

## **Scotia Capital Launches Maple Bond Index**

**TORONTO, April 3, 2006** – Scotia Capital, the leading provider of Canadian fixed income benchmarks, analytics and performance measurement, today announced the launch of a new index for the Canadian fixed income marketplace – the Scotia Capital Maple Bond Index.

The new index was developed following the elimination of Canadian foreign content restrictions and the resulting increase in issuance of foreign names in Canadian dollars. The Scotia Capital Maple Bond Index is the first index to track performance of this growing sector of the Canadian bond market.

The new Scotia Capital Maple Bond Index reflects the performance of foreign domicile issuers of Canadian currency denominated government and corporate bonds in the Canadian market. The index tracks investment grade bonds with a minimum of 10 institutional buyers with a \$100-million minimum amount outstanding for each issue. As of March 31, 2006, the index contained 55 government and corporate issues, with a total market value of approximately \$20-billion, and a modified duration of 6.749 years. To better address the utilization of this index in analytics, performance and benchmarking services, Scotia Capital has built and released a history from December 30, 2005.

This new index is similar to all other Scotia Capital fixed income indices in that it utilizes a rules-based published methodology, which has been kept consistent for compiling historical data. Methodologies for all of the indices can be found on Scotia Capital's public web site at:

[www.scotiacapital.com/ResearchCapabilities/RE\\_Fixed\\_Income\\_Research.htm](http://www.scotiacapital.com/ResearchCapabilities/RE_Fixed_Income_Research.htm).

The numerous Scotia Capital fixed income indices and data sets are accessible to all interested market participants for license into or for use in third-party systems, derivatives, and exchange-traded products. Scotia Capital also licenses the PC-Bond Fixed Income Analytical software, which contains the entire history of Scotia Capital data and indices back to 1947; as well as the ScotiaBond Attribution platform, which provides performance measurement tools for the Canadian fixed income community.

Scotiabank is one of North America's premier financial institutions and Canada's most international bank. With more than 50,000 employees, Scotiabank Group and its affiliates serve about 10 million customers in some 50 countries around the world. Scotiabank offers a diverse range of products and services including personal, commercial, corporate and investment banking. With \$325 billion in assets (as at January 31, 2006), Scotiabank trades on the Toronto (BNS) and New York (BNS) Stock Exchanges. For more information please visit [www.scotiabank.com](http://www.scotiabank.com).

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