
**RÉJEAN ROBITAILLE, PRESIDENT AND CEO OF LAURENTIAN BANK,
RANKS 2ND AMONG THE TOP 25 IN QUEBEC'S FINANCIAL INDUSTRY**

Montreal, February 11, 2009 – Mr. Réjean Robitaille, President and Chief Executive Officer of Laurentian Bank, has been ranked 2nd among the most influential individuals within Quebec's financial sector. Last year, Mr. Robitaille placed 7th on the list endorsed and published by *Finance et Investissement Magazine*.

"I am very pleased with this distinction," underlined Mr. Robitaille. "It serves as an acknowledgement of Laurentian Bank's increasingly enviable position within the industry. In fact, the Bank is a solid, well capitalized and growing institution, and it is thanks to the efforts of our dedicated personnel that the organization succeeded in generating record results in 2008 and in exceeding all of its objectives."

In addition to Laurentian Bank's loan and deposit portfolios having grown by \$3.2 billion and its net earnings by more than \$100 million this past fiscal year, the organization's performance has improved by an annual compounded rate of 30% since 2004. Mr. Robitaille is delighted about the fact that the Bank's performance is getting more and more recognition. "In view of the highly positive results posted last year, he added, we are pursuing our game plan by putting our emphasis on commitment to excellence in all that we do."

About Laurentian Bank

Laurentian Bank of Canada is a banking institution operating across Canada and offering its clients diversified financial services. Distinguishing itself through excellence in service, as well as through its accessibility, the Bank serves individual consumers and small and medium-sized businesses. The Bank offers its products to a wide network of independent financial advisors through B2B Trust, as well as full-service brokerage solutions through Laurentian Bank Securities.

With 156 branches and 342 automated banking machines, Laurentian Bank of Canada is well established in the Province of Quebec, operating the third-largest branch network. Elsewhere throughout Canada, it operates in specific market segments where it holds an enviable position. Laurentian Bank of Canada has more than \$19 billion in balance sheet assets. Founded in 1846, the Bank employs nearly 3,400 people.

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