



NEWS RELEASE

FOR RELEASE AT 5:30 P.M. CENTRAL (6:30 P.M. EASTERN)

NORTH WEST COMPANY EXPECTS DELAY IN COST-U-LESS PURCHASE TRANSACTION

Winnipeg, December 4, 2007: The North West Company announced today that it expects a proposed purchase of Cost-U-Less, Inc. (CUL) will be delayed until mid-January 2008 in order to confirm the final capital expenditures associated with CUL's new store project in the Cayman Islands. The Grand Cayman store is scheduled to open December 13. Total capital expenditures of the store and related facilities must have been within a defined limit in order for CUL to satisfy this condition of closing.

The North West Company is a leading retailer of food and everyday products and services to rural communities and urban neighborhoods across Canada and Alaska. North West has annualized revenue of approximately Cdn. \$1 billion and operates 208 stores under a number of trading names including Northern, NorthMart, Giant Tiger, and AC Value Center, while providing catalogue shopping services through its *Selections* catalogue in northern Canada.

The units of the Fund trade on the TSX Toronto Stock Exchange under the symbol "NWF.UN".

-30-

For more information contact:

Edward Kennedy, President and CEO, The North West Company
phone 204-934-1482; fax 204-934-1317; email ekennedy@northwest.ca

Léo Charrière, Executive Vice-President and CFO, The North West Company
phone 204-934-1503; fax 204-934-1455; email lcharriere@northwest.ca

or visit on-line at www.northwest.ca