



## CIBC steps up to Help Mixed Company Theatre Engage, Educate and Empower Student Resiliency

CIBC's lead sponsorship brings 12 performances of "DISS", an interactive play that inspires youth to create solutions to challenges in their lives into GTA and 905 schools.

**TORONTO, March 8, 2010** – CIBC has provided \$6,000 for a lead sponsorship of "DISS," Mixed Company Theatre's newest interactive play. Developed through a collaborative creative partnership with youth, the Toronto Police Service and support from the Toronto District School Board, this project focuses on gang presence in our neighbourhoods and the pressures youth face finding social connection and identity.

"At CIBC, helping young people achieve their full potential is an important part of our community investment program," said Bill Whyte, CIBC's Vice-President of Retail Markets for GTA Central. "We are pleased to sponsor this very innovative approach that will help local youth cope with the issues that challenge them so they can lead happy and healthy lives."

"With CIBC's support, Mixed Company will deliver "DISS" to 12 schools this spring," said Daniel Booth, General Manager of Mixed Company Theatre. "The interactive nature of this Forum Theatre play engages young audiences, creating practical solutions for them to overcome social and personal issues in their lives. Through this unique tool, Mixed Company stimulates critical thinking by annually engaging over 20,000 students across the GTA."

CIBC is committed to supporting causes that matter to our clients, employees and our communities. We aim to make a difference in communities through corporate donations, sponsorships and the volunteer spirit of employees. With a strategic focus on youth, education and health, and employee commitment to causes including the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation CIBC Run for the Cure, the CIBC Children's Foundation and United Way, we are investing in the social and economic development of communities across the country. In 2009, \$26.8 million was contributed through the CIBC group of companies to charitable and non-profit initiatives in Canada, supporting a wide variety of national, regional and local organizations. To learn more, visit <a href="https://www.communitymatters.cibc.com">www.communitymatters.cibc.com</a>.

-30-

## Media Contacts:

Doug Maybee, Director, External Communications and Media Relations, CIBC Tel: 416 980 7458 Email: doug.maybee@cibc.com

Ainsley Skye, Education and Community Outreach Associate, Mixed Company Theatre Tel: 416 515 8080 x22 Email: Ainsley@mixedcompanytheatre.com