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(To Prospectus dated April 30, 2015,
Prospectus Supplement dated April 30, 2015 and
Product Supplement EQUITY INDICES ARN-1 dated
September 28, 2015)

Units \$10 principal amount per unit CUSIP No.



Pricing Date\* March , 2016
Settlement Date\* March , 2016
Maturity Date\* March , 2018
\* Subject to change based on the actual date the notes are priced for initial sale to

# Accelerated Return Notes<sup>®</sup> Linked to the S&P 500<sup>®</sup> Index

the public (the "pricing date")

- Maturity of approximately two years
- The Starting Value will be the lowest closing level of the Index during the one month period beginning on the pricing date
- 3-to-1 upside exposure to increases in the Index, subject to a capped return of [18% to 22%]
- 1-to-1 downside exposure to decreases in the Index, with up to 100% of your investment at risk
- All payments occur at maturity and are subject to the credit risk of Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce
- No periodic interest payments
- Limited secondary market liquidity, with no exchange listing
- The notes are unsecured debt securities and are not savings accounts or insured deposits of a bank. The notes are
  not insured or guaranteed by the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation, the U.S. Federal Deposit Insurance
  Corporation or any other governmental agency of the United States, Canada, or any other jurisdiction



The notes are being issued by Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce ("CIBC"). There are important differences between the notes and a conventional debt security, including different investment risks and certain additional costs. See "Risk Factors" and "Additional Risk Factors" beginning on page TS-6 of this term sheet and "Risk Factors" beginning on page PS-6 of product supplement EQUITY INDICES ARN-1.

The initial estimated value of the notes as of the pricing date is expected to be between \$9.60 and \$9.80 per unit, which is less than the public offering price listed below. See "Summary" on the following page, "Risk Factors" beginning on page TS-6 of this term sheet and "Structuring the Notes" on page TS-12 of this term sheet for additional information. The actual value of your notes at any time will reflect many factors and cannot be predicted with accuracy.

None of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), any state securities commission, or any other regulatory body has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this Note Prospectus (as defined below) is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

	Per Unit	<u>Total</u>
Public offering price <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 10.00	\$
Underwriting discount <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 0.20	\$
Proceeds, before expenses, to CIBC	\$ 9.80	\$

(1) For any purchase of 500,000 units or more in a single transaction by an individual investor or in combined transactions with the investor's household in this offering, the public offering price and the underwriting discount will be \$9.95 per unit and \$0.15 per unit, respectively. See "Supplement to the Plan of Distribution" below.

#### The notes:

Are Not FDIC Insured	Are Not Bank Guaranteed	May Lose Value	
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# Summary

The Accelerated Return Notes® Linked to the S&P 500® Index, due March , 2018 (the "notes") are our senior unsecured debt securities. The notes are not guaranteed or insured by the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation, the U.S. Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency in the United States, Canada or any other jurisdiction or secured by collateral. The notes will rank equally with all of our other unsecured and unsubordinated debt. Any payments due on the notes, including any repayment of principal, will be subject to the credit risk of CIBC. The notes provide you a leveraged return, subject to a cap, if the Ending Value of the Market Measure, which is the S&P 500® Index (the "Index"), is greater than the Starting Value. If the Ending Value is less than the Starting Value, you will lose all or a portion of the principal amount of your notes. Payments on the notes, including the amount you receive at maturity, will be calculated based on the \$10 principal amount per unit and will depend on the performance of the Index, subject to our credit risk. See "Terms of the Notes" below.

The economic terms of the notes (including the Capped Value) are based on our internal funding rate, which is the rate we would pay to borrow funds through the issuance of market-linked notes, and the economic terms of certain related hedging arrangements. Our internal funding rate is typically lower than the rate we would pay when we issue conventional fixed rate debt securities. This difference in funding rate, as well as the underwriting discount and the hedging related charge described below, will reduce the economic terms of the notes to you and the initial estimated value of the notes on the pricing date. Due to these factors, the public offering price you pay to purchase the notes will be greater than the initial estimated value of the

On the cover page of this term sheet, we have provided the initial estimated value range for the notes. This initial estimated value range was determined based on our pricing models. The initial estimated value as of the pricing date will be based on our internal funding rate on the pricing date, market conditions and other relevant factors existing at that time, and our assumptions about market parameters. For more information about the initial estimated value and the structuring of the notes, see "Structuring the Notes" on page TS-12.

# Terms of the Notes

Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce ("CIBC") **Principal** \$10.00 per unit

Approximately two years Term:

The S&P 500<sup>®</sup> Index (Bloomberg symbol: "SPX"). **Market Measure:** 

a price return index.

The lowest closing level of the Market Measure **Starting Value:** on any Market Measure Business Day (subject to

adjustment as set forth in "Other Terms of the Notes" on page TS-7 of this term sheet) during the Starting Value Determination Period. The actual Starting Value will not be determined until after the pricing date and will be made available to investors in the notes after the expiration of the

Starting Value Determination Period.

**Starting Value Determination** Period:

**Amount:** 

The period from and including the pricing date to and including the day that is approximately one month following the pricing date (or if that day is not a Market Measure Business Day, the immediately following Market Measure Business Day). The final date of the Starting Value Determination Period will be set forth in the final

term sheet.

**Ending Value:** The average of the closing levels of the Market Measure on each scheduled calculation day occurring during the Maturity Valuation Period. The calculation days are subject to postponement in the event of Market Disruption Events, as

described beginning on page PS-17 of product supplement EQUITY INDICES ARN-1.

**Participation** 

Rate:

**Capped Value:** [\$11.80 to \$12.20] per unit, which represents a return of [18% to 22%] over the principal amount. The actual Capped Value will be determined on

the pricing date.

300%

Maturity **Valuation Period:** 

Five scheduled calculation days shortly before the

maturity date.

Fees and Charges:

The underwriting discount of \$0.20 per unit listed on the cover page and the hedging related charge of \$0.075 per unit described in "Structuring the

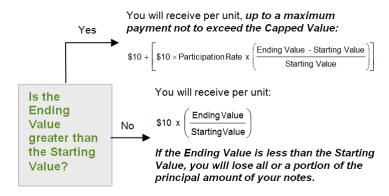
Notes" on page TS-12.

Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Calculation

Incorporated ("MLPF&S"). Agent:

# Redemption Amount Determination

On the maturity date, you will receive a cash payment per unit determined as



TS-2 Accelerated Return Notes



The terms and risks of the notes are contained in this term sheet and in the following:

- Product supplement EQUITY INDICES ARN-1 dated September 28, 2015: http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1045520/000119312515330826/d93646d424b2.htm
- Prospectus dated April 30, 2015 and prospectus supplement dated April 30, 2015: http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1045520/000119312515161379/d916405d424b3.htm

These documents (together, the "Note Prospectus") have been filed as part of a registration statement with the SEC, which may, without cost, be accessed on the SEC website as indicated above or obtained from MLPF&S by calling 1-800-294-1322.

Before you invest, you should read the Note Prospectus, including this term sheet, for information about us and this offering. Any prior or contemporaneous oral statements and any other written materials you may have received are superseded by the Note Prospectus. Capitalized terms used but not defined in this term sheet have the meanings set forth in product supplement EQUITY INDICES ARN-1. Unless otherwise indicated or unless the context requires otherwise, all references in this document to "we," "us," "our," or similar references are to CIBC.

# **Investor Considerations**

#### You may wish to consider an investment in the notes if:

- You anticipate that the Index will increase moderately from the Starting Value to the Ending Value.
- You are willing to risk a loss of principal and return if the Index decreases from the Starting Value to the Ending Value.
- You accept that the return on the notes will be capped.
- You are willing to forgo the interest payments that are paid on conventional interest bearing debt securities.
- You are willing to forgo dividends or other benefits of owning the stocks included in the Index.
- You are willing to accept a limited or no market for sales prior to maturity, and understand that the market prices for the notes, if any, will be affected by various factors, including our actual and perceived creditworthiness, our internal funding rate and fees and charges on the notes.
- You are willing to assume our credit risk, as issuer of the notes, for all payments under the notes, including the Redemption Amount.

#### The notes may not be an appropriate investment for you if:

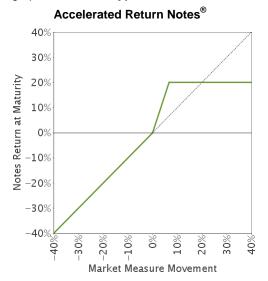
- You believe that the Index will decrease from the Starting Value to the Ending Value or that it will not increase sufficiently over the term of the notes to provide you with your desired return.
- You seek principal repayment or preservation of capital.
- You seek an uncapped return on your investment.
- You seek interest payments or other current income on your investment.
- You want to receive dividends or other distributions paid on the stocks included in the Index.
- You seek an investment for which there will be a liquid secondary market.
- You are unwilling or are unable to take market risk on the notes or to take our credit risk as issuer of the notes.

We urge you to consult your investment, legal, tax, accounting, and other advisors before you invest in the notes.



# Hypothetical Payout Profile and Examples of Payments at Maturity

The below graph is based on hypothetical numbers and values.



This graph reflects the returns on the notes based on the Participation Rate of 300% and a Capped Value of \$12.00 per unit (the midpoint of the Capped Value range of [\$11.80 to \$12.20]). The green line reflects the returns on the notes, while the dotted gray line reflects the returns of a direct investment in the stocks included in the Index, excluding dividends.

This graph has been prepared for purposes of illustration only.

The following table and examples are for purposes of illustration only. They are based on **hypothetical** values and show **hypothetical** returns on the notes. They illustrate the calculation of the Redemption Amount and total rate of return based on a hypothetical Starting Value of 100, the Participation Rate of 300%, a Capped Value of \$12.00 per unit and a range of hypothetical Ending Values. **The actual amount you receive and the resulting total rate of return will depend on the actual Starting Value, Capped Value, Ending Value, and whether you hold the notes to maturity.** 

The following examples do not take into account any tax consequences from investing in the notes.

For recent actual levels of the Market Measure, see "The Index" section below. The Index is a price return index and as such the Ending Value will not include any income generated by dividends paid on the stocks included in the Index, which you would otherwise be entitled to receive if you invested in those stocks directly. In addition, all payments on the notes are subject to issuer credit risk.

Ending Value	Percentage Change from the Starting Value to the Ending Value	Redemption Amount per Unit	Total Rate of Return on the Notes
0.00	-100.00%	\$0.00	-100.00%
50.00	-50.00%	\$5.00	-50.00%
80.00	-20.00%	\$8.00	-20.00%
90.00	-10.00%	\$9.00	-10.00%
97.00	-3.00%	\$9.70	-3.00%
100.00 <sup>(1)</sup>	0.00%	\$10.00	0.00%
102.00	2.00%	\$10.60	6.00%
103.00	3.00%	\$10.90	9.00%
105.00	5.00%	\$11.50	15.00%
110.00	10.00%	\$12.00 <sup>(2)</sup>	20.00%
120.00	20.00%	\$12.00	20.00%
130.00	30.00%	\$12.00	20.00%
140.00	40.00%	\$12.00	20.00%
150.00	50.00%	\$12.00	20.00%
160.00	60.00%	\$12.00	20.00%

<sup>(1)</sup> The **hypothetical** Starting Value of 100 used in these examples has been chosen for illustrative purposes only, and does not represent a likely actual Starting Value for the Market Measure. The actual Starting Value will be determined after the expiration of the Starting Value Determination Period.

(2) The Redemption Amount per unit cannot exceed the hypothetical Capped Value.



## **Redemption Amount Calculation Examples**

# Example 1

The Ending Value is 80.00, or 80.00% of the Starting Value:

Starting Value: 100.00 Ending Value: 80.00

 $$10 \times \left(\frac{80}{100}\right)$  = **\$8.00** Redemption Amount per unit

# Example 2

The Ending Value is 103.00, or 103.00% of the Starting Value:

Starting Value: 100.00 Ending Value: 103.00

 $10 + \left[10 \times 300\% \times \left(\frac{103-100}{100}\right)\right] = 10.90$  Redemption Amount per unit

## Example 3

The Ending Value is 130.00, or 130.00% of the Starting Value:

Starting Value: 100.00 Ending Value: 130.00

 $10 + \left[10 \times 300\% \times \left(\frac{130-100}{100}\right)\right]$  = \$19.00, however, because the Redemption Amount for the notes cannot exceed the Capped Value, the Redemption Amount will be \$12.00 per unit



# Risk Factors

There are important differences between the notes and a conventional debt security. An investment in the notes involves significant risks, including those listed below. You should carefully review the more detailed explanation of risks relating to the notes in the "Risk Factors" sections beginning on page PS-6 of product supplement EQUITY INDICES ARN-1, page S-1 of the prospectus supplement, and page 1 of the prospectus identified above. We also urge you to consult your investment, legal, tax, accounting, and other advisors before you invest in the notes.

- Depending on the performance of the Index as measured shortly before the maturity date, your investment may result in a loss; there is no guaranteed return of principal.
- Your return on the notes may be less than the yield you could earn by owning a conventional fixed or floating rate debt security
  of comparable maturity.
- Your investment return is limited to the return represented by the Capped Value and may be less than a comparable
  investment directly in the stocks included in the Index.
- Payments on the notes are subject to our credit risk, and actual or perceived changes in our creditworthiness are expected to affect the value of the notes. If we become insolvent or are unable to pay our obligations, you may lose your entire investment.
- Our initial estimated value of the notes will be lower than the public offering price of the notes. The public offering price of the notes will exceed our initial estimated value because costs associated with selling and structuring the notes, as well as hedging the notes, all as further described in "Structuring the Notes" on page TS-12, are included in the public offering price of the notes.
- Our initial estimated value does not represent future values of the notes and may differ from others' estimates. Our initial estimated value is only an estimate, which will be determined by reference to our internal pricing models when the terms of the notes are set. This estimated value will be based on market conditions and other relevant factors existing at that time, our internal funding rate on the pricing date and our assumptions about market parameters, which can include volatility, dividend rates, interest rates and other factors. Different pricing models and assumptions could provide valuations for the notes that are greater or less than our initial estimated value. In addition, market conditions and other relevant factors in the future may change, and any assumptions may prove to be incorrect. On future dates, the market value of the notes could change significantly based on, among other things, changes in market conditions, including the value of the Market Measure, our creditworthiness, interest rate movements and other relevant factors, which may impact the price at which we or any agents would be willing to buy notes from you in any secondary market transactions. Our estimated value does not represent a minimum price at which we or our agents would be willing to buy your notes in any secondary market (if any exists) at any time.
- Our initial estimated value of the notes will not be determined by reference to credit spreads for our conventional fixed-rate debt. The internal funding rate to be used in the determination of our initial estimated value of the notes generally represents a discount from the credit spreads for our conventional fixed-rate debt. The discount is based on, among other things, our view of the funding value of the notes as well as the higher issuance, operational and ongoing liability management costs of the notes in comparison to those costs for our conventional fixed-rate debt. If we were to use the interest rate implied by our conventional fixed-rate debt, we would expect the economic terms of the notes to be more favorable to you. Consequently, our use of an internal funding rate for market-linked notes would have an adverse effect on the economic terms of the notes, the initial estimated value of the notes on the pricing date, and any secondary market prices of the notes.
- A trading market is not expected to develop for the notes. Neither we nor MLPF&S is obligated to make a market for, or to repurchase, the notes. There is no assurance that any party will be willing to purchase your notes at any price in any secondary market.
- Our business, hedging, and trading activities, and those of MLPF&S and our respective affiliates (including trades in shares of
  companies included in the Index), and any hedging and trading activities we, MLPF&S or our respective affiliates engage in for
  our clients' accounts, may affect the market value and return of the notes and may create conflicts of interest with you.
- The Index sponsor may adjust the Index in a way that affects its level, and has no obligation to consider your interests.
- You will have no rights of a holder of the securities represented by the Index, and you will not be entitled to receive securities or dividends or other distributions by the issuers of those securities.
- While we, MLPF&S or our respective affiliates may from time to time own securities of companies included in the Index, except to the extent that the common stock of Bank of America Corporation (the parent company of MLPF&S) is included in the Index, we, MLPF&S and our respective affiliates do not control any company included in the Index, and have not verified any disclosure made by any other company.
- There may be potential conflicts of interest involving the calculation agent, which is MLPF&S. We have the right to appoint and remove the calculation agent.
- The U.S. federal income tax consequences of the notes are uncertain, and may be adverse to a holder of the notes. See "Summary of U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences" below and "U.S. Federal Income Tax Summary" beginning on page PS-30 of product supplement EQUITY INDICES ARN-1. For a discussion of the Canadian federal income tax consequences of investing in the notes, see "Certain Income Tax Consequences—Certain Canadian Income Tax Considerations" in the prospectus supplement dated April 30, 2015, as supplemented by the discussion under "Summary of Canadian Federal Income Tax Considerations" herein.



# Additional Risk Factors

### The Starting Value will be determined after the pricing date of the notes.

The Starting Value of the Market Measure will be determined based on the lowest closing level of the Index during the Starting Value Determination Period. The Starting Value Determination Period will, as described above, end on a day that is approximately one month after the pricing date for the notes. As a result, the Starting Value will not be determined, and neither you nor we (nor MLPF&S or any of our respective affiliates) can be certain of what the Starting Value will be, until after the pricing date and the settlement date of the notes.

# Other Terms of the Notes

#### Occurrence of a Market Disruption Event during the Starting Value Determination Period

If a Market Disruption Event occurs on any Market Measure Business Day during the Starting Value Determination Period (any such day being a "Market Disruption Day"), the calculation agent will establish the closing level of the Index for such Market Disruption Day as follows:

- The closing level of the Index for the applicable Market Disruption Day will be disregarded, except as set forth below.
- Notwithstanding the foregoing, if a Market Disruption Event occurs for three or more consecutive scheduled Market Measure Business Days during the Starting Value Determination Period, then, on the second Market Measure Business Day on which no Market Disruption Event occurs following such Market Disruption Days, the closing level of the Index for each such Market Disruption Day will be determined (or, if not determinable, estimated) by the calculation agent in a manner which the calculation agent considers commercially reasonable under the circumstances.
- If a Market Disruption Event occurs on the final date of the Starting Value Determination Period, then the closing level of the Index for that day will be the closing level of the Index on the first scheduled Market Measure Business Day thereafter on which no Market Disruption Event occurs or is continuing. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if a Market Disruption Event occurs on the final date of the Starting Value Determination Period and on the first two scheduled Market Measure Business Days thereafter, the calculation agent will determine or, if not determinable, estimate the closing level of the Index as of that final date on the second scheduled Market Measure Business Day after that final date.



# The Index

All disclosures contained in this term sheet regarding the Index, including, without limitation, its make up, method of calculation, and changes in its components, have been derived from publicly available sources. The information reflects the policies of, and is subject to change by, S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC (the "Index sponsor" or "S&P"). The Index sponsor, which licenses the copyright and all other rights to the Index, has no obligation to continue to publish, and may discontinue publication of, the Index. The consequences of the Index sponsor discontinuing publication of the Index are discussed in the section entitled "Description of ARNs—Discontinuance of an Index" on page PS-19 of product supplement EQUITY INDICES ARN-1. None of us, the calculation agent, or MLPF&S accepts any responsibility for the calculation, maintenance or publication of the Index or any successor index.

#### General

The Index is intended to provide an indication of the pattern of common stock price movement. The calculation of the level of the Index is based on the relative value of the aggregate market value of the common stocks of 500 companies as of a particular time compared to the aggregate average market value of the common stocks of 500 similar companies during the base period of the years 1941 through 1943.

S&P chooses companies for inclusion in the Index with the aim of achieving a distribution by broad industry groupings that approximates the distribution of these groupings in the common stock population of its Stock Guide Database of over 10,000 companies, which S&P uses as an assumed model for the composition of the total market. Relevant criteria employed by S&P include the viability of the particular company, the extent to which that company represents the industry group to which it is assigned, the extent to which the market price of that company's common stock generally is responsive to changes in the affairs of the respective industry and the market value and trading activity of the common stock of that company. Ten main groups of companies constitute the Index, with the approximate percentage of the market capitalization of the Index included in each group as of January 29, 2016 indicated in parentheses: Consumer Discretionary (12.9%); Consumer Staples (10.6%); Energy (6.6%); Financials (15.9%); Health Care (14.7%); Industrials (10.0%); Information Technology (20.7%); Materials (2.6%); Telecommunication Services (2.7%); and Utilities (3.3%). S&P may from time to time, in its sole discretion, add companies to, or delete companies from, the Index to achieve the objectives stated above.

S&P calculates the Index by reference to the prices of the constituent stocks of the Index without taking account of the value of dividends paid on those stocks. As a result, the return on the notes will not reflect the return you would realize if you actually owned the Index constituent stocks and received the dividends paid on those stocks.

## Computation of the Index

Historically, the market value of any component stock of the Index was calculated as the product of the market price per share and the number of then outstanding shares of such component stock. In March 2005, S&P began shifting the Index halfway from a market capitalization weighted formula to a float-adjusted formula, before moving the Index to full float adjustment on September 16, 2005. S&P's criteria for selecting stocks for the Index did not change with the shift to float adjustment. However, the adjustment affects each company's weight in the Index.

Under float adjustment, the share counts used in calculating the Index reflect only those shares that are available to investors, not all of a company's outstanding shares. Float adjustment excludes shares that are closely held by control groups, other publicly traded companies or government agencies.

In September 2012, all shareholdings representing more than 5% of a stock's outstanding shares, other than holdings by "block owners," were removed from the float for purposes of calculating the Index. Generally, these "control holders" will include officers and directors, private equity, venture capital and special equity firms, other publicly traded companies that hold shares for control, strategic partners, holders of restricted shares, ESOPs, employee and family trusts, foundations associated with the company, holders of unlisted share classes of stock, government entities at all levels (other than government retirement/pension funds) and any individual person who controls a 5% or greater stake in a company as reported in regulatory filings. However, holdings by block owners, such as depositary banks, pension funds, mutual funds and ETF providers, 401(k) plans of the company, government retirement/pension funds, investment funds of insurance companies, asset managers and investment funds, independent foundations and savings and investment plans, will ordinarily be considered part of the float.

Treasury stock, stock options, restricted shares, equity participation units, warrants, preferred stock, convertible stock, and rights are not part of the float. Shares held in a trust to allow investors in countries outside the country of domicile, such as depositary shares and Canadian exchangeable shares are normally part of the float unless those shares form a control block. If a company has multiple classes of stock outstanding, shares in an unlisted or non-traded class are treated as a control block.

For each stock, an investable weight factor ("IWF") is calculated by dividing the available float shares, by the total shares outstanding. As of September 21, 2012, available float shares are defined as the total shares outstanding less shares held by control holders. This calculation is subject to a 5% minimum threshold for control blocks. For example, if a company's officers and directors hold 3% of the company's shares, and no other control group holds 5% of the company's shares, S&P would assign that company an IWF of 1.00, as no control group meets the 5% threshold. However, if a company's officers and directors hold 3% of the company's shares and another control group holds 20% of the company's shares, S&P would assign an IWF of 0.77, reflecting the fact that 23% of the company's outstanding shares are considered to be held for control. For companies with multiple classes of stock, S&P calculates the weighted average IWF for each stock using the proportion of the total company market capitalization of each share class as weights.



The Index is calculated using a base-weighted aggregate methodology. The level of the Index reflects the total market value of all 500 component stocks relative to the base period of the years 1941 through 1943. An indexed number is used to represent the results of this calculation in order to make the level easier to work with and track over time. The actual total market value of the component stocks during the base period of the years 1941 through 1943 has been set to an indexed level of 10. This is often indicated by the notation 1941- 43 = 10. In practice, the daily calculation of the Index is computed by dividing the total market value of the component stocks by the "index divisor." By itself, the index divisor is an arbitrary number. However, in the context of the calculation of the Index, it serves as a link to the original base period level of the Index. The index divisor keeps the Index comparable over time and is the manipulation point for all adjustments to the Index, which is index maintenance.

#### **Index Maintenance**

Index maintenance includes monitoring and completing the adjustments for company additions and deletions, share changes, stock splits, stock dividends and stock price adjustments due to company restructuring or spinoffs. Some corporate actions, such as stock splits and stock dividends require changes in the common shares outstanding and the stock prices of the companies in the Index, and do not require index divisor adjustments.

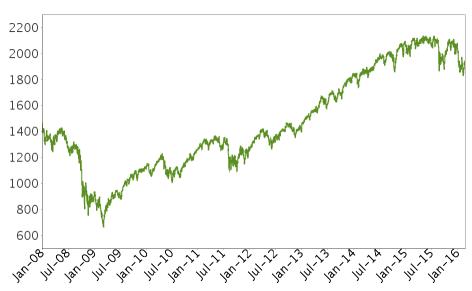
To prevent the level of the Index from changing due to corporate actions, corporate actions which affect the total market value of the Index require an index divisor adjustment. By adjusting the index divisor for the change in market value, the level of the Index remains constant and does not reflect the corporate actions of individual companies in the Index. Index divisor adjustments are made after the close of trading and after the calculation of the Index closing level.

Changes in a company's shares outstanding of 5.00% or more due to mergers, acquisitions, public offerings, tender offers, Dutch auctions, or exchange offers are made as soon as reasonably possible. All other changes of 5.00% or more (due to, for example, company stock repurchases, private placements, redemptions, exercise of options, warrants, conversion of preferred stock, notes, debt, equity participation units, at-the-market offerings or other recapitalizations) are made weekly, and are announced on Fridays for implementation after the close of trading on the following Friday. Changes of less than 5.00% due to a company's acquisition of another company in the Index are made as soon as reasonably possible. All other changes of less than 5.00% are accumulated and made quarterly on the third Friday of March, June, September, and December, and are usually announced two to five days prior.

Changes in IWFs of more than five percentage points caused by corporate actions (such as merger and acquisition activity, restructurings, or spinoffs) will be made as soon as reasonably possible. Other changes in IWFs will be made annually when IWFs are reviewed.

The following graph shows the daily historical performance of the Index in the period from January 1, 2008 through February 22, 2016. We obtained this historical data from Bloomberg L.P. We have not independently verified the accuracy or completeness of the information obtained from Bloomberg L.P. On February 22, 2016, the closing level of the Index was 1,945.50.

# Historical Performance of the Index



This historical data on the Index is not necessarily indicative of the future performance of the Index or what the value of the notes may be. Any historical upward or downward trend in the level of the Index during any period set forth above is not an indication that the level of the Index is more or less likely to increase or decrease at any time over the term of the notes.

Before investing in the notes, you should consult publicly available sources for the levels of the Index.

#### License Agreement



We and S&P have entered into a non-transferable, non-exclusive license agreement providing for the sublicense to us, in exchange for a fee, of the right to use the Index in connection with the issuance of the notes.

The license agreement between us and S&P provides that the following language must be stated in this document:

The Index is a product of S&P, and has been licensed for use by us. Standard & Poor's®, S&P® and S&P 500® are registered trademarks of Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC; and these trademarks have been licensed for use by S&P and sublicensed for certain purposes by us. The notes are not sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by S&P, Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC, any of their respective affiliates (collectively, "S&P Dow Jones Indices"). S&P Dow Jones Indices make no representation or warranty, express or implied, to the holders of the notes or any member of the public regarding the advisability of investing in securities generally or in the notes particularly or the ability of the Index to track general market performance. S&P Dow Jones Indices' only relationship to us with respect to the Index is the licensing of the Index and certain trademarks, service marks and/or trade names of S&P Dow Jones Indices or its licensors. The Index is determined, composed and calculated by S&P Dow Jones Indices without regard to us or the notes. S&P Dow Jones Indices have no obligation to take our needs or the needs of holders of the notes into consideration in determining, composing or calculating the Index. S&P Dow Jones Indices are not responsible for and have not participated in the determination of the prices, and amount of the notes or the timing of the issuance or sale of the notes or in the determination or calculation of the equation by which the notes are to be converted into cash, surrendered or redeemed, as the case may be. S&P Dow Jones Indices have no obligation or liability in connection with the administration, marketing or trading of the notes. There is no assurance that investment products based on the Index will accurately track index performance or provide positive investment returns. S&P is not an investment advisor. Inclusion of a security within an index is not a recommendation by S&P Dow Jones Indices to buy, sell, or hold such security, nor is it considered to be investment advice. Notwithstanding the foregoing, CME Group Inc. and its affiliates may independently issue and/or sponsor financial products unrelated to the notes currently being issued by us, but which may be similar to and competitive with the notes. In addition, CME Group Inc. and its affiliates may trade financial products which are linked to the performance of the Index.

S&P DOW JONES INDICES DO NOT GUARANTEE THE ADEQUACY, ACCURACY, TIMELINESS AND/OR THE COMPLETENESS OF THE INDEX OR ANY DATA RELATED THERETO OR ANY COMMUNICATION, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ORAL OR WRITTEN COMMUNICATION (INCLUDING ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS) WITH RESPECT THERETO. S&P DOW JONES INDICES SHALL NOT BE SUBJECT TO ANY DAMAGES OR LIABILITY FOR ANY ERRORS, OMISSIONS, OR DELAYS THEREIN. S&P DOW JONES INDICES MAKE NO EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES, AND EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS ALL WARRANTIES, OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR USE OR AS TO RESULTS TO BE OBTAINED BY US, HOLDERS OF THE NOTES, OR ANY OTHER PERSON OR ENTITY FROM THE USE OF THE INDEX OR WITH RESPECT TO ANY DATA RELATED THERETO. WITHOUT LIMITING ANY OF THE FOREGOING, IN NO EVENT WHATSOEVER SHALL S&P DOW JONES INDICES BE LIABLE FOR ANY INDIRECT, SPECIAL, INCIDENTAL, PUNITIVE, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, LOSS OF PROFITS, TRADING LOSSES, LOST TIME OR GOODWILL, EVEN IF THEY HAVE BEEN ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGES, WHETHER IN CONTRACT, TORT, STRICT LIABILITY, OR OTHERWISE. THERE ARE NO THIRD PARTY BENEFICIARIES OF ANY AGREEMENTS OR ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN S&P DOW JONES INDICES AND US, OTHER THAN THE LICENSORS OF S&P DOW JONES INDICES.



# Supplement to the Plan of Distribution

Under our distribution agreement with MLPF&S, MLPF&S will purchase the notes from us as principal at the public offering price indicated on the cover of this term sheet, less the indicated underwriting discount.

We may deliver the notes against payment therefor in New York, New York on a date that is greater than three business days following the pricing date. Under Rule 15c6-1 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, trades in the secondary market generally are required to settle in three business days, unless the parties to any such trade expressly agree otherwise. Accordingly, if the initial settlement of the notes occurs more than three business days from the pricing date, purchasers who wish to trade the notes more than three business days prior to the original issue date will be required to specify alternative settlement arrangements to prevent a failed settlement.

The notes will not be listed on any securities exchange. In the original offering of the notes, the notes will be sold in minimum investment amounts of 100 units. If you place an order to purchase the notes, you are consenting to MLPF&S acting as a principal in effecting the transaction for your account.

MLPF&S may repurchase and resell the notes, with repurchases and resales being made at prices related to then-prevailing market prices or at negotiated prices, and these prices will include MLPF&S's trading commissions and mark-ups. MLPF&S may act as principal or agent in these market-making transactions; however, it is not obligated to engage in any such transactions. At MLPF&S's discretion, for a short, undetermined initial period after the issuance of the notes, MLPF&S may offer to buy the notes in the secondary market at a price that may exceed the initial estimated value of the notes. Any price offered by MLPF&S for the notes will be based on then-prevailing market conditions and other considerations, including the performance of the Index and the remaining term of the notes. However, none of us, MLPF&S, or any of our respective affiliates is obligated to purchase your notes at any price or at any time, and we cannot assure you that we, MLPF&S or any of our respective affiliates will purchase your notes at a price that equals or exceeds the initial estimated value of the notes.

The value of the notes shown on your account statement will be based on MLPF&S's estimate of the value of the notes if MLPF&S or another of its affiliates were to make a market in the notes, which it is not obligated to do. That estimate will be based upon the price that MLPF&S may pay for the notes in light of then-prevailing market conditions, and other considerations, as mentioned above, and will include transaction costs. At certain times, this price may be higher than or lower than the initial estimated value of the notes.

The distribution of the Note Prospectus in connection with these offers or sales will be solely for the purpose of providing investors with the description of the terms of the notes that was made available to investors in connection with their initial offering. Secondary market investors should not, and will not be authorized to, rely on the Note Prospectus for information regarding CIBC or for any purpose other than that described in the immediately preceding sentence.

An investor's household, as referenced on the cover of this term sheet, will generally include accounts held by any of the following, as determined by MLPF&S in its discretion and acting in good faith based upon information then available to MLPF&S:

- the investor's spouse (including a domestic partner), siblings, parents, grandparents, spouse's parents, children and
  grandchildren, but excluding accounts held by aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews or any other family relationship not
  directly above or below the individual investor;
- a family investment vehicle, including foundations, limited partnerships and personal holding companies, but only if the beneficial owners of the vehicle consist solely of the investor or members of the investor's household as described above; and
- a trust where the grantors and/or beneficiaries of the trust consist solely of the investor or members of the investor's
  household as described above; provided that, purchases of the notes by a trust generally cannot be aggregated together
  with any purchases made by a trustee's personal account.

Purchases in retirement accounts will not be considered part of the same household as an individual investor's personal or other non-retirement account, except for individual retirement accounts ("IRAs"), simplified employee pension plans ("SEPs"), savings incentive match plan for employees ("SIMPLEs"), and single-participant or owners only accounts (i.e., retirement accounts held by self-employed individuals, business owners or partners with no employees other than their spouses).

Please contact your Merrill Lynch financial advisor if you have any questions about the application of these provisions to your specific circumstances or think you are eligible.



# Structuring the Notes

The notes are our debt securities, the return on which is linked to the performance of the Index. As is the case for all of our debt securities, including our market-linked notes, the economic terms of the notes reflect our actual or perceived creditworthiness at the time of pricing. The internal funding rate we use in pricing the market-linked notes is typically lower than the rate we would pay when we issue conventional fixed-rate debt securities of comparable maturity. This difference is based on, among other things, our view of the funding value of the notes as well as the higher issuance, operational and ongoing liability management costs of the notes in comparison to those costs for our conventional fixed-rate debt. This generally relatively lower internal funding rate, which is reflected in the economic terms of the notes, along with the fees and charges associated with market-linked notes, typically results in the initial estimated value of the notes on the pricing date being less than their public offering price.

At maturity, we are required to pay the Redemption Amount to holders of the notes, which will be calculated based on the performance of the Index and the \$10 per unit principal amount. In order to meet these payment obligations, at the time we issue the notes, we may choose to enter into certain hedging arrangements (which may include call options, put options or other derivatives) with MLPF&S or one of its affiliates. The terms of these hedging arrangements are determined by seeking bids from market participants, including MLPF&S and its affiliates, and take into account a number of factors, including our creditworthiness, interest rate movements, the volatility of the Index, the tenor of the notes and the tenor of the hedging arrangements. The economic terms of the notes and their initial estimated value depend in part on the terms of these hedging arrangements.

MLPF&S has advised us that the hedging arrangements will include a hedging related charge of approximately \$0.075 per unit, reflecting an estimated profit to be credited to MLPF&S from these transactions. Since hedging entails risk and may be influenced by unpredictable market forces, additional profits and losses from these hedging arrangements may be realized by MLPF&S or any third party hedge providers.

For further information, see "Risk Factors—General Risks Relating to ARNs" beginning on page PS-6 and "Use of Proceeds and Hedging" on page PS-15 of product supplement EQUITY INDICES ARN-1.



# Summary of Canadian Federal Income Tax Considerations

In the opinion of Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, our Canadian tax counsel, the following summary describes the principal Canadian federal income tax considerations under the Income Tax Act (Canada) (the "Canadian Tax Act") generally applicable at the date hereof to a purchaser who acquires beneficial ownership of a note pursuant to this term sheet and who for the purposes of the Canadian Tax Act and the regulations thereto and at all relevant times: (a) is neither resident nor deemed to be resident in Canada; (b) deals at arm's length with CIBC and any transferee resident (or deemed to be resident) in Canada to whom the purchaser disposes of the note; (c) does not use or hold and is not deemed to use or hold the note in, or in the course of, carrying on a business in Canada; (d) is entitled to receive all payments (including any interest and principal) made on the note, and (e) is not a, and deals at arm's length with any, "specified shareholder" of CIBC for purposes of the thin capitalization rules in the Canadian Tax Act (a "Non-Resident Holder"). A "specified shareholder" for these purposes generally includes a person who (either alone or together with persons with whom that person is not dealing at arm's length for the purposes of the Canadian Tax Act) owns or has the right to acquire or control or is otherwise deemed to own 25% or more of CIBC's shares determined on a votes or fair market value basis. Special rules which apply to non-resident insurers carrying on business in Canada and elsewhere are not discussed in this summary.

This summary is supplemental to and should be read together with the description of material Canadian federal income tax considerations relevant to a Non-Resident Holder owning notes under "Certain Income Tax Consequences—Certain Canadian Income Tax Considerations" in the accompanying prospectus supplement and a Non-Resident Holder should carefully read that description as well.

Based on Canadian tax counsel's understanding of the Canada Revenue Agency's administrative polices and having regard to the terms of the notes, interest payable on the notes should not be considered to be "participating debt interest" as defined in the Canadian Tax Act and accordingly, a Non-Resident Holder should not be subject to Canadian non-resident withholding tax in respect of amounts paid or credited or deemed to have been paid or credited by CIBC on a note as, on account of or in lieu of payment of, or in satisfaction of, interest.

Non-Resident Holders should consult their own tax advisors regarding the consequences to them of a disposition of the notes to a person with whom they are not dealing at arm's length for purposes of the Canadian Tax Act.

# Summary of U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences

The following discussion is a brief summary of the material U.S. federal income consequences relating to an investment in the notes. The following summary is not complete and is both qualified and supplemented by, or in some cases supplements, the discussion entitled "U.S. Federal Income Tax Summary" beginning on page PS-30 of product supplement EQUITY INDICES ARN-1, which you should carefully review prior to investing the notes.

The U.S. federal income tax consequences of your investment in the notes are uncertain. No statutory, judicial or administrative authority directly discusses how the notes should be treated for U.S. federal income tax purposes. In the opinion of our tax counsel, Mayer Brown LLP, it would generally be reasonable to treat the notes as prepaid cash-settled derivative contracts. Pursuant to the terms of the notes, you agree to treat the notes in this manner for all U.S. federal income tax purposes. If your notes are so treated, you should generally recognize capital gain or loss upon the sale, exchange, redemption or payment on maturity in an amount equal to the difference between the amount you receive at such time and the amount that you paid for your notes. Such gain or loss should generally be long-term capital gain or loss if you have held your notes for more than one year.

The characterization described above is not binding on the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS") or the courts. Thus, it is possible that the IRS would seek to characterize your notes in a manner that results in tax consequences to you that are different from those described above or in the accompanying product supplement. For a more detailed discussion of certain alternative characterizations with respect to your notes and certain other considerations with respect to your investment in the notes, you should consider the discussion set forth in "U.S. Federal Income Tax Summary" of the product supplement. We are not responsible for any adverse consequences that you may experience as a result of any alternative characterization of the notes for U.S. federal income tax or other tax purposes.

Regarding, the discussion in the product supplement EQUITY INDICES ARN-1 with respect to a dividend equivalent payment made with respect to a U.S. stock or equity-linked debt instrument under the section entitled Non-U.S. Holders, we believe that the notes should be treated as an equity-linked instrument and since it is issued prior to 2016, it should be exempt from the withholding tax rules specified for dividend equivalents.

You should consult your tax advisor as to the tax consequences of such characterization and any possible alternative characterizations of the notes for U.S. federal income tax purposes. You should also consult your tax advisor concerning the U.S. federal income tax and other tax consequences of your investment in the notes in your particular circumstances, including the application of state, local or other tax laws and the possible effects of changes in federal or other tax laws.



# Where You Can Find More Information

We have filed a registration statement (including a product supplement, a prospectus supplement, and a prospectus) with the SEC for the offering to which this term sheet relates. Before you invest, you should read the Note Prospectus, including this term sheet, and the other documents that we have filed with the SEC, for more complete information about us and this offering. You may get these documents without cost by visiting EDGAR on the SEC website at www.sec.gov. Alternatively, we, any agent, or any dealer participating in this offering will arrange to send you these documents if you so request by calling MLPF&S toll-free at 1-800-294-1322.

# Market-Linked Investments Classification



MLPF&S classifies certain market-linked investments (the "Market-Linked Investments") into categories, each with different investment characteristics. The following description is meant solely for informational purposes and is not intended to represent any particular Enhanced Return Market-Linked Investment or quarantee any performance.

Enhanced Return Market-Linked Investments are short- to medium-term investments that offer you a way to enhance exposure to a particular market view without taking on a similarly enhanced level of market downside risk. They can be especially effective in a flat to moderately positive market (or, in the case of bearish investments, a flat to moderately negative market). In exchange for the potential to receive better-than market returns on the linked asset, you must generally accept market downside risk and capped upside potential. As these investments are not market downside protected, and do not assure full repayment of principal at maturity, you need to be prepared for the possibility that you may lose all or part of your investment.

"Accelerated Return Notes®" and "ARNs®" are registered service marks of Bank of America Corporation, the parent company of MLPF&S.

Product Supplement No. EQUITY INDICES ARN-1 (To Prospectus dated April 30, 2015 and Prospectus Supplement dated April 30, 2015) September 28, 2015



## Accelerated Return Notes® "ARNs®" Linked to One or More Equity Indices

- ARNs are unsecured senior notes issued by Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce. Any payments due on ARNs, including any repayment of principal, will be subject to the credit risk of Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce.
- ARNs do not guarantee the return of principal at maturity, and we will not pay interest on ARNs.
   Instead, the return on ARNs will be based on the performance of an underlying "Market Measure," which will be an equity index or a basket of equity indices.
- ARNs provide an opportunity to earn a multiple (which will be 3 times, unless otherwise set forth in the applicable term sheet) of the positive performance of the Market Measure up to a specified cap ("Capped Value"), while exposing you to any negative performance of the Market Measure on a 1-to-1 basis.
- If the value of the Market Measure increases from its Starting Value to its Ending Value (each as defined below), you will receive at maturity a cash payment per unit (the "**Redemption Amount**") that equals the principal amount plus a multiple of that increase, up to the Capped Value.
- If the value of the Market Measure decreases from its Starting Value to its Ending Value, you will be subject to 1-to-1 downside exposure to that decrease. In such a case, you will lose all or a portion of the principal amount of your ARNs.
- This product supplement describes the general terms of ARNs, the risk factors to consider before investing, the general manner in which they may be offered and sold, and other relevant information.
- For each offering of ARNs, we will provide you with a pricing supplement (which we refer to as a "term sheet") that will describe the specific terms of that offering, including the specific Market Measure, the Capped Value, and certain related risk factors. The term sheet will identify, if applicable, any additions or changes to the terms specified in this product supplement.
- ARNs will be issued in denominations of whole units. Unless otherwise set forth in the applicable term sheet, each unit will have a principal amount of \$10. The term sheet may also set forth a minimum number of units that you must purchase.
- Unless otherwise specified in the applicable term sheet, ARNs will not be listed on a securities exchange or quotation system.
- Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated ("**MLPF&S**") and one or more of its affiliates may act as our agents to offer ARNs and will act in a principal capacity in such role.

ARNs are unsecured and are not savings accounts or insured deposits of a bank. ARNs are not insured by the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation, the U.S. Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (the "FDIC") or any other governmental agency of the United States, Canada, or any other jurisdiction. Potential purchasers of ARNs should consider the information in "Risk Factors" beginning on page PS-7 of this product supplement, page S-1 of the accompanying prospectus supplement, and page 1 of the accompanying prospectus. You may lose all or a significant portion of your investment in ARNs. None of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), any state securities commission, or any other regulatory body has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this product supplement, the prospectus supplement, or the prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

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ARNs $^{\circledR}$  and "Accelerated Return Notes $^{\circledR}$ " are registered service marks of Bank of America Corporation, the parent corporation of MLPF&S.

#### **SUMMARY**

The information in this "Summary" section is qualified in its entirety by the more detailed explanation set forth elsewhere in this product supplement, the prospectus supplement, and the prospectus, as well as the applicable term sheet. Neither we nor MLPF&S have authorized any other person to provide you with any information different from the information set forth in these documents. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information about the ARNs, you should not rely on it

## **Key Terms:**

#### General:

ARNs are senior unsecured debt securities issued by Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, and are not guaranteed or insured by the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation or the FDIC, and are not, either directly or indirectly, an obligation of any third party. They rank equally with all of our other unsecured senior debt from time to time outstanding. Any payments due on ARNs, including any repayment of principal, will be subject to our credit risk.

The return on ARNs will be based on the performance of a Market Measure and there is no guaranteed return of principal at maturity. Therefore, you will lose all or a portion of your investment if the value of the Market Measure decreases from the Starting Value to the Ending Value.

Each issue of ARNs will mature on the date set forth in the applicable term sheet. We cannot redeem ARNs at any earlier date. We will not make any payments on ARNs until maturity, and you will not receive any interest payments.

## Market Measure:

The Market Measure may consist of one or more of the following:

- U.S. broad-based equity indices;
- U.S. sector or style-based equity indices;
- · non-U.S. or global equity indices; or
- any combination of the above.

The Market Measure may consist of a group, or "Basket," of the foregoing. We refer to each equity index included in any Basket as a "Basket Component." If the Market Measure to which your ARNs are linked is a Basket, the Basket Components will be set forth in the applicable term sheet.

## Market Measure Performance:

The performance of the Market Measure will be measured according to the percentage change of the Market Measure from its Starting Value to its Ending Value.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable term sheet:

The "Starting Value" will equal the closing level of the Market Measure on the date when the ARNs are priced for initial sale to the public (the "pricing date").

If the Market Measure consists of a Basket, the Starting Value will be equal to 100. See "Description of ARNs—Basket Market Measures."

The "Ending Value" will equal the average of the closing levels of the Market Measure on each calculation day during the Maturity Valuation Period (each as defined below).

If the Market Measure consists of a Basket, the Ending Value will be determined as described in "Description of ARNs—Basket Market Measures—Ending Value of the

Basket."

If a Market Disruption Event (as defined below) occurs and is continuing on a calculation day, or if certain other events occur, the calculation agent will determine the Ending Value as set forth in the section "Description of ARNs—The Starting Value and the Ending Value—Ending Value."

Participation Rate:

The rate at which investors participate in any increase in the value of the Market Measure, as calculated below. The Participation Rate will be 300% for ARNs, unless otherwise set forth in the applicable term sheet.

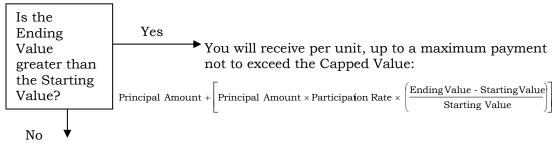
Capped Value:

The maximum Redemption Amount. Your investment return is limited to the return represented by the Capped Value specified in the applicable term sheet. We will determine the applicable Capped Value on the pricing date of each issue of ARNs.

Redemption Amount at Maturity: At maturity, you will receive a Redemption Amount that is greater than the principal amount if the value of the Market Measure increases from the Starting Value to the Ending Value. However, in no event will the Redemption Amount exceed the Capped Value. If the value of the Market Measure decreases from the Starting Value to the Ending Value, you will be subject to 1-to-1 downside exposure to that decrease, and you will receive a Redemption Amount that is less than the principal amount.

Any payments due on the ARNs, including any repayment of principal, are subject to our credit risk as issuer of ARNs.

The Redemption Amount, denominated in U.S. dollars, will be calculated as follows:



You will receive per unit: Principal Amount  $\times \left(\frac{\text{Ending Value}}{\text{Starting Value}}\right)$ 

Principal at Risk:

You may lose all or a significant portion of the principal amount of the ARNs. Further, if you sell your ARNs prior to maturity, the price you receive may be less than the price that you paid for the ARNs.

Calculation Agent:

The calculation agent will make all determinations associated with the ARNs. Unless otherwise set forth in the applicable term sheet, we will appoint MLPF&S or one of its affiliates to act as calculation agent for the ARNs. See the section entitled "Description of ARNs—Role of the Calculation Agent."

Agents:

MLPF&S and one or more of its affiliates will act as our agents in connection with each offering of ARNs and will receive an underwriting discount based on the number of units of ARNs sold. None of the agents is your fiduciary or advisor solely as a result of the making of any offering of ARNs, and you should not rely upon this product supplement, the term sheet, or the accompanying prospectus or prospectus supplement as investment advice or a recommendation to purchase ARNs.

Listing:

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable term sheet, the ARNs will not be listed on a securities exchange or quotation system.

This product supplement relates only to ARNs and does not relate to any equity index that composes the Market Measure described in any term sheet. You should read carefully the entire prospectus, prospectus supplement, and product supplement, together with the applicable term sheet, to understand fully the terms of your ARNs, as well as the tax and other considerations important to you in making a decision about whether to invest in any ARNs. In particular, you should review carefully the sections in this product supplement and the accompanying prospectus supplement and prospectus entitled "Risk Factors," which highlight a number of risks of an investment in ARNs, to determine whether an investment in ARNs is appropriate for you. Additional risk factors may be set forth in the applicable term sheet. If information in this product supplement is inconsistent with the prospectus or prospectus supplement, this product supplement will supersede those documents. However, if information in any term sheet is inconsistent with this product supplement, that term sheet will supersede this product supplement.

Neither we nor any agent is making an offer to sell ARNs in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

Certain capitalized terms used and not defined in this product supplement have the meanings ascribed to them in the prospectus supplement and prospectus. Unless otherwise indicated or unless the context requires otherwise, all references in this product supplement to "we," "us," "our," or similar references are to Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce.

You are urged to consult with your own attorneys and business and tax advisors before making a decision to purchase any ARNs.

#### **RISK FACTORS**

Your investment in ARNs is subject to investment risks, many of which differ from those of a conventional debt security. Your decision to purchase ARNs should be made only after carefully considering the risks, including those discussed below, in light of your particular circumstances. ARNs are not an appropriate investment for you if you are not knowledgeable about the material terms of ARNs or investments in equity or equity-based securities in general.

## General Risks Relating to ARNs

Your investment may result in a loss; there is no guaranteed return of principal. There is no fixed principal repayment amount on ARNs at maturity. The return on ARNs will be based on the performance of the Market Measure and therefore, you will lose all or a portion of your investment if the value of the Market Measure decreases from the Starting Value to the Ending Value. If the Ending Value is less than the Starting Value, then you will receive a Redemption Amount at maturity that will be less than the principal amount of your ARNs.

Your return on the ARNs may be less than the yield on a conventional fixed or floating rate debt security of comparable maturity. There will be no periodic interest payments on ARNs as there would be on a conventional fixed-rate or floating-rate debt security having the same maturity. Any return that you receive on ARNs may be less than the return you would earn if you purchased a conventional debt security with the same maturity date. As a result, your investment in ARNs may not reflect the full opportunity cost to you when you consider factors, such as inflation, that affect the time value of money.

Your investment return will be limited to the return represented by the Capped Value, and may be less than a comparable investment directly in the Market Measure. The appreciation potential of ARNs is limited to the Capped Value. You will not receive a Redemption Amount greater than the Capped Value, regardless of the appreciation of the Market Measure. In contrast, a direct investment in the Market Measure (or the securities included in the Market Measure) would allow you to receive the full benefit of any appreciation in the value of the Market Measure (or those underlying securities).

In addition, unless otherwise set forth in the applicable term sheet, the Ending Value will not reflect the value of dividends paid, or distributions made, on the securities included in the Market Measure or any other rights associated with those securities. Thus, any return on the ARNs will not reflect the return you would realize if you actually owned the securities underlying the Market Measure.

Additionally, the Market Measure may consist of one or more equity indices that include components traded in a non-U.S. currency. If the value of that currency strengthens against the U.S. dollar during the term of your ARNs, you may not obtain the benefit of that increase, which you would have received if you had owned the securities included in the index or indices.

Payments on ARNs are subject to our credit risk, and actual or perceived changes in our creditworthiness are expected to affect the value of ARNs. ARNs are our senior unsecured debt securities and are not, either directly or indirectly, an obligation of any third party. As a result, your receipt of the Redemption Amount at maturity is dependent upon our ability to repay our obligations on the maturity date, regardless of whether the Market Measure increases from the Starting Value to the Ending Value. No assurance can be given as to what our financial condition will be on the maturity date. If we become unable to meet our financial obligations as they become due, you may not receive the amounts payable under the terms of the ARNs.

In addition, our credit ratings are an assessment by ratings agencies of our ability to pay our obligations. Consequently, our perceived creditworthiness and actual or anticipated decreases in our credit ratings or increases in the spread between the yield on our securities and the yield on U.S. Treasury securities (the "**credit spread**") prior to the maturity date may adversely affect the market value of ARNs. However, because your return on ARNs depends upon factors in addition to our ability to pay our obligations, such as the value of the Market Measure, an improvement in our credit ratings will not reduce the other investment risks related to ARNs.

Our initial estimated value of the ARNs will be lower than the public offering price of the ARNs. The public offering price of the ARNs will exceed our initial estimated value because costs associated with selling and structuring the ARNs, as well as hedging the ARNs, are included in the public offering price of the ARNs.

Our initial estimated value does not represent future values of the ARNs and may differ from others' estimates. Our initial estimated value is only an estimate, which will be determined by reference to our internal pricing models when the terms of ARNs are set. This estimated value is based on market conditions and other relevant factors existing at that time, our internal funding rate on the pricing date and our assumptions about market parameters, which can include volatility, dividend rates, interest rates and other factors. Different pricing models and assumptions could provide valuations for ARNs that are greater or less than our initial estimated value. In addition, market conditions and other relevant factors in the future may change, and any assumptions may prove to be incorrect. On future dates, the market value of ARNs could change significantly based on, among other things, changes in market conditions, including the value of the Market Measure, our creditworthiness, interest rate movements and other relevant factors, which may impact the price at which we or any agents would be willing to buy ARNs from you in any secondary market transactions. Our estimated value does not represent a minimum price at which we or our agents would be willing to buy your ARNs in any secondary market (if any exists) at any time.

Our initial estimated value of the ARNs will not be determined by reference to credit spreads for our conventional fixed-rate debt. The internal funding rate to be used in the determination of our initial estimated value of the ARNs generally represents a discount from the credit spreads for our conventional fixed-rate debt. The discount is based on, among other things, our view of the funding value of the ARNs as well as the higher issuance, operational and ongoing liability management costs of the ARNs in comparison to those costs for our conventional fixed-rate debt. If we were to use the interest rate implied by our conventional fixed-rate debt, we would expect the economic terms of the ARNs to be more favorable to you. Consequently, our use of an internal funding rate for the ARNs would have an adverse effect on the economic terms of the ARNs, the initial estimated value of the ARNs on the pricing date and any secondary market prices of the ARNs.

We cannot assure you that there will be a trading market for your ARNs. If a secondary market exists, we cannot predict how the ARNs will trade, or whether that market will be liquid or illiquid. The development of a trading market for ARNs will depend on various factors, including our financial performance and changes in the value of the Market Measure. The number of potential buyers of your ARNs in any secondary market may be limited. There is no assurance that any party will be willing to purchase your ARNs at any price in any secondary market.

We anticipate that one or more of the agents will act as a market-maker for ARNs that it offers, but none of them is required to do so and may cease to do so at any time. Any price at which an agent may bid for, offer, purchase, or sell any ARNs may be higher or lower than the applicable public offering price, and that price may differ from the values determined by pricing models that it may use, whether as a result of dealer discounts, mark-ups, or other transaction

costs. These bids, offers, or transactions may affect the prices, if any, at which those ARNs might otherwise trade in the market. In addition, if at any time any agent were to cease acting as a market-maker for any issue of ARNs, it is likely that there would be significantly less liquidity in that secondary market. In such a case, the price at which those ARNs could be sold likely would be lower than if an active market existed.

Unless otherwise stated in the term sheet, we will not list ARNs on any securities exchange or quotation system. Even if an application were made to list your ARNs, we cannot assure you that the application will be approved or that your ARNs will be listed and, if listed, that they will remain listed for their entire term. The listing of ARNs on any securities exchange or quotation system will not necessarily ensure that a trading market will develop, and if a trading market does develop, that there will be liquidity in the trading market.

The Redemption Amount will not reflect changes in the value of the Market Measure other than during the Maturity Valuation Period. Changes in the value of the Market Measure during the term of ARNs other than during the Maturity Valuation Period will not be reflected in the calculation of the Redemption Amount. To calculate the Redemption Amount, the calculation agent will compare only the Ending Value to the Starting Value. No other values of the Market Measure will be taken into account. As a result, even if the value of the Market Measure has increased at certain times during the term of the ARNs, you will receive a Redemption Amount that is less than the principal amount if the Ending Value is less than the Starting Value.

If your ARNs are linked to a Basket, changes in the levels of one or more of the Basket Components may be offset by changes in the levels of one or more of the other Basket Components. The Market Measure of your ARNs may be a Basket. In such a case, changes in the levels of one or more of the Basket Components may not correlate with changes in the levels of one or more of the other Basket Components. The levels of one or more Basket Components may increase, while the levels of one or more of the other Basket Components may decrease or not increase as much. Therefore, in calculating the value of the Market Measure at any time, increases in the level of one Basket Component may be moderated or wholly offset by decreases or lesser increases in the levels of one or more of the other Basket Components. If the weightings of the applicable Basket Components are not equal, adverse changes in the levels of the Basket Components which are more heavily weighted could have a greater impact upon your ARNs.

The respective publishers of the applicable indices may adjust those indices in a way that affects their levels, and these publishers have no obligation to consider your interests. Unless otherwise specified in the term sheet, we have no affiliation with any publisher of an index to which your ARNs are linked (each, an "Index Publisher"). Consequently, we have no control of the actions of any Index Publisher. The Index Publisher can add, delete, or substitute the components included in that index or make other methodological changes that could change its level. A new security included in an index may perform significantly better or worse than the replaced security, and the performance will impact the level of the applicable index. Additionally, an Index Publisher may alter, discontinue, or suspend calculation or dissemination of an index. Any of these actions could adversely affect the value of your ARNs. The Index Publishers will have no obligation to consider your interests in calculating or revising any index.

**Exchange rate movements may impact the value of ARNs.** If any security included in a Market Measure is traded in a currency other than U.S. dollars and, for purposes of the applicable index, is converted into U.S. dollars, then the value of the Market Measure may depend in part on the relevant exchange rates. If the value of the U.S. dollar strengthens against the currencies of that index, the level of the applicable index may be adversely affected and the Redemption Amount may be reduced. Exchange rate movements may be particularly

impacted by existing and expected rates of inflation and interest rate levels, the balance of payments, and the extent of governmental surpluses or deficits in the countries relevant to the applicable index and the United States. All of these factors are in turn sensitive to the monetary, fiscal, and trade policies pursued by the governments of those countries and the United States and other countries important to international trade and finance.

If you attempt to sell ARNs prior to maturity, their market value, if any, will be affected by various factors that interrelate in complex ways, and their market value may be less than the principal amount. You have no right to have your ARNs redeemed at your option prior to maturity. If you wish to liquidate your investment in ARNs prior to maturity, your only option would be to sell them. At that time, there may be an illiquid market for your ARNs or no market at all. Even if you were able to sell your ARNs, there are many factors outside of our control that may affect their market value, some of which, but not all, are stated below. The impact of any one factor may be offset or magnified by the effect of another factor. The following paragraphs describe a specific factor's expected impact on the market value of ARNs, assuming all other conditions remain constant.

• Value of the Market Measure. We anticipate that the market value of ARNs prior to maturity generally will depend to a significant extent on the value of the Market Measure. In general, it is expected that the market value of ARNs will decrease as the value of the Market Measure decreases, and increase as the value of the Market Measure increases. However, as the value of the Market Measure increases or decreases, the market value of ARNs is not expected to increase or decrease at the same rate. If you sell your ARNs when the value of the Market Measure is less than, or not sufficiently above the applicable Starting Value, then you may receive less than the principal amount of your ARNs.

In addition, because the Redemption Amount will not exceed the applicable Capped Value, we do not expect that the ARNs will trade in any secondary market at a price that is greater than the Capped Value.

- Volatility of the Market Measure. Volatility is the term used to describe the size and frequency of market fluctuations. Increases or decreases in the volatility of the Market Measure may have an adverse impact on the market value of ARNs. Even if the value of the Market Measure increases after the applicable pricing date, if you are able to sell your ARNs before their maturity date, you may receive substantially less than the amount that would be payable at maturity based on that value because of the anticipation that the value of the Market Measure will continue to fluctuate until the Ending Value is determined.
- Economic and Other Conditions Generally. The general economic conditions of the capital markets in the United States, as well as geopolitical conditions and other financial, political, regulatory, and judicial events and related uncertainties that affect stock markets generally, may affect the value of the Market Measure and the market value of ARNs. If the Market Measure includes one or more indices that have returns that are calculated based upon securities prices in one or more non-U.S. markets (a "non-U.S. Market Measure"), the value of your ARNs may also be affected by similar events in the markets of the relevant foreign countries.
- Interest Rates. We expect that changes in interest rates will affect the market value of ARNs. In general, if U.S. interest rates increase, we expect that the market value of ARNs will decrease, and conversely, if U.S. interest rates decrease, we expect that the market value of ARNs will increase. In general, we expect that the longer the amount of time that remains until maturity, the more significant the impact of these changes will be on the value of the ARNs. In the case of non-U.S. Market Measures, the level of interest rates in the relevant foreign countries may also affect their economies and in turn the value of the non-U.S. Market Measure, and, thus, the market value of the ARNs may be adversely

affected.

- **Dividend Yields.** In general, if cumulative dividend yields on the securities included in the Market Measure increase, we anticipate that the market value of ARNs will decrease; conversely, if those dividend yields decrease, we anticipate that the market value of your ARNs will increase.
- Exchange Rate Movements and Volatility. If the Market Measure of your ARNs includes any non-U.S. Market Measures, changes in, and the volatility of, the exchange rates between the U.S. dollar and the relevant non-U.S. currency or currencies could have a negative impact on the value of your ARNs, and the Redemption Amount may depend in part on the relevant exchange rates. In addition, the correlation between the relevant exchange rate and any applicable non-U.S. Market Measure reflects the extent to which a percentage change in that exchange rate corresponds to a percentage change in the applicable non-U.S. Market Measure, and changes in these correlations may have a negative impact on the value of your ARNs.
- Our Financial Condition and Creditworthiness. Our perceived creditworthiness, including any increases in our credit spreads and any actual or anticipated decreases in our credit ratings, may adversely affect the market value of the ARNs. In general, we expect the longer the amount of time that remains until maturity, the more significant the impact will be on the value of the ARNs. However, a decrease in our credit spreads or an improvement in our credit ratings will not necessarily increase the market value of ARNs.
- **Time to Maturity.** There may be a disparity between the market value of the ARNs prior to maturity and their value at maturity. This disparity is often called a time "value," "premium," or "discount," and reflects expectations concerning the value of the Market Measure prior to the maturity date. As the time to maturity decreases, this disparity may decrease, such that the value of the ARNs will approach the expected Redemption Amount to be paid at maturity.

Trading and hedging activities by us, the agents, and our respective affiliates may affect your return on the ARNs and their market value. We, the agents, and our respective affiliates may buy or sell the securities included in the Market Measure, or futures or options contracts on the Market Measure or its component securities. We may execute such purchases or sales for our own or their own accounts, for business reasons, or in connection with hedging our obligations under ARNs. These transactions could affect the value of these securities and, in turn, the value of a Market Measure in a manner that could be adverse to your investment in ARNs. On or before the applicable pricing date, any purchases or sales by us, the agents, and our respective affiliates, or others on our or their behalf may increase the value of a Market Measure or its component securities. Consequently, the values of that Market Measure or the securities included in that Market Measure may decrease subsequent to the pricing date of an issue of ARNs, adversely affecting the market value of ARNs.

We, the agents, or one or more of our respective affiliates may also engage in hedging activities that could increase the value of the Market Measure on the applicable pricing date. In addition, these activities may decrease the market value of your ARNs prior to maturity, including during the Maturity Valuation Period, and may reduce the Redemption Amount. We, the agents, or one or more of our respective affiliates may purchase or otherwise acquire a long or short position in ARNs, and may hold or resell ARNs. For example, the agents may enter into these transactions in connection with any market making activities in which they engage. We cannot assure you that these activities will not adversely affect the value of the Market Measure, the market value of your ARNs prior to maturity or the Redemption Amount.

Our trading, hedging and other business activities, and those of the agents, may create conflicts of interest with you. We, the agents, or one or more of our respective affiliates may engage in trading activities related to the Market Measure and to securities included in the Market Measure that are not for your account or on your behalf. We, the agents, or one or more of our respective affiliates also may issue or underwrite other financial instruments with returns based upon the applicable Market Measure. These trading and other business activities may present a conflict of interest between your interest in ARNs and the interests we, the agents and our respective affiliates may have in our proprietary accounts, in facilitating transactions, including block trades, for our or their other customers, and in accounts under our or their management. These trading and other business activities, if they influence the value of the Market Measure or secondary trading in your ARNs, could be adverse to your interests as a beneficial owner of ARNs.

We, the agents, and our respective affiliates expect to enter into arrangements or adjust or close out existing transactions to hedge our obligations under the ARNs. We, the agents, or our respective affiliates also may enter into hedging transactions relating to other notes or instruments that we or they issue, some of which may have returns calculated in a manner related to that of a particular issue of ARNs. We may enter into such hedging arrangements with one or more of our subsidiaries or affiliates, or with one or more of the agents or their affiliates. Such a party may enter into additional hedging transactions with other parties relating to ARNs and the applicable Market Measure. This hedging activity is expected to result in a profit to those engaging in the hedging activity, which could be more or less than initially expected, or the hedging activity could also result in a loss. We, the agents, and our respective affiliates will price these hedging transactions with the intent to realize a profit, regardless of whether the value of ARNs increases or decreases. Any profit in connection with such hedging activities will be in addition to any other compensation that we, the agents, and our respective affiliates receive for the sale of ARNs, which creates an additional incentive to sell ARNs to you.

There may be potential conflicts of interest involving the calculation agent. We have the right to appoint and remove the calculation agent. We expect to appoint MLPF&S or one of its affiliates as the calculation agent for ARNs and, as such, it will determine the Starting Value, the Ending Value, and the Redemption Amount. As the calculation agent, MLPF&S or one of its affiliates will have discretion in making various determinations that affect your ARNs. The exercise of this discretion by the calculation agent could adversely affect the value of your ARNs and may present the calculation agent with a conflict of interest of the kind described under "—Trading and hedging activities by us, the agents, and our respective affiliates may affect your return on the ARNs and their market value" and "—Our trading, hedging and other business activities, and those of the agents, may create conflicts of interest with you" above.

The U.S. federal income tax consequences of an investment in ARNs are uncertain, and may be adverse to a holder of ARNs. No statutory, judicial, or administrative authority directly addresses the characterization of ARNs or securities similar to ARNs for U.S. federal income tax purposes. As a result, significant aspects of the U.S. federal income tax consequences of an investment in ARNs are not certain. Under the terms of the ARNs, you will have agreed with us to treat the ARNs as pre-paid cash settled derivative contracts, as described under "U.S. Federal Income Tax Summary." If the Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS") were successful in asserting an alternative characterization for ARNs, the timing and character of gain or loss with respect to ARNs may differ. No ruling will be requested from the IRS with respect to ARNs and no assurance can be given that the IRS will agree with the statements made in the section entitled "U.S. Federal Income Tax Summary."

You are urged to consult with your own tax advisor regarding all aspects of the U.S. federal income tax consequences of investing in ARNs.

#### Risks Relating to the Market Measures

You must rely on your own evaluation of the merits of an investment linked to any applicable Market Measure. In the ordinary course of business, we, the agents, and our respective affiliates may have expressed views on expected movements in a Market Measure or the securities included in the Market Measure, and may do so in the future. These views or reports may be communicated to our clients and clients of these entities. However, these views are subject to change from time to time. Moreover, other professionals who deal in markets relating to a Market Measure may at any time have significantly different views from our views and the views of these entities. For these reasons, you are encouraged to derive information concerning a Market Measure and its component securities from multiple sources, and you should not rely on our views or the views expressed by these entities.

You will have no rights as a security holder, you will have no rights to receive any of the securities represented by the Market Measure, and you will not be entitled to dividends or other distributions by the issuers of these securities. ARNs are our debt securities. They are not equity instruments, shares of stock, or securities of any other issuer. Investing in ARNs will not make you a holder of any of the securities represented by the Market Measure. You will not have any voting rights, any rights to receive dividends or other distributions, or any other rights with respect to those securities. As a result, the return on your ARNs may not reflect the return you would realize if you actually owned those securities and received the dividends paid or other distributions made in connection with them. Additionally, the levels of certain indices reflect only the prices of the securities included in that index and do not take into consideration the value of dividends paid on those securities. Your ARNs will be paid in cash and you have no right to receive delivery of any of these securities.

If the Market Measure to which your ARNs are linked includes equity securities traded on foreign exchanges, your return may be affected by factors affecting international securities markets. The value of securities traded outside of the U.S. may be adversely affected by a variety of factors relating to the relevant securities markets. Factors which could affect those markets, and therefore the return on your ARNs, include:

- **Market Volatility.** The relevant foreign securities markets may be more volatile than U.S. or other securities markets and may be affected by market developments in different ways than U.S. or other securities markets.
- **Political, Economic, and Other Factors.** The prices and performance of securities of companies in foreign countries may be affected by political, economic, financial, and social factors in those regions. Direct or indirect government intervention to stabilize a particular securities market and cross-shareholdings in companies in the relevant foreign markets may affect prices and the volume of trading in those markets. In addition, recent or future changes in government, economic, and fiscal policies in the relevant jurisdictions, the possible imposition of, or changes in, currency exchange laws, or other laws or restrictions, and possible fluctuations in the rate of exchange between currencies, are factors that could negatively affect the relevant securities markets. The relevant foreign economies may differ from the U.S. economy in economic factors such as growth of gross national product, rate of inflation, capital reinvestment, resources, and self-sufficiency.

In particular, many emerging nations are undergoing rapid change, involving the restructuring of economic, political, financial, and legal systems. Regulatory and tax environments may be subject to change without review or appeal, and many emerging markets suffer from underdevelopment of capital markets and tax systems. In addition, in some of these nations, issuers of the relevant securities face the threat of

expropriation of their assets and/or nationalization of their businesses. The economic and financial data about some of these countries may be unreliable.

• **Publicly Available Information.** There is generally less publicly available information about foreign companies than about U.S. companies that are subject to the reporting requirements of the SEC. In addition, accounting, auditing, and financial reporting standards and requirements in foreign countries differ from those applicable to U.S. reporting companies.

Unless otherwise set forth in the applicable term sheet, we and the agents do not control any company included in any Market Measure and have not verified any disclosure made by any other company. We, the agents, or our respective affiliates currently, or in the future may, engage in business with companies included in a Market Measure, and we, the agents, or our respective affiliates may from time to time own securities of companies included in a Market Measure. However, none of us, the agents, or any of our respective affiliates has the ability to control the actions of any of these companies or has undertaken any independent review of, or made any due diligence inquiry with respect to, any of these companies, unless (and only to the extent that) the securities of us, the agents, or our respective affiliates are represented by that Market Measure. In addition, unless otherwise set forth in the applicable term sheet, none of us, the agents, or any of our respective affiliates is responsible for the calculation of any index represented by a Market Measure. You should make your own investigation into the Market Measure.

Unless otherwise set forth in the applicable term sheet, none of the Index Publishers, their affiliates, or any companies included in the Market Measure will be involved in any offering of ARNs or will have any obligation of any sort with respect to ARNs. As a result, none of those companies will have any obligation to take your interests as holders of ARNs into consideration for any reason, including taking any corporate actions that might affect the value of the securities represented by the Market Measure or the value of ARNs.

Our business activities and those of the agents relating to the companies represented by a Market Measure or the ARNs may create conflicts of interest with you. We, the agents, and our respective affiliates, at the time of any offering of ARNs or in the future, may engage in business with the companies represented by a Market Measure, including making loans to, equity investments in, or providing investment banking, asset management, or other services to those companies, their affiliates, and their competitors.

In connection with these activities, any of these entities may receive information about those companies that we will not divulge to you or other third parties. We, the agents, and our respective affiliates have published, and in the future may publish, research reports on one or more of these companies. The agents may also publish research reports relating to our or our affiliates' securities, including the ARNs. This research is modified from time to time without notice and may express opinions or provide recommendations that are inconsistent with purchasing or holding your ARNs. Any of these activities may adversely affect the value of the Market Measure and, consequently, the market value of your ARNs. None of us, the agents, or our respective affiliates makes any representation to any purchasers of the ARNs regarding any matters whatsoever relating to the issuers of the securities included in a Market Measure. Any prospective purchaser of the ARNs should undertake an independent investigation of the companies included in a Market Measure to a level that, in its judgment, is appropriate to make an informed decision regarding an investment in the ARNs. The composition of the Market Measure does not reflect any investment recommendations from us, the agents, or our respective affiliates.

# Other Risk Factors Relating to the Applicable Market Measure

The applicable term sheet may set forth additional risk factors as to the Market Measure that you should review prior to purchasing ARNs.

## **USE OF PROCEEDS AND HEDGING**

We will use the net proceeds we receive from each sale of ARNs for the purposes described in the prospectus supplement under "Use of Proceeds." In addition, we expect that we or our affiliates may use a portion of the net proceeds to hedge our obligations under ARNs.

#### **DESCRIPTION OF ARNS**

#### General

Each issue of ARNs will be part of a series of medium-term notes entitled "Senior Global Medium-Term Notes (Structured Notes)" that will be issued under the indenture, as amended and supplemented from time to time. The indenture is described more fully in the prospectus and prospectus supplement. The following description of ARNs supplements and, to the extent it is inconsistent with, supersedes the description of the general terms and provisions of the notes and debt securities set forth under the headings "Description of the Notes We May Offer" in the prospectus supplement and "Description of Senior Debt Securities" in the prospectus. These documents should be read in connection with the applicable term sheet.

The maturity date of the ARNs and the aggregate principal amount of each issue of ARNs will be stated in the term sheet. If the scheduled maturity date is not a business day, we will make the required payment on the next business day, and no interest will accrue as a result of such delay.

We will not pay interest on ARNs. ARNs do not guarantee the return of principal at maturity. ARNs will be payable only in U.S. dollars.

Prior to the maturity date, ARNs are not redeemable at the option of any holder. ARNs are not subject to any sinking fund. ARNs are not subject to the defeasance provisions described in the section "Description of Senior Debt Securities—Defeasance" beginning on page 8 of the prospectus.

We will issue ARNs in denominations of whole units. Unless otherwise set forth in the applicable term sheet, each unit will have a principal amount of \$10. The CUSIP number for each issue of ARNs will be set forth in the applicable term sheet. You may transfer ARNs only in whole units.

# **Payment at Maturity**

At maturity, subject to our credit risk as issuer of ARNs, you will receive a Redemption Amount, denominated in U.S. dollars. The "**Redemption Amount**" will be calculated as follows:

• If the Ending Value is greater than the Starting Value, then the Redemption Amount will equal:

$$Principal \ Amount \ + \left\lceil Principal \ Amount \ \times \ Participaton \ Rate \ \times \left( \frac{Ending \ Value \ - \ Starting \ Value}{Starting \ Value} \right) \right\rceil$$

The Redemption Amount will not exceed the "Capped Value" set forth in the term sheet.

• If the Ending Value is less than or equal to the Starting Value, then the Redemption Amount will equal:

Principal Amount 
$$\times \left( \frac{\text{Ending Value}}{\text{Starting Value}} \right)$$

The Redemption Amount will be less than or equal to the Principal Amount but will not be less than zero.

Your participation in any upside potential of the Market Measure underlying your ARNs will also be impacted by the Participation Rate. The "**Participation Rate**" will be 300% for ARNs, unless otherwise set forth in the term sheet.

Each term sheet will provide examples of Redemption Amounts based on a range of hypothetical Ending Values.

If specified in the term sheet, your ARNs may be "**Relative Value ARNs**," the return of which will be determined based on the relative performance of two or more indices. The specific terms of any Relative Value ARNs will be set forth in the term sheet.

The term sheet will set forth information as to the specific Market Measure, including information as to the historical values of the Market Measure. However, historical values of the Market Measure are not indicative of its future performance or the performance of your ARNs.

An investment in ARNs does not entitle you to any ownership interest, including any voting rights, dividends paid, or other distributions, in the securities of any of the companies included in a Market Measure.

## The Starting Value and the Ending Value

#### Starting Value

Unless otherwise specified in the term sheet, the "**Starting Value**" will be the closing level of the Market Measure on the pricing date.

If the Market Measure consists of a Basket, the Starting Value will be equal to 100. See "—Basket Market Measures."

### **Ending Value**

Unless otherwise specified in the term sheet, the "**Ending Value**" will equal the average of the closing levels of the Market Measure determined on each calculation day during the Maturity Valuation Period.

If the Market Measure consists of a Basket, the Ending Value will be determined as described in "—Basket Market Measures—Ending Value of the Basket."

The "Maturity Valuation Period" means the period consisting of one or more calculation days shortly before the maturity date. The timing and length of the period will be set forth in the term sheet.

A "**calculation day**" means any Market Measure Business Day during the Maturity Valuation Period on which a Market Disruption Event has not occurred.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable term sheet, a "Market Measure Business Day" means a day on which (1) the New York Stock Exchange (the "NYSE") and The NASDAQ Stock Market, or their successors, are open for trading and (2) the Market Measure or any successor is calculated and published.

If (i) a Market Disruption Event occurs on a scheduled calculation day during the Maturity Valuation Period or (ii) any scheduled calculation day is determined by the calculation agent not to be a Market Measure Business Day by reason of an extraordinary event, occurrence, declaration, or otherwise (any such day in either (i) or (ii) being a "non-calculation day"), the closing level of the Market Measure for the applicable non-calculation day will be the

closing level of the Market Measure on the next calculation day that occurs during the Maturity Valuation Period. For example, if the first and second scheduled calculation days during the Maturity Valuation Period are non-calculation days, then the closing level of the Market Measure on the next calculation day will also be the closing level for the Market Measure on the first and second scheduled calculation days during the Maturity Valuation Period. If no further calculation days occur after a non-calculation day, or if every scheduled calculation day after that non-calculation day is also a non-calculation day, then the closing level of the Market Measure for that non-calculation day and each following non-calculation day, if any (or for all the scheduled calculation days during the Maturity Valuation Period, if applicable), will be determined (or, if not determinable, estimated) by the calculation agent in a commercially reasonable manner on the last scheduled calculation day during the Maturity Valuation Period, regardless of the occurrence of a Market Disruption Event on that last scheduled calculation day.

If the Market Measure consists of a Basket, the Starting Value and the Ending Value of the Basket will be determined as described in "—Basket Market Measures."

## **Market Disruption Events**

For an index, "**Market Disruption Event**" means one or more of the following events, as determined by the calculation agent in its sole discretion:

- (A) the suspension of or material limitation on trading, in each case, for more than two consecutive hours of trading, or during the one-half hour period preceding the close of trading, on the primary exchange where the securities included in an index trade (without taking into account any extended or after-hours trading session), in 20% or more of the securities which then compose the index or any successor index; and
- (B) the suspension of or material limitation on trading, in each case, for more than two consecutive hours of trading, or during the one-half hour period preceding the close of trading, on the primary exchange that trades options contracts or futures contracts related to the index (without taking into account any extended or afterhours trading session), whether by reason of movements in price otherwise exceeding levels permitted by the relevant exchange or otherwise, in options contracts or futures contracts related to the index, or any successor index.

For the purpose of determining whether a Market Disruption Event has occurred:

- (1) a limitation on the hours in a trading day and/or number of days of trading will not constitute a Market Disruption Event if it results from an announced change in the regular business hours of the relevant exchange;
- (2) a decision to permanently discontinue trading in the relevant futures or options contracts related to the index, or any successor index, will not constitute a Market Disruption Event;
- (3) a suspension in trading in a futures or options contract on the index, or any successor index, by a major securities market by reason of (a) a price change violating limits set by that securities market, (b) an imbalance of orders relating to those contracts, or (c) a disparity in bid and ask quotes relating to those contracts will constitute a suspension of or material limitation on trading in futures or options contracts related to the index;
- (4) a suspension of or material limitation on trading on the relevant exchange will not include any time when that exchange is closed for trading under ordinary

circumstances; and

(5) if applicable to indices with component securities listed on the NYSE, for the purpose of clause (A) above, any limitations on trading during significant market fluctuations under NYSE Rule 80B, or any applicable rule or regulation enacted or promulgated by the NYSE or any other self-regulatory organization or the SEC of similar scope as determined by the calculation agent, will be considered "material."

# Adjustments to an Index

After the applicable pricing date, an Index Publisher may make a material change in the method of calculating an index or in another way that changes the index such that it does not, in the opinion of the calculation agent, fairly represent the level of the index had those changes or modifications not been made. In this case, the calculation agent will, at the close of business in New York, New York, on each date that the closing level is to be calculated, make adjustments to the index. Those adjustments will be made in good faith as necessary to arrive at a calculation of a level of the index as if those changes or modifications had not been made, and calculate the closing level of the index, as so adjusted.

#### Discontinuance of an Index

After the pricing date, an Index Publisher may discontinue publication of an index to which an issue of ARNs is linked. The Index Publisher or another entity may then publish a substitute index that the calculation agent determines, in its sole discretion, to be comparable to the original index (a "successor index"). If this occurs, the calculation agent will substitute the successor index as calculated by the relevant Index Publisher or any other entity and calculate the Ending Value as described under "—The Starting Value and the Ending Value" or "—Basket Market Measure," as applicable. If the calculation agent selects a successor index, the calculation agent will give written notice of the selection to the trustee, to us and to the holders of the ARNs.

If an Index Publisher discontinues publication of the index before the end of the Maturity Valuation Period and the calculation agent does not select a successor index, then on each day that would have been a calculation day, until the earlier to occur of:

- the determination of the Ending Value; or
- a determination by the calculation agent that a successor index is available,

the calculation agent will compute a substitute level for the index in accordance with the procedures last used to calculate the index before any discontinuance as if that day were a calculation day. The calculation agent will make available to holders of the ARNs information regarding those levels by means of Bloomberg L.P., Thomson Reuters, a website, or any other means selected by the calculation agent in its reasonable discretion.

If a successor index is selected or the calculation agent calculates a level as a substitute for an index, the successor index or level will be used as a substitute for all purposes, including for the purpose of determining whether a Market Disruption Event exists.

Notwithstanding these alternative arrangements, any modification or discontinuance of the publication of any index to which your ARNs are linked may adversely affect trading in the ARNs.

#### **Basket Market Measures**

If the Market Measure to which your ARNs are linked is a Basket, the Basket Components will be set forth in the term sheet. We will assign each Basket Component a weighting (the "Initial Component Weight") so that each Basket Component represents a percentage of the Starting Value of the Basket on the pricing date. We may assign the Basket Components equal Initial Component Weights, or we may assign the Basket Components unequal Initial Component Weights. The Initial Component Weight for each Basket Component will be stated in the term sheet.

## Determination of the Component Ratio for Each Basket Component

The "**Starting Value**" of the Basket will be equal to 100. We will set a fixed factor (the "**Component Ratio**") for each Basket Component on the pricing date, based upon the weighting of that Basket Component. The Component Ratio for each Basket Component will equal:

- the Initial Component Weight (expressed as a percentage) for that Basket Component, multiplied by 100; *divided by*
- the closing level of that Basket Component on the pricing date.

Each Component Ratio will be rounded to eight decimal places.

The Component Ratios will be calculated in this way so that the Starting Value of the Basket will equal 100 on the pricing date. The Component Ratios will not be revised subsequent to their determination on the pricing date, except that the calculation agent may in its good faith judgment adjust the Component Ratio of any Basket Component in the event that Basket Component is materially changed or modified in a manner that does not, in the opinion of the calculation agent, fairly represent the value of that Basket Component had those material changes or modifications not been made.

The following table is for illustration purposes only, and does not reflect the actual composition, Initial Component Weights, or Component Ratios, which will be set forth in the term sheet.

Example: The **hypothetical** Basket Components are Index ABC, Index XYZ, and Index RST, with their Initial Component Weights being 50.00%, 25.00% and 25.00%, respectively, on a **hypothetical** pricing date:

Basket Component	Initial Component Weight	Hypothetical Closing Level <sup>(1)</sup>	Hypothetical Component Ratio <sup>(2)</sup>	Initial Basket Value Contribution
Index ABC	50.00%	500.00	0.10000000	50.00
Index XYZ	25.00%	2,420.00	0.01033058	25.00
Index RST	25.00%	1,014.00	0.02465483	<u>25.00</u>
Starting Value				100.00

<sup>(1)</sup> This column sets forth the **hypothetical** closing level of each Basket Component on the **hypothetical** pricing date.

<sup>(2)</sup> The **hypothetical** Component Ratio for each Basket Component equals its Initial Component Weight (expressed as a percentage) multiplied by 100, and then divided by the closing level of that Basket Component on the **hypothetical** pricing date, with the result

rounded to eight decimal places.

Unless otherwise stated in the term sheet, if a Market Disruption Event occurs on the pricing date as to any Basket Component, the calculation agent will establish the closing level of that Basket Component (the "Basket Component Closing Level"), and thus its Component Ratio, based on the closing level of that Basket Component on the first Market Measure Business Day following the pricing date on which no Market Disruption Event occurs for that Basket Component. In the event that a Market Disruption Event occurs for that Basket Component on the pricing date and on each day to and including the second scheduled Market Measure Business Day following the pricing date, the calculation agent (not later than the close of business in New York, New York on the second scheduled Market Measure Business Day following the pricing date) will estimate the Basket Component Closing Level, and thus the applicable Component Ratio, in a manner that the calculation agent considers commercially reasonable. The final term sheet will provide the Basket Component Closing Level, a brief statement of the facts relating to the establishment of the Basket Component Closing Level (including the applicable Market Disruption Event(s)), and the applicable Component Ratio.

For purposes of determining whether a Market Disruption Event has occurred as to any Basket Component, "Market Disruption Event" will have the meaning stated above in "—Market Disruption Events."

#### **Ending Value of the Basket**

The calculation agent will calculate the value of the Basket on each calculation day by summing the products of the Basket Component Closing Level on that calculation day and the Component Ratio for each Basket Component. The value of the Basket will vary based on the increase or decrease in the level of each Basket Component. Any increase in the level of a Basket Component (assuming no change in the level of the other Basket Component or Basket Components) will result in an increase in the value of the Basket. Conversely, any decrease in the level of a Basket Component (assuming no change in the level of the other Basket Component or Basket Components) will result in a decrease in the value of the Basket.

The "**Ending Value**" of the Basket will be the average value of the Basket on each calculation day during the Maturity Valuation Period.

Unless otherwise specified in the term sheet, if, for any Basket Component (an "Affected Basket Component"), (i) a Market Disruption Event occurs on a scheduled calculation day during the Maturity Valuation Period or (ii) any scheduled calculation day is determined by the calculation agent not to be a Market Measure Business Day by reason of an extraordinary event, occurrence, declaration, or otherwise (any such day in either (i) or (ii) being a "non-calculation day"), the calculation agent will determine the closing levels of the Basket Components for such non-calculation day, and as a result, the Ending Value, as follows:

- The closing level of each Basket Component that is not an Affected Basket Component will be its closing level on such non-calculation day.
- The closing level of each Basket Component that is an Affected Basket Component for the applicable non-calculation day will be determined in the same manner as described in the fifth paragraph of subsection "—The Starting Value and the Ending Value—Ending Value," provided that references to "Market Measure" will be references to "Basket Component."

#### Role of the Calculation Agent

The calculation agent has the sole discretion to make all determinations regarding ARNs as described in this product prospectus supplement, including determinations regarding the Starting Value, the Ending Value, the Market Measure, the Redemption Amount, any Market Disruption Events, a successor index, Market Measure Business Days, business days, calculation days, non-calculation days, and calculations related to the discontinuance of any index. Absent manifest error, all determinations of the calculation agent will be conclusive for all purposes and final and binding on you and us, without any liability on the part of the calculation agent.

We expect to appoint MLPF&S or one of its affiliates as the calculation agent for each issue of ARNs. However, we may change the calculation agent at any time without notifying you. The identity of the calculation agent will be set forth in the applicable term sheet.

#### **Payment of Additional Amounts**

We will pay any amounts to be paid by us on the ARNs without deduction or withholding for, or on account of, any and all present or future income, stamp and other taxes, levies, imposts, duties, charges, fees, deductions, or withholdings ("taxes") now or hereafter imposed, levied, collected, withheld, or assessed by or on behalf of Canada or any Canadian political subdivision or authority that has the power to tax, unless the deduction or withholding is required by law or by the interpretation or administration thereof by the relevant governmental authority. At any time a Canadian taxing jurisdiction requires us to deduct or withhold for or on account of taxes from any payment made under or in respect of the ARNs, we will pay such additional amounts ("Additional Amounts") as may be necessary, so that the net amounts received by each holder (including Additional Amounts), after such deduction or withholding, shall not be less than the amount the holder would have received had no such deduction or withholding been required.

However, no Additional Amounts will be payable with respect to a payment made to a holder of an ARN or of a right to receive payments in respect thereto (a "**Payment Recipient**"), which we refer to as an "**Excluded Holder**," in respect of any taxes imposed because the beneficial owner or Payment Recipient:

- (i) is someone with whom we do not deal at arm's length (within the meaning of the Income Tax Act (Canada)) at the time of making such payment;
- (ii) is subject to such taxes by reason of the holder being connected presently or formerly with Canada or any province or territory thereof otherwise than by reason of the holder's activity in connection with purchasing ARNs, the holding of ARNs or the receipt of payments thereunder;
- (iii) is or does not deal at arm's length with a person who is, a "specified shareholder" (within the meaning of subsection 18(5) of the Income Tax Act (Canada)) of Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (generally a person will be a "specified shareholder" for this purpose if that person, either alone or together with persons with whom the person does not deal at arm's length, owns 25% or more of (a) our voting shares, or (b) the fair market value of all of our issued and outstanding shares);
- (iv) presents such ARNs for payment (where presentation is required) more than 30 days after the relevant date; for this purpose, the "relevant date" in relation to any payments on any ARN means:

- (a) the due date for payment thereof (whether at maturity or upon an earlier acceleration), or
- (b) if the full amount of the monies payable on such date has not been received by the trustee on or prior to such due date, the date on which the full amount of such monies has been received and notice to that effect is given to holders of ARNs in accordance with the indenture; or
- (v) who could lawfully avoid (but has not so avoided) such withholding or deduction by complying, or requiring that any agent comply with, any statutory requirements necessary to establish qualification for an exemption from withholding or by making, or requiring that any agent make, a declaration of non-residence or other similar claim for exemption to any relevant tax authority.

For purposes of clause (iv) above, if ARNs are presented for payment more than 30 days after the relevant date, we shall only be required to pay such Additional Amounts as shall have accrued as of such 30th day, and no further Additional Amounts shall accrue or become payable after such date.

For the avoidance of doubt, we will not have any obligation to pay any holders Additional Amounts on any tax which is payable otherwise than by deduction or withholding from payments made under or in respect of the ARNs.

We will also make such withholding or deduction and remit the full amount deducted or withheld to the relevant authority in accordance with applicable law. We will furnish to the trustee, within 30 days after the date the payment of any taxes is due pursuant to applicable law, certified copies of tax receipts evidencing that such payment has been made or other evidence of such payment satisfactory to the trustee. We will indemnify and hold harmless each holder of the ARNs (other than an Excluded Holder) and upon written request reimburse each such holder for the amount of (x) any taxes so levied or imposed and paid by such holder as a result of payments made under or with respect to the ARNs and (y) any taxes levied or imposed and paid by such holder with respect to any reimbursement under (x) above, but excluding any such taxes on such holder's net income or capital.

For additional information, see the section entitled "Certain Income Tax Consequences—Certain Canadian Income Tax Considerations" in the accompanying prospectus supplement.

# Same-Day Settlement and Payment

ARNs will be delivered in book-entry form only through The Depository Trust Company against payment by purchasers of ARNs in immediately available funds. We will pay the Redemption Amount in immediately available funds so long as the ARNs are maintained in book-entry form.

#### **Events of Default and Acceleration**

Events of default are defined in the indenture. If such an event occurs and is continuing, unless otherwise stated in the term sheet, the amount payable to a holder of ARNs upon any acceleration permitted under the indenture will be equal to the payment described under the caption "—Payment at Maturity," determined as if the date of acceleration were the maturity date of the ARNs and as if the final calculation day of the Maturity Valuation Period was five Market Measure Business Days prior to the date of acceleration.

If a bankruptcy proceeding is commenced in respect of us, your claim may be limited under applicable bankruptcy law. In case of a default in payment of ARNs, whether at their maturity or upon acceleration, they will not bear a default interest rate. For additional discussion of these matters, please see the discussion in the prospectus under the headings "Description of Senior Debt Securities—Modification and Waiver of the Senior Debt Securities" beginning on page 6 and "—Events of Default" beginning on page 9.

# Listing

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable term sheet, the ARNs will not be listed on a securities exchange or quotation system.

#### SUPPLEMENTAL PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

MLPF&S and one or more of its affiliates may act as our agents for any offering of the ARNs. The agents may act on either a principal basis or an agency basis, as set forth in the applicable term sheet. Each agent will be a party to the distribution agreement described in the "Supplemental Plan of Distribution" on page S-32 of the accompanying prospectus supplement.

Each agent will receive an underwriting discount that is a percentage of the aggregate principal amount of ARNs sold through its efforts, which will be set forth in the applicable term sheet. You must have an account with the applicable agent in order to purchase ARNs.

None of the agents is acting as your fiduciary or advisor solely as a result of the making of any offering of the ARNs, and you should not rely upon this product supplement, the term sheet, or the accompanying prospectus or prospectus supplement as investment advice or a recommendation to purchase any ARNs. You should make your own investment decision regarding ARNs after consulting with your legal, tax, and other advisors.

MLPF&S and its affiliates may use this product supplement, the prospectus supplement, and the prospectus, together with the applicable term sheet, in market-making transactions for any ARNs after their initial sale solely for the purpose of providing investors with the description of the terms of ARNs that were made available to investors in connection with the initial distribution of ARNs. Secondary market investors should not, and will not be authorized to rely on these documents for information regarding Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce or for any purpose other than that described in the immediately preceding sentence.

#### **Selling Restrictions**

# **European Economic Area**

In relation to each Member State of the European Economic Area which has implemented the Prospectus Directive (each, a "**Relevant Member State**"), MLPF&S has represented and agreed, and each further dealer appointed under the program will be required to represent and agree, that with effect from and including the date on which the Prospectus Directive is implemented in that Relevant Member State (the "Relevant Implementation Date") it has not made and will not make an offer of the ARNs to the public in that Relevant Member State except that it may, with effect from and including the Relevant Implementation Date, make an offer of such ARNs to the public in that Relevant Member State:

- (a) if an offer of those ARNs may be made other than pursuant to Article 3(2) of the Prospectus Directive in that Relevant Member State (a "Non-exempt Offer"), following the date of publication of a prospectus in relation to such ARNs which has been approved by the competent authority in that Relevant Member State or, where appropriate, approved in another Relevant Member State and notified to the competent authority in that Relevant Member State, provided that any such prospectus has subsequently been completed by the final offering document contemplating such Non-exempt Offer, in accordance with the Prospectus Directive, in the period beginning and ending on the dates specified in such prospectus or final offering document, as applicable, and the issuer has consented in writing to its use for the purpose of that Non-exempt Offer;
- (b) at any time to any legal entity which is a qualified investor as defined in the Prospectus Directive;

- (c) at any time to fewer than 100 or, if the Relevant Member State has implemented the relevant provision of the 2010 PD Amending Directive (as defined below), 150, natural or legal persons (other than qualified investors as defined in the Prospectus Directive), subject to obtaining the prior consent of the relevant dealer or dealers nominated by the issuer for any such offer; or
- (d) at any time in any other circumstances falling within Article 3(2) of the Prospectus Directive.

provided that no such offer of the ARNs referred to in (b) to (d) above shall require the issuer or any dealer to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive or supplement a prospectus pursuant to Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive.

For the purposes of this provision, the expression an "offer of the ARNs to the public", in relation to any ARNs in any Relevant Member State, means the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and the ARNs to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to purchase or subscribe for the ARNs, as the same may be varied in that Member State by any measure implementing the Prospectus Directive in that Member State, the expression "Prospectus Directive" means Directive 2003/71/EC (and amendments thereto, including the 2010 PD Amending Directive, to the extent implemented in the Relevant Member State), and includes any relevant implementing measure in the Relevant Member State, and the expression "2010 PD Amending Directive" means Directive 2010/73/EU.

# United Kingdom

MLPF&S has represented and agreed that:

- (a) in relation to any ARNs which have a maturity of less than one year, (i) it is a person whose ordinary activities involve it in acquiring, holding, managing, or disposing of investments (as principal or as agent) for the purposes of its business and (ii) it has not offered or sold and will not offer or sell any ARNs other than to persons whose ordinary activities involve them in acquiring, holding, managing, or disposing of investments (as principal or as agent) for the purposes of their businesses or who it is reasonable to expect will acquire, hold, manage, or dispose of investments (as principal or as agent) for the purposes of their businesses where the issue of the ARNs would otherwise constitute a contravention of section 19 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (the "FSMA") by the issuer;
- (b) it has only communicated or caused to be communicated and will only communicate or cause to be communicated an invitation or inducement to engage in investment activity (within the meaning of section 21 of the FSMA) received by it in connection with the issue or sale of any ARNs in circumstances in which section 21(1) of the FSMA does not apply to the issuer; and
- (c) it has complied and will comply with all applicable provisions of the FSMA with respect to anything done by it in relation to the ARNs in, from or otherwise involving the United Kingdom.

## Argentina

ARNs are not and will not be marketed in Argentina by means of a public offer of securities, as such term is defined under Sections 2 and 83 of the Argentine Capital Markets Law No. 26,831, as amended, as securities. No application has been or will be made with the

Argentine Comisión Nacional de Valores, the Argentine securities governmental authority, to offer ARNs in Argentina.

#### Brazil

The information contained in this product supplement and in the accompanying prospectus supplement and prospectus does not constitute a public offering or distribution of securities in Brazil and no registration or filing with respect to any securities or financial products described in these documents has been made with the Comissão de Valores Mobiliários (the "CVM"). No public offer of securities or financial products described in this product supplement or in the accompanying prospectus supplement and prospectus should be made in Brazil without the applicable registration at the CVM.

# The People's Republic of China

These offering documents have not been filed with or approved by the People's Republic of China (for such purposes, not including Hong Kong and Macau Special Administrative Regions or Taiwan) authorities, and is not an offer of securities (whether public offering or private placement) within the meaning of the Securities Law or other pertinent laws and regulations of the People's Republic of China. These offering documents shall not be delivered to any party who is not an intended recipient or offered to the general public if used within the People's Republic of China, and ARNs so offered cannot be sold to anyone that is not a qualified purchaser of the People's Republic of China. MLPF&S has represented, warranted and agreed that ARNs are not being offered or sold and may not be offered or sold, directly or indirectly, in the People's Republic of China, except under circumstances that will result in compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

#### France

The offering documents have not been approved by the Autorité des marchés financiers ("**AMF**").

Offers of ARNs (a) have only been made and will only be made to the public (offre au public) in France or an admission of the ARNs to trading on a regulated market in France in the period beginning (i) when a prospectus in relation to those ARNs has been approved by the AMF, on the date of such publication or, (ii) when a prospectus in relation to those ARNs has been approved by the competent authority of another Member State of the European Economic Area which has implemented the EU Prospectus Directive 2003/71/EC, on the date of notification of such approval to the AMF and, in either case, when the formalities required by French laws and regulations have been carried out, and ending at the latest on the date which is 12 months after the date of the approval of the prospectus, all in accordance with articles L.412-1 and L.621-8 to L.621-8-3 of the French Code monétaire et financier and the Règlement général of the AMF, or (b) have only been made and will only be made to the public in France or an admission of the ARNs to trading on a regulated market in France in circumstances which do not require the publication by the offeror of a prospectus pursuant to the French Code monétaire et financier and the Règlement général of the Autorité des marchés financiers.

ARNs have not been offered or sold and will not be offered or sold, directly or indirectly, to the public in France, and have not been distributed or caused to be distributed and the offering documents, or any other offering material relating to ARNs, will not be distributed or caused to be distributed to the public in France, and such offers, sales and distributions have been and will be made in France only to (i) providers of the investment service of portfolio management for the account of third parties, and/or (ii) qualified investors (investisseurs qualifiés) other than individuals, acting for their own account, all as defined in, and in accordance with, articles L.411-2, D.411-1 to D.411-3, D.744-1, D.754-1 and D.764-1 of the

French Code monétaire et financier. The direct or indirect resale of ARNs to the public in France may be made only as provided by, and in accordance with, articles L.411-1, L.411-2, L.412-1 and L.621-8 to L.621-8-3 of the French Code monétaire et financier.

In addition, the ARNs, the offering documents and any other offering material relating to the ARNs, have not been and will not be distributed or caused to be distributed in the Republic of France, other than to investors to whom offers and sales of the ARNs in the Republic of France may be made as described above.

# Italy

No offers of ARNs may be made to residents of the Republic of Italy.

#### Mexico

ARNs have not been and will not be registered in the National Securities Registry (Registro Nacional de Valores). Therefore, ARNs may not be offered or sold in the United Mexican States ("Mexico") by any means except in circumstances which constitute a private offering (oferta privada) pursuant to Article 8 of the Securities Market Law (Ley del Mercado de Valores) and its regulations. All applicable provisions of the Securities Market Law must be complied with in respect to anything done in relation to ARNs in, from or otherwise involving Mexico.

#### **Netherlands**

No offers of ARNs may be made to residents of the Netherlands.

#### New Zealand

No offeree of ARNs shall directly or indirectly offer, sell or deliver any ARNs, or distribute the offering documents or any advertisement in relation to any offer of ARNs, in New Zealand other than to persons whose principal business is the investment of money or who, in the course of and for the purposes of their business, habitually invest money, or who are each required to pay a minimum subscription price of at least NZ\$500,000 for ARNs (excluding any amounts lent by the issuer or any of its affiliates) before the allotment of those ARNs, or who in all the circumstances can properly be regarded as having been selected otherwise than as members of the public, or in other circumstances where there is no contravention of the Securities Act 1978 of New Zealand.

# **Philippines**

THE SECURITIES BEING OFFERED OR SOLD HAVE NOT BEEN REGISTERED WITH THE PHILLIPINES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION UNDER THE SECURITIES REGULATION CODE. ANY FUTURE OFFER OR SALE THEREOF IS SUBJECT TO REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE CODE UNLESS SUCH OFFER OR SALE QUALIFIES AS AN EXEMPT TRANSACTION.

#### Switzerland

ARNs may not be offered, sold or advertised directly or indirectly into or in Switzerland except in a manner which will not result in a public offering within the meaning of article 652a or 1156 of the Swiss Federal Code of Obligations ("**CO**"). None of this product supplement or the accompanying prospectus supplement and prospectus nor any other offering or marketing materials relating to ARNs have been prepared with regard to the disclosure standards for prospectuses under article 652a or 1156 CO, and therefore do not constitute a prospectus

within the meaning of article 652a or 1156 CO. None of this product supplement or the accompanying prospectus supplement and prospectus nor any other offering or marketing materials relating to ARNs may be distributed, published or otherwise made available in Switzerland except in a manner which will not constitute a public offering of ARNs into or in Switzerland.

#### **Taiwan**

ARNs may not be issued, sold, or offered in Taiwan. No subscription or other offer to purchase ARNs shall be binding on us until received and accepted by us or MLPF&S outside of Taiwan (the "**Place of Acceptance**"), and the purchase/sale contract arising therefrom shall be deemed a contract entered into in the Place of Acceptance.

# Uruguay

ARNs have not been registered under Law No. 18.627 of December 2, 2009 with the Central Bank of Uruguay. ARNs are not available publicly in Uruguay and are offered only on a private basis. No action may be taken in Uruguay that would render any offering of ARNs a public offering in Uruguay. No Uruguayan regulatory authority has approved the ARNs or passed on our solvency. In addition, any resale of ARNs must be made in a manner that will not constitute a public offering in Uruguay.

Los valores no han sido registrados bajo la Ley de Mercado de Valores de la República Oriental del Uruguay o registrados ante el Banco Central del Uruguay. Los valores no son ofrecidos en forma pública en Uruguay y lo son únicamente en forma privada. Ninguna acción puede ser adoptada en Uruguay en relación a estos valores que resulte en que esta oferta de valores sea una oferta pública de valores en Uruguay. Ninguna autoridad regulatoria del Uruguay ha aprobado estos valores o se ha manifestado sobre nuestra solvencia. Adicionalmente, cualquier reventa de estos valores debe ser realizada en forma tal que no constituya oferta pública de valores en el Uruguay.

#### CANADIAN FEDERAL INCOME TAX SUMMARY

An investor should read carefully the description of material Canadian federal income tax considerations relevant to a Non-resident Holder owning debt securities under "Certain Income Tax Consequences—Certain Canadian Income Tax Considerations" in the accompanying prospectus supplement. Canadian federal income tax considerations applicable to ARNs may be described particularly when such ARNs are offered in the applicable term sheet related thereto and, in that event, the disclosure in the accompanying prospectus supplement will be superseded in such term sheet to the extent indicated therein.

#### U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX SUMMARY

The following discussion supplements the discussion in the section called "Certain Income Tax Consequences—United States Taxation" in the accompanying prospectus supplement, and is subject to the limitations and exceptions set forth therein. Capitalized terms used in this section without definition shall have the respective meanings given such terms in the accompanying prospectus supplement.

The following summary describes certain U.S. federal income tax consequences relevant to the purchase, ownership, and disposition of ARNs. This summary applies only to holders that acquire their ARNs in this offering for a price equal to the original offering price, which we understand will be at par, and hold such ARNs as capital assets, within the meaning of Section 1221 of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"). This summary does not apply to any holder that is subject to special rules, such as:

- a dealer in securities,
- a trader in securities that elects to use a mark-to-market method of accounting for your securities holdings,
- a bank,
- a life insurance company,
- a tax-exempt organization,
- a person that owns ARNs as part of a straddle or a hedging or conversion transaction for tax purposes,
- a person that purchases or sells ARNs as part of a wash sale for tax purposes,
- a regulated investment company or real estate investment trust,
- a U.S. holder (as defined in the accompanying prospectus supplement) whose functional currency for tax purposes is not the U.S. dollar,
- a U.S. holder subject to the alternative minimum tax, or
- U.S. expatriates.

This discussion is based upon current provisions of the Code, existing and proposed Treasury Regulations thereunder, current administrative rulings, judicial decisions and other applicable authorities. All of the foregoing are subject to change, which change may apply retroactively and could affect the continued validity of this summary. This summary does not

describe any tax consequences arising under the laws of any state, locality or taxing jurisdiction other than the U.S. federal government. This discussion also does not purport to be a complete analysis of all tax considerations relating to the ARNs.

Any particular offering of ARNs may also have features or terms that cause the U.S. federal income tax treatment of such ARNs to differ materially from the discussion below. If such features are applicable to any particular offering of ARNs, the applicable pricing supplement will so state and discuss the U.S. federal income treatment of that offering. Accordingly, you should carefully review the section of the applicable pricing supplement entitled "Certain U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations". You should consult your tax advisor concerning the U.S. federal income tax and other tax consequences of your investment in ARNs in your particular circumstances, including the application of state, local or other tax laws and the possible effects of changes in federal or other tax laws.

If a partnership holds ARNs, the U.S. federal income tax treatment of a partner will generally depend on the status of the partner and the tax treatment of the partnership. You should consult your tax advisor concerning the U.S. federal income tax and other tax consequences of your investment in ARNs if you are a partner in a partnership holding ARNs.

#### General

We will not attempt to ascertain whether components of the Market Measure would be treated as a "passive foreign investment company" within the meaning of Section 1297 of the Internal Revenue Code or a "U.S. real property holding corporation" within the meaning of Section 897 of the Internal Revenue Code. If components of the Market Measure were so treated, certain adverse U.S. federal income tax consequences could possibly apply.

The U.S. federal income tax consequences of your investment in ARNs are uncertain. No statutory, judicial or administrative authority directly discusses how ARNs should be treated for U.S. federal income tax purposes. In the opinion of our counsel, Mayer Brown LLP, it would be generally reasonable to treat ARNs as pre-paid cash-settled derivative contracts. The terms of the ARNs will provide that you agree to treat ARNs in this manner for all U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Unless otherwise stated, the following discussion is based on the characterization described above. The discussion in this section assumes that there is a significant possibility of a significant loss of principal on an investment in ARNs.

#### **U.S. Holders**

Subject to the discussion below of Section 1260 of the Code, if you are a U.S. holder, you should generally recognize capital gain or loss upon the sale, exchange or payment on maturity in an amount equal to the difference between the amount you receive at such time and your tax basis in ARNs. In general, your tax basis in your ARNs will be equal to the price you paid for them. Such gain or loss should generally be long-term capital gain or loss if you have held your ARNs for more than one year. Capital gain recognized by an individual U.S. holder is generally taxed at preferential rates where the property is held for more than one year and is generally taxed at ordinary income rates where the property is held for one year or less. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to limitations. The holding period for ARNs of a U.S. holder who acquires the ARNs upon issuance will generally begin on the date after the issue date (i.e., the settlement date) of ARNs. If the ARNs are held by the same U.S. holder until maturity, that holder's holding period will generally include the maturity date. It is possible that the Internal Revenue Service could assert that a U.S. holder's holding period in respect of the ARNs should end on the date on which the amount the holder is entitled to receive upon the maturity of the ARNs is determined, even though the holder will not receive any amounts

from us in respect of the ARNs prior to the maturity of the ARNs. In such a case, a U.S. holder may be treated as having a holding period in respect of the ARNs that is one year or less even if the holder receives cash upon maturity of the ARNs at a time that is more than one year after the beginning of its holding period.

The constructive ownership rules of Section 1260 of the Code could possibly apply to ARNs that have a term in excess of one year and reference a "pass-thru entity" (as defined in Section 1260(c)(2) of the Code). Examples of "pass-thru entities" include (but are not limited to) regulated investment companies (e.g., most exchange-traded funds), real estate investment trusts, passive foreign investment companies and partnerships. It is not entirely clear how Section 1260 applies to an underlying Market Measure that is wholly or partially comprised of "pass-thru entities." We generally do not intend to make an inquiry as to whether any underlying Market Measure contains any "pass-thru entities", and it is possible that ARNs for which the underlying Market Measure contains a "pass-thru entity" could be wholly or partially subject to Section 1260 of the Code. If your ARNs were subject to Section 1260 of the Code, then, among other consequences, all or a portion of any long-term capital gain that you realize upon the sale, redemption or maturity of your ARNs would be recharacterized as ordinary income (and you would be subject to an interest charge on deferred tax liability with respect to such recharacterized amount) to the extent that such capital gain exceeds the amount of longterm capital gain that you would have realized had you purchased the actual number of interests in the applicable underlying Market Measure referenced by your ARNs on the date that you purchased your ARNs and sold those interests on the date of the sale, redemption or maturity of the ARNs. It is not clear how this computation would be made if the underlying Market Measure is partially comprised of "pass-thru entities." Accordingly, if your ARNs reference an underlying Market Measure that contains a "pass-thru entity," you should consult your tax advisor about the potential application of Section 1260 of the Code to such ARNs.

## **Alternative Treatments**

As noted above, there is no judicial or administrative authority discussing how ARNs should be treated for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Therefore, other treatments would also be reasonable and the Internal Revenue Service might assert that treatment other than that described above is more appropriate.

The Internal Revenue Service has released a notice that may affect the taxation of holders of ARNs. According to the notice, the Internal Revenue Service and the U.S. Treasury are actively considering whether the holder of an instrument such as ARNs should be required to accrue ordinary income on a current basis, and they are seeking taxpayer comments on the subject. The notice also states that the Internal Revenue Service and the Treasury Department are also considering other relevant issues, including whether gain or loss from such instruments should be treated as ordinary or capital and whether the special "constructive ownership rules" of Section 1260 of the Code might be applied to such instruments. Similarly, the Internal Revenue Service and the Treasury Department have current projects open with regard to the tax treatment of pre-paid forward contracts and contingent notional principal contracts. While it is not clear whether ARNs would be viewed as similar to instruments discussed in such notice, it is possible that any future guidance could materially and adversely affect the tax consequences of an investment in ARNs, possibly with retroactive effect.

If the Market Measure is an index that periodically rebalances, it is possible that the ARNs could be treated as a series of derivative contracts, each of which matures on the next rebalancing date. If the ARNs were properly characterized in such a manner, a holder would be treated as disposing of the ARNs on each rebalancing date in return for new derivative contracts that mature on the next rebalancing date, and a holder would accordingly likely recognize capital gain or loss on each rebalancing date equal to the difference between the holder's basis in the ARNs (which would be adjusted to take into account any prior recognition

of gain or loss) and the fair market value of the ARNs on such date.

Similarly, the Internal Revenue Service might assert, and a possible alternative treatment with respect to ARNs would be, to treat ARNs as a single debt instrument. If the ARNs have a term that exceeds one year, such a debt instrument may be subject to the special tax rules governing contingent payment debt instruments.

If ARNs are subject to such special rules applicable to contingent payment debt instruments, the amount of interest U.S. holders are required to take into account for each accrual period will be determined by constructing a projected payment schedule for ARNs and applying rules similar to those for accruing "original issue discount" or OID on a hypothetical noncontingent debt instrument with that projected payment schedule. In addition to accruing interest income in accordance with the comparable yield, a U.S. holder will be required to make adjustments if the actual amounts that holder receives in any taxable year differs from the projected payment schedule. These rules could possibly have the effect of requiring U.S. holders to include amounts in income in respect of ARNs prior to receipt of cash attributable to that income.

U.S. holders will recognize gain or loss on the sale, redemption or maturity of ARNs treated as contingent payment debt instruments in an amount equal to the difference, if any, between the amount of cash received at that time and their adjusted basis in the ARNs. In general, a U.S. holder's adjusted basis in such notes will equal the amount the holder paid for the ARNs, increased by the amount of interest that was previously accrued with respect to the ARNs. Any such gain will generally be ordinary income and any such loss will generally be ordinary loss to the extent the interest included as income in the current or previous taxable years, and thereafter will be capital loss.

Similarly, if ARNs have a term of one year or less, it is possible that ARNs could be treated as short-term contingent debt instruments. There is no statutory, judicial, or administrative authority that governs how short-term contingent debt should be treated for U.S. federal income tax purposes, and accordingly you should consult your tax advisor about this potential alternative treatment of ARNs.

It is also possible that you could be required to recognize gain or loss at any time when the underlying Market Measure (or any component thereof) is modified, adjusted, discontinued or replaced with a successor index.

You are urged to consult your tax advisors concerning the significance, and the potential impact, of the above considerations.

#### Additional Information for U.S. Holders

For information regarding backup withholding and information reporting considerations with respect to ARNs, please see the discussion under "Certain Income Tax Consequences—United States Taxation—U.S. Backup Withholding and Information Reporting" in the accompanying prospectus supplement.

#### Non-U.S. Holders

For purposes of this discussion, the term "non-U.S. holder" means a beneficial owner of ARNs that is not a partnership or other entity treated as a partnership and is not a U.S. holder. If you are a non-U.S. holder, you generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income or withholding tax for amounts paid in respect of the ARNs, provided that the payment is not effectively connected with your conduct of a U.S. trade or business. Notwithstanding the foregoing, gain from the sale or exchange of the ARNs or their settlement at maturity may be

subject to U.S. federal income tax if you are a nonresident alien individual and are present in the U.S. for 183 days or more during the taxable year of the settlement at maturity, sale or exchange and certain other conditions are satisfied.

If you are engaged in the conduct of a trade or business within the U.S. and if gain realized on the settlement at maturity, sale or exchange of the ARNs, is effectively connected with the conduct of such trade or business (and, if certain tax treaties apply, is attributable to a permanent establishment maintained by the non-U.S. holder in the U.S.), you generally will be subject to U.S. federal income tax on such gain on a net income basis in the same manner as if you were a U.S. holder as described under the heading "—U.S. Holders," above. In addition, non-U.S. holders that are foreign corporations, may also be subject to a branch profits tax equal to 30% (or such lower rate provided by any applicable tax treaty) of a portion of their earnings and profits for the taxable year that are effectively connected with its conduct of a trade or business in the U.S., subject to certain adjustments.

Notwithstanding the above, if we determine that there is a material risk that we will be required to withhold on any payments on the ARNs, we may withhold on any such payment to a non-U.S. holder at a 30% rate, unless such non-U.S. holder has provided to us (i) a valid IRS Form W-8ECI or (ii) a valid IRS Form W-8BEN or IRS Form W-8BEN-E claiming tax treaty benefits that reduce or eliminate withholding. If we elect to withhold and such non-U.S. holder has provided us with a valid IRS Form W-8BEN or IRS Form W-8BEN-E claiming tax treaty benefits that reduce or eliminate withholding, we may nevertheless withhold up to 30% on any payments if there is any possible characterization of the payments that would not be exempt from withholding under the treaty.

A dividend equivalent payment made with respect to an equity-linked instrument is treated as a U.S.-source dividend. Such payments are generally subject to a 30% U.S. withholding tax (or lower rate if a tax treaty applies) when paid to a non-U.S. holder. Treasury regulations provide that certain equity-linked instruments with payments that are contingent upon or determined by reference to U.S.-source dividends (including payments reflecting adjustments for dividends), are considered to pay dividend equivalents. Depending on the composition of the underlying companies composing the Market Measure, a note might be treated as an equity-linked instrument, which would implicate these withholding tax rules. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the regulations exempt equity-linked instruments issued prior to 2016 from these rules. Consequently, a note issued prior to 2016 will be exempt from the withholding tax rules specified for dividend equivalents.

As discussed above, alternative characterizations of the ARNs for U.S. federal income tax purposes are possible. Should an alternative characterization, by reason of change or clarification of the law, by regulation or otherwise, cause payments as to the ARNs to become subject to withholding tax, we will withhold tax at the applicable statutory rate. Prospective non-U.S. holders of the ARNs should consult their own tax advisors in this regard.

The gross estate of a non-U.S. holder domiciled outside the United States includes only property situated in the United States. ARNs may be subject to U.S. federal estate tax if an individual non-U.S. holder holds ARNs at the time of his or her death. Individual non-U.S. holders should consult their tax advisors regarding the U.S. federal estate tax consequences of holding ARNs at death.

#### **Additional Information for Investors**

For information regarding the applicability of FATCA to ARNs, please see the discussion under "Certain Income Tax Consequences—United States Taxation—Recent Legislative Developments" in the accompanying Prospectus Supplement. FATCA may impose a 30%

withholding tax on payments of gross proceeds from the sale, exchange or redemption of property that gives rise to U.S.-source dividends or interest. The Internal Revenue Service recently announced in published guidance its intent to amend the regulations to extend the effective date of withholding on gross proceeds to 1 January 2019. Similarly, the Internal Revenue Service announced its intention to delay the effective date of withholding tax on "foreign passthru payments" to the later of 1 January 2019 or the date of publication of final U.S. Treasury regulations defining such term.

#### CERTAIN CONSIDERATIONS FOR BENEFIT PLANS

Each fiduciary of a pension, profit-sharing, or other employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA") (a "Plan"), should consider the fiduciary standards of ERISA in the context of the Plan's particular circumstances before authorizing an investment in ARNs. Accordingly, among other factors, the fiduciary should consider whether the investment would satisfy the prudence and diversification requirements of ERISA and would be consistent with the documents and instruments governing the Plan.

In addition, we, the agents, and certain of our respective subsidiaries and affiliates may be each considered a party in interest within the meaning of ERISA, or a disqualified person (within the meaning of the Code), with respect to many Plans, as well as many individual retirement accounts and Keogh plans (also "**Plans**"). Prohibited transactions within the meaning of ERISA or the Code would likely arise, for example, if ARNs are acquired by or with the assets of a Plan with respect to which we or any of our affiliates is a party in interest, unless ARNs are acquired under an exemption from the prohibited transaction rules. A violation of these prohibited transaction rules could result in an excise tax or other liabilities under ERISA and/or Section 4975 of the Code for such persons, unless exemptive relief is available under an applicable statutory or administrative exemption.

Under ERISA and various prohibited transaction class exemptions ("**PTCEs**") issued by the U.S. Department of Labor, exemptive relief may be available for direct or indirect prohibited transactions resulting from the purchase, holding, or disposition of ARNs. Those exemptions are PTCE 96-23 (for certain transactions determined by in-house asset managers), PTCE 95-60 (for certain transactions involving insurance company general accounts), PTCE 91-38 (for certain transactions involving bank collective investment funds), PTCE 90-1 (for certain transactions involving insurance company separate accounts), PTCE 84-14 (for certain transactions determined by independent qualified asset managers), and the exemption under Section 408(b)(17) of ERISA and Section 4975(d)(20) of the Code for certain arm's-length transactions with a person that is a party in interest solely by reason of providing services to Plans or being an affiliate of such a service provider (the "**Service Provider Exemption**").

The fiduciary investment considerations summarized above generally apply to employee benefit plans maintained by private-sector employers and to individual retirement accounts and other arrangements subject to Section 4975 of the Code, but generally do not apply to governmental plans (as defined in Section 3(32) of ERISA), certain church plans (as defined in Section 3(33) of ERISA), and foreign plans (as described in Section 4(b)(4) of ERISA). However, these other plans may be subject to similar provisions under applicable federal, state, local, foreign, or other regulations, rules, or laws ("similar laws"). The fiduciaries of plans subject to similar laws should also consider the foregoing issues in general terms as well as any further issues arising under the applicable similar laws.

Because we may be considered a party in interest with respect to many Plans, ARNs may not be purchased, held, or disposed of by any Plan, any entity whose underlying assets include plan assets by reason of any Plan's investment in the entity (a "**Plan Asset Entity**") or any person investing plan assets of any Plan, unless such purchase, holding, or disposition is eligible for exemptive relief, including relief available under PTCE 96-23, 95-60, 91-38, 90-1, or 84-14 or the Service Provider Exemption. Any purchaser, including any fiduciary purchasing on behalf of a Plan, transferee or holder of ARNs will be deemed to have represented, in its corporate and its fiduciary capacity, by its acquisition and holding of ARNs that either (a) it is not a Plan or a Plan Asset Entity and is not purchasing such ARNs on behalf of or with plan assets of any Plan or any plan subject to similar laws or (b) an administrative or statutory exemption applies to its acquisition, holding and disposition of the ARNs so that such transactions will not constitute nonexempt prohibited transactions under Section 406 of ERISA

or Section 4975 of the Code or, in the case of a plan subject to similar laws, its acquisition, holding and disposition of ARNs will not violate any similar laws.

In addition, any purchaser, that is a Plan or a Plan Asset Entity or that is acquiring ARNs on behalf of a Plan or a Plan Asset Entity, including any fiduciary purchasing on behalf of a Plan or Plan Asset entity, will be deemed to have represented, in its corporate and its fiduciary capacity, by its purchase and holding of ARNs that (a) none of us, MLPF&S, or any of our respective affiliates is a "fiduciary" (under Section 3(21) of ERISA, or under any final or proposed regulations thereunder, or with respect to a governmental, church, or foreign plan under any similar laws) with respect to the acquisition, holding or disposition of the ARNs, or as a result of any exercise by us or our affiliates of any rights in connection with the ARNs, (b) no advice provided by us or any of our affiliates has formed a primary basis for any investment decision by or on behalf of such purchaser in connection with the ARNs and the transactions contemplated with respect to the ARNs, and (c) such purchaser recognizes and agrees that any communication from us or any of our affiliates to the purchaser with respect to the ARNs is not intended by us or any of our affiliates to be impartial investment advice and is rendered in its capacity as a seller of such ARNs and not a fiduciary to such purchaser. Purchasers of the ARNs have exclusive responsibility for ensuring that their purchase, holding, and disposition of the ARNs do not violate the prohibited transaction rules of ERISA or the Code or any similar regulations applicable to governmental or church plans, as described above.

This discussion is a general summary of some of the rules which apply to benefit plans and their related investment vehicles. This summary does not include all of the investment considerations relevant to Plans and other benefit plans such as governmental, church, and foreign plans and should not be construed as legal advice or a legal opinion. Due to the complexity of these rules and the penalties that may be imposed upon persons involved in non-exempt prohibited transactions, it is particularly important that fiduciaries or other persons considering purchasing ARNs on behalf of or with "plan assets" of any Plan or other benefit plan consult with their legal counsel prior to directing any such purchase.



# CANADIAN IMPERIAL BANK OF COMMERCE US\$2,000,000,000

# Senior Global Medium-Term Notes (Structured Notes) Terms of Sale

Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (the "Bank") may from time to time offer and sell notes with various terms, including the following:

- stated maturity of 9 months or longer, except that indexed notes may have maturities of less than nine months
- fixed or floating interest rate, zero-coupon or issued with original issue discount
- amount of principal and/or interest may be determined by reference to a market measure consisting of one or more securities, one or more currencies, one or more commodities, any other financial, economic or other measures or instruments including the occurrence or non-occurrence of any event or circumstance, and/or indices or baskets of any of these items
- ranked as senior indebtedness of the Bank

- book-entry form only through The Depository Trust Company
- redemption at the option of the Bank or the option of the holder
- interest on notes paid monthly, quarterly, semiannually or annually
- unless otherwise set forth in the applicable pricing supplement, minimum denominations of \$1,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof (except that non-U.S. investors may be subject to higher minimums)
- denominated in a currency other than U.S. dollars or in a composite currency
- settlement in immediately available funds or by physical delivery

The final terms of each note will be included in a pricing supplement together with, in some cases, an applicable product prospectus supplement. We refer to pricing supplements and applicable product prospectus supplements, if any, as "pricing supplements." See "Supplemental Plan of Distribution" for additional information about the agents' commissions. The aggregate initial offering price of the notes is subject to reduction as a result of the sale by the Bank of other debt securities pursuant to another prospectus supplement to the accompanying prospectus.

# See "Risk Factors" beginning on page S-1 to read about factors you should consider before investing in any notes.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of the securities or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The notes will not constitute deposits insured under the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation Act or by the United States Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other Canadian or United States governmental agency or instrumentality.

The Bank may sell the notes directly or through one or more agents or dealers, as described in "Supplemental Plan of Distribution." The agents are not required to sell any particular amount of the notes.

The Bank may use this prospectus supplement in the initial sale of any notes. In addition, CIBC World Markets Corp. or any other affiliate of the Bank may use this prospectus supplement and accompanying prospectus in a market-making or other transaction in any note after its initial sale. Unless we or our agent informs the purchaser otherwise in the confirmation of sale or pricing supplement, this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are being used in a market-making transaction.

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#### ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and, if applicable, a product prospectus supplement, provide you with a general description of the notes we may offer. Each time we sell notes we will provide a pricing supplement containing specific information about the terms of the notes being offered. Each pricing supplement may include a discussion of any risk factors or other special considerations that apply to those notes. The pricing supplement may also add, update or change the information in this prospectus supplement and any applicable product prospectus supplement. If there is any inconsistency between the information in this prospectus supplement and any pricing supplement, you should rely on the information in that pricing supplement. In this prospectus supplement when we refer to this prospectus supplement we are also referring to any applicable product prospectus supplement unless the context otherwise requires.

#### RISK FACTORS

# General Risks Relating to the Notes

#### An Investment in the Notes Is Subject to Our Credit Risk

An investment in any of the notes issued under our medium-term note program is subject to our credit risk. The value of the notes may be impacted by market perception of our creditworthiness. If market perception of our creditworthiness were to decline for any reason, the value of your notes may be adversely affected. If we default on our obligations under the notes, you may not receive any amounts owed to you under the notes.

#### Non-Conventional Debt Securities

The notes may not be conventional debt securities. If specified in the relevant pricing supplement, the notes may provide no assurance that any of the principal amount of the notes will be paid at or before maturity. In addition, the notes may not provide holders with a return or income stream prior to maturity calculated by reference to a fixed or floating rate of interest determinable prior to maturity. The notes, unlike traditional debt obligations, may be speculative or uncertain in that they could produce no return on a holder's original investment or not repay any principal amount at or before maturity. Prospective purchasers are directed to the relevant pricing supplement for the specific terms of the relevant securities, including any risk factors set out therein.

### Market for Notes

Unless otherwise specified in the relevant pricing supplement, there may be no market through which the notes may be sold and holders may not be able to sell notes. This may affect the pricing of the notes in the secondary market, the transparency and availability of trading prices, the liquidity of the notes, and the extent of issuer regulation.

#### No Deposit Insurance

The notes will not constitute savings accounts, deposits or other obligations that are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Bank Insurance Fund or any other governmental agency or under the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation Act, the Bank Act (Canada) or any other deposit insurance regime designed to ensure the payment of all or a portion of a deposit upon the insolvency of the deposit taking financial institution. Therefore, you will not be entitled to insurance from the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation or other such protection, and as a result, you could lose all or a portion of your investment.

#### **Risks Relating to Indexed Notes**

We use the term "indexed notes" to mean notes whose value is linked to an underlying property or index. Indexed notes may present a high level of risk, and those who invest in indexed notes may lose all or a portion of their investment and may receive no interest on their investment. In addition, the treatment of indexed notes for U.S. federal income tax purposes is often unclear due to the absence of any authority specifically addressing the issues presented by any particular indexed note. While the material U.S. and Canadian federal income tax consequences of the purchase, ownership or disposition of an indexed note will be described in the applicable pricing supplement, you should independently evaluate the U.S. and Canadian federal income tax consequences that apply in your particular circumstances.

#### Investors in Indexed Notes Could Lose Their Investment

The amount of principal and/or interest payable on an indexed note and the cash and/or physical settlement value will be determined by reference to the price, value or level of one or more securities, currencies, commodities or other properties, any other financial, economic or other measure or instrument, including the occurrence or non-occurrence of any event or circumstance, and/or one or more indices or baskets of any of these items. We refer to each of these as an "index." The direction and magnitude of the change in the price, value or level of the relevant index will determine the amount of principal and/or interest payable on the indexed note, and the cash and/or physical settlement value of an indexed note. The terms of a particular indexed note may or may not include a guaranteed return of a percentage of the face amount at maturity or a minimum interest rate. Thus, if you purchase a particular indexed note that does not include a guaranteed return of the face amount or other amount, you may lose all or a portion of the principal or other amount you invest and may receive no interest on your investment.

#### The Return on Indexed Notes May Be Below the Return on Similar Notes

Depending on the terms of an indexed note, as specified in the applicable pricing supplement, you may not receive any periodic interest payments or receive only very low payments on such indexed note. As a result, the overall return on such indexed note may be less than the amount you would have earned by investing the principal or other amount you invest in such indexed note in a non-indexed debt security that bears interest at a prevailing market fixed or floating rate.

# The Issuer of a Security or Currency That Comprises an Index Could Take Actions That May Adversely Affect an Indexed Note

The issuer of a security that comprises an index or part of an index for an indexed note will have no involvement in the offer and sale of the indexed note and no obligations to the holder of the indexed note. Such an issuer may take actions, such as a merger or sale of assets, without regard to the interests of the holder of the indexed note. Any of these actions could adversely affect the value of a note indexed to that security or to an index of which that security is a component.

If the index for an indexed note includes a non-U.S. dollar currency or other asset denominated in a non-U.S. dollar currency, the government that issues that currency will also have no involvement in the offer and sale of the indexed note and no obligations to the holder of the indexed note. That government may take actions that could adversely affect the value of the note. See "Risks Relating to Notes Denominated or Payable in a Non-U.S. Dollar Currency" below for more information about these kinds of government actions.

# Investors in Indexed Notes Will Have No Ownership of the Underlying Securities

Investing in an indexed note will not entitle a holder to any direct or indirect ownership or entitlement to the underlying securities, except as specified in the relevant pricing supplement. A holder will not be entitled to the rights and benefits of a holder of the underlying securities, including any right to receive any distributions or dividends or to vote at or attend any meetings of holders of the underlying securities.

#### An Indexed Note May Be Linked to a Volatile Index, Which Could Hurt Your Investment

Some indices are highly volatile, which means that their value may change significantly, up or down, over a short period of time. The amount of principal and/or interest that can be expected to become payable on an indexed note may vary substantially from time to time. Because the amounts payable with respect to an indexed note are generally calculated based on the value or level of the relevant index on a specified date or over a limited period of time, volatility in the index increases the risk that the return on the indexed note may be adversely affected by a fluctuation in the level of the relevant index. The volatility of an index may be affected by political or economic events, including governmental actions, or by the activities of participants in the relevant markets. Any of these events or activities could adversely affect the value of an indexed note.

# An Index to Which a Note Is Linked Could Be Changed or Become Unavailable

Some indices sponsored by us or our affiliates or third parties may consist of or refer to several or many different securities, commodities or currencies or other instruments or measures. The sponsor of such an index typically reserves the right to alter the composition of the index and the manner in which the value or level of the index is calculated. An alteration may result in a decrease in the value of or return on an indexed note that is linked to the index. The indices for our indexed notes may include published indices of this kind or customized indices developed by us or our affiliates in connection with particular issues of indexed notes.

A published index may become unavailable, or a customized index may become impossible to calculate in the normal manner, due to events such as war, natural disasters, cessation of publication of the index, a suspension or disruption of trading in one or more securities, commodities or currencies or other instruments or measures on which the index is based or any other market disruption event described in the relevant pricing supplement. If an index becomes unavailable or impossible to calculate in the normal manner, the terms of a particular indexed note may allow us to delay determining the amount payable as principal or premium or interest on an indexed note, or we may use an alternative method to determine the value of the unavailable index. Alternative methods of valuation are generally intended to produce a value similar to the value resulting from reference to the relevant index. However, it is unlikely that any alternative method of valuation we use will produce a value identical to the value that the actual index would have produced. If we use an alternative method of valuation for a note linked to an index of this kind, the value of the note, or the rate of return on it, may be lower than it otherwise would be.

Some indexed notes are linked to indices that are not commonly used or that have been developed only recently. The lack of a trading history may make it difficult to anticipate the volatility or other risks associated with an indexed note of this kind. In addition, trading in these indices or their underlying stocks, commodities or currencies or other instruments or measures, or options or futures contracts on these stocks, commodities or currencies or other instruments or measures, may be limited, which could increase their volatility and decrease the value of the related indexed notes or the rates of return on them.

# Pricing Information About the Property Underlying a Relevant Index May Not Be Available

Special risks may also be presented because of differences in time zones between the United States and the market for the property underlying the relevant index, such that the underlying property is traded on a foreign exchange that is not open when the trading market for the notes in the United States, if any, is open or where trading occurs in the underlying property during times when the trading market for the notes in the United States, if any, is closed. In such cases, holders of the notes may have to make investment decisions at a time when current pricing information regarding the property underlying the relevant index is not available.

# We May Engage in Hedging Activities that Could Adversely Affect an Indexed Note

In order to hedge an exposure on a particular indexed note, we may, directly or through our affiliates or other agents, enter into transactions involving the securities, commodities or currencies or other instruments or measures that underlie the index for the note, or involving derivative instruments, such as swaps, options or

futures, on the index or any of its component items. To the extent that we enter into hedging arrangements with a non-affiliate, including a non-affiliate agent, such non-affiliate may enter into similar transactions. Engaging in transactions of this kind could adversely affect the value of an indexed note. It is possible that we or the hedging counterparty could achieve substantial returns and/or fees from our hedging transactions while the value of the indexed note may decline. However, neither we nor any of our affiliates or other agents will be obliged to hedge our exposure under an indexed note nor is there any assurance that any hedging transaction will be maintained or successful.

#### Information About Indices May Not Be Indicative of Future Performance

If we issue an indexed note, we may include historical information about the relevant index in the relevant pricing supplement. Any information about indices that we may provide will be furnished as a matter of information only, and you should not regard the information as indicative of the range of, or trends in, fluctuations in the relevant index that may occur in the future or indicative of any payment of principal or interest to be paid on the indexed notes.

### We May Have Conflicts of Interest Regarding an Indexed Note

CIBC World Markets Corp. and our other affiliates may have conflicts of interest with respect to some indexed notes. CIBC World Markets Corp. and our other affiliates may engage in trading, including trading for hedging purposes, for their proprietary accounts or for other accounts under their management, in indexed notes and in the securities, commodities or currencies or other instruments or measures on which the index for such notes is based or in other derivative instruments related to the index or its component items. These trading activities could adversely affect the value of indexed notes. We and our affiliates may also issue or underwrite securities or derivative instruments that are linked to the same index as one or more indexed notes. By introducing competing products into the marketplace in this manner, we could adversely affect the value of a particular indexed note.

CIBC World Markets Corp. or another of our affiliates may serve as calculation agent for the indexed notes and may have considerable discretion in calculating the amounts payable in respect of the notes. To the extent that CIBC World Markets Corp. or another of our affiliates calculates or compiles a particular index, it may also have considerable discretion in performing the calculation or compilation of the index. Exercising discretion in this manner could adversely affect the value of an indexed note based on the index or the rate of return on the note.

# **Risks Relating to Floating Rate Notes**

#### Floating Rates of Interest are Uncertain and Could be 0.0%

If your notes are floating rate notes or otherwise directly linked to a floating rate for some portion of the notes' term, no interest will accrue on the notes with respect to any interest period for which the applicable floating rate specified in the applicable pricing supplement is zero on the related interest rate reset date. Floating interest rates, by their very nature, fluctuate, and may be as low as 0.0%. Also, in certain economic environments, floating rates of interest may be less than fixed rates of interest for instruments with a similar credit quality and term. As a result, the return you receive on your notes may be less than a fixed rate security issued for a similar term by a comparable issuer.

# Changes in Banks' Inter-bank Lending Rate Reporting Practices or the Method Pursuant to which LIBOR is Determined May Adversely Affect the Value of Securities to which LIBOR Relates

Concerns have been expressed that some of the member banks surveyed by the British Bankers' Association (the "BBA") in 2008 in connection with the calculation of daily LIBOR rates may have been under-reporting the inter-bank lending rate applicable to them in order to avoid an appearance of capital insufficiency or adverse reputational or other consequences that may result from reporting higher interbank lending rates. As a result, the

LIBOR rate-fixing process was changed by increasing the number of banks surveyed to set a LIBOR rate. As of February 1, 2014, Intercontinental Exchange Benchmark Administration Ltd. became responsible for determining LIBOR. Future changes in the method under which the LIBOR rates are determined may occur, and result in a sudden or prolonged decrease in the reported LIBOR rates, which may adversely affect the level of interest payments and the value of the notes.

# Risks Relating to Notes Denominated or Payable in or Linked to a Non-U.S. Dollar Currency

If you intend to invest in a non-U.S. dollar note—e.g., a note whose principal and/or interest is payable in a currency other than U.S. dollars or that may be settled by delivery of or reference to a non-U.S. dollar currency or property denominated in or otherwise linked to a non-U.S. dollar currency—you should consult your own financial and legal advisors as to the currency risks entailed by your investment. Notes of this kind may not be an appropriate investment for investors who are unsophisticated with respect to non-U.S. dollar currency transactions.

#### An Investment in a Non-U.S. Dollar Note Involves Currency-Related Risks

An investment in a non-U.S. dollar note entails significant risks that are not associated with a similar investment in a note that is payable solely in U.S. dollars and where settlement value is not otherwise based on a non-U.S. dollar currency. These risks include the possibility of significant changes in rates of exchange between the U.S. dollar and the various non-U.S. dollar currencies or composite currencies and the possibility of the imposition or modification of foreign exchange controls or other conditions by either the United States or non-U.S. governments. These risks generally depend on factors over which we have no control, such as economic and political events and the supply of and demand for the relevant currencies in the global markets.

#### Changes in Currency Exchange Rates Can Be Volatile and Unpredictable

Rates of exchange between the U.S. dollar and many other currencies have been highly volatile, and this volatility may continue and perhaps spread to other currencies in the future. Fluctuations in currency exchange rates could adversely affect an investment in a note denominated in, or where value is otherwise linked to, a specified currency other than U.S. dollars. Depreciation of the specified currency against the U.S. dollar could result in a decrease in the U.S. dollar-equivalent value of payments on the note, including the principal payable at maturity. That in turn could cause the market value of the note to fall. Depreciation of the specified currency against the U.S. dollar could result in a loss to the investor on a U.S. dollar basis.

# Government Policy Can Adversely Affect Foreign Currency Exchange Rates and an Investment in a Non-U.S. Dollar Note

Foreign currency exchange rates can either float or be fixed by sovereign governments. From time to time, governments use a variety of techniques, such as intervention by a country's central bank or imposition of regulatory controls or taxes, to affect the exchange rate of their currencies. Governments may also issue a new currency to replace an existing currency or alter the exchange rate or exchange characteristics by devaluation or revaluation of a currency. Thus, a special risk in purchasing non-U.S. dollar notes is that their yields or payouts could be significantly and unpredictably affected by governmental actions. Even in the absence of governmental action directly affecting currency exchange rates, political or economic developments in the country issuing the specified currency for a non-U.S. dollar note or elsewhere could lead to significant and sudden changes in the exchange rate between the U.S. dollar and the specified currency. These changes could affect the value of the note as participants in the global currency markets move to buy or sell the specified currency or U.S. dollars in reaction to these developments.

Governments have imposed from time to time and may in the future impose exchange controls or other conditions, including taxes, with respect to the exchange or transfer of a specified currency that could affect

exchange rates as well as the availability of a specified currency for a note at its maturity or on any other payment date. In addition, the ability of a holder to move currency freely out of the country in which payment in the currency is received or to convert the currency at a freely determined market rate could be limited by governmental actions.

# Non-U.S. Dollar Notes May Permit Us to Make Payments in U.S. Dollars or Delay Payment If We Are Unable to Obtain the Specified Currency

Non-U.S. dollar notes may provide that, if the specified currency is subject to convertibility, transferability, market disruption or other conditions affecting its availability at or about the time when a payment on the notes comes due because of circumstances beyond our control, we will be entitled to make the payment in U.S. dollars or delay making the payment. These circumstances could include the imposition of exchange controls or our inability to obtain the specified currency because of a disruption in the currency markets. If we make payment in U.S. dollars, the exchange rate we would use would be determined in the manner described in the applicable pricing supplement. A determination of this kind may be based on limited information and would involve discretion on the part of our exchange rate agent, which may be an affiliate of ours. As a result, the value of the payment in U.S. dollars an investor would receive on the payment date may be less than the value of the payment the investor would have received in the specified currency if it had been available, or may be zero. In addition, a government may impose extraordinary taxes on transfers of a currency. If that happens we will be entitled to deduct these taxes from any payment on securities payable in that currency.

#### In a Lawsuit for Payment on a Non-U.S. Dollar Note, an Investor May Bear Currency Exchange Risk

The notes will be governed by New York law. Under Section 27 of the New York Judiciary Law, a state court in the State of New York rendering a judgment on a non-U.S. dollar note would be required to render the judgment in the specified currency. However, the judgment would be converted into U.S. dollars at the exchange rate prevailing on the date of entry of the judgment. Consequently, in a lawsuit for payment on a non-U.S. dollar Note, investors would bear currency exchange risk until judgment is entered, which may take a significant period of time. In courts outside of New York, investors may not be able to obtain judgment in a specified currency other than U.S. dollars. For example, a judgment for money in an action based on a non-U.S. dollar note in many other U.S. federal or state courts ordinarily would be enforced in the United States only in U.S. dollars. The date used to determine the rate of conversion of the currency in which any particular security is denominated into U.S. dollars will depend upon various factors, including which court renders the judgment.

#### Determinations Made by the Exchange Rate Agent

All determinations made by the exchange rate agent will be made in its sole discretion (except to the extent expressly provided in this prospectus supplement or the applicable pricing supplement that any determination is subject to approval by the Bank). In the absence of manifest error, its determinations will be conclusive for all purposes and will bind all holders and us. The exchange rate agent will not have any liability for its determinations.

#### Information About Exchange Rates May Not Be Indicative of Future Performance

If we issue a non-U.S. dollar note, we may include in the relevant pricing supplement a currency supplement that provides information about historical exchange rates for the relevant non-U.S. dollar currency or currencies. Any information about exchange rates that we may provide will be furnished as a matter of information only, and you should not regard the information as indicative of the range of, or trends in, fluctuations in currency exchange rates that may occur in the future. That rate will likely differ from the exchange rate used under the terms that apply to a particular note.

## Non-U.S. Investors May Be Subject to Certain Additional Risks

If we issue a U.S. dollar note and you are a non-U.S. investor who purchased such notes with a currency other than U.S. dollars, changes in rates of exchange may have an adverse effect on the value, price or income of your investment.

This prospectus supplement contains a general description of certain U.S. and Canadian tax consequences relating to the notes. If you are a non-U.S. investor, you should consult your tax advisors as to the consequences, under the tax laws of the country where you are resident for tax purposes, of acquiring, holding and disposing of notes and receiving payments of principal or other amounts under the notes.

#### **USE OF PROCEEDS**

Except as otherwise set forth in a pricing supplement, the net proceeds from the sale of any notes will be added to our general funds and will be used for general banking purposes.

#### DESCRIPTION OF THE NOTES WE MAY OFFER

You should carefully read the description of the terms and provisions of our debt securities and our indenture under "Description of Senior Debt Securities" in the accompanying prospectus. That section, together with this prospectus supplement and the applicable pricing supplement, summarizes all the material terms of our indenture and your note. They do not, however, describe every aspect of our indenture and your note. For example, in this section entitled "Description of the Notes We May Offer", the accompanying prospectus and the applicable pricing supplement, we use terms that have been given special meanings in our indenture, but we describe the meanings of only the more important of those terms. The specific terms of any series of notes will be described in the relevant pricing supplement. As you read this section, please remember that the specific terms of your note as described in your pricing supplement will supplement and, if applicable, may modify or replace the general terms described in this section. If your pricing supplement is inconsistent with this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus, your pricing supplement will control with regard to your note. Thus, the statements we make in this section may not apply to your note.

#### General

The notes will be issued under our indenture, dated as of September 15, 2012, between the Bank and Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, as trustee, and as further amended from time to time, which we may refer to as the indenture. The notes constitute a single series of debt securities of the Bank issued under the indenture. The term "debt securities", as used in this prospectus supplement, refers to all debt securities, including the notes, issued and issuable from time to time under the indenture. The indenture is subject to, and governed by, the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended. The indenture is more fully described below in this section. Whenever we refer to specific provisions or defined terms in the indenture, those provisions or defined terms are incorporated in this prospectus supplement by reference. Section references used in this discussion are references to the indenture. Capitalized terms which are not otherwise defined shall have the meanings given to them in the indenture.

The notes will be limited to an aggregate initial offering price of US\$2,000,000,000 or at our option if so specified in the relevant pricing supplement, the equivalent of this amount in any other currency or currency unit, and will be our direct, unsecured obligations. This aggregate initial offering price is subject to reduction as a result of the sale by us of other debt securities pursuant to another prospectus supplement to the accompanying prospectus. The notes will not constitute deposits insured under the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation Act or by the United States Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other Canadian or United States governmental agency or instrumentality.

We will offer the notes on a continuous basis through one or more agents listed in the section entitled "Supplemental Plan of Distribution" in this prospectus supplement. The indenture does not limit the aggregate principal amount of senior notes that we may issue. We may, from time to time, without the consent of the holders of the notes, provide for the issuance of notes or other debt securities under the indenture in addition to the US\$2,000,000,000 aggregate initial offering price of notes noted on the cover of this prospectus supplement. Each note issued under this prospectus supplement will have a stated maturity that will be specified in the applicable pricing supplement and may be subject to redemption or repayment before its stated maturity. As a general matter, each note will mature nine months or more from its date of issue, except that indexed notes may have a maturity of less than nine months. Notes may be issued at significant discounts from their principal amount due on the stated maturity (or on any prior date on which the principal or an installment of principal of a note becomes due and payable, whether by the declaration of acceleration, call for redemption at our option, repayment at the option of the holder or otherwise), and some notes may not bear interest. We may from time to time, without the consent of the existing holders of the relevant notes, create and issue further notes having the same terms and conditions as such notes in all respects, except for the issue date, issue price and, if applicable, the first payment of interest thereon.

Unless we specify otherwise in the relevant pricing supplement, currency amounts in this prospectus supplement are expressed in U.S. dollars. Unless we specify otherwise in any note and pricing supplement, the notes will be denominated in U.S. dollars and payments of principal, premium, if any, and any interest on the notes will be made in U.S. dollars. If any note is to be denominated other than exclusively in U.S. dollars, or if the principal of, premium, if any, or any interest on the note is to be paid in one or more currencies (or currency units or in amounts determined by reference to an index or indices) other than that in which that note is denominated, additional information (including authorized denominations and related exchange rate and exchange agent information) will be provided in the relevant pricing supplement. Unless we specify otherwise in any pricing supplement, notes denominated in U.S. dollars will be issued in minimum denominations of \$1,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof (except that non-U.S. investors may be subject to higher minimums).

Interest rates that we offer on the notes may differ depending upon, among other factors, the aggregate principal amount of notes purchased in any single transaction. Notes with different variable terms other than interest rates may also be offered concurrently to different investors. We may change interest rates or formulas and other terms of notes from time to time, but no change of terms will affect any note we have previously issued or as to which we have accepted an offer to purchase.

Each note will be issued as a book-entry note in fully registered form without coupons. Each note issued in book-entry form may be represented by a global note that we deposit with and register in the name of a financial institution or its nominee, that we select. The financial institution that we select for this purpose is called the depositary. Unless we specify otherwise in the applicable pricing supplement, The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York, will be the depositary for all notes in global form. Except as discussed in the accompanying prospectus under "Description of Senior Debt Securities—Ownership and Book-Entry Issuance", owners of beneficial interests in book-entry notes will not be entitled to physical delivery of notes in certificated form. We will make payments of principal of, and premium, if any and interest, if any, on the notes through the trustee or applicable paying agent to the depositary for the notes.

## **Legal Ownership**

Street Name and Other Indirect Holders

Investors who hold their notes in accounts at banks or brokers will generally not be recognized by us as legal holders of notes. This is called holding in street name. Instead, we would recognize only the bank or broker, or the financial institution the bank or broker uses to hold its notes. These intermediary banks, brokers and other financial institutions pass along principal, interest and other payments on the notes, either because they agree to do so in their customer agreements or because they are legally required to do so. If you hold your notes in street name, you should check with your own institution to find out:

- how it handles note payments and notices;
- whether it imposes fees or charges;
- how it would handle voting if it were ever required;
- whether and how you can instruct it to send you notes registered in your own name so you can be a
  direct holder as described below; and
- how it would pursue rights under the notes if there were a default or other event triggering the need for holders to act to protect their interests.

#### Direct Holders

Our obligations, as well as the obligations of the trustee and those of any third parties employed by us or the trustee, under the notes run only to persons who are registered as holders of notes. As noted above, we do not have obligations to you if you hold in street name or other indirect means, either because you choose to hold your notes in that manner or because the notes are issued in the form of global securities as described below. For example, once we make a payment to the registered holder we have no further responsibility for the payment even if that holder is legally required to pass the payment along to you as a street name customer but does not do so.

#### **Global Notes**

A global note is a special type of indirectly held security, as described above under "—Legal Ownership— Street Name and Other Indirect Holders." If we choose to issue notes in the form of global notes, the ultimate beneficial owners of global notes can only be indirect holders. We require that the global note be registered in the name of a financial institution we select.

We also require that the notes included in the global note not be transferred to the name of any other direct holder except in the special circumstances described in the accompanying prospectus in the section "Description of Senior Debt Securities—Ownership and Book-Entry Issuance." The financial institution that acts as the sole direct holder of the global note is called the depositary. Any person wishing to own a global note must do so indirectly by virtue of an account with a broker, bank or other financial institution, known as a "participant", that in turn has an account with the depositary. The pricing supplement indicates whether your series of notes will be issued only in the form of global notes.

Further details of legal ownership are discussed in the accompanying prospectus in the section "Description of Senior Debt Securities—Ownership and Book-Entry Issuance."

In the remainder of this description, "you" or "holder" means direct holders and not street name or other indirect holders of notes. Indirect holders should read the previous subsection titled "—Legal Ownership—Street Name and Other Indirect Holders."

# **Types of Notes**

We may issue the following four types of notes:

- *Fixed Rate Notes*. A note of this type will bear interest at a fixed rate described in the applicable pricing supplement. This type includes zero-coupon notes, which bear no interest and are instead issued at a price lower than the principal amount.
- Floating Rate Notes. A note of this type will bear interest at rates that are determined by reference to an interest rate formula. In some cases, the rates may also be adjusted by adding or subtracting a spread or multiplying by a spread multiplier and may be subject to a minimum rate or a maximum rate. The various interest rate formulas and these other features are described below in "—Interest Rates—Floating Rate Notes." If your note is a floating rate note, the formula and any adjustments that apply to the interest rate will be specified in your pricing supplement.
- Indexed Notes. A note of this type provides that the amount payable at its maturity, and/or the amount
  of interest payable on an interest payment date, will be determined by reference to a "market measure"
  consisting of:
  - one or more securities;
  - one or more currencies;
  - one or more commodities;
  - any other financial, economic or other measures or instruments, including the occurrence or non-occurrence of any event or circumstance; and/or
  - indices or baskets of any of these items.

If you are a holder of an indexed note, you may receive an amount at maturity that is greater than or less than the face amount of your note depending upon the value of the applicable index at maturity, and if the note is not principal protected, you may receive nothing at all. That value may fluctuate over time. If you purchase an indexed note the relevant pricing supplement will include information about the relevant index and how amounts that are to become payable will be determined by reference to that index. In addition, the relevant pricing supplement will specify whether your note will be payable in cash or exchangeable for securities of an issuer other than the Bank or other property. The relevant pricing supplement will describe the material U.S. and Canadian federal income tax consequences of the purchase, ownership or disposition of an indexed note. Before you purchase any Indexed note, you should read carefully the section entitled "Risk Factors—Risks Relating to Indexed Notes" above.

Convertible or Exchangeable Notes. A note of this type will be convertible or exchangeable, at our option or the option of the holder, into securities of an issuer other than the Bank or into other property. The convertible or exchangeable notes may or may not bear interest or be issued with original issue discount or at a premium. The general terms of the convertible or exchangeable notes are described below. The relevant pricing supplement will describe the material U.S. and Canadian federal income tax considerations relevant to the acquisition of convertible or exchangeable notes.

Optionally Convertible or Exchangeable Notes. The holder of an optionally convertible or exchangeable note may, during a specified period or at specific times, exchange the note for the underlying property at a specified rate of exchange. If specified in the relevant pricing supplement, we will have the option to redeem the optionally convertible or exchangeable note prior to maturity. If the holder of an optionally convertible or exchangeable note does not elect to convert or exchange the note prior to maturity or on any redemption date, the holder will receive the principal amount of the note (and any premium) plus any accrued interest at maturity or upon redemption.

Mandatorily Convertible or Exchangeable Notes. At maturity, the holder of a mandatorily convertible or exchangeable note must, under certain circumstances, convert or exchange the note for the

underlying property at a specified rate of conversion or exchange, and, therefore, depending upon the value of the underlying property at maturity, the holder of a mandatorily convertible or exchangeable note may receive less than the principal amount of the note at maturity. If so indicated in the relevant pricing supplement, the specified rate at which a mandatorily convertible or exchangeable note may be converted or exchanged may vary depending on the value of the underlying property so that, upon conversion or exchange, the holder participates in a percentage, which may be less than, equal to, or greater than 100% of the change in value of the underlying property. Mandatorily convertible or exchangeable notes may include notes where we have the right, but not the obligation, to require holders of notes to convert or exchange their notes for the underlying property.

Payments upon Conversion or Exchange. The relevant pricing supplement will specify if upon conversion or exchange, at maturity or otherwise, the holder of a convertible or exchangeable note may receive, at the specified exchange rate, either the underlying property or the cash value of the underlying property. The underlying property may be the securities of either U.S. or foreign entities or both. The convertible or exchangeable notes may or may not provide for protection against fluctuations in the exchange rate between the currency in which that security is denominated and the currency or currencies in which the market prices of the underlying security or securities are quoted. Convertible or exchangeable notes may have other terms, which will be specified in the relevant pricing supplement.

Special Requirements for Conversion or Exchange of Global Notes. If an optionally convertible or exchangeable note is represented by a global note, the depositary's nominee will be the holder of that note and therefore will be the only entity that can exercise a right to convert or exchange. In order to ensure that the depositary's nominee will timely exercise a right to convert or exchange a particular optionally convertible or exchangeable note or any portion of that particular note, the beneficial owner of the note must instruct the broker or other direct or indirect participant through which it holds an interest in that note to notify the depositary of its desire to exercise a right to convert or exchange. Different firms have different deadlines for accepting instructions from their customers. Each beneficial owner should consult the broker or other participant through which it holds an interest in an optionally convertible or exchangeable note in order to ascertain the deadline for ensuring that timely notice will be delivered to the depositary.

Payments upon Acceleration of Maturity or upon Tax Redemption. If the principal amount payable at maturity of any convertible or exchangeable note is declared due and payable prior to maturity, the amount payable on:

- an optionally convertible or exchangeable note will equal the face amount of the note (and any premium) plus accrued interest, if any, to but excluding the date of payment, except that if a holder has converted or exchanged an optionally convertible or exchangeable note prior to the date of declaration or tax redemption without having received the amount due upon exchange, the amount payable will be an amount of cash equal to the amount due upon conversion or exchange and will not include any accrued but unpaid interest; and
- a mandatorily convertible or exchangeable note will equal an amount (and any premium)
  determined as if the date of declaration or tax redemption were the maturity date plus accrued
  interest, if any, to but excluding the date of payment.

# **Original Issue Discount Notes**

A fixed rate note, a floating rate note or an indexed note may be an original issue discount note. A note of this type is issued at a price lower than its principal amount and provides that, upon redemption or acceleration of its maturity, an amount less than its principal amount will be payable. An original issue discount note may be a zero-coupon note. A note issued at a discount to its principal may, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, be

considered an original issue discount note, regardless of the amount payable upon redemption or acceleration of maturity. See "Tax Consequences—Taxation of Debt Securities" in the accompanying prospectus for a brief description of the U.S. federal income tax consequences of owning an original issue discount note.

# **Information in the Pricing Supplement**

Your pricing supplement will describe one or more of the following terms of your note:

- the CUSIP number;
- the stated maturity;
- the specified currency or currencies for principal and interest, if not U.S. dollars;
- if other than \$1,000 and integral multiples thereof, the denominations in which the notes may be issued;
- the price at which we originally issue your note and the original issue date;
- whether your note is a fixed rate note, a floating rate note, an indexed note or a convertible or exchangeable note;
- if your note is a fixed rate note, the yearly rate at which your note will bear interest, if any, and the interest payment dates;
- if your note is a floating rate note, the interest rate basis, which may be one of the nine interest rate bases described in "—Interest Rates—Floating Rate Notes" below; any applicable index currency or maturity, spread or spread multiplier or initial, maximum or minimum rate; and the interest reset, determination, calculation and payment dates, all of which we describe under "—Interest Rates—Floating Rate Notes" below;
- if your note is an indexed note, the principal amount, if any, we will pay you at maturity, the amount of interest, if any, we will pay you on an interest payment date or the formula we will use to calculate these amounts, if any, and whether your note will be exchangeable for cash, securities of an issuer other than the Bank or other property;
- if your note is a convertible or exchangeable note, the securities or property into which the note may be converted or for which it may be exchanged; whether the note is convertible or exchangeable at your option or at the Bank's option; and the other items described in "Types of Notes—Convertible or Exchangeable Notes" above;
- if your note is an original issue discount note, the yield to maturity;
- if applicable, the circumstances under which your note may be redeemed at our option before the stated maturity, including any redemption commencement date, redemption price(s) and redemption period(s);
- if applicable, the circumstances under which you may demand repayment of your note before the stated maturity, including any repayment commencement date, repayment price(s) and repayment period(s);
- any material Canadian or United States federal income tax consequences of the purchase, ownership or disposition of a particular issuance of notes;
- the use of proceeds, if materially different than those discussed in this prospectus supplement; and
- any other terms of your note, which could be different from those described in this prospectus supplement.

#### **Market-Making Transactions**

If you purchase your note in a market-making transaction, you will receive information about the price you pay and your trade and settlement dates in a separate confirmation of sale. A market-making transaction is one in

which an agent or other dealer resells a note that it has previously acquired from another holder. A market-making transaction in a particular note occurs after the original sale of the note. See "Plan of Distribution (Conflicts of Interest)" in the accompanying prospectus and "Supplemental Plan of Distribution (Conflicts of Interest)" below.

### Redemption at the Option of the Bank; No Sinking Fund

If an initial redemption date is specified in the applicable pricing supplement, we may redeem the particular notes prior to their stated maturity date at our option on any date on or after that initial redemption date in whole or from time to time in part in increments of \$1,000 or any other integral multiple of an authorized denomination specified in the applicable pricing supplement (provided that any remaining principal amount thereof shall be at least \$1,000 or other minimum authorized denomination applicable thereto), at the redemption price or prices specified in that pricing supplement, together with unpaid interest accrued thereon to the date of redemption. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, we must give written notice to registered holders of the particular notes to be redeemed at our option not more than 60 nor less than 30 calendar days prior to the date of redemption.

The notes will not be subject to, or entitled to the benefit of, any sinking fund.

# Repayment at the Option of the Holder

If one or more optional repayment dates are specified in the applicable pricing supplement, registered holders of the particular notes may require us to repay those notes prior to their stated maturity date on any optional repayment date in whole or from time to time in part in increments of \$1,000 or any other integral multiple of an authorized denomination specified in the applicable pricing supplement (provided that any remaining principal amount thereof shall be at least \$1,000 or other minimum authorized denomination applicable thereto), at the repayment price or prices specified in that pricing supplement, together with unpaid interest accrued thereon to the date of repayment. A registered holder's exercise of the repayment option will be irrevocable.

For any note to be repaid, the applicable trustee must receive, at its corporate trust office in the Borough of Manhattan, The City of New York, not more than 60 nor less than 30 calendar days prior to the date of repayment, the particular notes to be repaid and, in the case of a book-entry note, repayment instructions from the applicable beneficial owner to the depositary and forwarded by the depositary. Only the depositary may exercise the repayment option in respect of global notes representing book-entry notes. Accordingly, beneficial owners of global notes that desire to have all or any portion of the book-entry notes represented thereby repaid must instruct the participant through which they own their interest to direct the depositary to exercise the repayment option on their behalf by forwarding the repayment instructions to the applicable trustee as aforesaid. In order to ensure that these instructions are received by the applicable trustee on a particular day, the applicable beneficial owner must so instruct the participant through which it owns its interest before that participant's deadline for accepting instructions for that day. Different firms may have different deadlines for accepting instructions from their customers. Accordingly, beneficial owners should consult their participants for the respective deadlines. In addition, at the time repayment instructions are given, each beneficial owner shall cause the participant through which it owns its interest to transfer the beneficial owner's interest in the global note representing the related book-entry notes, on the depositary's records, to the applicable trustee.

If applicable, we will comply with the requirements of Section 14(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "*Exchange Act*"), and the rules promulgated thereunder, and any other securities laws or regulations in connection with any repayment of notes at the option of the registered holders thereof.

We may at any time purchase notes at any price or prices in the open market or otherwise. Notes so purchased by us may, at our discretion, be held, resold or surrendered to the applicable trustee for cancellation.

#### **Interest**

Each interest-bearing note will bear interest from its date of issue at the rate per annum, in the case of a fixed rate note, or pursuant to the interest rate formula, in the case of a floating rate note, in each case as specified in the applicable pricing supplement. We will make interest payments in respect of fixed rate notes and floating rate notes in an amount equal to the interest accrued from and including the immediately preceding interest payment date in respect of which interest has been paid or from and including the date of issue, if no interest has been paid, to but excluding the applicable interest payment date or the maturity date, as the case may be (each, an "interest period").

Interest on fixed rate notes and floating rate notes will be payable in arrears on each interest payment date and on the maturity date. The first payment of interest on any note originally issued between a regular record date and the related interest payment date will be made on the interest payment date immediately following the next succeeding record date to the registered holder on the next succeeding record date. The "regular record date" shall be the fifteenth calendar day, whether or not a "business day", immediately preceding the related interest payment date. "Business day" is defined below under "—Interest Rates—Special Rate Calculation Terms." For the purpose of determining the holder at the close of business on a regular record date when business is not being conducted, the close of business will mean 5:00 P.M., New York City time, on that day.

#### **Interest Rates**

This subsection describes the different kinds of interest rates that may apply to your note, if it bears interest.

Fixed Rate Notes

The relevant pricing supplement will specify the interest payment dates for a fixed rate note as well as the maturity date. Interest on fixed rate notes will be computed on the basis of a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months or such other day count fraction set forth in the pricing supplement.

If any interest payment date, redemption date, repayment date or maturity date of a fixed rate note falls on a day that is not a business day, we will make the required payment of principal, premium, if any, and/or interest on the next succeeding business day, and no additional interest will accrue in respect of the payment made on that next succeeding business day.

Floating Rate Notes

In this subsection, we use several specialized terms relating to the manner in which floating interest rates are calculated. These terms appear in bold, italicized type the first time they appear, and we define these terms in "—Special Rate Calculation Terms" at the end of this subsection.

The following will apply to floating rate notes.

*Interest Rate Basis.* We currently expect to issue floating rate notes that bear interest at rates based on one or more of the following interest rate bases:

- commercial paper rate;
- U.S. prime rate;
- · LIBOR;
- EURIBOR;
- treasury rate;

- CMT rate;
- CMS rate; and/or
- federal funds rate.

We describe each of the interest rate bases in further detail below in this subsection. If you purchase a floating rate note, your pricing supplement will specify the interest rate basis that applies to your note.

Calculation of Interest. Calculations relating to floating rate notes will be made by the calculation agent, an institution that we appoint as our agent for this purpose. That institution may include any affiliate of ours, such as CIBC World Markets Corp. The pricing supplement for a particular floating rate note will name the institution that we have appointed to act as the calculation agent for that note as of its original issue date. We may appoint a different institution to serve as calculation agent from time to time after the original issue date of the note without your consent and without notifying you of the change.

For each floating rate note, the calculation agent will determine, on the corresponding interest calculation date or on the interest determination date, as described below, the interest rate that takes effect on each interest reset date. In addition, the calculation agent will calculate the amount of interest that has accrued during each interest period—that is, the period from and including the original issue date, or the last date to which interest has been paid or made available for payment, to but excluding the payment date. For each interest period, the calculation agent will calculate the amount of accrued interest by multiplying the face or other specified amount of the floating rate note by an accrued interest factor for the interest period. This factor will equal the sum of the interest factors calculated for each day during the interest period. The interest factor for each day will be expressed as a decimal and will be calculated by dividing the interest rate, also expressed as a decimal, applicable to that day by 360 or by the actual number of days in the year, as specified in the relevant pricing supplement.

Upon the request of the holder of any floating rate note, the calculation agent will provide for that note the interest rate then in effect—and, if determined, the interest rate that will become effective on the next interest reset date. The calculation agent's determination of any interest rate, and its calculation of the amount of interest for any interest period, will be final and binding in the absence of manifest error.

All percentages resulting from any calculation relating to a note will be rounded upward or downward, as appropriate, to the next higher or lower one hundred-thousandth of a percentage point, e.g., 9.876541% (or .09876541) being rounded down to 9.87654% (or .0987654) and 9.876545% (or .09876545) being rounded up to 9.87655% (or .0987655). All amounts used in or resulting from any calculation relating to a floating rate note will be rounded upward or downward, as appropriate, to the nearest cent, in the case of U.S. dollars, or to the nearest corresponding hundredth of a unit, in the case of a currency other than U.S. dollars, with one-half cent or one-half of a corresponding hundredth of a unit or more being rounded upward.

In determining the interest rate basis that applies to a floating rate note during a particular interest period, the calculation agent may obtain rate quotes from various banks or dealers active in the relevant market, as discussed below. Those reference banks and dealers may include the calculation agent itself and its affiliates, as well as any agent participating in the distribution of the relevant floating rate notes and its affiliates, and they may include our affiliates.

*Initial Interest Rate*. For any floating rate note, the interest rate in effect from the original issue date to the first interest reset date will be the initial interest rate. We will specify the initial interest rate or the manner in which it is determined in the relevant pricing supplement.

Spread or Spread Multiplier. In some cases, the interest rate basis for a floating rate note may be adjusted:

- by adding or subtracting a specified number of basis points, called the spread, with one basis point being 0.01%; or
- by multiplying the interest rate basis by a specified percentage, called the spread multiplier.

If you purchase a floating rate note, your pricing supplement will indicate whether a spread or spread multiplier will apply to your note and, if so, the amount of the spread or spread multiplier.

*Maximum and Minimum Rates*. The actual interest rate, after being adjusted by the spread or spread multiplier, may also be subject to either or both of the following limits:

- a maximum rate—i.e., a specified upper limit that the actual interest rate in effect at any time may not
  exceed; and/or
- a minimum rate—i.e., a specified lower limit that the actual interest rate in effect at any time may not fall below.

If you purchase a floating rate note, your pricing supplement will indicate whether a maximum rate and/or minimum rate will apply to your note and, if so, what those rates are.

Whether or not a maximum rate applies, the interest rate on a floating rate note will in no event be higher than the maximum rate permitted by New York law, as it may be modified by U.S. law of general application and the Criminal Code (Canada). Under current New York law, the maximum rate of interest, with some exceptions, for any loan in an amount less than \$250,000 is 16% and for any loan in the amount of \$250,000 or more but less than \$2,500,000 is 25% per year on a simple interest basis. These limits do not apply to loans of \$2,500,000 or more, except for the Criminal Code (Canada), which limits the rate to 60%.

The rest of this subsection describes how the interest rate and the interest payment dates will be determined, and how interest will be calculated, on a floating rate note.

*Interest Reset Dates.* The rate of interest on a floating rate note will be reset, by the calculation agent described below, daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly, semi-annually or annually. The date on which the interest rate resets and the reset rate becomes effective is called the interest reset date. Except as otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, the interest reset date will be as follows:

- for floating rate notes that reset daily, each business day;
- for floating rate notes that reset weekly and are not treasury rate notes, the Wednesday of each week;
- for treasury rate notes that reset weekly, the Tuesday of each week;
- for floating rate notes that reset monthly, the third Wednesday of each month;
- for floating rate notes that reset quarterly, the third Wednesday of each of four months of each year as indicated in the relevant pricing supplement;
- for floating rate notes that reset semi-annually, the third Wednesday of each of two months of each year as indicated in the relevant pricing supplement; and
- for floating rate notes that reset annually, the third Wednesday of one month of each year as indicated
  in the relevant pricing supplement.

For a floating rate note, the interest rate in effect on any particular day will be the interest rate determined with respect to the latest interest reset date that occurs on or before that day. There are several exceptions, however, to the reset provisions described above.

If any interest reset date for a floating rate note would otherwise be a day that is not a business day, the interest reset date will be postponed to the next day that is a business day. For a LIBOR or EURIBOR note, however, if that business day is in the next succeeding calendar month, the interest reset date will be the immediately preceding business day.

*Interest Determination Dates*. The interest rate that takes effect on an interest reset date will be determined by the calculation agent by reference to a particular date called an interest determination date. Except as otherwise indicated in the relevant pricing supplement:

- for commercial paper rate, federal funds rate and U.S. prime rate notes, the interest determination date relating to a particular interest reset date will be the business day preceding the interest reset date;
- for LIBOR notes, the interest determination date relating to a particular interest reset date will be the second *London business day* preceding the interest reset date, unless the *index currency* is pounds sterling, in which case the interest determination date will be the interest reset date. We refer to an interest determination date for a LIBOR note as a LIBOR interest determination date:
- for EURIBOR notes, the interest determination date relating to a particular interest reset date will be the second *euro business day* preceding the interest reset date. We refer to an interest determination date for a EURIBOR note as a EURIBOR interest determination date;
- for treasury rate notes, the interest determination date relating to a particular interest reset date, which we refer to as a treasury interest determination date, will be the day of the week in which the interest reset date falls on which treasury bills—i.e., direct obligations of the U.S. government—would normally be auctioned. Treasury bills are usually sold at auction on the Monday of each week, unless that day is a legal holiday, in which case the auction is usually held on the following Tuesday, except that the auction may be held on the preceding Friday. If as the result of a legal holiday an auction is held on the preceding Friday, that Friday will be the treasury interest determination date relating to the interest reset date occurring in the next succeeding week; and
- for CMT rate and CMS rate notes, the interest determination date relating to a particular interest reset date will be the second business day preceding the interest reset date.

The interest determination date pertaining to a floating rate note the interest rate of which is determined with reference to two or more interest rate bases will be the latest business day which is at least two business days before the related interest reset date for the applicable floating rate note on which each interest rate basis is determinable.

Interest Calculation Dates. As described above, the interest rate that takes effect on a particular interest reset date will be determined by reference to the corresponding interest determination date. Except for LIBOR notes and EURIBOR notes, however, the determination of the rate will actually be made on a day no later than the corresponding interest calculation date. The interest calculation date will be the earlier of the following:

- the tenth calendar day after the interest determination date or, if that tenth calendar day is not a business day, the next succeeding business day; and
- the business day immediately preceding the interest payment date or the maturity, whichever is the day on which the next payment of interest will be due.

The calculation agent need not wait until the relevant interest calculation date to determine the interest rate if the rate information it needs to make the determination is available from the relevant sources sooner.

*Interest Payment Dates*. The interest payment dates for a floating rate note will depend on when the interest rate is reset and, unless we specify otherwise in the relevant pricing supplement, will be as follows:

- for floating rate notes that reset daily, weekly or monthly, the third Wednesday of each month;
- for floating rate notes that reset quarterly, the third Wednesday of the four months of each year specified in the relevant pricing supplement;
- for floating rate notes that reset semi-annually, the third Wednesday of the two months of each year specified in the relevant pricing supplement; or

• for floating rate notes that reset annually, the third Wednesday of the month specified in the relevant pricing supplement.

Regardless of these rules, if a note is originally issued after the regular record date and before the date that would otherwise be the first interest payment date, the first interest payment date will be the date that would otherwise be the second interest payment date.

In addition, the following special provision will apply to a floating rate note with regard to any interest payment date other than one that falls on the maturity. If the interest payment date would otherwise fall on a day that is not a business day, then the interest payment date will be the next day that is a business day. However, if the floating rate note is a LIBOR note or a EURIBOR note and the next business day falls in the next calendar month, then the interest payment date will be advanced to the next preceding day that is a business day. If the maturity date of a floating rate note falls on a day that is not a business day, we will make the required payment of principal, premium, if any, and interest on the next succeeding business day, and no additional interest will accrue in respect of the payment made on that next succeeding business day.

# **Commercial Paper Rate Notes**

If you purchase a commercial paper rate note, your note will bear interest at an interest rate equal to the commercial paper rate and adjusted by the spread or spread multiplier, if any, indicated in your pricing supplement.

The commercial paper rate will be the *money market yield* of the rate, for the relevant interest determination date, for commercial paper having the *index maturity* indicated in your pricing supplement, as published in *H.15(519)* under the heading "Commercial Paper—Nonfinancial." If the commercial paper rate cannot be determined as described above, the following procedures will apply.

- If the rate described above does not appear in H.15(519) by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest calculation date, unless the calculation is made earlier and the rate is available from that source at that time, then the commercial paper rate will be the rate, for the relevant interest determination date, for commercial paper having the index maturity specified in your pricing supplement, as published in *H.15 daily update* or any other recognized electronic source used for displaying that rate, under the heading "Commercial Paper—Nonfinancial."
- If the rate described above does not appear in H.15(519), H.15 daily update or another recognized electronic source by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest calculation date, unless the calculation is made earlier and the rate is available from one of those sources at that time, the commercial paper rate will be the money market yield of the arithmetic mean of the following offered rates for U.S. dollar commercial paper that has the relevant index maturity and is placed for an industrial issuer whose bond rating is "Aa", or the equivalent, from a nationally recognized rating agency: the rates offered as of 11:00 A.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest determination date, by three leading U.S. dollar commercial paper dealers in New York City selected by the calculation agent.
- If fewer than three dealers selected by the calculation agent are quoting as described above, the commercial paper rate for the new interest period will be the commercial paper rate in effect for the prior interest period. If the initial interest rate has been in effect for the prior interest period, however, it will remain in effect for the new interest period.

#### **U.S. Prime Rate Notes**

If you purchase a U.S. prime rate note, your note will bear interest at an interest rate equal to the U.S. prime rate and adjusted by the spread or spread multiplier, if any, indicated in your pricing supplement.

The U.S. prime rate will be the rate, for the relevant interest determination date, published in H.15(519) opposite the heading "Bank Prime Loan." If the U.S. prime rate cannot be determined as described above, the following procedures will apply.

- If the rate described above does not appear in H.15(519) by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest calculation date, unless the calculation is made earlier and the rate is available from that source at that time, then the U.S. prime rate will be the rate, for the relevant interest determination date, as published in H.15 daily update or another recognized electronic source used for the purpose of displaying that rate, under the heading "Bank Prime Loan."
- If the rate described above does not appear in H.15(519), H.15 daily update or another recognized electronic source by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest calculation date, unless the calculation is made earlier and the rate is available from one of those sources at that time, then the U.S. prime rate will be the arithmetic mean of the following rates as they appear on the *Reuters screen US PRIME 1 page*: the rate of interest publicly announced
- by each bank appearing on that page as that bank's prime rate or base lending rate, as of 11:00 A.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest determination date.
- If fewer than four of these rates appear on the Reuters screen US PRIME 1 page, the U.S. prime rate will be the arithmetic mean of the prime rates or base lending rates, as of the close of business on the relevant interest determination date, of three major banks in New York City selected by the calculation agent. For this purpose, the calculation agent will use rates quoted on the basis of the actual number of days in the year divided by a 360-day year.
- If fewer than three banks selected by the calculation agent are quoting as described above, the U.S. prime rate for the new interest period will be the U.S. prime rate in effect for the prior interest period. If the initial interest rate has been in effect for the prior interest period, however, it will remain in effect for the new interest period.

### **LIBOR Notes**

If you purchase a LIBOR note, your note will bear interest at an interest rate equal to LIBOR, which will be the London interbank offered rate for deposits in U.S. dollars or any other index currency, as noted in your pricing supplement. In addition, when LIBOR is the interest rate basis the applicable LIBOR rate will be adjusted by the spread or spread multiplier, if any, indicated in your pricing supplement. LIBOR will be determined in the following manner:

- LIBOR will be the offered rate appearing on the *Reuters Page LIBOR01* as of 11:00 A.M., London time, on the relevant LIBOR interest determination date, for deposits of the relevant index currency having the relevant index maturity beginning on the relevant interest reset date. Your pricing supplement will indicate the index currency, the index maturity and the reference page that apply to your LIBOR note. If no reference page is mentioned in your pricing supplement, Reuters Page LIBOR01 will apply to your LIBOR note.
- If Reuters Page LIBOR01 applies and the rate described above does not appear on that page, then LIBOR will be determined on the basis of the rates, at approximately 11:00 A.M., London time, on the relevant LIBOR interest determination date, at which deposits of the following kind are offered to prime banks in the London interbank market by four major banks in that market selected by the calculation agent: deposits of the index currency having the relevant index maturity, beginning on the relevant interest reset date, and in a *representative amount*. The calculation agent will request the principal London office of each of these banks to provide a quotation of its rate. If at least two quotations are provided, LIBOR for the relevant LIBOR interest determination date will be the arithmetic mean of the quotations.
- If fewer than two quotations are provided as described above, LIBOR for the relevant LIBOR interest determination date will be the arithmetic mean of the rates for loans of the following kind to leading

European banks quoted, at approximately 11:00 A.M., in the applicable *principal financial center*, on that LIBOR interest determination date, by three major banks in that financial center selected by the calculation agent: loans of the index currency having the relevant index maturity, beginning on the relevant interest reset date and in a representative amount.

If fewer than three banks selected by the calculation agent are quoting as described above, LIBOR
for the new interest period will be LIBOR in effect for the prior interest period. If the initial interest
rate has been in effect for the prior interest period, however, it will remain in effect for the new
interest period.

#### **EURIBOR Notes**

If you purchase a EURIBOR note, your note will bear interest at an interest rate equal to the interest rate for deposits in euro, designated as "EURIBOR" and sponsored jointly by the European Banking Federation and ACI—the Financial Market Association, or any company established by the joint sponsors for purposes of compiling and publishing that rate. In addition, when EURIBOR is the interest rate basis the EURIBOR base rate will be adjusted by the spread or spread multiplier, if any, specified in your pricing supplement. EURIBOR will be determined in the following manner:

- EURIBOR will be the offered rate for deposits in euros having the index maturity specified in your pricing supplement, beginning on the second euro business day after the relevant EURIBOR interest determination date, as that rate appears on Reuters page EURIBOR01 as of 11:00 A.M., Brussels time, on the relevant EURIBOR interest determination date.
- If the rate described above does not appear on Reuters page EURIBOR01, EURIBOR will be determined on the basis of the rates, at approximately 11:00 A.M., Brussels time, on the relevant EURIBOR interest determination date, at which deposits of the following kind are offered to prime banks in the *euro-zone* interbank market by the principal euro-zone office of each of four major banks in that market selected by the calculation agent: euro deposits having the relevant index maturity, beginning on the relevant interest reset date, and in a representative amount. The calculation agent will request the principal euro-zone office of each of these banks to provide a quotation of its rate. If at least two quotations are provided, EURIBOR for the relevant EURIBOR interest determination date will be the arithmetic mean of the quotations.
- If fewer than two quotations are provided as described above, EURIBOR for the relevant EURIBOR interest determination date will be the arithmetic mean of the rates for loans of the following kind to leading euro-zone banks quoted, at approximately 11:00 A.M., Brussels time on that EURIBOR interest determination date, by three major banks in the euro-zone selected by the calculation agent: loans of euros having the relevant index maturity, beginning on the relevant interest reset date, and in a representative amount.
- If fewer than three banks selected by the calculation agent are quoting as described above, EURIBOR for the new interest period will be EURIBOR in effect for the prior interest period. If the initial interest rate has been in effect for the prior interest period, however, it will remain in effect for the new interest period.

#### **Treasury Rate Notes**

If you purchase a treasury rate note, your note will bear interest at an interest rate equal to the treasury rate and adjusted by the spread or spread multiplier, if any, indicated in your pricing supplement.

The treasury rate will be the rate for the auction, on the relevant treasury interest determination date, of treasury bills having the index maturity specified in your pricing supplement, as that rate appears on Reuters page USAUCTION 10/11. If the treasury rate cannot be determined in this manner, the following procedures will apply.

• If the rate described above does not appear on either page by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest calculation date, unless the calculation is made earlier and the rate is available from that source at that time, the treasury rate will be the *bond equivalent yield* of the rate, for the relevant

interest determination date, for the type of treasury bill described above, as published in H.15 daily update, or another recognized electronic source used for displaying that rate, under the heading "U.S. Government Securities/Treasury Bills/Auction High."

- If the rate described in the prior paragraph does not appear in H.15 daily update or another recognized electronic source by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest calculation date, unless the calculation is made earlier and the rate is available from one of those sources at that time, the treasury rate will be the bond equivalent yield of the auction rate, for the relevant treasury interest determination date and for treasury bills of the kind described above, as announced by the U.S. Department of the Treasury.
- If the auction rate described in the prior paragraph is not so announced by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest calculation date, or if no such auction is held for the relevant week, then the treasury rate will be the bond equivalent yield of the rate, for the relevant treasury interest determination date and for treasury bills having a remaining maturity closest to the specified index maturity, as published in H.15(519) under the heading "U.S. Government Securities/Treasury Bills/ Secondary Market."
- If the rate described in the prior paragraph does not appear in H.15(519) by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest calculation date, unless the calculation is made earlier and the rate is available from one of those sources at that time, then the treasury rate will be the rate, for the relevant treasury interest determination date and for treasury bills having a remaining maturity closest to the specified index maturity, as published in H.15 daily update, or another recognized electronic source used for displaying that rate, under the heading "U.S. Government Securities/Treasury Bills/Secondary Market."
- If the rate described in the prior paragraph does not appear in H.15 daily update or another recognized electronic source by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest calculation date, unless the calculation is made earlier and the rate is available from one of those sources at that time, the treasury rate will be the bond equivalent yield of the arithmetic mean of the following secondary market bid rates for the issue of treasury bills with a remaining maturity closest to the specified index maturity: the rates bid as of approximately 3:30 P.M., New York City time, on the relevant treasury interest determination date, by three primary U.S. government securities dealers in New York City selected by the calculation agent.
- If fewer than three dealers selected by the calculation agent are quoting as described in the prior paragraph, the treasury rate in effect for the new interest period will be the treasury rate in effect for the prior interest period. If the initial interest rate has been in effect for the prior interest period, however, it will remain in effect for the new interest period.

#### **CMT Rate Notes**

If you purchase a CMT rate note, your note will bear interest at an interest rate equal to the CMT rate and adjusted by the spread or spread multiplier, if any, indicated in your pricing supplement.

The CMT rate will be the following rate displayed on the *designated CMT Reuters page* under the heading "...Treasury Constant Maturities...Federal Reserve Board Release H.15 Mondays Approximately 3:45 P.M.", under the column for the *designated CMT index maturity*:

- if the designated CMT Reuters page is Reuters page FRBCMT, the rate for the relevant interest determination date; or
- if the designated CMT Reuters page is Reuters page FEDCMT, the weekly or monthly average, as specified in your pricing supplement, for the week that ends immediately before the week in which the relevant interest determination date falls, or for the month that ends immediately before the month in which the relevant interest determination date falls, as applicable.

If the CMT rate cannot be determined in this manner, the following procedures will apply.

- If the applicable rate described above is not displayed on the relevant designated CMT Reuters page at 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest calculation date, unless the calculation is made earlier and the rate is available from that source at that time, then the CMT rate will be the applicable treasury constant maturity rate described above—i.e., for the designated CMT index maturity and for either the relevant interest determination date or the weekly or monthly average, as applicable—as published in H.15(519).
- If the applicable rate described above does not appear in H.15(519) by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest calculation date, unless the calculation is made earlier and the rate is available from one of those sources at that time, then the CMT rate will be the treasury constant maturity rate, or other U.S. treasury rate, for the designated CMT index maturity and with reference to the relevant interest determination date, that:
  - is published by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, or the U.S. Department of the Treasury; or
  - as is otherwise announced by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York for the week or month, as applicable, ended immediately preceding the week or month, as applicable, in which such CMT rate interest determination date falls; and
  - in either case, is determined by the calculation agent to be comparable to the applicable rate formerly displayed on the designated CMT Reuters page and published in H.15(519).
- If the rate described in the prior paragraph does not appear by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest calculation date, unless the calculation is made earlier and the rate is available from one of those sources at that time, then the CMT rate will be the yield to maturity of the arithmetic mean of the following secondary market bid rates for the most recently issued treasury notes having an original maturity equal to the designated CMT index maturity and a remaining term to maturity of not less than the designated CMT index maturity minus one year, and in a representative amount: the bid rates, as of approximately 3:30 P.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest determination date, of three primary U.S. government securities dealers in New York City selected by the calculation agent. In selecting these bid rates, the calculation agent will request quotations from five of these primary dealers and will disregard the highest quotation—or, if there is equality, one of the lowest. Treasury notes are direct, non-callable, fixed rate obligations of the U.S. government.
- If the calculation agent is unable to obtain three quotations of the kind described in the prior paragraph, the CMT rate will be the yield to maturity of the arithmetic mean of the following secondary market bid rates for treasury notes with an original maturity longer than the designated CMT index maturity, with a remaining term to maturity closest to the designated CMT index maturity and in a representative amount: the bid rates, as of approximately 3:30 P.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest determination date, of three primary U.S. government securities dealers in New York City selected by the calculation agent. In selecting these bid rates, the calculation agent will request quotations from five of these primary dealers and will disregard the highest quotation (or, if there is equality, one of the highest) and the lowest quotation (or, if there is equality, one of the lowest). If two treasury notes with an original maturity longer than the designated CMT index maturity have remaining terms to maturity that are equally close to the designated CMT index maturity, the calculation agent will obtain quotations for the treasury note with the shorter remaining term to maturity.
- If fewer than five but more than two of these primary dealers are quoting as described in the prior paragraph, then the CMT rate for the relevant interest determination date will be based on the arithmetic mean of the bid rates so obtained, and neither the highest nor the lowest of those quotations will be disregarded.

• If two or fewer primary dealers selected by the calculation agent are quoting as described above, the CMT rate in effect for the new interest period will be the CMT rate in effect for the prior interest period. If the initial interest rate has been in effect for the prior interest period, however, it will remain in effect for the new interest period.

#### **CMS Rate Notes**

If you purchase a CMS rate note, your note will bear interest at an interest rate equal to the CMS rate and adjusted by the spread or spread multiplier, if any, indicated in your pricing supplement.

The CMS rate will be the rate for U.S. dollar swaps with a maturity for a specified number of years, expressed as a percentage in the relevant pricing supplement, which appears on the *Reuters page ISDAFIX1* as of 11:00 a.m., New York City time, on the interest rate determination date.

If the CMS rate cannot be determined as described above, the following procedures will be used:

- If the applicable rate described above is not displayed on the relevant designated CMS Reuters page by 11:00 a.m., New York City time, on the interest rate determination date, then the CMS rate will be a percentage determined on the basis of the mid-market, semi-annual swap rate quotations provided by five leading swap dealers in the New York City interbank market at approximately 11:00 a.m., New York City time, on the interest rate determination date. For this purpose, the semi-annual swap rate means the mean of the bid and offered rates for the semi-annual fixed leg, calculated on a 30/360 day count basis, of a fixed-for-floating U.S. dollar interest rate swap transaction with a term equal to the maturity designated in the relevant pricing supplement commencing on that interest rate determination date with an acknowledged dealer of good credit in the swap market, where the floating leg, calculated on an Actual/360 day count basis, is equivalent to "LIBOR Reuters" with a maturity of three months. The calculation agent will select the five swap dealers after consultation with us and will request the principal New York City office of each of those dealers to provide a quotation of its rate. If at least three quotations are provided, the CMS rate for that interest rate determination date will be the arithmetic mean of the quotations, eliminating the highest and lowest quotations or, in the event of equality, one of the highest and one of the lowest quotations.
- If fewer than three leading swap dealers selected by the calculation agent are quoting as described above, the CMS rate will remain the CMS rate in effect on that interest rate determination date or, if that interest rate determination date is the first reference rate determination date, the initial interest rate.

#### **Federal Funds Rate Notes**

If you purchase a federal funds rate note, your note will bear interest at an interest rate equal to the federal funds rate and adjusted by the spread or spread multiplier, if any, indicated in your pricing supplement.

The federal funds rate will be the rate for U.S. dollar federal funds as of the relevant interest determination date, as published in H.15(519) under the heading "Federal Funds (Effective)", as that rate is displayed on *Reuters page FEDFUNDS1*. If the federal funds rate cannot be determined in this manner, the following procedures will apply.

- If the rate described above is not displayed on Reuters page FEDFUNDS1 by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest calculation date, unless the calculation is made earlier and the rate is available from that source at that time, then the federal funds rate, as of the relevant interest determination date, will be the rate described above as published in H.15 daily update,
- or another recognized electronic source used for displaying that rate, under the heading "Federal Funds (Effective)."

- If the rate described above is not displayed on Reuters page FEDFUNDS1 and does not appear in H.15(519), H.15 daily update or another recognized electronic source by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest calculation date, unless the calculation is made earlier and the rate is available from one of those sources at that time, the federal funds rate will be the arithmetic mean of the rates for the last transaction in overnight, U.S. dollar federal funds arranged, before 9:00 A.M., New York City time, on the business day following the relevant interest determination date, by three leading brokers of U.S. dollar federal funds transactions in New York City selected by the calculation agent.
- If fewer than three brokers selected by the calculation agent are quoting as described above, the federal funds rate in effect for the new interest period will be the federal funds rate in effect for the prior interest period. If the initial interest rate has been in effect for the prior interest period, however, it will remain in effect for the new interest period.

#### **Special Rate Calculation Terms**

In this subsection entitled "—Interest Rates", we use several terms that have special meanings relevant to calculating floating interest rates. We define these terms as follows:

The term "bond equivalent yield" means a yield expressed as a percentage and calculated in accordance with the following formula:

bond equivalent yield = 
$$\frac{D \times N}{360 - (D \times M)} \times 100$$

where

"D" means the annual rate for treasury bills quoted on a bank discount basis and expressed as a decimal;

"N" means 365 or 366, as the case may be; and

"M" means the actual number of days in the applicable interest reset period.

The term "business day" means, for any note, a day that meets all the following applicable requirements:

- for all notes, is a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday that is neither a legal holiday nor a day on which banking institutions are authorized or required by law to close in New York City or Toronto, and, in the case of a floating rate note, London;
- if the note has a specified currency other than U.S. dollars or euros, is also a day on which banking institutions are not authorized or obligated by law, regulation or executive order to close in the applicable principal financial center; and
- if the note is a EURIBOR note or has a specified currency of euros, or is a LIBOR note for which the index currency is euros, is also a euro business day.

The term "designated CMT index maturity" means the index maturity for a CMT rate note and will be the original period to maturity of a U.S. treasury security—either 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 10, 20 or 30 years—specified in the applicable pricing supplement.

The term "designated CMT Reuters page" means the Reuters page mentioned in the relevant pricing supplement that displays treasury constant maturities as reported in H.15(519). If no Reuters page is so specified, then the applicable page will be Reuters page FEDCMT. If Reuters page FEDCMT applies but the relevant pricing supplement does not specify whether the weekly or monthly average applies, the weekly average will apply.

The term "euro business day" means any day on which the Trans-European Automated Real-Time Gross Settlement Express Transfer (TARGET) System, or any successor system, is open for business.

The term "euro-zone" means, at any time, the region comprised of the member states of the European Economic and Monetary Union that, as of that time, have adopted a single currency in accordance with the Treaty on European Union of February 1992.

The term "H.15(519)" means the weekly statistical release entitled "Statistical Release H.15(519)", or any successor publication, published by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

The term "H.15 daily update" means the daily update of H.15(519) available through the worldwide website of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, at <a href="http://www.federalreserve.gov/releases/h15/update">http://www.federalreserve.gov/releases/h15/update</a>, or any successor site or publication.

The term "index currency" means, with respect to a LIBOR note, the currency specified as such in the relevant pricing supplement. The index currency may be U.S. dollars or any other currency, and will be U.S. dollars unless another currency is specified in the relevant pricing supplement.

The term "index maturity" means, with respect to a floating rate note, the period to maturity of the instrument or obligation on which the interest rate formula is based, as specified in the applicable pricing supplement.

The term "London business day" means any day on which dealings in the relevant index currency are transacted in the London interbank market.

The term "money market yield" means a yield expressed as a percentage and calculated in accordance with the following formula:

bond equivalent yield = 
$$\frac{D \times 360}{360 - (D \times M)} \times 100$$

where

"D" means the annual rate for commercial paper quoted on a bank discount basis and expressed as a decimal; and

"M" means the actual number of days in the relevant interest reset period.

The term "principal financial center" means the capital city of the country to which an index currency relates (or the capital city of the country issuing the specified currency, as applicable), except that with respect to U.S. dollars, Australian dollars, Canadian dollars, South African rands and Swiss francs, the "principal financial center" means The City of New York, Sydney, Toronto, Johannesburg and Zurich, respectively, and with respect to euros the principal financial center means London.

The term "representative amount" means an amount that, in the calculation agent's judgment, is representative of a single transaction in the relevant market at the relevant time.

The term "Reuters page FEDFUNDS1" means the page designated as "FEDFUNDS1" on the Reuters service (or any successor service) (or such other page as may replace Page FEDFUNDS1 on the Reuters service or any successor service).

The term "Reuters page ISDAFIX1" means the page designated as "ISDAFIX1" on the Reuters service (or any successor service) (or such other page as may replace Page ISDAFIX1 on the Reuters service or any successor service).

The term "Reuters Page LIBOR01" means the display designated as "LIBOR01" on Reuters (or any successor service) (or such other page as may replace Page LIBOR01 on Reuters or any successor service).

The term "Reuters page USAUCTION 10/11" means the page designated as "USAUCTION 10/11" on the Reuters service (or any successor service) (or such other page as may replace Page USAUCTION 10/11 on the Reuters service or any successor service).

The term "Reuters screen US PRIME 1 page" means the display on the "US PRIME 1" page on the Reuters Monitor Money Rates Service, or any successor service, or any replacement page or pages on that service, for the purpose of displaying prime rates or base lending rates of major U.S. banks.

If, when we use the terms designated CMT Reuters page, H.15(519), H.15 daily update, Reuters screen US PRIME 1 page, Reuters page FEDFUNDS1, Reuters page ISDAFIX1, Reuters Page LIBOR01 or Reuters page USAUCTION 10/11, we refer to a particular heading or headings on any of those pages, those references include any successor or replacement heading or headings as determined by the calculation agent.

#### **Defeasance**

The defeasance described under "Description of Senior Debt Securities—Defeasance" in the accompanying prospectus will not be applicable to the notes offered hereby.

#### Other Provisions; Addenda

Any provisions relating to the notes, including the determination of the interest rate basis, calculation of the interest rate applicable to a floating rate note, its interest payment dates, any redemption or repayment provisions, or any other term relating thereto, may be modified and/or supplemented by the terms as specified under "Other Provisions" on the face of the applicable notes or in an Addendum relating to the applicable notes, if so specified on the face of the applicable notes, and, in each case, in the relevant pricing supplement.

#### CERTAIN INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES

#### **Certain Canadian Income Tax Considerations**

The following is a summary of the principal Canadian federal income tax considerations generally applicable at the date hereof to a holder who acquires ownership of a note pursuant to this Prospectus Supplement and who for the purposes of the *Income Tax Act* (Canada) (the "Tax Act") and at all relevant times: (a) is neither resident nor deemed to be resident in Canada; (b) deals at arm's length with the Bank, and any transferee resident (or deemed to be resident) in Canada to whom the holder disposes of the note; (c) does not use or hold and is not deemed to use or hold the note in, or in the course of, carrying on a business in Canada; (d) is entitled to receive all payments (including any interest and principal) made on the note, and (e) is not a, and deals at arm's length with any, "specified shareholder" of the Bank for purposes of the thin capitalization rules in the Tax Act (a "Non-Resident Holder"). A "specified shareholder" for these purposes generally includes a person who (either alone or together with persons with whom that person is not dealing at arm's length for the purposes of the Tax Act) owns or has the right to acquire or control or is otherwise deemed to own 25% or more of the Bank's shares determined on a votes or fair market value basis. Special rules which apply to non-resident insurers carrying on business in Canada and elsewhere are not discussed in this summary.

This summary is based upon: (a) the current provisions of the Tax Act and the regulations thereunder (the "Regulations") in force on the date hereof; (b) all specific proposals to amend the Tax Act or the Regulations publicly announced prior to the date hereof by, or on behalf of, the Minister of Finance for Canada ("Tax Proposals"), and (c) the current published assessing practices and administrative policies of the Canada Revenue

Agency ("CRA") as made publicly available by it prior to the date hereof. This summary assumes that the Tax Proposals will be enacted as currently proposed, but no assurance can be given that this will be the case. This summary does not otherwise take into account or anticipate any changes in law or in the practices and policies of the CRA, whether by legislative, governmental or judicial action or interpretation, nor does it take into account provincial, territorial or foreign income tax legislation or considerations.

This summary is of a general nature only, is not exhaustive of all Canadian federal income tax considerations and is not intended to be, nor should it be construed to be, legal or tax advice to any particular Non-Resident Holder. Non-Resident Holders are advised to consult their own tax advisers with respect to their particular situations.

Canadian federal income tax considerations applicable to notes may be described particularly when such notes are offered in the applicable pricing supplement related thereto and, in that event, the comments following will be superseded in such pricing supplement to the extent indicated therein.

Interest paid or credited or deemed to be paid or credited on a note issued by the Bank to a Non-Resident Holder (including any amount paid at maturity in excess of the principal amount and interest deemed to be paid on the note in certain cases involving an assignment or other transfer of a note to a resident or deemed resident of Canada) will not be subject to Canadian non-resident withholding tax unless (other than in the case of a "prescribed obligation" as described below) such interest is "participating debt interest" for the purposes of the Tax Act. Interest paid or credited or deemed to be paid or credited on a note to a Non-Resident Holder will generally not be participating debt interest for the purposes of the Tax Act provided that no portion of such interest is contingent or dependent upon the use of or production from property in Canada or is computed by reference to revenue, profit, cash flow, commodity price or any other similar criterion or by reference to dividends paid or payable to shareholders of any class or series of shares. In particular, if any portion of interest paid or credited or deemed to be paid or credited on a note is to be calculated by reference to an index, reference basket of securities or other calculation mechanism that could be considered to be a proxy for or have a linkage with the Bank's profitability or dividends paid by the Bank, interest on such note may be subject to Canadian non-resident withholding tax. A prescribed obligation is an "indexed debt obligation" (as described below) in respect of which no amount payable is (a) contingent or dependent upon the use of, or production from, property in Canada, or (b) computed by reference to: (i) revenue, profit, cash flow, commodity price or any other similar criterion, other than a change in the purchasing power of money, or (ii) dividends paid or payable to shareholders of any class or series of shares of the capital stock of a corporation. An indexed debt obligation is a debt obligation the terms of which provide for an adjustment to an amount payable in respect of the obligation for a period during which the obligation was outstanding which adjustment is determined by reference to a change in the purchasing power of money.

In the event that a note is redeemed, cancelled, repurchased or purchased, as the case may be, by the Bank or any other resident or deemed resident of Canada (a "Canadian Transferee") from a Non-Resident Holder, or is otherwise assigned or transferred by a Non-Resident Holder, to a Canadian Transferee for an amount which exceeds, generally, the issue price thereof, all or a portion of such excess may be deemed to be interest and may be subject to Canadian non-resident withholding tax if: (i) all or a portion of such interest is participating debt interest and (ii) the note is not considered to be an "excluded obligation" for the purposes of the Tax Act. A note which is not an indexed debt obligation, that was issued for an amount not less than 97% of the principal amount (as defined for the purposes of the Tax Act) of the note, and the yield from which, expressed in terms of an annual rate (determined in accordance with the Tax Act) on the amount for which the note was issued does not exceed 4/3 of the interest stipulated to be payable on the note, expressed in terms of an annual rate on the outstanding principal amount from time to time, will be an excluded obligation for this purpose.

If applicable, the normal rate of Canadian non-resident withholding tax is 25% but such rate may be reduced under the terms of an applicable income tax treaty.

Generally, there are no other Canadian federal income taxes that would be payable by a Non-Resident Holder as a result of holding or disposing of a note (including for greater certainty, any gain realized by a Non-Resident Holder on a disposition of a note).

#### **United States Taxation**

The following is a general summary of certain U.S. federal income tax consequences of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of the notes by a U.S. Holder (as defined below) thereof. This description only applies to fixed rate U.S. dollar notes with a maturity of 30 years or less from the date of issue held as capital assets within the meaning of Section 1221 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code") that are treated as debt for U.S. federal income tax purposes and issued by the Bank (or through a non-U.S. branch of the Bank). This summary does not address certain U.S. federal income tax consequences of every type of note which may be issued under the program, and the applicable final terms and pricing supplement will contain additional or modified disclosure concerning the certain U.S. federal income tax consequences relevant to such type of note as appropriate. For example, this summary does not address the U.S. federal tax treatment of floating rate notes, index linked notes, original issue discount notes, equity linked notes, credit linked notes, commodity linked notes, non-U.S. currency notes, dual currency notes or notes with a term of more than 30 years.

Further, this summary does not address, except as set forth below, aspects of U.S. federal income taxation that may be applicable to U.S. Holders that are subject to special tax rules, such as:

- financial institutions;
- · insurance companies;
- real estate investment trusts;
- regulated investment companies;
- grantor trusts;
- · tax-exempt organizations;
- persons that will own notes through partnerships or other pass-through entities;
- dealers or traders in securities or currencies;
- certain former citizens or long-term residents of the United States;
- holders that will hold a note as part of a position in a straddle or as part of a hedging, conversion or integrated transaction for U.S. federal income tax purposes; or
- holders that have a functional currency other than the U.S. dollar.

This summary does not address the U.S. federal estate and gift tax, alternative minimum tax, or Medicare unearned income tax consequences of the acquisition, ownership or disposition of the notes and does not address the U.S. federal income tax treatment of holders that do not acquire the notes as part of the initial distribution at their issue price (as defined below). Each prospective purchaser should consult its tax advisor with respect to the U.S. federal, state, local and non-U.S. tax consequences of acquiring, owning and disposing of the notes and any consequences arising on account of the purchaser's particular circumstances.

This summary is based on the Code, existing and proposed U.S. Treasury Regulations, administrative pronouncements and judicial decisions, each as available and as of the date hereof. All of the foregoing are subject to change, possibly with retroactive effect, or differing interpretations which could affect the tax consequences described herein.

For purposes of this summary, a "U.S. Holder" is a beneficial owner of notes who for U.S. federal income tax purposes is any of the following:

- an individual citizen or resident of the United States;
- a corporation (or any other entity that is treated as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes)
  organized in or under the laws of the United States or any state thereof, including the District of
  Columbia;
- an estate the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income taxation regardless of its source; or
- a trust (1) that validly elects to be treated as a U.S. person for U.S. federal income tax purposes or (2)(a) the administration over which a U.S. court can exercise primary supervision and (b) all of the substantial decisions of which one or more U.S. persons have the authority to control.

If a partnership (or any other entity or arrangement treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes) holds the notes, the tax treatment of the partnership and a partner in such partnership generally will depend on the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. Such partner or partnership should consult its own tax advisor regarding the U.S. federal income tax consequences of the purchase, ownership and disposition of the notes.

#### **Interest**

Interest paid to a U.S. Holder on a note will be includible in the U.S. Holder's gross income as ordinary interest income in accordance with its usual method of tax accounting. In addition, interest on the notes will be treated as foreign source income for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Subject to certain conditions and limitations, non-U.S. taxes, if any, withheld on interest payments may be treated as non-U.S. taxes eligible for credit against a U.S. Holder's U.S. federal income tax liability. The limitation on non-U.S. taxes eligible for the U.S. foreign tax credit is calculated separately with respect to specific "baskets" of income. Interest on the notes generally will constitute "passive category income," or, in the case of certain U.S. Holders, "general category income." As an alternative to the tax credit, a U.S. Holder may elect to deduct such taxes (the election would then apply to all non-U.S. income taxes such U.S. Holder paid in that taxable year). The rules governing the U.S. foreign tax credit are complex. U.S. Holders are urged to consult their tax advisor regarding the availability of the U.S. foreign tax credit under their particular circumstances.

#### Sale, Exchange, Retirement or Other Disposition

Upon the sale, exchange, retirement or other disposition of a note, a U.S. Holder will recognize taxable gain or loss equal to the difference, if any, between the amount realized on the sale, exchange, retirement or other disposition, other than accrued but unpaid interest which will be taxable as interest, and such U.S. Holder's adjusted tax basis in a note generally will equal the cost of the note to such U.S. Holder, and any such gain or loss will generally be capital gain or loss. For a non-corporate U.S. Holder, under current law, the maximum marginal U.S. federal income tax rate applicable to the gain will be generally lower than the maximum marginal U.S. federal income tax rate applicable to ordinary income if the U.S. Holder's holding period for the notes exceeds one year (*i.e.*, such gain is long-term capital gain). Any gain or loss realized on the sale, exchange, retirement or other disposition of a note generally will be treated as U.S. source gain or loss, as the case may be. Consequently, a U.S. Holder may not be able to claim a credit for any non-U.S. tax imposed upon a disposition of a note. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to limitations.

#### U.S. Backup Withholding and Information Reporting

Backup withholding and information reporting requirements apply to certain payments of principal of, and interest on, an obligation and to proceeds of the sale or redemption of an obligation, to certain non-corporate holders of notes that are U.S. persons. Information reporting generally will apply to payments of principal of, and interest on, notes, and to proceeds from the sale or redemption of, notes within the United States, or by a U.S. payor or U.S. middleman, to a holder of notes that is a U.S. person (other than an exempt recipient, including a corporation, and certain other persons). The payor will be required to backup withhold on payments made within the United States, or by a U.S. payor or U.S. middleman, on a note to a holder of a note that is a U.S. person, other than an exempt recipient, such as a corporation, if the holder fails to furnish its correct taxpayer identification number or otherwise fails to comply with, or establish an exemption from, the backup withholding requirements.

Backup withholding is not an additional tax. You generally will be entitled to credit any amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules against your U.S. federal income tax liability provided the required information is furnished to the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") in a timely manner.

Additionally, U.S. Holders that are individuals (and, to the extent provided in future regulations, certain entities) may be required to disclose information about their notes on Form 8938—Statement of Specified Foreign Financial Assets—if the aggregate value of their notes and their "specified financial assets" exceeds \$50,000 (or other thresholds depending on the individual's exact circumstances). Significant penalties can apply if a U.S. Holder fails to disclose its specified foreign financial assets. U.S. Holders should consult their own tax advisors regarding the possible implications of this legislation in their particular circumstances.

#### **Recent Legislative Developments**

The Foreign Account Tax Compliance provisions of the Hiring Incentives to Restore Employment Act ("FATCA") were enacted in March 2010 in an effort to assist the United States Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") in enforcing U.S. taxpayer compliance. FATCA may impose a 30% withholding tax on payments of U.S. source income and on payments of gross proceeds from the sale, exchange or redemption of property that gives rise to U.S. source dividends or interest (as of 1 January 2017), in each case to (i) certain non-U.S. financial institutions that do not enter into and comply with an agreement to provide the IRS information about their accountholders (as defined for purposes of FATCA), comply with certain rules or law implementing an intergovernmental agreement between the United States and the non-U.S. financial institution's jurisdiction implementing FATCA with respect to such jurisdiction or otherwise qualify for an exemption from, or are deemed to comply with, FATCA (an institution meeting such requirements, a "Compliant FFI") and (ii) certain other non-U.S. entities that do not provide payors information about their substantial U.S. holders or establish that they have no substantial U.S. holders.

Starting on the later of 1 January 2017 or the date of publication of final U.S. Treasury regulations defining the term "foreign passthru payments" (the "Publication Date"), FATCA may also impose withholding tax on such "foreign passthru payments" relating to obligations issued (or deemed re-issued) after the date that is six months after the Publication Date. Thus, the Issuer may in certain circumstances be required under FATCA to withhold U.S. tax at a rate of 30% on all or a portion of payments of principal and interest which are treated as "foreign passthru payments" made to (i) non-U.S. financial institutions (whether holding the notes as a beneficial owner or intermediary) unless the payee is a Compliant FFI or (ii) any holders that do not provide information sufficient to determine whether the payee is a U.S. person ("Recalcitrant Holders"). Whether or not FATCA withholding tax could apply to "foreign passthru payments" on the notes may depend upon an applicable intergovernmental agreement ("IGA") relating to FATCA between the United States and the jurisdiction of the Issuer, Guarantor or the applicable Issuer Branch of Account.

Specifically, the United States and a number of other jurisdictions have announced their intention to negotiate IGAs to facilitate the implementation of FATCA. Pursuant to FATCA and the "Model 1" IGA released

by the United States, an FFI in an IGA signatory country could be treated as a Reporting Financial Institution ("Reporting FI") not subject to withholding under FATCA on any payments it receives. Further, an FFI in a Model 1 IGA jurisdiction would not be required to withhold under FATCA or an IGA (or any law implementing an IGA) from payments it makes unless it has agreed to do so under the U.S. "qualified intermediary," "withholding foreign partnership," or "withholding foreign trust" regimes. Under the Model 1 IGA, a Reporting FI would still be required to report certain information in respect of its account holders and investors to its home government or to the IRS. The United States and Canada have entered into an agreement (the "US-Canada IGA") based largely on the Model 1 IGA.

The Issuer expects to be treated as a Reporting FI pursuant to the US-Canada IGA. However, the FATCA rules, and in particular the rules governing foreign passthru payments, have not yet been fully developed, so the future application of FATCA to the Issuer and the holders of notes is uncertain. Noteholders may be required to provide certain information to the Issuer or other payors in order (i) for holders to avoid FATCA withholding from payments on the notes, (ii) for the Issuer to avoid the imposition of a FATCA withholding tax on payments to it or (iii) for the Issuer to comply with the rules under FATCA (including laws implementing an IGA thereunder). If a holder (including an intermediary) fails to provide the Issuer, or any other agent of the Issuer with any correct, complete and accurate information that may be required for the Issuer to comply with FATCA and/or to prevent the imposition of FATCA withholding tax, the Issuer may withhold amounts otherwise distributable to the holder.

The requirements of the US-Canada IGA have been implemented through amendments to the Canadian Income Tax Act and the enactment of the Canada-United States Enhanced Tax Information Exchange Agreement Implementation Act (the "US-Canada IGA Implementation Act"). Under the provisions of the US-Canada IGA Implementation Act, CIBC is required to determine whether financial accounts are held by U.S. persons and must report information on certain accounts owned or controlled by U.S. taxpayers, directly to the Canada Revenue Agency (the "CRA"). CIBC may be required to collect information from holders of notes (other than notes that are regularly traded on an established securities market for purposes of the IGA), including such holders' status as a "Specified U.S. Persons" (as defined in the IGA) and report information regarding such holders' investment in the notes to the CRA.

No additional amounts will be paid in respect of any U.S. tax withheld under the FATCA rules from payments on the notes. Potential investors should consult their tax advisers regarding the implications of the FATCA rules for their investment in notes, including the implications resulting from the status under these rules of each financial intermediary through which they hold notes.

While the notes are in global form and held within a clearing system, it is expected that FATCA will not affect the amount of any payments made under, or in respect of, the notes by the Issuer, any paying agent or the depositary, given that each of the entities in the payment chain beginning with the Issuer and ending with the relevant clearing system is a major financial institution whose business is dependent on compliance with FATCA and that any alternative approach introduced under an intergovernmental agreement will be unlikely to affect the securities. However, FATCA may affect payments made to custodians or intermediaries in the subsequent payment chain leading to the ultimate investor if any such custodian or intermediary generally is unable to receive payments free of FATCA withholding. It also may affect payment to any ultimate investor that is a financial institution that is not entitled to receive payments free of withholding under FATCA, or an ultimate investor that fails to provide its broker (or other custodian or intermediary from which it receives payment) with any information, forms, other documentation or consents that may be necessary for the payments to be made free of FATCA withholding.

#### SUPPLEMENTAL PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We and CIBC World Markets Corp., as agent, have entered into a distribution agreement with respect to the notes. We may appoint agents, other than or in addition to CIBC World Markets Corp., with respect to the notes. Any other agent will enter into a distribution agreement with us. The other agents may be affiliates or customers of the Bank and may engage in transactions with and perform services for the Bank in the ordinary course of business. CIBC World Markets Corp. may resell notes to or through another selling agent, which may include another of our affiliates. The agent or agents through whom the notes will be offered will be identified in the applicable pricing supplement.

Subject to certain conditions, an agent will use its reasonable efforts to solicit purchases of the notes. We have the right to accept offers to purchase notes and may reject any proposed purchase of the notes. An agent may also reject any offer to purchase notes. We will pay an agent a commission, which will be set forth in the applicable pricing supplement, on any notes sold through such agent.

We may also sell Notes to an agent, who will purchase the notes as principal for its own account. In that case, the agent will purchase the notes at a price equal to the issue price specified in the applicable pricing supplement, less a discount to be agreed with us at the time of the offering.

An agent may resell any notes it purchases as principal to other brokers or dealers at a discount, which may include all or part of the discount the agent received from us. If all the notes are not sold at the initial offering price, the agent may change the offering price and the other selling terms.

We may also sell notes directly to investors. We will not pay commissions on notes we sell directly.

We have reserved the right to withdraw, cancel or modify the offer made by this prospectus supplement without notice and may reject orders in whole or in part. No termination date has been established for the offering of the notes.

An agent, whether acting as agent or principal, may be deemed to be "underwriters" within the meaning of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"). We have agreed to indemnify the agents against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, or to contribute to payments made in respect of those liabilities.

If an agent sells notes to dealers who resell to investors and the agent pays the dealers all or part of the discount or commission it receives from us, those dealers may also be deemed to be "underwriters" within the meaning of the Securities Act.

Unless otherwise indicated in any pricing supplement, payment of the purchase price of notes, other than notes denominated in a non-U.S. dollar currency, will be required to be made in funds immediately available in The City of New York. The notes will be in the Same Day Funds Settlement System at DTC and, to the extent the secondary market trading in the notes is effected through the facilities of such depositary, such trades will be settled in immediately available funds.

The notes are a new issue of securities, and there will be no established trading market for any note before its original issue date. We do not plan to list the notes on a securities exchange or quotation system. An agent may make a market in the notes offered through it. However, neither CIBC World Markets Corp. nor any of our other affiliates nor any other agent named in the applicable pricing supplement that makes a market is obligated to do so, and any of them may stop doing so at any time without notice. No assurance can be given as to the liquidity or trading market for the notes.

This prospectus supplement may be used by CIBC World Markets Corp. in connection with offers and sales of the notes in market-making transactions. In a market-making transaction, CIBC World Markets Corp. may resell a note it acquires from other holders after the original offering and sale of the note. Resales of this kind may occur in the open market or may be privately negotiated, at prevailing market prices at the time of resale or at related or negotiated prices. In these transactions, CIBC World Markets Corp. may act as principal or agent, including as agent for the counterparty in a transaction in which CIBC World Markets Corp. acts as principal, or as agent for both counterparties in a transaction in which CIBC World Markets Corp. does not act as principal. CIBC World Markets Corp. may receive compensation in the form of discounts and commissions, including from both counterparties in some cases. Other affiliates of the Bank (in addition to CIBC World Markets Corp.) may also engage in transactions of this kind and may use this prospectus supplement for this purpose.

Unless the Bank or an agent informs you in your confirmation of sale that your note is being purchased in its original offering and sale, you may assume that you are purchasing your note in a market-making transaction.

The aggregate initial offering price specified on the cover of this prospectus supplement relates to the initial offering of new notes we may issue on and after the date of this prospectus supplement. This amount does not include notes that may be resold in market-making transactions. The latter includes notes that we may issue going forward as well as notes we have previously issued.

The Bank does not expect to receive any proceeds from market-making transactions. The Bank does not expect that any dealer that engages in these transactions will pay any proceeds from its market-making resales to the Bank.

Information about the trade and settlement dates, as well as the purchase price, for a market-making transaction will be provided to the purchaser in a separate confirmation of sale.

In this prospectus supplement, the term "this offering" means the initial offering of the notes made in connection with their original issuance. This term does not refer to any subsequent resales of notes in market-making transactions.

An agent may engage in over-allotment, stabilizing transactions, syndicate covering transactions and penalty bids in accordance with Regulation M under the Exchange Act. Over-allotment involves syndicate sales in excess of the offering size, which creates a syndicate short position. Stabilizing transactions permit bids to purchase the underlying security so long as the stabilizing bids do not exceed a specified maximum. Syndicate covering transactions involve purchases of the notes in the open market after the distribution has been completed in order to cover syndicate short positions. Penalty bids permit reclaiming a selling concession from a syndicate member when the notes originally sold by such syndicate member are purchased in a syndicate covering transaction to cover syndicate short positions. Such stabilizing transactions, syndicate covering transactions and penalty bids may stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the market price of the notes, which may be higher than it would otherwise be in the absence of such transactions. Agents are not required to engage in these activities, and may end any of these activities at any time.

In addition to offering notes through agents as discussed above, other medium-term notes that have terms substantially similar to the terms of the notes offered by this prospectus supplement may in the future be offered, concurrently with the offering of the notes, on a continuing basis by the Bank. Any of these notes sold pursuant to the distribution agreement or sold by the Bank directly to investors will reduce the aggregate amount of notes which may be offered by this prospectus supplement.

Delivery of the notes will be made against payment therefor on or about the issue date specified in the applicable pricing supplement. Under Rule 15c6-1 of the Exchange Act, trades in the secondary market are generally required to settle three business days after the securities are priced, unless the parties to such trade

expressly agree otherwise. Accordingly, if the settlement date is more than three business days after the pricing date of any issuance of notes, purchasers who wish to trade such notes more than three business days before the settlement date for the issuance of such notes will be required to specify an alternative settlement cycle at the time of any such trade in order to prevent failed settlement in the secondary market transaction; such purchasers should consult their own advisors in this regard.

#### **Conflicts of Interest**

CIBC World Markets Corp., is an affiliate of the Bank and, as such, has a "conflict of interest" in this offering within the meaning of FINRA Rule 5121, as administered by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, or FINRA. Consequently, this offering is being conducted in compliance with the applicable provisions of Rule 5121. In general, under that rule, no qualified independent underwriter is expected to be required. CIBC World Markets Corp. is not permitted to sell notes in this offering to accounts over which it exercises discretionary authority without the prior specific written approval of the account holder. Furthermore, under no circumstances will underwriting compensation exceed 8% of the offering proceeds.

#### **Selling Restrictions Outside the United States**

The Bank has taken no action that would permit a public offering of the notes or possession or distribution of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus or any other offering material in any jurisdiction outside the United States where action for that purpose is required other than as described below. Accordingly, the agent has agreed, and each other agent will be required to agree, that:

- it will comply with all applicable laws and regulations in force in any jurisdiction in which it
  purchases, offers or sells notes or possesses or distributes this prospectus supplement or the
  accompanying prospectus or any other offering material and will obtain any consent, approval or
  permission required by it for the purchase, offer or sale by it of notes under the laws and regulations in
  force in any jurisdiction to which it is subject or in which it makes such purchases, offers or sales and
  the Bank shall have no responsibility in relation to this; and
- it will not offer or sell any notes purchased by it, directly or indirectly, in Canada or to any resident of Canada without the consent of the Bank, and further agrees that it will include a comparable provision in any sub-underwriting, banking group or selling group agreement or similar arrangement with respect to any notes that may be entered into by such agent.

With regard to each note, the relevant purchaser will be required to comply with those restrictions that the Bank and the relevant purchaser shall agree and as shall be set out in the relevant pricing supplement.



## CANADIAN IMPERIAL BANK OF COMMERCE

### **Senior Debt Securities**

up to an aggregate initial offering price of U.S. \$2,000,000,000 or the equivalent thereof in other currencies.

This prospectus describes some of the general terms that may apply to these securities and the general manner in which they may be offered. We will give you the specific prices and other terms of the securities we are offering in supplements to this prospectus. You should read this prospectus and the applicable supplement carefully before you invest. We may sell the securities to or through one or more underwriters, dealers or agents. The names of the underwriters, dealers or agents will be set forth in supplements to this prospectus.

NEITHER THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION NOR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION HAS APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED OF THESE SECURITIES OR DETERMINED THAT THIS PROSPECTUS IS TRUTHFUL OR COMPLETE. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

Prospective investors should be aware that the acquisition of the securities described herein may have tax consequences both in the United States and in Canada. Such consequences for investors who are resident in, or citizens of, the United States may not be described fully herein or in any applicable prospectus supplement.

The enforcement by investors of civil liabilities under United States federal securities laws may be affected adversely by the fact that Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce ("CIBC") is a Canadian bank, that many of its officers and directors are residents of Canada, that some or all of the underwriters or experts named in the Registration Statement may be residents of Canada, and that all or a substantial portion of the assets of Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce and said persons may be located outside the United States. See "Limitations on Enforcement of U.S. Laws Against CIBC, Its Management and Others" on page 21.

The securities described herein will not constitute deposits that are insured under the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation Act or by the United States Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Investing in the securities described herein involves a number of risks. See "Risk Factors" on page 1.

We may use this prospectus in the initial sale of the securities described herein. In addition, we or our affiliates may use this prospectus in a market-making transaction in any of these securities after their initial sale. Unless we or our agent informs you otherwise in the confirmation of sale, this prospectus is being used in a market-making transaction.

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In this prospectus, unless the context otherwise indicates, "CIBC", "we", "us" or "our" means Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce and its subsidiaries. All dollar amounts referred to in this prospectus are in Canadian dollars unless otherwise specifically expressed.

#### ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we sell securities, we will provide a prospectus supplement containing specific information about the terms of the securities being offered. A prospectus supplement may include a discussion of any risk factors or other special considerations applicable to those securities or to us. A prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information in this prospectus. If there is any inconsistency between the information in this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement, you should rely on the information in the prospectus supplement. You should read both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement together with additional information described under the heading "Available Information" on page ii.

We may sell securities to underwriters who will sell the securities to the public on terms fixed at the time of sale. In addition, the securities may be sold by us directly or through dealers or agents designated from time to time. If we, directly or through agents, solicit offers to purchase the securities, we reserve the sole right to accept and, together with any agents, to reject, in whole or in part, any of those offers.

#### FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus, including the documents that are incorporated by reference herein, contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of certain securities laws. All such statements are made pursuant to the "safe harbor" provisions of, and are intended to be forward-looking statements under applicable Canadian and U.S. securities legislation, including the U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements include, but are not limited to, statements about the operations, business lines, financial condition, risk management, priorities, targets, ongoing objectives, strategies and outlook of CIBC for calendar year 2015 and subsequent periods. Forward-looking statements are typically identified by the words "believe," "expect," "anticipate," "intend," "estimate", "forecast", "target", "objective" and other similar expressions or future or conditional verbs such as "will," "should," "would" and "could." By their nature, these statements require CIBC

to make assumptions and are subject to inherent risks and uncertainties that may be general or specific. A variety of factors, many of which are beyond CIBC's control, affect the operations, performance and results of CIBC, and could cause actual results to differ materially from the expectations expressed in any of CIBC's forward-looking statements. These factors include:

- credit, market, liquidity, strategic, insurance, operational, reputation and legal, regulatory and environmental risk:
- the effectiveness and adequacy of our risk management and valuation models and processes;
- legislative or regulatory developments in the jurisdictions where we operate, including the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act and the regulations issued and to be issued thereunder, the U.S. Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act and regulatory reforms in the United Kingdom and Europe, the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision's global standards for capital and liquidity reform, and those relating to the payments system in Canada;
- amendments to, and interpretations of, risk-based capital guidelines and reporting instructions, and interest rate and liquidity regulatory guidance;
- the resolution of legal and regulatory proceedings and related matters;
- the effect of changes to accounting standards, rules and interpretations;
- changes in our estimates of reserves and allowances;
- changes in tax laws;
- changes to our credit ratings;
- political conditions and developments;
- the possible effect on our business of international conflicts and the war on terror;
- natural disasters, public health emergencies, disruptions to public infrastructure and other catastrophic events;
- reliance on third parties to provide components of our business infrastructure;
- potential disruptions to our information technology systems and services;
- increasing cyber security risks which may include theft of assets, unauthorized access to sensitive information, or operational disruption;
- social media risk;
- losses incurred as a result of internal or external fraud;
- anti-money laundering;
- · the accuracy and completeness of information provided to us concerning clients and counterparties;
- the failure of third parties to comply with their obligations to us and our affiliates or associates;
- intensifying competition from established competitors and new entrants in the financial services industry including through internet and mobile banking;
- technological change;
- global capital market activity;
- changes in monetary and economic policy;
- currency value and interest rate fluctuations, including as a result of oil price volatility;
- general business and economic conditions worldwide, as well as in Canada, the U.S. and other countries where we have operations, including increasing Canadian household debt levels and Europe's sovereign debt crisis;

- our success in developing and introducing new products and services, expanding existing distribution channels, developing new distribution channels and realizing increased revenue from these channels;
- changes in client spending and saving habits;
- our ability to attract and retain key employees and executives;
- our ability to successfully execute our strategies and complete and integrate acquisitions and joint ventures; and
- our ability to anticipate and manage the risks associated with these factors.

This list is not exhaustive of the factors that may affect any of CIBC's forward-looking statements. Additional information about these factors can be found in the "Management of risk" section of our 2014 Annual Report (as defined below). These and other factors should be considered carefully and readers should not place undue reliance on CIBC's forward-looking statements. See "Risk Factors" in this prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference herein. CIBC does not undertake to update any forward-looking statement that is contained in this prospectus or the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus except as required by law.

#### AVAILABLE INFORMATION

In addition to the continuous disclosure obligations under the securities laws of the provinces and territories of Canada, CIBC is subject to the informational reporting requirements of the U.S. Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), and in accordance therewith files reports and other information with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). Under a multi-jurisdictional disclosure system adopted by the United States and Canada, such reports and other information may be prepared in accordance with the disclosure requirements of the provincial and territorial securities regulatory authorities of Canada, which requirements are different from those of the United States. As a foreign private issuer, CIBC is exempt from the rules under the Exchange Act prescribing the furnishing and content of proxy statements. CIBC's reports and other information filed with or furnished to the SEC are available, and reports and other information filed or furnished in the future with or to the SEC will be available, from the SEC's EDGAR System (http:// www.sec.gov). Any document CIBC files with or furnishes to the SEC may be inspected and, by paying a fee, copied at the public reference facilities maintained by the SEC at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. Prospective investors may call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information regarding the public reference facilities. CIBC's common shares are listed on the New York Stock Exchange and reports and other information concerning CIBC may be inspected at the offices of the New York Stock Exchange, 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005.

CIBC has filed with the SEC, under the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), a registration statement on Form F-3 with respect to the securities offered by this prospectus. This prospectus forms a part of that registration statement. This prospectus does not contain all of the information that is set forth in the registration statement, certain parts of which are omitted in accordance with the rules and regulations of the SEC. Statements made in this prospectus as to the contents of any contract, agreement or other document referred to are not necessarily complete, and in each instance, reference is made to an exhibit to the registration statement, if applicable, for a more complete description of the matter, each such statement being qualified in its entirety by such reference. For further information with respect to CIBC and the securities offered by this prospectus, reference is made to the registration statement and the exhibits thereto, which will be publicly available as described in the preceding paragraph.

#### DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to "incorporate by reference" the information we file with it, which means we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents.

The following documents are incorporated by reference into this prospectus:

- (i) CIBC's Annual Report on Form 40-F for the year ended October 31, 2014 (the "2014 Annual Report"); and
- (ii) CIBC's Form 6-K filed on December 4, 2014, February 26, 2015 (with respect to CIBC's Report to Shareholders for the First Quarter, 2015), February 26, 2015 (with respect to the reporting of the declaration of dividends), March 19, 2015 (with respect to CIBC's Management Proxy Circular) and April 23, 2015.

In addition, any documents filed on Form 40-F or furnished on Form 6-K (if and to the extent expressly provided therein) by CIBC with the SEC, after the date of the filing of this prospectus and prior to the completion or withdrawal of any offering hereunder or, if later, the date on which any of CIBC's affiliates ceases offering and selling the securities offered hereby, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference in this prospectus and the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part.

Any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded, for purposes of this prospectus, to the extent that a statement contained herein or in any other subsequently filed document that also is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference herein modifies or supersedes such statement. The modifying or superseding statement need not state that it has modified or superseded a prior statement or include any other information set forth in the document that it modifies or supersedes. The making of a modifying or superseding statement shall not be deemed an admission for any purposes that the modified or superseded statement, when made, constituted a misrepresentation, an untrue statement of a material fact or an omission to state a material fact that is required to be stated or that is necessary to make a statement not misleading in light of the circumstances in which it was made. Any statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus.

You can request a copy of the documents referred to above, excluding exhibits that are not specifically incorporated by reference, at no cost, by writing or telephoning us at Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, Commerce Court, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5L 1A2, Attention: Investor Relations, telephone: (416) 980-6657. The documents incorporated by reference are available from the SEC's EDGAR System at www.sec.gov.

#### PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL INFORMATION

CIBC prepares its consolidated financial statements, including comparative information, in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS") as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board. Pursuant to SEC rules, CIBC is permitted to present its financial statements in accordance with IFRS without a reconciliation to U.S GAAP.

Additionally, CIBC publishes its consolidated financial statements in Canadian dollars. In this prospectus, currency amounts are stated in Canadian dollars, unless specified otherwise. References to "\$," "Cdn\$" and "dollars" are to Canadian dollars, and references to "US\$" are to U.S. dollars. As indicated in the table below, the Canadian dollar has fluctuated in value compared to the U.S. dollar over the last five years.

The table below sets forth the high and low daily noon buying rates, the average yearly rate and the rate at period end between Canadian dollars and U.S. dollars (in U.S. dollars per Canadian dollar) for the five-year period ended October 31, 2014 and for each of October, November and December 2014 and January, February and March 2105. On April 24, 2015, the latest date for which information is available, the Canadian dollar noon buying rate was U.S. \$0.8218. Our reference to the "noon buying rate" is the rate in The City of New York for cable transfers in foreign currencies as announced by the U.S. Federal Reserve Bank of New York for customs purposes on a specified date.

HIGH	LOW	AVERAGE RATE <sup>(1)</sup>	AT PERIOD END
1.0040	0.9280	1.0298	0.9816
1.0584	0.9430	0.9887	1.0068
1.0299	0.9536	0.9995	1.0004
1.0164	0.9454	0.9774	0.9589
0.9437	0.8872	0.9171	0.8872
0.8981	0.8857	0.8920	0.8872
0.8900	0.8752	0.8830	0.8752
0.8816	0.8588	0.8673	0.8620
0.8529	0.7864	0.8255	0.7864
0.8064	0.7915	0.8001	0.7996
0.8039	0.7811	0.7925	0.7886
0.8232	0.7930	0.8065	0.8218
	1.0040 1.0584 1.0299 1.0164 0.9437 0.8981 0.8900 0.8816 0.8529 0.8064 0.8039	1.0040 0.9280 1.0584 0.9430 1.0299 0.9536 1.0164 0.9454 0.9437 0.8872 0.8981 0.8857 0.8900 0.8752 0.8816 0.8588 0.8529 0.7864 0.8064 0.7915 0.8039 0.7811	HIGH         LOW         RATE <sup>(i)</sup> 1.0040         0.9280         1.0298           1.0584         0.9430         0.9887           1.0299         0.9536         0.9995           1.0164         0.9454         0.9774           0.9437         0.8872         0.9171           0.8981         0.8857         0.8920           0.8900         0.8752         0.8830           0.8516         0.8588         0.8673           0.8529         0.7864         0.8255           0.8064         0.7915         0.8001           0.8039         0.7811         0.7925

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The average of the noon buying rates for each year are based on the noon buying rates on the last business day of each full month during the relevant year.

Any prospectus supplement will contain the names of the underwriters, dealers or agents, if any, together with the terms of offering, the compensation of those underwriters and the net proceeds to us. Any underwriters, dealers or agents participating in the offering may be deemed "underwriters" within the meaning of the Securities Act.

#### CANADIAN IMPERIAL BANK OF COMMERCE

CIBC is a diversified financial institution governed by the *Bank Act (Canada)* (the "Bank Act"). CIBC's registered and head office is located in Commerce Court, Toronto, Canada, M5L 1A2. CIBC was formed in 1961 through the amalgamation of The Canadian Bank of Commerce (originally incorporated in 1858) and Imperial Bank of Canada (originally incorporated in 1875).

Additional information with respect to CIBC's businesses is included in the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus. See "Documents Incorporated by Reference" in this prospectus.

#### RISK FACTORS

Investment in these securities is subject to various risks including those risks inherent in conducting the business of a diversified financial institution. Before deciding whether to invest in any senior debt securities, you should consider carefully the risks described in the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus (including subsequently filed documents incorporated by reference) and, if applicable, those described in a prospectus supplement relating to a specific offering of securities. You should consider the categories of risks identified and discussed in the management's discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations included in our 2014 Annual Report, including those summarized under "Forward-Looking Statements" on page i.

#### **USE OF PROCEEDS**

Except as otherwise set forth in a prospectus supplement, the net proceeds from the sale of securities will be added to our general funds and will be used for general corporate purposes.

#### RATIOS OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

The following table sets forth the ratio of earnings to fixed charges of CIBC for each of the years in the five-year period ended October 31, 2014 and for the three months ended January 31, 2015 calculated in accordance with the accounting principles indicated below: For the years ended October 31, 2011 and 2010, CIBC prepared its consolidated financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles ("Canadian GAAP"). Beginning with its interim consolidated financial statements for the three-month period ended January 31, 2012, CIBC prepared its consolidated financial statements, including comparative information, in accordance with IFRS.

	Three Months						
	Ended January 31,		Year E	tober 31,			
	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	
		(IFRS)			(Canadian GAAP)		
Excluding Interest on Deposits	6.02x	5.29x	5.49x	4.43x	4.45x	5.45x	
Including Interest on Deposits	2.07x	1.90x	1.86x	1.82x	2.02x	2.30x	
					2011	2010	
					(U.S. GAAP)		
Excluding Interest on Deposits					4.32x	5.46x	
Including Interest on Deposits					1.99x	2.27x	

<sup>(1)</sup> Under IFRS, interest on deposits comprises interest expense relating to deposits and secured borrowings liabilities.

For purposes of computing these ratios, earnings represent net income before income taxes and fixed charges (excluding capitalized interest). Fixed charges represent (i) estimated interest within rental expense, (ii) amortization of debt issuance costs and (iii) interest (including capitalized interest), including or excluding deposit interest as indicated. For purposes of computing these ratios, the interest component of rental expense is 30% of rent expense because it is the proportion deemed representative of the interest factor.

#### CONSOLIDATED CAPITALIZATION

The table below sets forth our consolidated capitalization as of January 31, 2015. This table should be read in conjunction with our unaudited consolidated financial statements and the management's discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations filed as an exhibit to our Form 6-K filed on February 26, 2015 and which is incorporated by reference in this prospectus.

	As at January 31, 2015		
	(C\$ in millions)		
Subordinated Indebtedness	C\$ 4,864		
Shareholders' Equity:			
Preferred Shares	1,031		
Common shares	7,793		
Contributed surplus	77		
Retained earnings	10,121		
Other equity*	274		
Total Shareholders' Equity	19,296		
Total Capitalization	<u>C\$24,170</u>		

<sup>\*</sup> Accumulated other comprehensive income, net of tax.

#### DESCRIPTION OF SENIOR DEBT SECURITIES

The following describes the material terms of the senior debt securities. The senior debt securities will be issued under the indenture (as amended or supplemented from time to time, the "indenture"), dated as of September 15, 2012 between CIBC and Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, as trustee (the "Trustee"), a copy of which is incorporated by reference as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part. The specific terms applicable to a particular issuance of senior debt securities and any variations from the terms set forth below will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. In this section, "CIBC", "we", "us" or "our" means Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, the issuer of the senior debt securities, and not its subsidiaries.

The following is a summary of the material terms and provisions of the indenture and the senior debt securities. You should refer to the indenture and the senior debt securities for complete information regarding the terms and provisions of the indenture and the senior debt securities. The indenture is subject to and governed by the U.S. Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended, and applicable Canadian trust indenture legislation.

#### Ranking

The senior debt securities will not be secured by any of our property or assets or the property or assets of our subsidiaries. Thus, by owning a senior debt security, you are one of our unsecured creditors.

The senior debt securities will be unsubordinated obligations that rank equally with all of our other unsecured and unsubordinated debt, including deposit liabilities, other than certain governmental claims in accordance with applicable law.

In the event we become insolvent, our governing legislation provides that priorities among payments of our deposit liabilities (including payments in respect of the senior debt securities) and payments of all of our other liabilities are to be determined in accordance with the laws governing priorities and, where applicable, by the terms of the indebtedness and liabilities. In addition, our right to participate in any distribution of the assets of our banking or non-banking subsidiaries, upon a subsidiary's dissolution, winding-up, liquidation or reorganization or otherwise, and thus your ability to benefit indirectly from such distribution, is subject to the prior claims of creditors of that subsidiary, except to the extent that we may be a creditor of that subsidiary and our claims are recognized. There are legal limitations on the extent to which some of our subsidiaries may extend credit, pay dividends or otherwise supply funds to, or engage in transactions with, us or some of our other subsidiaries. Accordingly, the senior debt securities will be structurally subordinated to all existing and future liabilities of our subsidiaries, and holders of senior debt securities should look only to our assets for payments on the senior debt securities.

The senior debt securities will not constitute deposits insured under the *Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation Act* (Canada) or by the United States Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other Canadian or United States governmental agency or instrumentality.

#### General

We may issue as many distinct series of senior debt securities under the indenture as we wish. The provisions of the indenture allow us not only to issue senior debt securities with terms different from those previously issued under the applicable indenture, but also to "re-open" a previous issue of a series of senior debt securities and issue additional senior debt securities. We may issue senior debt securities in amounts that exceed the total amount specified on the cover of your applicable prospectus supplement at any time without your consent and without notifying you. In addition, we may issue additional senior debt securities of any series at any time without your consent and without notifying you. We may also issue other securities at any time without your consent and without notifying you. The indenture does not limit our ability to incur other indebtedness or to issue other securities, and we are not subject to financial or similar restrictions under the indenture.

This section summarizes the material terms of the senior debt securities that are common to all series, subject to any modifications contained in an applicable prospectus supplement. Most of the specific terms of your series will be described in the applicable prospectus supplements accompanying this prospectus. The specific terms of your senior debt security as described in the applicable prospectus supplements will supplement and, if applicable, may modify or replace the general terms described in this section. If there are any differences between the information in the applicable prospectus supplements and this prospectus, the information in the most recent applicable prospectus supplement will control. Accordingly, the statements we make in this section may not apply to your senior debt securities. Because this section is a summary, it does not describe every aspect of the senior debt securities. This summary is subject to and qualified in its entirety by reference to all the provisions of the indenture and the applicable series of senior debt securities, including definitions of certain terms used in the indenture and the applicable series of senior debt securities. In this summary, we describe the meaning of only some of the more important terms. You must look to the indenture or the applicable series of senior debt securities for the most complete description of what we describe in summary form in this prospectus.

We may issue the senior debt securities as original issue discount securities, which will be offered and sold at a substantial discount below their stated principal amount. An applicable prospectus supplement relating to the original issue discount securities will describe U.S. federal and other relevant income tax considerations and other special considerations applicable to them. The senior debt securities may also be issued as indexed securities or securities denominated in foreign currencies or currency units, as described in more detail in an applicable prospectus supplement relating to any of the particular senior debt securities. An applicable prospectus supplement relating to specific senior debt securities will also describe any special considerations and any material U.S. and Canadian tax considerations applicable to such senior debt securities, including whether and under what circumstances we will pay additional amounts on or for any tax, assessment or governmental charge withheld or deducted and, if so, whether we will have the option to redeem the senior debt securities rather than pay the additional amounts.

When we refer to a series of senior debt securities, we mean a series issued under the indenture pursuant to which the senior debt securities will be issued. Each series of senior debt securities is a single distinct series under the indenture pursuant to which they will be issued and we may issue senior debt securities of each series in such amounts, at such times and on such terms as we wish. The senior debt securities of each series may differ from one another, and from any other series, in their terms, but all senior debt securities of a series together will constitute a single series for all purposes under the indenture pursuant to which they will be issued.

We may issue senior debt securities up to an aggregate principal amount as we may authorize from time to time. The applicable prospectus supplements will describe the terms of any series of senior debt securities being offered, including:

- the title of the series of senior debt securities;
- any limit on the aggregate principal amount of the series of senior debt securities;
- the person to whom interest on a senior debt security is payable, if other than the holder on the regular record date;
- the date or dates on which the series of senior debt securities will mature;
- the rate or rates (which may be fixed or variable) per annum, at which the series of senior debt securities will bear interest, if any, and the date or dates from which that interest, if any, will accrue;
- the dates on which such interest, if any, will be payable and the regular record dates for such interest payment dates;
- the place or places where the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the senior debt securities is payable;
- any mandatory or optional sinking funds or similar provisions;

- if applicable, the date after which, the price at which, the periods within which and the terms and conditions upon which the senior debt securities may, pursuant to any optional or mandatory redemption provisions, be redeemed and other detailed terms and provisions of those optional or mandatory redemption provisions or provisions for redemption at our option or the option of the holder, if any;
- if applicable, the terms and conditions upon which the senior debt securities may be repayable prior to final maturity at the option of the holder thereof (which option may be conditional);
- the portion of the principal amount of the senior debt securities, if other than the entire principal amount thereof, payable upon acceleration of maturity thereof;
- if other than denominations of US\$2,000 and integral multiples of US\$1,000 in excess thereof, the denominations in which the series of senior debt securities will be issuable;
- the currency of payment of principal, premium, if any, and interest on the series of senior debt securities;
- if the currency of payment for principal, premium, if any, and interest on the series of senior debt securities is subject to our election or that of a holder, the currency or currencies in which payment can be made and the period within which, and the terms and conditions upon which, the election can be made;
- the terms, if any, on which any securities may or shall be converted into or exchanged at the option of CIBC or otherwise for shares or other securities of CIBC or another entity or other entities, into the cash value thereof or into any combination of the foregoing, any specific terms relating to the adjustment thereof and the period during which such securities may or shall be so converted or exchanged;
- any index, formula or other method used to determine the amount of payment of principal or premium, if any, and/or interest on the series of senior debt securities;
- the applicability of the provisions described under "— Defeasance" below;
- any event of default under the series of senior debt securities if different from those described under
   Events of Default" below:
- if the series of senior debt securities will be issuable only in the form of a global senior debt security, the depositary or its nominee with respect to the series of senior debt securities and the circumstances under which the global senior debt security may be registered for transfer or exchange in the name of a person other than the depositary or the nominee; and
- any other special feature of the series of senior debt securities.

#### **Market-Making Transactions**

One or more of our subsidiaries may purchase and resell senior debt securities in market-making transactions after their initial issuance. We may also, subject to applicable law and any required regulatory approval, purchase senior debt securities in the open market or in private transactions to be held by us or cancelled.

#### **Covenants**

Except as otherwise provided in an applicable prospectus supplement with respect to any series of senior debt securities, we are not restricted by the indenture from incurring, assuming or becoming liable for any type of debt or other obligations, from paying dividends or making distributions on our capital stock or purchasing or redeeming our capital stock. The indenture does not require the maintenance of any financial ratios or specified levels of net worth or liquidity, nor do they contain any covenants or other provisions that would limit our or our

subsidiaries' right to incur additional indebtedness, enter into any sale and leaseback transaction or grant liens on our or our subsidiaries' assets. The indenture does not contain any provisions that would require us to repurchase or redeem or otherwise modify the terms of any of the senior debt securities upon a change in control or other events that may adversely affect the creditworthiness of the senior debt securities, for example, a highly leveraged transaction, except as otherwise specified in this prospectus or any applicable prospectus supplement.

#### **Mergers and Similar Events**

The indenture provides that we are permitted to merge, amalgamate, consolidate or otherwise combine with another entity, or to sell or lease substantially all of our assets to another entity, as long as the following conditions are met:

- When we merge, amalgamate, consolidate or otherwise are combined with another entity, or sell or
  lease substantially all of our assets, the surviving, resulting or acquiring entity is a duly organized
  entity and is legally responsible for and assumes, either by agreement, operation of law or otherwise,
  our obligations under such indenture and the senior debt securities issued thereunder.
- The merger, amalgamation, consolidation, other combination, or sale or lease of assets, must not result in an event of default under such indenture. A default for this purpose would include any event that would be an event of default if the requirements for giving us default notice or our default having to exist for a specified period of time were disregarded.
- We have delivered to the Trustee an officer's certificate and opinion of counsel stating that the transaction (and any accompanying supplemental indenture) complies with the indenture and all conditions precedent have been complied with.

If the conditions described above are satisfied, we will not need to obtain the consent of the holders of the senior debt securities in order to merge, amalgamate, consolidate or otherwise combine with another entity or to sell or lease substantially all of our assets.

We will not need to satisfy the conditions described above if we enter into other types of transactions, including:

- any transaction in which we acquire the stock or assets of another entity but in which we do not merge, amalgamate, consolidate or otherwise combine;
- any transaction that involves a change of control but in which we do not merge, amalgamate, consolidate or otherwise combine; and
- any transaction in which we sell less than substantially all of our assets.

It is possible that this type of transaction may result in a reduction in our credit rating, may reduce our operating results or may impair our financial condition. Holders of senior debt securities, however, will have no approval right with respect to any transaction of this type.

#### **Modification and Waiver of the Senior Debt Securities**

There are three types of changes we can make to the indenture and the senior debt securities issued under that indenture.

Changes Requiring Consent of Each Holder. First, there are changes that cannot be made to the indenture or the senior debt securities without the consent of each holder of a series of senior debt securities affected by the change under the indenture. Following is a list of those types of changes:

- change the stated maturity of the principal or reduce the interest on a senior debt security;
- reduce any amounts due on a senior debt security;

- reduce the amount of principal payable upon acceleration of the maturity of a senior debt security (including the amount payable on an original issue discount security) following a default;
- change the currency of payment on a senior debt security;
- change the place of payment for a senior debt security;
- impair a holder's right to sue for payment;
- impair a holder's right to require repurchase on the original terms of those senior debt securities that provide a right of repurchase;
- reduce the percentage of holders of senior debt securities whose consent is needed to modify or amend the indenture:
- reduce the percentage of holders of senior debt securities whose consent is needed to waive compliance with certain provisions of the indenture or to waive certain defaults; or
- modify any other aspect of the provisions dealing with modification and waiver of the indenture.

Changes Requiring a Majority Consent. The second type of change to the indenture and the senior debt securities is the kind that requires the consent of holders of senior debt securities owning not less than a majority of the principal amount of the particular series affected. Most changes fall into this category, except for clarifying changes and certain other changes that would not adversely affect in any material respect holders of the senior debt securities. We may also obtain a waiver of a past default from the holders of senior debt securities owning a majority of the principal amount of the particular series affected. However, we cannot obtain a waiver of a payment default or any other aspect of the indenture or the senior debt securities described above under "— Changes Requiring Consent of All Holders" unless we obtain the individual consent of each holder of senior debt securities of the affected series to the waiver.

Changes Not Requiring Consent. The third type of change to the indenture and the senior debt securities does not require the consent by holders of senior debt securities. This type is limited to the issuance of new series of senior debt securities under the indenture, clarifications and certain other changes that would not adversely affect in any material respect the interests of the holders of the senior debt securities of any series.

Further Details Concerning Voting. When seeking consent, we will use the following rules to decide the principal amount to attribute to a senior debt security:

- For original issue discount securities, we will use the principal amount that would be due and payable on the voting date if the maturity of the senior debt securities were accelerated to that date because of a default.
- For senior debt securities whose principal amount is not known, we will use a special rule for that senior debt security described in the applicable prospectus supplement.
- For senior debt securities denominated in one or more non-U.S. currencies or currency units, we will use the U.S. dollar equivalent.

Senior debt securities will not be considered outstanding, and therefore not eligible to vote or take other action under the applicable indenture, if we have given a notice of redemption and deposited or set aside in trust for the holders money for the payment or redemption of those senior debt securities. Senior debt securities will also not be considered outstanding, and therefore not eligible to vote or take other action under the applicable indenture, if they have been fully defeased as described below under "— Defeasance — Full Defeasance" or if we or one of our affiliates is the beneficial owner of the senior debt securities.

We will generally be entitled to set any day as a record date for the purpose of determining the holders of outstanding senior debt securities that are entitled to vote or take other action under the applicable indenture. In certain limited circumstances, the trustee will be entitled to set a record date for action by holders. If the trustee

or we set a record date for a vote or other action to be taken by holders of a particular series, that vote or action may be taken only by persons who are holders of outstanding senior debt securities of that series on the record date. We or the trustee as applicable, may shorten or lengthen this period from time to time. This period, however, may not extend beyond the 180th day after the record date for the action.

Book-entry and other indirect holders should consult their banks, brokers or other financial institutions for information on how approval may be granted or denied if we seek to change the indenture or the senior debt securities or request a waiver.

#### Defeasance

The following discussion of full defeasance and covenant defeasance will be applicable to each series of senior debt securities that is denominated in U.S. dollars and has a fixed rate of interest and will apply to other series of senior debt securities if we so specify in the applicable prospectus supplements.

*Full Defeasance*. If there is a change in U.S. federal income tax law, as described below, we can legally release ourselves from any payment or other obligations on the senior debt securities of a series, called full defeasance, if we put in place the following other arrangements for holders to be repaid:

- We must deposit in trust for the benefit of all holders of the senior debt securities of that series a combination of money and notes or bonds of (i) the U.S. government or (ii) a U.S. government agency or U.S. government-sponsored entity, the obligations of which, in each case, are backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government, that will generate enough cash to make interest, principal and any other payments on the senior debt securities of that series on their various due dates sufficient, in the opinion of a nationally recognized firm of independent public accountants, to pay and discharge the amounts owned.
- There must be a change in current U.S. federal income tax law or a ruling by the United States Internal Revenue Service that lets us make the above deposit without causing the holders to be taxed on the senior debt securities of that series any differently than if we did not make the deposit and just repaid the senior debt securities of that series ourselves. (Under current U.S. federal income tax law, the deposit and our legal release from the obligations pursuant to the senior debt securities would be treated as though we took back your senior debt securities and gave you your share of the cash and notes or bonds deposited in trust. In that event, you could recognize gain or loss on the senior debt securities you give back to us.)
- We must deliver to the trustee a legal opinion of our counsel confirming the tax-law change described
  above and that the holders of the senior debt securities of that series will not recognize income, gain or
  loss for U.S. federal income tax purposes as a result of such deposit, defeasance and discharge and will
  be subject to U.S. federal income tax on the same amounts and in the same manner and at the same
  times as would be the case if such deposit, defeasance and discharge had not occurred.

If we ever did accomplish full defeasance, as described above, you would have to rely solely on the trust deposit for repayment on the senior debt securities. You could not look to us for repayment in the event of any shortfall.

Covenant Defeasance. Even without a change in current U.S. federal income tax law, we can make the same type of deposit as described above, and we will be released from the restrictive covenants under the senior debt securities of a series that may be described in the applicable prospectus supplements. This is called covenant defeasance. In that event, you would lose the protection of these covenants but would gain the protection of having money and U.S. government, U.S. government agency or U.S. government-sponsored entity notes or bonds set aside in trust to repay the senior debt securities. In order to achieve covenant defeasance, we must do the following:

- Deposit in trust for the benefit of all holders of the senior debt securities of that series a combination of money and notes or bonds of (i) the U.S. government or (ii) a U.S. government agency or U.S. government-sponsored entity, the obligations of which, in each case, are backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government, that will generate enough cash to make interest, principal and any other payments on the senior debt securities of that series on their various due dates sufficient, in the opinion of a nationally recognized firm of independent public accountants, to pay and discharge the amounts owned.
- Deliver to the trustee a legal opinion of our counsel confirming that the holders of the senior debt
  securities of that series will not recognize income, gain or loss for U.S. federal income tax purposes as
  a result of such deposit and covenant defeasance and will be subject to U.S. federal income tax on the
  same amounts and in the same manner and at the same times as would be the case if such deposit and
  covenant defeasance had not occurred.

If we accomplish covenant defeasance, certain provisions of the indenture and the senior debt securities would no longer apply:

- Covenants applicable to the series of senior debt securities and described in the applicable prospectus supplements.
- Any events of default relating to breach of those covenants.

If we accomplish covenant defeasance, you can still look to us for repayment of the senior debt securities if there were a shortfall in the trust deposit. In fact, if one of the remaining events of default occurs (such as a bankruptcy) and the senior debt securities become immediately due and payable, there may be such a shortfall.

#### Events of Default

You will have special rights if an "event of default" occurs and is not cured, as described later in this subsection.

What is an Event of Default?

Under the indenture, the term "event of default" means in respect of any series of senior debt securities any of the following:

- We do not pay the principal of or any premium on a senior debt security of that series within five days
  of its due date.
- We do not pay interest on a senior debt security of that series for more than 30 days after its due date.
- We file for bankruptcy or certain other events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization occur.
- Any other event of default described in an applicable prospectus supplement occurs.

Remedies If an Event of Default Occurs. If an event of default occurs, the trustee will have special duties. In that situation, the trustee will be obligated to use those of their rights and powers under the applicable indenture, and to use the same degree of care and skill in doing so, that a prudent person would use in that situation in conducting his or her own affairs. If an event of default has occurred and has not been cured, the trustee or the

holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the senior debt securities of the affected series may declare the entire principal amount of (or, in the case of original issue discount securities, the portion of the principal amount that is specified in the terms of the affected senior debt security) and interest on all of the senior debt securities of that series to be due and immediately payable. This is called a declaration of acceleration of maturity. The declaration of acceleration of maturity is not, however, an automatic right upon the occurrence of an event of default, and for such acceleration to be effective, the trustee must take the aforementioned action or the holders must direct the trustee to act as described in this section below. Furthermore, a declaration of acceleration of maturity may be cancelled in certain circumstances, but only before a judgment or decree based on the acceleration has been obtained, by the holders of at least a majority in principal amount of the senior debt securities of the affected series. If any provisions of applicable Canadian banking law prohibit the payment of any amounts due under the senior debt securities before a specified time, then the obligation to make such payment shall be subject to such prohibition.

You should read carefully the applicable prospectus supplements relating to any series of senior debt securities which are original issue discount securities for the particular provisions relating to acceleration of the maturity of a portion of the principal amount of original issue discount securities upon the occurrence of an event of default and its continuation.

Except in cases of default in which the trustee has the special duties described above, the trustee is not required to take any action under the indenture at the request of any holders unless the holders offer the trustee protection from expenses and liability called an indemnity satisfactory to the trustee. If such an indemnity is provided, the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding senior debt securities of the relevant series may direct the time, method and place of conducting any lawsuit or other formal legal action seeking any remedy available to the trustee. These majority holders may also direct the trustee in performing any other action under the applicable indenture with respect to the senior debt securities of that series.

Before you bypass the trustee and bring your own lawsuit or other formal legal action or take other steps to enforce your rights or protect your interests relating to the senior debt securities the following must occur:

- the holder of the senior debt security must give the trustee written notice that an event of default has
  occurred and remains uncured;
- the holders of not less than 25% in principal amount of all outstanding senior debt securities of the relevant series must make a written request that the trustee take action because of such event of default;
- such holder or holders must offer indemnity satisfactory to the trustee against the cost and other liabilities of taking that action;
- the trustee must have not taken action for 90 days after receipt of the above notice and offer of indemnity; and
- the trustee has not received any direction from a majority in principal amount of all outstanding senior debt securities of the relevant series that is inconsistent with such written request during such 90-day period.

However, you are entitled at any time to bring a lawsuit for the payment of money due on your senior debt security on or after its due date.

BOOK-ENTRY AND OTHER INDIRECT HOLDERS SHOULD CONSULT THEIR BANKS, BROKERS OR OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS FOR INFORMATION ON HOW TO GIVE NOTICE OR DIRECTION TO OR MAKE A REQUEST OF THE TRUSTEE AND TO MAKE OR CANCEL A DECLARATION OF ACCELERATION.

We will give to the trustee every year a written statement of certain of our officers certifying that to their knowledge we are in compliance with the applicable indenture and the senior debt securities issued under it, or else specifying any default.

#### Form, Exchange and Transfer

Unless we specify otherwise in an applicable prospectus supplement, the senior debt securities will be issued:

- only in fully-registered form;
- without interest coupons; and
- in denominations of US\$2,000 and integral multiples of US\$1,000 in excess thereof.

If a senior debt security is issued as a registered global senior debt security, only the depositary will be entitled to transfer and exchange the senior debt security as described in this subsection because the depositary will be the sole registered holder of the senior debt security and is referred to below as the "holder." Those who own beneficial interests in a global senior debt security do so through participants in the depositary's securities clearance system, and the rights of these indirect owners will be governed by the applicable procedures of the depositary and its participants. We describe book-entry procedures below under "Legal Ownership and Book-Entry Issuance."

Holders of senior debt securities issued in fully-registered form may have their senior debt securities broken into more senior debt securities of smaller denominations of not less than US\$2,000, or combined into fewer senior debt securities of larger denominations, as long as the total principal amount is not changed. This is called an exchange.

Holders may exchange or register the transfer of senior debt securities at the office of the trustee. Senior debt securities may be transferred by endorsement. Holders may also replace lost, stolen or mutilated senior debt securities at that office. The trustee acts as our agents for registering senior debt securities in the names of holders and registering the transfer of senior debt securities. We may change this appointment to another entity or perform it ourselves. The entity performing the role of maintaining the list of registered holders is called the security registrar. It will also record transfers. The trustee may require an indemnity before replacing any senior debt securities.

Holders will not be required to pay a service charge to register the transfer or exchange of senior debt securities, but holders may be required to pay for any tax or other governmental charge associated with the exchange or transfer. The registration of a transfer or exchange will only be made if the security registrar is satisfied with your proof of ownership.

If we designate additional agents, they will be named in the applicable prospectus supplements. We may cancel the designation of any particular agent. We may also approve a change in the office through which any agent acts.

If the senior debt securities are redeemable and we redeem less than all of the senior debt securities of a particular series, we may block the registration of transfer or exchange of senior debt securities during the period beginning 15 days before the day we mail the notice of redemption and ending on the day of that mailing, in order to freeze the list of holders entitled to receive the mailing. We may also refuse to register transfers or exchanges of senior debt securities selected for redemption, except that we will continue to permit registration of transfers and exchanges of the unredeemed portion of any senior debt security being partially redeemed.

#### The Trustee

The trustee makes no representation or warranty, whether express or implied, with respect to CIBC or the senior debt securities and other matters described in this prospectus. The trustee has not prepared or reviewed any of the information included in this prospectus, except the trustee has consented to the use of its name. Such approval does not constitute a representation or approval by the trustee of the accuracy or sufficiency of any information contained in this prospectus.

#### **Payment and Paying Agents**

We will pay interest to the person listed in the trustee's records at the close of business on a particular day in advance of each due date for interest, even if that person no longer owns the senior debt security on the interest due date. That particular day, usually about two weeks in advance of the interest due date, is called the regular record date and will be stated in an applicable prospectus supplement. Holders buying and selling senior debt securities must work out between them how to compensate for the fact that we will pay all the interest for an interest period to the one who is the registered holder on the regular record date. The most common manner is to adjust the sale price of the senior debt securities to prorate interest fairly between buyer and seller. This prorated interest amount is called accrued interest.

We will pay interest, principal and any other money due on the senior debt securities at the office of the paying agent or such other office as may be agreed upon. Holders must make arrangements to have their payments picked up at or wired from that office or such other office as may be agreed upon. We may also choose to pay interest by mailing checks.

# BOOK-ENTRY AND OTHER INDIRECT HOLDERS SHOULD CONSULT THEIR BANKS, BROKERS OR OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS FOR INFORMATION ON HOW THEY WILL RECEIVE PAYMENTS.

We may also arrange for additional payment offices and may cancel or change these offices, including our use of the trustee's corporate trust offices. These offices are called paying agents. We may also choose to act as our own paying agent or choose one of our subsidiaries to do so. We must notify holders of changes in the paying agents for any particular series of senior debt securities.

#### **Conversion or Exchange of Senior Debt Securities**

If and to the extent mentioned in the applicable prospectus supplement, any series of senior debt securities may be optionally or mandatorily convertible or exchangeable for stock or other securities of CIBC or another entity or entities, into the cash value therefor or into any combination of the above. The specific terms on which any senior debt securities series may be so converted or exchanged will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement. These terms may include provisions for conversion or exchange, either mandatory, at the holder's option or at our option, in which case the amount or number of securities the senior debt securities holders would receive would be calculated at the time and manner described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

#### **Notices**

We and the trustee will send notices regarding the senior debt securities only to registered holders, using the address as listed in the trustee's records. With respect to who is a registered "holder" for this purpose, see "Legal Ownership and Book-Entry Issuance."

Regardless of who acts as paying agent, all money paid by us to a paying agent that remains unclaimed at the end of two years after the amount is due to holders will be repaid to us. After that two-year period, holders may look to us for payment and not to the trustee or any other paying agent.

#### **Governing Law**

The indenture and the senior debt securities will be governed by New York law, except that the status of the senior debt securities under Canadian law in the indenture will be governed by the laws of the Province of Ontario and the laws of Canada applicable therein.

#### Legal Ownership and Book-Entry Issuance

In this section, we describe special considerations that will apply to registered senior debt securities issued in global i.e., book-entry, form. First we describe the difference between registered ownership and indirect ownership of registered senior debt securities. Then we describe special provisions that apply to global senior debt securities.

#### Who is the Legal Owner of a Registered Security?

Each senior debt security will be represented either by a certificate issued in definitive form to a particular investor or by one or more global senior debt securities representing senior debt securities. We refer to those who have senior debt securities registered in their own names, on the books that we or the trustee maintains for this purpose, as the "registered holders" of those senior debt securities. Subject to limited exceptions, we and the trustee are entitled to treat the registered holder of a senior debt security as the person exclusively entitled to vote, to receive notices, to receive any interest or other payment in respect of the senior debt security and to exercise all the rights and power as an owner of the senior debt security. We refer to those who own beneficial interests in senior debt securities that are not registered in their own names as indirect owners of those senior debt securities. As we discuss below, indirect owners are not registered holders, and investors in senior debt securities issued in book-entry form or in street name will be indirect owners.

*Book-Entry Owners*. Unless otherwise noted in an applicable prospectus supplement, we will issue each senior debt security in book-entry form only. This means senior debt securities will be represented by one or more global senior debt securities registered in the name of a financial institution that holds them as depositary on behalf of other financial institutions that participate in the depositary's book-entry system. These participating institutions, in turn, hold beneficial interests in the senior debt securities on behalf of themselves or their customers.

Under the indenture, subject to limited exceptions and applicable law, only the person in whose name a senior debt security is registered is recognized as the holder of that senior debt security. Consequently, for senior debt securities issued in global form, we will recognize only the depositary as the holder of the senior debt securities and we will make all payments on the senior debt securities, including deliveries of any property other than cash, to the depositary. The depositary passes along the payments it receives to its participants, which in turn pass the payments along to their customers who are the beneficial owners. The depositary and its participants do so under agreements they have made with one another or with their customers; they are not obligated to do so under the terms of the senior debt securities.

As a result, investors will not own senior debt securities directly. Instead, they will own beneficial interests in a global senior debt security, through a bank, broker or other financial institution that participates in the depositary's book-entry system or holds an interest through a participant. As long as the senior debt securities are issued in global form, investors will be indirect owners, and not registered holders, of the senior debt securities.

Street Name Owners. We may issue senior debt securities initially in non-global form or we may terminate an existing global senior debt security, as described below under "— Holder's Option to Obtain a Non-Global Security; Special Situations When a Global Security Will Be Terminated." In these cases, investors may choose to hold their senior debt securities in their own names or in street name. Senior debt securities held by an investor in street name would be registered in the name of a bank, broker or other financial institution that the investor chooses, and the investor would hold only a beneficial interest in those senior debt securities through an account he or she maintains at that institution.

For senior debt securities held in street name, we will, subject to limited exceptions and applicable law, recognize only the intermediary banks, brokers and other financial institutions in whose names the senior debt securities are registered as the holders of those senior debt securities, and we will make all payments on those senior debt securities, including deliveries of any property other than cash, to them. These institutions pass along the payments they receive to their customers who are the beneficial owners, but only because they agree to do so in their customer agreements or because they are legally required to do so. Investors who hold senior debt securities in street name will be indirect owners, not registered holders, of those senior debt securities.

Registered Holders. Subject to limited exceptions, our obligations, as well as the obligations of the trustee under any indenture and the obligations, if any, of any other third parties employed by us, run only to the registered holders of the senior debt securities. We do not have obligations to investors who hold beneficial

interests in global senior debt securities, in street name or by any other indirect means. This will be the case whether an investor chooses to be an indirect owner of a senior debt security or has no choice because we are issuing the senior debt securities only in global form.

For example, once we make a payment or give a notice to the registered holder, we have no further responsibility for that payment or notice even if that holder is required, under agreements with depositary participants or customers or by law, to pass it along to the indirect owners but does not do so. Similarly, if we want to obtain the approval of the holders for any purpose — for example, to amend the indenture for a series of senior debt securities or to relieve us of the consequences of a default or of our obligation to comply with a particular provision of an indenture — we would seek the approval only from the registered holders, and not the indirect owners, of the relevant senior debt securities. Whether and how the registered holders contact the indirect owners is up to the registered holders.

When we refer to "you" in this prospectus, we mean all purchasers of the senior debt securities being offered by this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplements, whether they are the registered holders or only indirect owners of those senior debt securities. When we refer to "your senior debt securities" in this prospectus, we mean the senior debt securities in which you will hold a direct or indirect interest.

Special Considerations for Indirect Owners. If you hold senior debt securities through a bank, broker or other financial institution, either in book-entry form or in street name, you should check with your own institution to find out:

- how it handles securities payments and notices;
- whether it imposes fees or charges;
- how it would handle a request for the holders' consent, if ever required;
- how it would exercise rights under the senior debt securities if there were a default or other event triggering the need for holders to act to protect their interests; and
- if the senior debt securities are in book-entry form, how the depositary's rules and procedures will
  affect these matters.

#### What is a Global Security?

Unless otherwise noted in the applicable prospectus supplement, we will issue each senior debt security in book-entry form only. Each senior debt security issued in book-entry form will be represented by a global senior debt security that we deposit with and register in the name of one or more financial institutions or clearing systems, or their nominees, which we select. A financial institution or clearing system that we select for any senior debt security for this purpose is called the "depositary" for that senior debt security. A senior debt security will usually have only one depositary but it may have more. Each series of senior debt securities will have one or more of the following as the depositaries:

- The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York ("DTC");
- Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V., as operator of the Euroclear System ("Euroclear");
- Clearstream Banking, société anonyme ("Clearstream"); or
- any other clearing system or financial institution named in the applicable prospectus supplements.

The depositaries named above may also be participants in one another's systems. Thus, for example, if DTC is the depositary for a global senior debt security, investors may hold beneficial interests in that senior debt security through Euroclear or Clearstream, as DTC participants. The depositary or depositaries for your senior debt securities will be named in the applicable prospectus supplements; if none is named, the depositary will be DTC.

A global senior debt security may represent one or any other number of individual senior debt securities. Generally, all senior debt securities represented by the same global senior debt security will have the same terms. We may, however, issue a global senior debt security that represents multiple senior debt securities of the same kind, such as senior debt securities that have different terms and are issued at different times. We call this kind of global senior debt security a master global senior debt security. The applicable prospectus supplements will not indicate whether your senior debt securities are represented by a master global senior debt security.

A global senior debt security may not be transferred to or registered in the name of anyone other than the depositary or its nominee, unless special termination situations arise. We describe those situations below under "— Holder's Option to Obtain a Non-Global Security; Special Situations When a Global Security Will Be Terminated." As a result of these arrangements, the depositary, or its nominee, will be the sole registered owner and holder of all senior debt securities represented by a global senior debt security, and investors will be permitted to own only indirect interests in a global senior debt security. Indirect interests must be held by means of an account with a broker, bank or other financial institution that in turn has an account with the depositary or with another institution that does. Thus, an investor whose senior debt security is represented by a global senior debt security will not be a holder of the senior debt security, but only an indirect owner of an interest in the global senior debt security.

If an applicable prospectus supplement for a particular senior debt security indicates that the senior debt security will be issued in global form only, then the senior debt security will be represented by a global senior debt security at all times unless and until the global senior debt security is terminated. We describe the situations in which this can occur below under "— Holder's Option to Obtain a Non-Global Security; Special Situations When a Global Security Will Be Terminated." If termination occurs, we may issue the senior debt securities through another book-entry clearing system or decide that the senior debt securities may no longer be held through any book-entry clearing system.

Special Considerations for Global Securities. As an indirect owner, an investor's rights relating to a global senior debt security will be governed by the account rules of the depositary and those of the investor's bank, broker, financial institution or other intermediary through which it holds its interest (such as Euroclear or Clearstream, if DTC is the depositary), as well as general laws relating to securities transfers. We do not recognize this type of investor or any intermediary as a holder of senior debt securities and instead deal only with the depositary that holds the global senior debt security.

If senior debt securities are issued only in the form of a global senior debt security, an investor should be aware of the following:

- an investor cannot cause the senior debt securities to be registered in his or her own name, and cannot
  obtain non-global certificates for his or her interest in the senior debt securities, except in the special
  situations we describe below:
- an investor will be an indirect holder and must look to his or her own bank, broker or other financial
  institution for payments on the senior debt securities and protection of his or her legal rights relating to
  the senior debt securities, as we describe above under "— Who is the Legal Owner of a Registered
  Security?";
- an investor may not be able to sell interests in the senior debt securities to some insurance companies
  and other institutions that are required by law to own their senior debt securities in non-book-entry
  form;
- an investor may not be able to pledge his or her interest in a global senior debt security in circumstances in which certificates representing the senior debt securities must be delivered to the lender or other beneficiary of the pledge in order for the pledge to be effective;
- the depositary's policies will govern payments, deliveries, transfers, exchanges, notices and other matters relating to an investor's interest in a global senior debt security, and those policies may change

from time to time. We and the trustee will have no responsibility for any aspect of the depositary's policies, actions or records of ownership interests in a global senior debt security. We and the trustee also do not supervise the depositary in any way;

- the depositary may require that those who purchase and sell interests in a global senior debt security within its book-entry system use immediately available funds and your bank, broker or other financial institution may require you to do so as well; and
- financial institutions that participate in the depositary's book-entry system and through which an investor holds its interest in the global senior debt securities, directly or indirectly, may also have their own policies affecting payments, deliveries, transfers, exchanges, notices and other matters relating to the senior debt securities, and those policies may change from time to time. For example, if you hold an interest in a global senior debt security through Euroclear or Clearstream, when DTC is the depositary, Euroclear or Clearstream, as applicable, may require those who purchase and sell interests in that senior debt security through them to use immediately available funds and comply with other policies and procedures, including deadlines for giving instructions as to transactions that are to be effected on a particular day. There may be more than one financial intermediary in the chain of ownership for an investor. We and the trustee do not monitor and are not responsible for the policies or actions or records of ownership interests of any of those intermediaries.

Holder's Option to Obtain a Non-Global Security; Special Situations When a Global Security Will Be Terminated. If we issue any series of senior debt securities in book-entry form but we choose to give the beneficial owners of that series the right to obtain non-global senior debt securities, any beneficial owner entitled to obtain non-global senior debt securities may do so by following the applicable procedures of the depositary, any transfer agent or registrar for that series and that owner's bank, broker or other financial institution through which that owner holds its beneficial interest in the senior debt securities. If you are entitled to request a non-global certificate and wish to do so, you will need to allow sufficient lead time to enable us or our agent to prepare the requested certificate.

In addition, in a few special situations described below, a global senior debt security will be terminated and interests in it will be exchanged for certificates in non-global form representing the senior debt securities it represented. After that exchange, the choice of whether to hold the senior debt securities directly or in street name will be up to the investor. Investors must consult their own banks, brokers or other financial institutions, to find out how to have their interests in a global senior debt security transferred on termination to their own names, so that they will be holders. We have described the rights of holders and street name investors above under "— Who is the Legal Owner of a Registered Security?"

The special situations for termination of a global senior debt security are as follows:

- if the depositary notifies us that it is unwilling, unable or no longer qualified to continue as depositary for that global senior debt security and we do not appoint another institution to act as depositary within 60 days;
- if we notify the trustee that we wish to terminate that global senior debt security; or
- if an event of default has occurred with regard to these senior debt securities and has not been cured or waived.

If a global senior debt security is terminated, only the depositary, and neither we nor the trustee for any senior debt securities, is responsible for deciding the names of the institutions in whose names the senior debt securities represented by the global senior debt security will be registered and, therefore, who will be the registered holders of those senior debt securities.

#### Considerations Relating to DTC

DTC has informed us that it is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a "banking organization" within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a "clearing corporation" within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code, and a "clearing agency" registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Exchange Act. DTC holds securities that DTC participants deposit with DTC. DTC also facilitates the settlement among DTC participants of securities transactions, such as transfers and pledges, in deposited securities through electronic computerized book-entry changes in DTC participants' accounts, thereby eliminating the need for physical movement of certificates. DTC participants include securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies and clearing corporations, and may include other organizations. DTC is owned by a number of its direct participants and by the New York Stock Exchange, Inc. and the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. Indirect access to the DTC system also is available to others such as banks, brokers, dealers and trust companies that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a participant, either directly or indirectly. The rules applicable to DTC and DTC participants are on file with the SEC.

Purchases of senior debt securities within the DTC system must be made by or through DTC participants, who will receive a credit for the senior debt securities on DTC's records. Transfers of ownership interests in the senior debt securities are accomplished by entries made on the books of participants acting on behalf of beneficial owners.

Redemption notices will be sent to DTC's nominee, Cede & Co., as the registered holder of the senior debt securities. If less than all of the senior debt securities are being redeemed, DTC will determine the amount of the interest of each direct participant to be redeemed in accordance with its then-current procedures.

In instances in which a vote is required, neither DTC nor Cede & Co. will itself consent or vote with respect to the senior debt securities. Under its usual procedures, DTC would mail an omnibus proxy to the relevant trustee as soon as possible after the record date. The omnibus proxy assigns Cede & Co.'s consenting or voting rights to those direct participants to whose accounts such senior debt securities are credited on the record date (identified in a listing attached to the omnibus proxy).

Distribution payments on the senior debt securities will be made by the relevant trustee to DTC. DTC's usual practice is to credit direct participants' accounts on the relevant payment date in accordance with their respective holdings shown on DTC's records unless DTC has reason to believe that it will not receive payments on such payment date. Payments by participants to beneficial owners will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices and will be the responsibility of such participants and not of DTC, the relevant trustee or us, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Payment of distributions to DTC is the responsibility of the relevant trustee, and disbursements of such payments to the beneficial owners are the responsibility of direct and indirect participants.

The information in this section concerning DTC and DTC's book-entry system has been obtained from sources that we believe to be accurate, but we assume no responsibility for the accuracy thereof. We do not have any responsibility for the performance by DTC or its participants of their respective obligations as described herein or under the rules and procedures governing their respective operations.

#### Considerations Relating to Clearstream and Euroclear

Clearstream and Euroclear are securities clearance systems in Europe. Clearstream and Euroclear have respectively informed us that Clearstream and Euroclear each hold securities for their customers and facilitate the clearance and settlement of securities transactions by electronic book-entry transfer between their respective account holders. Clearstream and Euroclear provide various services including safekeeping, administration, clearance and settlement of internationally traded securities and securities lending and borrowing. Clearstream and Euroclear also deal with domestic securities markets in several countries through established depositary and

custodial relationships. Clearstream and Euroclear have established an electronic bridge between their two systems across which their respective participants may settle trades with each other. Clearstream and Euroclear customers are world-wide financial institutions including underwriters, securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies and clearing corporations. Indirect access to Clearstream and Euroclear is available to other institutions that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with an account holder of either system.

Euroclear and Clearstream may be depositaries for a global senior debt security. In addition, if DTC is the depositary for a global senior debt security, Euroclear and Clearstream may hold interests in the global senior debt security as participants in DTC.

As long as any global senior debt security is held by Euroclear or Clearstream, as depositary, you may hold an interest in the global senior debt security only through an organization that participates, directly or indirectly, in Euroclear or Clearstream. If Euroclear or Clearstream is the depositary for a global senior debt security and there is no depositary in the United States, you will not be able to hold interests in that global senior debt security through any securities clearance system in the United States.

Payments, deliveries, transfers, exchanges, notices and other matters relating to the senior debt securities made through Euroclear or Clearstream must comply with the rules and procedures of those systems. Those systems could change their rules and procedures at any time. We have no control over those systems or their participants and we take no responsibility for their activities. Transactions between participants in Euroclear or Clearstream, on one hand, and participants in DTC, on the other hand, when DTC is the depositary, would also be subject to DTC's rules and procedures.

Special Timing Considerations Relating to Transactions in Euroclear and Clearstream. Investors will be able to make and receive through Euroclear and Clearstream payments, deliveries, transfers, exchanges, notices and other transactions involving any senior debt securities held through those systems only on days when those systems are open for business. Those systems may not be open for business on days when banks, brokers and other financial institutions are open for business in the United States.

In addition, because of time-zone differences, U.S. investors who hold their interests in the senior debt securities through these systems and wish to transfer their interests, or to receive or make a payment or delivery or exercise any other right with respect to their interests, on a particular day may find that the transaction will not be effected until the next business day in Luxembourg or Brussels, as applicable. Thus, investors who wish to exercise rights that expire on a particular day may need to act before the expiration date. In addition, investors who hold their interests through both DTC and Euroclear or Clearstream may need to make special arrangements to finance any purchases or sales of their interests between the U.S. and European clearing systems, and those transactions may settle later than would be the case for transactions within one clearing system.

#### PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell any series of senior debt securities at any time after effectiveness of the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part in one or more of the following ways from time to time:

- through underwriters or dealers;
- · through agents; or
- · directly to one or more purchasers.

The offered securities may be distributed periodically in one or more transactions at:

- a fixed price or prices, which may be changed;
- market prices prevailing at the time of sale;

- prices related to the prevailing market prices; or
- negotiated prices.

The applicable prospectus supplement will include:

- the initial public offering price;
- the names of any underwriters, dealers or agents;
- the purchase price of the securities;
- our proceeds from the sale of the securities;
- any underwriting discounts or agency fees and other underwriters' or agents' compensation;
- any discounts or concessions allowed or reallowed or paid to dealers;
- the place and time of delivery of the securities; and
- any securities exchange on which the securities may be listed.

If underwriters are used in the sale, they will buy the securities for their own account. The underwriters may then resell the securities in one or more transactions, at any time or times at a fixed public offering price or at varying prices. The underwriters may change from time to time any fixed public offering price and any discounts or commissions allowed or re-allowed or paid to dealers. If dealers are utilized in the sale of the securities, we will sell the securities to the dealers as principals. The dealers may then resell the securities to the public at varying prices to be determined by such dealers.

In connection with the offering of securities, we may grant to the underwriters an option to purchase additional securities to cover over-allotments, if any, at the initial public offering price (with an additional underwriting commission), as may be set forth in the prospectus supplement for such securities. If we grant any over-allotment option, the terms of the option will be set forth in the prospectus supplement for the securities.

This prospectus may be delivered by underwriters and dealers in connection with short sales undertaken to hedge exposures under commitments to acquire our securities to be issued on a delayed or contingent basis.

Underwriters, dealers and agents that participate in the distribution of the securities may be underwriters as defined in the Securities Act. Any discounts or commissions that we pay them and any profit they receive when they resell the securities may be treated as underwriting discounts and commissions under that Act. We may have agreements with underwriters, dealers and agents to indemnify them against certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, to contribute with respect to payments which they may be required to make in respect of such liabilities and to reimburse them for certain expenses.

Underwriters, dealers and agents, and their affiliates or associates, may engage in transactions with us or perform services for us in the ordinary course of business and receive compensation from us.

Each series of offered securities will be a new issue of securities and will have no established trading market. Securities may or may not be listed on a national or foreign securities exchange or automated quotation system. Any underwriters or agents to whom securities are sold for public offering or sale may make, but are not required to make, a market in the securities, and the underwriters or agents may discontinue making a market in the securities at any time without notice. No assurance can be given as to the liquidity or the existence of trading markets for any securities.

Any underwriters utilized may engage in stabilizing transactions and syndicate covering transactions in accordance with Rule 104 of Regulation M under the Exchange Act. Stabilizing transactions permit bids to purchase the offered securities or any underlying security so long as the stabilizing bids do not exceed a specified

maximum. Syndicate covering transactions involve purchases of securities in the open market after the distribution has been completed in order to cover syndicate short positions. Such stabilizing transactions and syndicate covering transactions may cause the price of the offered securities to be higher than would be the case in the absence of such transactions.

#### **Selling Restrictions Outside the United States**

Except as described in an applicable prospectus supplement, we have taken no action that would permit a public offering of the securities or possession or distribution of this prospectus or any other offering material in any jurisdiction outside the United States where action for that purpose is required. Accordingly, each underwriter will be required to comply with all applicable laws and regulations in force in any jurisdiction in which it purchases, offers or sells securities or possesses or distributes this prospectus or any other offering material and will obtain any consent, approval or permission required by it for the purchase, offer or sale by it of securities under the laws and regulations in force in any jurisdiction to which it is subject or in which it makes such purchases, offers or sales and we shall have no responsibility in relation to this.

With regard to each security, the relevant purchaser will be required to comply with those restrictions that we and the relevant purchaser shall agree and as shall be set out in an applicable supplement.

#### **Market-Making Resales By Affiliates**

This prospectus may be used by CIBC World Markets Corp. in connection with offers and sales of the securities in market-making transactions. In a market-making transaction, CIBC World Markets Corp. may resell a security it acquires from other holders, after the original offering and sale of the security. Resales of this kind may occur in the open market or may be privately negotiated, at prevailing market prices at the time of resale or at related or negotiated prices. In these transactions, CIBC World Markets Corp. may act as principal or agent, including as agent for the counterparty in a transaction in which CIBC World Markets Corp. acts as principal, or as agent for both counterparties in a transaction in which CIBC World Markets Corp. does not act as principal. CIBC World Markets Corp. may receive compensation in the form of discounts and commissions, including from both counterparties in some cases.

The securities to be sold in market-making transactions include securities to be issued after the date of this prospectus, as well as securities previously issued.

We do not expect to receive any proceeds from market-making transactions. We do not expect that CIBC World Markets Corp. or any other affiliate that engages in these transactions will pay any proceeds from its market-making resales to us.

Information about the trade and settlement dates, as well as the purchase price, for a market-making transaction will be provided to the purchaser in a separate confirmation of sale.

Unless we or an agent informs you in your confirmation of sale that your security is being purchased in its original offering and sale, you may assume that you are purchasing your security in a market-making transaction.

#### **Conflicts of Interest**

Our affiliate, CIBC World Markets Corp., may participate in the distribution of the securities as an underwriter, dealer or agent. Any offering of securities in which CIBC World Markets Corp. participates will be conducted in compliance with the applicable requirements of FINRA Rule 5121, a rule of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. ("FINRA"). CIBC World Markets Corp. will not participate in the distribution of an offering of securities that do not have a bona fide public market within the meaning of Rule 5121 and are not investment grade rated within the meaning of Rule 5121 or securities in the same series that have equal rights

and obligations as investment grade rated securities unless either (1) each member firm responsible for managing the public offering does not have a conflict of interest within the meaning of Rule 5121, is not an affiliate of any member that does have a conflict of interest, and meets the requirements of Rule 5121 with respect to disciplinary history or (2) a qualified independent underwriter has participated in the preparation of the prospectus supplement or other offering document for the offering of securities and has exercised the usual standards of due diligence with respect thereto. Neither CIBC World Markets Corp. nor any other FINRA member participating in an offering of these securities that has a conflict of interest will confirm initial sales to any discretionary accounts over which it has authority without the prior specific written approval of the customer.

In compliance with guidelines of FINRA, the maximum commission or discount to be received by the participating FINRA members may not exceed 8% of the aggregate principal amount of securities offered pursuant to this prospectus. We anticipate, however, that the maximum commission or discount to be received in any particular offering of securities will be significantly less than this amount.

#### BENEFIT PLAN INVESTOR CONSIDERATIONS

A fiduciary of a pension, profit-sharing or other employee benefit plan (a "plan") subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA"), should consider the fiduciary standards of ERISA in the context of the plan's particular circumstances before authorizing an investment in the senior debt securities. Accordingly, among other factors, the fiduciary should consider whether the investment would satisfy the prudence and diversification requirements of ERISA and would be consistent with the documents and instruments governing the plan, and whether the investment would involve a prohibited transaction under Section 406 of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Internal Revenue Code (the "Code").

Section 406 of ERISA and Section 4975 of the Code prohibit plans, as well as individual retirement accounts and Keogh plans subject to Section 4975 of the Internal Revenue Code (also "plans"), from engaging in certain transactions involving "plan assets" with persons who are "parties in interest" under ERISA or "disqualified persons" under the Code ("parties in interest") with respect to the plan. A violation of these prohibited transaction rules may result in civil penalties or other liabilities under ERISA and/or an excise tax under Section 4975 of the Code for those persons, unless exemptive relief is available under an applicable statutory, regulatory or administrative exemption. Certain employee benefit plans and arrangements including those that are governmental plans (as defined in section 3(32) of ERISA), certain church plans (as defined in Section 3(33) of ERISA) and foreign plans (as described in Section 4(b)(4) of ERISA) ("non-ERISA arrangements") are not subject to the requirements of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code but may be subject to similar provisions under applicable federal, state, local, foreign or other regulations, rules or laws ("similar laws").

The acquisition, holding or, if applicable, exchange of the senior debt securities by a plan or any entity whose underlying assets include "plan assets" by reason of any Plan's investment in the entity with respect to which we or certain of our affiliates is or becomes a party in interest may constitute or result in a prohibited transaction under ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code, unless those notes are acquired pursuant to and in accordance with an applicable exemption. The U.S. Department of Labor has issued five prohibited transaction class exemptions, or "PTCEs", that may provide exemptive relief if required for direct or indirect prohibited transactions that may arise from the purchase or holding of the notes. These exemptions are:

- PTCE 84-14, an exemption for certain transactions determined or effected by independent qualified professional asset managers;
- PTCE 90-1, an exemption for certain transactions involving insurance company pooled separate accounts;
- PTCE 91-38, an exemption for certain transactions involving bank collective investment funds;

- PTCE 95-60, an exemption for transactions involving certain insurance company general accounts; and
- PTCE 96-23, an exemption for plan asset transactions managed by in-house asset managers.

In addition, ERISA Section 408(b)(17) and Section 4975(d)(20) of the Code provide statutory exemptive relief for certain arm's-length transactions with a person that is a party in interest solely by reason of providing services to Plans or being an affiliate of such a service provider. Under these provisions, the purchase and sale of the Notes will not constitute a prohibited transaction under ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code, provided that neither the issuer of the Notes nor any of its affiliates have or exercise any discretionary authority or control or render any investment advice with respect to the assets of any Plan involved in the transaction, and provided further that the Plan pays no more and receives no less than "adequate consideration" in connection with the transaction (the "service provider exemption"). There can be no assurance that all of the conditions of any such exemptions will be satisfied, and any Plan fiduciary considering reliance on the service provider exemption is encouraged to consult with counsel regarding its availability.

Any purchaser or holder of senior debt securities or any interest therein will be deemed to have represented (both on behalf of itself and any plan) by its purchase and holding of the senior debt securities that either (1) it is not a plan and is not purchasing those senior debt securities on behalf of or with "plan assets" of any plan or (2) the purchase and holding of the senior debt securities will not constitute a non-exempt prohibited transaction under ERISA or the Code. In addition, any purchaser or holder of senior debt securities or any interest therein which is a non-ERISA arrangement will be deemed to have represented by its purchase or holding or, if applicable, exchange of the senior debt securities that its purchase and holding will not violate the provisions of any similar law.

Due to the complexity of these rules and the penalties that may be imposed upon persons involved in non-exempt prohibited transactions, it is important that fiduciaries or other persons considering purchasing senior debt securities on behalf of or with "plan assets" of any plan or non-ERISA arrangement consult with their counsel regarding the availability of exemptive relief under any of the PTCEs listed above or some other basis on which such purchase and holding is not prohibited, or the potential consequences of any purchase, holding or exchange under similar laws, as applicable.

Each purchaser and holder of the senior debt securities has exclusive responsibility for ensuring that its purchase and holding of the senior debt securities does not violate the fiduciary or prohibited transaction rules of ERISA, the Code or any similar laws. The sale of any senior debt securities to any plan is in no respect a representation by us or any of our affiliates or representatives that such an investment meets all relevant legal requirements with respect to investments by plans generally or any particular plan, or that such an investment is appropriate for plans generally or any particular plan.

# LIMITATIONS ON ENFORCEMENT OF U.S. LAWS AGAINST CIBC, ITS MANAGEMENT AND OTHERS

CIBC is a Canadian chartered bank. Many of its directors and executive officers, including many of the persons who signed the registration statement on Form F-3, of which this prospectus is a part, and some of the experts named in this document, are resident outside the United States, and a substantial portion of CIBC's assets and all or a substantial portion of the assets of such persons are located outside the United States. As a result, it may be difficult for United States investors to effect service of process within the United States upon such persons to enforce against them judgments of the courts of the United States predicated upon, among other things, the civil liability provisions of the federal securities laws of the United States. In addition, it may be difficult for United States investors to enforce, in original actions brought in courts in jurisdictions located outside the United States, among other things, civil liabilities predicated upon such securities laws.

CIBC has been advised by Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, its Canadian counsel, that a judgment of a United States court may be enforceable in Canada if: (a) there is a real and substantial connection between the events, persons and circumstances and the forum in which the United States proceedings occur such that the United States court properly assumed jurisdiction; (b) the United States judgment is final and conclusive and for a sum certain; (c) the defendant was properly served with originating process from the United States court; and (d) the United States law that led to the judgment is not contrary to Canadian public policy, as that term would be applied by a Canadian court. CIBC has been advised that in normal circumstances, only civil judgments and not other rights arising from United States securities legislation (for example, penal or similar awards made by a court in a regulatory prosecution or proceeding) are enforceable in Canada. The enforceability of a United States judgment in Canada will be subject to the requirements that: (i) an action to enforce the United States judgment must be commenced in the Canadian Court within any applicable limitation period; (ii) the Canadian Court has discretion to stay or decline to hear an action on the United States judgment if the United States judgment is under appeal or there is another subsisting judgment in any jurisdiction relating to the same cause of action; (iii) the Canadian Court will render judgment only in Canadian dollars; and (iv) an action in the Canadian Court on the United States judgment may be affected by bankruptcy, insolvency or other laws of general application limiting the enforcement of creditors' rights generally. The enforceability of a United States judgment in Canada will be subject to the following defenses: (i) the United States judgment was obtained by fraud or in a manner contrary to the principles of natural justice; (ii) the United States judgment is for a claim which under the law of the applicable Canadian province would be characterized as based on a foreign revenue, expropriatory, penal or other public law; (iii) the United States judgment is contrary to the public policy of the applicable Canadian province or to an order made by the Attorney General of Canada under the Foreign Extraterritorial Measures Act (Canada) or by the Competition Tribunal under the Competition Act (Canada) in respect of certain judgments referred to in these statutes; and (iv) the United States judgment has been satisfied or is void or voidable under United States law.

#### LEGAL MATTERS

Unless otherwise specified in the prospectus supplement, certain legal matters under Canadian law relating to the securities offered by a prospectus supplement will be passed upon on behalf of CIBC by Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP. Certain legal matters in connection with the offering relating to United States law will be passed upon on behalf of CIBC by Mayer Brown LLP, Chicago, Illinois. Counsel for any underwriters, dealers or agents will be named in the applicable prospectus supplement.

#### **EXPERTS**

The consolidated financial statements incorporated by reference in this prospectus from CIBC's Annual Report on Form 40-F for the year ended October 31, 2014 and the effectiveness of CIBC's internal control over financial reporting have been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm, as stated in their reports, which are incorporated herein by reference. Such financial statements have been so incorporated in reliance upon the reports of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

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# **Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce**

Senior Global Medium-Term Notes (Structured Notes)

Prospectus Supplement