



615 North Main Street, Westby, WI 54667

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Contact:** Pete Kondrup, General Manager, *Westby Cooperative Creamery*,  
phone: 608-634-3181 ext. 120, [pkondrup@westbycreamery.com](mailto:pkondrup@westbycreamery.com);  
or, Steve King at 414-218-3835, [sking@kbs-gds.com](mailto:sking@kbs-gds.com)

### **Westby Cooperative Creamery Receives Certificate of Appreciation from Wisconsin Governor.**

**June 30, 2017 (Westby, WI):** As part of June Dairy Month celebrations, *Westby Cooperative Creamery* has been recognized and honored by Wisconsin Governor, Scott Walker, with a Certificate of Appreciation for ongoing contributions to our state dairy industry since 1903.

This State of Wisconsin award of appreciation was presented to Board Members of *Westby Cooperative Creamery* by Department of Agriculture-Trade and Consumer Protection Secretary Ben Brancel, and State Representative Lee Nerison, at a ceremony in the cooperative's offices in Westby, WI, on June 26, 2017.

The certificate recognizes the dairy farm member-owners and employees of *Westby Cooperative Creamery* for their long-term contributions to the economy of western Wisconsin and the entire state. Further, the certificate sites more than 20 awards in national and world cheese competitions for the highest quality cultured dairy food products; including cottage cheeses, sour creams, dairy dips, and yogurts.

Further recognition was stated for annual membership growth to now over 200 local family dairy farm patron-members, and sited the continuing investments in facilities and personnel to accommodate growth in product manufacturing and distribution. This track record of growth has resulted in a tripling of annual sales revenues and employees since 2004.

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**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**  
**CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION**  
**HONORING**  
**WESTBY COOPERATIVE CREAMERY**

*WHEREAS*; Wisconsin's dairy industry has an annual economic impact of \$43 billion and employs nearly 80,000 people, and state cheesemakers produce more than three billion pounds of cheese per year, ranking Wisconsin as the top cheese-producing state in the nation; and

*WHEREAS*; Wisconsin cheese producers exported more than \$127 million in cheese products around the world in 2016, a 15 percent increase since 2010; and

*WHEREAS*; cheese has been declared the official dairy product of the State of Wisconsin, and June has been proclaimed "Dairy Month" throughout the state; and

*WHEREAS*; Westby Cooperative Creamery, owned by the more than 200 farmers and their families who supply milk to the creamery every day, has been producing high-quality cultured and hard cheese dairy goods since 1903; and

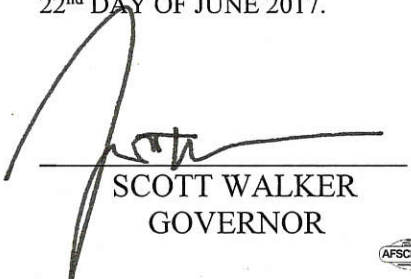
*WHEREAS*; Westby Cooperative Creamery is making a significant contribution to the dairy industry, as well as the economy of western Wisconsin and the entire state; and

*WHEREAS*; Westby Cooperative Creamery has won more than 20 awards in national and world cheese competitions since 2007, including first-place awards for cottage cheese and high-protein cows' milk yogurt in the 2017 U.S. Championship Cheese Contest; and

*WHEREAS*; Westby Cooperative Creamery has seen its annual sales and employment triple since 2004, and has expanded its facilities to accommodate the growing demand for its product, thereby stimulating economic development in the region;

*NOW THEREFORE*, I, Scott Walker, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby recognize, value, and congratulate the farm family owners and employees of Westby Cooperative Creamery, and wish them continued success.

DONE AT THE CAPITOL IN  
THE CITY OF MADISON THIS  
22<sup>nd</sup> DAY OF JUNE 2017.



SCOTT WALKER  
GOVERNOR

