



**LAURENTIAN BANK
OF CANADA**

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

LAURENTIAN BANK INCREASES ITS PRIME RATE TO 5.75%

Montreal, April 25, 2006 — Laurentian Bank of Canada announces that it will increase its prime lending rate by 25 basis points from 5,50% to 5.75% effective Wednesday, April 26, 2006.

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