



NORTH WEST COMPANY FUND ***PRESS RELEASE***

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WINNIPEG - May 3, 2001 – The Trustees of North West Company Fund (the “Fund”) today declared a quarterly cash interest distribution of \$0.36 per unit payable June 15, 2001 to unitholders of record on May 15, 2001.

The North West Company Inc. (NWC) is North America's leading provider of products and services to northern communities across Canada and Alaska. NWC is a multi-channel retailer operating 153 food, family apparel and general merchandise stores under the "Northern" and "NorthMart" banners plus "Selections" catalogue in Canada - and 24 "AC Value Centers" in Alaska.

NWC trades on the Toronto Stock Exchange under the symbol NWF.UN.
For more information visit on-line at www.northwest.ca.

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