

## Press Release

### INAUGURATION OF AGROPUR COOPERATIVE HEAD OFFICE

**Longueuil, Monday, December 19, 2005** – Last Thursday, in the presence of the federal MP for Longueuil-Pierre-Boucher, Caroline St-Hilaire, the President of the Borough of Vieux-Longueuil, Jacques Goyette, the Municipal Councillor for the Borough of Vieux-Longueuil, Michel Desjardins, and several invited guests, the management of Agropur cooperative officially inaugurated the organization's head office.

"Establishing ourselves here, on the South Shore of Montreal, launched us even further into the action. We are not only closer to our business centre, but also to many of our customers and suppliers. In addition, this decision is a concrete example of our desire and ambition to pursue our development outside Quebec, be it in Canada, the United States or elsewhere in the world," said Agropur's Chief Executive Officer, Pierre Claprood.

"When Agropur was founded in 1938, its directors said that it would have no borders. They were right. Today, in 2005, we still see things the same way. Several mergers and acquisitions have given Agropur a presence throughout Quebec. We are gaining visibility in Canada, now that we are established in Ontario and the West. We have a plant in the United States. And we continue to look at any opportunities that will allow us to develop even further," added Agropur's Chairman, Serge Riendeau.

Due to the growing requirements of Ultima Foods, which had to expand its plant adjoining Agropur's facilities in Granby, the head office was relocated to Longueuil in August. Since the building already housed several Industrial Division and Natrel Division offices, the move made it possible to group most corporate services under one roof. Today, some 200 employees, spread over three floors, work at Place Agropur.

It should be noted that Agropur is owned by 4,060 members, employs 3,300 people and operates 20 plants, eight of which outside Quebec. Boasting sales of over \$2 billion and processing nearly two billion litres of milk, or more than 25% of all the milk produced in Canada, Agropur is the largest dairy cooperative in the country and an uncontested leader in the milk processing sector.

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