

Short Form Base Shelf Prospectus

This short form prospectus is referred to as a base shelf prospectus and has been filed under legislation in each of the provinces and territories of Canada that permits certain information about these securities to be determined after this prospectus has become final and that permits the omission from this prospectus of that information. The legislation requires the delivery to purchasers of a prospectus supplement containing the omitted information within a specified period of time after agreeing to purchase any of these securities.

This short form base shelf prospectus constitutes a public offering of these securities only in those jurisdictions where they may be lawfully offered for sale and therein only by persons permitted to sell such securities. No securities regulatory authority has expressed an opinion about these securities and it is an offence to claim otherwise.

Information has been incorporated by reference in this short form base shelf prospectus from documents filed with the securities commissions or similar authorities in Canada. Copies of the documents incorporated herein by reference may be obtained on request without charge from Investor Relations, National Bank of Canada, National Bank Place, 800 Saint-Jacques Street, Montréal, Québec, H3C 1A3, (1-866-517-5455) and are also available electronically at www.sedarplus.ca.

Short Form Base Shelf Prospectus

New Issue

September 6, 2024



NATIONAL BANK OF CANADA

\$5,000,000,000

Debt Securities (unsubordinated indebtedness)

Debt Securities (subordinated indebtedness)

First Preferred Shares

Common Shares

Subscription Receipts

National Bank of Canada (the “**Bank**”) may from time to time offer and issue the following securities: (i) unsecured unsubordinated debt securities (“**Senior Debt Securities**”); (ii) unsecured subordinated debt securities (“**Subordinated Debt Securities**” and collectively with the Senior Debt Securities, the “**Debt Securities**”); (iii) First Preferred Shares in series (“**First Preferred Shares**”); (iv) common shares (“**Common Shares**”); and (v) subscription receipts (“**Subscription Receipts**”), or any combination thereof. The Debt Securities, First Preferred Shares, Common Shares and Subscription Receipts (collectively, the “**Securities**”) offered hereby may be offered separately or together, in amounts, at prices and on terms to be set forth in an accompanying shelf prospectus supplement (a “**Prospectus Supplement**”). All shelf information permitted under applicable securities legislation to be omitted from this short form base shelf prospectus (the “**Prospectus**”) will be contained in one or more Prospectus Supplements that will be delivered to purchasers together with this Prospectus. The Bank may sell up to \$5,000,000,000 in aggregate initial offering price of Securities (or the Canadian dollar equivalent thereof if any of the Securities are denominated in a foreign currency or currency unit) during the 25 month period that this Prospectus, including any amendments thereto, remains valid.

The specific terms of the Securities in respect of which this Prospectus is being delivered will be set forth in the applicable Prospectus Supplement and may include, where applicable: (i) in the case of Debt Securities, the specific designation, aggregate principal amount, the currency or the currency unit for which the Debt Securities may be purchased, maturity, interest provisions, authorized denominations, offering price, any terms for redemption at the option of the Bank or the holder, any exchange or conversion terms and any other specific terms, including any Bail-in Conversion (defined below) applicable to Debt Securities or any Non-Viable Capital Contingency Provisions (defined below) applicable to the Subordinated Debt Securities; (ii) in the case of First Preferred Shares, the designation of the particular series, aggregate principal amount, the number of shares offered, the issue price, the dividend rate, whether cumulative or non-cumulative dividends, the dividend payment dates, any terms for redemption at the option of the Bank or the holder, any exchange or conversion terms and any other specific terms, including any Non-Viable Capital Contingency Provisions; (iii) in the case of Common Shares, the number of shares and offering price; and (iv) in the case of the Subscription Receipts, the number of Subscription Receipts offered, the offering price, the procedures for

exchange of the Subscription Receipts for Debt Securities, First Preferred Shares or Common Shares, as the case may be, and any other specific terms.

The outstanding Common Shares of the Bank, the outstanding First Preferred Shares Series 30, 32, 38, 40 and 42 of the Bank and the 4,631,250 outstanding Subscription Receipts of the Bank distributed pursuant to a public offering initially closed on June 17, 2024, are currently listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange.

This Prospectus does not qualify for issuance Debt Securities in respect of which the payment of principal and/or interest may be determined, in whole or in part, by reference to one or more underlying interests, including, for example, an equity or debt security, a statistical measure of economic or financial performance including, but not limited to, any currency, consumer price or mortgage index, or the price or value of one or more commodities, indices or other items, or any other item or formula, or any combination or basket of the foregoing items. For greater certainty, this Prospectus may qualify for issuance Debt Securities in respect of which the payment of interest may be determined, in whole or in part, by reference to published rates of a central banking authority or one or more financial institutions, such as a prime rate or to recognized market benchmark interest rates.

Effective January 1, 2013, in accordance with capital adequacy requirements adopted by the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions (the “**Superintendent**”) Canada, non-common capital instruments issued by financial institutions such as the Bank after January 1, 2013, such as the Subordinated Debt Securities and the First Preferred Shares, must include terms providing for the full and permanent conversion of such securities into Common Shares of the Bank upon the occurrence of certain trigger events relating to financial viability (the “**Non-Viable Capital Contingency Provisions**”) in order to qualify as regulatory capital. The specific terms of any Non-Viable Capital Contingency Provisions for any Subordinated Debt Securities and First Preferred Shares that the Bank issues under this Prospectus will be described in one or more Prospectus Supplements relating to such Subordinated Debt Securities and First Preferred Shares.

The Securities may be sold through underwriters or dealers purchasing as principals, through agents designated by the Bank (such underwriters, dealers and agents are collectively referred to in this Prospectus as “**Investment Dealers**” and individually as an “**Investment Dealer**”) or by the Bank directly pursuant to applicable statutory exemptions, from time to time. See “Plan of Distribution”. Each Prospectus Supplement will identify each Investment Dealer engaged in connection with the offering and sale of those Securities to which the Prospectus Supplement relates, and will also set forth the terms of the offering of such Securities, including the net proceeds to be paid to the Bank and, to the extent applicable, any fees payable to the Investment Dealers. The offerings are subject to approval of certain legal matters on behalf of the Bank by McCarthy Tétrault LLP.

The Bank’s head and registered office is located at National Bank Place, 800 Saint-Jacques Street, Montréal, Québec, H3C 1A3.

The Senior Debt Securities will be the Bank’s direct unsecured unsubordinated obligations that rank equally and rateably with all of the Bank’s unsecured and unsubordinated debt, including deposit liabilities, other than certain governmental claims in accordance with applicable law.

The Subordinated Debt Securities will be the Bank’s direct unsecured obligations, constituting subordinated indebtedness for the purposes of the *Bank Act* (Canada) (the “**Bank Act**”), ranking equally and rateably with, or junior to, all of the Bank’s other subordinated indebtedness from time to time outstanding (other than subordinated indebtedness which has been further subordinated in accordance with its terms).

The Debt Securities will be the Bank’s direct unsecured obligations and will not constitute deposits that are insured under the *Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation Act*.

Macky Tall, a director of the Bank resident outside of Canada, has appointed National Bank of Canada, National Bank Place, 800 Saint-Jacques Street, Montréal, Québec, H3C 1A3 as agent for service of process. Purchasers are advised that it may not be possible for investors to enforce judgments obtained in Canada against any person that resides outside of Canada, even if such person has appointed an agent for service of process.

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Forward-Looking Statements

Certain statements contained in this Prospectus and in documents incorporated by reference herein are forward-looking statements. All such statements are made in accordance with applicable securities legislation in Canada and the United States. Forward-looking statements in this Prospectus and in documents incorporated by reference herein may include, but are not limited to, statements made about the economy, market changes, the Bank's objectives, outlook, and priorities for fiscal year 2024 and beyond, the strategies or actions that will be taken to achieve them, expectations for the Bank's financial condition, its activities, the anticipated acquisition of Canadian Western Bank and the impacts and benefits of the transaction, the regulatory environment in which it operates, its environmental, social, and governance targets and commitments, and certain risks to which the Bank is exposed. These forward-looking statements are typically identified by verbs or words such as "outlook", "believe", "foresee", "forecast", "anticipate", "estimate", "project", "expect", "intend" and "plan", in their future or conditional forms, notably verbs such as "will", "may", "should", "could" or "would", as well as similar terms and expressions. Such forward-looking statements are made for the purpose of assisting the holders of the Bank's securities and potential purchasers of the Bank's securities in understanding the Bank's financial position and results of operations as at and for the periods ended on the dates presented, as well as the Bank's vision, strategic objectives, and performance targets, and may not be appropriate for other purposes.

These forward-looking statements are based on current expectations, estimates, assumptions and intentions and are subject to uncertainty and inherent risks, many of which are beyond the Bank's control. There is a strong possibility that the Bank's express or implied predictions, forecasts, projections, expectations, or conclusions will not prove to be accurate, that its assumptions may not be confirmed, and that its vision, strategic objectives, and performance targets will not be achieved. The Bank cautions investors that these forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and that actual events or results may differ significantly from these statements due to a number of factors. Thus, the Bank recommends that readers not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, as a number of factors could cause actual results to differ significantly from the expectations, estimates, or intentions expressed in these forward-looking statements. Investors and others who rely on the Bank's forward-looking statements should carefully consider the factors listed below as well as the uncertainties they represent and the risk they entail. Except as required by law, the Bank does not undertake to update any forward-looking statements, whether written or oral, that may be made from time to time, by it or on its behalf.

Assumptions about the performance of the Canadian and U.S. economies in 2024 and how that performance will affect the Bank's business are among the factors considered in setting the Bank's strategic priorities and objectives, including allowances for credit losses. These assumptions appear in the Economic Review and Outlook section and, for each business segment, in the Economic and Market Review sections of the Bank's annual report for the year ended October 31, 2023 (the "**2023 Annual Report**") and in the *Economic Review and Outlook* section of the Bank's report to shareholders for the three and nine-month periods ended July 31, 2024 (the "**Q3 2024 Report**"), and may be updated in the quarterly reports to shareholders filed thereafter.

The forward-looking statements made in this Prospectus and in documents incorporated by reference herein are based on a number of assumptions and are subject to risk factors, many of which are beyond the Bank's control and the impacts of which are difficult to predict. These risk factors include, among others, the general economic environment and financial market conditions in Canada, the United States, and the other countries where the Bank operates; the possible delay or failure to close the acquisition of Canadian Western Bank, the potential failure to obtain the required approvals to the transaction in a timely manner or at all; the Bank's ability to complete the integration within anticipated time periods and at expected cost levels, the realization of the expected strategic, financial and other benefits of the transaction, such as achieving synergies, in the timeframe anticipated; the impact of upheavals in the U.S. banking industry; exchange rate and interest rate fluctuations; inflation; global supply chain disruptions; higher funding costs and greater market volatility; changes made to fiscal, monetary, and other public policies; changes made to regulations that affect the Bank's business; geopolitical and sociopolitical uncertainty; climate change, including physical risks and those related to the transition to a low-carbon economy, and the Bank's ability to satisfy stakeholder expectations on environmental and social issues; significant changes in consumer behaviour; the housing situation, real estate market, and household indebtedness in Canada; the Bank's ability to achieve its key short-term priorities and long-term strategies; the timely development and launch of new products and services; the Bank's ability to recruit and retain key personnel; technological innovation, including advances in artificial intelligence and the open banking system, and heightened competition from established companies and from competitors offering non-traditional services; changes in the performance and creditworthiness of the Bank's clients and counterparties; the Bank's exposure to significant regulatory matters or litigation; changes made to the accounting policies used by the Bank to report financial information, including the uncertainty inherent to assumptions and critical accounting estimates; changes to tax legislation in the countries where the Bank operates; changes made to capital and liquidity guidelines as well as to the presentation and interpretation thereof; changes to the credit ratings assigned to the Bank by financial and extra-financial rating agencies; potential disruptions to key suppliers of goods and services to the Bank; the potential impacts of disruptions to the Bank's information technology systems, including cyberattacks as well as identity theft and theft of personal information; the risk of fraudulent activity; and possible impacts of major events affecting the economy, market conditions, or the Bank's outlook, including international conflicts, natural disasters, public health crises, and the measures taken in response to these events. The foregoing list of risk factors is not exhaustive, and the forward-looking statements made in this document are also subject to credit risk, market risk, liquidity and funding risk, operational risk, regulatory compliance risk, reputation risk, strategic risk, and social and environmental risk, as well as certain emerging risks or risks deemed significant. Additional information about these factors is provided in this Prospectus, the 2023 Annual Report and the Q3 2024 Report, and may be updated in the quarterly reports to shareholders filed thereafter.

The forward-looking information contained in this document is presented for the purpose of interpreting the information contained herein and may not be appropriate for other purposes. All of the forward-looking information and forward-looking statements contained in this Prospectus, in the documents incorporated by reference herein and in any Prospectus Supplement is expressly qualified by the foregoing cautionary statements.

Documents Incorporated by Reference

The following documents have been filed with the securities regulatory authorities in each province and territory of Canada and are specifically incorporated by reference into, and form an integral part of, this Prospectus:

- (a) the Bank's annual information form for the year ended October 31, 2023, dated November 30, 2023;
- (b) the audited annual consolidated financial statements as at and for the years ended October 31, 2023, and 2022 together with the independent auditor's report thereon issued to the shareholders of the Bank for the years ended October 31, 2023, and 2022, and the management's discussion and analysis as contained in the 2023 Annual Report;

- (c) the Bank's management proxy circular dated February 20, 2024, in connection with the annual and special meeting of holders of Common Shares and the special meeting of holders of first preferred shares of the Bank held on April 19, 2024;
- (d) the unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements for the three and nine-month periods ended July 31, 2024, which include comparative unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements for the three and nine-month periods ended July 31, 2023, together with the management's discussion and analysis as contained in the Bank's Q3 2024 Report; and
- (e) the Material Change Report dated June 12, 2024, with respect to the proposed acquisition of Canadian Western Bank by way of share exchange and the related public offering and concurrent private placement of Subscription Receipts by the Bank.

Any documents of the type referred to in the preceding paragraph or required to be incorporated by reference herein pursuant to National Instrument 44-101 – Short Form Prospectus Distributions (*Regulation 44-101 respecting Short Form Prospectus Distributions* in Québec), including any unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements and related management's discussion and analysis, any information circulars, any material change reports (excluding confidential material change reports), and any business acquisition reports filed by the Bank with a securities regulatory authority in Canada after the date of this Prospectus and prior to the completion or withdrawal of any offering hereunder, are deemed to be incorporated by reference in this Prospectus.

Updated earnings coverage ratios, as required, will be filed quarterly with the applicable securities commissions or similar authorities in Canada, either as Prospectus Supplements or as exhibits to the Bank's unaudited interim condensed and audited consolidated financial statements, and will be deemed to be incorporated by reference into this Prospectus. Where the Bank updates its disclosure of earnings coverage ratios by Prospectus Supplement, the Prospectus Supplement filed with the applicable securities commissions or similar authorities that contains the most recent updated disclosure of earnings coverage ratios will be delivered to all subsequent purchasers of Securities together with this Prospectus.

Any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein or contemplated in this Prospectus will 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 which 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 information set forth in the document that it modifies or supersedes. The making of a modifying or superseding statement will not be deemed an admission for any purpose 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 will not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this Prospectus.

A Prospectus Supplement containing the specific terms of an offering of Securities will be delivered to purchasers of such Securities together with this Prospectus and will be deemed to be incorporated into this Prospectus as of the date of the Prospectus Supplement solely for the purposes of the offering of the Securities covered by that Prospectus Supplement unless otherwise expressly provided therein.

Upon a new management proxy circular, annual information form or new annual consolidated financial statements, together with the independent auditor's report thereon and management's discussion and analysis accompanying such financial statements, being filed by the Bank with the applicable securities regulatory authorities during the currency of this Prospectus, the previous management proxy circular, annual information form, or annual consolidated financial statements and management's discussion and analysis accompanying such financial statements, and all interim condensed consolidated financial statements and management's discussion and analysis accompanying such financial statements, material change reports, and information circulars filed prior to the commencement of the Bank's financial year in which the new management proxy circular, annual information form or annual consolidated financial statements

are filed shall be deemed no longer to be incorporated into this Prospectus for purposes of future offers and sales of Securities hereunder.

Currency

Unless otherwise indicated, all dollar amounts appearing in this Prospectus are stated in Canadian dollars.

National Bank of Canada

The Bank, a chartered bank subject to the provisions of the Bank Act, was formed through a series of amalgamations and its roots date back to 1859 with the founding of Banque Nationale in Québec City. The Bank's head and registered office is located at National Bank Place, 800 Saint-Jacques Street, Montréal, Québec H3C 1A3.

Subsidiaries

A list of the principal subsidiaries directly or indirectly owned or controlled by the Bank as at October 31, 2023 is included in the 2023 Annual Report.

Business of the Bank

The Bank offers a full range of financial services to individuals, commercial enterprises, financial institutions and governments both in Canada and abroad.

Additional information with respect to the Bank's business is included in the 2023 Annual Report.

Changes to Share Capital and Subordinated Indebtedness

There have been no material changes to the share capital and loan capital of the Bank since the date of the most recently filed interim condensed consolidated financial statements.

Description of the Debt Securities

Debt Securities

The following is a general description of the Debt Securities. The particulars of any series of Debt Securities offered and the extent to which the general terms described below may apply to such Debt Securities will be described in one or more Prospectus Supplements. Since the terms of a series of Debt Securities may differ from the general information provided in this Prospectus, in all cases you should rely on the information in the Prospectus Supplement where it differs from information in this Prospectus.

Senior Debt Securities will be the Bank's direct unsecured unsubordinated obligations that rank equally and rateably with all of the Bank's unsecured and unsubordinated debt, including deposit liabilities, other than certain governmental claims in accordance with applicable law.

Subordinated Debt Securities will be the Bank's direct unsecured obligations, constituting subordinated indebtedness for the purposes of the Bank Act, ranking equally and rateably with, or junior to, all of the Bank's other subordinated indebtedness from time to time outstanding (other than subordinated indebtedness which has been further subordinated in accordance with its terms). Pursuant to the *Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation Act*, in circumstances where the Superintendent has determined that the Bank has ceased, or is about to cease, to be viable, the Governor in Council may, upon a recommendation of the Minister of Finance that he or she is of the opinion that it is in the public interest to do so, grant an order directing the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation to convert all or a portion of certain shares and liabilities of the Bank into common shares of the Bank (a "**Bail-In Conversion**"). In the event of the Bank's insolvency or winding-up, the Bank's subordinated indebtedness, including any Subordinated Debt Securities issued hereunder (provided a trigger event has not occurred as contemplated under the specific Non-Viable Capital Contingency Provisions as may be applicable to the Subordinated Debt Securities), will be subordinate in right of payment to the prior

payment in full of the Bank's deposit liabilities and all of the Bank's other liabilities, including Senior Debt Securities which have not been subject to a Bail-In Conversion, except those which by their terms rank equally in right of payment with, or are subordinate to, such subordinated indebtedness.

Subject to regulatory capital requirements applicable to the Bank, there is no limit on the amount of Senior Debt Securities or Subordinated Debt Securities the Bank may issue.

If the Bank becomes insolvent, the Bank Act provides that priorities among payments of the Bank's deposit liabilities and payments of all of the Bank's other liabilities, including payments in respect of Senior Debt Securities and Subordinated Debt Securities (provided a Bail-In Conversion has not occurred in connection therewith and in the case of Subordinated Debt Securities that are subject to Non-Viable Capital Contingency Provisions, a trigger event has not occurred as contemplated under the specific Non-Viable Capital Contingency Provisions), are to be determined in accordance with the laws governing priorities and, where applicable, by the terms of the indebtedness and liabilities. Because the Bank has subsidiaries, the Bank's right to participate in any distribution of the assets of the Bank's 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 the Bank may be a creditor of that subsidiary and the Bank's claims are recognized. There are legal limitations on the extent to which some of the Bank's subsidiaries may extend credit, pay dividends or otherwise supply funds to, or engage in transactions with, the Bank or some of the Bank's other subsidiaries.

Neither the Bank's Senior Debt Securities nor the Subordinated Debt Securities will constitute deposits that are insured under the *Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation Act*.

The specific terms of Debt Securities that the Bank may issue under this Prospectus will be described in one or more Prospectus Supplements and may include, where applicable: the specific designation, aggregate principal amount, the currency or the currency unit for which such securities may be purchased, maturity, interest provisions, authorized denominations, offering price, any terms for redemption at the Bank's option or the holder's option, any exchange or conversion terms and any other specific terms, including any Bail-In Conversion applicable to Debt Securities and Non-Viable Contingency Capital Provisions applicable to Subordinated Debt Securities.

Debt Securities may be issued up to the aggregate principal amount which may be authorized from time to time by the Bank. The Bank may issue Debt Securities under one or more indentures (each a "**Trust Indenture**"), in each case between the Bank and a trustee (a "**Trustee**") determined by the Bank in accordance with applicable laws, or pursuant to an issue and paying agency agreement (between the Bank and an agent, which agent may be an affiliate of or otherwise non-arm's length to the Bank). Any series of Debt Securities may also be created and issued without a Trust Indenture or an issue and paying agency agreement. The Bank may also appoint a calculation agent in connection with any Debt Securities issued under this Prospectus, which agent may be an affiliate of or otherwise non-arm's length to the Bank. Reference is made to the applicable Prospectus Supplement which accompanies this Prospectus for the terms and other information with respect to the Debt Securities being offered thereby, including: (i) the designation, aggregate principal amount and authorized denominations of the Debt Securities; (ii) the currency for which the Debt Securities may be purchased and the currency in which the principal and any interest is payable (in either case, if other than Canadian dollars); (iii) the percentage of the principal amount at which the Debt Securities will be issued; (iv) the date or dates on which the Debt Securities will mature; (v) the rate or rates (if any); (vi) the dates on which such interest will be payable and the record dates for such payments; (vii) the Trustee under the Trust Indenture pursuant to which the Debt Securities are to be issued; (viii) any extension or redemption term or terms under which such Debt Securities may be defeased; (ix) whether the Debt Securities are to be issued in registered form, "book-entry only" form, bearer form or in the form of temporary or permanent global securities and the basis of exchange, transfer and ownership thereof; (x) any exchange or conversion terms (including terms relating to the conversion of the Debt Securities into Common Shares, any Bail-In Conversion applicable to Debt Securities and any Non-Viable Contingency Capital Provisions applicable to Subordinated Debt Securities); (xi) the ratings, if any, issued by rating agencies in respect of the Debt Securities; (xii) in the case of Subordinated Debt Securities, the level of subordination; and (xiii) any other specific terms.

Unless otherwise specified in the Prospectus Supplement which accompanies this Prospectus, principal, premium (if any) and interest payable on Debt Securities are to be payable at any branch in Canada of the Bank provided that such payments may also be made at the option of the Bank by electronic or wire transfer or, by cheque mailed, delivered or otherwise transferred to the persons in whose names the Debt Securities are registered.

Debt Securities may, at the option of the Bank, be issued in fully registered form, in bearer form or in “book-entry only” form. See “Book-Entry Only Securities” below. Debt Securities in registered form will be exchangeable for other Debt Securities of the same series and tenor, registered in the same name, for the same aggregate principal amount in authorized denominations and will be transferable at any time or from time to time at the corporate trust office of the Trustee for the Debt Securities. No charge will be made to the holder for any such exchange or transfer except for any tax or government charge incidental thereto.

Description of First Preferred Shares

The following describes certain general terms and provisions of the First Preferred Shares. The particular terms and provisions of a series of First Preferred Shares offered by a Prospectus Supplement, and the extent to which the general terms and provisions described below may apply thereto, will be described in such Prospectus Supplement.

The following is a summary of the rights, privileges, restrictions and conditions of or attaching to the First Preferred Shares of the Bank as a class.

Issuable in Series

The authorized preferred share capital of the Bank includes an unlimited number of First Preferred Shares, without par value, provided that the First Preferred Shares outstanding at any time shall have been issued for an aggregate consideration of not more than \$7.5 billion or the equivalent thereof in foreign currencies. The First Preferred Shares may be issued, from time to time, in one or more series with such series designation, rights, privileges, restrictions and conditions as the Board of Directors may determine by resolution.

Priority

The First Preferred Shares of each series will rank on a parity with First Preferred Shares of every other series and are entitled to preference over the Second Preferred Shares, the Common Shares and any other shares of the Bank ranking junior to the First Preferred Shares with respect to the payment of dividends and upon any distribution of assets in the event of liquidation, dissolution or winding-up of the Bank, provided a trigger event has not occurred as contemplated under the specific Non-Viable Capital Contingency Provisions applicable to such First Preferred Shares.

Creation and Issue of Shares

Pursuant to the Bank Act, the Bank may not, without the approval of the holders of the First Preferred Shares, create any other class of shares ranking equal with or superior to the First Preferred Shares. In addition, the Bank may not, without the prior approval of the holders of the First Preferred Shares as a class given as specified below under “Approval of the Holders of the First Preferred Shares” (in addition to such approvals as may be required by the Bank Act or any other legal requirement), (i) create or issue any shares ranking in priority to or *pari passu* with the First Preferred Shares; or (ii) create or issue any additional series of First Preferred Shares, unless at the date of such creation or issuance all cumulative dividends up to and including the dividend payment for the last completed period for which such cumulative dividends are payable, have been declared and paid or set aside for payment in respect of each series of cumulative First Preferred Shares then issued and outstanding, and all declared and unpaid non-cumulative dividends have been paid or set aside for payment in respect of each series of non-cumulative First Preferred Shares then issued and outstanding. Currently, there are no outstanding First Preferred Shares which carry the right to cumulative dividends.

Voting Rights

The holders of the First Preferred Shares are not entitled to any voting rights as a class except as provided below or by law or in the rights, privileges, restrictions and conditions attaching to any series of First Preferred Shares, and except with respect to the right to vote on certain matters as specified under “Approval of the Holders of the First Preferred Shares”.

Approval of the Holders of the First Preferred Shares

The approval of all amendments to the provisions attaching to the First Preferred Shares as a class and any other approval to be given by the holders of the First Preferred Shares may be given in writing by the holders of not less than

all of the outstanding First Preferred Shares or by a resolution passed by the affirmative vote of not less than 66 2/3% of the votes cast at a meeting of holders of First Preferred Shares duly held for the purpose of considering the subject matter of such resolution at which a quorum of the outstanding First Preferred Shares is represented in person or by proxy. A quorum at any meeting of holders of First Preferred Shares is a majority of the outstanding First Preferred Shares, except at an adjourned meeting for which there is no quorum requirement.

Description of Common Shares

The authorized common share capital of the Bank consists of an unlimited number of Common Shares without nominal or par value, of which 340,348,098 were outstanding as at August 23, 2024. The holders of Common Shares are entitled to vote at all meetings of the shareholders of the Bank except meetings at which only holders of a specified class or series of shares are entitled to vote. The holders of Common Shares are entitled to receive dividends as and when declared by the Board of Directors of the Bank, subject to the preference of the holders of the preferred shares (including the First Preferred Shares) of the Bank. After payment to the holders of the preferred shares of the Bank of the amount or amounts to which they may be entitled, and after payment of all outstanding debts, the holders of Common Shares shall be entitled to receive the remaining property of the Bank upon the liquidation, dissolution or winding-up thereof.

Description of Subscription Receipts

The following sets forth certain general terms and provisions of the Subscription Receipts. The Bank may issue Subscription Receipts that may be exchanged by the holders thereof for Debt Securities, First Preferred Shares or Common Shares upon the satisfaction of certain conditions. The particular terms and provisions of the Subscription Receipts offered pursuant to this Prospectus will be set forth in the applicable Prospectus Supplement, and the extent to which the general terms described below apply to those Subscription Receipts, will be described in the Prospectus Supplement. The Bank may offer Subscription Receipts separately or together with Debt Securities, First Preferred Shares or Common Shares, as the case may be. The Bank will issue Subscription Receipts under a subscription receipt agreement.

Selected provisions of the Subscription Receipts and the subscription receipt agreements are summarized below. This summary is not complete. The statements made in this Prospectus relating to any subscription receipt agreement and Subscription Receipts to be issued thereunder are summaries of certain anticipated provisions thereof and are subject to, and are qualified in their entirety by reference to, all provisions of the applicable subscription receipt agreement.

Any Prospectus Supplement for Subscription Receipts supplementing this Prospectus will contain the terms and conditions and other information with respect to the Subscription Receipts being offered thereby, including: the number of Subscription Receipts, the price at which the Subscription Receipts will be offered and whether the price is payable in instalments, any conditions to the exchange of Subscription Receipts into Debt Securities, First Preferred Shares or Common Shares, as the case may be, and the consequences of such conditions not being satisfied, the procedures for the exchange of the Subscription Receipts into Debt Securities, First Preferred Shares or Common Shares, as the case may be, the number of Debt Securities, First Preferred Shares or Common Shares, as the case may be, that may be exchanged upon exercise of each Subscription Receipt, the designation and terms of any other Securities with which the Subscription Receipts will be offered, if any, and the number of Subscription Receipts that will be offered with each Security, the dates or periods during which the Subscription Receipts may be exchanged into Debt Securities, First Preferred Shares or Common Shares, whether such Subscription Receipts will be listed on any securities exchange, any other rights, privileges, restrictions and conditions attaching to the Subscription Receipts, and any other specific terms.

Subscription receipt certificates will be exchangeable for new subscription receipt certificates of different denominations at the office indicated in the applicable Prospectus Supplement. Prior to the exchange of their Subscription Receipts, holders of Subscription Receipts will not have any of the rights of holders of the securities subject to the Subscription Receipts.

Book-Entry Only Securities

Securities issued in “book-entry only” form must be purchased, transferred or redeemed through participants (“CDS Participants”) in the depository service of CDS Clearing and Depository Services Inc. or a successor or its nominee

(collectively, “CDS”), as described below. Each of the Investment Dealers named in an accompanying Prospectus Supplement offering securities in “book-entry only” form will be a CDS Participant. On the closing of a book-entry only offering, the Bank will cause a global certificate, certificates or an uncertificated position representing the aggregate number of Securities subscribed for under such offering to be delivered to, and registered in the name of, CDS. Except as described below, no purchaser of Securities will be entitled to a certificate or other instrument from the Bank or CDS evidencing that purchaser’s ownership thereof, and no purchaser will be shown on the records maintained by CDS except through a book-entry account of a CDS Participant acting on behalf of such purchaser. Each purchaser of Securities will receive a customer confirmation of purchase from the Investment Dealer from which the Securities are purchased in accordance with the practices and procedures of that Investment Dealer. The practices and procedures of Investment Dealers may vary, but generally customer confirmations are issued promptly after execution of a customer order. Reference in this Prospectus to a holder of Securities means, unless the context otherwise requires, the owner of the beneficial interest in the Securities.

CDS will be responsible for establishing and maintaining book-entry accounts for CDS Participants having interests in the Securities. If (i) the book-entry only system ceases to exist, (ii) the Bank determines that CDS is no longer willing or able to discharge properly its responsibilities as depository with respect to the Securities and the Bank is unable to locate a qualified successor, (iii) the Bank at its option elects, or is required by applicable law or the rules of any securities exchange, to withdraw the Securities from the book-entry only system, (iv) if an event of default has occurred with regard to the Securities and has not been cured or waived, or (v) as otherwise agreed by the Bank and CDS, then the Securities will be issued in fully registered form to holders or their nominees.

Transfer, Conversion and Redemption of Securities

Transfers of ownership, conversions or redemptions of Securities will be effected only through records maintained by CDS for such Securities with respect to interests of CDS Participants and on the records of CDS Participants with respect to interests of persons other than CDS Participants. Holders of Securities who are not CDS Participants, but who desire to purchase, sell or otherwise transfer ownership of or other interests in the Securities, may do so only through CDS Participants. The ability of a holder to pledge Securities or otherwise take action with respect to such holder’s interest in Securities (other than through a CDS Participant) may be limited due to the lack of a physical certificate.

Payments and Deliveries

The Bank will make, or cause to be made, payments of principal, redemption price, if any, dividends and interest, as applicable, on the Securities to CDS as the registered holder of the Securities and the Bank understands that the payment will be forwarded by CDS to CDS Participants in accordance with the customary practices and procedures of CDS. As long as CDS is the registered owner of the Securities, CDS will be considered the sole owner of the Securities for the purposes of receiving notices or payments on the Securities. As long as the Securities are held in the CDS book-entry only system, the responsibility and liability of the Bank in respect of the Securities is limited to making payments of principal, redemption price, if any, dividends and interest, as applicable, on the Securities to CDS, as registered holder of the Securities. The Bank expects that CDS, upon receipt of any payment in respect of Securities, will credit CDS Participants’ accounts in amounts proportionate to their respective interests in the principal amount of such Securities as shown on the records of CDS in accordance with the customary practices and procedures of CDS. The Bank also expects that payments by CDS Participants to the owners of beneficial interests in Securities held through such CDS Participants will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices and procedures, and will be the responsibility of such CDS Participants. The rules governing CDS provide that it acts as the agent and depository for the CDS Participants. As a result, CDS Participants must look solely to CDS, and persons other than CDS Participants having an interest in Securities must look solely to CDS Participants, for payments or deliveries made by or on behalf of the Bank to CDS in respect of such Securities.

Each beneficial owner must rely on the practices and procedures of CDS and, if such beneficial owner is not a CDS Participant, on the practices and procedures of the CDS Participant through which such beneficial owner owns its interest, to exercise any rights with respect to the Securities. The Bank understands that under existing policies of CDS and industry practices, if the Bank requests any action of a beneficial owner or if a beneficial owner desires to give any notice or take any action which a registered holder is entitled to give or take with respect to the Securities, CDS would authorize the CDS Participant acting on behalf of the beneficial owner to give such notice or to take such action, in accordance with the practices and procedures established by CDS or agreed to from time to time by the Bank, any

Trustee and CDS. Any beneficial owner that is not a CDS Participant must rely on the contractual arrangement it has directly, or indirectly through its financial intermediary, with its CDS Participant to give such notice or take such action.

None of the Bank, the Investment Dealers or any Trustee (in the case of Debt Securities) will assume liability or responsibility for (i) any aspect of the records relating to the beneficial ownership of the Securities held by CDS or the payments or deliveries relating thereto, (ii) maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records relating to the Securities, or (iii) any advice or representation made by or with respect to CDS relating to the rules governing CDS or any action to be taken by CDS or at the direction of CDS Participants.

Bank Act Restrictions and Restrictions on Payment of Dividends

Under the Bank Act, the Bank, with the prior consent of the Superintendent, may redeem or purchase any of its shares, including the First Preferred Shares, unless there are reasonable grounds for believing that the Bank is, or the redemption or purchase would cause the Bank to be, in contravention of any regulation made under the Bank Act respecting the maintenance by banks of adequate capital and adequate and appropriate forms of liquidity, or any direction to the Bank made by the Superintendent pursuant to Subsection 485(3) of the Bank Act regarding its capital or its liquidity. No such direction to the Bank has been made to date.

The Bank is prohibited under the Bank Act from paying or declaring a dividend if there are reasonable grounds for believing that the Bank is, or the payment would cause the Bank to be, in contravention of any regulation made under the Bank Act respecting the maintenance by banks of adequate capital and adequate and appropriate forms of liquidity, or any directive to the Bank made by the Superintendent pursuant to Subsection 485(3) of the Bank Act regarding its capital or its liquidity. As at the date hereof, this limitation would not restrict a payment of quarterly dividends on the First Preferred Shares. Further, no such directive to the Bank has been made to date.

Restraints on Bank Shares under the Bank Act

The Bank Act contains restrictions on the issue, transfer, acquisition, beneficial ownership and voting of all shares of a chartered bank. The following is a summary of such restrictions. Subject to certain exceptions specified in the Bank Act, no person may be a major shareholder of a bank if the bank has equity of \$12 billion or more. In the event the equity of the Bank is less than \$12 billion and the Bank Act would otherwise permit a person to own up to 65 per cent. of any class of shares of the Bank, the Bank is deemed to be a bank to which the ownership restrictions for banks with equity of \$12 billion or more apply until the Minister of Finance (Canada) specifies, on application by the Bank, that these restrictions no longer apply to the Bank.

A person is a major shareholder of a bank where: (i) the aggregate of shares of any class of voting shares beneficially owned by that person, by entities controlled by that person and by any person associated or acting jointly or in concert with that person is more than 20% of that class of voting shares; or (ii) the aggregate of shares of any class of non-voting shares beneficially owned by that person, by entities controlled by that person and by any person associated or acting jointly or in concert with that person is more than 30% of that class of non-voting shares. No person, or persons acting jointly or in concert, may have a significant interest in any class of shares of a Canadian chartered bank, including the Bank, unless the person first receives the approval of the Minister of Finance (Canada). For purposes of the Bank Act, a person has a significant interest in a class of shares of a bank where the aggregate of any shares of the class beneficially owned by that person, by entities controlled by that person and by any person associated or acting jointly or in concert with that person exceeds 10% of all of the outstanding shares of that class of shares of such bank.

The Bank Act also prohibits the registration of a transfer or issue of any shares of the Bank to His Majesty in right of Canada or of a province or any agent or agency of His Majesty in either of those rights, or to the government of a foreign country or any political subdivision, agent or agency of any of them except for certain cases that require the Minister of Finance's consent.

Earnings Coverage Ratios

The following consolidated earnings coverage ratios which give effect to the subordinated debt, limited recourse capital notes and first preferred shares outstanding as of July 31, 2024, and October 31, 2023, respectively, (assuming each of

the securities was outstanding from the first day of such period), are calculated for the 12-month periods ended July 31, 2024, and October 31, 2023, and do not reflect the issuance of any Securities under this Prospectus.

	July 31, 2024	October 31, 2023
Earnings coverage	14.21	13.45

The ratio for the 12-month period ended October 31, 2023, is based on audited financial information and for the 12-month period ended July 31, 2024, on unaudited financial information. Foreign currency amounts have been translated to Canadian dollars using rates of exchange as at July 31, 2024, and October 31, 2023, respectively.

The Bank's interest requirements for subordinated debt for the 12 months ended October 31, 2023, and July 31, 2024, amounted to \$67 million and \$67 million, respectively. The Bank's earnings before income taxes, non-controlling interest and subordinated debt for the 12 months ended October 31, 2023 and July 31, 2024 were \$3,955 million and \$4,490 million respectively which are 13.45 times and 14.21 times the Bank's aggregate dividend, distributions on limited recourse capital notes and interest requirements for these periods, respectively.

Plan of Distribution

The Bank may sell Securities to or through underwriters or dealers purchasing as principal, and also may sell Securities to one or more purchasers directly or through agents. Securities may be sold from time to time in one or more transactions at a fixed price or prices which may be changed, at market prices prevailing at the time of sale, at prices related to such prevailing market prices or at prices to be negotiated with purchasers.

A Prospectus Supplement will set forth the terms of any offering of Securities, including the name or names of any Investment Dealers, the initial public offering price, the proceeds to be paid to the Bank, any underwriting discount or commission to be paid to any Investment Dealers and any discounts, concessions or commissions allowed or re-allowed or paid by any Investment Dealers to other investment dealers.

The Securities may be sold directly by the Bank at such prices and upon such terms as agreed to by the Bank and the purchaser or through agents designated by the Bank from time to time. Any agent involved in the offering and sale of the Securities in respect of which this Prospectus is delivered will be named, and any commissions payable by the Bank to such agent will be set forth, in the applicable Prospectus Supplement. Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable Prospectus Supplement, any agent is acting on a best efforts basis for the period of its appointment.

If underwriters are used in the sale, the Securities will be acquired by the underwriters for their own account and may be resold from time to time in one or more transactions, including negotiated transactions, at a fixed public offering price or at varying prices determined at the time of sale, at market prices prevailing at the time of sale or at prices related to such prevailing market prices. The obligations of the underwriters to purchase such Securities will be subject to certain conditions precedent, and the underwriters will be obligated to purchase all the Securities offered by the Prospectus Supplement if any of such Securities are purchased.

Any public offering price and any discounts, concessions, or commissions allowed or re-allowed or paid to Investment Dealers may be changed from time to time. The Bank may agree to pay the Investment Dealers a commission for various services relating to the issue and sale of any Securities offered hereby. Any such commission will be paid out of the general corporate funds of the Bank. Investment Dealers who participate in the distribution of the Securities may be entitled under agreements to be entered into with the Bank to indemnification by the Bank against certain liabilities, including liabilities under applicable securities legislation, or to contribution with respect to payments which such Investment Dealers may be required to make in respect thereof.

In connection with any offering of the Securities (unless otherwise specified in a Prospectus Supplement), the Investment Dealers may over-allot or effect transactions which stabilize or maintain the market price of the Securities offered at a higher level than that which might exist in the open market. These transactions may be commenced, interrupted or discontinued at any time.

This Prospectus and related Prospectus Supplement may be used by direct or indirect wholly-owned subsidiaries of the Bank. Those subsidiaries may act as principal or agent in those transactions. The Securities will not be registered under the *Securities Act of 1933* of the United States of America, as amended (the “**1933 Act**”) or any state securities laws and will not be offered or sold within the United States, territories or possessions or to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. persons (as defined in Regulation S under the 1933 Act) except in transactions exempt from the registration requirements of the 1933 Act.

Trading Price and Volume

Trading prices and volume of the Bank’s Securities will be provided for all of the Bank’s issued and outstanding Common Shares and First Preferred Shares in each Prospectus Supplement to this Prospectus.

Prior Sales

Prior sales will be provided as required in a Prospectus Supplement with respect to the issuance of Securities pursuant to such Prospectus Supplement.

Risk Factors

Investment in the 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 Securities, investors should carefully consider the risks 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. Prospective investors should carefully consider the categories of risks identified and discussed in the Bank’s annual information form and management’s discussion and analysis of the Bank, both incorporated by reference herein, and including, but not limited to the heading “Risk Management” in the 2023 Annual Report.

Use of Proceeds

Unless otherwise specified in a Prospectus Supplement, the net proceeds to be paid to the Bank from the sale of the Securities will be added to the general funds of the Bank and utilized for general banking purposes.

Legal Matters

Unless otherwise specified in the Prospectus Supplement, certain legal matters relating to the Securities offered by a Prospectus Supplement will be passed upon, on behalf of the Bank, by McCarthy Tétrault LLP. As at the date hereof, partners, counsel and associates of McCarthy Tétrault LLP beneficially owned, directly or indirectly, less than 1% of any issued and outstanding securities of the Bank or any associates or affiliates of the Bank.

Purchasers’ Statutory Rights

Securities legislation in certain of the provinces and territories of Canada provides purchasers with the right to withdraw from an agreement to purchase securities. This right may be exercised within two business days after receipt or deemed receipt of a prospectus and any amendment. In several of the provinces and territories, the securities legislation further provides a purchaser with remedies for rescission or, in some jurisdictions, revisions of the price or damages if the prospectus and any amendment contains a misrepresentation or is not delivered to the purchaser, provided that the remedies for rescission, revisions of the price or damages are exercised by the purchaser within the time limit prescribed by the securities legislation of the purchaser’s province or territory. The purchaser should refer to any applicable provisions of the securities legislation of the purchaser’s province or territory for the particulars of these rights or consult with a legal adviser.

Original Canadian purchasers of Securities that are convertible or exchangeable into other securities of the Bank will have a contractual right of rescission against the Bank in respect of the conversion, exchange or exercise of such convertible, exchangeable or exercisable Securities. The contractual right of rescission will entitle such original purchasers to receive from the Bank the amount paid upon conversion, exchange or exercise, upon surrender of the

underlying securities gained thereby, in the event that this Prospectus, the applicable Prospectus Supplement, or any amendment contains a misrepresentation, provided that: (i) the conversion, exchange or exercise takes place within 180 days of the date of the purchase of the convertible, exchangeable or exercisable Security under this Prospectus and the applicable Prospectus Supplement; and (ii) the right of rescission is exercised within 180 days of the date of the purchase of the convertible, exchangeable or exercisable Security under this Prospectus and the applicable Prospectus Supplement. This contractual right of rescission will be consistent with the statutory right of rescission described under section 217 of the *Securities Act* (Québec), and is in addition to any other right or remedy available to original purchasers under section 217 of the *Securities Act* (Québec) or otherwise at law.

Original Canadian purchasers are further advised that in certain provinces and territories the statutory right of action for damages in connection with a prospectus misrepresentation is limited to the amount paid for the convertible, exchangeable or exercisable security that was purchased under a prospectus, and therefore a further payment at the time of conversion, exchange or exercise may not be recoverable in a statutory action for damages. The purchaser should refer to any applicable provisions of the securities legislation of the province or territory in which the purchaser resides for the particulars of these rights, or consult with a legal advisor.

Certificate of the Bank

Dated: September 6, 2024

This short form prospectus, together with the documents incorporated in this prospectus by reference, will, as of the date of the last supplement to this prospectus relating to the securities offered by this prospectus and the supplement(s), constitute full, true and plain disclosure of all material facts relating to the securities offered by this prospectus and the supplement(s) as required by the *Bank Act* (Canada) and the regulations thereunder and the securities legislation of all provinces and territories of Canada.

(s) Laurent Ferreira

President and
Chief Executive Officer

(s) Marie Chantal Gingras

Chief Financial Officer and
Executive Vice-President, Finance

On behalf of the Board of Directors

(s) Robert Paré

Chairman of the Board of Directors

(s) Yvon Charest

Director