



**LAURENTIAN BANK  
OF CANADA**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

For immediate release

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**LAURENTIAN BANK INCREASES ITS PRIME RATE TO 5.00%**

**Montreal**, December 6, 2005 — Laurentian Bank of Canada announces that it will increase its prime lending rate by 25 basis points from 4.75 % to 5.00 % effective Wednesday, December 7, 2005.

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