

Texas Department of Banking

Press Release

Commissioner Issues License for the First Foreign Bank Branch Office in Texas

Date: June 18, 2007

The Bank of Nova Scotia (“Scotiabank”), Toronto, Canada, has obtained approval from the Texas Department of Banking to open a branch office in Houston, Texas. The branch, located at 711 Louisiana Street, Suite 1400, Houston, Texas, opens today, June 18, 2007.

The proposed branch replaces Scotiabank’s existing representative office in Houston and will engage in a wholesale banking business, offering corporate investment, lending, and cash management services to existing and prospective customers. The Texas branch will be led by Mark Ammerman, Managing Director and Industry Head of Energy, Scotia Capital, Houston.

The Scotiabank branch office in Houston will be the first foreign bank branch established in Texas since such offices were first authorized in 1999. Scotiabank has also elected to designate the State of Texas as its home state in the United States, which permits it to be treated as a Texas bank for interstate branching purposes under federal law.

Scotiabank, with total assets in excess of \$338 billion, is the third largest commercial bank in Canada, providing banking services to retail and corporate customers through more than 950 branches in Canada.

In the United States, Scotiabank operates branch offices in Portland, Oregon, New York, New York, and now Houston, Texas. Nova Scotia operates foreign bank agency offices in Atlanta, Georgia, and San Francisco, California, and a representative office in Chicago, Illinois. Scotiabank also offers financing, investment advisory, stock brokerage, insurance brokerage, fund management, fiduciary, and money transmission services through its subsidiaries.

Commissioner Randall S. James congratulated Scotiabank on its decision to name Texas as its home state and to expand the product and service offerings available here. Commissioner James stated, “I am pleased to welcome such a well-regarded international bank as Scotiabank to Texas.”