking machines |  | 313 |  | 293 |  | 284 |
| Brokerage Offices |  | 11 |  | 9 |  | 10 |
| Commercial banking Centres |  | 28 |  | 26 |  | 22 |
| Independant Financial Advisors |  | 4,316 |  | 3,667 |  | 3,183 |

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## COMMITMENT WITHOUT RESERVATION

A strong team



RAYMOND McMANUS
PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

## A career banker and a renowned financial

 strategist, Mr. McManus has held this position since 2002 . As a Board member since 1988 , he already had good knowledge of the organization. Prior to joining Laurentian Bank, he founded and successfully headed a private investment bank specializing in mergers and acquisitions, corporate financing and real estate. He is also Chairman of B2B Trust.

ROBERT CARDINAL
SENIOR EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT FINANCE, ADMINISTRATION AND STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

A charted accountant, Mr. Cardinal has been with Laurentian Bank since 1991 His knowledge, experience and integrity earned him several promotions within the organization. Prior to joining the Bank, he held various positions in the banking industry and audit.

REJEAN ROBITAILLE
SENIOR EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT RETAIL AND COMMERCIAL
FINANCIAL SERVICES
At Laurentian Bank since 1988, Mr. Robitaille has profound knowledge of the organization as he has held a variety of positions with the Bank, including his work as Financial Planner, manager in charge of the branch network and Treasurer. He is also President of Laurentian Trust and President and CEO of LBC Trust of Canada Inc.


ANDRÉ SCOTT
EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT
COMMERCIAL FINANCIAL SERVICES

Specializing in business financing and credit, Mr. Scott is an experienced banker At Laurentian Bank since 1991, he has held several important positions, namely in business development and credit risk management. He also contributed to the establishment and development of B2B Trust.


LORRAINE PILON
EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND HUMAN RESOURCES, AND SECRETARY

A lawyer by training, Ms. Pilon joined Laurentian Bank in 1990 in the Legal Affairs department. She climbed the career ladder quickly thanks to her expertise in the banking industry and to her keen business sense.


BERNARD PICHE
EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT
TREASURY, CAPITAL MARKETS AND BROKERAGE

At Laurentian Bank, Mr. Piché contributes his diversified experience acquired both in Canada and abroad. His extensive knowledge of economics, treasury and capital markets is a sure asset for Laurentian Bank that he joined in 1994. He is also Chairman of the board of Laurentian Bank Securities.

## CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Laurentian Bank of Canada is recognized as a forerunner in the Canadian banking sector for its strong corporate governance culture. Indeed, in 1987, Laurentian Bank became the first financial institution to separate the roles of Chairman of the Board and of President and CEO. Moreover, its corporate governance policies and procedures are among the most exemplary ones in the Canadian banking and financial industry.

All members of the Board of Directors are independent and unrelated to the Bank's management, with the exception of the President and Chief Executive Officer. The independent status of directors is evaluated in accordance with the requirements defined by the Human Resources and Corporate Governance Committee and approved by the Board of Directors.

The role of the Board of Directors is essentially to supervise the management of the business and affairs of the Bank. The Board members thus commit to act in accordance with the principles and requirements set forth in the Code of Conduct for Directors with respect to various dimensions ranging from general conduct to financial situation, conflict of interest, information and data security, and insider transactions.

The Board of Directors has delegated specific responsibilities and functions to three Board committees: the Audit Committee, the Human Resources and Corporate Governance Committee as well as the Risk Management Committee. Their members are appointed from among the Board Directors. These committees provide regular written and verbal updates and reports on their work to the Board. Furthermore, they present a report to be included in the management proxy circular.


#### Abstract

AUDIT COMMITTEE The primary function of the Audit Committee is to support the Board of Directors in overseeing the integrity of the Bank's financial reporting, the pertinence and effectiveness of its internal controls, the qualifications and independence of the external auditors, the performance of the Bank's internal audit function and of the external auditors, as well as the Bank's compliance with regulatory requirements.


More specifically, the responsibilities and duties of the Audit Committee include:

External audit: recommending the appointment of external auditors to shareholders; supervising their work; assessing the scope of their expertise and qualifications, their independence and objectivity; reviewing the mandate of the external auditors and of the external audit programs;

Internal audit function: assessing the effectiveness of the internal controls set up by Management; reviewing the internal audit mandate and programs, the function's staffing resources and the follow-up on the recommendations of the internal auditors;

Financial information disclosure and reporting: reviewing the Management's discussion and analysis of the annual report; examining annual and quarterly financial statements, as well as Management's discussion and analysis and related press releases; reviewing the annual information form, Management's quarterly reports and the annual report of the Chief Compliance Officer with regard to questions of compliance and regulations;

Internal controls: reviewing, evaluating and approving appropriate procedures of internal control and of communication of financial information; verifying all investments and operations that might have a negative impact on the Bank's financial situation; establishing procedures for the receipt, retention and treatment of complaints regarding accounting, internal controls or auditing matters; establishing procedures for the confidential anonymous submission of concerns by employees of the Bank regarding questionable accounting or auditing matters;

Supervising authorities: reviewing all recommendations made by the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions; monitoring the application of recommendations from regulatory authorities.

## HUMAN RESOURCES AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

The Human Resources and Corporate Governance Committee is responsible for performing two functions:

Human Resources: ensuring that compensation programs of the Bank are aligned with the attainment of the Bank's objectives and to the prudent management of activities and risks; reviewing and approving the compensation structure for Executives; assessing, in collaboration with the Board, the performance of the President and CEO and reviewing the performance of the Management Committee members.

The Committee also reviews short-term and long-term incentive programs, approves the annual salary policy, periodically reviews the Bank's organizational structure and approves the appointment of executive officers.

It ensures the succession planning relating to senior management, supervises various aspects of labour relations, including the collective bargaining process of unionized employees, and receives regular reports on the status of relations between the Bank and its employees.

Governance: overseeing the development and application of the corporate governance principles and rules, and making recommendations to the Board of Directors in this regard; ensuring the proper functioning and effectiveness of the Board and of its committees, and reviewing the composition and renewal of the Board. It is this Committee that identifies and recommends candidates for election or appointment to the Board and oversees the assessment of performance of current Directors.

This Committee also ensures that orientation and training programs for Board members are in place, reviews the compensation levels for Directors based on their responsibilities, ensures that shareholders are properly informed of the Bank's affairs, and deals with any major disagreement between the Bank and its shareholders.

Moreover, it reviews the scope of responsibilities and authorities of the Board committees.

## RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Risk Management Committee ensures that the Bank has adopted an adequate risk management process intended to identify, measure and manage risks, and has established relevant policies to manage credit, market, structural, capital management, operational and regulatory risks.

The Committee groups three functions: review, credit and oversight.

Review: overseeing the application of procedures for reviewing transactions with individuals or organizations affiliated with the Bank. It verifies the procedures established to make the disclosure of information to clients with regard to banking fees and monitors the procedures established for dealing with client complaints. It conducts annual reviews of the Code of Ethics governing the Bank's employees and officers as well as the one governing the Bank's service providers, and approves standards for business conduct and ethics that take risks into account.

Credit: reviewing the Bank's credit policies and procedures, and ensuring the highest standards of quality. It also approves loan and advance transactions in excess of the limits established by the Board of Directors including loans and advances to the Bank's employees and officers.

Oversight: reviewing the Bank's internal policies and procedures in relation to risk management, and reviewing situations of conflict of interest at the Bank.

## RETAIL

FINANCIAL SERVICES

IN 2005, RETAIL FINANCIAL SERVICES CONTINUED TO MAKE GREAT STRIDES IN REVITALIZING ITS BRANCH NETWORK, INCREASING THE IMPACT OF ITS COMMERCIALIZATION ACTIVITIES, FINE-TUNING ITS MARKETING INITIATIVES AND REITERATING ITS COMMITMENT TO SERVICE QUALITY.

## OUR EMPLOYEES ARE THE KEY <br> TO OUR SERVICE QUALITY

Our employees are the pivot of our unique approach to make the Bank stand out from the competition. Their talents, their commitment and their professionalism are essential to the Bank's development and growth.

Over the next few years, we will introduce several concrete measures, such as new training strategies and programs, to make certain our employees can reach their full potential within our organization and therefore contribute to the outstanding quality of our services.

## Cards

Strategic initiatives to increase our credit card market share, more specifically the new VISA Reward Me card and the new VISA Gold Reward program.

## GREAT SENSE OF PARTNERSHIP

The new Laurentian Bank Complicité Program offered exclusively to 550,000 FTQ members and their families, including the VISA Laurentian Bank Complicité card, banking packages for daily banking transactions, as well as various mortgage products promoting access to homeownership, and a Homeowners Hotline exclusive to Laurentian Bank.

## EYE-CATCHING boutiques

Now with 15 service boutiques, including 6 new locations, this unique concept became a trademark of Laurentian Bank. Play areas for kids, a Café corner, and a library are among the distinctive features that allow our clients to live a unique banking experience.

## State-of-the-art tools

The operationalization of our marketing campaign management system is an important phase in our ongoing efforts to design and adopt highly performing business tools to become truly attuned to our clientele and to maximize the effectiveness, efficiency and pertinence of our client communications. A new marketing campaign management system has been added to our data warehouse, our analytical environment as well as our business intelligence tools.

Our next step will be to integrate our customer relations management strategy throughout the branch network and at the Call Centre with specific applications. It will allow us to fulfil our promise always to treat our clients like our guests, whichever distribution channel they choose.

## 2005 GROWTH OF PORTFOLIOS

 (as a percentage)

## COMMERCIAL

FINANCIAL SERVICES

IN 2005, COMMERCIAL FINANCIAL SERVICES CHANNELLED ITS ENERGY AND EFFORTS INTO THE CONSOLIDATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF ITS PORTFOLIOS AND INTO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF VARIOUS BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND MARKETING INITIATIVES.

## Growth

Increase in assets in the Agricultural and Real Estate Financing sectors.

## Accessibility

Opening of two new Commercial Banking Centres, on the South Shore and on the North Shore of Montreal.

## HIGHER LEVEL OF EXCELLENCE

In line with the raison d'être of our line of business, i.e. to provide outstanding service while fostering a humane approach and to offer competitive products, our employees spare no effort to maintain the high level of excellence of their service that they are recognized for. With new experts joining our team during the year, we were poised to put forth maximum effort in business development.

## Sustained performance

Again this year, exceptional results in the Real Estate Financing sector with regard to business volumes and profitability.

## INITIATIVES

Effective and profitable promotional campaigns allowing to generate new volumes of business and new clients, mainly among

Quebec SMEs.

## Set priorities to grow

Our key priority for the coming year is to redouble our efforts with the goal to accelerate the growth of our business operations. With this in mind, our initiatives will include enhancing our product offering to ensure even more added-value to our clients.
We will work to further fine-tune the segmentation of our clientele to make access to our products and services even simpler and faster.

Strengthening synergies with Retail Financial Services will also contribute to reaching this goal by maximizing our expertise and using our full potential.

## SME FINANCING

$\qquad$
REAL ESTATE FINANCING -

AGRICULTURAL FINANCING -

MICROBUSINESS FINANCING

## 2005 ASSET GROWTH

(as a percentage)


Growth based on average assets, except for Real Estate which is based on year-end balances, (1) Excluding micro business and corporate assets.

## B2B TRUST

## B2B TRUST IS DEDICATED TO SERVING THE NEEDS OF THE FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARY COMMUNITY ACROSS CANADA. B2B TRUST PROVIDES FINANCIAL ADVISORS, PLANNERS AND BROKERS WITH SUPERIOR FINANCIAL PRODUCTS AND SERVICES FOR DISTRIBUTION TO THEIR CLIENTS. IN 2005, B2B TRUST CONTINUED TO ENJOY STANDING AS THE LEADING THIRD-PARTY SUPPLIER OF WHOLESALE DEPOSITS, INVESTMENT LENDING PRODUCTS, AND RSP LENDING PRODUCTS IN CANADA.

## 2005 - YEAR OF DIRECTION

Above and beyond achieving sustained organic growth, B2B Trust re-evaluated its market context, opportunity and strategic direction. The result: a redefined mission statement, a revisited business plan and new key metrics.

Moreover, key people were added and increased efforts were deployed to mobilize staff, while processing and tools have also been improved.

> Increased investments in business development and marketing were made to stimulate revenue generation and build market presence.

## 2006 year of MOMENTUM

B2B Trust will be concentrating its focus on its primary markets, longterm growth opportunities and its most productive business relationships.

Efforts will be dedicated to construction of a solid organizational foundation that can support accelerated future growth, enhanced performance and continuous improvements to the operational efficiency baseline.

Organic growth will be cultivated as resources are specifically dedicated to garner maximum value from highest profit contribution product categories and distribution channels.

In preparation for the future, we will continuously evaluate new manufacturing and distribution opportunities, review product offerings and reposition them into market opportunities while selectively using technology to improve capacity, improve service levels or to reduce costs.

## PRODUCTS

- Investment Loans

RSP Loans
Secured Loans-Mortgages/
Home Equity Lines
GICs
Banking Products and Services
Self-directed Accounts

## MARKETS AND DISTRIBUTION CHANNELS

B2B Trust serves more than 14,000 financial advisors across Canada.

- Mutual Fund Manufacturers

Mutual Fund Dealers
Investment Brokers
Insurance Manufacturers-
Segregated Funds
Insurance Brokers
Mortgage Brokers
Deposit Brokers

## MORE FLEXIBILITY FOR INVESTORS

Building on the success of its $100 \%$ Accelerator Investment Loan product which was launched in 2004, B2B Trust has streamlined the application process and increased the maximum loan amount to $\$ 100,000$. The Accelerator product offers financial advisors and their clients a rich feature set which is now complimented by a highly efficient application process and funding within 24 hours of loan approval.

## 2005 GROWTH OF PORTFOLIOS

(as a percentage)


[^1]
## LAURENTIAN BANK SECURITIES

## FISCAL 2005 WAS A GOOD YEAR FOR LAURENTIAN BANK SECURITIES: LAUNCHING NEW PRODUCTS AND SERVICES, RECRUITING ADDITIONAL SPECIALISTS TO EXPAND ITS TEAM OF INVESTMENT ADVISORS, AND REGISTERING A SIGNIFICANT INGREASE IN ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT.

A SOLID REPUTATION IN THE INSTITUTIONAL SECTOR

Laurentian Bank Securities has positioned itself as a leader in the institutional sector, mainly in the bond market. Recognized for its efficiency, effectiveness and know-how, the team intends to continue the development of the sector with the goal to become an inevitable player.

The solid expertise acquired in this market is the foundation for the development of our retail services division, which is now regarded as our new growth priority.

## INCREASED PRESENCE

A team of nearly 175 specialists, including 25 new investment advisors, as well as 11 brokerage offices across Quebec and Ontario, including 1 new location in Sainte-Thérèse.

## NEW PRODUCT OFFER

Launch of $\mathrm{M}^{3}$, Multi-dimensional
Managed Account Program,
a new tailored product offering
high flexibility in order to meet the
different needs of investors with various size portfolios.

## IMPROVED SERVICES

The Discount Brokerage division now offers a simple and efficient online transaction service allowing to do online trading in various North
American markets, as well as an electronic bond market platform that provides real-time quotes and performance information updates.

## FULL-SERVICE BROKERAGE

## DISCOUNT <br> BROKERAGE

## CAPITAL MARKETS

## INTRODUCING BROKER SERVICES

PROFITABLE AND
SUSTAINABLE GROWTH
Since 2001,
Laurentian Bank
Securities has been largely
investing in its growth while reaching its
profitability targets.

## OUR PRIORITY: GROWTH OF THE RETAIL BROKERAGE DIVISION

Laurentian Bank Securities has introduced various initiatives to stimulate the growth of its retail brokerage division, such as hiring some 25 new investment advisors, expanding the Research department with new analysts, implementing IT and technological developments to stay on the cutting edge, as well as ensuring a continued employee training program to be better equipped to meet the growing needs and expectations of its expanding client base.

## 2005 GROWTH

(as a percentage)


## CORPORATE

## SECTORS

## IN PERFORMING THEIR FUNCTIONS TO SUPPORT THE OPERATIONS OF THE BANK, THE CORPORATE SECTORS OF THE BANK SHOW AS MUCH DETERMINATION TO BE EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE AS THE BUSINESS SECTORS DO. THEY ARE DRIVEN BY RIGOUR, EFFECTIVENESS, EFFICIENCY AND INTEGRITY.

## CONTROLS

During the year, the Bank started the application of the new Canadian regulations with the goal to enhance financial controls and to ensure rigorous financial accounting and reporting to shareholders. The Bank currently reviews and documents major processes and controls concerning the management of its financial operations in order to comply with the prescribed deadlines.

## EFFICIENT PROCESSES TO

 THE BENEFIT OF OUR CLIENTSNo doubt, the signing of the new collective agreement that will govern the terms and conditions of employment for some 2,000 unionized employees of the Bank and the settlement of the main issues that were the subject of disagreement are among the key highlights of 2005. These achievements are the foundation for renewed relations between the Bank and the Union and contribute to building their long-term partnership based on the common goal, i.e. the success of Laurentian Bank.

To ensure good service to our clients, the Bank's advisors, account managers, customer service agents and all frontdesk personnel count on the support of our administrative teams for the rigorous and efficient management of client transactions. While staying in the background, these teams play a very important role of implementing efficient processes to make life easier for our clients.

## OPTIMIZATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF OUR PREMISES

The Bank's numerous initiatives to renovate and extend its branch network have been largely publicized. Moreover, we have made great efforts to optimize our premises - branch locations and corporate offices - which will allow us to generate substantial savings over the next few years.

## MOBILIZED EMPLOYEES TO PURSUE OUR DEVELOPMENT

The quality of our workforce is one of the pillars of the Bank. We will step up efforts to help our employees enhance their knowledge and skills and to allow them to reach their full potential.

Therefore, we will invest in strengthening their sense of belonging to the Bank and in reinforcing their commitment to our organization. Service recognition programs, various initiatives to acknowledge and promote employee achievements and improved communication are the projects we work on to ensure a work environment of equity, dynamism and respect.

## REVIVED TECHNOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT

IT tools and systems are an integral part of operations of any financial institution. Each year, the Bank invests in its infrastructures, IT hardware and software to ensure the most efficient environment for its clients. Therefore, we channel substantial resources in our ATM network, our internal office network and our data warehouse, which contributes to raising the efficiency of our operations.

# MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS 

[^2][^3]FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

RETURN ON COMMON SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY
(as a percentage)

|  | $\overline{\mathrm{m}}$ | $\stackrel{\infty}{+}$ | $\underset{\underset{\sim}{\mathrm{V}}}{ }$ | $\stackrel{\odot}{+}$ | $\stackrel{\infty}{\sim}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 20 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 0 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 |

TOTAL REVENUE
(in millions of dollars)



DILUTED NET INCOME PER COMMON SHARE (in dollars)
(

EFFICIENCY RATIO
(non-interest expenses as a percentage of total revenue)

|  | 측 | $\underset{\substack{\infty \\ \infty \\ \hline}}{\substack{0}}$ | $\stackrel{\circ}{i}$ | $\stackrel{\varrho}{\underset{\sim}{~}}$ | $\stackrel{\bar{\circ}}{\stackrel{\circ}{\circ}}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 80 70 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 60 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 |

BALANCE SHEET ASSETS, ASSETS UNDER
ADMINISTRATION AND ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (in billions of dollars)



## PERFORMANCE AND FINANCIAL OBJECTIVES

The table below summarizes the Bank's results, compared to its objectives for fiscal 2005. The Bank has reached all of its objectives, except for the total capital
ratio, which nonetheless remains comparable with that of the other Canadian banks. This table also presents the Bank's objectives for 2006, as defined by management.

Table 1
PERFORMANCE AND FINANCIAL OBJECTIVES

|  | 2005 Objectives | 2005 Results | 2006 Objectives |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Return on common shareholders' equity | 4.5\% to 5.5\% | 7.8\% (6.4\% from continuing operations) | $7 \%$ to 8\% |
| Diluted net income per share | \$1.30 to \$1.60 | \$2.26 (\$1.85 from continuing operations) | \$2.05 to \$2.35 |
| Total revenue | $+4 \% \text { to } 6 \%$ <br> (\$480 to \$490 million) | $\begin{array}{r} 9 \% \\ \$ 502 \text { million } \end{array}$ | $+4 \% \text { to } 6 \%$ <br> (\$522 to \$532 million) |
| Efficiency ratio | 79\% to 77.5\% | 76.1\% | 75\% to 73.5\% |
| Capital ratios <br> Tier I <br> Total | minimum of $9.5 \%$ minimum of $13.0 \%$ | $\begin{aligned} & 10.2 \% \\ & 12.3 \% \end{aligned}$ | minimum of $9.5 \%$ minimum of $12.0 \%$ |
| Credit quality (loan losses as a \% of average assets) | $0.25 \%$ to 0.22\% | 0.24\% | 0.25\% to 0.22\% |

The implementation of specific asset and liability management strategies designed to improve net interest income, ongoing since fiscal 2004, has been instrumental in the attainment of the objectives with regard to revenues. Moreover, the growth of Retail Financial Services and B2B Trust, as well as the cost savings resulting from the capital structure realignment, have allowed the Bank to surpass its objectives. The growth in loan portfolios and capital transactions however have had an impact on the Total capital ratio during fiscal 2005. The current ratio level is more appropriate, taking into account the balance between
level of capital and profitability. Consequently, the new objective in this regard has been set at a minimum of $12.0 \%$. The Bank intends to continue monitoring this ratio throughout fiscal 2006 in order to ensure that it stays well above the regulatory threshold.

For fiscal 2006, the Bank's management expects some improvement, although more modest, with regard to investment and hedging strategies designed to increase interest margin. Moreover, continuing efforts in loan and deposit operations should contribute to the improvement in profitability, notwithstanding the anticipated increase in salaries and employee benefits.

[^4]SUMMARY OF
FINANCIAL RESULTS

Table 2

(in millions of dellars)


FISCAL YEARS ENDED OCTOBER 31, 2005 AND 2004
The Bank's performance during fiscal 2005, as reflected in its net income of $\$ 65.3$ million, or $\$ 2.26$ diluted per common share ( $\$ 55.6$ million, or $\$ 1.85$ diluted per common share, from continuing operations), has significantly improved compared to fiscal 2004 when net income stood at $\$ 39.9$ million, or $\$ 1.33$ diluted per common share. However, at $7.8 \%$ ( $6.4 \%$ from continuing operations), return on common shareholders' equity remains below management's expectations in the long term.

The significant improvement in the Bank's net interest income-attributable to tighter asset and liability management strategies, the redemption of debentures in 2004 and 2005, and the growth in residential mortgage and personal loan portfolios-has been partly offset by a decrease in other income, particularly in revenues from treasury and financial market activities. Results for fiscal 2004 included the effect of the significant items mentioned in Table 3, on page 33.

Non-interest expenses increased, a result mainly attributable to variable compensation costs reflecting the improvement in revenues and profitability. Other expenses also increased, as additional resources were devoted to advertising and business development.

The provision for credit losses remained stable at $\$ 40$ million or $0.24 \%$ of average assets in 2005, the same as in 2004. This level of provisions reflects the portfolios' condition which continues to benefit from a relatively favourable economic environment.

## Discontinued operations- <br> Sale of BLC-Edmond de Rothschild <br> Asset Management Inc.

During the first quarter of fiscal 2005, the Bank disposed of its mutual fund management and institutional financial management operations, grouped in the

BLC-Edmond de Rothschild Asset Management Inc. joint venture, to Industrial Alliance Insurance and Financial Services Inc. This disposal allowed for the recognition of an initial gain of $\$ 5.4$ million ( $\$ 5.2$ million net of income taxes) in income from discontinued operations, including the loss related to the decrease in value of investments in seed capital of some BLC-Edmond de Rothschild Asset Management Inc. mutual funds. The disposal agreement provides for the Bank to continue to distribute the R Funds during a ten-year period, ending December 31, 2014, as well as Industrial Alliance's mutual funds.

The initial proceeds of the disposal, based on assets under management at the closing date of the transaction, amounted to $\$ 67.8$ million. A $\$ 26.2$ million portion of this amount was subject to a recovery clause relative to the volume of net sales of mutual funds, and initially recognized as deferred income. At the end of the fourth quarter of fiscal 2005, it was apparent that the recovery clause requirements for the first year would be satisfied. Consequently, an additional gain of $\$ 5.2$ million ( $\$ 4.4$ million net of income taxes) was recognized in income from discontinued operations. The deferred income related to the last four fiscal years will be recognized as income over the next fiscal years inasmuch as the minimum net sales requirements are satisfied.

Withdrawing from these asset management operations should not have much of an impact on the Bank's future profitability, as these operations were only marginally profitable. On the other hand, the distribution agreement with Industrial Alliance will enable the Bank to focus on the distribution of financial products and should have a positive impact on revenue growth over the coming years.

Note 2 to the consolidated financial statements provides information relevant to this transaction.

## FISCAL YEARS ENDED

## OCTOBER 31, 2004 AND 2003

For the fiscal year ended October 31, 2003, the Bank reported net income of $\$ 84.0$ million, or $\$ 3.32$ diluted per common share. Return on common shareholders' equity was $12.4 \%$ for that fiscal period. Results for fiscal 2003, as those for fiscal 2004, included the impact of certain significant transactions, as detailed in Table 3 on page 33, including the $\$ 69.9$ million ( $\$ 54.9$ million net of income taxes) gain realized on the sale of the Ontario and Western Canada branches. Excluding these significant items, net income for 2003 would have been $\$ 31.3$ million, or $\$ 1.07$ diluted per
common share, and return on common shareholders' equity would have been $4.0 \%$. These results already reflected the reduction in profitability which was to continue until the end of fiscal 2004. This was mainly attributable to a decrease in net interest margin and in revenues from treasury and financial markets activities. Nonetheless, strong capital ratios recorded during that period allowed for withstanding such a level of profitability, long enough for adjustment measures to translate into results.

## ECONOMIC OUTLOOK-2006

## MODERATE GROWTH AND RESTRAINED

INFLATION... BUT THE RISKS ARE RISING
Looking at the economic landscape in the autumn of 2005, what is most striking is the remarkable capacity of the Canadian and Quebec economies to adjust to a rapidly changing environment. Despite a series of increases in energy prices, despite an appreciating currency, despite heightened competition from offshore producers and higher interest rates, the Canadian and Quebec economies have held up reasonably well, certainly better than the overly dramatic media coverage would have us believe. Real GDP growth has averaged just under 3\% in 2004-2005 and we forecast a similar rate of growth for 2006. In Quebec, firm domestic demand has kept the economy moving forward and the rate of unemployment relatively stable at around $8.5 \%$ during the same period.

However, the Canadian economy, while resilient, is still far from perfect. For one thing, there is a widening regional divide with Western Canada growing very rapidly, fuelled by the boom in natural resources, while Central Canada is undergoing a significant restructuring of its large manufacturing sector. This restructuring was triggered by the combined impact of a rising currency and heightened competition from emerging market economies. Moreover, the significant increase in energy prices during 2005, without being devastating, will contribute to slowing the economy down in 2006 while feeding inflationary expectations. In fact, the greatest risk as far as this 2006 outlook is concerned comes from energy prices for, the longer they remain elevated, the greater the constraint on future economic growth and, simultaneously, the greater the risk as regards inflation expectations. Inflation is still expected to return to 2\% in the second half of 2006 but should average at least $3 \%$ until then. Should inflation expectations harden at
higher levels and start feeding into core inflation, the Bank of Canada will not hesitate to tighten monetary policies more aggressively than currently anticipated, regardless of the negative implications of such actions on short-term growth prospects.

With inflationary pressures likely to be transitory, the current monetary tightening cycle should be rather mild. In fact, the Bank of Canada has consistently emphasized the considerable downside risks to the global economy in 2007 and does not appear in a great rush to move interest rates up aggressively. Our interest rate forecast reflects this view and calls for the overnight rate to move to $3.50 \%$ in the first quarter of 2006 and then stay at that level for quite some time, that is to say well into the autumn of 2006 or at least until the outlook for 2007 is a little clearer.

The risks with regard to the outlook on global economic growth arise mainly out of the serious international imbalances that persist and that will inevitably need to be addressed in the near future. The major risk is that the unwinding of these imbalances could be less than orderly and, consequently, usher in a period of great financial market volatility. Ultimately, this would translate into significantly weaker global economic growth which, in turn, would reduce the demand for Canadian goods and services.

In the United States, still the key destination for Canadian and Quebec exports, the economic fundamentals remain solid despite the significant shocks that hit that economy late in the summer of 2005. Generally speaking, powerful hurricanes and other natural disasters tend to have little to no lasting impact on large developed economies. These economies typically have ready access to plentiful public and private financial resources to fund the required reconstruction work. While this was certainly the case with hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the impact of these terrible disasters was nonetheless magnified by the extensive damage they wrought on the Gulf Coast's key ports, and energy and petrochemical infrastructures. Furthermore, the unprecedented emptying of whole cities affecting millions of people became not only the dominant economic factor producing distorted indicators well into November, but also impacted consumer confidence nationally in ways that are not yet fully understood. In the longer term, the impact of these disasters will be ultimately determined by how long it will take to fully repair the damaged infrastructures and what happens in the meantime to energy prices, other input prices and the federal government's fiscal position.

In Quebec, we expect real GDP growth to reach 2.5\% in 2005 and 2006, only marginally higher than the $2.3 \%$ recorded in 2004. In 2005, consumer spending and residential construction remained solid but investment and exports turned out to be weaker than expected. For 2006, the overall picture is not expected to change much as a pickup in investment spending should compensate for a modest deceleration in consumer spending. Nevertheless, the risks appear substantially higher than in 2005, particularly as they pertain to energy prices and the value of the Canadian dollar. Our base case forecast is built on the assumptions that crude oil prices will remain within the US $\$ 55$-US $\$ 60$ per barrel range and that the Canadian dollar will average US $\$ 0.82$-US $\$ 0.83$. Higher than expected energy prices or a stronger Canadian dollar would result in a downward revision to our forecast.

As for the Bank, such outlook on the growth of the Canadian and Quebec economies, as well as steady residential construction, should contribute to supporting the growth of retail and commercial loan portfolios, and to improving profitability. Pressures from a rising Canadian dollar however could intensify difficulties for some manufacturing sectors. Inflation risks linked to energy prices could, moreover, bring about a gradual rise in interest rates which, mediumterm, would impact the growth of loan volumes and increase the risk of losses. As for capital markets, the Bank expects the level of activity to remain similar to 2004, while treasury and financial market activities will have to proceed with caution considering the situation with regard to interest rates.

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QUEBEC - REAL GDP
(as a percentage)
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## CRUDE OIL VS. CAD DOLLARS



CANADIAN RATES
(as a percentage)

$\overline{10}$ YEAR BOND YIELO BANK OF CANADA OVERNIGHT RATE

## ANALYSIS OF CONSOLIDATED RESULTS

## TOTAL REVENUE

Total revenue was $\$ 502.1$ million for fiscal 2005, an increase of $\$ 36$ million or $8 \%$, compared to $\$ 466.1$ million for fiscal 2004. This performance is mainly attributable to the improvement in net interest margin as well as in loan and deposit volumes during the fiscal year, partially offset by a reduction in other revenues, particularly revenues from treasury and financial market activities. It is worth noting that revenues for 2004 included the favourable impact of the disposal of certain activities and portfolios, as well as other transactions as detailed in the following table. Taking into account these items, the improvement with regard to revenues is all the more interesting.

Table 3

| SIGNIFICANT ITEMS AFFECTING RESULTS <br> (in millions of dollars, except per share amounts) | Items, before income taxes | Items, net of | Diluted, per common share |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Favorable (unfavorable) |  |  |
| 2004 |  |  |  |
| Items affecting net interest income |  |  |  |
| Interest expense resulting from the reclassification of dividends and of the redemption premium on Class A Preferred Shares |  |  |  |
| Series 7 and 8, including the overlap in dividends | \$ (7.4) | \$ (7.6) | \$(0.32) |
| Costs associated with the redemption of the Debentures Series 7 | (1.1) | (0.7) | (0.03) |
|  | (8.5) | (8.3) | (0.35) |
| Items affecting other income |  |  |  |
| Sale of the Ontario and Western Canada Visa loan portfolio | 4.4 | 3.8 | 0.16 |
| Sale of the debit and credit card transaction processing activities and certain rights to service mutual fund accounts | 5.6 | 4.6 | 0.20 |
| Review of the provisions related to the Ontario and Western |  |  |  |
| Canada branches sold during the fourth quarter of 2003 | 3.5 | 2.4 | 0.10 |
|  | 13.5 | 10.8 | 0.46 |

Items affecting income taxes
Increase in future tax assets arising from the increase in Ontario

| income tax rates, net of non-controlling interest | 1.5 | 0.06 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | 1.5 | 0.06 |
| Effect on net income | $\$ 4.0$ | $\$ 0.17$ |
| Effect of reclassification of dividends on Class A Preferred shares Series 7 and 8 | 3.9 | 0.17 |
| Partial dividend on Class A Preferred shares Series 10 | 0.5 | 0.02 |
| Effect on net income available to common shareholders | $\$ 8.4$ | $\$ 0.36$ |

2003
Items affecting the provision for credit losses

| Loan losses related to Air Canada exposure | $\$(10.0)$ | $\$(6.5)$ | $\$(0.28)$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | $(10.0)$ | $(6.5)$ | $(0.28)$ |
| Items affecting other income |  |  |  |
| Gain on sale of the Ontario and Western Canada branches | 69.9 | 54.9 | 2.34 |
| Contribution of branches sold | 26.3 | 17.1 | 0.73 |
|  | 96.2 | 72.0 | 3.07 |
| Items affecting non-interest expenses | $(19.7)$ | $(12.8)$ | $(0.54)$ |
| Restructuring charge | $(19.7)$ | $(12.8)$ | $(0.54)$ |
|  |  | $\$ 52.7$ | $\$ 2.25$ |

## NET INTEREST INCOME

The Bank's net interest income, as shown in Table 4 below, increased from $\$ 267.2$ million in 2004 to $\$ 325.7$ million in 2005 . This improvement is mainly the result of the increase of the net interest margin from $1.64 \%$ in 2004 to $1.99 \%$ in 2005. The tighter asset and liability management strategies pursued since 2004, the $\$ 250$ million repurchase of debentures in 2004 and

2005, and the optimization of the liquidity investment strategies have all been instrumental in restoring the net margin to a level more in keeping with the banking industry and the Bank's retail activities. This momentum should continue throughout 2006, although more discreetly. These items have also allowed the Bank to offset the ever present impact of the fierce competition within the Canadian market.

Growth in the residential mortgage and personal loan portfolios as well as in personal deposits, has also contributed to the improvement of net interest income. The Bank finances its operations mainly by raising such personal deposits and, to a lesser extent, deposits from businesses and financial institutions.

Derivative financial instruments are efficient tools to manage interest rate risk and liquidity risk. Depending on the evolution of interest rates and the composition of portfolios in terms of maturity and types of products, actual return on portfolios can fluctuate substantially. Accordingly, the Bank uses derivative financial instruments to manage its risks, and net interest income must be reviewed on a hedged basis. The Bank also uses models to quantify the potential impact
of various future scenarios on revenues and equity, as detailed in the Structural risk management section on page 56 of this Annual Report.

In accordance with the new accounting standards governing financial instruments (see Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements), results for fiscal 2004 have been adjusted and include a $\$ 7.4$ million interest charge resulting from the payment of dividends and from the redemption premium on Class A Preferred Shares Series 7 and Series 8 , including the effect of the overlap in dividend payments. As these shares were repurchased in 2004, there is no equivalent expense for fiscal 2005. Interest expense for fiscal 2004 also includes costs of $\$ 1.1$ million associated with the repurchase of Series 7 debentures.

Table 4
CHANGES IN NET INTEREST INCOME

| For the years ended October 31 (in millions of dollars and as a perc |  | 2005 |  |  |  |  | 2004 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Average volume in \% | Average volume | Interest | Average rate | Average volume in \% | Average volume | Interest | Average rate |

## Assets

| Cash resources |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Interest-bearing | 1.9\% | \$ 307 | \$ 7.9 | 2.56\% | 2.8\% | 457 | \$ 9.8 | 2.14\% |
| Non-interest-bearing | 0.4 | 58 | - | - | 0.3 | 56 | - | - |
| Securities | 19.1 | 3,120 | 59.7 | 1.91 | 17.6 | 2,870 | 57.5 | 2.00 |
| Assets purchased under |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 2.31 |
| Loans |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Personal | 22.9 | 3,735 | 247.6 | 6.63 | 21.9 | 3,576 | 239.8 | 6.71 |
| Residential mortgages | 34.6 | 5,649 | 298.2 | 5.28 | 32.6 | 5,329 | 303.6 | 5.70 |
| Commercial mortgages | 3.5 | 572 | 34.9 | 6.11 | 3.9 | 639 | 38.9 | 6.09 |
| Commercial and other | 9.9 | 1,621 | 87.0 | 5.37 | 10.0 | 1,625 | 84.1 | 5.18 |
| Other assets | 3.9 | 640 | 0.5 | 0.08 | 4.5 | 737 | 0.5 | 0.07 |
| Total-assets | 100.0\% | \$16,328 | \$750.2 | 4.59\% | 100.0\% | 6,327 | \$758.2 | 4.65\% |


| Liabilities and shareholders' equity |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| $\quad$ Demand and notice deposits | $\$ 2,497$ | $\$ 10.3$ | $0.41 \%$ | $\$ 2,399$ | $\$$ | 9.4 |
| Term deposits | 10,806 | 415.2 | 3.84 | $0.39 \%$ |  |  |
| Other deposits | 1,368 | 13.0 | 0.95 | 10,455 | 433.9 | 4.15 |
| Derivative financial instruments | - | $(30.2)$ | - | 1,507 | 19.5 | 1.29 |
|  | 14,671 | 408.3 | 2.78 | - | $(6.8)$ | - |
| Acceptances | 131 | - | - | 14,361 | 456.0 | 3.18 |
| Other liabilities | 426 | - | - | 197 | - | - |
| Subordinated debentures | 204 | 16.2 | 7.93 | 512 | - | - |
| Liability related to preferred shares | - | - | - | 358 | 27.2 | 7.59 |
| Shareholders' equity | 896 | - | - | 62 | 7.8 | 12.60 |
| Total -liabilities and shareholders' equity | $\$ 16,328$ | $\$ 424.5$ | $2.60 \%$ | 837 | - | - |
| Net interest income |  | $\$ 325.7$ | $1.99 \%$ | $\$ 16,327$ | $\$ 491.0$ | $3.01 \%$ |

NET INTEREST INCOME
(in millions of dollars)

|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Ni } \\ \text { H్ల } \end{gathered}$ | $\stackrel{9}{\stackrel{M}{m}}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \stackrel{\circ}{\circ} \mathrm{e} \\ & \stackrel{\sim}{0} \end{aligned}$ | $\stackrel{\stackrel{\sim}{\circ}}{\stackrel{N}{\sim}}$ | ヘ్ల్లి |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 400 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 300 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 200 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 |

## OTHER INCOME

Other income stood at $\$ 176.4$ million for fiscal 2005, compared to $\$ 198.9$ million in 2004 . This $\$ 22.5$ million decrease results mainly from the reduction of revenues from treasury and financial market activities which was partly offset by the improvement in revenues from securitization operations. Other income for fiscal 2004 also included the impact of the disposal of assets, as shown in Table 3 and Table 5 on page 33 and 36.

Revenues from loans and deposits remained at $\$ 89.2$ million for fiscal 2005, as the reduction in commercial lending fees was offset by the increase in fees for the use of automated banking machines.

Revenues from treasury and financial market activities stood at $\$ 16.2$ million for fiscal 2005, compared to $\$ 30.6$ million in 2004 . These revenues were affected by market conditions that were less favourable than in 2004 and by the change in liquidity management strategies aimed at reducing volatility and improving net interest income.

After a strong growth in fiscal 2004, revenues derived from brokerage activities held steady at $\$ 20.2$ million in 2005 . The two major services -institutional brokerage and retail brokerage-recorded revenues more or less equivalent to last year's.

Revenues from mutual funds decreased by $\$ 3.3$ million and stood at $\$ 9.6$ million in 2005 . These revenues are now derived exclusively from distribution activities whose revenues increased by $\$ 1.3$ million during fiscal 2005 as a result of the growth in the volumes of distributed mutual funds. Revenues from fund management activities, which were grouped within the BLC-Edmond

NET INTEREST INCOME
(as a percentage of average assets)

|  | $\stackrel{\circ}{\text { ® }}$ | $\stackrel{\infty}{\square}$ | $\stackrel{-}{\square}$ | $\stackrel{ \pm}{+}$ | $\stackrel{\otimes}{\square}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 3 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 0 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 |

de Rothschild Asset Management Inc. joint venture, decreased by $\$ 4.6$ million, taking into account that these activities were disposed of at the beginning of fiscal 2005. This reduction in revenues was offset however by an equivalent reduction in expenditures.

Revenues from securitization rose to $\$ 11.7$ million in 2005 , compared to $\$ 4.4$ million in 2004. Transfers of receivables for financing and capital management purposes have been more frequent during fiscal 2005 in order to meet the significant growth in loan volumes. These operations result in recognizing in income a significant portion of the net interest margin which otherwise would have been earned over the term of the loans. Note 5 to the consolidated financial statements provides further information on these operations.

Insurance revenues are essentially generated by insurance programs related to loans disbursed by the Bank. Taking into account that certain risks associated with these operations will not be reinsured at the beginning of fiscal 2006, insurance revenues should increase significantly from fiscal 2006 onwards, inasmuch as the level of losses linked to these operations remains similar to that of previous years.

Revenues from registered self-directed plans decreased slightly and stood at $\$ 11.8$ million for fiscal 2005, compared to $\$ 12.2$ million in 2004. This result is linked to changes in market conditions that weigh the number of registered self-directed plans downward, and this despite the increase in assets under administration (see the section on off-balance sheet arrangements on page 46 of this Management Discussion and Analysis).

Table 5

| OTHER INCOME For the years ended October 31 (in millions of dollars) | 2005 | 2004 | 2003 | 2002 | 2001 | Variation $05 / 04$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Fees and commissions |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| on loans and deposits |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Deposit service charges | \$ 47.7 | \$ 45.8 | \$ 51.3 | \$ 51.4 | \$ 47.8 | 4\% |
| Lending fees | 30.4 | 32.1 | 37.8 | 48.6 | 43.6 | (5) |
| Card service revenues | 11.1 | 11.3 | 12.4 | 12.8 | 13.5 | (2) |
| Sub-total-fees and commissions |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| on loans and deposits | 89.2 | 89.2 | 101.5 | 112.8 | 104.9 | - |
| As a \% of average assets | 0.55\% | 0.55\% | 0.55\% | 0.61\% | 0.61\% |  |
| Other |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Brokerage operations | 20.2 | 20.2 | 16.7 | 19.2 | 23.3 | - |
| Income from treasury and financial market operations | 16.2 | 30.6 | 50.9 | 61.9 | 48.7 | (47) |
| Income from registered |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| self-directed plans | 11.8 | 12.2 | 12.6 | 13.2 | 14.4 | (3) |
| Securitization income | 11.7 | 4.4 | 1.0 | 16.1 | 18.7 | 166 |
| Income from sale and |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| management of mutual funds | 9.6 | 12.9 | 10.7 | 13.9 | 17.9 | (26) |
| Insurance income | 7.7 | 6.1 | 6.7 | 5.3 | 4.5 | 26 |
| Trust services | 1.0 | 2.1 | 2.1 | 1.8 | 1.4 | (52) |
| Gain on disposals | - | 13.5 | 69.9 | - | - | - |
| Other | 9.0 | 7.7 | 14.6 | 10.2 | 8.5 | 17 |
| Other special items | - | - | - | - | 23.3 | - |
| Sub-total-other | 87.2 | 109.7 | 185.2 | 141.6 | 160.7 | (21) |
| As a \% of average assets | 0.53\% | 0.67\% | 1.00\% | 0.76\% | 0.94\% |  |
| Total-other income | \$176.4 | \$198.9 | \$286.7 | \$254.4 | \$265.6 | (11)\% |
| As a \% of average assets | 1.08\% | 1.22\% | 1.55\% | 1.37\% | 1.55\% |  |

OTHER INCOME
(in millions of dollars)

|  | $\begin{aligned} & \stackrel{\bullet}{\dot{\circ}} \\ & \stackrel{\circ}{\circ} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { J } \\ & \stackrel{\text { IN }}{N} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { N } \\ & \dot{\infty} \\ & \text {. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { の } \\ & \underset{\sim}{\infty} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { H } \\ & \stackrel{\ominus}{\circ} \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 300 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 250 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 200 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 150 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 |

## PROVISION FOR CREDIT LOSSES

The provision for credit losses stood at $\$ 40.0$ million in 2005 , or $0.33 \%$ of the average portfolio of loans,
bankers' acceptances and assets purchased under reverse repurchase agreements. In 2004, the provision also stood at $\$ 40.0$ million, including the impact of a $\$ 12.0$ million reversal of general allowance and equivalent additional provisions of $\$ 6.4$ million, $\$ 1.9$ million and $\$ 3.7$ million related to the commercial loan, commercial mortgage and personal loan portfolios respectively. The level of losses remains high, but is still in line with the objectives set at the start of fiscal 2005. Slightly higher losses related to a specific personal lines of credit portfolio, as well as some credit losses related to the commercial loan portfolio, had a negative impact on the loan loss provision. On the other hand, the residential and commercial mortgage loan portfolios, as well as the other personal loan portfolios, continue to perform very well.

The following table presents the provision for credit losses from 2003 to 2005.

Table 6
PROVISION FOR CREDIT LOSSES

| For the years ended October 31 (in millions of dollars) | 2005 | 2004 | $200 \mathbf{c}^{(1)}$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Personal loans | $\$ 25.1$ | $\$ 25.6$ | $\$ 26.3$ |
| Residential mortgages | 0.6 | 1.7 | 1.2 |
| Commercial mortgages | 1.6 | 3.1 | 1.6 |
| Commercial loans and other | 12.7 | 21.6 | 28.9 |
| Sub-total | 40.0 | 52.0 | 58.0 |
| Effect of the reversal of general allowances | - | $(12.0)$ | $(4.0)$ |
| Total - provision for credit losses | $\$ 40.0$ | $\$ 40.0$ | $\$ 54.0$ |
| As a \% of average loans, bankers' acceptances and assets | $0.33 \%$ | $0.32 \%$ | $0.37 \%$ |
| purchased under reverse repurchase agreements |  |  |  |

(1) Excluding the impact of the sale of the Ontario and Western Canada branches.

## NON-INTEREST EXPENSES

Non-interest expenses stood at $\$ 382.0$ million for 2005 , compared to $\$ 369.7$ million for 2004.

Compensation costs increased by $\$ 9.3$ million, mainly because employee benefits and costs associated with incentive compensation are substantially higher for this fiscal year, considering the improvement in the Bank's results as well as the level at which the objectives have been attained. For fiscal 2006, compensation costs should increase nearly $7 \%$, as a result, among other things, of the increase in actuarial deficits related to employee future benefits in the wake of the reduction in interest rates during fiscal 2005, and of the anticipated growth in the number of employees and in salaries. Note 14 to the consolidated financial statements on page 88 of this Annual Report offers more information regarding pension plans. The number of full-time equivalent employees increased by 55 , from 3,125 as at October 2004 to 3,180 as at October 31, 2005. This increase is mainly attributable to the opening of new branches and the hiring of personnel in the Bank's business segments. Meanwhile, the number of employees in the Bank's corporate sectors has decreased. This mirrors the Bank's significant efforts towards better efficiency and better quality of customer service with an aim to furthering its growth.

Premises and technology costs increased slightly, from $\$ 104.7$ million in 2004 to $\$ 107.6$ million in 2005. In fiscal 2004, the Bank benefited from the positive effect of the service agreement related the management of the Ontario and Western Canada branches. Moreover, this result is also attributable to the increase in the costs of outsourced technology services, which
was offset by the reduction in amortization expenses. The increase in maintenance and repairs expenses, for its part, is mainly related to the renovation program underway in the branch network.

Other expenses stood at $\$ 82.1$ million in 2004, compared to $\$ 82.2$ million in 2005 . The increase in advertising and business development expenses, as well as in communications and traveling expenses, further attest to the Bank's new development priorities. These increases were partly offset by the reduction in fees and commissions, as well as by tax reductions.

Table 7 illustrates the changes in non-interest expenses from 2001 to 2005.

## Efficiency ratio

The efficiency ratio improved, from $79.3 \%$ in 2004 to $76.1 \%$ in 2005 (on the basis of continuing operations). This improvement is basically related to the increase in revenues. The following graph illustrates the Bank's performance over the last fiscal years.

EFFICIENCY RATIO
(non-interest expenses as a percentage of total revenue)

|  | 도 | $\begin{aligned} & \infty \\ & \infty \\ & \infty \end{aligned}$ | $\stackrel{\circ}{\underset{~}{̇}}$ | $\stackrel{\text { M }}{\stackrel{1}{\circ}}$ | $\bigcirc$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 80 70 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 60 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 |

Table 7

| NON-INTEREST EXPENSES |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| For the years ended October 31 (in millions of dollars) | 2005 | 2004 | 2003 | 2002 | 2001 | Variation 05/04 |
| Salaries | \$146.8 | \$140.4 | \$162.9 | \$159.7 | \$178.3 |  |
| Employee benefits | 45.4 | 42.5 | 42.0 | 39.0 | 34.6 |  |
| Sub-total-salaries and employee benefits | 192.2 | 182.9 | 204.9 | 198.7 | 212.9 | 5\% |
| As a \% of average assets | 1.18\% | 1.12\% | 1.10\% | 1.07\% | 1.24\% |  |
| Premises and technology |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Equipment and computer services | 37.6 | 30.1 | 38.4 | 37.2 | 36.2 |  |
| Rent and property taxes | 33.1 | 33.4 | 38.8 | 34.2 | 33.5 |  |
| Depreciation | 28.4 | 34.5 | 42.4 | 39.2 | 36.1 |  |
| Maintenance and repairs | 5.3 | 4.8 | 6.3 | 6.5 | 7.1 |  |
| Public utilities | 1.1 | 1.0 | 1.9 | 2.0 | 2.4 |  |
| Other | 2.1 | 0.9 | 1.2 | 1.0 | 0.6 |  |
| Sub-total - premises and technology | 107.6 | 104.7 | 129.0 | 120.1 | 115.9 | 3\% |
| As a \% of average assets | 0.66\% | 0.64\% | 0.70\% | 0.65\% | 0.67\% |  |
| Restructuring costs | - | - | 19.7 | (0.6) | 17.5 | -\% |
| As a \% of average assets | -\% | -\% | 0.11\% | -\% | 0.10\% |  |
| Other expenses |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Taxes and insurance | 23.6 | 25.1 | 24.5 | 25.2 | 25.9 |  |
| Communications and travelling expenses | 17.6 | 16.1 | 18.1 | 18.6 | 18.8 |  |
| Fees and commissions | 16.5 | 17.1 | 18.8 | 21.3 | 17.1 |  |
| Advertising and business development | 13.2 | 11.6 | 12.2 | 11.2 | 10.9 |  |
| Stationery and publications | 6.0 | 6.0 | 6.9 | 7.1 | 7.2 |  |
| Recruitment and training | 2.3 | 2.2 | 2.2 | 1.9 | 2.4 |  |
| Other | 3.0 | 4.0 | 5.5 | 3.8 | 16.9 |  |
| Sub-total-other expenses | 82.2 | 82.1 | 88.2 | 89.1 | 99.2 | -\% |
| As a \% of average assets | 0.50\% | 0.50\% | 0.47\% | 0.47\% | 0.58\% |  |
| Total-non-interest expenses | \$382.0 | \$369.7 | \$441.8 | \$407.3 | \$445.5 | 3\% |
| As a \% of average assets | 2.34\% | 2.26\% | 2.38\% | 2.19\% | 2.59\% |  |
| As a \% of total revenue (efficiency ratio) | ) 76.1\% | 79.3\% | 71.0\% | 68.8\% | 72.1\% |  |

## INCOME TAX EXPENSE

Income tax expense for 2005 stood at $\$ 24.5$ million, for an effective tax rate of $30.6 \%$. For 2004, income tax expense was $\$ 14.6$ million, for an effective tax rate of $25.9 \%$. In 2004, lower income taxes on gains related to the various disposals of assets and the adjustment to the future tax assets resulting from the increase in Ontario income tax rates, had a favorable impact on income tax expense.

The Bank pays special attention to its fiscal situation, making sure in particular of optimizing the use of income tax loss carryforwards and recoverable minimum taxes.

Note 16 to the consolidated financial statements on page 91 of this Annual Report offers more information on the Bank's fiscal situation, particularly with regard to future income tax assets, provision for income taxes and effective tax rates.

## ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION

During 2005, the Bank pursued its initiatives designed to further develop its activities in areas where it holds a competitive position. This translated into the disposal of BLC-Edmond de Rothschild Asset Management Inc. and, most importantly, the opening of new branches in Quebec, a forceful marketing strategy as regards advertising as well as within the branch network, and renewed efforts with regard to its relations with financial intermediaries. These initiatives, among other things, have contributed to the modification of the Bank's asset mix. Likewise, the realignment of the Bank's capital structure, as well as new investment and hedging strategies, have had an impact on the Bank's financial condition as compared to fiscal 2004. Finally, the notable improvement in results has enabled the Bank to maintain a strong level of capitalization while ensuring the payment of dividends.

As at October 31, 2005, the Bank's total assets stood at $\$ 16.5$ billion, compared to $\$ 16.6$ billion as at October 31, 2004, as indicated in Table 8 below. Assets under administration stood at $\$ 13.8$ billion, compared to
$\$ 14.9$ billion at the end of fiscal 2004. These changes are explained in the next sections of this Management Discussion and Analysis.

Table 8

| BALANCE SHEET ASSETS |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Variation } \\ & 05 / 04 \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| As at October 31 (in millions of dollars) | 2005 | 2004 | 2003 |  |
| Cash resources and securities | \$ 3,258 | \$ 3,331 | \$ 3,906 | (2)\% |
| Assets purchased under reverse repurchase agreements | 508 | 1,134 | 882 | (55) |
| Loans |  |  |  |  |
| Personal | 3,907 | 3,639 | 3,646 | 7 |
| Residential mortgages | 5,807 | 5,509 | 5,274 | 5 |
| Commercial mortgages | 596 | 604 | 705 | (1) |
| Commercial and other | 1,540 | 1,543 | 1,572 | - |
|  | 11,850 | 11,295 | 11,197 | 5 |
| Allowance for loan losses | (130) | (140) | (163) | (7) |
| Total loans | 11,720 | 11,155 | 11,034 | 5 |
| Customers' liability under acceptances | 146 | 145 | 235 | 1 |
| Other assets | 875 | 842 | 681 | 4 |
| Balance sheet assets | \$16,507 | \$16,607 | \$16,738 | (1)\% |
| Cash resources and securities as a \% of balance sheet assets | 19.7\% | 20.1\% | 23.3\% |  |
| Loans and assets purchased under reverse repurchase agreements as a \% of balance sheet assets <br> 74.1\% <br> 74.0\% <br> 71.2\% |  |  |  |  |

## CASH RESOURCES AND SECURITIE

Cash resources and securities remained relatively stable during 2005, compared to last year, standing at $\$ 3.3$ billion as at October 31, 2005. More than 79\% of the Bank's securities are composed of securities issued or guaranteed by Canada, provinces or municipal corporations. The remainder of the portfolio is composed of cash, other debt securities and equity securities. Cash resources and securities now constitute nearly $20 \%$ of balance sheet assets, a level comparable to last year's. Cash resources enable the Bank to meet its commitments and limit its eventual use of more costly sources of financing. Return on cash resources however is generally lower than what the Bank can generate through its loan operations. Consequently, the management of cash resources as well as their mix have a significant impact on results. The improvement in net interest income for 2005 is attributable, among other things, to the relative lengthening of the maturity of these portfolios.

As at October 31, 2005, certain securities presented losses in value totalling $\$ 10.4$ million, as detailed in Note 3 to the consolidated financial statements on page 80 of this Annual Report. These losses in value essentially concern debt securities issued or guaranteed by the Canadian government or the government of a Canadian province, and are linked to changes in the interest rates on the market at year-end. The Bank believes that it can hold these securities to maturity or until such impairments in value resorb. Consequently, no loss impairment has been recognized in income.

SECURITIES
(as a percentage)


ASSETS PURCHASED UNDER
REVERSE REPURCHASE AGREEMENTS
The value of assets purchased under reverse repurchase agreements stood at $\$ 0.5$ billion as at October 31, 2005, compared to $\$ 1.1$ billion on October 31, 2004. These assets are used as very short term investments, mainly to reposition the Bank's cash resources and cover certain commitments related to securities sold short.

## OTHER ASSETS

Other assets, excluding customers' liabilities under acceptances, increased from $\$ 842$ million as at October 31, 2004 to $\$ 875$ million on October 31, 2005. This slight increase is mainly attributable to the increase in items in transit linked to the settlement of banking transactions at the end of the year, offset by the reduction in assets related to derivative financial instruments.

LOAN PORTFOLIO MIX
(as a percentage)
(as a percentage)


GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION
(as a percentage)


LOANS AND BANKERS' ACCEPTANCES
The loans and bankers' acceptances portfolio, before provision for credit losses, increased by $5 \%$ to $\$ 12.0$ billion as at October 31, 2005, compared to $\$ 11.4$ billion at October 31, 2004. The mix of the various portfolios is described below.

## Loan portfolio mix

The Bank's loan portfolio consists of personal loans, residential mortgages, commercial mortgages and commercial loans, including bankers' acceptances. The pro-
portion of the different types of loans as at October 31, 2005 is largely the same as at October 31, 2004.

The personal loan portfolio and the residential mortgage portfolio stood at $\$ 3.9$ billion and $\$ 5.8$ billion respectively, representing more than $80 \%$ of the Bank's loan portfolio, a level similar to 2004 . This proportion reflects the Bank's strong retail presence through Retail Financial Services and B2B Trust. Commercial financing, essentially for small- and medium-sized businesses, remained stable at $\$ 2.3$ billion as at October 31, 2005, compared to October 31, 2004.

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION
In line with its business plan, the Bank is principally active in Quebec where its distinct strengths enables it to compete efficiently. In practical terms, the Bank's presence manifests itself through its network of retail branches and commercial banking centres. Moreover, the Bank extends its activities throughout Canada via 28 commercial banking centres, a vast network of more than 14,300 brokers and financial advisors, as well as through its relations with more than 3,100 retailers acting as intermediaries for point-of-sale financing activities. B2B Trust also maintains a significant physical presence in Ontario. As at October 31, 2005, the proportion of loans granted in Quebec represented $64 \%$ of total loans, a level similar to last year's ( $65 \%$ ), whereas the portion of loans granted outside Quebec stood at $36 \%$.

## LOAN SIZE BY COMMERCIAL BORROWER

The Bank maintains the size of loans granted at a level consistent with the level of risks it is willing to assume, in keeping with its credit risk management policies. For both commercial mortgages and commercial loans, this limit has generally been set to $\$ 20$ million.

## INSURANCE AND GUARANTEES

A significant proportion of the Bank's loan portfolio is insured by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) or secured by assets pledged as collateral by the borrowers.

The CMHC offers a mortgage loan insurance program designed to give Canadians access to mortgage financing at an affordable cost. The Bank participates in the program as an approved lender, which enables it to benefit from insurance coverage and thus reduce its global credit risk and improve its capital ratios. Moreover, by maintaining a high proportion of insured residential mortgages, the Bank preserves its capacity to pursue its securitization operations which in turn enables it to optimize the financing of its activities and manage its cash resources. By year-end 2005, 49\% of residential mortgages were insured by the CMHC, compared to $51 \%$ in 2004. Furthermore, the Bank
considers that it holds excellent guarantees for the other conventional mortgage loans where the loan value never exceeds $75 \%$ of the estimated value of the property at origin, in accordance with legal requirements.

Buildings with five units or less, a significant number of which are single-family units, comprise $80 \%$ of the volume of residential mortgages outstanding ( $81 \%$ in 2004). The average loan balance of these loans was $\$ 87,300$, compared to $\$ 87,200$ at the end of fiscal 2004.

Commercial mortgage loans are guaranteed as well by specific assets, including construction projects, commercial properties, shopping centres, office buildings, plants, warehouses and industrial condominiums, among other things.

B2B Trust's investment loan portfolio mainly consists of mutual fund loans. These loans, with an average value of some $\$ 49,000$, are generally secured by four to five mutual funds, thereby ensuring a good diversification of risk. The value of these investments must respect the terms and conditions of loan agreements at all times.

## Changes in loan portfolios

personal loans
As at October 31, 2005, the personal loans portfolio stood at $\$ 3.9$ billion, an increase of $\$ 268$ million over fiscal 2004. This increase is mainly attributable to the investment loan portfolio which benefited from favorable market conditions, and to the continuing development of business with B2B Trust's partners. The portfolio of lines of credit subscribed through the branch network, including mortgage lines of credit, increased by more than $20 \%$ during 2005 and stood at $\$ 520$ million as at October 31, 2005. Finally, the portfolio of loans subscribed to, throughout Canada, by the point-of-sales financing network increased as well during fiscal 2005.

## RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE LOANS

As shown in Table 9, the residential mortgage portfolios, including on-balance sheet loans and securitized loans, increased by $\$ 470$ million during fiscal 2005. This performance is mainly attributable to the favorable conditions in the real estate market and to the efficiency shown by Retail Financial Services in the face of continuing competition.

PERSONAL LOAN PORTFOLIO MIX
(as a percentage)


RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE LOANS
BY PROPERTY TYPE
(as a percentage)


Table 9
RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE LOANS PORTFOLIO

| As at October 31 (in millons of dollars) | 2005 | 2004 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Residential mortgage loans, |  |  |
| as reported on balance sheet | $\$ 5,807$ | $\$ 5,509$ |
| Securitized loans | 654 | 482 |

Total residential mortgage
loans, including
securitized loans $\quad \$ 6,461 \quad \$ 5,991$

COMMERCIAL MORTGAGE LOANS
The volume of commercial mortgage loans remained virtually the same as last year's and stood at $\$ 595.9$ million as at October 31, 2005, compared to $\$ 604.1$ million as at October 31, 2004. The Bank still plays an active role in the field of construction mortgage loans all over Canada. During fiscal 2005, the Bank transferred some $\$ 23$ million in loans to special-purpose entities or other entities. These operations allow the Bank to benefit from more favorable financing costs and, therefore, offer its clients more advantageous borrowing rates. This strategy, designed to promote loan origination, should be pursued during fiscal 2006.

As at October 31, 2005, Ontario and Western Canada represented $67 \%$ of the commercial mortgage loan portfolio and Quebec $33 \%$, whereas their respective shares were $61 \%$ and $39 \%$ on October 31, 2004.


COMMERCIAL LOANS
As at October 31, 2005, the Bank's portfolio of commercial loans, including bankers' acceptances, stood at $\$ 1.7$ billion, the same as at October 31, 2004. The growth recorded with small- and medium-sized businesses in Quebec and Ontario, as well as with agricultural enterprises, has been instrumental in
offsetting the reduction in the corporate loan portfolio. This development is perfectly consistent with the Bank's strategy designed to focus its activities in those markets where it can compete efficiently. This well-diversified commercial loan portfolio represented $14 \%$ of the Bank's total loans.

## COMMERCIAL LOANS BY INDUSTRY

(as a percentage)

$\overline{2004}$

## Impaired loans

The credit quality was still satisfactory, as at October 31, 2005. The economic environment in Quebec and all of Canada has contributed to a substantial reduction in credit risks over the past few years. Gross impaired loans decreased from $\$ 127.0$ million in 2004 to $\$ 120.9$ million
in 2005. Net impaired loans stood at $\$(8.9)$ million as at October 31, 2005, compared to $\$(13.0)$ million as at October 31, 2004. This reflects the fact that the global level of provisions is higher than the level of gross impaired loans, as shown in Table 10.

Table 10
IMPAIRED LOANS

| As at October 31 (in millions of dollars) | 2005 |  |  |  |  | 2004 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Gross | Specific allowances | Net | Gross | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Specific } \\ \text { allowances } \end{array}$ | Net |
| Personal loans | \$ 16.9 | \$ (7.3) | \$ 9.6 | \$ 18.1 | \$(10.1) | \$ 8.0 |
| Residential mortgages | 9.8 | (3.7) | 6.1 | 13.2 | (3.9) | 9.3 |
| Commercial mortgages | 12.2 | (5.9) | 6.3 | 15.5 | (6.1) | 9.4 |
| Commercial loans and other | 82.0 | (47.6) | 34.4 | 80.2 | (54.7) | 25.6 |
| Total | \$120.9 | \$(64.5) | \$ 56.4 | \$127.0 | \$(74.8) | \$ 52.3 |
| General allowances |  |  | (65.3) |  |  | (65.3) |
| Total - net impaired loans |  |  | \$ (8.9) |  |  | \$(13.0) |
| As a \% of total loans, bankers' acceptances and assets purchased under reverse repurchase agreements |  |  | (0.1)\% |  |  | (0.1)\% |

General allowances stood at $\$ 65.3$ million as at October 31, 2005, the same as at October 31, 2004. This reflects the estimate as to potential losses attributable to the deterioration in credit quality of loans that have still not been categorized as impaired. Note 4 to the consolidated financial statements provides more information on this topic.

## DEPOSITS

The deposit portfolio increased from $\$ 12.9$ billion at the beginning of fiscal 2005 to $\$ 13.7$ billion as at October 31, 2005, so as to meet growing financing
needs in the wake of the increase in loan volumes. Table 11 on page 43 offers a summary of the various deposit portfolios.

## Personal deposits

Total personal deposits increased to $\$ 10.6$ billion as at October 31, 2005, compared to $\$ 10.5$ billion as at October 31, 2004. This $\$ 121$ million increase is mainly attributable to deposits generated through the branch network. Personal deposits still represent more than $75 \%$ of total deposits as at October 31, 2005, even though deposits from other sources had increased
as at year-end. Personal deposits are a particularly advantageous and stable source of financing for the Bank, particularly because of its availability and its low cost compared with institutional deposits. On the other hand, mutual funds, along with other investment options, have contributed to fuelling competition in this targeted market.

The Bank maintained a strong presence with financial advisors throughout Canada by means of its B2B Trust business segment and its brokers' network in Quebec. As at October 31, 2005, deposits totalled $\$ 4.8$ billion, at the same level as year-end 2004. These deposits are more sensitive to pricing and are thus more easily adjusted to the Bank's financing needs.

## Business, bank and other deposits

Deposits from businesses, banks and government institutions increased by $\$ 665$ million, from $\$ 2.5$ billion as at October 31, 2004, to $\$ 3.1$ billion as at October 31, 2005. This increase, which essentially occurred at yearend, was generated by short-term deposits from certain institutional clients. Notwithstanding this punctual increase, these cash resources are necessary to finance operations, particularly the growth in loan volumes. The section on the Bank's credit ratings, on page 45 of this Annual Report offers further explanations on certain concepts pertaining to the cost associated with this type of financing.

Table 11
DEPOSITS

| As at October 31 (In millions of dollars) | 2005 |  |  | 2004 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Personal |  |  |  |  |
| Notice and demand | \$ 1,871 | 13.7\% | \$ 1,858 | 14.4\% |
| Fixed date |  |  |  |  |
| Branch network | 4,105 | 29.9\% | 4,046 | 31.3\% |
| Brokers | 4,599 | 33.6\% | 4,550 | 35.3\% |
|  | 8,704 | 63.5\% | 8,596 | 66.6\% |
| Sub-total-personal | 10,575 | 77.2\% | 10,454 | 81.0\% |
| Business, banks and other |  |  |  |  |
| Notice and demand | 767 | 5.6\% | 662 | 5.1\% |
| Fixed date | 2,355 | 17.2\% | 1,795 | 13.9\% |
| Sub-total-business, banks and other | 3,122 | 22.8\% | 2,457 | 19.0\% |
| Total - deposits | \$13,697 | 100.0\% | \$12,911 | 100.0\% |

## OTHER LIABILITIES

The reduction of more than $\$ 800$ million in other liabilities during fiscal 2005 is essentially attributable to obligations related to assets sold short, which depend upon trading activities and investment strategies. Other elements, such as interest accrued on deposit portfolios, cheques and other items in transit, and other accounts payable, have varied little compared to fiscal 2004.

## SUBORDINATED DEBENTURES

Subordinated debentures decreased by $\$ 101$ million, following the redemptions of the Series 6 and Series 8 debentures during fiscal 2005. This realignment of the Bank's capital according to its financing needs and to regulatory requirements, was an integral part of the strategies designed to improve results in 2005.

## SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY

Shareholders' equity stood at $\$ 913.2$ million as at October 31, 2005, a $\$ 26.5$ million increase over fiscal 2004. This increase results mainly from net income for 2005 , net of declared dividends. The carrying value of common shares increased from $\$ 28.78$ as at October 31, 2004 to $\$ 29.85$ as at October 31, 2005. During fiscal 2005, the Bank issued 45,202 common shares under its stock option plan for proceeds
of $\$ 1.0$ million. As at October 31, 2005, there were $23,556,545$ common shares outstanding.

Table 12
SHARES ISSUED AND OUTSTANDING
As at November 30, 2005 (in number of shares)

| Class A Preferred shares |  |
| :--- | ---: |
| Series 9 | $4,000,000$ |
| Series 10 | $4,400,000$ |
| Total preferred shares | $8,400,000$ |
| Common shares | $23,569,045$ |
| Options | 416,537 |

## REGULATORY CAPITAL

The Bank carefully monitors its capital base as it represents an essential factor in assessing its strength and security in relation to the risks associated with its activities. The BIS Tier 1 capital ratio had slightly decreased as at October 31, 2005 to 10.2\%, compared to $10.5 \%$ as at October 31, 2004. This reduction is mainly attributable to higher risk-weighted assets generated by the growth in loan volumes. The BIS
total capital ratio decreased to $12.3 \%$ as at October 31, 2005 , whereas it stood at $14.0 \%$ as at October 31, 2004. This ratio takes into account the level of total capital which is comprised of common shareholders' equity, non-controlling interest in subsidiaries and subordinated debentures. The reduction is mainly attributable
to the redemption of subordinated debentures and to the growth in loan volumes during fiscal 2005.

Table 13 and Table 14 outline the risk-weighted assets and the regulatory capital which are used to calculate ratios, as established by the Bank for International Settlements (BIS).

Table 13
RISK-WEIGHTED ASSETS

| As at October 31 (in millions of dollars) | 2005 | 2004 | 2003 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Balance sheet items |  |  |  |
| Cash resources | \$ 88 | \$ 68 | \$ 148 |
| Securities | 397 | 255 | 359 |
| Mortgage loans | 2,329 | 2,123 | 2,104 |
| Other loans and customers' liability under acceptances | 5,063 | 4,828 | 4,948 |
| Other assets | 497 | 543 | 596 |
| General allowances | 65 | 65 | 73 |
| Total-balance sheet items | \$8,439 | \$7,882 | \$8,228 |
| Off-balance sheet items |  |  |  |
| Derivative financial instruments | 34 | 50 | 60 |
| Credit-related commitments | 50 | 54 | 123 |
| Total - risk-weighted assets | \$8,523 | \$7,986 | \$8,411 |

Table 14

| REGULATORY CAPITAL-BIS |  |  |  | Variation$05 / 04$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| As at October 31 (in millions of dollars) | 2005 | 2004 | 2003 |  |
| Tier I capital |  |  |  |  |
| Common shares | \$ 249.0 | \$ 248.6 | \$ 246.8 | -\% |
| Contributed surplus | 0.1 | - | - | - |
| Retained earnings | 454.1 | 428.1 | 426.5 | 6 |
| Non-cumulative preferred shares | 210.0 | 209.7 | 200.0 | - |
| Non-controlling interests in subsidiaries | 6.8 | 6.3 | 41.8 | 8 |
| Less: goodwill | (53.8) | (54.0) | (54.0) | - |
| Total - Tier I capital (A) | 866.2 | 838.7 | 861.1 | 3 |
| Tier II capital |  |  |  |  |
| Non-cumulative preferred shares ${ }^{(1)}$ | - | 0.3 | - | - |
| Subordinated debentures | 150.0 | 250.5 | 400.0 | (40) |
| General allowances | 65.3 | 65.3 | 73.0 | - |
| Total - Tier II capital | 215.3 | 316.1 | 473.0 | (32) |
| Investment in non-consolidated corporations, securization and other <br> (32.4) <br> (41.0) <br> (54.2) <br> (21) |  |  |  |  |
| Regulatory capital-BIS (B) | \$1,049.1 | \$1,113.8 | \$1,279.9 | (6)\% |
| Total risk-weighted assets - BIS (Table 13) (C) | \$8,522.6 | \$7,985.7 | \$8,410.5 |  |
| Tier I BIS capital ratio (A/C) | 10.2\% | 10.5\% | 10.2\% |  |
| Total BIS capital ratio (B/C) | 12.3\% | 14.0\% | 15.2\% |  |
| Assets to capital multiple | 15.8x | 15.0x | 13.1 x |  |
| Tangible common equity as a percentage of risk-weighted assets | 7.5\% | 7.6\% | 7.8\% |  |

[^5]DIVIDENDS
Throughout 2005, the Bank demonstrated the relevance of its business plan and succeeded in generating growth in its volumes of loans and deposits, as well as in its net income. These major indicators have enabled the Board of Directors to uphold the tradition of uninterrupted dividend payments. During fiscal 2006, on a quarterly basis, the Board of Directors will continue to review the Bank's financial condition as well as its capacity to meet its financial objectives, in order to support the declarations of dividends.

Table 15
CASH DIVIDENDS

| For the years ended October 31 | 2005 | 2004 | 2003 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Dividends declared per common share (in dollars) | \$ 1.16 | \$ 1.16 | \$ 1.16 |
| Dividends declared on common shares (in thousands of dollars) | \$27,287 | \$27,248 | \$27,164 |
| Dividends declared on preferred shares ${ }^{(1)}$ (in thousands of dollars) | \$11,775 | \$16,218 | \$13,771 |

(1) Include the dividends of Class A preferred shares Series 7 and 8 amounting to $\$ 6$ million in 2004 and $\$ 8$ million in 2003 , as well as the
premium on redemption of $\$ 2$ million in 2004 which were reclassified to premium on redemption of $\$ 2$ million in 2004 which were reclassified to

## CREDIT RATINGS

Table 16 presents the Bank's credit ratings as established by rating agencies.

Table 16

| CREDIT RATINGS | DBRS | STANDARD <br> \&POOR'S |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Deposits and |  |  |
| $\quad$ senior debt | BBB | BBB (negative) |
| Short-term instruments | R-2 (high) | A-2 |
| Subordinated debentures | BBB (low) | BBB- |
| Preferred shares | Pfd-3n | BB+ |

Personal deposits collected through the branch network as well as through financial advisors constitute the most important source of financing for the Bank. The Bank can also use securitization as a mean to finance its activities. In certain circumstances however, the Bank must obtain institutional financing, notably during periods of strong growth or in order to meet important punctual financing needs. The Bank's capacity to obtain such financing as well as related costs is tied to the credit ratings set by rating agencies such as Dominion Bond Rating Service Limited (DBRS) and Standard \& Poor's.

Considering the limited use of this type of financing by the Bank, the credit ratings' level has had little impact on financing costs to this day.

## CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS

The following table presents a summary of the Bank's principal contractual obligations as at October 31, 2005, that will be maturing in the next five years and thereafter. Note 21 to the consolidated financial statements provides further information on this subject.

Table 17
CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS

| As at October 31 (in millons of dollars) | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | Thereafter | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Term deposits | \$5,253 | \$2,232 | \$1,308 | \$1,545 | \$711 | \$ 10 | \$11,059 |
| Obligations related to assets sold short | 697 | - | - | - | - | 29 | 726 |
| Obligations related to assets sold under repurchase agreements | 60 | - | - | - | - | - | 60 |
| Subordinated debentures | 150 | - | - | - | - | - | 150 |
| Commitments under leases, technology services and other contracts | 66 | 72 | 64 | 59 | 58 | 100 | 419 |
| Total | \$6,226 | \$2,304 | \$1,372 | \$1,604 | \$769 | \$139 | \$12,414 |

In the normal course of its activities, the Bank concludes various types of contractual agreements. The main obligations result from the issuance of debt instruments, including deposits written with individuals, businesses and other institutions. This financing, combined with the issuance of shares, is used primarily to finance loan and investment operations.

During fiscal 2005, the Bank has renewed some obligations related to rental space and telecommunica-
tion services contracts, which explains the relatively higher level of obligations under leases, computer services and other contracts, compared to 2004. However, these new contracts will enable the Bank to reduce the cost of theses services in the years to come.

In addition, the Bank must also ensure that cash resources are available to meet certain requirements related to infrastructure investments, notably the projected opening of a number of branches, the up-
dating of hardware platforms and initiatives designed to conform to regulatory requirements. The projects will inevitably demand significant investments, estimated from $\$ 30$ million to $\$ 40$ million annually over the next five years.

## OFF-BALANCE SHEET ARRANGEMENTS

In the normal course of its operations, the Bank concludes several transactions that involve off-balance sheet arrangements. In particular, the Bank manages or administers clients' assets that are not reported on the balance sheet. Off-balance sheet items moreover include derivative instruments and entities set up for financing and capital management purposes.

## ASSETS UNDER ADMINISTRATION

## and assets under management

Assets under administration and assets under management mainly include commercial and residential mortgage loans under management associated with securitization activities, as well as assets of clients to whom the Bank and B2B Trust provide various administrative services. Through Laurentian Bank Securities, the Bank also manages retail and institutional investment portfolios. The table below details all of the assets under administration and assets under management. As at October 31, 2005, these items totalled $\$ 13.8$ billion, a decrease of $\$ 1.1$ billion compared to fiscal 2004.

The assets of self-directed pension plans have decreased year over year. This change is mainly attrib-
utable to changes in the regulatory environment which encourages stakeholders to manage their self-directed plans themselves. The Bank anticipates that this trend will persist medium-term. Nevertheless, the Bank and B2B Trust are working diligently to develop their service offering. These initiatives have been instrumental in maintaining market positions, as witnessed by the more than $\$ 125$ million growth in volumes recorded over the last three quarters of fiscal 2005.

Institutional assets also decreased compared to fiscal 2004 following the disposal of the BLC-Edmond de Rothschild Asset Management Inc. joint venture. Clients' brokerage assets increased by $17 \%$ under the combined effect of a positive securities market performance and of initiatives designed to increase brokerage operations.

Excluding the impact of the disposal of the BLC-Edmond de Rothschild Asset Management Inc. joint venture, mutual fund assets grew by more than $\$ 70$ million or $6 \%$ as a result of favorable market conditions and the continuing demand for these savings products. In a strong position thanks to its distribution agreement with Industrial Alliance, the Bank, through its network of branches, remains an important distributor of mutual funds.

Mortgage loans under management, essentially tied to securitization operations, and other personal assets in trust remained relatively stable in comparison with fiscal 2004.

The fees, commissions and other income from these assets, which are detailed in Table 5, represent a significant contribution to the Bank's profitability.

Table 18

| ASSETS UNDER ADMINISTRATION |  |  |  | Variation <br> $05 / 04$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| As at October 31 (in millions of dollars) | 2005 | 2004 | 2003 | $(5) \%$ |
| Self-directed RRSPs and RRIFs | $\$ 7,958$ | $\$ 8,378$ | $\$ 8,512$ | $(33)$ |
| Institutional | 1,809 | 2,695 | 2,644 | 17 |
| Clients' brokerage assets | 1,623 | 1,390 | 1,345 | $(9)$ |
| Mutual funds | 1,213 | 1,332 | 1,238 | 5 |
| Mortgage loans under management | 843 | 800 | 1,428 | 32 |
| Other-Personal | 320 | 283 | 321 | 13 |
| Total - assets under administration | $\$ 13,766$ | $\$ 14,878$ | $\$ 15,488$ | $(7) \%$ |

## DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

In the normal course of its operations, the Bank enters into various contracts and commitments in order to protect itself against the risk of fluctuations in interest rates, in foreign exchange rates and in indexes on which returns of index-linked deposits are based, and in order to meet the needs of its clients as well as to earn revenues from its own trading activities. These contracts and commitments translate into derivatives.

All derivatives are recorded on the balance sheet at fair value. Derivative transactions are calculated based on notional principal amounts. These amounts however are not recorded on the balance sheet as they do not represent the actual amounts exchanged. Likewise, notional amounts do not reflect the credit risk related to derivative financial instruments, even though they serve as a reference for calculating payments.

Notes 1 and 19 to the consolidated financial statements provide further information on the types of derivative products and their accounting basis.

## SPECIAL-PURPOSE ENTITIES

The Bank uses special-purpose entities to securitize mortgage loans in order to obtain funding, reduce credit risk and manage its capital. The Bank does not act as an agent for clients in this type of activity.

As part of a securitization transaction, an entity transfers assets to a special-purpose entity, which generally consists of a trust company in Canada, in exchange for cash. The special-purpose entity finances these purchases through the issuance of term bonds or commercial paper. Most often, the sale of receivables is accompanied by credit enhancements that improve the credit ratings of the bonds or commercial paper involved. This enhancement normally takes the form of cash reserve accounts, over-collateralization in the form of excess assets and liquidity guarantees. Securitization programs often include interest swap contracts in order to guarantee payments to investors.

Securitization operations are reported as sales of assets only when the Bank is deemed to have ceded control of these assets and when it receives a consideration other than beneficial interests in the transferred assets. The Bank mainly uses conduits set up by large Canadian banks, along with the Canada Mortgage Bonds program developed by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation. When assets are sold, the Bank retains certain rights related to excess interest spreads and cash reserve accounts, which constitute retained interests. The Bank periodically reviews the value of these rights and any permanent impairment in value is charged to income, if applicable. Likewise, the Bank has concluded interest swap agreements intended to guarantee payments to investors. The Bank also continues to administer all securitized assets after the sales. During the year, the Bank securized approximately $\$ 340$ million of residential mortgages to, among other things, finance its growth. As at October 31, 2005, total outstanding securitized mortgage loans stood at $\$ 703$ million and related retained interests stood at $\$ 21$ million. Revenues of $\$ 11.7$ million were recorded in 2005 as part of securitization operations, including $\$ 9.0$ million in gains on sales. Note 5 to the consolidated financial statements provides more information about these entities.

## CREDIT COMMITMENTS

In the normal course of its operations, the Bank uses various off-balance sheet credit instruments. The credit instruments used as a means of meeting its clients' financial needs represent the maximum amount of additional credit that the Bank could be obligated to
extend if the commitments are used entirely. Note 21 to the consolidated financial statements provides more information on this issue.

## GUARANTEES

In the normal course of its operations, the Bank enters into guarantee agreements that satisfy the definition in the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants' (CICA) Accounting Guideline No. 14 Disclosure of Guarantees (AcG-14). The principal types of guarantees are standby letters of credit and performance guarantees. Note 21 to the consolidated financial statements provides more information on these guarantees.

| Table 19 |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| CREDIT COMMITMENTS |  |  |  |  |
| As at october 31 (in thousands of dollars) | 2005 |  | 2004 |  |
| Unutilized credit balances | $\$ 3,737,591$ | $\$ 3,474,492$ |  |  |
| Documentary letters <br> of credit | $\$$ | 15,076 | $\$$ | 19,371 |
| Standby letters of credit <br> and performance <br> guarantees | $\$$ | 60,672 | $\$$ | 55,329 |

## SEGMENTED INFORMATION

The Bank is striving to distinguish itself in areas where it holds a leading position, especially in Quebec, but also across Canada for specific operations. Accordingly, the Bank's service offering covers the whole range of banking operations for retail services and small and medium businesses in Quebec. The Bank is also present throughout Canada via its indirect networks of financial advisors, its business alliances and its retailer network who contribute in originating loans and deposits. The Bank is also offering commercial financing products throughout Canada. The organizational structure of the Bank is mostly focused on the service offering and the targeted clientele:

- Retail Financial Services
- Commercial Financial Services
- B2B Trust segment
- Laurentian Bank Securities (formerly

Wealth Management and Brokerage)

- Other segment

As shown in the following table, all segments contributed positively to the results in 2005. Contribution to the benefits stemming from continuing operations, excluding the Other sector, were $38 \%$ for Retail Financial Services, 32\% for Commercial Financial Services, 25\% for B2B Trust and at 5\% for Laurentian Bank Securities.

The improvement of profitability is principally attributable to the Other sector. This sector comprises the asset-liability management, which is responsible for the improvement in net interest income. Results of the Retail Financial Services and B2B Trust segments have benefited from the increase in business volume, which allowed to offset the increase in expenses. The Commercial Financial Services contribution decreased
slightly due to a reduction in revenues therefore affecting profitability. The Laurentian Bank Securities segment has, for its part, maintained its contribution despite its business development investments.

Some important transactions in 2004 and 2005, notably, the sale of the BLC-Edmond de Rothschild Asset Management Inc. joint-venture were attributed in part to business segments. The analysis presented hereafter specifies these attributions.

Table 20
NET INCOME CONTRIBUTIONS

| (in millions of dollars) | Retail Financial Service | Commercial Financial Services | B2B Trust | Laurentian Bank Securities | Other | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2005 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Net income | \$29.8 | \$21.6 | \$16.3 | \$3.4 | \$ (5.8) | \$65.3 |
|  | from continuing operations] |  |  |  | [\$(11.1) from continuing operations] | [\$55.6 <br> from continuing operations] |
|  | 42\% | 30\% | 23\% | 5\% | n/a | 100\% |
|  | $\begin{array}{r} {[38 \%} \\ \text { from continuing } \\ \text { operations] } \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} {[32 \%} \\ \text { from continuing } \\ \text { operations } \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} {[25 \%} \\ \text { from continuing } \\ \text { operations] } \end{array}$ | [5\% <br> from continuing operations |  |  |
| 2004 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Net income | \$22.2 | \$24.4 | \$12.5 ${ }^{(1)}$ | \$4.3 | \$(23.5) | \$ 39.9 |
|  | 35\% | 38\% | 20\% | 7\% | n/a | 100\% |

(1) Based on a $77 \%$ participation prior to the privatization of B2B Trust in June of 2004.

## RETAIL FINANCIAL SERVICES

## 2006 Priorities

- Pursue the expansion of the branch network
and its optimization
- Develop the partnership with the FTQ
- Further define service and product integrated offering
- Develop synergies between business segments

Table 21
RETAIL FINANCIAL SERVICES

| For the years ended October 31 <br> (in millions of dollars) | 2005 | 2004 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Net interest income | $\$ 250.1$ | $\$ 233.6$ |
| Other income | 87.5 | 85.8 |
| Total revenue | 337.6 | 319.4 |
| Provision for credit losses | 20.7 | 19.7 |
| Non-interest expenses | 277.9 | 265.6 |
| Income from continuing |  |  |
| $\quad$operations before <br> income taxes |  |  |
| Income taxes | 39.0 | 34.1 |
| Income from |  |  |
| $\quad$ continuing operations | 13.6 | 11.9 |
| Income from discontinued <br> $\quad$ operations, net <br> of income taxes | 25.4 | 22.2 |
| Net income |  |  |
| Efficiency ratio | 8.4 |  |

For fiscal 2005, the Retail Financial Services contribution to the consolidated results of the Bank increased by $34 \%$, and stood at $\$ 29.8$ million, compared to $\$ 22.2$ million in 2004. Results from continuing operations was $\$ 25.4$ million, which nonetheless corresponds to a $14 \%$ increase compared to last year's results. Furthermore, it should be noted that, in 2004, a portion of the gain on the sale of a Visa portfolio, as well as of the debit and credit card processing activities and of certain management rights of mutual funds accounts amounting to $\$ 2.1$ million and $\$ 1.0$ million respectively, were attributed to the Retail Financial Services segment.

Ever since 2003, Retail Financial Services have multiplied their initiatives in order for the Bank to differentiate itself from its competitors and thereby ensure the growth of its activities. These initiatives rapidly proved fruitful and, as early as 2004, improvements in business and profitability were already measurable. During fiscal 2005, Retail Financial Services pursued the implementation of its initiatives and the pace of growth accelerated. There are still significant efforts to dedicate to this development, but the Bank's new positioning already allows for a more optimistic outlook. After disposing of nonpriority portfolios, the Bank expended a lot of energy and resources in
growing its business in markets and market niches where it held distinct competitive advantages. The \$375 million growth in residential mortgage loans and the $\$ 112$ million growth in personal deposits, both generated by the Bank's branch network, attest to the positive impact of these efforts. They further attest to the commitment and dedication of all of the Bank's employees. In short, this growth in volumes translated into a direct contribution of $\$ 18$ million to the Bank's revenue.

Loan losses moreover have remained relatively stable and stood at $\$ 20.7$ million for fiscal 2005. Operating expenses increased by $\$ 12.3$ million, mainly due to salary expenses and incentive compensation. At $82.3 \%$, compared to $83.2 \%$ for fiscal 2004, the efficiency ratio is still cause for concern. However, the continuing growth in revenue should contribute to the improvement of this indicator during fiscal 2006.

Among the list of initiatives undertaken or finalized during fiscal 2005, the opening of six new branches may be considered foremost as it will allow the Bank to enhance its product and service offerings in fast growing markets.

So far, the satisfactory performance of the new branches, which are located in Blainville, Gatineau, Sainte-Dorothée, Mascouche, La Prairie and Vaudreuil, has been instrumental in the pursuit of the Bank's growth objectives. At the same time, the Bank has pursued its branch renovation program. By the end of 2005, nearly $20 \%$ of all branches, essentially those on the Island of Montreal, will have been renovated. This undertaking required some $\$ 6.1$ million in capital investment during fiscal 2005 and also contributed to the increase in maintenance and repairs expenses. For fiscal 2006, the Bank looks forward to the opening of three new branches and the continuation of its renovation program.

As they developed closer relations, the Fédération des travailleurs et travailleuses du Québec (FTQ) and the Bank worked in collaboration to design a program that would meet the needs and expectations of the FTQ members. The launch of the "Complicité" program represents a significant business development opportunity as it will enable Retail Financial Services to reach a whole new clientele.

Furthermore, marketing initiatives undertaken during fiscal 2004, including direct-response advertising and media placing, have been instrumental in enhancing the Bank's visibility and reputation in 2005. These initiatives will be continued during fiscal 2006.

During fiscal 2005, the Bank also pursued the development of its automated banking machines network. Among other things, the Bank signed a five-year contract with the Société de transport de Montréal (STM)
for the operation of 17 automated banking machines inside several metro stations. The updating of the automated banking machine network, which will be ongoing until the end of fiscal 2007, represents an investment of more than $\$ 20.5$ million and is designed to modernize the Bank's equipment, thereby improving the quality of its network and of its services to its clients.

COMMERCIAL FINANCIAL SERVICES

## 2006 Priorities

- Develop synergies between business segments
- Further develop commercial mortgage securitization activities
- Continue the small and medium-sized businesses, as well as with agricultural enterprises, loan
development activities

Table 22
COMMERCIAL FINANCIAL SERVICES

| For the years ended October 31 <br> (in millions of dollars) | 2005 | 2004 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Net interest income | $\$ 56.2$ | $\$ 56.8$ |
| Other income | 29.1 | 32.4 |
| Total revenue | 85.3 | 89.2 |
| Provision for credit losses | 13.1 | 15.6 |
| Non-interest expenses | 38.8 | 36.0 |
| Income before income taxes | 33.4 | 37.6 |
| Income taxes | 11.8 | 13.2 |
| Net income | $\$ 21.6$ | $\$ 24.4$ |
| Efficiency ratio | $45.5 \%$ | $40.3 \%$ |

For fiscal 2005, Commercial Financial Services' contribution to consolidated results has decreased to $\$ 21.6$ million, compared to $\$ 24.4$ million in 2004. This decrease is mostly associated with the decline in loan volumes and the increase in salaries and employee benefits.

During the last 24 months, the small and me-dium-sized businesses loan activities, mostly in Quebec and Ontario, as well as in the agricultural lending sector enabled the Bank to limit the decrease of the commercial loan volumes consequent to the realignment of its lending policy in 2003. Loan volumes, following their stabilization in 2005 , are now expected to gradually resume growth. However, sustained efforts will have to be deployed in order to pursue this development. In this regard, the opening of new commercial banking centres catering to the needs of small and medium-sized businesses, such as the Longueuil and Laval centres opened in 2005, should contribute to this growth objective.

The Commercial Financial Services segment has also benefited from the strong real estate market in Canada in 2005. Furthermore, the additional resources hired in 2004 in Western Canada enabled this segment to actively participate in the rapid development in this region. These activities remained very profitable, through limited loan losses and relatively stable loan volumes over the year.

The credit quality of the commercial loan portfolio remains an important concern in the current environment. In 2005, despite the increase in the Canadian dollar exchange rate, the sustained competitive pressure from Asia and the increase in energy prices, the portfolio fared very well. The sensitivity of this loan portfolio in regards to these factors is constantly reviewed and will remain a priority during the next year.

## B2B TRUST

2006 Priorities

- Concentrate efforts where B2B Trust
has competitive advantages, as with the financial advisors
- Increase investments and resources dedicated to marketing
- Further develop mortgage lending activities through the broker network

Table 23
B2B TRUST

| For the years ended October 31 <br> (in millions of dollars) | 2005 | 2004 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Net interest income | $\$ 55.2$ | $\$ 48.8$ |
| Other income | 14.0 | 14.9 |
| Total revenue | 69.2 | 63.7 |
| Provision for credit losses | 6.2 | 4.7 |
| Non-interest expenses | 38.3 | 37.2 |


| Income before income |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | :---: |
| $\quad$taxes and non-controlling |  |  |
| $\quad$ interest in a subsidiary | 24.7 | 21.8 |
| Income taxes | 8.4 | 7.4 |
| Non-controlling interest | - | 1.9 |
| $\quad$ in a subsidiary | $\$ 16.3$ | $\$ 12.5$ |
| Net income | $55.4 \%$ | $58.4 \%$ |
| Efficiency ratio |  |  |

The net income contribution of B2B Trust improved by $\$ 3.8$ million, and stood at $\$ 16.3$ million in 2005 , compared to $\$ 12.5$ million in 2004. This improvement in the net income year over year, is mainly related to the increase of net interest income by more than $10 \%$.

Higher loan volumes and the effect of the lower funding costs are directly driven by the business segment and favourably impacted results in 2005. This improvement, in an always competitive environment reflects the effectiveness of development strategies.

Furthermore, the $\$ 1.5$ million increase in loan losses, essentially related to a specific line of credit portfolio, has somewhat offset the growth in revenue. Non-interest expenses increased by $\$ 1.1$ million and stood at $\$ 38.3$ million for fiscal 2005, compared to $\$ 37.2$ million for fiscal 2004. This increase is attributable to higher salaries and professional fees. In fiscal 2004 , the $\$ 1.9$ million minority interest adjustment, recorded prior to B2B Trust's privatization, had contributed to the reduction in this business segment's net income.

Investment loans and RRSP loans stood at $\$ 1.3$ billion as at October 31, 2005. This represents a year over year increase of $\$ 135$ million, or $12 \%$. It further attests to the stability of these key investment products with consumers, as well as to the close business relations between B2B Trust and financial advisors. Moreover, the quality of the investment loan portfolio remained very good, as witnessed by the $0.08 \%$ loan loss ratio. On the strength of its close business relations with mutual funds brokers and stockbrokers, as well as with insurance, mortgage and deposit brokers, and further strengthened by its strategic alliances with the most important financial institutions in Canada, B2B Trust expects to maintain its market share and grow its business activities.

## LAURENTIAN BANK SECURITIES

2006 Priorities

- Pursue the development of institutional brokerage activities - fixed income
- Develop synergies between business segments
- Develop retail brokerage operations

Table 24
LAURENTIAN BANK SECURITIES

| For the years ended October 31 <br> (in millions of dollars) | 2005 | 2004 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Net interest income | $\$ 1.3$ | $\$ 1.4$ |
| Other income | 21.3 | 26.0 |
| Total revenue | 22.6 | 27.4 |
| Non-interest expenses | 17.5 | 21.5 |
| Income before income taxes | 5.1 | 5.9 |
| Income taxes | 1.7 | 1.6 |
| Net income | $\$ 3.4$ | $\$ 4.3$ |
| Efficiency ratio | $77.4 \%$ | $78.4 \%$ |

The Laurentian Bank Securities business segment (formerly Wealth Management and Brokerage) reported net income of $\$ 3.4$ million for fiscal 2005, compared to $\$ 4.3$ million for fiscal 2004. Excluding the effect of the BLC-Edmond de Rothschild Asset Management Inc. joint-venture operations, which were included in this business segment prior to the sale, the reduction in profitability results mainly from the increase in expenses driven by the hiring of more than 25 new investment advisors and support staff during the year.

Revenues from brokerage activities remained relatively stable at $\$ 21.6$ million, compared to $\$ 21.8$ million in 2004, excluding revenues of $\$ 1.0$ million and $\$ 5.6$ million from BLC-Edmond de Rothschild Asset Management Inc. operations in 2005 and 2004 respectively.

Laurentian Bank Securities is primarily active in corporate financing and fixed income financial instruments, as well as retail and discount brokerage.

Prior to the disposal of BLC-Edmond de Rothschild Asset Management Inc., on December 31, 2004, this business segment also offered mutual funds management services, as well as private and institutional wealth management services. These activities had reached the break-even point.

OTHER

## 2006 Priorities

- Improve net interest income through a still more efficient management of the Bank's assets and liabilities
- Further the development of management tools designed to improve overall credit quality
- Assure an effective support for all sectors of activity

The contribution of the Other segment for 2005 stood at $\$(5.8)$ million or $\$(11.1)$ million from continuing operations, compared to \$(23.5) million a year ago. Excluding the effect of the fiscal 2004 transactions presented below, the improvement in the Other segment's results is mainly attributable to the growth in net interest income, which was partially offset by a reduction in revenues from treasury and financial market activities.

Results for fiscal 2004 included a $\$ 1.7$ million portion of the gain (net of income taxes) on the disposal of the credit card loan portfolio, a $\$ 3.6$ million portion of the gain on the disposal of the debit and credit card processing activities and of certain management rights of mutual funds accounts, as well as the positive impact of adjustments to the estimate of certain provisions related to the sale of the Ontario and Western Canada branches, to the amount of $\$ 2.4$ million. Results for
fiscal 2004 also included the effect of the $\$ 5.9$ million dividends and of the $\$ 2.0$ million repurchase premium related to the Class A Preferred shares Series 7 and Series 8 , which were reclassified retroactively in the fiscal 2004 income statement, in accordance with the new accounting standard governing financial instruments, along with the additional $\$ 0.7$ million charge related to the redemption of the Series 7 Debentures.

## ANALYSIS OF QUARTERLY RESULTS

SUMMARY ANALYSIS OF FOURTH QUARTER RESULTS
For the fourth quarter ended October 31, 2005, the Bank reported net income of $\$ 21.6$ million or $\$ 0.79$ diluted per common share, compared to $\$ 7.1$ million or $\$ 0.17$ diluted per common share for the fourth quarter of 2004. Return on common shareholders' equity was $10.6 \%$ for the fourth quarter of 2005 versus $2.4 \%$ for the same quarter of 2004 . For the fourth quarter of 2005 , results from continuing operations stood at $\$ 17.4$ million or $\$ 0.61$ diluted per common share.

The increase in profitability, compared to the fourth quarter of 2004 , is largely attributable to the tighter asset and liability management strategies initiated in 2004, the capital structure realignment, as well as the growth in loan portfolios. Discontinued operations, resulting from the sale of the BLC-Edmond de Rothschild Asset Management Inc. joint-venture, as detailed on page 78, have also contributed to the overall increase in profitability in the fourth quarter, as the Bank recognized an additional $\$ 5.2$ million portion of the gain on sale.

The provision for credit losses rose to $\$ 11.8$ million, compared to $\$ 8.9$ million for the same quarter a year ago. It should be noted that for the fourth quarter of 2004 , an additional $\$ 12.0$ million provision was recorded on certain commercial loans and personal loan portfolios. However, these provisions were offset by an equivalent reversal in the general provision.

Non-interest expenses amounted to $\$ 99.0$ million in the fourth quater of 2005 , compared to $\$ 91.3$ million for the fourth quarter of 2004 . The year over year increase mainly results from higher variable compensation costs.

The income tax expense amounted to $\$ 5.6$ million (a $24.5 \%$ effective tax rate) and included the favorable impact of adjustments amounting to $\$ 1.7$ million, related to certain initiatives during the quarter to optimize the Bank's tax position and the favorable results of the quarter.

## ANALYSIS OF THE EVOLUTION OF

## THE QUARTERLY RESULTS

Quarterly results of the Bank should generally be relatively stable from one quarter to another, most notably because of the nature of banking operations, which rely on important volume of operations not likely of significant fluctuation in the short term. However, certain treasury operations and certain activities related to the financial markets, notably securitization operations and trading activities, generate volatility. Furthermore, results can be influenced by certain specific transactions, such as sales of assets and portfolios. Finally, on a longer period, results of the Bank are influenced by macroeconomic changes which can happen both in Canada and in the rest of the world,
especially with regards to interest rates, monetary policies and economic growth as well as by the regulatory developments.

The following table presents, by quarter, the significant items as described in the table 3 on page 33 of the current Annual Report. Excluding the effect of these items, changes in results from one quarter to another is mainly explained by the fluctuation in revenues from treasury and financial markets activities. Also, the net interest margin has improved since the second quarter of 2004, notably because of the investment and hedging strategies undertaken during the fourth quarter of 2004 and also as a result of the cost savings related to the realignment of the Bank's capital structure in 2004.

Table 25
QUARTERLY RESULTS

| (in millions of dollars) |  |  |  | 2005 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Oct. 31 | July 31 | Quarters ended |  |
|  |  |  | April 30 | Jan. 31 |
| Total revenue | \$133.8 | \$131.1 | \$118.0 | \$119.2 |
| Income from continuing operations | 17.4 | 15.2 | 11.0 | 12.1 |
| Net income | \$ 21.6 | \$ 15.8 | \$ 10.6 | \$ 17.3 |
| (in millions of dollars) |  |  |  | 2004 |
|  |  |  | Quarters ended |  |
|  | Oct. 31 | July 31 | April 30 | Jan. 31 |
| Total revenue | \$108.9 | \$117.2 | \$121.5 | \$118.5 |
| Net income | \$ 7.1 | \$ 9.7 | \$ 11.4 | \$ 11.7 |
| Factors that have caused variations over the 2004 quarters: Interest expense resulting from the reclassification of dividends and of the redemption premium on Class A Preferred Shares Series 7 and 8, including the overlap in dividends |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | \$ (3.8) | \$ (1.9) | \$ (1.9) |
| Increase in future tax assets arising from the increase in Ontario income tax rates |  |  |  | 1.5 |
| Sale of the Ontario and Western Canada Visa loan portfolio |  |  | 3.8 |  |
| Sale of the debit and credit card transaction processing activities and certain rights to service mutual funds accounts |  | 4.6 |  |  |
| Review of the provisions related to the Ontario and Western |  |  |  |  |
| Canada branches sold during the fourth quarter of 2003 |  | 2.4 |  |  |
| Costs associated with the redemption of the Debentures Series 7 |  | (0.7) |  |  |
| Total of items affecting net income in 2004 | \$ - | \$ 2.5 | \$ 1.9 | \$ (0.4) |

## INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

The Bank is exposed to various types of risks owing to the nature of the commercial activities it pursues. To ensure that all of the significant risks it might face are taken into consideration, the Bank has adopted an Integrated Risk Management Framework that will enable the Directors to properly supervise risk assessment and control.

The main objective of this framework is to create a risk management culture that centers on establishing measures that allow optimization of the risk/return ratio in all of the spheres of activity of the Bank. These measures entail the establishment of processes to detect, understand and evaluate major risks, on an ongoing basis; the establishment of sound and prudent risk limits and risk management policies; the establishment and application of efficient
internal controls and the definition of the responsibilities of the Management Committee regarding risk management.

The Integrated Risk Management Framework is divided into two sections: control environment and corporate governance. The control environment rests on five functions: human resources, strategic planning, financial integrity, risk management and compliance. Regarding corporate governance, the Board of Directors has the ultimate responsibility to ensure as much as possible that the global risk tolerance is consistent with the Bank's strategies and objectives, and that its resources, technologies and processes are aligned with its objectives. Responsibility for each function is delegated to certain members of the Management Committee and is supervised by the Board of Directors' committees.

Table 26

| REGULATION |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | - |
|  | CONTROL ENVIRONMENT |  | CORPORATE GOVERNANCE |
|  | FUNCTIONS | COORDINATORS |  |
|  | Human resources | Head of Human Resources | Human Resources and Corporate Governance Committee |
|  | Strategic planning | President and Chief Executive Officer/ Chief Financial Officer | Board of Directors |
|  | Financial integrity | Chief Financial Officer | Audit Committee |
|  | Risk management | Chief Risk Management Officer | Risk Management Committee |
|  | Compliance | Chief Compliance Officer | Audit Committee |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | INTERNAL AUDIT |  |  |

## RISK MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

Management has put in place a risk management structure that was approved by the Board of Directors. It has established that credit risk, market risk (including interest rate risk, foreign exchange risk and liquidity risk), capital management risk, structural risk, operational risk and regulatory risk are more controllable and measurable, and therefore can be more formally supervised. These risks are subject to specific policies and are constantly monitored by the Management Committee, as described below.

## CREDIT RISK MANAGEMENT

Credit risk is the risk of a financial loss occurring because of the inability or refusal of a counterparty to fully honor its contractual or financial obligations with regard to a balance sheet or off-balance sheet financial instrument.

Credit risk management is independent of operations, thus protecting the independence and integrity
of risk assessment. The Internal Credit Committee is responsible for the operational supervision of overall credit risk management. A credit risk management report is presented on a quarterly basis to the Management Committee and to the Board of Directors' Risk Management Committee. The credit risk policies adopted by the Bank provide for appropriate risk assessment and the setting of lending rates in consequence. These policies cover the approval of credit applications by the line of authority concerned, the attribution of risk ratings, the management of impaired loans, the establishment of general and specific provisions, and pricing based on risk.

Diversification is one of the fundamental principles of risk management. To this effect, the credit policy establishes the guidelines intended to limit concentration of credit by counterparty and sector of activity, and identifies sectors that are considered risky and should thus be avoided.

The policies are periodically reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors' Risk Management Committee.

The authorization process for counterparties and loans is highly centralized. The Bank uses expert systems to support the decision-making process relating to most applications for personal consumer credit, residential mortgage loans and credit cards. As for commercial loans, applications are analyzed one at a time by teams of experts. The Bank ensures a rigorous and systematic follow-up of its loan portfolio both in terms of quality and quantity through mechanisms and policies related to the systematic revision of the various categories of files, risk rating updating systems and pricing analysis. Each month, the Bank's Credit Committee reviews impaired loans and follows up on loans where payment is past due by 90 days or more. Collection processes are centralized and based on specialized expertise.

The Bank has various risk management tools at its disposal. These include an 18 -level risk rating system used to evaluate all types of commercial credit. Above a specific rating, files are considered to be under credit watch and are managed in keeping with specific procedures.

With regard to portfolio quality, a loan is considered impaired when interest payments are past due by three months or more, or if management considers that there is a reasonable doubt that all of the interest and principal will be repaid at maturity.

Specific allowances for losses are set aside to bring the book value of impaired loans to the estimated realizable present value. Commercial and real estate impaired loans allowances are revised on an individual basis, as part of a continuous process.

For consumer impaired loans, provisions are established on portfolios based on a formula that takes into account the loss history or, in some instances, one loan at a time.

In addition to specific provisions, the Bank establishes a general provision in order to provide for eventual losses resulting from its performing loans portfolios according to a method that includes factors such as portfolio size, risk profile and loss history. This method is based on guideline C-5 "General allowances for credit risk" of the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions, Canada (OSFI).

## MARKET RISK MANAGEMENT

Market risk corresponds to the financial losses that the Bank could incur because of unfavorable fluctuations in the value of balance sheet or off-balance sheet financial instruments, following movements in parameters that underlie their evaluation, notably interest rates, exchange rates, and bond and equity prices. This risk is inherent to the Bank's financing, investment and trading activities.

## Policies and standards

The Bank attaches fundamental importance to the efficient management of market risk, given that its primary objective is to maximize the risk/return relationship within previously defined limits, taking into account the degree of risk that the Bank and its subsidiaries are willing to assume.

The Bank has thus adopted policies and ceilings that enable it to oversee and limit exposure to market risks arising from its trading and asset and liability management activities. The policies and limits established reflect the philosophy of the Bank and its subsidiaries regarding management of various risks associated with treasury activities. These policies and limits are reviewed by the Board of Directors at least annually, to ensure their compliance with the retained principles, objectives and management strategy.

Detailed reports on the level of risk and on the monitoring of limits are produced daily and submitted: - daily, to risk and portfolio managers;

- quarterly, to the Management Committee and to the Board of Directors' Risk Management Committee.

Market risk management includes interest rate, foreign exchange and liquidity risk management.

## Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk corresponds to the financial losses that the Bank and/or its subsidiaries may incur following unfavorable fluctuations of interest rates. The section covering structural risk describes the overall management of interest rate risk.

## Foreign exchange risk

Foreign exchange risk corresponds to the loss in Canadian dollars that the Bank and/or its subsidiaries may incur following unfavorable fluctuations of exchange rates. It originates mainly from the foreign exchange positions maintained by the Bank to support the offering of products and services in currencies other than Canadian dollars, as well as from arbitrage activities and, to a lesser extent, from mismatches in the currencies of balance sheet and off-balance sheet asset and liability items, and from mismatches in the receipts and payments of funds in foreign currencies.

Foreign exchange risk control therefore implies that non-covered positions be maintained and managed to take advantage of short-term market fluctuations, hence the setting of global limits, reviewed at least annually, specifying the maximum risk the Bank is ready to assume, considering its activities.

## Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk of loss if the Bank does not have sufficient cash resources, when required, to meet
all its cash flow obligations, whether for balance sheet or off-balance sheet instruments.

Efficient liquidity management is essential to maintaining market confidence and protecting the Bank's capital. Policies for management of collateral, liquidity and financing, together with the liquidity management plan, define the management structure, the responsibilities and the indicators that underlie prudent liquidity management. This management framework provides the Bank and its subsidiaries with the assurance that sufficient funds will be available to meet all their commitments. The Bank monitors cash resources daily and abides by the corporate indicators and legislative imperatives governing it and its subsidiaries.

An integral part of asset and liability management, liquidity management pays particular attention to deposit and loan maturities, along with funding availability and demand. The Bank strives to maintain a stable volume of base deposits originating from its retail and deposit brokerage clienteles, and to ensure the diversification of its sources of financing by client, type of deposit, market and maturity dates. The use of capital markets, either through the issuance of capital stock or short-term debt instruments, is a component of financing.

Securitization of assets offers an additional source of financing through the sale of assets. Moreover, the Bank constantly monitors its operating requirements. In particular, it evaluates and anticipates its commitments, and ensures that a minimum amount of quality liquid assets is immediately available to respond to any eventuality.

A contingency plan includes measures to ensure that the Bank can fulfill its obligations in the event of a high demand for liquid assets.

## Methods of evaluating and controlling market risks(interest rate and exchange rate)

The evaluation of market risks at the Bank is underpinned by a combination of two groups of measures: - value at risk (VAR) and the application of shock scenarios;

- "notional" limits and various other measures of sensitivity that allow management of the risks that are not captured by the VAR measures and scenarios.


## Value at risk

The Bank has implemented a market risk management and monitoring structure that entails the use of the VAR methodology for all of its trading portfolios. Value at risk corresponds to the maximum loss that the Bank may incur over a one-day period, with a confidence level of $99 \%$. Consequently, the chances that real losses incurred exceed the VAR are approximately $1 \%$. To calculate the VAR, historical simulations are performed, implicitly taking into account correlations between the various markets.

Global value at risk is calculated for all financial market activities. Values at risk are also calculated for specific portfolios. The outstanding value at risk thus obtained is compared to the limits set on a daily basis to limit the risks incurred. In parallel with the VAR model, shock scenarios are contemplated and their impact on the profits and losses of certain portfolios is evaluated.

## Trading activities

Trading activities are aligned with the needs of the Bank and those of its clients. Market risks associated with trading activities ensue from activities for which the Bank acts as the principal or as the agent for its clients. These activities are primarily carried out by Laurentian Bank Securities and, to a lesser extent, by the Bank's treasury department. The graphs below refer to the Bank's trading portfolios.

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DAILY NET TRADING REVENUE
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VS GLOBAL TRADING VAR
(in thousands of dollars)


HISTOGRAM OF DAILY NET TRADING REVENUE (number of days / thousands of dollars)


The first graph above compares net revenue from trading activities and the daily value at risk associated with these activities. During fiscal 2005, we experienced 28 days of net losses. None of the net losses incurred exceeded the estimated VAR for these same days. The biggest loss occurred on March 30 and stood at $\$ 192,000$. The average VAR during fiscal 2005 stood at $\$ 378,000$, compared to average revenues of $\$ 124,000$.

The second graph on page 55 shows the daily distribution of trading revenues for fiscal 2005.

## STRUCTURAL RISK MANAGEMENT

Structural risk is the potential negative impact of interest rate movements on the Bank's results and economic value. This risk is mainly attributable to differences in maturities or reevaluation dates of balance sheet and off-balance sheet items, as well as to the options embedded in certain banking products, notably early redemption clauses and mortgage commitments.

Structural risk management requires rigorous monitoring of four distinct groups of portfolios:

- banking activities of the Bank's clientele, which are affected by clients' choices, product offerings and termdependent pricing policies;
- investment activities, comprised of marketable securities and institutional funding grouped in the primary and secondary liquidity portfolios and in the investment portfolio;
- securities trading activities, that are marked-to-market on a daily basis in line with rate movements; and
- a hedging portfolio that allows the Bank to control overall interest rate risk within stringent internal limits.

Both the dynamic management and disciplined control of structural risk are intended to maximize the Bank's profitability and preserve the economic value of common shareholders' equity. To attain this objective, various treasury and derivative instruments, mainly interest rate swaps, futures and options, are used to modify the interest rate characteristics of the instruments that underlie the balance sheet and to cover the risk inherent in options embedded in loan and deposit products.

Structural risk is managed globally by the Asset and Liability Management Committee in accordance with the structural risk management policy approved by the Board of Directors. This policy defines ceilings relative to the evaluation of interest income and economic value risks. These risk ceilings are calculated by simulating the impact of immediate and sustained parallel movements of 100 basis points of rates for all maturities.

Economic value risk measures the net negative impact on the present value of balance sheet and offbalance sheet assets and liabilities.

Interest income risk measures the negative impact of interest rate movements over the next twelve months on net interest income. Portfolio positions are reviewed weekly by the Asset and Liability Management Committee, which is in charge of establishing the Bank's positioning with regard to anticipated interest rate movements and of recommending hedging of all undesirable or unforeseen interest rate risk. In addition, risk monitor-
ing reports are submitted periodically to the Management Committee and to the Risk Management Committee of the Board of Directors. Structural risk management ensues from a weekly gap report. The Bank's interest rate gap position as at October 31, 2005 is set out in Note 20 to the consolidated financial statements. To ensure sound structural risk management, management also conducts simulation analysis of the variations in net income and the economic value of common shareholders' equity based on a repricing gap report and various interest rate scenarios. One of the main simulation exercises consists of subjecting the Bank's balance sheet to a sudden and sustained $1 \%$ increase in interest rates. For example, as at October 31, 2005, such a sudden and sustained $1 \%$ increase in interest rates for all portfolios would have triggered a $\$ 3.6$ million decrease in net income before taxes over the following 12 months and would have had a $\$(50.6)$ million impact on the value of common shareholders' equity. These results reflect management's efforts to take advantage of short-term and long-term interest rate movements, while maintaining the sensitivity to these fluctuations well within the limits set by the Board of Directors.

## RISK RELATED TO CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

Capital management risk is the risk of a possible negative impact if the Bank cannot maintain an optimal level of capital to support its activities.

The capital of the Bank is comprised of common shareholders' equity, retained earnings, preferred shares, subordinated debentures and a non-controlling interest in a subsidiary. Capital is an important factor in assessing the Bank's stability and security in relation to the risks associated with its activities. Tight capital management contributes to the Bank's profitability, as capital is allocated to key sectors for which precise profitability objectives and criteria have been established.

The Bank aims to maintain an optimal level of capital to support its activities while generating an attractive and competitive return for its shareholders, in relation to industry standards and its specific risk profile. The Bank's policy is to maintain its statutory capital ratios at a level comparable to that of the industry and consistent with regulatory requirements as defined by OFSI.

A capital plan prepared annually specifies the target capital ratios, taking into account the projected levels of risk-weighted assets and the anticipated initiatives with regard to capital management. Statutory capital ratio monitoring reports are submitted on a quarterly basis to the members of the Management Committee and to the Risk Management Committee of the Board of Directors.

## New Basel Accord

The Basel Committee on Banking Supervision has formulated a new accord (Basel II) that will come into effect in November 2007. This accord will rest on three pillars instead of one, namely the minimum capital requirements, a prudent monitoring framework and financial disclosure. Basel II will take greater account of real risks and allow a choice among three evaluation methods to assess credit risk and operational risk. The Bank is presently engaged in the process of implementing the New Basel Accord using the Standard Approch for market risk and the Basic Indicator Approch for Operational Risk.

## OPERATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT

Operational risk is inherent to the activities of financial institutions. It results from an insufficiency or failure attributable to procedures, persons, internal systems or external events. Although it cannot be eliminated, its management is integrated in the decision-making processes of the Bank's Directors, members of top management and managers.

The operational risk management policy, reviewed annually by the Risk Management Committee of the Board of Directors, describes the operational risk management framework and defines the roles and responsibilities of the various interveners. Managers of business segments and subsidiaries are foremost responsible for managing operational risk inherent in their daily operations. For its part, the operational risk management group must oversee the management process related to this risk. Complete and independent verification of this process is performed by the Bank's internal audit department which transmits the conclusions of its auditing mandates to the operational risk management group as well as to the Risk Management Committee and the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors.

The Bank's operational risk management process includes the following steps:

## Adoption of policies by the Board of Directors

The operational risk management framework includes the following policies: operational risk management policy; outsourcing risk management policy; information security risk management policy; professional liability risk management policy.

## Collection of operational losses data

Information concerning operational losses is centralized within the operational risk management group.

## Identification of operational risks

Managers must identify the risks ensuing from their activities, including risks related to new products, new activities and new methods.

## Evaluation of operational risks

All of the Bank's activities are grouped within large processes. In self-assessment workshops, or as important changes occur, managers must perform an evaluation in order to attribute the appropriate risk rating to each of their processes.

## Management of operational risks

This process consists in deciding to accept, control, avoid or transfer certain risks and put in place appropriate procedures and control measures. The Bank uses several means to minimize or transfer its risks, including participation in a corporate insurance program and formulation of a global and integrated plan for the continuity of operations. Furthermore, a Fraud Prevention Committee, composed of security coordinators and business segments' representatives, meets on a periodic basis to analyze trends with regard to fraud and identify ways to improve the Bank's methods and means of preventing fraud on a continuing basis.

## Production of operational risk reports

These reports are submitted to managers, members of top management and Directors. They include action plans intended to reduce the level of risk of business processes whose global operational risk rating is considered to be too high, according to the tolerance levels set by the Bank.

## REGULATORY RISK MANAGEMENT

Regulatory risk results from risk related to the failure by the Bank to comply with prevailing legislation, regulations, by-laws, established practices or accepted ethical standards. The compliance policy describes the compliance program and defines the roles and responsibilities of the various interveners. The compliance program includes all of the regulatory requirements that have a major impact on the Bank's operations, and that are contained in the sectoral compliance programs, along with mandates, timetables and compliance reports.

Compliance reports are submitted to the President and Chief Executive Officer, to the Management Committee, to the Risk Management Committee of the Board of Directors and then to the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors.

## CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES REGARDING FINANCIAL INFORMATION

To ensure that the consolidated financial statements and Management Discussion and Analysis truly reflect in all significant respects the Bank's financial condition as well as the results of its operations, the controls and procedures regarding financial information are reviewed and refined on a continuing basis.

In 2004, the adoption by the Canadian Securities Administrators of regulations designed to reinforce investors' confidence in financial markets - notably regulation 52-109 on the certification of issuers' annual and interim financial information-has prompted the Bank to review its financial reporting process. Among other initiatives, a formal disclosure committee is now mandated to review the most important documents to be filed with the regulatory agencies. Furthermore, this committee is in a position to ensure that all significant information regarding the Bank's operations is disclosed.

The Bank is now actively working on the next phases that will lead to the certification of internal controls over financial reporting, as required under the draft regulation 52-111. A financial certification process project team, staffed with professional experts in control and audit, has been formed in fiscal 2005 to ensure that the Bank meets these new requirements.

The President and Chief Executive Officer and the Senior Executive Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of the Bank, with the participation of the Bank's management, have evaluated that disclosure controls and procedures, at October 31, 2005, were effective to ensure that all significant information is disclosed.

## SIGNIFICANT GRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND ESTIMATES

The significant accounting policies adopted by the Bank are outlined in Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements. Some accounting policies are deemed critical inasmuch as they refer to material amounts and require management to make estimates that, by their very nature, involve uncertainties. The preparation of consolidated financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) requires management to make estimates and assumptions, mainly in relation to the valuation of items that affect the amounts reported in the consolidated financial statements. Consequently, actual results could differ from these estimates.

The critical accounting policies that require management's judgment and estimates are described below.

## ALLOWANCE FOR LOAN LOSSES

The allowance for loan losses reflects management's estimate of losses related to loan portfolios. Management regularly reviews the portfolios' credit quality to ensure that the allowance for loan losses is adequate. Considering the materiality of the amounts and the related uncertainties, the use of estimates and assumptions that differ from those used in determining the allowance for loan losses - notably, the evaluation related to the amounts and dates of future cash flows, the fair value of guarantees and realization costs, as well as consideration of economic and business conditions - could produce significantly different levels of allowances. Changes in circumstances may cause future assessments of credit risk to be materially different from current assessments and may require an increase or decrease in the allowance for loan losses. These changes could consequently have a significant impact on the provision for credit losses in the consolidated statement of results. A detailed description of the methods used to determine the allowance for loan losses can be found under Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements on page 72 of this Annual Report.

The Bank has developed a model for the evaluation of the general allowance, based on the historical losses of the various portfolios. This model validates the $\$ 65.3$ allowance as at October 31, 2005. Different assumptions and parameters could have produced different evaluations.

## GOODWILL, OTHER INTANGIBLE

## ASSETS AND OTHER ASSETS

## Goodwill

Goodwill is subject at least annually to an impairment test, based on its fair value. As at October 31, 2005, the balance of goodwill stood at $\$ 53.8$ million and this amount was entirely allocated to Retail Financial Services.

The impairment test initially compares the fair value of the reporting unit, to which goodwill relates, to its carrying amount. The Bank mainly uses the discounted cash flow method to determine the fair value of its reporting units. The Bank's management must produce a number of significant estimates when it calculates the fair value of its goodwill. These estimates include projected net income growth rates, future cash flows, the number of years used in the cash flow model, discount rate of future cash flows and several other elements. Management considers that all estimates are reasonable and consistent with the Bank's financial objectives. They
reflect management's best estimates but include inherent uncertainties that are not under its control.

All changes made to any of the estimates used may have a significant impact on the calculation of fair value and on the resulting charge for loss in value. Consequently, the Bank cannot reasonably quantify the effect of the use of different assumptions on its overall financial performance. Moreover, it is impossible to predict whether an event that triggers an impairment will occur, when it will occur or how this will affect the values of the assets presented by the Bank.

No impairment charge was reported in 2005 and 2004.

More information on goodwill can be found in Note 7 to the consolidated financial statements.

## Other intangible assets and other assets

The Bank also subjects its other intangible assets with finite lives to the impairment test when events or changes in circumstances indicate that it may not be possible to recover their book value. As it conducts this test, management evaluates the future cash flows that it expects to realize from these assets and their possible disposition. An impairment loss is recognized if the sum of the expected future undiscounted cash flows is less than the carrying amount of the asset. No impairment charge was reported in 2005 and 2004.

The Bank also periodically reviews the value of its other assets, such as property, plant and equipment and other deferred charges, in order to identify potential losses in value and validate the pertaining amortization periods. The use of estimates and assumptions that differ from those that are retained could significantly influence results.

## EVALUATION OF FINANGIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Bank reports its trading account securities portfolio, derivative financial instruments and obligations related to assets sold short at fair value. Changes in the fair value of these financial instruments, excluding those which qualify for hedge accounting, are recognized under the "Other income" line item. Fair value is based on market prices when available. In the absence of market prices, the Bank normally uses pricing models based on the discounted value of future cash flows, calculated according to management's best estimate of key assumptions, yield curves and volatility factors.

Considering the importance of judgment in determining such calculations, certain estimates of fair value may not be representative of net realizable value. Additional information on calculating fair value
is presented in Note 20 to the consolidated financial statements on page 95 of this Annual Report.

## EMPLOYEE FUTURE BENEFITS

Valuation of employee future benefits, for defined benefit plans and other post-employment benefits, is based on a number of assumptions such as discount rates, expected return on assets, projected salary increases, health-care cost trend rates, employee turnover rate and retirement age. These assumptions are reviewed annually in accordance with accepted actuarial practice and approved by management.

The discount rate used in determining the actual costs and obligations related to pension plans and other future benefits reflects the market yields, as at the measurement date, on high-quality debt instruments with cash flows that match expected benefit payments.

The expected rate of return on the plans' assets corresponds to the expected returns for various asset categories, weighted by portfolio allocation. Anticipated future long-term performance of individual asset categories is considered, according to the expected future inflation rate and the real yields on fixed income securities and equities.

In accordance with Canadian GAAP, actual results that differ from the expected results as indicated by the assumptions are accumulated and amortized over future periods and, therefore, affect actual costs and recorded obligations for these periods. As at October 31, 2005, the net amount of the unamortized actuarial losses was $\$ 112.1$ million ( $\$ 66.3$ million in 2004) as regards pension plans and $\$ 8.7$ million ( $\$ 6.1$ million in 2004) as regards other benefits.

Discount rates for the accrued benefit obligation stood at $5.35 \%$ and $6.50 \%$ as at October 31, 2005 and 2004 , respectively. The expected long-term rate of return on the plans' assets was $7.25 \%$ in 2005 ( $7.75 \%$ in 2004). The trend rate of the estimated annual growth of healthcare costs covered, per participant, has been set at $9 \%$ in $2005(9.5 \%$ in 2004). According to the accepted assumption, this rate should decrease progressively, reaching $5.0 \%$ in 2013 and remaining at that level thereafter.

Considering the importance of accrued benefit obligations and plan assets, changes in assumptions could have a significant impact on the accrued benefit asset (liability), as well as on pension plan and other employee future benefit expenses. The table on page 60 presents an approximation of the incidence of a $0.25 \%$ increase or decrease in the principal assumptions, on accrued benefit obligations and related pension plan expenses for 2005 .

Table 27
EFFECT OF CHANGE OF $0.25 \%$

| (in millons of dollars) | Potential impact <br> of changes of $0.25 \%$ |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Discount rate <br> Projected long-term rate <br> of return of plan assets | $\$ 13.3$ | Cost |

The sensitivities presented in this table should be used with caution, as the effects are hypothetical and changes in assumptions may not be linear.

Further information on the Bank's pension plans and other future benefits can be found in Note 14 to the consolidated financial statements on page 88 of this Annual Report.

## INCOME TAX

Future income tax assets reflect management's estimate of the value of loss carry-forwards, minimum tax carryovers and other temporary differences. The determination of the assets' value is based on assumptions related to results of operations of future fiscal years, timing of reversal of temporary differences and tax rates on the date of reversals, which may change depending on governments' fiscal policies. Management must assess whether it is more likely than not that future income tax assets will be realized prior to their expiration and, based on all available evidence, determine if a valuation allowance is required on all or a portion of future income tax assets.

The use of different assumptions could translate into significantly different income tax expenses, particularly if the Bank does not meet its profitability objectives.

Further information on income tax can be found in Note 1 and Note 16 to the consolidated financial statements on pages 76 and 91 of this Annual Report.

## SECURITIZATION

Securitization is a process whereby financial assets, essentially mortgage loans as far as the Bank is concerned, are converted into securities and sold to investors. When the Bank surrenders control over the receivables sold, and receives a consideration other than a beneficial interest in the transferred assets, the operations are recorded as sales. Note 5 to the consolidated financial statements, on page 82 of this Annual Report, and the "Off-balance sheet arrangements" section on page 47 of this Management Discussion and Analysis offer further information on these transactions.

The determination of the initial gain depends on the value attributed to certain retained interests. Since quoted market prices are not available for retained interests, the Bank must estimate the fair value based
on the present value of estimated cash flows. The Bank therefore must use estimates and assumptions particularly for expected credit losses, prepayment rates, discount rates and other factors that influence the value of the retained interests. Moreover, this value must be reviewed periodically thereafter. The use of different estimates and assumptions could have a material impact on results.

In this regard, Note 5 to the consolidated financial statements contains a sensitivity analysis of the current fair value of the retained interests to immediate $10 \%$ and $20 \%$ adverse changes in key assumptions. The balance of retained interests for securitized mortgage loans was $\$ 21.2$ million as at October 31, 2005.

## CHANGES TO <br> ACCOUNTING POLICIES

## CHANGES DURING THE YEAR

## Consolidation of variable interest entities

On November 1, 2004, the Bank adopted Accounting Guideline no. 15 (AcG-15), Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities. AcG-15 provides guidance for applying consolidation principles to certain entities that are subject to control on a basis other than ownership of voting interests. The initial adoption did not have a material impact on the consolidated financial statements. Refer to Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements for additional information on this matter.

## Presentation of liabilities and equity

On November 1, 2004, the Bank retroactively adopted the modification to Section 3860, Financial Instruments - Disclosure and Presentation. The revised section requires that obligations that can be settled, at the issuer's option, by a variable number of the issuer's own equity instruments, under conditions that are potentially unfavourable, be presented as liabilities. The impact of the initial adoption is detailed in Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements.

## FUTURE CHANGES

On April 1, 2005, the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants (CICA) issued three new accounting standards governing financial instruments (Financial Instruments - Recognition and Measurement; Hedges; Comprehensive Income) which will come into effect for the Bank on November 1, 2006. The impact of these standards cannot yet be determined, as it will depend on the financial instruments held at the time of application. Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements provides detailed information on these new accounting standards.

Table 28

| STATISTICAL REVIEW - CON | ALAN |  |  |  |  | Average annual variation |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| As at October 31 (in thousands of dollars) | 2005 | 2004 | 2003 | 2002 | 2001 | 05/01 |

ASSETS
Cash resources

| Cash and non-interest-bearing deposits with other banks | \$ 57,737 | \$ 47,681 | \$ 54,772 | \$ 82,164 | 81,162 | (8)\% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Interest-bearing deposits with other banks | 259,791 | 280,751 | 668,152 | 351,534 | 94,748 | 29 |
| Cheques and other items in transit, net | - | - | 111,809 | 19,973 | 8,437 | - |
|  | 317,528 | 328,432 | 834,733 | 453,671 | 184,347 | 15 |
| Securities |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Issued or guaranteed by Canada Issued or guaranteed by provinces | 1,775,372 | 1,834,369 | 1,497,689 | 1,584,820 | 1,432,946 | 7 |
| and municipal corporations | 556,727 | 698,510 | 1,025,828 | 1,114,427 | 650,685 | (4) |
| Other securities | 608,307 | 469,596 | 547,359 | 350,810 | 237,630 | 20 |
|  | 2,940,406 | 3,002,475 | 3,070,876 | 3,050,057 | 2,321,261 | 6 |
| Assets purchased under reverse repurchase agreements | 508,073 | 1,133,920 | 882,036 | 869,830 | 649,671 | (6) |
| Loans |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Personal | 3,907,320 | 3,638,991 | 3,646,070 | $3,865,455$ | 3,532,655 | 3 |
| Residential and commercial mortgages | 6,402,799 | 6,113,107 | 5,979,229 | 7,601,671 | 7,880,870 | (5) |
| Commercial and other | 1,539,893 | 1,542,760 | 1,571,491 | 1,872,901 | 2,159,752 | (8) |
|  | 11,850,012 | 11,294,858 | 11,196,790 | 13,340,027 | 13,573,277 | (3) |
| Allowance for loan losses | $(129,806)$ | $(140,042)$ | $(163,177)$ | $(217,881)$ | $(133,512)$ | (1) |
|  | 11,720,206 | 11,154,816 | 11,033,613 | 13,122,146 | 13,439,765 | (3) |
| Other |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Customers' liability under acceptances | 145,629 | 144,830 | 235,286 | 332,077 | 336,292 | (19) |
| Property, plant and equipment | 93,793 | 94,490 | 114,479 | 160,597 | 178,766 | (15) |
| Other assets | 781,349 | 748,513 | 566,745 | 607,238 | 585,722 | 7 |
|  | 1,020,771 | 987,833 | 916,510 | 1,099,912 | 1,100,780 | (2) |
|  | \$16,506,984 | \$16,607,476 | \$16,737,768 | \$18,595,616 | \$17,695,824 | (2)\% |

LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY
Deposits

| Personal | $\$ 10,575,416$ | $\$ 10,454,368$ | $\$ 10,508,592$ | $\$ 12,007,957$ | $\$ 11,519,743$ | $(2) \%$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Business, banks and other | $3,121,522$ | $2,456,672$ | $2,784,357$ | $2,960,317$ | $2,998,294$ | 1 |
|  | $13,696,938$ | $12,911,040$ | $13,292,949$ | $14,968,274$ | $14,518,037$ | $(1)$ |

## Other

| Obligations related to assets sold short or under repurchase |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 786,128 | 1,511,481 | 1,142,909 | 1,308,882 | 877,158 | (3) |
| Acceptances | 145,629 | 144,830 | 235,286 | 332,077 | 336,292 | (19) |
| Other liabilities | 815,049 | 902,848 | 751,484 | 716,907 | 741,921 | 2 |
|  | 1,746,806 | 2,559,159 | 2,129,679 | 2,357,866 | 1,955,371 | (3) |
| Subordinated debentures | 150,000 | 250,525 | 400,000 | 400,000 | 400,000 | (22) |
| Liability related to preferred shares | - | - | 100,000 | 100,000 | 160,000 | - |
| Non-controlling interest in a subsidiary | - | - | 41,827 | 47,106 | 42,683 | - |
| Shareholders' equity |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Preferred shares | 210,000 | 210,000 | 100,000 | 100,400 | 400 | - |
| Common shares | 249,633 | 248,593 | 246,813 | 246,230 | 234,240 | 2 |
| Contributed surplus | 73 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Retained earnings | 454,124 | 428,159 | 426,500 | 375,740 | 385,093 | 4 |
| Treasury stock | (590) | - | - | - | - | - |
|  | 913,240 | 886,752 | 773,313 | 722,370 | 619,733 | 10 |
|  | \$16,506,984 | \$16,607,476 | \$16,737,768 | \$18,595,616 | \$17,695,824 | (2)\% |

Table 29

| STATISTICAL REVIEW - CONSOLIDATED STA <br> For the years ended October 31 <br> (in thousands of dollars, except per share amounts) | NCOME 2005 | 2004 | 2003 | 2002 | 2001 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Average } \\ & \text { annual } \\ & \text { variation } \\ & 05 / 01 \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Loans | \$682,591 | \$690,789 | \$870,519 | \$887,268 | \$1,005,061 | (9)\% |
| Securities | 59,744 | 57,546 | 76,502 | 73,341 | 66,284 | (3) |
| Deposits with other banks | 7,864 | 9,807 | 11,658 | 5,022 | 8,243 | (1) |
| Interest income | 750,199 | 758,142 | 958,679 | 965,631 | 1,079,588 | (9) |
| Deposits and other liabilities | 408,309 | 455,950 | 587,711 | 591,905 | 680,035 | (12) |
| Subordinated debentures | 16,199 | 27,184 | 27,742 | 27,750 | 34,395 | (17) |
| Liability related to preferred shares | - | 7,814 | 7,750 | 8,121 | 13,000 | - |
| Interest expense | 424,508 | 490,948 | 623,203 | 627,776 | 727,430 | (13) |
| Net interest income | 325,691 | 267,194 | 335,476 | 337,855 | 352,158 | (2) |
| Provision for credit losses | 40,000 | 40,000 | 54,000 | 111,000 | 35,000 | 3 |
|  | 285,691 | 227,194 | 281,476 | 226,855 | 317,158 | (3) |
| Other income | 176,371 | 198,949 | 286,720 | 254,443 | 265,641 | (10) |
|  | 462,062 | 426,143 | 568,196 | 481,298 | 582,799 | (6) |
| Salaries and employee benefits | 192,163 | 182,929 | 204,944 | 198,694 | 212,878 | (3) |
| Premises and technology | 107,559 | 104,682 | 128,982 | 120,140 | 115,829 | (2) |
| Other | 82,229 | 82,108 | 107,854 | 88,499 | 116,736 | (8) |
| Non-interest expenses | 381,951 | 369,719 | 441,780 | 407,333 | 445,443 | (4) |
| Income from continuing operations before income taxes and non-controlling interest in a subsidiary | 80,111 | 56,424 | 126,416 | 73,965 | 137,356 | (13) |
| Income taxes | 24,488 | 14,637 | 38,757 | 33,009 | 58,112 | (19) |
| Income from continuing operations before non-controlling interest in a subsidiary | 55,623 | 41,787 | 87,659 | 40,956 | 79,244 | (8) |
| Non-controlling interest in a subsidiary | - | 1,916 | 3,640 | 5,318 | 2,041 | - |
| Income from continuing operations | 55,623 | 39,871 | 84,019 | 35,638 | 77,203 | (8)\% |
| Income from discontinued operations, net of income taxes | 9,659 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Net income | \$ 65,282 | \$ 39,871 | \$ 84,019 | \$ 35,638 | \$ 77,203 | (4)\% |


| Preferred shares dividends, including applicable income taxes | \$ | 12,030 | \$ | 8,606 | \$ | 6,095 | \$ | 6,352 | \$ | 28 | - |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Net income available to common shareholders | \$ | 53,252 | \$ | 31,265 | \$ | 77,924 | \$ | 29,286 | \$ | 77,175 | (9)\% |
| Common shares dividends | \$ | 27,287 | \$ | 27,248 | \$ | 27,164 | \$ | 26,854 | \$ | 24,098 | 3\% |
| Average number of common shares (in thousands) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Basic |  | 23,525 |  | 23,485 |  | 23,416 |  | 23,095 |  | 22,710 | 1\% |
| Diluted |  | 23,552 |  | 23,521 |  | 23,457 |  | 23,288 |  | 22,896 | 1\% |
| Net income per common share from continuing operations |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Basic | \$ | 1.85 | \$ | 1.33 | \$ | 3.33 | \$ | 1.27 | \$ | 3.40 | (14)\% |
| Diluted | \$ | 1.85 | \$ | 1.33 | \$ | 3.32 | \$ | 1.26 | \$ | 3.37 | (14)\% |
| Net income per common share |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Basic | \$ | 2.26 | \$ | 1.33 | \$ | 3.33 | \$ | 1.27 | \$ | 3.40 | (10)\% |
| Diluted | \$ | 2.26 | \$ | 1.33 | \$ | 3.32 | \$ | 1.26 | \$ | 3.37 | (10)\% |
| Dividends | \$ | 1.16 | \$ | 1.16 | \$ | 1.16 | \$ | 1.16 | \$ | 1.06 | 2\% |
| Dividend payout ratio |  | 51.2\% |  | 87.1\% |  | 34.9\% |  | 91.5\% |  | 31.2\% |  |
| Book value | \$ | 29.85 | \$ | 28.78 | \$ | 28.73 | \$ | 26.57 | \$ | 27.08 | 2\% |
| Return on common shareholders' equity |  | 7.8\% |  | 4.6\% |  | 12.4\% |  | 4.8\% |  | 13.1\% |  |
| (as a percentage of average assets) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Net interest income |  | 1.99\% |  | 1.64\% |  | 1.81\% |  | 1.82\% |  | 2.05\% |  |
| Provision for credit losses |  | 0.24\% |  | 0.24\% |  | 0.29\% |  | 0.60\% |  | 0.20\% |  |
| Other income |  | 1.08\% |  | 1.22\% |  | 1.55\% |  | 1.37\% |  | 1.55\% |  |
| Non-interest expenses |  | 2.34\% |  | 2.26\% |  | 2.38\% |  | 2.19\% |  | 2.59\% |  |
| Income from continuing operations |  | 0.34\% |  | 0.24\% |  | 0.45\% |  | 0.19\% |  | 0.45\% |  |
| Net income |  | 0.40\% |  | 0.24\% |  | 0.45\% |  | 0.19\% |  | 0.45\% |  |
| Net income available to common shareholders |  | 0.33\% |  | 0.19\% |  | 0.42\% |  | 0.16\% |  | 0.45\% |  |
| Average assets (in millions of dollars) | \$ | 16,328 | \$ | 16,327 | \$ | 18,548 | \$ | 18,570 | \$ | 17,176 | (1)\% |
| Number of full-time equivalent employees |  | 3,180 |  | 3,125 |  | 3,159 |  | 3,730 |  | 3,884 | (5)\% |
| Number of branches |  | 157 |  | 153 |  | 155 |  | 214 |  | 230 | (9)\% |
| Number of automated banking machines |  | 313 |  | 293 |  | 284 |  | 351 |  | 360 | (3)\% |

Table 30
QUARTERLY HIGHLIGHTS


# CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS <br> As at October 31, 2005 and 2004 

65 Management's responsibility for financial information
66 Auditors' report to shareholders
67 Consolidated balance sheet
68 Consolidated statement of income
69 Consolidated statement of changes in shareholders' equity
70 Consolidated statement of cash flows
71 Notes to consolidated financial statements

The consolidated financial statements present a recent financial history of the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of Laurentian Bank of Canada.
The accompanying notes include important disclosures that are useful in understanding the Bank's performance. They provide information on how amounts presented in the consolidated financial statements were determined, describe significant events or changes that affect these amounts, and explain certain line items in the consolidated financial statements. They also include details about the financial results that are not shown in the body of the consolidated financial statements.

## MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The consolidated financial statements of Laurentian Bank of Canada were prepared by management, which is responsible for the integrity and fairness of the financial information presented. The financial statements were prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles and reflect amounts which must, of necessity, be based on the best estimates and judgment of management. The financial information presented in the Annual Report is consistent with that in the financial statements.

Management is responsible for ensuring the fairness and integrity of the financial information. It is also responsible for the implementation of the supporting accounting systems. In discharging its responsibilities, management maintains the necessary internal control systems designed to provide assurance that transactions are properly authorized, assets are safeguarded and proper accounting records are held. The controls include quality standards in hiring and training of employees, written policies, compliance with authorized limits for managers, procedure manuals, a corporate code of conduct, budgetary controls and appropriate management information systems.

The internal control systems are further supported by a regulatory compliance function, which ensures that the Bank and its employees comply with all regulatory requirements, as well as by a function of integrated risk management and an operating risk management function that ensures proper risk control, related documentation and the measurement of the financial impact of risks. In addition, the internal auditors periodically assess various aspects of the Bank's operations and make recommendations to management for, among other things, improvements to the internal control systems.

Every year, the Superintendent of Financial Institutions of Canada makes such examinations and inquiries as deemed necessary to satisfy itself that the Bank is in a sound financial position and that it complies with the provisions of the Bank Act, particularly those regarding the safety of the depositors and shareholders of the Bank.

Ernst \& Young LLP, independent auditors, appointed by the shareholders, examine the Bank's consolidated financial statements and their report follows.

The internal auditors, the external auditors and the Superintendent of Financial Institutions of Canada meet periodically with the Audit Committee, in the presence or absence of management, to discuss all aspects of their duties and matters arising therefrom.

The Board of Directors is responsible for reviewing and approving the financial statements and management's discussion and analysis of results of operations and financial condition appearing in the Annual Report. It oversees the manner in which management discharges its responsibilities for the presentation and preparation of financial statements, maintenance of appropriate internal controls, risk management as well as assessment of significant transactions and related party transactions through its Audit Committee and its Risk Management Committee. Both Board committees are composed solely of directors who are not officers or employees of the Bank.

## AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF LAURENTIAN BANK OF CANADA

We have audited the consolidated balance sheets of Laurentian Bank of Canada (the Bank) as at October 31, 2005 and 2004 and the consolidated statements of income, changes in shareholders' equity and cash flows for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Bank's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, these consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Bank as at October 31, 2005 and 2004 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

[^6]
## CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

| As at October 31 (in thousands of dollars) | Notes | 2005 | 2004 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ASSETS |  |  |  |
| Cash resources |  |  |  |
| Cash and non-interest-bearing deposits with other banks |  | \$ 57,737 | \$ 47,681 |
| Interest-bearing deposits with other banks |  | 259,791 | 280,751 |
|  |  | 317,528 | 328,432 |
| Securities | 3 and 21 |  |  |
| Investment account |  | 1,911,819 | 2,007,471 |
| Trading account |  | 1,028,587 | 995,004 |
|  |  | 2,940,406 | 3,002,475 |
| Assets purchased under reverse repurchase agreements |  | 508,073 | 1,133,920 |
| Loans | 4 and 5 |  |  |
| Personal |  | 3,907,320 | 3,638,991 |
| Residential mortgages |  | 5,806,853 | 5,509,022 |
| Commercial mortgages |  | 595,946 | 604,085 |
| Commercial and other |  | 1,539,893 | 1,542,760 |
| Allowance for loan losses |  | 11,850,012 | 11,294,858 |
|  |  | $(129,806)$ | $(140,042)$ |
|  |  | 11,720,206 | 11,154,816 |
| Other |  |  |  |
| Customers' liability under acceptances |  | 145,629 | 144,830 |
| Property, plant and equipment | 6 | 93,793 | 94,490 |
| Derivative financial instruments |  | 143,453 | 201,717 |
| Future tax assets | 16 | 106,932 | 113,921 |
| Goodwill | 7 | 53,790 | 54,029 |
| Other intangible assets | 7 | 16,547 | 18,897 |
| Other assets | 8 | 460,627 | 359,949 |
|  |  | 1,020,771 | 987,833 |
|  |  | \$16,506,984 | \$16,607,476 |
| LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY |  |  |  |
| Deposits | 9 |  |  |
| Personal |  | \$10,575,416 | \$10,454,368 |
| Business, banks and other |  | 3,121,522 | 2,456,672 |
|  |  | 13,696,938 | 12,911,040 |
| Other |  |  |  |
| Obligations related to assets sold short |  | 726,063 | 1,495,574 |
| Obligations related to assets sold under repurchase agreements | 21 | 60,065 | 15,907 |
| Acceptances |  | 145,629 | 144,830 |
| Derivative financial instruments |  | 105,326 | 189,489 |
| Other liabilities | 10 | 709,723 | 713,359 |
|  |  | 1,746,806 | 2,559,159 |
| Subordinated debentures | 11 | 150,000 | 250,525 |
| Shareholders' equity |  |  |  |
| Preferred shares | 12 | 210,000 | 210,000 |
| Common shares | 12 | 249,633 | 248,593 |
| Contributed surplus | 13 | 73 | - |
| Retained earnings |  | 454,124 | 428,159 |
| Treasury shares | 12 and 13 | (590) | - |
|  |  | 913,240 | 886,752 |
|  |  | \$16,506,984 | \$16,607,476 |

[^7]
## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME

| For the years ended October 31 (in thousands of dollars, except per share amounts) | Notes | 2005 | 2004 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Restated (note 1) |
| Interest income |  |  |  |
| Loans |  | \$682,591 | \$690,789 |
| Securities |  | 59,744 | 57,546 |
| Deposits with other banks |  | 7,864 | 9,807 |
|  |  | 750,199 | 758,142 |
| Interest expense |  |  |  |
| Deposits and other liabilities |  | 408,309 | 455,950 |
| Subordinated debentures |  | 16,199 | 27,184 |
| Liability related to preferred shares | 1 | - | 7,814 |
|  |  | 424,508 | 490,948 |
| Net interest income |  | 325,691 | 267,194 |
| Provision for credit losses | 4 | 40,000 | 40,000 |
|  |  | 285,691 | 227,194 |
| Other income |  |  |  |
| Fees and commissions on loans and deposits |  | 89,164 | 89,183 |
| Brokerage operations |  | 20,167 | 20,223 |
| Income from treasury and financial market operations |  | 16,223 | 30,620 |
| Income from registered self-directed plans |  | 11,830 | 12,241 |
| Securitization income | 5 | 11,664 | 4,437 |
| Income from sale and management of mutual funds |  | 9,570 | 12,886 |
| Insurance income |  | 7,687 | 6,061 |
| Gain on disposals | 2 | - | 13,517 |
| Other |  | 10,066 | 9,781 |
|  |  | 176,371 | 198,949 |
|  |  | 462,062 | 426,143 |
| Non-interest expenses |  |  |  |
| Salaries and employee benefits |  | 192,163 | 182,929 |
| Premises and technology |  | 107,559 | 104,682 |
| Other | 15 | 82,229 | 82,108 |
|  |  | 381,951 | 369,719 |
| Income from continuing operations before income taxes and |  |  |  |
| Income taxes | 16 | 24,488 | 14,637 |
| Income from continuing operations before non-controlling interest in a subsidiary |  | 55,623 | 41,787 |
| Non-controlling interest in a subsidiary | 2 | - | 1,916 |
| Income from continuing operations |  | \$ 55,623 | \$ 39,871 |
| Income from discontinued operations, net of income taxes | 2 | 9,659 | - |
| Net income |  | \$ 65,282 | \$ 39,871 |
| Preferred share dividends, including applicable income taxes | 1 | 12,030 | 8,606 |
| Net income available to common shareholders |  | \$ 53,252 | \$ 31,265 |
| Average number of common shares (in thousands) |  |  |  |
| Basic |  | 23,525 | 23,485 |
| Diluted |  | 23,552 | 23,521 |
| Net income per common share from continuing operations | 17 |  |  |
| Basic |  | \$ 1.85 | \$ 1.33 |
| Diluted |  | \$ 1.85 | \$ 1.33 |
| Net income per common share | 17 |  |  |
| Basic |  | \$ 2.26 | \$ 1.33 |
| Diluted |  | \$ 2.26 | \$ 1.33 |

[^8]
## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY

| For the years ended October 31 (in thousands of dollars) | Notes | 2005 | 2004 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Restated (note 1) |
| Preferred shares | 1 and 12 |  |  |
| Balance at beginning of year and as previously reported |  | \$210,000 | \$200,000 |
| Impact of the change in accounting policy in respect of |  |  |  |
| Restated balance at beginning of year |  | 210,000 | 100,000 |
| Issued during the year |  | - | 110,000 |
| Balance at end of year |  | 210,000 | 210,000 |
| Common shares | 12 |  |  |
| Balance at beginning of year |  | 248,593 | 246,813 |
| Issued during the year |  | 1,040 | 1,780 |
| Balance at end of year |  | 249,633 | 248,593 |
| Contributed surplus |  |  |  |
| Balance at beginning of year |  | - | - |
| Stock-based compensation | 13 | 73 | - |
| Balance at end of year |  | 73 | - |
| Retained earnings | 1 |  |  |
| Balance at beginning of year |  | 428,159 | 426,500 |
| Net income |  | 65,282 | 39,871 |
| Dividends |  |  |  |
| Preferred shares, including applicable income taxes |  | $(12,030)$ | $(8,606)$ |
| Common shares |  | $(27,287)$ | $(27,248)$ |
| Preferred share issue costs, net of income taxes |  | - | $(2,358)$ |
| Balance at end of year |  | 454,124 | 428,159 |
| Treasury shares |  |  |  |
| Balance at beginning of year |  | - | - |
| Acquisition | 12 | (590) | - |
| Balance at end of year |  | (590) | - |
| TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY |  | \$913,240 | \$886,752 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS



[^9]October 31, 2005 and 2004 (All tabular amounts are in thousands of dollars, unless otherwise indicated.)

## 1. Summary of significant accounting policies

The consolidated financial statements of Laurentian Bank of Canada (the Bank) have been prepared in accordance with the Bank Act, which states that except as otherwise specified by the Superintendent of Financial Institutions of Canada, the financial statements are to be prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The significant accounting policies used in the preparation of these consolidated financial statements, including the accounting requirements of the Superintendent, are summarized below. These accounting policies conform to GAAP.

The preparation of consolidated financial statements in accordance with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions, mainly concerning the valuation of items which affect the amounts reported in the consolidated financial statements. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Certain comparative figures have been reclassified to conform to the presentation adopted in the current year.

## BASIS OF CONSOLIDATION

The consolidated financial statements include the assets, liabilities and results of operations of the Bank and all of its subsidiaries after elimination of intercompany balances and transactions.

When the Bank effectively controls a subsidiary but does not hold all common and preferred shares, the noncontrolling interest in the net book value of the subsidiary is presented outside shareholders' equity in the Bank's consolidated balance sheet. The non-controlling interest in the subsidiary's net income is presented separately in the consolidated statement of income, net of income taxes.

The Bank also consolidates variable interest entities (VIEs) when it is the primary beneficiary, as detailed below under Changes in Accounting Policies.

Until December 2004, the consolidated financial statements included the Bank's interest in BLC-Edmond de Rothschild Asset Management Inc. which was accounted for as a joint venture using the proportionate consolidation method. Under this method, the Bank consolidated its share of the assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses.

## CASH AND NON-INTEREST-BEARING DEPOSITS WITH OTHER BANKS

In 2004, the Bank adopted the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants (CICA) Section 1100, Generally Accepted Accounting Principles. The Section sets out certain standards for financial reporting in accordance with GAAP. Accordingly, certain amounts related to cheques and other items in transit are now presented on a gross basis according to their nature in cash and non-interest-bearing deposits with other banks and in business, banks and other deposits, whereas previously, cash and non-interest-bearing deposits with other banks also included cheques and other items in transit which are now presented in other assets and liabilities.

## SECURITIES

## Investment account

Securities purchased with the original intention of holding them to maturity or until market conditions render alternative investments more attractive are included in the investment account. Fixed-term securities are recorded at amortized cost. Other securities are recorded at cost. Gains and losses on disposal of securities, determined using the average cost method, and write-downs to reflect other than temporary impairments in value are included in other income. Interest income earned, amortization of premiums and discounts as well as dividends received are included in interest income.

## Trading account

Securities purchased for resale over a short period of time are included in the trading account and are recorded at their estimated market value. Obligations related to securities sold short are carried as liabilities and recorded at their estimated fair value. Realized and unrealized gains and losses on these securities are included in income from treasury and financial market operations. Interest income earned and dividends received are included in interest income.

## 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

## SECURITIES ACQUIRED UNDER REVERSE REPURCHASE AGREEMENTS

AND OBLIGATIONS RELATED TO SECURITIES SOLD UNDER REPURCHASE AGREEMENTS
The Bank enters into short-term purchases of securities under agreements to resell as well as short-term sales of securities under agreements to repurchase at predetermined prices and dates. These agreements are treated as collateralized lending and borrowing transactions and are carried on the consolidated balance sheet at the amounts at which the securities were initially acquired or sold. Interest earned on reverse repurchase agreements and interest incurred on repurchase agreements are reported as interest income and interest expense, respectively.

## LOANS

## Balance sheet presentation

Loans are stated net of the allowance for loan losses and any unearned interest.

## Impaired loans

Loans, except credit card balances, are classified as impaired when, in management's opinion, there is a reasonable doubt as to the timely collectibility of the principal or interest. When payment of principal or interest is 90 days past due, the loans are classified as impaired (if they are not already classified as such), unless they are well-secured or in the process of recovery. All loans which are 180 days past due are classified as impaired except when they are guaranteed or insured by the Canadian government, a provincial government or a Canadian government agency; such loans are classified as impaired loans if they are in arrears for 365 days. Credit card balances are fully written off when payments are 180 days in arrears or when management assesses the likelihood of collection to be nil.

When loans are classified as impaired, the accrual of interest income ceases. The carrying amount of these loans is then adjusted to their estimated realizable value by way of a total or partial write-off and/or an allowance for loan losses.

Subsequent recoveries of interest on impaired loans are recognized in income only if there is no specific allowance and if, in management's opinion, there is no reasonable doubt as to the ultimate collectibility of the total principal.

An impaired loan cannot return to an accrual status unless all principal and interest payments are current and management has no reasonable doubt as to the recovery of the total principal and interest.

When a portion of the loan is written off and the balance is restructured, the new loan is recorded on the accrual basis of accounting where there is no longer any reasonable doubt as to the recovery of capital and interest and where payments are not 90 days past due.

## Commissions on loans and revenue recognition

Interest income related to loans is accounted for using the accrual basis of accounting. Commissions and origination fees in respect of loans, including restructuring and renegotiation charges, are generally recorded in interest income over the term of the loans. Loan origination and other fees are also charged to interest income over the terms of the loans.

## Foreclosed assets

Assets acquired by way of settlement of a loan and held for sale are initially measured at fair value less costs to sell, under other assets. The difference between the carrying amount of the loan prior to foreclosure and the amount at which the foreclosed assets are initially measured is recognized in the provision for credit losses. Any future change in their fair value, but not in excess of the cumulative losses recognized subsequent to the foreclosure date, is recognized as other income in the consolidated statement of income. If the assets are to be held and used, they are initially measured at fair value and then accounted for in the same manner as similar assets acquired in the normal course of business. Any difference between the loan's carrying amount and its fair value is recognized within the provision for credit losses in the consolidated statement of income.

## ALLOWANCES FOR LOSSES

The Bank maintains allowances for losses at amounts deemed adequate to absorb all probable losses in its portfolios. Allowances are mainly related to loans, but may also apply to other assets.

The allowance for loan losses is increased by the amount charged to the provision for credit losses in the statement of income and reduced by the amount of the write-offs, net of recoveries. Loans are written off when all possible restructuring or recovery activities have been completed and the recovery of other amounts is unlikely.

## Specific allowances

Specific allowances are established on a loan-by-loan basis for all impaired loans which have been identified as a result of the regular review of the commercial and mortgage loan portfolios. These provisions are established by estimating the amounts recoverable in relation to the loan amounts; estimated future cash flows are discounted at the effective interest rate inherent in the loan. When these amounts cannot be reasonably estimated, the fair value of the underlying collateral or the observable market price of the loans is used. For impaired personal loans, other than credit card balances and investment loans, an allowance is established based on the write-off experience on such loans in recent years when no payment has been received for more than 90 days, and generally, outstanding balances are fully written off when no payment has been received for 180 days. For credit card balances, no specific allowance is established; however, when no payment has been received for 180 days, outstanding balances are written off. For impaired investment loans, a specific allowance is established on a loan-by-loan basis at the time of the regular review of the portfolio, generally by measuring the amounts collected in relation to the amount of the loans.

## General allowances

The general allowance reflects the best estimate of potential losses related to the deterioration of credit quality and relates to the loans that have not yet been specifically identified as impaired.

An allocated general allowance, based on the historical loss experience of the past ten years and an economic cycle reference factor, adjusted to reflect changes in the portfolios and credit policies, is constituted for each pool of loans with common risk characteristics. This method allows the specific allocation of the general allowance to specific pools of loans.

The unallocated general allowance reflects the assessment of potential losses on the portfolio which are not covered by the specific allowances and the allocated general allowance. This estimate includes consideration of economic and business conditions, management's judgment and the risks related to the model.

## LOAN SECURITIZATION

The Bank transfers pools of mortgages. These transfers are accounted for as sales when the Bank is deemed to have surrendered control over these assets and has received a consideration other than beneficial interests in these assets.

At this point, the Bank derecognizes all assets sold, recognizes at fair value the assets received and the liabilities assumed in the sale and recognizes the gain or loss on the sale in other income.

In connection with these transactions, the Bank retains, in some instances, interests in securitized receivables such as cash reserve accounts, one or more subordinated tranches, servicing rights and excess interest spreads. The gain or loss depends partly on the previous carrying value of the loans transferred, allocated between the assets sold and the interests retained based on their respective fair value at the time of the transfer. Fair value is based on market prices when they are available. However, since prices for retained interests generally do not exist, the Bank normally uses the discounted value of future cash flows. These calculations are based on management's best estimates with respect to key assumptions: credit losses, rate of prepayment, interest-rate curve and risk-adjusted discount rate.

Cash reserve accounts and excess interest spreads related to these transactions are initially recorded at cost and presented under other assets. The retained subordinated tranches are also recorded at cost. They are presented with securities in the investment account. They are then subsequently tested for impairment on a quarterly basis in order to identify, if any, other than temporary impairments.

The Bank generally transfers receivables on a fully serviced basis. On the transfer date, a servicing liability is recognized at fair value and presented in other liabilities. This liability is amortized to income over the term of the transferred loans.

Transactions completed prior to July 1, 2001 are recorded in accordance with guidance set forth in Abstract EIC-9, Transfers of Receivables, issued by the CICA's Emerging Issues Committee and have not been restated. Gains related to transactions completed pursuant to EIC-9 are amortized to income when the significant risks and rewards of ownership have been transferred, provided there is no possible recourse against the Bank regarding the consideration derived from the sale. Losses on these transactions, if any, were recognized immediately.

## ACCEPTANCES AND CUSTOMERS' LIABILITY UNDER ACCEPTANCES

Acceptances represent an obligation for the Bank with respect to short-term negotiable instruments issued by the Bank's customers to third parties and guaranteed by the Bank. The recourse against the customer in the event that these obligations give rise to a cash outlay is reported as a corresponding asset. Commissions earned are recorded under other income in the consolidated statement of income.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT
Land is carried at cost. Other property, plant and equipment are recorded at cost less accumulated depreciation and are depreciated over their estimated useful lives using the following methods and rates:

|  | Methods | Rates |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Premises | Declining balance | $5 \%$ |
| Leasehold improvements | Straight-line | Term of the lease plus <br> initial renewal option |
| Equipment and furniture | Declining balance | Straight-line |

Gains and losses on the disposal of property, plant and equipment are recognized in other income.

## DEFERRED CHARGES

Expenses directly related to opening new branches are generally capitalized during the pre-operating period. In the Bank's opinion, the pre-operating period covers the six-month period following the opening of the branches. The income related to these branches, during the same period, is deducted from deferred charges. The net amount of deferred charges is amortized on a straight-line basis over a five-year period.

GOODWILL AND OTHER INTANGIBLE ASSETS
Goodwill is tested for impairment, at least annually, based on its fair value. The impairment test initially compares the fair value of the reporting unit to which the goodwill relates to its carrying amount. When potential impairment is identified, the fair value of goodwill is compared to its carrying amount. The Bank mainly uses the discounted cash flows method to determine the fair value of its reporting units.

Intangibles with a finite life are amortized over their estimated useful life, which generally does not exceed 15 years, on a straight-line basis and are also tested for impairment whenever circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be fully recoverable. When the net carrying value exceeds the estimated future net cash flows, intangible assets with finite lives are considered impaired and are written down to their fair value.

Any impairment arising from a decline in value of goodwill or intangible assets is charged to income in the period in which the losses are incurred.

## EMPLOYEE FUTURE BENEFITS

## Pension plans

The Bank maintains defined benefit pension plans for its employees. One of these plans also includes a defined contribution portion. Funding is provided by both the Bank and the members of the plans.

Under the defined benefit plans, an actuarial valuation is performed periodically to determine the present value of accrued pension obligations. The pension obligations of the defined benefit pension plan are actuarially determined using the projected benefit method prorated on service, which incorporates management's best estimate of future salary levels, other cost escalation, retirement ages of employees and other actuarial factors. The obligation for accrued benefits is valued using market interest rates at the valuation date. Pension plan assets are valued using a market-related value approach under which changes in the fair value of plan assets are taken into account over a three-year period. This method is also used to calculate the expected return on plan assets. Defined benefit costs recognized consist of: (a) the cost for the current year's service, (b) interest expense on the accrued benefit obligation, (c) expected long-term return on plan assets, (d) amortization of the transitional obligation, the cost for past service and the actuarial gains or losses, (e) gains or losses arising from special events, and (f) change in the valuation allowance.

Actuarial gains or losses arise, in particular, from the difference between the actual long-term rate of return on plan assets and the expected rate of return on such assets, based on management's best-estimate assumptions, as well as from changes in actuarial assumptions used to determine the accrued benefit obligation. Net actuarial gains or losses are amortized when, at the beginning of the year, the unamortized balance of the gain or loss exceeds $10 \%$ of the greater of the accrued benefit obligation or the market value of plan assets. This excess is amortized on a straight-line basis over the expected average remaining service life of the employee groups covered by the plans which varied from 9 to 11 years in 2005 under the plans (from 9 to 11 years in 2004).

The past service cost resulting from changes to the defined benefit plans is amortized on a straight-line basis over the expected average remaining service life of the employee groups covered by the defined benefit plans.

The transitional obligation resulting from the initial application of the accounting standard with respect to employee future benefits, in November 1, 2000, is amortized on a straight-line basis over the expected average remaining service life of the employee groups on that date, varying from 10 to 16 years.

Accrued benefit assets or liabilities represent the cumulative variance between pension expense and contributions paid and are included in other assets or other liabilities.

For the defined contribution portion, the expense corresponds to the contributions the Bank is required to make during the year.

## Other plans

The bank offers its employees certain post-employment benefits. The Bank also provides certain health care and life insurance benefits for its employees upon retirement. The costs related to these benefits are recognized during the employees' service life according to accounting policies similar to those applied to defined benefit pension plans.

The transitional obligation resulting from the initial application of the accounting standard with respect to employee future benefits, on November 1,2000 , is amortized on a straight-line basis over the remaining life expectancy of retirees for post-retirement benefits, which equals 20 years, and over the expected average remaining service life of the employee groups covered for the post-employment benefits, which is 13 years.

## DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Derivative financial instruments are primarily used to manage the Bank's exposure to interest rate and currency risks, and occasionally, in trading activities or to serve the needs of customers.

## Derivative financial instruments used to manage the Bank's risks

Derivative financial instruments used to manage the Bank's interest rate risk are accounted for using the accrual method. Under this method, interest income or expense on these derivative instruments is accrued and included in interest expense in the consolidated statement of income.

## DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS FOR WHICH HEDGE ACCOUNTING IS APPROPRIATE

When it uses derivative financial instruments to manage its own exposure, the Bank determines for each derivative financial instrument whether hedge accounting can be applied. If it can, a hedging relationship is designated as a fair value hedge or a cash flow hedge. The hedge is documented detailing, among other things, the item being hedged, the risk management objective, the hedging strategy and the method used to measure its effectiveness. The derivative financial instrument must be highly effective in accomplishing the objective of offsetting either changes in the fair value or cash flows attributable to the risk being hedged both at inception and over the life of the hedge. Effectiveness is generally reviewed on a monthly basis using statistical regression models.

Fair value hedge transactions predominantly use interest rate swaps to hedge the changes in the fair value of an asset, liability or firm commitment. Cash flow hedge transactions predominantly use interest rate swaps to hedge the variability in cash flows related to a variable rate asset or liability. When a derivative financial instrument functions effectively as a fair value or cash flow hedge, it is recognized in other assets or liabilities at fair value, and the unrealized gain or loss of the derivative financial instrument is deferred.

Hedge accounting is discontinued prospectively when the derivative financial instrument no longer qualifies as an effective hedge or the derivative financial instrument is terminated or sold. The deferred gain or loss is recognized in net interest income during the periods in which the hedged item affects income. Hedge accounting is also discontinued upon the sale or early termination of the hedged item, in which case, the deferred gain or loss is recognized in other income.

These derivative financial instruments remain eligible for designation in future hedging relationships. Upon a designation, any previously recognized fair value in the consolidated balance sheet is amortized to other income over the remaining life of the derivative financial instrument.

## DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS FOR WHICH HEDGE ACCOUNTING IS NOT APPROPRIATE

The derivative financial instruments used to manage the Bank's risks, but for which hedge accounting is not appropriate, are accounted for using the fair value method, and the resulting unrealized gains and losses are recognized in income from treasury and financial market operations.

## 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

## Derivative financial instruments used in connection with trading activities

When used in trading activities or to serve the needs of customers, derivative financial instruments are accounted for using the fair value method, and the resulting realized and unrealized gains and losses are recognized in other income. Unrealized gains and losses are reported on a gross basis in other assets or liabilities.

## Other considerations

The market value of derivative financial instruments is determined using pricing models that incorporate current market and contractual prices of the underlying instruments, time value of money, yield curves and volatility factors.

## EQUITY-LINKED DEPOSIT CONTRACTS

Certain deposit obligations, such as equity-linked GICs where the deposit obligation varies according to the performance of certain indices, may be subject to a guaranteed minimum redemption amount, such as the obligation to return the investor's initial investment at maturity. Obligations related to these deposits are measured at fair value, and changes in fair value are recorded in other income.

## INCOME TAXES

The Bank uses the liability method of tax allocation and accounts for the future income tax assets and liabilities related to loss carryforwards and other temporary differences between the carrying amounts and the tax bases of assets and liabilities, in accordance with tax laws and rates enacted or substantively enacted on the date the differences are expected to reverse. A valuation allowance is established, as needed, to reduce the future income tax asset to the amount that is more likely than not to be realized.

## NET INCOME PER COMMON SHARE

The Bank calculates its basic net income per common share by dividing net income for the year, after deduction of preferred share dividends, including applicable income taxes, as well as premiums on preferred shares, by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding for the year.

Diluted net income per common share is calculated assuming that the proceeds received from the exercise of share purchase options, whose exercise price is lower than the average price of common shares for the year, are used to repurchase common shares at that average market price.

## STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION

The Bank uses the fair-value method of accounting for stock-based compensation to employees and directors.
For the new share purchase options granted on or after November 1, 2002, the Bank recognizes the fair value of the options granted as an increase in the related compensation expense and contributed surplus over the option vesting period. When the options are exercised, the proceeds received and the amount of the contributed surplus are credited to common capital stock. The value of the options granted is determined using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model using management's best estimates. With respect to awards granted prior to November 1, 2002, the Bank continues to apply the previous standards under which no compensation cost is recognized when share purchase options are awarded to employees and the consideration paid by the employees who exercise their options is credited to common capital stock.

The fair value of stock appreciation rights (SARs) settled in cash, representing the excess of the share price over the exercise price, is recognized in income over the rights' vesting period.

The compensation expense in respect of stock-based awards in connection with a performance-based share program corresponds to the value of the shares at the time of grant and is recognized during the applicable vesting period.

## ASSETS UNDER ADMINISTRATION AND ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT

The Bank administers and manages assets held by customers that are not recognized in the consolidated balance sheet. Revenues derived from the administration and management of these assets are recorded in other income, as the service is provided.

## TRANSLATION OF FOREIGN CURRENCIES

Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into Canadian dollars at the prevailing year-end exchange rates. Income and expenses are translated at the average monthly exchange rates. Realized or unrealized gains and losses resulting from the translation of foreign currencies are included in other income.

## CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES

## Consolidation of variable interest entities

In September 2004, the CICA issued a revised version of Accounting Guideline no. 15 (AcG-15), Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities. AcG-15 provides guidance for applying consolidation principles to certain entities that are subject to control on a basis other than ownership of voting interests. Under this new standard, the Bank must consolidate these entities if it is the primary beneficiary thereof, that is, if as a result of its investments or financial interests, or the relationships it has with these entities, the Bank would be required to absorb a majority of their expected losses or would be entitled to a majority of their expected residual returns. Where the Bank holds a significant variable interest in a variable interest entity (VIE) that it has not consolidated, certain disclosures regarding the nature, purpose, size and activities of the VIE must also be provided. On November 1, 2004, the Bank adopted this guideline on a retroactive basis without restatement of prior period figures. The main impacts are detailed below.

## SECURITIZATION CONDUITS

The Bank securitizes its own assets through single-seller and multi-seller securitization conduits, which are normally considered VIEs. As at November 1, 2004, the Bank consolidated one of these conduits, whose total assets amounted to approximately $\$ 109,900,000$. During the first quarter, this conduit was converted into a qualifying special-purpose entity and, consequently, was deconsolidated. These transactions did not have a material impact on the consolidated financial statements.

The other conduits were not consolidated under AcG-15 because the Bank is not the primary beneficiary thereof. More details regarding these entities are provided in note 5.

## MUTUAL FUNDS

Through its ownership interest in the joint venture BLC-Edmond de Rothschild Asset Management Inc., the Bank was the sponsor of mutual funds that met VIE criteria with assets totalling $\$ 910,200,000$ as at November 1, 2004. The Bank's joint venture charged fees, mainly based on the value of assets under management, in respect of the management and administration of these funds. This joint venture was disposed on December 31, 2004 (see note 2). The Bank also holds units relating to seed capital investments for certain funds amounting to $\$ 14,899,000$ as at October 31, 2005. Based on its analysis, the Bank is not the primary beneficiary of these entities and such entities have not been consolidated.

## other entities

The Bank also acts as trustee of a number of personal trusts for which it levies fees. Based on its analyses, the Bank is not the primary beneficiary of these entities and such entities have not been consolidated.

## Presentation of liabilities and equity

In January 2004, the CICA issued revised Section 3860, Financial Instruments - Disclosure and Presentation, to require that obligations that can be settled, at the issuer's option, by a variable number of the issuer's own equity instruments, under conditions that are potentially unfavourable, be presented as liabilities. The dividend payments on these shares will now be presented as interest expense in the statement of income. The revised recommendations are applicable on a retroactive basis with restatement of corresponding amounts.

The application of this revised standard as at November 1, 2004 did not have any impact on the liabilities and equity of the Bank since the securities issued and outstanding as at November 1, 2004 qualified as equity.

However, the comparative figures relative to the Preferred Shares, Series 7 and 8, for a total amount of $\$ 100,000,000$ which were redeemed in June 2004, were restated. For fiscal 2004, the dividends and the premium on redemption related to these instruments, which were previously reported in the consolidated statement of changes in shareholders' equity amounting to $\$ 7,900,000$, including related income taxes, were reclassified to interest expense in the consolidated statement of income for an amount of $\$ 7,814,000$ and to income taxes for an amount of $\$ 86,000$. This reclassification had no impact on net income available to common shareholders or on earnings per share.

## FUTURE CHANGES TO ACCOUNTING POLICIES

## Financial instruments

On April 1, 2005, the CICA issued three accounting standards: Financial Instruments - Recognition and Measurement, Hedges and Comprehensive Income. These new standards will be effective for the Bank on November 1, 2006. The impact of implementing these standards on the Bank's financial statements cannot yet be determined as it is dependent on the Bank's hedging positions and strategies, as well as on market volatility at the time of application of these standards.


#### Abstract

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS - RECOGNITION AND MEASUREMENT All financial assets and liabilities will be carried at fair value in the consolidated balance sheet, except loans and receivables, held-to-maturity investments and non-trading financial liabilities, which will be carried at amortized cost. Realized and unrealized gains and losses on trading financial assets and liabilities will be recognized immediately in the consolidated statement of income. Unrealized gains and losses on financial assets that are available for sale will be recognized in other comprehensive income until their realization, after which these amounts will be recognized in the consolidated statement of income. All derivative financial instruments will be carried at fair value in the consolidated balance sheet.


## HEDGES

In a fair value hedge, hedging derivatives are carried at fair value, with changes in fair value recognized in the consolidated statement of income. The changes in the fair value of the hedged items attributable to the hedged risk will also be recorded in consolidated income by way of a corresponding adjustment of the carrying amount of the hedged items recognized in the consolidated balance sheet. In a cash flow hedge, the change in fair value of the derivative financial instrument will be recorded in other comprehensive income. These amounts will be reclassified in the consolidated statement of income in the periods in which results are affected by the cash flows of the hedged item. Similarly, any hedge ineffectiveness will be recorded in the consolidated statement of income.

## COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

Other comprehensive income will be included in the consolidated balance sheet as a separate component of shareholders' equity.

## 2. Acquisitions and disposals

## 2005

## Sale of BLC-Edmond de Rothschild Asset Management Inc.

On December 31, 2004, the Bank completed the acquisition of the $49.9 \%$ share of BLC-Edmond de Rothschild Asset Management Inc. (BLCER) that was owned by La Compagnie Financière Edmond de Rothschild Banque (LCFER) for an amount of $\$ 23,397,000$, subject to certain post-closing adjustments. Subsequently, on December 31, 2004, Industrial Alliance Insurance and Financial Services Inc. (Industrial Alliance) acquired all of the shares of BLC-Edmond de Rothschild Asset Management Inc. from the Bank. The net sale price, paid in cash, amounts to $\$ 67,795,000$, based on the assets under management as at December 31, 2004. This sale price is subject to certain recovery clauses that initially amounted to $\$ 26,930,000$, based on net sales of mutual funds for the next six years ending on December 31, 2010 and on the balance of institutional funds under management on December 31, 2005. As a result, an initial gain of $\$ 9,777,000$ ( $\$ 8,139,000$, net of applicable income taxes) was recognized under income from discontinued operations, net of transaction fees estimated at $\$ 2,261,000$, and $\$ 26,217,000$ was recorded as a deferred gain. In addition, the Bank, Industrial Alliance and BLC-Edmond de Rothschild Asset Management Inc. entered into a ten-year distribution agreement. Under this agreement, the Bank will distribute the R Funds family acquired by Industrial Alliance to the Bank's clients, along with the Industrial Alliance mutual funds. The Bank will continue to receive commissions related to the distribution of funds, under terms equivalent to those prevailing in the industry.

## RECOVERY CLAUSES

Under a recovery clause, the Bank must repay Industrial Alliance an annual amount of $\$ 5,183,000$, for the five years following the sale, if net annual sales of mutual funds do not reach $\$ 50,000,000$. The sale proceeds related to the first year's sales threshold was recognized in income at the end of the current year, in light of net sales as at October 31, 2005 relative to sales levels expected to be achieved by December 31, 2005. The deferred portion of the proceeds will be recognized over the next four years as the net sales thresholds are considered achieved. At the end of the six-year period ending on December 31, 2010, if cumulative net sales of mutual funds reach $\$ 290,000,000$, the amounts that would have been repaid to Industrial Alliance under the recovery clause would be reimbursed to the Bank. Moreover, a final payment of $\$ 8,300,000$ would be made to the Bank at the end of the first five-year period of the agreement if cumulative net sales of mutual funds reach $\$ 350,000,000$. Including this premium, the total sale price related to the transaction would be $\$ 76,095,000$. The gain relating to this final payment will be recognized in income once the conditions are met.

Under a separate recovery clause, the Bank could be required to repay up to $\$ 1,015,000$ to Industrial Alliance based on retention of institutional assets under management in the twelve-month period ending on December 31, 2005. The Bank deferred revenues of $\$ 300,000$ related to this clause.
investments in seed capital
The Bank also owns an investment related to seed capital that was carried at cost. Since the Bank is no longer involved in the management of mutual funds, it was agreed that this investment would be disposed of. As a result, an initial $\$ 4,400,000$ charge was recorded in Income from discontinued operations to carry the investment at market value. Since then, the Bank has recorded revenues of $\$ 35,000(\$ 24,000$ net of income taxes) to reflect the realized and unrealized net gains related to this investment.

The gain and the changes in the value of investments in seed capital were attributed to the Other segment, whereas the portion of the gain related to recovery clauses was attributed to the Retail Financial Services segment.

## Transaction summary

| Net sale price | $\$ 67,795$ |
| :--- | ---: |
| Less: Deferred income under the recovery clauses, at the time of sale | 26,217 |
| $\quad$ Net assets sold, including the amount related to the purchase of LCFER's shares ${ }^{(1)}$ | 29,540 |
|  | 12,038 |
| Transaction fees | 2,261 |
| Gain before the following items | 9,777 |
| Initial write-down of investments related to seed capital | $(4,400)$ |
| Net gain before income taxes | 5,377 |
| Income taxes | 164 |
| Net gain after income taxes | 5,213 |
| Income recognized with respect to the recovery clauses $(\$ 5,183$ before income taxes) | 4,422 |
| Subsequent change in value of investments related to seed capital and other, | 24 |
| net of income taxes (\$35 before income taxes) | $\$ 9,659$ |

(1) Net assets sold consist mainly of goodwill and other intangible assets related to the interest acquired in LCFER, as well as $\$ 1,507,000$ in cash.

The operating results and the financial position related to these operations, included in these consolidated financial statements, are presented hereafter. These operations are presented in the Laurentian Bank Securities segment.

The results related to these operations, included in Income from continuing operations, are as follows:

|  |  | 2005 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Other income | $\$ 1,036$ | $\$ 5,629$ |
| Net income | $\$ 2004$ |  |

Assets held for sale and liabilities related to these assets are detailed as follows:

|  |  | 2005 | 2004 |
| :--- | :---: | ---: | ---: |
| Total assets | $\$ 14,899$ | $\$ 34,245$ |  |
| Total liabilities | $\$$ | - | $\$ 1,528$ |

## 2004

## Privatization of B2B Trust

Following the approval of B2B Trust's shareholders at a special meeting of shareholders, B2B Trust and a wholly owned subsidiary of the Bank amalgamated on June 8, 2004. As part of this amalgamation, the Bank acquired all of the outstanding common shares of B2B Trust that it previously did not own. The purchase price for the additional participation of $22.7 \%$ ( $25.2 \%$ taking into account the exercised options issued in accordance with B2B Trust's share purchase option plan) was $\$ 60,225,000$, which was paid in cash. The purchase method of accounting was used to account for the acquisition of the B2B Trust non-controlling interest.

ACOUISITIONS AND DISPOSAIS CONTINUED
This transaction resulted in an increase in other intangible assets of $\$ 18,278,000$, a net credit adjustment of $\$ 2,813,000$ to reflect the fair value of financial instruments acquired, the recognition of a future income tax liability of $\$ 5,413,000$, as well as a reduction of the non-controlling interest in a subsidiary of $\$ 50,173,000$. Other intangible assets consist of contractual relations with financial intermediaries and the associated client relationships. These assets are amortized over 15 years.

## Disposal of the debit and credit card transaction processing activities

On July 9, 2004, the Bank entered into an agreement to sell its debit and credit card transaction processing activities. The sale price, paid in cash, amounted to $\$ 3,900,000$, giving rise to a gain of approximately $\$ 3,631,000(\$ 3,042,000$ net of income taxes), net of related transaction costs. Capital assets, in the amount of $\$ 244,000$, net of accumulated depreciation were sold as part of the transaction. These operations were previously presented in the Other segment. The gain resulting from the sale was attributed to the Retail Financial Services and Other segments for $\$ 300,000$ and $\$ 3,331,000$ respectively.

## Disposal of certain rights to service mutual fund accounts

On July 8, 2004, the Bank completed the sale of certain rights to service mutual funds in Ontario and Western Canada. The sale price, paid in cash, amounted to $\$ 1,953,000$, giving rise to a gain of $\$ 1,928,000(\$ 1,605,000$ net of taxes $)$, net of related transaction costs. These operations were previously presented in the Retail Financial Services segment. The gain was attributed to the Retail Financial Services and Other segments for $\$ 900,000$ and $\$ 1,028,000$ respectively.

## Disposal of a credit card loan portfolio

On February 2, 2004, the Bank sold its Ontario and Western Canada credit card loan portfolio and related contract rights, valued at $\$ 27,891,000$. The sale price, paid in cash on February 2, 2004, amounted to approximately $\$ 32,216,000$, giving rise to a gain of $\$ 4,435,000(\$ 3,794,000$ net of income taxes), net of related transaction costs and conversion fees. These assets were included in the Retail Financial Services segment. The gain resulting from the sale was attributed to the Retail Financial Services and Other segments for $\$ 2,400,000$ and $\$ 2,035,000$ respectively.

## 3. Securities

A) MATURITY SCHEDULE AND RETURN ON SECURITIES

|  |  |  |  |  | 2005 |  |  | 2004 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Within <br> 1 year | $\begin{array}{r} 1 \text { to } \\ 5 \text { years } \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Over } \\ & 5 \text { years } \end{aligned}$ | No specific maturity | Total | Yield | Total | Yield |
| Investment account |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Securities issued or guaranteed |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| by Canada | \$1,041,627 | \$455,102 | \$121,947 | \$ | \$1,618,676 | 2.9\% | \$1,638,798 | 2.6\% |
| by provinces | 38,854 | 2,405 | - | - | 41,259 | 2.7 | 153,592 | 2.4 |
| Other debt securities | 46,608 | 102,961 | 43,666 | - | 193,235 | 4.8 | 132,214 | 5.1 |
| Preferred shares | - | - | - | 47,884 | 47,884 | 4.5 | 41,837 | 3.1 |
| Common shares and other | - | - | - | 8,627 | 8,627 | 4.8 | 37,288 | 0.7 |
| Mortgage-backed securities | 2,138 | - | - | - | 2,138 | 5.0 | 3,742 | 5.0 |
| Total carrying amount | 1,129,227 | 560,468 | 165,613 | 56,511 | 1,911,819 | 3.1\% | 2,007,471 | 2.7\% |
| Total fair value | \$1,125,654 | \$554,809 | \$164,575 | \$ 56,397 | \$1,901,435 |  | \$2,002,380 |  |
| Trading account |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Securities issued or guaranteed |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| by Canada | \$ 31,448 | \$ 39,888 | \$ 85,360 | \$ - | \$ 156,696 |  | \$ 195,571 |  |
| by provinces | 111,021 | 189,790 | 174,955 | - | 475,766 |  | 510,058 |  |
| by municipal corporations | 10,028 | 21,409 | 8,265 | - | 39,702 |  | 34,860 |  |
| Other debt securities | 50,013 | 67,078 | 62,151 | - | 179,242 |  | 160,605 |  |
| Common shares and other | - | - | - | 63,277 | 63,277 |  | 32,169 |  |
| Mortgage-backed securities | 415 | 100,240 | 13,249 | - | 113,904 |  | 61,741 |  |
|  | 202,925 | 418,405 | 343,980 | 63,277 | 1,028,587 |  | 995,004 |  |
| Total carrying amount | \$1,332,152 | \$978,873 | \$509,593 | \$119,788 | \$2,940,406 |  | \$3,002,475 |  |

The above classification is based on the contractual maturity date of the securities.

The weighted average return is calculated based on the carrying amount of each type of security at year-end. US-dollar-denominated securities amounted to $\$ 91,412,000(\$ 48,408,000$ in 2004).
B) INVESTMENT ACCOUNT - UNREALIZED GAINS AND LOSSES

|  | Carrying <br> amount | Unrealized <br> gains | Unrealized <br> losses | 2005 | Fair <br> value | Carrying <br> amount | Unrealized <br> gains | Unrealized <br> losses |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |

## 4. Loans

A) LOANS AND IMPAIRED LOANS

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Gross amount <br> of loans | Gross amount of <br> impaired loans | Specific <br> allowances | General <br> allowances | Total <br> allowances |
| Personal loans | $\$ 3,907,320$ | $\$ 16,919$ | $\$ 7,267$ | $\$ 24,828$ | $\$ 32,095$ |
| Residential mortgages | $5,806,853$ | 9,783 | 3,735 | 5,559 | 9,294 |
| Commercial mortgages | 595,946 | 12,173 | 5,904 | 4,648 | 10,552 |
| Commercial loans and other | $1,539,893$ | 82,063 | 47,650 | 25,818 | 73,468 |
| Unallocated general allowance | - | - | - | 4,397 | 4,397 |
|  | $\$ 11,850,012$ | $\$ 120,938$ | $\$ 64,556$ | $\$ 65,250$ | $\$ 129,806$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

US-dollar-denominated loans totalled \$59,283,000 (\$48,071,000 in 2004).
In 2005, foreclosed assets held for sale amounted to $\$ 1,440,000(\$ 9,990,000$ in 2004) with no eliminations to the related specific allowances $(\$ 5,164,000$ in 2004).
B) SPECIFIC ALLOWANCES FOR LOAN LOSSES

|  |  |  |  |  | 2005 | 2004 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Personal loans | Residential mortgages | Commercial mortgages | Commercial loans and other | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Total } \\ \text { specific } \\ \text { allowances } \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Total } \\ \text { specific } \\ \text { allowances } \end{array}$ |
| Balance at beginning of year | \$10,059 | \$3,935 | \$6,064 | \$54,734 | \$74,792 | \$85,927 |
| Provision for credit losses recorded in the consolidated statement of income | 25,069 | 626 | 1,557 | 12,748 | 40,000 | 52,000 |
| Provision for credit losses resulting from sale of branches | - | - | - | _ | - | (737) |
| Write-offs ${ }^{(1)}$ | $(33,020)$ | $(1,097)$ | $(1,724)$ | $(20,160)$ | $(56,001)$ | $(67,887)$ |
| Recoveries | 5,159 | 271 | 7 | 328 | 5,765 | 5,489 |
| Balance at end of year | \$ 7,267 | \$3,735 | \$5,904 | \$47,650 | \$64,556 | \$74,792 |

[^10]4. LOANS (CONTINUED)
C) GENERAL ALLOWANCES FOR LOAN LOSSES

|  |  |  |  |  |  | 2005 | 2004 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Personal loans | Residential mortgages | Commercial mortgages | Commercial loans and other | Unallocated general allowance | Total general allowances | Total general allowances |
| Balance at beginning of year | \$23,795 | \$5,832 | \$3,625 | \$23,063 | \$8,935 | \$65,250 | \$77,250 |
| Change during the year | 1,033 | (273) | 1,023 | 2,755 | $(4,538)$ | - | - |
| Reduction in provision for credit losses recorded in the |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| consolidated statement of income | - | - | - | - | - | - | $(12,000)$ |
| Balance at end of year | \$24,828 | \$5,559 | \$4,648 | \$25,818 | \$4,397 | \$65,250 | \$65,250 |

## 5. Loan securitization

Under the mortgage-backed securities program provided for under the National Housing Act, the Bank securitized residential mortgages, during the year, secured by the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) totalling $\$ 266,850,000$ ( $\$ 150,432,000$ in 2004) through the creation of mortgage-backed securities. The Bank subsequently sold all of these mortgage-backed securities. In addition, during the year, the Bank securitized conventional mortgages totalling $\$ 75,998,000$ (nil in 2004).

In relation to these transactions, during the year, the Bank collected cash proceeds amounting to $\$ 341,408,000$ ( $\$ 149,072,000$ in 2004) and recognized, in other income, securitization gains of $\$ 8,995,000(\$ 1,437,000$ in 2004) net of transaction-related costs. The calculation of these gains mainly takes into account the rights to future excess interest of $\$ 14,567,000(\$ 5,539,000$ in 2004) net of servicing liabilities of $\$ 2,889,000(\$ 1,068,000$ in 2004$)$ and cash reserve accounts of $\$ 760,000$ (nil in 2004).

With regard to the transfer of residential mortgages, the key assumptions used to determine the initial fair value of retained interests are summarized as follows:

| Key assumptions | 2005 | 2004 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Rate of prepayment | $19 \%$ | $26 \%$ |
| Excess interest spread | $1.60 \%$ | $1.74 \%$ |
| Discount rate | $4.03 \%$ | $5.28 \%$ |
| Rate of credit losses | $0.05 \%$ | $\mathrm{n} / \mathrm{a}$ |

No loss is expected on insured residential mortgages.
During the year, the Bank collected cash flows from retained interests totalling $\$ 8,074,000(\$ 8,169,000$ in 2004). The amortization relating to the servicing liability recognized in income amounted to $\$ 1,460,000$ ( $\$ 1,726,000$ in 2004).

The following table shows the value of retained interests, as well as the sensitivity of the fair value of these interests to immediate unfavourable changes of $10 \%$ and $20 \%$ in the key assumptions used to value retained interests as at October 31, 2005.

| Sensitivity of key assumptions to unfavourable changes | 2005 | 2004 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Carrying amount of retained interests | \$21,175 | \$15,132 |
| Fair value of retained interests | \$26,005 | \$17,544 |
| Weighted average life (in months) | 24 | 25 |
| Rate of prepayment | 17\% | 20\% |
| Impact on fair value of unfavourable change of 10\% | \$ 508 | \$ 280 |
| Impact on fair value of unfavourable change of 20\% | \$ 1,002 | \$ 532 |
| Rate of credit losses ${ }^{(1)}$ | 0.15\% | 0.25\% |
| Impact on fair value of unfavourable change of 10\% | \$ 20 | \$ 41 |
| Impact on fair value of unfavourable change of 20\% | \$ 41 | \$ 81 |
| Discount rate | 3.7\% | 6.5\% |
| Impact on fair value of unfavourable change of 10\% | \$ 144 | \$ 133 |
| Impact on fair value of unfavourable change of 20\% | \$ 289 | \$ 261 |

These sensitivities are hypothetical and should be used with caution. Changes in the fair value attributed to changes in assumptions generally cannot be extrapolated because the relationship of the change in assumption to the change in the fair value may not be linear. Changes in one factor may result in changes in another factor which might magnify or counteract the fluctuations attributed to changes in key assumptions.

The total principal amount of securitized loans amounted to $\$ 702,718,000$ at year-end $(\$ 551,964,000$ at the end of 2004).

## 6. Property, plant and equipment

|  |  |  | 200 | 200 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Cost | Accumulated depreciation | Net book value | Net book value |
| Land | \$ 651 | \$ | \$ 651 | \$ 651 |
| Premises | 3,548 | 1,420 | 2,128 | 2,177 |
| Leasehold improvements | 45,319 | 26,130 | 19,189 | 15,217 |
| Equipment and furniture | 70,692 | 60,254 | 10,438 | 9,721 |
| Computer hardware and software | 290,631 | 229,244 | 61,387 | 66,724 |
|  | \$410,841 | \$317,048 | \$93,793 | \$94,490 |

Depreciation expense recorded in the consolidated statement of income amounts to $\$ 28,192,000$ ( $\$ 34,445,000$ in 2004).
Computer hardware and software include an amount totalling $\$ 6,543,000$ ( $\$ 6,922,000$ in 2004) related to projects under
development that are not depreciated.

## 7. Goodwill and other intangible assets

Goodwill is detailed as follows:

| Goodwill is detailed as follows. | Retail <br> Financial Services | Wealth <br> Managemen and Brokerage | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Balance as at October 31, 2003 and 2004 | \$53,790 | \$ 239 | \$54,029 |
| Disposal related to the sale of the joint venture |  |  |  |
| BLC-Edmond de Rothschild Asset Management Inc. (see note 2) | - | (239) | (239) |
| Balance as at October 31, 2005 | \$53,790 | \$ - | \$53,790 |

See note 23 for segment descriptions.

Other intangible assets consist of the following:

|  |  |  | 2005 | 2004 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Contractual relations and client relationships | Cost | Accumulated <br> amortization | Net book <br> value | Net book <br> value |
| Mutual fund management contract relationships | $\$ 18,278$ | $\$ 1,731$ | $\$ 16,547$ | $\$ 17,770$ |
|  | - | - | - | 1,127 |

On June 8, 2004, the privatization of B2B Trust resulted in the recognition of intangible assets totalling $\$ 18,278,000$. These assets consist of contractual relations with financial intermediaries and the associated client relationships and are amortized over a 15 -year period.

Amortization of other intangible assets recorded in the consolidated statement of income during the year amounts to $\$ 1,344,000(\$ 1,259,000$ in 2004).

The Bank tests goodwill and other intangible assets for impairment on an annual basis. No impairment was identified in 2005 and 2004.

## 8. Other assets

|  | 2005 | 2004 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Other items in transit (note 1) | $\$ 180,923$ | $\$ 85,730$ |
| Deferred charges related to loan and deposit origination | 92,218 | 98,615 |
| Accrued interest receivable | 73,877 | 68,417 |
| Accrued benefit assets (note 14) | 42,458 | 43,821 |
| Assets related to securitized mortgage loans | 26,682 | 32,582 |
| Accounts receivable, prepaid expenses and other items | 44,469 | 30,784 |
|  | $\$ 460,627$ | $\$ 359,949$ |

## 9. Deposits

|  |  |  |  | 2005 | 2004 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Personal | Demand | Notice | Term | Total | Total |
| Business, banks and other | $\$ 99,867$ | $\$ 1,771,059$ | $\$ 8,704,490$ | $\$ 10,575,416$ | $\$ 10,454,368$ |
|  | 657,026 | 109,830 | $2,354,666$ | $3,121,522$ | $2,456,672$ |

Demand deposits consist of deposits in respect of which the Bank is not authorized to require a notice at the time of withdrawal by the customer. These deposits are primarily made up of checking accounts.

Notice deposits consist of deposits in respect of which the Bank may legally require a withdrawal notice. These deposits are generally made up of savings accounts.

Term deposits consist of deposits maturing at a specific date, in particular term deposits and guaranteed investment certificates.

Deposits denominated in U.S. dollars amount to $\$ 271,618,000(\$ 347,938,000$ in 2004) and deposits denominated in other foreign currencies, primarily in euros, amount to $\$ 654,000(\$ 697,000$ in 2004).

## 10. Other liabilities

|  | 2005 | 2004 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Accrued interest payable | $\$ 411,503$ | $\$ 456,589$ |
| Cheques and other items in transit (note 1) | 173,580 | 133,830 |
| Deferred gain related to the sale of BLCER (note 2) | 20,738 | - |
| Liabilities related to securitized mortgage loans | 15,088 | 31,520 |
| Accrued benefit liabilities (note 14) | 10,340 | 9,600 |
| Accounts payable, accrued expenses and other items (note 15) | 78,474 | 81,820 |
|  | $\$ 709,723$ | $\$ 713,359$ |

## 11. Subordinated debentures and liability related to preferred shares

SUBORDINATED DEBENTURES
The subordinated debentures are direct unsecured obligations of the Bank and are subordinated in right of payment to the claims of depositors and certain other creditors of the Bank. Any repurchase or cancellation of subordinated debentures must be approved by the Superintendent of Financial Institutions of Canada.

ISSUED AND OUTSTANDING AS AT OCTOBER 31

| Maturity | Series | Interest rate | Special terms | 2005 | 2004 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| December 2009 | 8 | 7.00\% | Redeemable at par as of December 2004. | \$ - | \$ 50,525 |
| October 2010 | 6 | 8.90\% | Redeemable at par as of October 2005. | - | 50,000 |
| June 2011 | 9 | 6.50\% | Redeemable at par as of June 2006; rate to be revised in June 2006 and set at the 90-day bankers' acceptance rate plus $1.25 \%$. | 150,000 | 150,000 |
|  |  |  |  | \$150,000 | \$250,525 |

The maturities of the subordinated debentures, assuming the earliest possible maturities under the terms of issue, are as follows:

| 2006 | $\$ 150,000$ |
| :--- | :--- |

On October 18, 2005, the Bank completed the early redemption of all of its $8.90 \%$ Debentures, Series 6, maturing in 2010, with an aggregate principal amount of $\$ 50,000,000$, plus accrued and unpaid interest to the date of redemption.

On December 15, 2004, the Bank completed the early redemption of all of its $7.00 \%$ Debentures, Series 8, maturing in 2009 with an aggregate principal amount of $\$ 100,000,000$, including debentures amounting to $\$ 49,475,000$ that it had redeemed as at October 31, 2004, plus accrued and unpaid interest to the date of redemption. The debenture redemption during 2004, amounting to $\$ 49,723,000$, generated a loss of $\$ 248,000$, which was included in other income in the consolidated statement of income.

On June 1, 2004, the Bank completed the early redemption of all of its $5.75 \%$ Debentures, Series 7, maturing in 2009 , with an aggregate principal amount of $\$ 100,000,000$, plus accrued and unpaid interest to the date of redemption. As part of this transaction, costs of $\$ 1,063,000$ were charged to income.

## LIABILITY RELATED TO PREFERRED SHARES

On June 16, 2004, the Bank completed the early redemption of all of its Preferred Shares, Series 7 and 8, at a price of $\$ 25.50$ per share, for a total consideration of $\$ 102,000,000$, including a redemption premium amounting to $\$ 2,000,000$, plus the declared but unpaid dividends to the redemption date. The premium and the dividends related to these shares are presented as interest expense in the statement of income in accordance with the new requirements regarding financial instruments (see note 1 ).

As of the redemption date, these redeemed preferred shares ceased to bear dividends.

## 12. Capital stock

## AUTHORIZED

Preferred shares - Unlimited number of Class A Preferred Shares, without par value, issuable in series.
Common shares-Unlimited number of common shares, without par value.

ISSUED AND OUTSTANDING AS AT OCTOBER 31

|  | 2005 |  |  |  |  |  | 2004 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Dividends per share | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Number } \\ & \text { of shares } \end{aligned}$ | Amount | Declared dividends | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Number } \\ & \text { of shares } \end{aligned}$ | Amount | Declared dividends |
| Class A Preferred Shares |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Series 9 | \$1.500 | 4,000,000 | \$100,000 | \$ 6,132 | 4,000,000 | \$100,000 | \$ 6,132 |
| Series 10 | \$1.312 | 4,400,000 | 110,000 | 5,898 | 4,400,000 | 110,000 | 2,474 |
| Total preferred shares |  | 8,400,000 | \$210,000 | \$12,030 | 8,400,000 | \$210,000 | \$ 8,606 |
| Common shares |  | 23,556,545 | \$249,633 | \$27,293 | 23,511,343 | \$248,593 | \$27,248 |
| Treasury shares |  | $(20,000)$ | \$ (590) | \$ (6) | - | \$ - | \$ - |

[^11]
## 12. CAPITAL STOCK (CONTINUED)

## PREFERRED SHARES

## Terms of shares

The Class A Preferred Shares, Series 9, are redeemable at the Bank's option, on or after December 15, 2006 at a price of $\$ 25$ each plus, if the redemption takes place before December 15,2010 , a premium of $\$ 1$ which will decrease to zero depending on the redemption date. Moreover, the Bank will be able, on or after December 15, 2006, to convert all or a portion of the Preferred Shares into a whole number of common shares determined by dividing the redemption price then applicable by the greater of $\$ 2.50$ or $95 \%$ of the weighted average prevailing market price of the common shares at that date.

The Class A Preferred Shares, Series 10 are redeemable at the Bank's option, on or after June 15, 2009 at a price of $\$ 25$ each plus, if the redemption takes place before June 15,2013 , a premium of $\$ 1$ which will decrease to zero depending on the redemption date. Moreover, the Bank will be able, on or after June 15, 2009, to convert all or a portion of the Preferred Shares into a whole number of common shares determined by dividing the redemption price then applicable by the greater of $\$ 2.50$ or $95 \%$ of the weighted average prevailing market price of the common shares at that date.

## Issuance of preferred shares

On April 15, 2004, the Bank issued 4,400,000 Preferred Shares, Series 10 at a price of $\$ 25$ per share, for an aggregate amount of $\$ 110,000,000$. Proceeds totalled $\$ 106,588,000$, net of issue costs.

## COMMON SHARES

## Issuance of common shares

During the year, 45,202 common shares ( 75,758 shares in 2004) were issued under the employee share purchase option plan for the management of the Bank for a cash consideration of $\$ 1,040,000(\$ 1,780,000$ in 2004).

## TREASURY SHARES

During the year, 20,000 common shares were acquired in the marketplace with respect to obligations under a perfor-mance-based share program. These shares are presented under treasury shares as a reduction of shareholders' equity.

## RESTRICTIONS ON THE PAYMENT OF DIVIDENDS

The Bank is prohibited by the Bank Act (Canada) from declaring or paying any dividends on its preferred shares or common shares if there are reasonable grounds for believing that, in so doing, the Bank would be in contravention of any capital adequacy and liquidity regulations or any direction to the Bank made by the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions, Canada (OSFI) regarding the Bank's capital or liquidity.

In addition, under the Bank Act, the Bank is prohibited from declaring or paying a dividend in any financial year without the approval of OSFI if, on the day the dividend is declared, the total of all dividends declared by the Bank in that year would exceed the aggregate of the Bank's net income up to that day in that year and its retained net income for the preceding two financial years.

The Bank's ability to pay common share dividends is also restricted by the terms of the outstanding preferred shares. These terms provide that the Bank may not pay dividends on its common shares at any time without the approval of holders of the outstanding preferred shares, unless all dividends that are then payable have been declared and paid or set apart for payment.

## SHAREHOLDER RIGHTS PLAN

The Bank has a Shareholder Rights Plan intended to encourage the fair treatment of shareholders in connection with any take-over bid for the Bank. The rights issued under the Rights Plan become exercisable only when a person, including related persons, acquires or announces its intention to acquire $20 \%$ or more of the Bank's outstanding common shares without complying with the Permitted Bid provisions of the Rights Plan or without approval of the Board of Directors of the Bank. Should such an acquisition occur, each right would entitle a rights holder, other than the acquiring person and related persons, to purchase common shares of the Bank at a $50 \%$ discount of the market price at the time. Under the Rights Plan, a Permitted Bid is a bid made by means of a take-over bid circular sent to all shareholders of the Bank and is open for not less than 60 days. If at the end of the 60 days, at least $50 \%$ of the outstanding common shares have been tendered, other than those belonging to the offeror or related persons, the offeror may take up and pay for the shares but must extend his bid for a further 10 days to allow other shareholders to tender their shares. In the event of a hostile take-over bid, the rights will cause substantial dilution to the person attempting the take-over.

## 13. Stock-based compensation

## SHARE PURCHASE OPTIONS

Pursuant to a share purchase option plan, options are granted to key employees for the purchase of common shares at prices not less than the market prices of such shares immediately prior to the grant date.

The right to exercise the options vests gradually over a maximum five-year period and the options may be exercised at any time up to ten years after they have been granted.

As at October 31, 2005, the Bank has reserved $1,600,000$ common shares ( $1,600,000$ shares in 2004) for the potential exercise of share purchase options, of which 114,418 (112,568 in 2004) were still available.

Given that the Bank has not granted any options since November 1, 2002, no expense was recognized for the years ended October 31, 2005 and 2004, as permitted by the transitional provisions of the CICA.

The following table shows the Bank's outstanding share purchase options for the years ended October 31:

|  |  | 2005 |  | 2004 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Number of options | Weighted average exercise price per option | Number of options | Weighted average exercise price per optio |
| Outstanding, beginning of year | 476,089 | \$26.99 | 595,522 | \$26.76 |
| Exercised | $(45,202)$ | \$23.00 | $(75,758)$ | \$23.49 |
| Cancelled | $(1,850)$ | \$30.58 | $(43,675)$ | \$29.88 |
| Outstanding, end of year | 429,037 | \$27.40 | 476,089 | \$26.99 |
| Exercisable, end of year | 404,037 | \$27.35 | 416,239 | \$26.75 |

The following table summarizes information relating to share purchase options outstanding and exercisable as at October 31, 2005.

|  |  | Options outstanding |  | Options exercisable |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Range of prices prices | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Number } \\ \text { of options } \\ \text { outstanding } \end{array}$ | Weighted average remaining life (years) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Weighted } \\ & \text { average } \\ & \text { exercise price } \\ & \text { per option } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Number } \\ \text { of options } \\ \text { exercisable } \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Weighted } \\ & \text { average } \\ & \text { exercise price } \\ & \text { per option } \end{aligned}$ |
| \$15.85-\$19.94 | 49,800 | 2.32 | \$18.38 | 49,800 | \$18.38 |
| \$22.08-\$25.14 | 33,517 | 3.61 | \$22.12 | 33,517 | \$22.12 |
| \$27.08-\$31.80 | 345,720 | 3.97 | \$29.21 | 320,720 | \$29.29 |
|  | 429,037 |  |  | 404,037 |  |

## OTHER STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION PLANS

The Bank offers a stock appreciation rights (SARs) plan to members of senior management of the Bank and its subsidiaries. These SARs may be settled in consideration for a cash amount equal to the difference between the SAR exercise price and the closing price of the common shares at the measurement date. SARs vest over a maximum period of five years and can be exercised over a maximum period of ten years. In addition, during the fourth quarter of the current year, the Bank established a performance-based share program, under which 20,000 common shares of the Bank have been granted. The rights in respect of these shares will vest at the end of the 16 -month period ending on January 1, 2007, if the Bank meets certain performance objectives.

During the year, an expense of $\$ 1,361,000$ (income of $\$ 271,000$ in 2004) was recorded relating to these plans. As at October 31, 2005, 687,721 SARs ( 880,220 in 2004) were outstanding at a weighted average exercise price of $\$ 26.98$ ( $\$ 26.60$ in 2004), of which 205,021 (258,158 in 2004) were exercisable at the end of the year. As at October 31, 2005, the weighted average remaining life of SARs was 6.61 years ( 7.35 years in 2004).

A deferred share unit plan is also offered to non-employee directors of the Bank. Under this plan, each director may choose to receive all or a percentage of his remuneration in the form of deferred share units settled in cash. The deferred share units are converted when the holder steps down from the Board of Directors. As at October 31, 2005 , there were 21,755 units ( 16,884 in 2004) outstanding with a total value of $\$ 660,000(\$ 451,000$ in 2004). The compensation expense recorded during the year, in respect of this plan, was $\$ 209,000(\$ 86,000$ in 2004).
13. STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION (CONTINUED)

B2B TRUST SHARE PURCHASE OPTION PLAN
B2B Trust offered a share purchase option plan to its directors, officers and key employees, as well as to the directors and officers of Laurentian Bank. Upon the privatization of B2B Trust in 2004, all the rights with respect to these options outstanding vested pursuant to the terms of the plan. The 798,500 options with an exercise price lower than $\$ 9.50$, that is, the Bank's offer, were exercised whereas the other options were cancelled. During 2004, B2B Trust awarded no options. An expense of $\$ 85,000$ was recognized in consolidated income in 2004, which included the impact of the accelerated vesting of rights at the time of the privatization.

## 14. Employee future benefits

## DESCRIPTION OF BENEFIT PLANS

The Bank has a number of funded defined benefit plans. One of the plans has a defined contribution portion. The benefit plans provide pension benefits to most of its employees. Its defined benefit pension plans are based on years of service and final average salary at retirement time.

The Bank also offers its employees certain post-employment benefits. In addition, certain retired employees have other retirement benefits, including health and life insurance.

## TOTAL CASH PAYMENTS

Total cash payments for future employee benefits for 2005, consisting of cash contributed by the Bank to its funded pension plans, cash payments directly to beneficiaries for its unfunded other benefit plans and cash contributed to its defined contribution plans, were $\$ 15,985,000(\$ 27,479,000$ in 2004).

DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN MEASUREMENT DATES
The Bank measures its accrued benefit obligations and the fair value of plan assets for accounting purposes as at October 31 of each year. The most recent actuarial valuations are as of December 31, 2004 and as of December 31, 2003 for one of the plans. The next required actuarial valuation for funding purposes for the funded plans will be as of December 31, 2005 and, for one of the plans, as of December 31, 2006.

DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN OBLIGATIONS

|  |  | 2005 | 2004 |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Change in accrued benefit obligation | Pension <br> plans | Other <br> plans | Pension <br> plans | Other <br> plans |
| Accrued benefit obligation at beginning of year |  |  |  |  |
| Current service cost | $\$ 276,906$ | $\$ 23,169$ | $\$ 251,595$ | $\$ 22,470$ |
| Interest cost on accrued benefit obligation | 6,318 | 41 | 6,146 | 38 |
| Benefits paid | 18,325 | 1,257 | 17,464 | 1,263 |
| Employee contributions | $(15,021)$ | $(1,824)$ | $(14,814)$ | $(1,294)$ |
| Past service costs | 2,411 | - | 2,369 | - |
| Actuarial losses | 240 | - | - | - |
| Transfer related to the branches acquired in 2001 | 56,992 | 2,941 | 2,029 | 692 |
| Other | - | - | 12,117 | - |
| Accrued benefit obligation at end of year | 192 | - | - | - |

DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN ASSETS

|  |  | 2005 |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Change in fair value of plan assets | Pension <br> plans | Other <br> plans | Pension <br> plans | Other <br> plans |
| Fair value of plan assets at beginning of year |  |  |  |  |
| Actual return on plan assets | $\$ 244,183$ | $\$-$ | $\$ 195,861$ | $\$-$ |
| Bank contributions | 23,526 | - | 24,435 | - |
| Employee contributions | 11,717 | - | 23,947 | - |
| Benefits paid | 2,411 | - | 2,369 | - |
| Transfer related to the branches acquired in 2001 | $(14,759)$ | - | $(14,546)$ | - |
| Fair value of plan assets at end of year | - | - | 12,117 | - |

RECONCILIATION OF THE FUNDED STATUS OF THE BENEFIT PLANS TO THE AMOUNTS RECORDED IN THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

|  |  | 2005 |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Pension <br> plans | Other <br> plans | Pension <br> plans | Other <br> plans |  |
| Fair value of plan assets | $\$ 267,078$ | $\$$ | - | $\$ 244,183$ | $\$$ |
| Accrued benefit obligation | 346,363 | 25,584 | 276,906 | - |  |
| Funded status of plans - deficit | $(79,285)$ | $(25,584)$ | $(32,723)$ | $(23,169)$ |  |
| Unamortized transitional obligation | 584 | 11,834 | 848 | 12,655 |  |
| Unamortized past service costs | 3,840 | - | 4,168 | - |  |
| Unamortized net actuarial loss | 112,050 | 8,679 | 66,325 | 6,117 |  |
| Accrued benefit asset (liability) at end of year | $\$ 37,189$ | $\$(5,071)$ | $\$ 38,618$ | $\$(4,397)$ |  |
| Accrued benefit asset included in other assets | $\$ 42,458$ | $\$$ | - | $\$ 43,821$ | $\$$ |
| Accrued benefit liability included in other liabilities | $\$ 5,269$ | $\$ 5,071$ | $\$$ | 5,203 | $\$ 4,397$ |

ALLOCATION OF PLAN ASSETS AS A PERCENTAGE ${ }^{(1)}$

|  | 2005 | 2004 |
| :--- | :--- | :---: |
| Asset category | $54 \%$ |  |
| Equity securities | $46 \%$ | 42 |
| Debt securities and other | $100 \%$ | $100 \%$ |
| Total |  | 46 |

(1) Measured as of the measurement date of October 31 of each year.

Plan assets do not include any equity securities of the Bank as at October 31, 2005 and 2004.

PLANS WITH ACCRUED BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS IN EXCESS OF PLAN ASSETS
The amounts, at year-end, related to the accrued benefit obligation and the fair value of the assets of plans that are not fully funded are as follows:

|  |  | 2005 | 2004 |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Pension <br> plans | Other <br> plans | Pension <br> plans | Other <br> plans |
| Accrued benefit obligation | $\$ 332,561$ | $\$ 25,584$ | $\$ 265,751$ | $\$ 23,169$ |
| Fair value of plan assets | 249,739 | - | 229,595 | - |
| Funded status - plan deficit | $\$(82,822)$ | $\$(25,584)$ | $\$(36,156)$ | $\$(23,169)$ |

## 14. EMPLOYEE FUTURE BENEFITS (CONTINUFD)

ELEMENTS OF DEFINED BENEFIT COSTS RECOGNIZED DURING THE YEAR

|  | 2005 |  |  | 2004 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Pension plans | Other plans | Pension plans | Other plans |
| Defined benefit costs recognized during the year | \$ 6,318 | \$ 41 | \$ 6,146 | \$ 38 |
| Interest cost on accrued benefit obligation | 18,325 | 1,257 | 17,464 | 1,263 |
| Actual return on plan assets | $(23,526)$ | - | $(24,435)$ | - |
| Actuarial losses on accrued benefit obligation | 56,992 | 2,941 | 2,029 | 692 |
| Other | 192 | - | - | - |
| Elements of employee future benefit costs before adjustments to recognize their long-term nature | 58,301 | 4,239 | 1,204 | 1,993 |
| Excess of actual return over expected return | 6,846 | - | 7,783 | - |
| Deferral of amounts arising during period: <br> Actuarial losses on accrued benefit obligation | $(56,992)$ | $(2,941)$ | $(2,029)$ | (692) |
| Amortization of previously deferred amounts: Past service costs | 569 | - | 542 | - |
| Actuarial losses | 4,420 | 378 | 3,851 | 501 |
| Transitional obligation | 264 | 821 | 264 | 821 |
| Adjustments to recognize long-term nature of employee future benefit costs | $(44,893)$ | $(1,742)$ | 10,411 | 630 |
| Total defined benefit costs | 13,408 | 2,497 | 11,615 | 2,623 |
| Total defined contribution portion costs | 2,183 | - | 1,970 | - |
| Employee future benefit costs | \$ 15,591 | \$ 2,497 | \$13,585 | \$2,623 |

SIGNIFICANT ASSUMPTIONS

|  | 2005 |  |  | 2004 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Pension plans | Other plans | Pension plans | Other plans |
| Weighted average of assumptions |  |  |  |  |
| Accrued benefit obligation as at October 31: |  |  |  |  |
| Discount rate at end of year | 5.35\% | 5.35\% | 6.50\% | 6.50\% |
| Rate of compensation increase | 3.50\% | 3.50\% | 3.50\% | 3.50\% |
| Benefit costs for the years ended October 31: |  |  |  |  |
| Discount rate for the year | 6.50\% | 6.50\% | 6.75\% | 6.75\% |
| Expected long-term rate of return on plan assets | 7.25\% | - | 7.75\% | - |
| Rate of compensation increase | 3.50\% | 3.50\% | 3.50\% | 3.50\% |

ASSUMED HEALTH CARE COST TREND RATES AS AT OCTOBER 31

| Assumed annual rate of increase in the cost of healthcare benefits | 2005 | 2004 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Level to which it should decline and at which it is assumed to $9.0 \%$ <br> subsequently stabilize  | $5.5 \%$ |  |
| Year that the rate is assumed to stabilize | $5 \%$ | $5 \%$ |

SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS
Assumed health care cost trend rates have a significant effect on the amounts reported for the health care plans. A one-percentage-point change in assumed health care cost trend rates would have the following effects for 2005:

|  | $1 \%$ increase | $1 \%$ decrease |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Total of service and interest cost | $\$ 103$ | $\$(86)$ |
| Accrued benefit obligation | $\$ 1,730$ | $\$(1,448)$ |

## 15. Restructuring costs

In 2003, the Bank initiated a cost reduction program of an initial amount of $\$ 21,569,000$, including termination benefits, the write-off of certain technological assets and the optimized use of certain premises. The remaining provision amounting to $\$ 1,173,000(\$ 2,371,000$ in 2004) is primarily related to obligations in respect of future lease payments for unoccupied premises. During the year, the provision was reduced by $\$ 697,000$ subsequent to an adjustment of the anticipated occupancy level of certain premises.

## 16. Income taxes

FUTURE INCOME TAX ASSETS
Significant components of the Bank's future income tax assets and liabilities are as follows:

|  | 2005 |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Property, plant and equipment | $\$ 70,903$ | $\$ 67,358$ |
| Allowance for credit losses | 35,504 | 38,815 |
| Recoverable minimum income tax of financial institutions | 10,615 | 22,419 |
| Prospective tax loss deferrals | 15,491 | 13,800 |
| Intangible assets | 2,387 | 2,244 |
| Accrued benefit asset-pension plans | $(10,310)$ | $(10,802)$ |
| Deferred charges | $(20,864)$ | $(21,094)$ |
| Other temporary differences | 3,206 | 1,181 |
| Futures income tax assets, net | $\$ 106,932$ | $\$ 113,921$ |

INCOME TAX EXPENSE
Significant components of income tax expense are as follows:

|  | 2005 | 2004 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Consolidated statement of income | $\mathbf{R e s t a t e d}$ (note 1) |  |
| Current income tax expense | $\$ 14,619$ | $\$ 17,941$ |
| Future income tax expense (benefit) | 9,869 | $(1,604)$ |
| Reversal (creation) of temporary differences | - | $(1,700)$ |
| Tax rate changes | 9,869 | $(3,304)$ |
|  | $\$ 24,488$ | $\$ 14,637$ |

Consolidated statement of changes in shareholders' equity

| Income taxes on preferred share dividends and other |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Current income tax expense | $\$ 5,745$ | $\$ 1,950$ |  |
| Future income tax benefit | $(5,494)$ | $(2,899)$ |  |
|  | $\$$ | 251 | $\$$ |

## RECONCILIATION WITH THE STATUTORY RATE

The reconciliation of income tax expense from continuing operations to the dollar amount of income tax using the statutory rate is as follows:

|  |  | 2005 |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Amount |  | Restated (note 1) |  |
| Income taxes at statutory rate <br> Change resulting from: <br> Corporations tax | $\$ 25,651$ | $32.0 \%$ | $\$ 18,653$ | $33.1 \%$ |
| Tax rate changes <br> Non-taxable portion of gain on disposal of assets <br> Other, net | 779 | 1.0 | 1,223 | 1.9 |
| Income taxes from continuing operations reported in income <br> and effective tax rate | - | - | $(1,700)$ | $(2.6)$ |

6. INCOME TAXES (CONTINUED

Net income earned on credit insurance from foreign operations prior to November 1, 2003 will only be taxed upon repatriation to Canada. Since management of the Bank currently does not anticipate repatriating these retained earnings given it considers this capital necessary for ongoing foreign operations, no future income tax expense was recorded in this regard.

## 17. Net income per common share

Average number of common shares outstanding (in thousands) is as follows:

|  | 2005 | 2004 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Basic net income per common share |  |  |
| Net income from continuing operations | $\$ 55,623$ | $\$ 39,871$ |
| Preferred share dividends, including applicable income taxes | 12,030 | 8,606 |
| Net income attributable to common shares from continuing operations | $\$ 43,593$ | $\$ 31,265$ |
| Weighted average number of outstanding common shares | 23,525 | 23,485 |
| Basic net income per common share from continuing operations | $\$$ | 1.85 |
| Diluted net income per common share | $\$$ | 1.33 |
| Net income attributable to common shares from continuing operations | $\$ 43,593$ | $\$ 31,265$ |
| Average number of outstanding common shares | 23,525 | 23,485 |
| Dilutive share options and other | 27 | 36 |
| Weighted average number of outstanding common shares | 23,552 | 23,521 |
| Diluted net income per common share from continuing operations | $\$$ | 1.85 |

The preferred shares are convertible into common shares. These conversions were not taken into account in the calculation of diluted net income per common share because the Bank may settle such conversions in cash rather than common shares and, based on past experience, the Bank opts for a cash settlement.

An average of 290,285 (316,187 in 2004) share purchase options were not taken into account in the calculation of diluted net income per common share since the average exercise price of these options exceeded the average market price of the Bank's shares during the year.

## 18. Related party transactions

The Bank provides loans to directors and officers. Loans to directors are granted under market conditions for similar risks. Loans to officers consist mostly of residential mortgage loans at posted rates less $2 \%$, as well as personal loans and personal lines of credit at market rates less a discount based on the type and amount of the loan. The interest earned on these loans is recorded under interest income in the consolidated statement of income. The outstanding balances of these loans are as follows:

|  | 2005 | 2004 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Mortgage loans | $\$ 143$ | $\$ 193$ |
| Other loans | 386 | 80 |
|  | $\$ 529$ | $\$ 273$ |

In the normal course of business, the Bank also provides usual banking services to certain directors and officers, including bank accounts (deposits) under terms similar to those offered to arm's length parties.

## 19. Derivative financial instruments

In the normal course of business, the Bank enters into various contracts and commitments in order to protect itself against the risk of fluctuations in interest rates, foreign exchange rates and indexes used to determine the return of index-linked deposits, as well as to meet its customers' demands and to earn trading income, as described below.

The various derivative financial instruments listed in the tables below are as follows:
i) Interest rate swaps involve the exchange of fixed and floating interest payment obligations based on a predetermined notional amount for a specified period of time. Foreign exchange swaps involve the exchange of the principal and fixed or floating interest payments in different currencies. Cross-currency interest rate swaps involve the exchange of both the principal amount and fixed and floating interest payment obligations in two different currencies over a given period.
ii) Forward rate agreements are contracts fixing a future interest rate to be paid or received, calculated on a notional principal amount with a specified maturity commencing at a specified future date.
iii) Options are agreements between two parties in which the writer of the option grants the buyer the right, but not the obligation, to buy or to sell, at or by a specified date, a specific amount of a financial instrument at a price agreed upon when the agreement is entered into. The writer receives a premium for selling this instrument.
iv) Futures are future commitments to purchase or deliver a financial instrument on a specified future date at a specified price. Futures are traded in standardized amounts on organized exchanges and are subject to daily cash margining.
v) Foreign exchange forward contracts are commitments to purchase or sell foreign currencies for delivery at a specified date in the future at a pre-determined rate.

The following tables present the notional amounts associated with the derivative financial instruments. The amounts are not indicative of the potential gain or loss related to the credit or market risk of these instruments.
A) REMAINING TERM TO MATURITY

| (in millions of dollars) | Period to maturity |  |  |  | 2005 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Notional amount | $\begin{gathered} \text { Within } \\ 1 \text { year } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 1 \text { to } \\ 5 \text { years } \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Over } \\ 5 \text { years } \end{array}$ | Total | Contracts designated as a hedge | $\stackrel{\text { Other }}{(1)}_{\text {contracts }}{ }^{(1)}$ |
| Interest rate contracts |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| OTC contracts |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Swaps | \$3,203 | \$6,681 | \$10 | \$9,894 | \$3,677 | \$6,217 |
| Exchange-traded contracts |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Futures | 46 | - | - | 46 | - | 46 |
| Foreign exchange contracts |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| OTC contracts |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Foreign exchange swaps | 1,250 | 23 | - | 1,273 | - | 1,273 |
| Forwards | 881 | 33 | - | 914 | - | 914 |
| Options purchased | 439 | - | - | 439 | - | 439 |
| Options written | 336 | - | - | 336 | - | 336 |
| Other contracts ${ }^{(2)}$ | 27 | 124 | - | 151 | - | 151 |
|  | \$6,182 | \$6,861 | \$10 | \$13,053 | \$3,677 | \$9,376 |

[^12]19. DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (CONTINUED)

| (in millions of dollars) | Period to maturity |  |  |  |  | 2004 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Notional amount | $\begin{gathered} \text { Within } \\ 1 \text { year } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 1 \text { to } \\ 5 \text { years } \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Over } \\ 5 \text { years } \end{array}$ | Total | Contracts designated as a hedge | $\underset{\text { Other }}{\text { contracts }}{ }^{\text {(1) }}$ |
| Interest rate contracts |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| OTC contracts |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Swaps | \$3,300 | \$7,535 | \$- | \$10,835 | \$3,429 | \$ 7,406 |
| Forward rate agreements | 482 | - | - | 482 | - | 482 |
| Exchange-traded contracts |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Futures | 427 | - | - | 427 | - | 427 |
| Foreign exchange contracts |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| OTC contracts |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Foreign exchange swaps | 789 | 42 | - | 831 | - | 831 |
| Cross-currency interest |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Forwards | 648 | 30 | - | 678 | - | 678 |
| Options purchased | 803 | - | - | 803 | - | 803 |
| Options written | 733 | - | - | 733 | - | 733 |
| Other contracts ${ }^{(2)}$ | 44 | 137 | - | 181 | - | 181 |
|  | \$7,276 | \$7,744 | \$- | \$15,020 | \$3,479 | \$11,541 |

(1) Include derivative financial instruments used in connection with trading operations to meet customer needs,
as well as derivatives used to manage the Bank's risks that do not qualify for hedge accounting.
(2) Include over-the-counter equity derivatives
B) CREDIT EXPOSURE

| (in millions of dollars) | 2005 |  |  |  |  | 2004 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\underset{\text { cost }}{\text { Replacement }}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Credit } \\ \text { equivalent } \\ \text { amount } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Risk-weighted } \\ \text { amount } \end{gathered}{ }^{(3)}$ | Replacement cost | Credit equivalent amount | Risk-weighted amount amount |
| Interest rate contracts |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Swaps | \$38 | \$72 | \$14 | \$74 | \$111 | \$22 |
| Foreign exchange contracts |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Foreign exchange swaps | 13 | 20 | 5 | 42 | 51 | 11 |
| Forwards | 2 | 8 | 4 | 7 | 12 | 6 |
| Options purchased | 3 | 6 | 2 | 6 | 13 | 4 |
| Other contracts ${ }^{(4)}$ | 34 | 46 | 9 | 27 | 41 | 8 |
|  | \$90 | \$152 | \$34 | \$156 | \$228 | \$51 |

(1) Represents favourable fair market value, excluding the impact of master netting agreements.

Exchange-traded instruments and options written are excluded since they do not constitute a credit risk
2) Represents total replacement cost, plus any corresponding potential credit risk amount, using guidelines
issued by the Superintendent of Financial Institutions of Canada.
(3) Using guidelines issued by the Superintende
(4) Includes over-the-counter equity derivatives.

The majority of the credit concentration of the Bank with respect to derivative financial instruments is with financial institutions, primarily Canadian banks.

Credit risk from derivative transactions is generated by the potential for the counterparty to default on its contractual obligations when one or more transactions have a positive market value for the Bank. Replacement cost represents what it would cost to replace transactions at prevailing market rates if a default occurred.

The credit equivalent amount arising from a derivative financial instrument transaction is defined as the sum of the replacement cost plus an amount that is an estimate of the potential change in the market value of the transaction through to maturity.

The risk-weighted amount is determined by applying standard measures of counterparty risk to the credit equivalent amount.

## 20. Financial instruments

The amounts in tables A) and B) below present the fair value of on- and off-balance sheet financial instruments based on the valuation methods and assumptions as set out below.

Fair value represents the amount at which a financial instrument could be exchanged between willing parties. Quoted market prices are not available for a significant portion of the Bank's financial instruments. As a result, the fair values presented are estimates derived using present value or other valuation techniques and may not be indicative of the net realizable value.
A) FAIR VALUE OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

| (in millions of dollars) |  |  | 2005 |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |

The fair value of items which are short-term in nature or contain variable rate features is considered to be equal to book value.

The fair value of securities is based on quoted market prices or, if unavailable, it is estimated using quoted market prices of similar investments.

The fair value of loans, deposits and subordinated debentures is estimated by discounting cash flows using market interest rates.
B) FAIR VALUE OF DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

| (in millions of dollars) | 2005 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Favourable fair value | Unfavourable fair value | $\begin{array}{r} \mathrm{Net} \\ \text { amount } \end{array}$ |
| DESIGNATED AS HEDGE CONTRACTS |  |  |  |
| Interest rate contracts |  |  |  |
| Swaps | \$15 | \$(13) | \$ 2 |
| OTHER CONTRACTS ${ }^{(1)}$ |  |  |  |
| Interest rate contracts |  |  |  |
| Swaps | 23 | (32) | (9) |
| Foreign exchange contracts |  |  |  |
| Foreign exchange swaps | 13 | (4) | 9 |
| Forwards | 2 | (10) | (8) |
| Options purchased | 3 | - | 3 |
| Options written | - | (3) | (3) |
|  | 18 | (17) | 1 |
| Other contracts ${ }^{(2)}$ | 34 | - | 34 |
|  | 75 | (49) | 26 |
| TOTAL | \$90 | \$(62) | \$28 |

[^13]20. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (CONTINUED

| (in millions of dollars) |  |  | 2004 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Favourable fair value | Unfavourable fair value | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Net } \\ \text { amount } \end{array}$ |
| DESIGNATED AS HEDGE CONTRACTS |  |  |  |
| Interest rate contracts |  |  |  |
| Swaps | \$ 24 | \$ (10) | \$14 |
| Foreign exchange contracts |  |  |  |
| Cross-currency interest rate swaps | - | (9) | (9) |
|  | 24 | (19) | 5 |
| OTHER CONTRACTS ${ }^{(1)}$ |  |  |  |
| Interest rate contracts |  |  |  |
| Swaps | 50 | (68) | (18) |
| Foreign exchange contracts |  |  |  |
| Foreign exchange swaps | 42 | (12) | 30 |
| Forwards | 7 | (32) | (25) |
| Options purchased | 6 | - | 6 |
| Options written | - | (6) | (6) |
|  | 55 | (50) | 5 |
| Other contracts ${ }^{(2)}$ | 27 | - | 27 |
|  | 132 | (118) | 14 |
| TOTAL | \$156 | \$(137) | \$19 |

(1) Include derivative financial instruments used in connection with trading operations to meet customer needs,
(2) as well as derivatives used to manage the Bank's risks that do not qualify for hedge accounting
2) Include over-the-counter equity derivatives.

The fair value of derivative financial instruments is based on quoted market prices or dealer quotes. Otherwise, fair value is estimated on the basis of pricing models, quoted prices of instruments with similar characteristics, or discounted cash flows.

The fair value of derivative financial instruments is shown under derivative financial instruments, as assets or liabilities as appropriate.
C) INTEREST RATE RISK

The following table gives the detailed maturity dates and average effective rates of the on- and off-balance sheet instruments of the Bank.

| (in millions of dollars) | Floating | $\begin{array}{r} 0 \text { to } \\ 3 \text { months } \end{array}$ |  | Over 3 monthsto 1 year |  | Over 1 year to 5 years |  | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Over } \\ 5 \text { years } \end{array}$ | Non-interestsensitive |  | 2005 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  | tal |  |  |  |  |  |
| Assets |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cash resources and securities Actual return | \$ 997 | \$ | $\begin{aligned} & 805 \\ & 2.7 \% \end{aligned}$ |  |  | \$ | 546 2.7\% |  | $\begin{aligned} & 659 \\ & 3.2 \% \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \$ 166 \\ 4.3 \% \end{array}$ | \$ | 35 | \$ |  |
| Assets purchased under reverse repurchase agreements | 508 |  | - |  | - |  | - | - |  | - |  | 8 |
| Loans | 4,208 |  | 777 |  | 1,680 |  | 4,847 | 121 |  | 87 |  |  |
| Actual return |  |  | 4.7\% |  | 4.9\% |  | 6.6\% | 7.0\% |  |  |  |  |
| Other assets | - |  | - |  | - |  | - | - |  |  |  |  |
| Total | 5,713 |  | 1,582 |  | 2,226 |  | 5,506 | 287 |  |  |  |  |
| Actual return |  |  | 3.7\% |  | 4.4\% |  | 6.2\% | 5.4\% |  | - |  |  |
| Liabilities and equity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Deposits | 421 |  | 2,570 |  | 3,045 |  | 7,127 | 11 |  | 3 |  |  |
| Actual return |  |  | 3.2\% |  | 3.2\% |  | 3.1\% | 4.1\% |  |  |  |  |
| Treasury items | 757 |  | - |  | - |  | - | 29 |  | - |  | 6 |
| Actual return |  |  | -\% |  | -\% |  | -\% | 6.6\% |  |  |  |  |
| Other liabilities | - |  | 20 |  | 59 |  | 136 | - |  | 46 |  |  |
| Actual return |  |  | 3.1\% |  | 3.2\% |  | 3.8\% | -\% |  |  |  |  |
| Debentures and equity | - |  | - |  | 150 |  | 210 | - |  | 3 |  |  |
| Actual return |  |  | -\% |  | 6.5\% |  | 5.7\% | -\% |  |  |  |  |
| Total | 1,178 |  | 2,590 |  | 3,254 |  | 7,473 | 40 |  |  |  |  |
| Actual return |  |  | 3.2\% |  | 3.4\% |  | 3.2\% | 5.9\% |  |  |  |  |
| Swaps, net | - |  | $(3,485)$ |  | 302 |  | 3,183 | - |  | - |  | - |
| Sensitivity gap | 4,535 |  | $(4,493)$ |  | (726) |  | 1,216 | 247 |  | 9) |  | - |
| Cumulative gap | \$4,535 | \$ | 42 | \$ | (684) | \$ | 532 | \$779 | \$ | - | \$ | - |


| millions of dollars) 2004 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Floating | $\begin{array}{r} 0 \text { to } \\ 3 \text { months } \end{array}$ | Over 3 months to 1 year | Over 1 year to 5 years | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Over } \\ 5 \text { years } \end{array}$ | Non-interest sensitive | Total |
| Assets | \$5,901 | \$ 2,102 | \$ 1,578 | \$5,733 | \$204 | \$1,089 | \$16,607 |
| Actual return |  | 3.3\% | 5.8\% | 5.9\% | 6.4\% |  |  |
| Liabilities and equity | 1,191 | 2,305 | 3,049 | 8,133 | 24 | 1,905 | 16,607 |
| Actual return |  | 2.9\% | 3.4\% | 3.5\% | 6.5\% |  |  |
| Swaps, net | - | $(2,155)$ | 242 | 1,913 | - | - | - |
| Other derivative financial instruments | - | 37 | (37) | - | - | - | - |
| Sensivity gap | 4,710 | $(2,321)$ | $(1,266)$ | (487) | 180 | (816) | - |
| Cumulative gap | \$4,710 | \$ 2,389 | \$ 1,123 | \$ 636 | \$816 | \$ - | \$ - |

Assets, liabilities and equity are shown at the earlier of the date of maturity or contractual re-evaluation while taking into consideration estimated redemptions or prepayments, except for the following:

- Loans and deposits for which the interest rates are not indexed on a specific rate and which can be non-sensitive to changes in market rates are classified based on the historical evolution of their sensitivity.
- Debentures for which interest rates can be revised at a future date are classified at the re-evaluation date; those for which rates cannot be revised are classified at their maturity.
Preferred shares are classified using the date on which they become redeemable.


## D) CONCENTRATION OF CREDIT RISK

Concentration of credit risk may exist where a number of counterparties engaged in similar activities are located in the same geographic area or have comparable economic characteristics. Their ability to meet contractual obligations could be similarly compromised by changing economic, political or other conditions. The Bank's operations are located in Canada

The following table shows loans based on location as at October 31:

|  | 2005 | 2004 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Quebec |  | $64 \%$ |
| Other Canadian provinces | $36 \%$ | $35 \%$ |
| Total | $100 \%$ | $100 \%$ |

No single industry segment accounted for more than $3 \%(3 \%$ in 2004) of the total loans and customers' liability under acceptances.

## 21. Commitments and guarantees

## A) CREDIT-RELATED COMMITMENTS

The Bank uses certain off-balance sheet credit instruments as a means of meeting the financial needs of its customers.
Undrawn amounts under approved credit facilities represent a commitment to make credit available in the form of loans or other credit instruments for specific amounts and maturities, subject to specific conditions.

Documentary letters of credit are documents issued by the Bank on behalf of customers, authorizing a third party to draw drafts to a stipulated amount under specific conditions. These letters are guaranteed by the underlying shipments of goods.

The amounts of credit-related commitments represent the maximum amount of additional credit that the Bank could be obliged to extend. These amounts are not necessarily indicative of credit risk as many of these commitments are contracted for a limited period of usually less than one year and will expire or terminate without being drawn upon.

|  | 2005 | 2004 |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Undrawn amounts under approved credit facilities ${ }^{(1)}$ | $\$ 3,737,591$ | $\$ 3,474,492$ |  |
| Documentary letters of credit | $\$ \quad 15,076$ | $\$$ | 19,371 |

[^14]lines amounting to $\$ 718,770,000(\$ 680,685,000$ as at October 31, 2004) which are revocable at the Bank's option.

## 21. COMMITMENTS AND GUARANTEES (CONTINUED)

## B) GUARANTEES

## i) Standby letters of credit and performance guarantees

In the normal course of its operations, the Bank offers to its customers the possibility of obtaining standby letters of credit and performance guarantees. These represent irrevocable assurances that the Bank will make payments in the event that the client cannot meet its obligations to third parties. The terms of these guarantees vary according to the contracts and normally do not exceed one year. The Bank's policy for requiring collateral security with respect to these instruments is similar to its policy for loans. No specific provision is currently recorded with regard to these guarantees. The maximum potential amount of future payments under these guarantees totalled $\$ 60,672,000$ as at October 31, 2005 ( $\$ 55,329,000$ in 2004).

## ii) Derivative financial instruments

To meet certain customers' hedging needs against foreign exchange rate fluctuations, the Bank sells put options (foreign exchange contracts), which are contractual agreements under which the Bank grants customers the right, but not the obligation to sell, by or on a set date, a specified amount of foreign currencies at a predetermined price. The term of these options does not exceed 12 months. No specific provision is recorded with respect to these derivatives. The maximum potential amount of future payments under these derivatives, corresponding to the notional value of outstanding contracts, totalled $\$ 200,061,000$ as at October 31, 2005 ( $\$ 236,545,000$ in 2004).

## iii) Other indemnification agreements

In the normal course of its operations, the Bank provides indemnification agreements to counterparties in certain transactions such as purchase contracts, service agreements and sales of assets. These indemnification agreements require the Bank to compensate the counterparties for costs incurred as a result of changes in laws and regulations (including tax legislation) or as a result of litigation claims or statutory sanctions that may be suffered by the counterparty as a consequence of the transaction. We also indemnify directors and officers, to the extent permitted by law, against certain claims that may be made against them as a result of their being, or having been, directors or officers at the request of the Bank. The terms of these indemnification agreements vary based on the contract. The nature of the indemnification agreements prevents the Bank from making a reasonable estimate of the maximum potential amount it could be required to pay to counterparties. Historically, the Bank has not made any significant payments under such indemnification agreements. No amount has been accrued with respect to these indemnification agreements.
C) LEASE COMMITMENTS, SERVICE CONTRACTS FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES AND OTHER CONTRACTS Minimum future commitments under leases, service contracts for outsourced technology services and other contracts are as follows:

|  | Information <br> technology <br> service <br> contracts |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 2006 | Premises | Other | Total |  |  |
| 2007 | $\$ 17,340$ | $\$ 42,189$ | $\$ 6,104$ | $\$ 65,633$ |  |
| 2008 | 18,377 | 48,312 | 5,413 | 72,102 |  |
| 2009 | 17,165 | 41,185 | 4,976 | 63,326 |  |
| 2010 | 14,587 | 41,162 | 3,554 | 59,303 |  |
| Thereafter | 13,256 | 42,053 | 2,840 | 58,149 |  |
| Total | 47,361 | 44,703 | 8,147 | 100,211 |  |

As stipulated under major service contracts, the Bank may terminate such contracts in certain circumstances.
D) PLEDGED ASSETS

Assets with a book value of $\$ 260,247,000(\$ 876,385,000$ in 2004) have been pledged as collateral in order to participate in clearing and payment systems. In addition, securities amounting to $\$ 60,065,000(\$ 15,907,000$ in 2004) have been sold under repurchase agreements recorded as secured loans.

## 22. Contingencies

## LITIGATION

The Bank and its subsidiaries are involved in various pending legal actions which arise in the normal course of business. Many of these proceedings are related to loans granted by the Bank and are in reaction to steps taken by the Bank to collect delinquent loans and enforce the underlying securities. Certain claims for damages have also been brought against the Bank, particularly with respect to the role of one of its subsidiaries as bare trustee with regard to operations related to the administration of portfolios, as well as to applications for authorization to institute class actions in connection with certain bank fees. Management considers that adequate provisions have been set aside to cover any future losses and any amounts that might not be recoverable from insurance companies, as the case may be, in connection with these actions.

## 23. Segmented information

The Bank offers its services through four business segments: Retail Financial Services, Commercial Financial Services, B2B Trust and Laurentian Bank Securities (LBS).

The Retail Financial Services segment covers the full range of savings, investment and financing products, and transactional products and services offered through its direct distribution network, which includes branches, the electronic network and the call centre, as well as Point-of-Sale financing and broker deposits across Canada. This business segment also offers Visa credit card services and insurance products, as well as trust services.

The Commercial Financial Services segment handles commercial loans and larger financings as part of banking syndicates, as well as commercial mortgage financing, leasing, factoring and other services.

The B2B Trust segment supplies generic and complementary banking and financial products to independent financial advisors and non-bank financial institutions across Canada.

The LBS (formerly Wealth Management and Brokerage) segment consists of the activities of the subsidiary Laurentian Bank Securities Inc. and until December 31, 2004, the Bank's share of the joint venture BLC-Edmond de Rothschild Asset Management Inc.

The Other segment includes treasury and securitization activities and other activities of the Bank including revenues and expenses that are not attributable to the above-mentioned segments.

Results for the Bank's segments are based on internal financial reporting systems and are consistent with the accounting principles followed in the preparation of the Bank's consolidated financial statements. Transfer pricing regarding the funding of segments' assets and liabilities is based on institutional funding costs which best reflect the nature and maturities of these items. Non-interest expenses are matched against the revenues to which they relate. Indirect costs are allocated to the segments based on appropriate criteria.
23. SEGMENTED INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

| 200 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Retail Financial Services ${ }^{(2)}$ |  | Commercial Financial Services |  | B2B Trust ${ }^{(2)}$ |  | Laurentian Bank Securities ${ }^{(3)}$ |  | Other ${ }^{(2)}$ |  | Total |
| Net interest income | \$ | 250,055 | \$ | 56,174 | \$ | 55,194 | \$ | 1,290 | \$ | $(37,022)$ | \$ | 325,691 |
| Other income |  | 87,528 |  | 29,112 |  | 13,947 |  | 21,361 |  | 24,423 |  | 176,371 |
| Total income |  | 337,583 |  | 85,286 |  | 69,141 |  | 22,651 |  | $(12,599)$ |  | 502,062 |
| Provision for credit losses |  | 20,685 |  | 13,107 |  | 6,208 |  | - |  | - |  | 40,000 |
| Non-interest expenses |  | 277,856 |  | 38,745 |  | 38,275 |  | 17,535 |  | 9,540 |  | 381,951 |
| Income (loss) from continuing operations before income taxes |  | 39,042 |  | 33,434 |  | 24,658 |  | 5,116 |  | $(22,139)$ |  | 80,111 |
| Income taxes (recovered) |  | 13,616 |  | 11,797 |  | 8,377 |  | 1,733 |  | $(11,035)$ |  | 24,488 |
| Income (loss) from continuing operations |  | 25,426 |  | 21,637 |  | 16,281 |  | 3,383 |  | $(11,104)$ |  | 55,623 |
| Income from discontinued operations, net of income taxes |  | 4,422 |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | 5,237 |  | 9,659 |
| Net income (loss) | \$ | 29,848 | \$ | 21,637 | \$ | 16,281 | \$ | 3,383 | \$ | $(5,867)$ | \$ | 65,282 |
| Average assets ${ }^{(1)}$ |  | ,697,432 |  | 221,761 |  | 2,438,147 |  | 439,039 |  | ,531,155 |  | ,327,534 |
| Average loans ${ }^{(1)}$ |  | ,490,265 |  | 006,398 |  | 2,414,217 | \$ | 3 | \$ | $(464,456)$ |  | ,446,427 |
| Average deposits ${ }^{(1)}$ |  | ,433,089 | \$ | 92,137 |  | 2,239,732 | \$ | - |  | ,584,603 |  | ,349,561 |


| 2004 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Retail Financial Services (2) |  | Commercial Financial Services |  | B2B Trust ${ }^{(2)}$ |  | Wealth Management Brokerage |  | Other ${ }^{(2)}$ |  | Total |
| Net interest income | \$ | 233,650 | \$ | 56,860 | \$ | 48,846 | \$ | 1,344 | \$ | $(73,506)$ | \$ | 267,194 |
| Other income |  | 85,774 |  | 32,384 |  | 14,878 |  | 26,030 |  | 39,883 |  | 198,949 |
| Total income |  | 319,424 |  | 89,244 |  | 63,724 |  | 27,374 |  | $(33,623)$ |  | 466,143 |
| Provision for credit losses ${ }^{(4)}$ |  | 19,663 |  | 15,646 |  | 4,691 |  | - |  | - |  | 40,000 |
| Non-interest expenses |  | 265,607 |  | 35,993 |  | 37,215 |  | 21,456 |  | 9,448 |  | 369,719 |
| Income (loss) before income taxes and non-controlling interest in net income of a subsidiary |  | 34,154 |  | 37,605 |  | 21,818 |  | 5,918 |  | $(43,071)$ |  | 56,424 |
| Income taxes (recovered) |  | 11,911 |  | 13,176 |  | 7,432 |  | 1,644 |  | $(19,526)$ |  | 14,637 |
| Non-controlling interest in net income of a subsidiary |  | - |  | - |  | 1,916 |  | - |  | - |  | 1,916 |
| Net income (loss) | \$ | 22,243 | \$ | 24,429 | \$ | 12,470 | \$ | 4,274 | \$ | $(23,545)$ | \$ | 39,871 |
| Average assets ${ }^{(1)}$ |  | 7,309,320 |  | 370,500 |  | ,314,738 |  | 451,752 |  | 880,441 | \$1 | ,326,751 |
| Average loans ${ }^{(1)}$ |  | ,119,845 |  | 052,924 |  | ,292,772 | \$ | 8 | \$ | $(494,636)$ |  | ,970,913 |
| Average deposits ${ }^{(1)}$ |  | ,230,089 | \$ | 85,065 |  | ,275,396 | \$ | 133 |  | ,293,339 |  | ,884,022 |

(1) Assets and liabilities are disclosed on an average basis as this measure is most relevant to a financial institution.
(2) Since November 1, 2004, results from broker-sourced mortgages are now included with the B2B Trust business segment, whereas they were previously
included with the Retail Financial Services business segment. Also, B2B Trust's treasury operations were integrated into the Bank's treasury operations and certain other items related to corporate activities were reclassified in the Other category. Comparative figures have been restated to conform with current
(3) Results for the first quarter of 2005 include a $\$ 0.03$ million contribution from BLC-Edmond de Rothschild Asset Management Inc. for the two months prior to the sale (note 2).
(4) Includes the reversal of general allowances for loan losses of $\$ 5.4$ million attributable to the Retail Financial Services segment and $\$ 6.6$ million attributable to the Commercial Financial Services segment.

## DIRECTION

MEMbRES DU COMITÉ DE DIRECTION

## Raymond McManus

Président et chef
de la direction

Robert Cardinal
Premier vice-président exécutif,
Finances, administration et développement stratégique et chef de la direction financière

Bernard Piché
Premier vice-président exécutif, Trésorerie, marchés financiers et courtage

Lorraine Pilon
Vice-présidente exécutive, Affaires corporatives et ressources humaines et Secrétaire

Réjean Robitaille
Premier vice-président exécutif,
Services financiers aux particuliers et aux entreprises

André Scott
Vice-président exécutif, Services financiers aux entreprises

MEMbRES DU COMITÉ DE PLANIFICATION

Marcel Beaulieu
Vice-président,
Gestion des produits

Yassir Berbiche
Premier vice-président et trésorier

Luc Bernard
Vice-président exécutif,
Services financiers
aux particuliers

Louise Bourassa
Première vice-présidente,
Services administratifs

Denise Brisebois
Première vice-présidente,
Ressources humaines

François Desjardins
Président et chef de
la direction, B2B Trust

Jean-François Doyon
Vice-président,
Vérification interne

Philippe Duby
Premier vice-président,
Gestion immobilière et chef de la direction informatique

## Richard Fabre

Vice-président, Services
financiers aux particuliers,
Région Rive-Nord, Centre-ville de Montréal et Ouest du Québec

William Galbraith
Vice-président,
Financement commercial

Mario Galella
Vice-président,
Services financiers
aux particuliers,
Région Nord et Ouest
de Montréal

Michel Gendron
Vice-président,
Grandes entreprises, Québec

Paul Hurtubise
Premier vice-président,
Financement immobilier

Rick C. Lane
Vice-président,
Financement immobilier, Ontario

Chantal Lauzon
Vice-présidente, Fiscalité

André Lopresti
Vice-président
et chef comptable

Michel Garneau
Vice-président,
Services financiers
aux particuliers, Région
Québec, Est du Québec
et Mauricie

Louis Marquis
Premier vice-président, Crédit

## Pierre Minville

Premier vice-président, Gestion intégrée des risques et fusions et acquisitions

## Marc Paradis

Premier vice-président,
Planification stratégique et contrôle

Yves Ruest
Vice-président, Finances et administration et directeur
financier, Valeurs mobilières
Banque Laurentienne inc.
Claude Sasseville
Vice-président,
Services financiers aux particuliers, Région Est de Montréal et Rive-Sud, et développement hypothécaire

Al Spadaro
Vice-président, Développement des affaires, B2B Trust

Eva Stamadiamos
Vice-présidente, Ressources humaines et chef de la gestion des risques, B2B Trust

Michel C. Trudeau
Président et chef de la direction, Valeurs mobilières Banque Laurentienne inc.

Raymond Trudeau
Premier vice-président,
Services aux particuliers,
Valeurs mobilières
Banque Laurentienne inc.

## SUCCURSALES

## Alma

500 , rue Sacré-Coeur O
Amos
$1,1^{\text {čr }}$ Avenue O

## Baie Comeau

600, boul. Laflèch

## Belœil

706, boul. Laurier
Blainville
1356, boul. Curé-Labelle 9, boul. de la Seigneurie

## Boucherville

999, boul. Montarville

## Brossard

1635, boul. Rome
Campbell's Bay
148, rue Front

## Côte St-Luc

5479, av. Westminster
Chateauguay
111, boul. Saint-Jean Baptiste $530,3^{\text {c }}$ rue
Dolbeau-Mistassini 1372, boul. Wallberg

Dollard-des-Ormeaux
4057, montée Saint-Jean 3500, boul. des Sources

Dorval
325, av. Dorval

## Drummondville

571, boul. Saint-Joseph

## Fort Coulonge

532, rue Baume

## Gatineau

139, boul. de l'Hôpital
75, du Plateau
770, boul. Saint-Joseph
Granby
40, rue Évangéline
Grand-Mère
531, 6e Avenue

## Grenville

240, rue Principale
Joliette
373, rue Notre-Dame
Lachute
470 , rue Principale O.
La Prairie
995, boul. Taschereau

Laval
928, Autoroute 13
928, Autoroute Chomedey O
233, boul. Curé-Labelle
3387, boul. Dagenais O.
510, boul. des Laurentides
750, rue Montrose
3870, boul. Notre-Dame
1899, boul. René-Laennec 1995, boul. Saint-Martin O.
4600 , boul. Samson
Longueuil
2836, chemin Chambly
4, rue Saint-Charles E.
6250, boul. Cousineau
5925, boul. Payer
3700, boul. Taschereau
Maniwaki
111, boul. Desjardins

## Mascouche

848, montée Masson
Mont Laurier
476 , rue de la Madone

## Montréal

4945, rue Beaubien E
6593, rue Beaubien E.
4155 , rue Bélanger E .
5900, rue Bélanger E., Saint-Léonard 290, rue Chabanel O.
8262, boul. Champlain, Lasalle
4135, rue D'Amiens, Montréal Nord
6225 , av. Darlington
865, boul. Décarie, Saint-Laurent
5159, boul. Décarie
88, boul. Don Quichotte
885, rue Fleury E.
2200 , rue Fleury E.
10451, boul. Gouin O.,
Pierrefonds - Roxboro
5501, boul. Henri-Bourassa E.,
Montréal Nord
8595, rue Hochelaga
136, boul. Jacques-Bizard, Île Bizard
7050, rue Jarry E., Anjou
4725, rue Jarry E., Saint-Léonard
790, rue Jarry O.
10, rue Jean-Talon E.
5355, rue Jean-Talon E., Saint-Léonard
555 , rue Jean-Talon O.
6651, boul. Joseph-Renaud, Anjou
9095, rue Lajeunesse
8410, boul. Langelier, Saint-Léonard
6525, boul. Léger, Montréal-Nord
6500, av. de Lorimier
2937, rue Masson
8646, boul. Maurice-Duplessis,
Rivière des Prairies
6270, boul. Monk
1981, av. McGill College
1100, av. du Mont Royal E.
8787, boul. Newman, Lasalle 1675, rue Notre-Dame, Lachine
3720, rue Ontario E.

7705 , av. Papineau
5059, av. du Parc
1430, rue Poirier, Saint-Laurent
1100, boul. René-Lévesque O.
936, rue Sainte-Catherine E.
8090, rue Saint-Denis
391, rue Saint-Jacques
4080, rue Saint-Jacques
3730, boul. Saint-Laurent
7192, boul. Saint-Michel
8930, boul. Saint-Michel
2490, rue de Salaberry
1805 , rue Sauvé O.
801, rue Sherbrooke E.
6615, rue Sherbrooke E.
12050, rue Sherbrooke E.
5651, rue Sherbrooke O.
1291, boul. Shevchenko, Lasalle
6640 av. Somerled
1447, av. Van Horne, Outremont
4790, av. Van Horne
5501 , av. Verdun, Verdun
8945, boul. Viau, Saint-Léonard
4214, rue Wellington, Verdun
Murdochville
$601,5^{\text {c }}$ rue
New Carlisle
168, boul. Gérard-D.-Lévesque
New Richmond
228, boul. Perron
Nicolet
92, place 21 mars
Ottawa
1021 Cyrille Road
Paspébiac
120, boul. Gérard-D.-Lévesque

## Port Daniel

10 , route 132
Québec
999, rue de Bourgogne
510, boul. Charest E.
1221, Charles-Albanel
580, Grande Allée E
8000, boul. Henri-Bourassa
2600, boul. Laurier
2700, boul. Laurier
1275, Chemin Sainte-Foy
3930, boul. Wilfrid-Hamel O
3333, boul. du Carrefour
5401, boul. des Galeries

## Repentigny

150, boul. Iberville
910 A , boul. Iberville

## Rimouski

320, rue Saint-Germain E.
Roberval
773, boul. Saint-Joseph
Rosemère
401, boul. Labelle

Rouyn-Noranda
24, rue Perreault E.
Saguenay
1611, boul. Talbot, Chicoutimi
3460, boul. Saint-François, Jonquière
1220 , av. du Port, La Baie
Saint-Bruno de Montarville
690, montée Montarville
335, boul. des Promenades

## Saint-Constant

400 , route 132
Sainte-Marie-de-Beauce
16, rue Notre-Dame N
Sainte-Thérèse-de-Blainville
95, boul. Labelle
81, rue Turgeon
Saint-Eustache
250, boul. Arthur-Sauvé
Saint-Georges
11400,1 ère Avenue
Saint-Hyacinthe
5915, rue Martineau
Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu
605, Pierre-Caisse
Saint-Jérome
900, boul. Grignon
Saint-Lambert
400 av. Victoria
Saint-Raymond
300, rue Saint-Joseph
Sept-Îles
770, boul. Laure
Sherbrooke
2637, rue King O.
4857, boul. Bourque, Rock Forest
Sorel-Tracy
831, route Marie-Victorin
Terrebonne
1035, boul. des Seigneurs
Thetford Mines
222, boul. Frontenac O.
Trois-Rivières
425, rue des Forges
4450, boul. des Forges
Val d'Or
872, $3^{\mathrm{e}}$ Avenue
Vaudreuil-Dorion
43 Cité des Jeunes
Valleyfield
187, Victoria
Victoriaville
403, boul. Jutras E.
Westmount
4848, rue Sherbrooke O

## BUREAUX

B2B TRUST
Toronto-Siège social
130 Adelaide Street W. 2nd Floor

BLC CAPITAL II INC.
Montréal
1981, avenue McGill College $20^{\mathrm{e}}$ étage

BLC SERVICES
FINANCIERS INC.
Montréal
425 , boul. de Maisonneuve O. Bureau 105

## BLC TRUST

Montréal
1981, avenue McGill College $20^{\mathrm{e}}$ étage

FINANCEMENT AGRICOLE
Drummondville
571, boul. Saint-Joseph
Granby
40, rue Évangéline
Lachute
470, rue Principale
Saint-Hyacinthe
5915, rue Martineau
Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu
605 , boul. Pierre-Caisse
Sainte-Marie-de-Beauce
16, rue Notre-Dame Nord
Victoriaville
403, boul. Jutras E.

FINANCEMENT COMMERCIAL
Drummondville
571 boul St-Joseph

## Gatineau

770, boul. Saint-Joseph
Hull
Kitchener
10 Duke Street W.
Laval
1991, Boul St-Martin O.
Bureau 105
Longueuil
4, rue St-Charles E.
Markham
11 Allstate Parkway
Bureau 430
Mississauga
989 Derry Road E.
Bureau 303
Montréal
255, boul. Crémazie E.
Bureau 1100
Montréal-Comptes majeurs 1981, avenue McGill College Bureau 1670

Ouébec
2700, boul. Laurier
Bureau 2287
Sainte-Foy
Saguenay
1611, boul. Talbot
Bureau 100
Chicoutimi
Sherbrooke 2637, rue King O.

FINANCEMENT
IMMOBILIER
Calgary
1122-4 Street SW
Suite 450

Kitchener
10 Duke Street W.
Suite 100
Montréal
1981, McGill College
Mezzanine
Ottawa
1021 Cyrville Road
Unit 9
Toronto
130 Adelaide Street W.
3nd Floor
Vancouver
700 West Georgia Street
Suite 603
GESTION PRIVÉE
Montréal
1981, avenue McGill College
Mezzanine Tour Sud
MICRO-ENTREPRISES
Alma
500 , rue Sacré-Cœur O.
Montréal
425, boul. de Maisonneuve O.
Bureau 105
Québec

| 2600, boul. Laurier |
| :--- |
| Bureau 25 |
| Sainte-Foy |

SERVICES INTERNATIONAUX
Markham (Ontario)
11 Allstate Parkway
Bureau 430

## Montréal <br> 1981, avenue McGill College

 Bureau 1750TRUST LA LAURENTIENNE DU CANADA INC.
Montréal
425, boul. de Maisonneuve O.
VALEURS MOBILIÈRES
BANQUE LAURENTIENNE INC.
Cornwall
55 Water Street W.
Suite 385
Drummondville
645, boul. Saint-Joseph Bureau 100

## Granby

20, Place du Lac
Laval
2525, boul. Daniel-Johnson
Bureau 500
Longueuil
1111, rue St-Charles O.
Bureau 350
Montréal
1981, avenue McGill College Bureau 100
Québec
2600, boul. Laurier
Bureau 2280
Sainte-Foy
Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu
100, rue Richelieu
Bureau 150
Toronto
130 Adelaide Street W.
Sainte-Thérèse-de-Blainville
212, boul. Labelle
Bureau 102
Kamouraska
622, rue Elzéar

## FILIALES ET SOCIÉTÉS AFFILIÉES

| Au 31 octobre 2005 Dénomination sociale | Adresse du bureau principal | Valeur comptable des actions avec droit de vote que détient la Banque (1) (en milliers de dollars) | Pourcentage des actions avec droit de vote que détient la Banque |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| B2B Trust | Toronto, Canada | 177123 \$ | 100 \% |
| Trust La Laurentienne du Canada inc. | Montréal, Canada | 65425 \$ | 100 \% |
| BLC Trust | Toronto, Canada | 44654 \$ | 100 \% |
| Valeurs mobilières Banque Laurentienne inc. | Montréal, Canada | 24682 \$ | 100 \% |
| BLC Services financiers inc. | Montréal, Canada | 1918 \$ | 100 \% |
| BLC Capital II Inc. | Montréal, Canada | 18067 \$ | 100 \% |
| 4327853 Canada Inc. | Montréal, Canada | 79806 \$ | 100 \% |
| Corporation Financière Brome inc. | Montréal, Canada | 6812 \$ | 51 \% |

[^15]
## RENSEIGNEMENTS AUX ACTIONNAIRES

Siège social
Tour Banque Laurentienne 1981, avenue McGill College Montréal (Québec) H3A 3K3 Téléphone: (514) 284-4500, poste 5996

Télécopieur: (514) 284-3396
Centre télébancaire,
Services bancaires automatisés et service à la clientèle :
(514) 252-1846
(région de Montréal)
Sans frais: 1800 252-1846
Site Internet:
www.banquelaurentienne.ca
Télex: 145069
Code Swift : BLCM CA MM

## Assemblée annuelle

L'assemblée annuelle des détenteurs d'actions ordinaires de la Banque se tiendra le mardi 7 mars 2005, à 9 h 30 , à l'Impérial, 1430 rue de Bleury, Montréal (Québec) H3A 2 J 1.

Prix au jour d'évaluation
Aux fins des calculs des gains en capital, la valeur marchande des actions ordinaires de la Banque Laurentienne au 22 décembre 1971, jour d'évaluation, redressée en fonction des fractionnements de juillet 1983 et de janvier 1987, s'établit à $3,72 \$$.

Agent des transferts et registraire Société de fiducie Computershare du Canada 1500, rue University Bureau 700
Montréal (Québec) H3A 3S8

Bureau de l'ombudsman
Banque Laurentienne
Tour Banque Laurentienne 1981, avenue McGill College $14{ }^{e}$ étage
Montréal (Québec) H3A 3K3
(514) 284-7192

1800 473-4782

Changement d'adresse et autres renseignements Les actionnaires sont priés de communiquer tout changement d'adresse à l'agent des transferts de la Banque. Pour toute autre demande ou question, veuillez communiquer avec le Secrétariat situé au siège social ou en téléphonant au (514) 284-4500, poste 7545 .

Investisseurs et analystes
Les investisseurs et analystes peuvent communiquer avec le secteur des Relations avec les investisseurs situé au siège social en téléphonant au (514) 284-4500, poste 7511.

## Médias

Les journalistes peuvent communiquer avec le secteur des Affaires publiques et communications situé au siège social en téléphonant au (514) 284-4500, poste 7511 .

Service de dépôt direct
Les actionnaires de la Banque qui le désirent peuvent faire déposer les dividendes qui leur sont distribués directement dans leurs comptes tenus par toute institution financière membre de l'Association canadienne des paiements en avisant par écrit l'agent des transferts.

Ce rapport annuel est produit par le service des Affaires publiques, communications et Relations avec les investisseurs de la Banque Laurentienne.

An English version of this Annual Report can be obtained by writing to:
Laurentian Bank Tour
Banque Laurentienne 1981 McGilll College Avenue, 20th Floor
Montreal, Quebec H3A 3K3

INSCRIPTION BOURSIÈRE ET DATES DE PAIEMENT DES DIVIDENDES

| Les actions ordinaires et les actions privilégiées décrites ci-dessous sont inscrites à la bourse de Toronto. | Symbole boursier Code CUSIP | Dates de clôture des registres* | Dates de paiement des dividendes* |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Actions ordinaires | 51925D 106 LB | Premiers jours | Premiers jours |
|  |  | ouvrables de: | ouvrables de: |
|  |  | janvier | février |
|  |  | avril | mai |
|  |  | juillet | août |
|  |  | octobre | novembre |
| Actions privilégiées |  |  |  |
| Série 9 | 51925D 874 LB.PR.D | ** | 15 mars |
| Série 10 | 51925D 866 LB.PR.E | ** | 15 juin |
|  |  |  | 15 septembre |
|  |  |  | 15 décembre |

[^16]
[^0]:    (1) In 2003, includes liability related to preferred shares

[^1]:    NB 2004 was adjusted to include Mortgages business into B2B Business Line.

[^2]:    28 Performance and financial objectives
    29 Summary of financial results
    31 Economic outlook-2006
    32 Analysis of consolidated results
    38 Analysis of financial condition
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    58 Significant critical accounting policies and estimates
    60 Changes to accounting policies
    61 Statistical review
    63 Quarterly highlights

[^3]:    This section of the Annual Report is management's discussion and analysis of the results of operations and financial condition of the Bank for the year ended October 31, 2005. The information is presented on the same basis as in the consolidated financial statements prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), including the accounting requirements specified by the Superintendent of Financial Institutions of Canada. This Management Discussion and Analysis presents the views of the Bank's management as at December 8, 2005. Additional information on Laurentian Bank of Canada can be found on the Bank's Website at www.laurentianbank.ca and on SEDAR at www.sedar.com.

[^4]:    METHODOLOGY FOR THE ANALYSIS OF RESULTS
    Management normally evaluates the Bank's performance on a reported basis, as presented in the consolidated financial statements. Considering the disposal of the wealth management operations associated with BLC-Edmond de Rothschild Asset Management Inc., financial statements for fiscal 2005 present results from continuing operations and results from discontinued operations. The analyses included in this Management Discussion and Analysis generally follow such a presentation.
    Moreover, certain analyses are carried out in relation with the Bank's core activities, that is excluding the significant items recorded in fiscal 2003 and fiscal 2004, as presented in Table 3 in this Management Discussion and Analysis, on page 33 of this Annual Report. Management considers that these significant items are not part of normal day-to-day operations or are unusual in nature and could potentially distort the analysis of trends. This distinction is made in order to ensure that management's analysis of recurring trends is not skewed. Performance measures, excluding significant items, are not terms defined under GAAP, and therefore may not be comparable to similar terms used by other issuers.
    Certain comparative figures for fiscal 2004 have been reclassified to conform to the fiscal 2005 presentation in order to make the analysis more meaningful to users.

    ## BANK'S STRATEGIES

    Some sections of this Annual Report contain important information concerning the Bank's strategies. Readers should refer to these sections to obtain further information, as they complement this Management Discussion and Analysis.

[^5]:    (1) Represents the amount of preferred shares exceeding $25 \%$ of Tier 1 Capital.

[^6]:    ERNST \& YOUNG LLP
    CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

[^7]:    The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements

[^8]:    The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

[^9]:    The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

[^10]:    (1) No restructured loans were written-off during the years ended October 31, 2005 and 2004.

[^11]:    (1) Non-cumulative dividend

[^12]:    (1) Include derivative financial instruments used in connection with trading operations to meet customer needs
    as well as derivatives used to manage the Bank's risks that do not qualify for hedge accounting.
    (2) Include over-the-counter equity derivatives.

[^13]:    (1) Include derivative financial instruments used in connection with trading operations to meet customer needs
    (2) as well as derivatives used to manage the Bank's risks that do not qualify for hedge accounting.
    (2) Include over-the-counter equity derivatives

[^14]:    (1) Notably include personal credit facilities totalling $\$ 1,087,013,000(\$ 1,020,205,000$ as at October 31, 2004) and credit card

[^15]:    (1) La valeur comptable des actions avec droit de vote correspond à la participation de la Banque dans l'avoir des actionnaires des filiales.

[^16]:    ** Şus réserve de l'approbation du conseil d'administration
    pouvant être déterminée de temps à autre par le conseil d'administration de la Banque

