



**LAURENTIAN BANK  
OF CANADA**

---

**PRESS RELEASE**

For immediate release

---

**LAURENTIAN BANK INCREASES ITS  
AMERICAN PRIME RATE TO 7.25 %**

**Montreal, September 20, 2005** — Laurentian Bank of Canada announces that it will increase its American prime lending rate by 25 basis points from 7.00% to 7.25% effective Wednesday, September 21, 2005.

- 30 -

**Contacts:**

Bernard Piché  
Senior Executive Vice-President and Treasurer  
Financial Markets and Brokerage  
(514) 284-4500, ext. 7562

Gladys Caron  
Vice-President  
Public Affairs, Communications and Investor Relations  
Office: (514) 284-4500, ext. 7511  
Cellular: (514) 893-3963  
gladys.caron@banquelaurentienne.ca