

CANADIAN IMPERIAL BANK OF COMMERCE /CAN/
Form 424B2
July 17, 2017

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Registration No. 333-216286

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 July 17, 2017

PRICING SUPPLEMENT No. PS-181 dated _____, 2017

(To Prospectus Supplement dated March 28, 2017

and Prospectus dated March 28, 2017)

Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce
\$
Senior Global Medium-Term Notes (Structured Notes)
Capped Leveraged Buffered S&P 500® Index-Linked Notes
due

The notes do not bear interest. The amount that you will be paid on your notes on the stated maturity date (expected to be the third scheduled business day after the determination date) is based on the performance of the S&P 500® Index (the underlier) as measured from the trade date to and including the determination date (expected to be between 22 and 25 months after the trade date). If the final underlier level on the determination date is greater than the initial underlier level (set on the trade date and may be higher or lower than the actual closing level of the underlier on that date), the return on your notes will be positive, subject to the maximum settlement amount (expected to be between \$1,193.60 and \$1,227.68 for each \$1,000 face amount of your notes). If the final underlier level declines by up to 10.00% from the initial underlier level, you will receive the face amount of your notes. **If the final underlier level declines by more than 10.00% from the initial underlier level, the return on your notes will be negative.**

To determine your payment at maturity, we will calculate the underlier return, which is the percentage increase or decrease in the final underlier level from the initial underlier level. On the stated maturity date, for each \$1,000 face amount of your notes, you will receive an amount in cash equal to:

- if the underlier return is *positive* (i.e. the final underlier level is *greater than* the initial underlier level), the *sum* of (i) \$1,000 *plus* (ii) the *product* of (a) \$1,000 *times* (b) 1.6 *times* (c) the underlier return, subject to the maximum settlement amount;
- if the underlier return is *zero* or *negative* but *not below* -10.00% (i.e. the final underlier level is *equal to* the initial underlier level or is *less than* the initial underlier level, but not by more than 10.00%),

\$1,000; or

- if the underlier return is *negative* and is *below* -10.00% (i.e. the final underlier level is *less than* the initial underlier level by more than 10.00%), the *sum* of (i) \$1,000 *plus* (ii) the *product* of (a) approximately 1.1111 *times* (b) the *sum* of the underlier return *plus* 10.00% *times* (c) \$1,000.

The notes have complex features and investing in the notes involves risks not associated with an investment in conventional debt securities. See Additional Risk Factors Specific to Your Notes herein on page PRS-11.

Our estimated value of the notes on the trade date, based on our internal pricing models, is expected to be between \$977.00 and \$997.00 per note. The estimated value is expected to be less than the initial issue price of the notes. See The Bank's Estimated Value of the Notes in this Pricing Supplement.

	Initial Issue Price	Price to Public	Agent's Commission	Proceeds to Issuer
Per Note	\$1,000	100%	0.00%	100.00%
Total	\$	\$	\$	\$

The notes are unsecured obligations of Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce and all payments on the notes are subject to the credit risk of Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce. 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.

Neither the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) nor any state or provincial securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this Pricing Supplement or the accompanying Product Supplement No. 6, accompanying General Terms Supplement No. 1, accompanying Prospectus Supplement and accompanying Prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The issue price, agent's commission and net proceeds listed above relate to the notes we will sell initially. We may decide to sell additional notes after the date of this Pricing Supplement, at issue prices and with agent's commissions and net proceeds that differ from the amounts set forth above. The return (whether positive or negative) on your investment will depend in part on the issue price you pay for your notes.

CIBC World Markets Corp. or one of our other affiliates may use this Pricing Supplement in a market-making transaction in a note after its initial sale. Unless we or our agent informs the purchaser otherwise in the confirmation of sale, this Pricing Supplement is being used in a market-making transaction.

We will deliver the notes in book-entry form through the facilities of The Depository Trust Company (DTC) on or about _____, 2017 against payment in immediately available funds.

CIBC World Markets

Capped Leveraged Buffered S&P 500® Index-Linked Notes due

ABOUT THIS PRICING SUPPLEMENT

You should read this Pricing Supplement together with the Prospectus dated March 28, 2017 (the Prospectus), the Prospectus Supplement dated March 28, 2017 (the Prospectus Supplement), the General Terms Supplement No. 1, dated May 1, 2017 (the General Terms Supplement), and the Product Supplement No. 6 (the Product Supplement No. 6), dated May 1, 2017, each relating to our Senior Global Medium-Term Notes (Structured Notes), for additional information about the notes. Information in this Pricing Supplement supersedes information in the Product Supplement No. 6, the General Terms Supplement, the Prospectus Supplement and the 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 Product Supplement No. 6, the General Terms Supplement, 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 Product Supplement No. 6, the accompanying General Terms 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 Product Supplement No. 6, the accompanying General Terms Supplement, the accompanying Prospectus Supplement and the accompanying Prospectus, and in the documents referred to in this Pricing Supplement, the Product Supplement No. 6, the General Terms Supplement, the Prospectus Supplement and the Prospectus and which are made available to the public. We have not, and CIBC World Markets Corp. (CIBCWM) has 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 are not, and CIBCWM is 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 Product Supplement No. 6, the accompanying General Terms 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 Product Supplement No. 6, nor the accompanying General Terms Supplement, nor the accompanying Prospectus Supplement, nor the accompanying Prospectus constitutes an offer, or an invitation on our behalf or on behalf of CIBCWM, 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 and not to any of our subsidiaries, unless we state otherwise or the context otherwise requires.

You may access the Product Supplement No. 6, the General Terms Supplement, the Prospectus Supplement and the 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):

- Product Supplement No. 6, dated May 1, 2017:
https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1045520/000110465917028390/a17-10322_19424b2.htm

- General Terms Supplement No. 1, dated May 1, 2017:
https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1045520/000110465917028383/a17-10322_18424b2.htm

- Prospectus Supplement dated March 28, 2017 and Prospectus dated March 28, 2017 filed with the SEC on March 28, 2017:
https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1045520/000110465917019619/a17-8647_1424b3.htm

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Capped Leveraged Buffered S&P 500® Index-Linked Notes due

You should be willing to forgo:

- gains greater than a maximum settlement amount of between 119.360% and 122.768% of the face amount in exchange for (i) 1.6x leveraged upside participation if the underlier return is positive and (ii) a buffer against loss of principal in the event of a decline of up to 10.00% in the final underlier level relative to the initial underlier level.
- interest payments and be willing to risk losing your entire investment for the potential to earn 160.00% of any positive underlier return up to a maximum settlement amount of between 119.360% and 122.768% of the face amount.

Your maximum return on your notes will not be greater than between 19.360% and 22.768%, and you could lose all or a substantial portion of your investment if the underlier return is less than -10.00%.

At maturity, for each \$1,000 face amount, the investor will receive (in each case as a percentage of the face amount):

- if the final underlier level is greater than 100.00% of the initial underlier level, 100.00% *plus* 160.00% times the underlier return, subject to a maximum settlement amount of between 119.360% and 122.768%;
- if the final underlier level is between 90.00% and 100.00% of the initial underlier level, 100.00%; or
- if the final underlier level is less than 90.00% of the initial underlier level, 100.00% *minus* approximately 1.1111% for every 1.00% that the final underlier level has declined below 90.00% of the

initial underlier level

If the final underlier level declines by more than 10.00% from the initial underlier level, the return on the notes will be negative and the investor could lose their entire investment in the notes.

Issuer:	Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce
Underlier:	The S&P 500® Index (Bloomberg symbol, SPX Index)
Face Amount:	\$ in the aggregate; each note will have a face amount equal to \$1,000
Trade Date:	, 2017
Settlement Date:	Expected to be the fifth scheduled business day following the trade date
Determination Date:	Expected to be between 22 and 25 months following the trade date
Stated Maturity Date:	Expected to be the third scheduled business day following the determination date
Initial Underlier Level:	To be determined on the trade date
Final Underlier Level:	The closing level of the underlier on the determination date
Underlier Return:	The <i>quotient</i> of (i) the final underlier level <i>minus</i> the initial underlier level <i>divided by</i> (ii) the initial underlier level, expressed as a positive or negative percentage
Upside Participation Rate:	160.00%
Buffer Level:	90.00% of the initial underlier level (equal to a -10.00% underlier return)
Buffer Amount:	10.00%
Buffer Rate:	The <i>quotient</i> of the initial underlier level <i>divided by</i> the buffer level, which equals approximately 111.11%
Maximum Settlement Amount:	Expected to be between \$1,193.60 and \$1,227.68
Cap Level:	Expected to be between 112.10% and 114.23% of the initial underlier level
CUSIP/ISIN:	13605WEM9 / US13605WEM91

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Capped Leveraged Buffered S&P 500® Index-Linked Notes due

Hypothetical Final Underlier Level (as Percentage of Initial Underlier Level)	Hypothetical Cash Settlement Amount (as Percentage of Face Amount)
150.000%	119.360%
140.000%	119.360%
130.000%	119.360%
120.000%	119.360%
112.100%	119.360%
110.000%	116.000%
108.000%	112.800%
105.000%	108.000%
102.000%	103.200%
100.000%	100.000%
97.000%	100.000%
95.000%	100.000%
92.000%	100.000%
90.000%	100.000%
75.000%	83.333%
50.000%	55.556%
25.000%	27.778%
0.000%	0.000%

* Assumes a cap level set at the bottom of the cap level range (between 112.10% and 114.23% of the initial underlier level)

Investing in the notes involves significant risks. Please read the section entitled "Additional Risk Factors Specific to Your Notes" in this Pricing Supplement as well as the risks and considerations described under "Additional Risk Factors Specific to the Underlier-Linked Notes" in the accompanying Product Supplement No. 6, under "Additional Risk Factors Specific to the Notes" in the accompanying General Terms Supplement, under "Risk Factors" in the accompanying Prospectus Supplement, and under "Risk Factors" in the accompanying Prospectus.

Capped Leveraged Buffered S&P 500® Index-Linked Notes due

SUMMARY INFORMATION

We refer to the notes we are offering by this Pricing Supplement as the offered notes or the notes. Each of the offered notes has the terms described below. The notes will be issued under the indenture, dated as of September 15, 2012, between the Bank and Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, as trustee, which we refer to herein as the indenture. This section is meant as a summary and should be read in conjunction with the section entitled General Terms of the Underlier-Linked Notes in the accompanying Product Supplement No. 6 and Supplemental Terms of the Notes in the accompanying General Terms Supplement. Please note that certain features, as noted below, described in the accompanying Product Supplement No. 6 and General Terms Supplement are not applicable to the notes. This Pricing Supplement supersedes any conflicting provisions of the accompanying Product Supplement No. 6 or the accompanying General Terms Supplement.

Key Terms

Issuer: Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce

Underlier: the S&P 500® Index (Bloomberg symbol, SPX Index), as published by S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC (S&P)

Specified currency: U.S. dollars (\$)

Terms to be specified in accordance with the accompanying Product Supplement No. 6:

- type of notes: notes linked to a single underlier
- exchange rates: not applicable
- averaging dates: not applicable

- redemption right or price dependent redemption right: not applicable
- cap level: yes, as described below
- buffer level: yes, as described below
- interest: not applicable

Face amount: each note will have a face amount of \$1,000; \$_____ in the aggregate for all the offered notes; the aggregate face amount of the offered notes may be increased if the Issuer, at its sole option, decides to sell an additional amount of the offered notes on a date subsequent to the date of this Pricing Supplement

Minimum Investment: \$1,000 (one note)

Denominations: \$1,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof

Purchase at amount other than face amount: the amount we will pay you on the stated maturity date for your notes will not be adjusted based on the issue price you pay for your notes, so if you acquire notes at a premium (or a discount) to face amount and hold them to the stated maturity date, it could affect your investment in a number of ways. The return on your investment in such notes will be lower (or higher) than it would have been had you purchased the notes at face amount. Also, the stated buffer level would not offer the same measure of protection to your investment as would be the case if you had purchased the notes at face amount. Additionally, the cap level would be triggered at a lower (or higher) percentage return than indicated below, relative to your initial investment. See *Additional Risk Factors Specific to Your Notes If You Purchase Your Notes at a Premium to Face Amount, the Return on Your Investment Will Be Lower Than the Return on Notes Purchased at Face Amount and the Impact of Certain Key Terms of the Notes Will Be Negatively Affected* in this Pricing Supplement.

Cash settlement amount (on the stated maturity date): for each \$1,000 face amount of your notes, we will pay you on the stated maturity date an amount in cash equal to:

- if the final underlier level is *greater than or equal to* the cap level, the maximum settlement amount;

- if the final underlier level is *greater than* the initial underlier level but *less than* the cap level, the *sum* of (i) \$1,000 *plus* (ii) the *product* of (a) \$1,000 *times* (b) the upside participation rate *times* (c) the underlier return;
- if the final underlier level is *equal to* or *less than* the initial underlier level but *greater than* or *equal to* the

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Capped Leveraged Buffered S&P 500® Index-Linked Notes due

buffer level, \$1,000; or

- if the final underlier level is *less than* the buffer level, the *sum* of (i) \$1,000 *plus* (ii) the product of (a) the buffer rate *times* (b) the *sum* of the underlier return *plus* the buffer amount *times* (c) \$1,000.

Initial underlier level (set on the trade date and may be higher or lower than the actual closing level of the underlier on that date):

Final underlier level: the closing level of the underlier on the determination date, except in the limited circumstances described under Supplemental Terms of the Notes Consequences of a Market Disruption Event or a Non-Trading Day in the accompanying General Terms Supplement and subject to adjustment as provided under Supplemental Terms of the Notes Discontinuance or Modification of an Underlier in the accompanying General Terms Supplement

Underlier return: the *quotient* of (1) the final underlier level *minus* the initial underlier level *divided* by (2) the initial underlier level, expressed as a positive or negative percentage

Upside participation rate: 160.00%

Cap level (set on the trade date): expected to be between 112.10% and 114.23% of the initial underlier level

Maximum settlement amount (set on the trade date): expected to be between \$1,193.60 and \$1,227.68

Buffer level: 90.00% of the initial underlier level

Buffer amount: 10.00%

Buffer rate: the *quotient* of the initial underlier level *divided* by the buffer level, which equals approximately 111.11%

Trade date: , 2017

Original issue date (settlement date) (set on the trade date): expected to be the fifth scheduled business day following the trade date

Determination date (set on the trade date): a specified date that is expected to be between 22 and 25 months following the trade date, subject to adjustment as described under Supplemental Terms of the Notes Determination Date in the accompanying General Terms Supplement

Stated maturity date (set on the trade date): a specified date that is expected to be the third scheduled business day following the determination date, subject to adjustment as described under Supplemental Terms of the Notes Stated Maturity Date in the accompanying General Terms Supplement

No interest: the offered notes do not bear interest

No listing: the offered notes will not be listed on any securities exchange or interdealer quotation system

No redemption: the offered notes will not be subject to redemption right or price dependent redemption right

Closing level: as described under Supplemental Terms of the Notes Special Calculation Provisions Closing Level in the accompanying General Terms Supplement

Business day: as described under Supplemental Terms of the Notes Special Calculation Provisions Business Day in the accompanying General Terms Supplement

Trading day: as described under Supplemental Terms of the Notes Special Calculation Provisions Trading Day in the accompanying General Terms Supplement

Use of proceeds and hedging: as described under Use of Proceeds and Hedging in the accompanying Product Supplement No. 6

ERISA: as described under Certain U.S. Benefit Plan Investor Considerations in the accompanying Product Supplement No. 6

Calculation agent: Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce. We may appoint a different calculation agent without your consent and without notifying you

CUSIP no.: 13605WEM9

ISIN no.: US13605WEM91

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Capped Leveraged Buffered S&P 500® Index-Linked Notes due

Status: The notes will constitute direct, unsubordinated and unsecured obligations of CIBC ranking equally with all other direct, unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness of CIBC 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

Clearance and Settlement: We will issue the notes in the form of a fully registered global note registered in the name of the nominee of DTC. Beneficial interests in the notes will be represented through book-entry accounts of financial institutions acting on behalf of beneficial owners as direct and indirect participants in DTC. Except in the limited circumstances described in the accompanying Prospectus, owners of beneficial interests in the notes will not be entitled to have notes registered in their names, will not receive or be entitled to receive notes in definitive form and will not be considered holders of notes under the indenture

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Capped Leveraged Buffered S&P 500® Index-Linked Notes due

HYPOTHETICAL EXAMPLES

The following table and chart are provided for purposes of illustration only. They should not be taken as an indication or prediction of future investment results and merely are intended to illustrate the impact that the various hypothetical underlier levels on the determination date could have on the cash settlement amount at maturity assuming all other variables remain constant.

The examples below are based on a range of final underlier levels that are entirely hypothetical; the underlier level on any day throughout the life of the notes, including the final underlier level on the determination date, cannot be predicted. The underlier has been highly volatile in the past meaning that the underlier level has changed considerably in relatively short periods and its performance cannot be predicted for any future period.

The information in the following examples reflects hypothetical rates of return on the offered notes assuming that they are purchased on the original issue date at the face amount and held to the stated maturity date. If you sell your notes in a secondary market prior to the stated maturity date, your return will depend upon the market value of your notes at the time of sale, which may be affected by a number of factors that are not reflected in the table below, such as interest rates, the volatility of the underlier and the creditworthiness of CIBC. In addition, the estimated value of your notes at the time the terms of your notes are set on the trade date (as determined by reference to pricing models used by CIBC) will be less than the original issue price of your notes. For more information on the estimated value of your notes, see *Additional Risk Factors Specific to Your Notes* *The Bank's Estimated Value of the Notes is Lower than the Original Issue Price (Price to Public) of the Notes* in this Pricing Supplement and *The Bank's Estimated Value of the Notes* in this Pricing Supplement. The information in the following hypothetical examples also reflects the key terms and assumptions in the box below.

Key Terms and Assumptions	
Face amount	\$1,000
Upside participation rate	160.00%
Cap level	112.10% of the initial underlier level
Maximum settlement amount	\$1,193.60
Buffer level	90.00% of the initial underlier level
Buffer rate	approximately 111.11%
Buffer amount	10.00%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Neither a market disruption event nor a non-trading day occurs on the originally scheduled determination date No change in or affecting any of the underlier stocks or the method by which the underlier sponsor calculates the underlier Notes purchased on original issue date at the face amount and held to the stated maturity date 	

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Moreover, we have not yet set the initial underlier level that will serve as the baseline for determining the underlier return and the cash settlement amount that we will pay on your notes, if any, at maturity. We will not do so until the trade date. As a result, the actual initial underlier level may differ substantially from the underlier level prior to the trade date and may be higher or lower than the actual closing level of the underlier on that date.

For these reasons, the actual performance of the underlier over the life of your notes, as well as the cash settlement amount payable at maturity, if any, may bear little relation to the hypothetical examples shown below or to the historical underlier levels shown elsewhere in this Pricing Supplement. For information about the historical levels of the underlier during recent periods, see The Underlier Historical Closing Levels of the Underlier below. Before investing in the offered notes, you should consult publicly available information to determine the levels of the underlier between the date of this Pricing Supplement and the date of your purchase of the offered notes.

Also, the hypothetical examples shown below do not take into account the effects of applicable taxes. Because of the U.S. tax treatment applicable to your notes, tax liabilities could affect the after-tax rate of return on your notes to a comparatively greater extent than the after-tax return on the underlier stocks.

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Capped Leveraged Buffered S&P 500® Index-Linked Notes due

The levels in the left column of the table below represent hypothetical final underlier levels and are expressed as percentages of the initial underlier level. The amounts in the right column represent the hypothetical cash settlement amounts, based on the corresponding hypothetical final underlier level, and are expressed as percentages of the face amount of a note (rounded to the nearest one-thousandth of a percent). Thus, a hypothetical cash settlement amount of 100.000% means that the value of the cash payment that we would deliver for each \$1,000 of the outstanding face amount of the offered notes on the stated maturity date would equal 100.000% of the face amount of a note, based on the corresponding hypothetical final underlier level and the assumptions noted above.

Hypothetical Final Underlier Level	Hypothetical Cash Settlement Amount
(as Percentage of Initial Underlier Level)	(as Percentage of Face Amount)
150.000%	119.360%
140.000%	119.360%
130.000%	119.360%
120.000%	119.360%
112.100%	119.360%
110.000%	116.000%
108.000%	112.800%
105.000%	108.000%
102.000%	103.200%
100.000%	