

CANADIAN IMPERIAL BANK OF COMMERCE /CAN/
Form 424B2
November 06, 2018

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The information in this preliminary Pricing Supplement is not complete and may be changed. This preliminary Pricing Supplement and the accompanying Prospectus Supplement and Prospectus are not an offer to sell these securities and we are not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

Subject to Completion, Dated November 6, 2018

Preliminary Pricing Supplement dated
(To Prospectus Supplement dated November 6, 2018 and Prospectus dated March 28, 2017)

Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce

Senior Global Medium-Term Notes (Structured Notes)

\$ Notes Linked to Raymond James Energy Top Selections due November 25, 2020

- The Notes are linked to a basket of 16 common equity securities (each, a Reference Share and together, the Basket) of U.S. entities engaged in the energy industry that are not affiliated with us (each, a Reference Share Issuer).
- The Reference Shares, which were selected by Raymond James & Associates, Inc. (Raymond James), are: Chevron Corporation (CVX); Concho Resources Inc. (CXO); Continental Resources, Inc. (CLR); Delek US Holdings, Inc. (DK); Halliburton Company (HAL); Marathon Oil Corporation (MRO); Marathon Petroleum Corporation (MPC); Nabors Industries Ltd. (NBR); Nine Energy Service, Inc. (NINE); Occidental Petroleum Corporation (OXY); Parsley Energy, Inc. (PE); Patterson-UTI Energy, Inc. (PTEN); ProPetro Holding Corp. (PUMP); Superior Energy Services, Inc. (SPN); Unit Corporation (UNT) and WPX Energy, Inc. (WPX).
- The Participation Rate is 96.60%. You may lose all or a portion of the principal amount of your Notes at maturity if the value of the Basket does not increase by at least 3.52%, as described in more detail below.
- The Notes do not pay any interest.
- On the Maturity Date, the amount that we will pay to you for each \$1,000 in principal amount of the Notes (the Redemption Amount) will depend upon the performance of the Basket and the dividends paid on the Reference Shares over the term of the Notes. We describe in more detail below how the payment at maturity will be determined.
- Any payment at maturity on the Notes is subject to our credit risk.
- The CUSIP number of the Notes is 1360692V2.

The Notes will be issued in the denomination of \$1,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof.

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The Notes are a new issue of securities with no established trading market. We do not intend to list the Notes on any securities exchange or automated quotation system.

The Notes are unsecured obligations of CIBC and any payment on the Notes is subject to the credit risk of CIBC. The Notes will not constitute deposits insured by the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation, the U.S. Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency or instrumentality of Canada, the United States or any other jurisdiction. The Notes are not bail-inable notes (as defined on page S-2 of the prospectus supplement).

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) nor any state or provincial securities commission has approved or disapproved of these Notes or determined if this Pricing Supplement or the accompanying Prospectus Supplement and Prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

Investing in the Notes involves risks. See Additional Risk Factors on page PRS-7 of this Pricing Supplement, and Risk Factors in the accompanying Prospectus Supplement and Prospectus.

	Per Note	Total
Price to public	100.00%	\$
Underwriting discounts and commissions(1)	2.00%	\$
Proceeds to CIBC(2)	98.00%	\$

(1) CIBC World Markets Corp. (CIBCWM) will receive commissions from the Issuer of 2.00% of the principal amount of the Notes, or \$20.00 per \$1,000.00 principal amount. CIBCWM will use these commissions to pay selling concessions or fees to Raymond James of 2.00% of the principal amount of the Notes, or \$20.00 per \$1,000.00 principal amount for its services in connection with the distribution of the Notes. Please see Supplemental Plan of Distribution (Conflicts of Interest) in this Pricing Supplement.

(2) Excludes profits from hedging. For additional considerations relating to hedging activities see Additional Risk Factors The Inclusion of Dealer Spread and Projected Profit From Hedging in the Original Issue Price Is Likely to Adversely Affect Secondary Market Prices in this Pricing Supplement.

The initial estimated value of the Notes on the Pricing Date as determined by the Bank is expected to be between \$956.00 and \$966.00 per \$1,000 principal amount of the Notes, which is less than the original issue price of the Notes. See The Bank's Estimated Value of the Notes in this Pricing Supplement for additional information. The difference between the initial estimated values of your Notes and the original issue price reflects costs that the Bank or its affiliates expect to incur and profits that the Bank or its affiliates expect to realize in connection with hedging activities related to the Notes. These costs and profits will likely reduce the secondary market price, if any secondary market develops, for the Notes. As a result, you may experience an immediate and substantial decline in the market value of your Notes on the Pricing Date and you may lose all or a substantial portion of your initial investment. The Bank's profit in relation to the Notes will vary based on the difference between (i) the amounts received by the Bank in connection with the issuance and the reinvestment return received by the Bank in connection with those funds and (ii) the costs incurred by the Bank in connection with the issuance of the Notes and any hedging transactions. The Bank's affiliates may also realize a profit that will be based on (i) the payments received on the hedging transactions minus (ii) the cost of creating and maintaining the hedging transactions.

We will deliver the Notes in book-entry form through the facilities of The Depository Trust Company (DTC) on or about , 2018 against payment in immediately available funds.

CIBC World Markets

Notes Linked to Raymond James Energy Top Selections due November 25, 2020

ABOUT THIS PRICING SUPPLEMENT

You should read this Pricing Supplement together with the Prospectus dated March 28, 2017 (the Prospectus) and the Prospectus Supplement dated November 6, 2018 (the Prospectus Supplement), relating to our Senior Global Medium-Term Notes (Structured Notes), of which these Notes are a part, for additional information about the Notes. Information in this Pricing Supplement supersedes information in the Prospectus Supplement and Prospectus to the extent it is different from that information. Certain defined terms used but not defined herein have the meanings set forth in the Prospectus Supplement or the Prospectus.

You should rely only on the information contained in or incorporated by reference in this Pricing Supplement, the accompanying Prospectus Supplement and the accompanying Prospectus. This Pricing Supplement may be used only for the purpose for which it has been prepared. No one is authorized to give information other than that contained in this Pricing Supplement, the accompanying Prospectus Supplement and the accompanying Prospectus, and in the documents referred to in this Pricing Supplement, the Prospectus Supplement and the Prospectus and which are made available to the public. We, CIBCWM, Raymond James and our respective affiliates have not authorized any other person to provide you with different or additional information. If anyone provides you with different or additional information, you should not rely on it.

We, CIBCWM and Raymond James are not making an offer to sell the Notes in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. You should not assume that the information contained in or incorporated by reference in this Pricing Supplement, the accompanying Prospectus Supplement or the accompanying Prospectus is accurate as of any date other than the date of the applicable document. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since that date. Neither this Pricing Supplement, nor the accompanying Prospectus Supplement, nor the accompanying Prospectus constitutes an offer, or an invitation on our behalf, on behalf of CIBCWM, or on behalf of Raymond James, to subscribe for and purchase any of the Notes and may not be used for or in connection with an offer or solicitation by anyone in any jurisdiction in which such an offer or solicitation is not authorized or to any person to whom it is unlawful to make such an offer or solicitation.

References to CIBC, the Issuer, the Bank, we, us and our in this Pricing Supplement are references to Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce not to any of our subsidiaries, unless we state otherwise or the context otherwise requires.

You may access the Prospectus Supplement and Prospectus on the SEC website www.sec.gov as follows (or if such address has changed, by reviewing our filing for the relevant date on the SEC website):

- Prospectus Supplement dated November 6, 2018 and Prospectus dated March 28, 2017:
https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1045520/000110465918066166/a18-37094_1424b2.htm

Notes Linked to Raymond James Energy Top Selections due November 25, 2020

SUMMARY

The information in this Summary section is qualified by the more detailed information set forth in this Pricing Supplement, the Prospectus Supplement dated November 6, 2018 and the Prospectus dated March 28, 2017, each filed with the SEC. See About This Pricing Supplement in this Pricing Supplement.

Pricing Date of the Notes:	November 21, 2018
Issue Date of the Notes:	November 29, 2018
Issue Price of the Notes:	\$1,000 per \$1,000 in principal amount of the Notes.
Interest Payments:	None.
Reference Shares:	The 16 Reference Shares are:

Company Name	Ticker
Chevron Corporation	CVX UN Equity
Concho Resources Inc.	CXO UN Equity
Continental Resources, Inc.	CLR UN Equity
Delek US Holdings, Inc.	DK UN Equity
Halliburton Company	HAL UN Equity
Marathon Oil Corporation	MRO UN Equity
Marathon Petroleum Corporation	MPC UN Equity
Nabors Industries Ltd.	NBR UN Equity
Nine Energy Service, Inc.	NINE UN Equity
Occidental Petroleum Corporation	OXY UN Equity
Parsley Energy, Inc.	PE UN Equity
Patterson-UTI Energy, Inc.	PTEN UN Equity
ProPetro Holding Corp.	PUMP UN Equity
Superior Energy Services, Inc.	SPN UN Equity
Unit Corporation	UNT UN Equity
WPX Energy, Inc.	WPX UN Equity

The Reference Shares are U.S. energy industry securities selected by the Equity Research Department of Raymond James. There is no assurance that any Reference Share Issuer will be successful or that the price of any Reference Share will increase. See Information Regarding the Reference Shares Selection of the Composition of the Basket in this Pricing Supplement.

Redemption Amount:	The amount that you will receive at maturity for each \$1,000 in principal amount of the Notes will depend upon the performance of the Basket and the dividends paid on the Reference Shares. The Redemption Amount will equal the product of (a) \$1,000, (b) the Basket Level Percentage, and (c) the Participation Rate.
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As discussed in more detail below, the Basket Level Percentage must exceed approximately 103.52% in order for you to receive a Redemption Amount per \$1,000 in principal amount of the Notes that exceeds

the principal amount. In addition, the Redemption Amount could be substantially less than the principal amount of the Notes.

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Notes Linked to Raymond James Energy Top Selections due November 25, 2020

Reference Share Weighting:	For each Reference Share, 1/16 (6.25%), except as described below, under Potential Unequal Weighting.
Reference Share Performance:	The Reference Share Performance will measure the change in value of each Reference Share over the term of the Notes, including the payment of certain dividends. For each Reference Share, the Reference Share Performance will equal (a) the applicable Final Share Price divided by (b) the applicable Initial Share Price, expressed as a percentage. See Description of the Notes Payment at Maturity.
Weighted Reference Share Performance:	For each Reference Share, the product of (a) its Reference Share Performance and (b) its Reference Share Weighting.
Basket Level Percentage:	The sum of the Weighted Reference Share Performances.
Participation Rate:	96.60%. Because the Participation Rate is less than 100%, the Basket Level Percentage must exceed approximately 103.52% in order for you to receive a Redemption Amount that exceeds the principal amount of the Notes.
Initial Share Price:	For each Reference Share, the Closing Price (as defined herein) on the Pricing Date.
Final Share Price:	For each Reference Share, the sum of (a) the Closing Price on the Valuation Date, and (b) the Dividend Amount for that Reference Share.
Valuation Date:	Expected to be November 23, 2020. The Valuation Date is subject to postponement in the event of a Market Disruption Event with respect to a Reference Share, as described below under Description of the Notes Consequences of Market Disruption Events .
Maturity Date:	Expected to be November 25, 2020. The Maturity Date is subject to postponement in the event of a Market Disruption Event with respect to a Reference Share, as described below under Description of the Notes Consequences of Market Disruption Events .
Dividend Amount:	An amount in U.S. dollars equal to 100% of the gross cash distributions (including ordinary and extraordinary dividends) per Reference Share declared by the applicable Reference Share Issuer where the date that the applicable Reference Share has commenced trading ex-dividend on its primary U.S. securities exchange as to each relevant distribution occurs from (and including) the Pricing Date to (and including) the Valuation Date, determined as described in more detail below. The positive effect of any Dividend Amounts on the Redemption Amount will be reduced as a result of the Participation Rate.
Potential Unequal Weighting:	On the Pricing Date, we may determine, in our sole discretion, that one or more of the Reference Shares has relatively lower liquidity than most or all of the other Reference Shares. In such circumstances, we reserve the right to assign a Reference Share Weighting for that Reference Share or those Reference Shares (each a Lower Weight Reference Share) that is less than 1/16 (6.25%).

For example:

- If we assign a Reference Share Weighting of only 1% to one Lower Weight Reference Share, the other 15 Reference Shares will account for the

remaining 99% of the Basket, and therefore, will each have a Reference Share Weighting of 6.60% (99% divided by 15), instead of 1/16 (6.25%).

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Notes Linked to Raymond James Energy Top Selections due November 25, 2020

- If we assign a Reference Share Weighting of 2% to one Lower Weight Reference Share and 3% to another Lower Weight Reference Share, the other 14 Reference Shares will account for the remaining 95% of the Basket, and therefore, will each have a Reference Share Weighting of approximately 6.7857% (95% divided by 14), instead of 1/16 (6.25%).
- If we assign a Reference Share Weighting of 1% to three different Lower Weight Reference Shares, the other 13 Reference Shares will account for the remaining 97% of the Basket, and therefore, will each have a Reference Share Weighting of approximately 7.4615% (97% divided by 13), instead of 1/16 (6.25%).

The final Pricing Supplement will set forth whether or not there are any Lower Weight Reference Shares in the Basket, and the actual Reference Share Weighting of each Reference Share.

Calculation Agent:	Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce
CUSIP:	1360692V2
Status:	The Notes will constitute direct, unsubordinated and unsecured obligations of the Bank ranking <i>pari passu</i> with all other direct, unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness of the Bank from time to time outstanding (except as otherwise prescribed by law). The Notes will not constitute deposits insured by the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation, the U.S. Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency or instrumentality of Canada, the United States or any other jurisdiction.
Distribution:	The Notes are not intended for purchase by any investor that is not a United States person, as that term is defined for U.S. federal income tax purposes, and no dealer or agent may make offers of the Notes to any such investor.
Certain U.S. Benefit Plan Investor Considerations:	For a discussion of U.S. benefit plan investor considerations, please see Certain U.S. Benefit Plan Investor Considerations in the accompanying Prospectus.
Terms Incorporated:	All of the terms appearing under the caption Description of the Notes We May Offer beginning on page S-7 of the accompanying Prospectus Supplement, as modified by this Pricing Supplement.

INVESTING IN THE NOTES INVOLVES SIGNIFICANT RISKS. YOU MAY LOSE UP TO 100% OF YOUR PRINCIPAL AMOUNT. ANY PAYMENT ON THE NOTES, INCLUDING ANY REPAYMENT OF PRINCIPAL, IS SUBJECT TO THE CREDITWORTHINESS OF THE BANK. IF THE BANK WERE TO DEFAULT ON ITS PAYMENT OBLIGATIONS YOU MAY NOT RECEIVE ANY AMOUNTS OWED TO YOU UNDER THE NOTES AND YOU COULD LOSE YOUR ENTIRE INVESTMENT.

The Pricing Date and the Issue Date of the Notes are subject to change. The actual Pricing Date, Issue Date, Valuation Date and Maturity Date for the Notes will be set forth in the final Pricing Supplement relating to the Notes.

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Notes Linked to Raymond James Energy Top Selections due November 25, 2020

HYPOTHETICAL PAYMENTS ON THE NOTES AT MATURITY

The following hypothetical examples are provided for illustration purposes only and are hypothetical; they do not purport to be representative of every possible scenario concerning increases or decreases in the value of the Basket and the related effect on the Redemption Amount. The following hypothetical examples illustrate the payment you would receive on the Maturity Date if you purchased \$1,000 in principal amount of the Notes. Numbers appearing in the examples below have been rounded for ease of analysis. The examples below are based on the Participation Rate of 96.60%.

Basket Level Percentage	Redemption Amount per \$1,000 in Principal Amount	Percentage Gain (or Loss) per \$1,000 in Principal Amount
140.00%	\$ 1,352.40	35.24%
130.00%	\$ 1,255.80	25.58%
120.00%	\$ 1,159.20	15.92%
110.00%	\$ 1,062.60	6.26%
105.00%	\$ 1,014.30	1.43%
103.52%(1)	\$ 1,000.00	0.00%
100.00%(2)	\$ 966.00	-3.40%
95.00%	\$ 917.70	-8.23%
90.00%	\$ 869.40	-13.06%
80.00%	\$ 772.80	-22.72%
70.00%	\$ 676.20	-32.38%
60.00%	\$ 579.60	-42.04%

(1) For you to receive a Redemption Amount greater than the principal amount of the Notes, the Basket Level Percentage must be greater than approximately 103.52%, because the Participation Rate is only 96.60%.

(2) If the Basket Level Percentage is not at least 103.52%, you will lose some or all of the principal amount of the Notes.

Please see **Additional Risk Factors** **Your Investment in the Notes May Result in a Loss** below.

Notes Linked to Raymond James Energy Top Selections due November 25, 2020

ADDITIONAL RISK FACTORS

An investment in the Notes involves significant risks. In addition to the following risks included in this Pricing Supplement, we urge you to read Risk Factors beginning on page S-1 of the accompanying Prospectus Supplement and Risk Factors beginning on page 1 of the accompanying Prospectus.

You should understand the risks of investing in the Notes and should reach an investment decision only after careful consideration, with your advisers, of the suitability of the Notes in light of your particular financial circumstances and the information set forth in this Pricing Supplement and the accompanying Prospectus and Prospectus Supplement.

The Notes Are Not Ordinary Debt Securities and Your Return May Be Lower Than the Return on a Conventional Debt Security of Comparable Maturity.

The Notes have certain investment characteristics that differ from traditional fixed income securities. Specifically, the value of the Notes will differ from the value of traditional fixed or floating rate debt securities. The return that you will receive on the Notes, which could be negative, may be less than the return you could earn on other investments. Even if your return is positive, your return may be less than the return you would earn if you bought a conventional senior interest bearing debt security of the Bank with the same Maturity Date. Your investment may not reflect the full opportunity cost to you when you take into account factors that affect the time value of money. A person should reach a decision to invest in the Notes after carefully considering, with his or her advisers, the suitability of the Notes in light of his or her investment objectives and the information set out in this Pricing Supplement. None of the Issuer, CIBCWM or Raymond James makes any recommendation as to whether the Notes are a suitable investment for any person.

Your Investment in the Notes May Result in a Loss.

The Notes do not guarantee any return of principal. The amount payable on the Notes at maturity will depend on the performance of the Reference Shares and the dividends declared on the Reference Shares, and may be less, and possibly significantly less, than the principal amount. If the prices of the Reference Shares decrease and the applicable Dividend Amounts are not sufficient to offset that decrease, the payment at maturity will be less than the principal amount.

In addition, because the Participation Rate is only 96.60%, the Basket Level Percentage must exceed approximately 103.52% in order for you to receive a Redemption Amount that exceeds the principal amount. You may lose all or a substantial portion of the amount that you invested to purchase the Notes. You may incur a loss, even if the Basket Level Percentage is positive (but less than approximately 103.52%). Please also see The Notes Will Not Reflect the Full Performance of the Reference Shares, Which May Negatively Impact Your Return .

The Notes Will Not Reflect the Full Performance of the Reference Shares, Which May Negatively Impact Your Return.

Because the calculation of the Redemption Amount includes a Participation Rate of less than 100%, the return, if any, on the Notes will not reflect the full performance of the Reference Shares. Therefore, the yield to maturity based on the methodology for calculating the Redemption Amount will be less than the yield that would be produced if the Reference Shares were purchased and held for a similar period.

No Periodic Interest Will Be Paid on the Notes.

No periodic interest will be paid on the Notes. However, because it is possible that the Notes may be classified for U.S. federal income tax purposes as contingent payment debt instruments rather than prepaid cash-settled derivative contracts, you may be required to accrue interest income over the term of your Notes. See *Certain U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations* in this Pricing Supplement.

Holding the Notes Is Not the Same as Holding the Reference Shares or a Security Directly Linked to the Performance of the Reference Shares, and You Will Have No Ownership Rights in the Reference Shares.

Holding the Notes is not the same as holding the Reference Shares. The return on your Notes will not reflect the return you would realize if you actually owned the Reference Shares or a security directly linked to the performance of the Reference Shares and held that investment for a similar period. Changes in the prices or dividend yields of the Reference Shares may not result in comparable changes in the market value of your Notes. Even if the prices or dividend yields of the Reference Shares increase during the term of the Notes, the market value of the Notes prior to maturity may not increase to the same extent. It is also possible for the market value of the Notes prior to maturity to decrease while the prices and dividend yields of the Reference Shares increase.

[Notes Linked to Raymond James Energy Top Selections due November 25, 2020](#)

The Bank's Initial Estimated Value of the Notes Will Be Lower than the Original Issue Price (Price to Public) of the Notes.

The Bank's initial estimated value is only an estimate and is based on several factors. The original issue price of the Notes will exceed the Bank's initial estimated value because costs associated with selling and structuring the Notes, as well as hedging the Notes, are included in the original issue price of the Notes. See "The Bank's Estimated Value of the Notes" in this Pricing Supplement.

The Bank's Initial Estimated Value Does Not Represent Future Values of the Notes and May Differ from Others' Estimates.

The Bank's initial estimated value of the Notes is only an estimate, which is determined by reference to the Bank's internal pricing models when the terms of the Notes are set. This estimated value is based on market conditions and other relevant factors existing at that time, the Bank's internal funding rate on the Pricing Date and the Bank's assumptions about market parameters, which can include volatility, dividend rates, interest rates and other factors. Different pricing models and assumptions could provide valuations for the Notes that are greater or less than the Bank's initial estimated value. In addition, market conditions and other relevant factors in the future may change, and any assumptions may prove to be incorrect. On future dates, the value of the Notes could change significantly based on, among other things, changes in market conditions, including the prices of the Reference Shares, the Bank's creditworthiness, interest rate movements and other relevant factors, which may impact the price at which any party would be willing to buy the Notes from you in any secondary market transactions. The Bank's initial estimated value does not represent a minimum price at which any party would be willing to buy the Notes in any secondary market (if any exists) at any time. See "The Bank's Estimated Value of the Notes" in this Pricing Supplement.

The Bank's Initial Estimated Value Is Not Determined by Reference to Credit Spreads for Our Conventional Fixed-Rate Debt.