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## Midwest Co-op Announces Closure of Retail Store and Construction of New Warehouse in Dundalk

Teeswater, Ontario (December 20, 2024)- Midwest Co-op and its board announced the closure of its retail store in Dundalk, effective today, and the co-op subsequently announced the construction of a new crop protection warehouse in Dundalk.

Midwest Co-op General Manager Kelly Boyle says Midwest Co-op must continue to invest in profitable areas of their business for the co-op to meet the growing needs of their customers.

"Our investment in the new crop protection warehouse in Dundalk will allow us to better serve our agronomy customers, and the new build will provide an opportunity to improve safety and security of the inventory, while allowing larger product selection," he said.

Boyle also said he understands the disappointment of some community members regarding the closure of the Dundalk retail store.

"It's always a difficult decision when we need to close an operation because it impacts the community where it's located, and we don't take that lightly. However, we would be doing a disservice to the co-operative and our members if we didn't act in fiscally responsible ways to ensure the health and longevity of Midwest Co-op," he said.

The closure of the retail store impacted two full-time employees and four part-time employees. Employees were given advanced notice and packages, and encouraged to apply for job openings at other Midwest Co-op locations.

Boyle also said Midwest Co-op will continue looking for ways to provide added value for their members. "In 2023 and 2024, the co-op expanded operations by adding two bulk plants in Hanover as well as two cardlock fuel stations," he said. "We plan to keep an eye on future growth to continue to thrive as a co-operative."

Boyle says Midwest Co-op will continue serving its Dundalk customers through the Agronomy Centre and their surrounding retail stores in Mount Forest, Markdale, and Durham. The co-op also plans to expand delivery services in the Dundalk area. Construction on the new warehouse has began with a projected completion date of Spring 2025.

## About Midwest Co-op

Midwest Co-operative Services Inc. was formed on September 1, 2022, through the merger of two long-standing co-ops: Huron Bay Co-operative Inc. and North Wellington Co-operative Services Inc. Together, Midwest Co-op operates 11 retail stores, four cardlock fuel stations, two bulk plants, four agronomy centers, and a head office located in Teeswater. This network enables Midwest Co-op to serve our members with a level of service that sets us apart from the competition.

Midwest Co-operative Services Inc. is a Member/ Owner of GROWMARK Inc.— GROWMARK is a large regional co-operative located in the U.S. supplying agronomy inputs and petroleum products to its membership throughout the United States and Ontario.

## About GROWMARK

GROWMARK is an agricultural cooperative serving almost 400,000 customers across North America, providing agronomy, energy, facility engineering, and construction, and logistics products and services, as well as grain marketing and risk management services. Headquartered in Bloomington, Illinois, GROWMARK owns the FS trademark, which is used by member cooperatives. More information is available at GROWMARK.com.