

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

LAURENTIAN BANK OF CANADA CONTRIBUTES \$250,000 TO THE *PRENEZ POSITION POUR L'UQAM* CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Montreal, February 21, 2006 – Laurentian Bank of Canada is proud to announce that it has contributed \$250,000 to the *Prenez position pour l'UQAM* capital campaign. The announcement was made during a special event held at the Laurentian Bank Head Office on February 20, 2006, in the presence of Mr. Raymond McManus, President and CEO of Laurentian Bank, Mr. Roch Denis, UQAM Rector, Ms. Gladys Caron, President of the Laurentian Bank Foundation, as well as official representatives of the Université du Québec à Montréal, of the Fondation de l'UQAM and of the Laurentian Bank Foundation.

Sharing knowledge

Laurentian Bank has been contributing to the development of the Université du Québec à Montréal since 1982. The donation announced yesterday will allow the University to complete its virtual library project to offer its students, research workers and professors the possibility of remote access to a wide range of electronic resources, such as bibliographical databases, reference papers and publications, and electronic periodicals. The goal of the *Prenez position pour l'UQAM* campaign is to finance strategic development projects and to support student training.

"We are very pleased to contribute to the objectives of the Université du Québec à Montréal. The Laurentian Bank Foundation is committed to lending its support to major Quebec institutions, especially in the field of education, and is proud to contribute to the growth and development of this University, and more specifically to the success of its daring virtual library project. This UQAM initiative proves the values of accessibility and simplicity promoted by our Bank," says Ms. Gladys Caron, President of the Laurentian Bank Foundation.

About Laurentian Bank of Canada

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 <u>www.laurentianbank.ca</u>.

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