CANADIAN IMPERIAL BANK OF COMMERCE /CAN/ Form F-3/A April 30, 2015 Table of Contents

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 30, 2015

Registration No. 333-202584

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

## **AMENDMENT NO. 1**

TO

# FORM F-3

# **REGISTRATION STATEMENT**

**UNDER** 

THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

# CANADIAN IMPERIAL BANK OF COMMERCE

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Canada (State or other jurisdiction of

13-1942440 (I.R.S. Employer

incorporation or organization)

Identification No.)

**Commerce Court** 

Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5L 1A2

(416) 980-2211

(Address and telephone number of Registrant s principal executive offices)

Michael G. Capatides

**Chief Administrative Officer and General Counsel** 

**Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce** 

425 Lexington Avenue 3 Floor

New York, New York, 10017

(212) 667 8301

(Name, address and telephone number of agent for service)

Please send copies of all communications to:

Edward S. Best

Stacy McLean

**Mayer Brown LLP** 

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

71 South Wacker Drive

199 Bay Street

Chicago, Illinois U.S.A., 60606

**Suite 4000, Commerce Court** 

(312) 701-7100

Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5L 1A9

(416) 863-2400

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: At such time or times on or after the effective date of this Registration Statement as the Registrant shall determine.

If the only securities being registered on this Form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box.

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, please check the following box. x

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a registration statement pursuant to General Instruction I.C. or a post-effective amendment thereto that shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462(e) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment to a registration statement filed pursuant to General Instruction I.C. filed to register additional securities or additional classes of securities pursuant to Rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

#### CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

		Proposed		
	Amount	Maximum	Proposed	
THE SECTION S			Maximum	
Title of Each Class of	to be	Offering Price	Aggregate	Amount of
Securities to be Registered	Registered (1)	per Security	Offering Price (2) (3)	Registration Fee (1)
Senior debt securities	U.S. \$2,000,000,000	100%	U.S. \$2,000,000,000	U.S. \$232,400

- (1) This Registration Statement also includes an indeterminate amount of securities of the classes specified above that may be reoffered and resold on an ongoing basis after their initial sale in market-making transactions by affiliates of the Registrant. These securities consist of an indeterminate amount of such securities that are initially being registered, and will initially be offered and sold, under this Registration Statement and an indeterminate amount of such securities that were initially registered, and were initially offered and sold, under registration statements previously filed by the Registrant. All such market-making reoffers and resales of these securities that are made pursuant to a registration statement after the effectiveness of this Registration Statement are being made solely pursuant to this Registration Statement.
- (2) Estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee in accordance with Rule 457(o) under the Securities Act.
- (3) Separate consideration may not be received for registered securities that are issuable on exercise, conversion or exchange of other securities.
- (4) Pursuant to Rule 457(p) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act ), the Registrant hereby offsets the registration fee required to be paid in connection with this Registration Statement by (i) U.S.\$116.20 which was paid in connection with the original filing of this Registration Statement and (ii) US\$223,470 previously paid by the Registrant in connection with U.S.\$1,950,000,000 of unissued debt securities registered by the Registrant under Registration Statement No. 333-180771 (the Prior Registration Statement ) (which amount does not include the U.S.\$24,011,000 of unissued debt securities registered by the Registrant under the Prior Registration Statement that shall remain registered under the Prior Registration Statement), initially filed with the Commission on April 17, 2012, such that the net registration fee paid in connection with this Registration Statement is U.S.\$8,813.80.

THE REGISTRANT HEREBY AMENDS THIS REGISTRATION STATEMENT ON SUCH DATE OR DATES AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO DELAY ITS EFFECTIVE DATE UNTIL THE REGISTRANT SHALL FILE A FURTHER AMENDMENT THAT SPECIFICALLY STATES THAT THIS REGISTRATION STATEMENT SHALL THEREAFTER BECOME EFFECTIVE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 8(a) OF THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933 OR UNTIL THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE ON SUCH DATE AS THE COMMISSION, ACTING PURSUANT TO SECTION 8(a) OF THE ACT, MAY DETERMINE.

The information in this prospectus is not complete and may be changed. These securities may not be sold until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This preliminary prospectus is not an offer to sell nor does it seek an offer to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

**SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED APRIL 30, 2015** 

# 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.

The date of this prospectus is , 2015.

#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS	i
FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS	i
AVAILABLE INFORMATION	iii
DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE	iv
PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL INFORMATION	iv
CANADIAN IMPERIAL BANK OF COMMERCE	1
RISK FACTORS	1
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	1
RATIOS OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES	1
CONSOLIDATED CAPITALIZATION	2
DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES	3
PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION (CONFLICTS OF INTEREST)	18
BENEFIT PLAN INVESTOR CONSIDERATIONS	21
LIMITATIONS ON ENFORCEMENT OF U.S. LAWS AGAINST CIBC, ITS MANAGEMENT AND OTHERS	22
<u>LEGAL MATTERS</u>	23
EXPERTS	23

In this prospectus, unless the context otherwise indicates, CIBC, we, us or our means Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce and its subsidiarie 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.

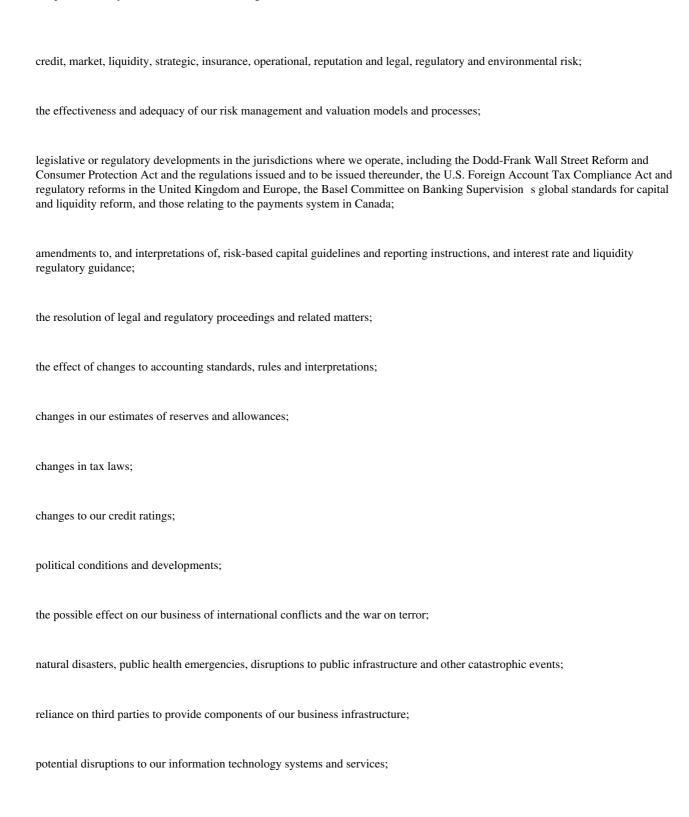
#### FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

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 condiscuent as will, should, would and could. By their nature, these statements require CIBC

i

#### **Table of Contents**

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:



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;

Table of Contents 9

ii

#### **Table of Contents**

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.

iii

#### 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.

iv

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.

			AVERAGE	AT PERIOD
PERIOD	HIGH	LOW	RATE <sup>(1)</sup>	END
Year Ended October 31				
2010	1.0040	0.9280	1.0298	0.9816
2011	1.0584	0.9430	0.9887	1.0068
2012	1.0299	0.9536	0.9995	1.0004
2013	1.0164	0.9454	0.9774	0.9589
2014	0.9437	0.8872	0.9171	0.8872
October 2014	0.8981	0.8857	0.8920	0.8872
November 2014	0.8900	0.8752	0.8830	0.8752
December 2014	0.8816	0.8588	0.8673	0.8620
January 2015	0.8529	0.7864	0.8255	0.7864
February 2015	0.8064	0.7915	0.8001	0.7996
March 2015	0.8039	0.7811	0.7925	0.7886
April 2015 (through April 24)	0.8232	0.7930	0.8065	0.8218

<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.

v

#### 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	Ended Octol	ober 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

	20	)11	2010
	(	(U.S. GAA	AP)
Excluding Interest on Deposits	4.3	.32x	5.46x
Including Interest on Deposits	1.9	.99x	2.27x

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

1

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	C\$	24,170	

<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 of that series. 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 supplement 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 for 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 wit