Amid rising concerns around Bisphenol S Fresh St. Market and IGA Stores of BC transition to phenol-free receipts in all its grocery stores

September 9, 2021, Burnaby, B.C. – <u>Fresh St. Market</u> and <u>IGA Stores of BC</u> stores transitioned to <u>Koehler Phenol-Free thermal paper</u> for all store receipts as of September 1, 2021. With research highlighting the long-term health concerns around Bishphenol S (BPS), both B.C.-based grocers are making the change in their ongoing commitment to deliver the best possible health and safety outcomes for its staff and customers.

"Based on the research and science available to us at this time, we know making this transition to Phenol-Free receipts is an important step forward with the health and safety of our cashiers and customers in mind," said Mark McCurdy, Vice President Retail Operations and Brand Strategy for Fresh St. Market and IGA Stores of BC. "For the past number of months, we have been getting ready to make this changeover to eliminate Phenols from our receipt rolls. All of our stores will have the new Phenol-free receipt rolls by the end of the summer."

In 2010, following the <u>Canadian declaration of Bisphenol A (BPA) as a toxic chemical</u>, BPS replaced BPA as a chemical used in many everyday items, one of those being receipt paper. Since then, <u>studies</u> have found that several health concerns are also present with the use of BPS.

About Fresh St. Market

Family-owned, operated and based in British Columbia, Fresh St. Market offers a public market food and shopping experience inspired by top markets and eateries in North America. Inside its six locations, customers will find a wide variety of locally sourced foods, fresh produce, a significant amount of organic foods, specially curated foods and uniquely dedicated food destinations within the store. Current locations include Marine Drive, West Vancouver, two Surrey locations in Fleetwood Village and Panorama Village, Whistler Village North, Vancouver House at Howe and Pacific and its newest store is in Kamloops. Additional Fresh St. Market stores are being planned in more B.C. communities with more announcements in the near future. www.freshstmarket.com.

About IGA Stores of BC

Since 1955, IGA has become more than a grocery store. It's a name that's built around community, and a gathering place where fresh has always been fresh and business has always been done with a handshake. Some things have changed over the years, but the quality of our products and our commitment to creating an inviting local shopping experience has stayed the same.

-30-

For media requests, please contact:

Mark McCurdy, Georgia Main Food Group 604-444-5435, MarkM@GeorgiaMain.com