



**LAURENTIAN BANK  
OF CANADA**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

For immediate release

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**LAURENTIAN BANK INCREASES ITS PRIME RATE TO 6.00%**

**Montreal**, May 24, 2006 — Laurentian Bank of Canada announces that it will increase its prime lending rate by 25 basis points from 5.75% to 6.00% effective Thursday, May 25, 2006.

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