



The North West Company is a leading retailer of food and everyday products and services to rural communities and urban neighbourhoods in Canada, Alaska, the South Pacific and the Caribbean.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The North West Company Inc. Donates \$1 Million to Support Northern Youth

Winnipeg MB, June 4, 2020 – The North West Company Inc. is donating \$1 million to support the health and well-being of youth in Northern Canada, during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. The grant to the Healthy Horizons Foundation, a charity established by The North West Company Inc., will help further promote nutrition, education and active living programs for youth within the communities served by its Northern and NorthMart locations.

“During these challenging times, funding sources for non-profit youth activities are under stress across Canada and even more limited within the northern communities we serve. This \$1 million commitment to our Healthy Horizons Foundation will help ensure that dozens of worthy initiatives continue or can start-up to meet the tremendous potential represented by northern youth.,” said Gary Merasty, Executive Vice President & Chief Development Officer, The North West Company Inc. “We are grateful for the efforts of the communities we are proud to serve and our partner organizations as they work together to support those in need,” added Merasty.

“The North West Company and Healthy Horizons have been a tremendous support to the youth in our community over the past several years,” said Dean Peters, Finance Manager for the Pikangikum First Nation Educational Authority in northern Ontario. “In this time of uncertainty, they will help us meet the new challenges facing our youth.”

Today’s announcement reinforces North West’s commitment to make a difference in the 121 communities it serves.

“We consider it a priority to give back to the communities we serve and are actively seeking opportunities to partner with communities to support local initiatives,” continued Merasty.

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About The North West Company Inc.

The North West Company Inc. is a retailer serving rural communities in Canada, Alaska, the South Pacific and Caribbean. We are committed to helping our customers live better by bringing them the best products and services together with a tradition of community support. North West’s Northern and NorthMart stores are the largest local private employer of Indigenous people in Canada, with approximately 3,000 employees and an annual payroll exceeding \$65 million.

About The North West Community Support Programs and Healthy Horizons

- The North West Company Inc. annual donations and sponsorships totaled \$1.7 Million in 2019;

- The North West Company Inc. partnered with The Sprott Foundation and Second Harvest to enable a \$3.6 Million food donation to support communities during the COVID-19 pandemic;
- North West's Greener Tomorrow program has re-invested \$2.8 million in community well-being projects since 2011;
- The North West Company Inc. and supporters have raised over \$5.5 Million for the Canadian Diabetes Association and Healthy Horizons since 1997;
- To apply for funding, visit our website www.northwest.ca/foundation

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