



**LAURENTIAN BANK
OF CANADA**

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

During Small Business Week®,
**Mr. Ravi Sood of VoodooPC honoured with
the Laurentian Bank Export Achievement Award
and a \$15,000 grant**

Montreal, October 19, 2004 – Laurentian Bank is pleased to announce that the Export Achievement Award and a \$15,000 grant have been awarded to Mr. Ravi Sood, owner of VoodooPC from Calgary, Alberta.

The name of this year's winner was announced at the Business Development Bank of Canada President's Gala that took place yesterday in Toronto, as part of Small Business Week®. Mr. André Scott, Executive Vice-President – Commercial Financial Services, and Mr. William Galbraith, Vice-President – Commercial Financing, Ontario, both representing Laurentian Bank, had the honour of presenting this Award to Mr. Ravi Sood, one of the 13 finalists representing Canadian provinces and territories.

This Award honours a company for outstanding achievements in the field of exportation. VoodooPC exports personal computers throughout the world. Their products are recognized as the most innovative and powerful PCs on the market, catered to the client's specific requirements. The credibility of the company, its daring and original approach, the quality of its products and services, as well as its timely order execution ensure the popularity of VoodooPC.

A national partner of Small Business Week® for four years now, Laurentian Bank is proud to contribute through its partnership with this prestigious event to building reputation for our Canadian entrepreneurs. Their leadership is crucial to the Canadian economy. And their success must be celebrated.

Founded in 1846, Laurentian Bank ranks seventh among Canadian Schedule I banks, with assets in excess of \$16 billion. The Bank offers highly competitive products and superior personalized service to meet the banking and financial needs of individuals and 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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