

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.

Wintering Partners Conference

Winnipeg, February 6 – Delegates from six countries and 11 time zones are set to gather in Winnipeg for the first time ever at the 13th Annual Wintering Partners Conference and Trade Show February 7 – 11 at the Fort Garry Hotel and Winnipeg Convention Centre.

This year's Wintering Partners Conference and Trade Show – welcomes delegates from all our Banners – Northern and NorthMart (Northern Canada), Giant Tiger, AC Value Center (Alaska) and Cost-U-Less (Caribbean and South Pacific).

Over 200 delegates will take part in the 13th annual Wintering Partners Conference at The North West Company's corporate office in Winnipeg. The conference is expected to have a positive economic impact on the city of Winnipeg with approximately \$215,400* in estimated direct spending.

The Wintering Partners Conference stems from a time honoured tradition that dates back to the Fur Trade when the North West Company partners would winter for at least one season beyond the Height of Land west of Fort William.

Throughout the week delegates will take part in a number of sessions and events, including a bonspiel and Trade Show. The Trade Show will feature samples of new food and general merchandise product from over 200 Canadian and U.S. vendor exhibitors. Please note the Trade Show is closed to the public.

*Calculation based on 2011 estimated delegated spending figures obtained from Tourism Winnipeg. -30-

About The North West Company

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 Caribbean. North West operates under the retail Banners of Northern, NorthMart, Giant Tiger, AC Value Center and Cost-U-Less, and has annualized revenue of approximately CDN\$1.5 billion.

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