



LAURENTIAN BANK
OF CANADA

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

**LAURENTIAN BANK AND THÉÂTRE D'AUJOURD'HUI CELEBRATE
QUEBEC'S THEATRE**

Montreal, May 31, 2005 – Laurentian Bank is pleased to announce that it has partnered with *Théâtre d'Aujourd'hui* to introduce the **Laurentian Bank Playwright Award**. The goal of this Award is to encourage Quebec's theatre arts.

Laurentian Bank is proud to support the Award that acknowledges the excellence of our Quebec authors. With this partnership, the Bank hopes to further raise the awareness and appreciation of Quebec's playwrights, these passionate creators promoting the arts. Thanks to the original initiative of *Théâtre d'Aujourd'hui*, the author of one of the plays to be presented on the stage of *Théâtre d'Aujourd'hui* during the season will receive the **Laurentian Bank Playwright Award** including a \$10,000 cash prize. The Award Winner will be determined by the *Théâtre d'Aujourd'hui* subscription patrons who will vote for their favourite play on the program.

Located in Montreal, *Théâtre d'Aujourd'hui* is committed to create and produce Quebec plays. It has already presented works of almost 140 authors, launching and promoting them on the theatrical scene. And today, it remains the only theatre company to be committed exclusively to Quebec's arts.

Each year, through its sponsorship and donation programs, Laurentian Bank supports hundreds of organizations renowned for the excellence of their work. This sponsorship is part of the Bank's numerous initiatives with the goal to contribute to community development.

About Laurentian Bank

Founded in 1846, Laurentian Bank ranks seventh among Canadian Schedule I banks, with balance sheet assets in excess of \$16 billion and \$15 billion in assets under management. The Bank offers highly competitive products and superior personalized service to meet the banking and financial needs of individuals, small- and medium-sized businesses, and independent financial advisors. The Bank's common shares (ticker symbol: LB) trade on the Toronto Stock Exchange. The address of the Bank's website is www.laurentianbank.com.

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