

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

Northern Runners head to Barbados as part of the Healthy Horizons Marathon Team

Participants raise in excess of \$147,000 for healthy living initiatives for youth

**Winnipeg, MB, December 1, 2017** – This Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 29 runners from communities such as Salluit, QC; Kuujjuaq, QC; Wunnumin Lake, ON; Cat Lake, ON; Moosonee, ON; Waskaganish, QC; Iqaluit, NU; Garden Hill, MB; Attawapiskat, ON and Fort Good Hope, NT will challenge themselves with the Run Barbados Marathon, a 13.1 or a 26.2 mile run in support of the Healthy Horizons Foundation.

The destination marathon event is a fundraising initiative and active living event for The North West Company's Healthy Horizons Foundation. All funds raised by the marathoners will go directly back to communities, with North West assuming all administrative costs of the Foundation.

"We are pleased to recognize and thank our employees and community members that are participating in the 2017 Healthy Horizons Team Run in Barbados," stated Craig Gilpin, Executive Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer, The North West Company.

"The purpose of Healthy Horizons is to support the well-being of the youth within the communities served by our North West stores, including Northern, NorthMart and Giant Tiger locations," stated Craig Gilpin. "It is important to us to have a positive impact on healthy living. With a focus on northern youth, we are aiming to provide a positive long term impact on these communities. Every dollar raised goes directly to support programs and initiatives in the communities we serve."

Participants included nine youth members from the Nunavik Run Club members. Together the team raised close to \$70,000 to support youth programming with a focus on Northern Canada.

Examples of the types of initiatives supported by the Foundation include: community and family resource centres, exercise facilities and programs, sports activities, school meals, nutritional literacy and disease prevention education.

Healthy Horizons would like to acknowledge the generous support of all the event sponsors, including Air Inuit, First Air, UNIGLOBE Travel, New Paths for Education and the Kativik School Board. Healthy Horizons would also like to thank Maggie MacDonnell and all the coaches of the Nunavik Run Club for their support of this initiative and the Nunavik Run Club.

## **About Healthy Horizons Foundation**

Founded by The North West Company, Healthy Horizons Foundation's mission is to provide youth with the knowledge and tools to foster lifelong connections to physical activity and healthy living. www.healthyhorizonsfoundation.ca.

Healthy Horizons Foundation is accepting grant applications with a submission deadline of January 31, 2018. To be eligible for funding, a community or organization must either be a registered charity in Canada, or otherwise registered as a "qualified donee" as defined in the Income Tax Act (Canada).

## **About The North West Company**

North West is a retailer serving rural communities and urban neighbourhoods 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 over 3,000 employees and an annual payroll exceeding \$65 million.

www.northwest.ca

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