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Check against delivery

Good morning, everyone. It is my pleasure to be with you today here in Montreal.

2009 was a year of progress and success for CIBC on many fronts. In the midst of a recessionary economy, we took strides to position CIBC to deliver consistent, sustainable earnings, while supporting our clients during a challenging period in Canada and around the world.

- We made broad-based investments in our Retail Markets franchise in support of our clients in 2009, while delivering revenues of $9.4 billion and net income of $1.9 billion.
- We executed on our client focused strategy in Wholesale Banking, helping to deliver stronger and more consistent financial results and

demonstrating market leadership in serving our core Canadian clients.

- We actively managed and reduced our structured credit and other run-off portfolio exposures. These efforts have reduced the risk and volatility of this portfolio.
- We increased our capital strength, from the already strong level of 10.5% at the start of 2009, to 12.1% at year end.
- And we continued to improve productivity. In 2009, we exceeded our expense target for the fourth consecutive year.

Let's start with a review of our 2009 financial results.

Revenue of $9.9 billion was up from 2008, primarily due to the structured credit losses in the prior year. Excluding the impact of structured credit, revenues were essentially flat year over year.

Loan losses were up from 2008, primarily as a result of the difficult economic environment. Expenses were down nearly 8%, due to continued expense discipline and higher than normal severance accruals in 2008. Overall, this resulted in net income of $1.2 billion, or $2.73 per share.

In 2009, we actively managed and reduced our structured credit exposure.

Our losses have reduced significantly from 2008 levels and, starting in Q3 of 2009, we have had three consecutive quarters of gains – including Q1 of 2010.

In the area of structured credit, we continue to reduce our exposure at a manageable cost, while retaining, to the extent possible, the ability to realize gains from market recoveries.

To this end, during 2009 we took steps to accomplish two fundamental objectives:

- One – to reduce the risk; and,
- Two – to reduce the volatility associated with this portfolio.

We reduced risk by taking advantage of favourable market conditions and opportunities that presented an acceptable economic risk/return trade-off to continue to reduce the size of our portfolio. During the year, we completed a number of transactions to sell or terminate elements of our structured credit exposure.

We reduced the volatility of our remaining exposures by maintaining offsetting positions. For example, we retained unmatched purchased protection that increases in value when market values worsen thereby offsetting the losses we otherwise would have incurred.

In addition, we transferred some exposures to accrual accounts so they are no longer subject to movements in value due to changes in market conditions.

Overall, these steps helped to dampen earnings volatility, as evidenced in our results over the past few quarters, and decreased the total exposure in our structured credit run-off business.

Moving now to our balance sheet strength. In 2009, we finished the year with a Tier 1 capital ratio of 12.1%. Let me summarize the key movements from 2008 to 2009, including:

- 2009 reported earnings of $1.2 billion, which increased Tier 1 by 1.0 %;
- The issuance of $1.6 billion of innovative Tier 1 capital notes which increased Tier 1 by 1.4 %;
- The $515 million in net proceeds from issuing preferred shares which increased Tier 1 by 0.4 %; and,
- The $178 million in consideration from common share issuances, primarily through our Dividend Reinvestment Program, which increased Tier 1 by 0.2 %.

Together, these more than offset the other items from 2009, which included dividends paid.

And I am pleased to be able to report that our capital position has continued to strengthen during the first quarter of 2010 with a Tier 1 ratio of 13.0% as at January 31st.

CIBC has continued to make strides in improving productivity. In 2009, we exceeded our expense target for the fourth consecutive year.

Starting in 2005, we set a target to achieve an annual expense reduction of $250 million by the end of 2006. In 2006, we exceeded this target with annual savings of $272 million.

We then set a target to hold our expenses at or below these new lower levels that existed by the fourth quarter of 2006. In 2007, 2008 and 2009, we achieved this target. In fact, in 2009, we were on average $233 million below the expense level that existed in the fourth quarter of 2006.

This required us to absorb inflationary increases while continuing to invest in our franchise and was achieved by maintaining expense discipline throughout this period of time.

In 2008, we made structural changes by exiting certain businesses that involved higher expense levels and, moving forward into 2010, the balance has evolved to growing our revenues while maintaining expense discipline.

The downward trend in our NIX ratio, which is a common industry measure of the ratio of expenses to revenue adjusted for items of note, demonstrates the success of our continued expense discipline and cost reduction initiatives.

In fact, in 2009 we also achieved our longer-term expense objective of having a median NIX ratio amongst our Canadian peers.

Now I’ll turn to a brief review of our two main businesses starting with CIBC Retail Markets.

Revenue was stable from 2008 to 2009. In our Personal Banking segment, solid growth in volumes was offset by lower deposit spreads. Our Wealth Management segment was hurt by lower fees resulting from a market driven decline in asset values. FirstCaribbean's results benefitted from a weaker Canadian dollar.

Loan losses were up $549 million, due to the challenging economic environment. Expenses were down $191 million, driven by our continued expense discipline. Net income in Retail Markets was down $391 million from 2008 primarily due to the increase in loan losses.

Beyond our financial performance, we also continued to make significant investments in support of our focus on the client experience.

This included initiatives to provide greater access and choice, competitive products and extending our strength in advice to clients. Gerry McCaughey will speak to the some of these initiatives in his remarks.

Turning now to Wholesale Banking.

Revenue increased by $6.4 billion from 2008, due mainly to a reduction in structured credit losses.

Excluding all items of note, which primarily relate to structured credit losses, revenues were up $787 million.

- The Capital Markets segment was up by $565 million, driven by higher revenue in equity

derivatives, fixed income trading, interest rate derivatives and debt and equity issuances.
- The Corporate and Investment Banking segment increased by $210 million as a result of higher revenue from US real estate finance, corporate credit products and merchant banking.
- The Other segment improved by $5.5 billion mainly as a result of lower structured credit losses. If we exclude all items of note, the increase in Other revenue was $18 million.

Loan losses increased by $206 million mainly due to the challenging economic environment.

Expenses were down primarily due to the sale of some of our US businesses in 2008 and continued expense discipline.

These factors led to a net loss of $507 million in 2009. However, if we exclude all items of note, which primarily relate to structured credit losses, net income was $632 million.

During 2009, Wholesale Banking delivered strong execution of its client focused strategy, building on its core capabilities and strong positioning in the Canadian market place.

Let me conclude with a brief summary of our first quarter results which were released this morning.

We had a strong quarter with reported cash earnings per share of $1.60, on revenue of $3.1 billion, loan losses of $359 million (which are down from the preceding quarter) and expenses of $1.75 billion.

We had strong results in both our Retail Markets and Wholesale Banking businesses.

Excluding items of note, we had cash earnings per share of $1.65 which is our highest level of earnings over the past three quarters.

Our Tier 1 ratio at the end of the first quarter, as I mentioned earlier, is strong at 13.0%.

Mr. Chairman, I will conclude my remarks by saying that CIBC made significant progress in 2009. As I covered in my comments today, we:

- Invested in our Retail Markets franchise;
- Introduced a client-focused strategy in Wholesale Banking;
- Reduced the risk and volatility of our structured credit positions;
- Increased our capital strength;
- And improved productivity.

In addition, we have started this year with a strong first quarter.

Thank you.

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