



**LAURENTIAN BANK
OF CANADA**

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

**LAURENTIAN BANK OF CANADA, OFFICIAL PRESENTER OF
THE 3 AMERICAS FILM FESTIVAL**

Montreal, March 9, 2006 – Laurentian Bank of Canada is proud to partner with the 3 Americas Film Festival as the official presenter of this event in 2006, from March 29 to April 2, as well as for its 2007 and 2008 editions. After the success of *Vue sur Bond 007* last month, which helped to raise funds for UNICEF and the 3 Americas Film Festival, Laurentian Bank is happy to contribute to this Festival that is in line with the family orientation of the Bank's sponsorship program in the various communities where it is present.

As part of the Film Festival, Laurentian Bank has organized a contest exclusively for the clients of the participating branches in Quebec City and area to win passes to a private screening reserved for 235 people of *La classe de madame Lise*, a full-length documentary by director Sylvie Groulx. This film tells the story of a group of elementary school children from Parc-Extension, a multi-ethnic immigrant neighbourhood in Montreal, and shares their thoughts and personal journey.

During the Festival, young people age 18 to 25 are invited to participate in the contest "Become a film Critic at the 3AFF". One of the goals of this contest is to promote the excellence of editing, the finesse of reviews as well as the originality of thought among young viewers. Three prizes will be awarded, including a trip to France (round-trip airplane ticket, hotel accommodation, screenings, visits and meetings in relation to the 7th art). The winners will be selected by a panel of judges that includes representatives of the 3 Americas Film Festival, of Le Soleil and of the Consulate General of France, as well as Ms. Gladys Caron, Vice-President, Public Affairs, Communications and Investor Relations at Laurentian Bank.

About Laurentian Bank of Canada

Laurentian Bank of Canada, is a Quebec banking institution operating across Canada dedicated to meeting the financial needs of its clients through the excellence of its service, its simplicity and its proximity. The Bank serves individual consumers, small and medium-sized businesses as well as, through B2B Trust, independent financial advisors. It also provides full-service brokerage solutions through the Laurentian Bank Securities subsidiary. Laurentian Bank is well established in the Province of Quebec, operating the third largest retail branch network and is a performing player in specific market segments elsewhere in the country. Laurentian Bank of Canada has over \$16 billion in balance sheet assets and \$15 billion in assets under administration. Founded in 1846, the Bank employs more than 3,000 people. Its common shares are listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange (TSX: LB). For more information, please visit www.laurentianbank.ca.

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For information:

Laurentian Bank of Canada
Gladys Caron
Vice-President, Public Affairs, Communications and Investor Relations
Office: (514) 284-4500, extension 7511
Cellular: (514) 893-3963
Gladys.Caron@banquelaurentienne.ca