



For Immediate Release

Bonté Foods/Chris Brothers named one of Canadas Best Managed Companies

Dieppe based Bonté Foods, processor of gluten free Chris Brothers luncheon meats has been chosen as one of Deloitte's Canada's Best Managed Companies. The designation was officially awarded to Trucorp Investments Limited, Bonté's parent company last week.

The annual award is given to the best-in-class of Canadian-owned and managed companies with revenues over \$15 million demonstrating strategy, capability and commitment to achieve sustainable growth.

"This is an amazing accomplishment for our company that competes against so many large international food processors. It's a testament to the quality that comes from local companies and local products," says Mike Whittaker, President of Bonté Foods and Trucorp Investments. "This really is a team award. And not just for senior management. Every person at Bonté Foods is committed to quality, food safety and extremely high standards regardless if they're sitting in the boardroom, packing off our products or working the warehouse or sanitation. Every single person plays a critical role in demonstrating excellence."

Earlier this month Chris Brothers announced a \$50,000 donation to the Ray of Hope Soup Kitchen. Executive Vice President Barbara Ann O'Brien says the two announcements are linked. "The greater Moncton community has been so supportive of our high-quality products that it allows us to give back. That means so much to everyone here."

Bonté Foods purchased the popular NS based Chris Brothers Meats in 2005 and brought its operations into Bonté Foods state of the art processing facility on Champlain Street in Dieppe. All of Chris Brothers and Bonté meats are gluten free. Chris Brothers also has sauces, steak spices and a line of Dijon mustards that complement its meats products. Their products can be found at hundreds of grocery stores, restaurants and convenience stores across the country.

“It’s much more than just financial performance,” said Peter Brown, Partner, Deloitte and Co-Leader, Canada’s Best Managed Companies program. “The ingredients to success also include overall business performance and sustained growth. It takes dedication and commitment from the entire organization.”

“CIBC is thrilled to congratulate Trucorp Investments Incorporated on being named one of Canada’s Best Managed Companies, recognizing its excellence in leadership, business performance and innovation,” said Jon Hountalas, Executive Vice President, Business and Corporate Banking, CIBC. “As a sponsor of Canada’s Best Managed Companies program for over 20 years, CIBC is proud to celebrate private companies like Trucorp Investments Incorporated as leaders in their industry.”

Bonté Foods is a federally inspected, HACCP recognized meat producer that sells food products across Canada to grocery retailers and foodservice customers. Bonté Foods has emerged as the regions premier deli meat processor and is the recipient of several recent awards including ONB’s Exporter of the Year in 2014. They employ over 110 people at their Dieppe based facility.

About Chris Brothers

Chris Brothers is owned by Dieppe based Bonté Foods. Chris Brothers quality deli luncheon meats are found all over Greater Moncton and all over Atlantic Canada. All Bonté Foods meats are gluten free. Bonté Foods is Atlantic Canada’s largest deli meat producer, and employs over 110 individuals in its Dieppe Facility. Products include roast chicken, roast turkey, pastrami, smoked meat, roast beef, pepperoni, salami, beef brisket and many more. Chris Brothers have an all-natural no preservative line of deli meats called Nature’s Deli. Bonté Foods has emerged as the regions premier deli meat processor and is the recipient of several recent awards including:

- NB Exporter of the Year (*Opportunities New Brunswick*)
- GMCC Excellence in Business (*Greater Moncton Chamber of Commerce*)
- GMCC People’s Choice Award (*Greater Moncton Chamber of Commerce*)
- Expansion Dieppe Business Excellence Award

About Trucorp Investments

Trucorp Investments own Chris Brothers, Bonté Foods and Grinner Food Systems. Grinner Food Systems franchises the popular Greco Pizza, Capt. Sub, and Frozu restaurant concepts. Grinner also owns and operate Frank and Gino’s, a grill and pasta house located in Truro NS. Trucorp directly employ over 300 Atlantic Canadians and over 2500 Atlantic Canadians through our franchised restaurant operations.

The owners of Trucorp are Michael Whittaker of Moncton and Bill Hay of Truro NS.

About Canada's Best Managed Companies

Canada's Best Managed Companies continues to be the mark of excellence for Canadian-owned and managed companies with revenues over \$15 million. Every year since the launch of the program in 1993, hundreds of entrepreneurial companies have competed for this designation in a rigorous and independent process that evaluates their management skills and practices. The awards are granted on four levels: 1) Canada's Best Managed Companies new winner (one of the new winners selected each year); 2) Canada's Best Managed Companies winner (award recipients that have re-applied and successfully retained their Best Managed designation for two additional years, subject to annual operational and financial review); 3) Gold Standard winner (After three consecutive years of maintaining their Best Managed status, these winners have demonstrated their commitment to the program and successfully retained their award for 4-6 consecutive years); 4) Platinum Club member (Winners that have maintained their Best Managed status for seven years or more). Program sponsors are Deloitte, CIBC, Canadian Business, Smith School of Business and MacKay CEO Forums. For further information, visit www.bestmanagedcompanies.ca.

-30-

For more information please contact:

Mike Whittaker, President Bonté Foods - 506-867-0737 (cell 852-6688)
Barbara Ann O'Brien, EVP Bonté Foods - 506-867-0739 (cell 381-5086)
Greg Connell, Nurture Atlantic - 506-382-3474 (cell 878-2448)