

### **Press release**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# LAURENTIAN BANK PRESIDENT AND CEO, RÉJEAN ROBITAILLE, RANKED AMONG THE TOP FIVE MOST INFLUENTIAL PERSONALITIES IN QUEBEC'S FINANCIAL INDUSTRY

**Montreal, February 3 February, 2011** – Mr. Réjean Robitaille, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Laurentian Bank, has ranked 4th among the most influential people in Québec's financial sector in 2010. This is the 3rd year in a row that Mr. Robitaille is honoured within the illustrious top five.

#### **Outstanding results**

Réjean Robitaille's able leadership became particularly apparent towards the end of the 2010 fiscal year, as earnings per share, based on continuing operations, rose by 21%, and profits increased by 11%. In addition, since 2007, net earnings from continuing operations have increased 36%, reaching 122.9 million at the end of the last fiscal year. These excellent results are the product of a well-implemented, highly effective business plan.

"The Bank has posted record profits over the course of the last five fiscal years," says Mr. Robitaille. "We are also the only Canadian bank to have recorded an increase in earnings per share during each of the past six years. I commend all of our employees for their ongoing contributions to our outstanding success."

In 2010, the Laurentian Bank continued to distinguish itself by its proximity to its clientele and the excellence of its service, as well as its unique positioning in a growing market. With the 3<sup>rd</sup> most important branch network in Quebec, the bank offers services that are much appreciated by individuals, as well as, small- and medium-sized businesses. The Bank's various other sectors also continue to excel: B2B Trust is the leading provider for brokers in Canada; the Real Estate and Commercial sector is a highly sought-after source of funding in the Canadian real estate and commercial markets; and Laurentian Bank Securities offers a complete range of brokerage services.

#### Laurentian Bank Career Station: An innovation in the recruitment industry

Among 2010's many highlights is the Laurentian Bank's innovative new method for recruiting candidates. The Laurentian Bank Career Station is a permanent recruitment center located in the Berri-UQAM metro station, with a team of talented recruiters permanently on site to attract new talent, and offer a wide range of services and banking advice. To view images or a video of the Career Station, go to: <a href="http://smr.newswire.ca/en/banque-laurentienne-du-canada/station-carriere-banque-laurentienne">http://smr.newswire.ca/en/banque-laurentienne-du-canada/station-carriere-banque-laurentienne</a>

The Laurentian Bank intends to maintain its growth in 2011: "We are very pleased to have registered another record year in terms of profits," asserts Réjean Robitaille. "Considering our strong business plan, rigorous financial management and steadfast commitment to our goal, the bank's future is a very promising one."

#### **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 simplicity and proximity, the Bank serves individual consumers and small and medium-sized businesses. The Bank also offers its products to a wide network of independent financial intermediaries through B2B Trust, as well as full-service brokerage solutions through Laurentian Bank Securities.



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Laurentian Bank is well established in the Province of Quebec, operating the third-largest retail branch network. Elsewhere throughout Canada, it operates in specific market segments where it holds an enviable position. Laurentian Bank of Canada has more than \$23 billion in balance sheet assets and more than \$15 billion in assets under administration. Founded in 1846, the Bank employs more than 3,600 people.

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Information:

Mary-Claude Tardif
Public Relations Advisor
514 284-4500, extension 4695
mary-claude.tardif@banquelaurentienne.ca