



**LAURENTIAN BANK
OF CANADA**

PRESS RELEASE
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**WAJDI MOUAWAD WINS THE “AUTEUR DRAMATIQUE BANQUE
LAURENTIENNE” AWARD WITH HIS DRAMATIC TEXT *VISAGE RETROUVÉ***

Montreal, September 19, 2006 – At the *Théâtre d’Aujourd’hui* gala last night, Ms. Gladys Caron, Vice-President, Public Affairs, Communications and Investor Relations at Laurentian Bank of Canada, presented the “Auteur dramatique Banque Laurentienne” Award to Wajdi Mouawad, whom the *Théâtre d’Aujourd’hui* subscription patrons voted their preferred playwright of the season. The goal of this Award that comes with a \$10,000 cash prize is to celebrate the artist’s work, to commend his talent and to support his artistic projects.

The “Auteur dramatique Banque Laurentienne” Award was created last year to acknowledge the excellence of our Quebec authors. With this Award, the Bank hopes to further raise the public awareness and appreciation of Quebec’s playwrights, these passionate creators promoting the arts.

“Laurentian Bank is happy to be partners with the Award that recognizes the excellence of Quebec’s artists. The Bank thus wants to support local talents, to help them take their artistic work even further and dare creativity and imagination. Laurentian Bank is also proud to give support to *Théâtre d’Aujourd’hui*, a theatre company that plays an essential role in promoting our Quebec playwrights,” said Ms. Caron.

Each year, through its sponsorship and donation programs, Laurentian Bank of Canada supports hundreds of organizations renowned for the excellence of their work. This sponsorship is part of the Bank’s numerous initiatives with the goal to contribute to community development.

About Laurentian Bank

Laurentian Bank of Canada is a Quebec banking institution operating across Canada, dedicated to meeting the financial needs of its clients through the excellence of its service, its simplicity and its proximity. The Bank serves individual consumers, small and medium-sized businesses as well as, through B2B Trust, independent financial advisors. It also provides full-service brokerage solutions through the Laurentian Bank Securities subsidiary. Laurentian Bank is well established in the Province of Quebec, operating the third largest retail branch network and is a performing player in specific market segments elsewhere in the country. Laurentian Bank of Canada has over \$17 billion in balance sheet assets and close to \$15 billion in assets under administration. Founded in 1846, the Bank employs more than 3,200 people. Its common shares are listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange (TSX: LB). For more information, please visit www.laurentianbank.ca.

-30-

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