



LAURENTIAN BANK
OF CANADA

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

**LAURENTIAN BANK SPONSORS THE SECOND EDITION
OF JOLIETTE'S OCTOBER BLUES**

Joliette, September 20, 2005 – Laurentian Bank is pleased to be a sponsor of October Blues in Joliette. This major cultural event, organized by the *Société de développement du centre-ville de Joliette*, will be held from October 20 to 22. It provides the region's blues enthusiasts with distinctively intimate settings in which to see and hear professional artists, most of whom hail from Quebec.

Blues fans can enjoy a total of 27 shows in 16 different venues. The majority of the shows are free, and spaces can be reserved in advance. It's a unique formula that sees artists perform in Joliette's bars and Cultural Centre as well as in less conventional locations, such many of the region's cafés and restaurants.

"Laurentian Bank and its employees are delighted to be associated with this event," stated Marjolaine Beauchamps, Manager of the Joliette branch of Laurentian Bank. "This sponsorship is one of many initiatives the Bank is taking to involve itself in communities where we offer our services. We wish everyone in the region an excellent October Blues, and we welcome the many music fans from outside Joliette who will visit the city for the occasion."

About Laurentian Bank

Founded in 1846, Laurentian Bank ranks seventh among Canadian Schedule I banks, with assets in excess of \$16 billion and close to \$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 are traded on the Toronto Stock Exchange (ticker symbol: LB). The address of the Bank's Web site is www.laurentianbank.ca.

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