

## **Annual Report on Forced Labour and Child Labour Prevention**

Co-operative Regionale de Nipissing-Sudbury Limited

Annual Report 2024

Financial year October 1<sup>st</sup> ,2022 to September 30<sup>th</sup> ,2023

### **Introduction**

Co-operative Regionale de Nipissing-Sudbury Limited is a cooperative with a Board of Directors, a General Manager, 94 full time employees and 50 part time employees. The General Manager plays a pivotal role in managing the overall business and oversees the implementation of our policies and procedures.

Co-operative Regionale de Nipissing-Sudbury Limited is comprised of petroleum and propane sales, 2 grocery stores, a gas bar, and agricultural needs: grain marketing, storage and elevators, seed, fertilizer, crop protection, soil sampling and haying as well as provide livestock feed and supplies. The CO-OP has several different locations: Administration Office, Algoma Agricultural Center, Noëlville Foodland (grocery store), Northern Feed & Supplies, Service Department-Energy, Sudbury Petroleum, Tem Ag Center, Verner Ag Center, Verner Clover Farms (grocery store), Verner Gas Bar, Verner Bulk Plant and Verner Propane.

Our main suppliers are Growmark, Parkland Fuels, Factor Gas, Primemax Energy, Metro Depot Suncor Terminal (Toronto), Ottawa Suncor Terminal (Ottawa), Masterfeed, Sobeys (and their suppliers), Harvest King, Tree of Life, Chapman's Ice Cream, Sealtest, Beatrice, Culligan water, Tank traders, Pepsi CO., Coke-a-Cola, Canadian Bread Company Limited, Bunzl Canada Inc, Frito Lay Canada, Nestle Ice Cream, Gray Ridge Eggs Inc., PBG Canada, United Floral Distributor Janix, Bumstead, Miller Farms, Bauman Agris Services and Transportation

### **Procurement Activities**

In the fiscal year 2022-2023, the CO-OP had a total budget of approximately \$150 million. Most of this budget was allocation to salary and benefit expenses, Operation and maintenance of vehicles and purchases for our retail business. The CO-OP spent approximately \$131 million on contracts for goods and services. These contracts covered various types of goods, including:

1. Bulk petroleum
2. Bulk propane

3. Grains
4. Seeds
5. Grocery store inventory
6. Office supplies
7. Computers and equipment for offices
8. Livestock supplies for our retail stores and agricultural centers.

The CO-OP has just begun to review its supply chains to ensure that forced labour or child labour is not used in the production of goods purchased. A Modern Slavery Policy has been drafted and will be reviewed by legal counsel and then implemented. The CO-OP also checks proof of age for all their employees at time of hiring.

### **Remediation Measures**

The CO-OP will take the following steps to address any identified risks:

1. **Remediation:** the CO-OP will create awareness about labor rights and child protection.
2. **Training:** the CO-OP staff will receive training on identifying and preventing forced labour and child labour risks.
3. **Assessing Effectiveness:** The CO-OP will evaluate the effectiveness of its measures and adjust its approach as needed.

May 28, 2024

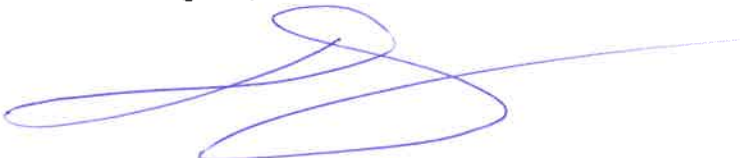
Ministry of Public Safety  
910 Government St.  
Victoria BC V8V 1X3

Approval of Report 2024

I, Denis Castonguay, in my capacity as General Manager at the Co-operative Regionale de Nipissing-Sudbury Limited, am writing this letter to the Ministry of Public Safety to approve the Annual Report 2024 for Forced Labour and Child Labour. In accordance with the requirements of the Act, and in particular section 11 thereof, I attest in pursuant to paragraph (4)(a), "in the case of a report in respect of a single entity, by its governing body" that I have reviewed the information contained in the report for the entity listed above. Based on my knowledge, and having exercised reasonable diligence, I attest that the information in the report is true, accurate and complete in all material respects for the purposes of the Act, for the reporting year listed above.

Please feel free to contact me should you need additional information or have any questions or concerns.

Regards,



Denis Castonguay  
General Manager

I have the authority to bind The Co-operative Regionale de Nipissing-Sudbury Limited