



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

**LAURENTIAN BANK PARTNERS WITH THE 9th GOURMET FOOD FAIR
RENDEZ-VOUS DES SAVEURS DE L'OUTAOUAIS**

Hull, September 15, 2005 – Laurentian Bank is proud to be a sponsor of the 9th edition of the gourmet food fair *Rendez-vous des saveurs de l'Outaouais*. The event, slated for September 23 – 25 at the Agora Gilles-Rocheleau of the Maison du citoyen de Gatineau, is a gastronomic celebration of the abundance of fresh products from the Outaouais region.

This association is the result of the arrival of the Laurentian Bank in Hull in December 2004, when the Bank opened a financial services boutique, its ground-breaking branch concept. The new boutiques are completely redesigned service centres, where physical barriers no longer separate employees from customers. They offer new child-friendly facilities, a corner to relax for a few minutes and sip on a coffee, and a library zone offering reading material on a number of banking-related topics.

“Laurentian Bank and its employees are delighted to be involved in this event, which is one of many initiatives the Bank is taking to involve itself in communities where we offer our services” explained Anne Parisien, Branch Manager.

Visitors to the fair are invited to stop by the Laurentian Bank marquee, where they can participate in a daily draw to win a gift certificate for one of the region's restaurants.

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 website is www.laurentianbank.ca.

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