



**LAURENTIAN BANK  
OF CANADA**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

For immediate release

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**LAURENTIAN BANK INCREASES ITS  
AMERICAN PRIME RATE TO 7.75 %**

**Montreal, December 13, 2005** — Laurentian Bank of Canada announces that it will increase its American prime lending rate by 25 basis points from 7.50% to 7.75% effective Wednesday, December 14, 2005.

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