



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

B2B TRUST FINALIZES ITS ACQUISITION OF MRS COMPANIES

Toronto, November 16, 2011 – B2B Trust, a subsidiary of Laurentian Bank (TSX: LB), announced today that, now that all required regulatory authorizations have been received, it has finalized the transaction via which it acquires 100% of M.R.S. Trust Company and M.R.S. Inc. (“MRS Companies” or “MRS”) from Mackenzie Financial Corporation (Mackenzie Investments). The acquisition price at closing is \$199 million, based on a book value of shareholders’ equity of \$149 million and a premium of \$50 million.

With the acquisition of MRS Companies, B2B Trust is a best-in-class provider of products and services dedicated to the Canadian financial advisor community. With \$6 billion of loans, \$10 billion in deposits and \$25 billion of assets under administration, B2B Trust is definitely in a prominent position within this market, now serving some 22,000 financial advisors across Canada.

“I am very pleased to announce that the acquisition of MRS Companies is finalized today,” said Mr. François Desjardins, President and Chief Executive Officer of B2B Trust. “Thanks to this transaction, B2B Trust will now be offering its clients an even more comprehensive range of quality products and services. In line with our commitment to service excellence, this acquisition enables us to offer financial advisors the most complete and effective banking solutions possible. I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome the employees of MRS Companies, along with advisors and dealers who have not previously done business with B2B Trust.”

Financial advisors and their clients will be informed of the different stages of the integration process over the coming months. In implementing its integration strategy, B2B Trust management is dedicated to ensuring that the process is as harmonious as possible for both clients and partners alike.

About B2B Trust

B2B Trust provides advisors with superior financial products and services for distribution to their clients across Canada. The company is a leading third-party supplier of investment and RRSP loans, a premier supplier of wholesale deposit products, and a long-time provider of self-directed accounts, banking services and mortgage loans. With its head office located in Toronto, B2B Trust has regional representatives offering its products and services across Canada. It is a federally chartered trust company and wholly-owned subsidiary of Laurentian Bank of Canada, a banking institution providing its clients with a diversified range of financial services from coast to coast. More information about B2B Trust is available online at b2btrust.com.

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