

MEDIA RELEASE July 1, 2024

## **Department Store closure date brought forward**

Due to the success of recent closing sales The Department Store is expected to close its doors on July 31, 2024.

To clear all remaining stock a 50% off storewide sale will commence on July 1.

Hastings Co-op chief executive officer Nick de Groot said "it's sad to see the store close, however, we can reflect with great pride on The Department Store's history and legacy".

"I'd especially like to recognise the team's tremendous work in managing the store and serving our valued members and customers under personally challenging circumstances," he said.

The difficult decision to close the store, to ensure the Co-op's financial sustainability and protect members' interests, was made in March.

Since then, Hastings Co-op has announced collaborations with Circle of Friends as tenants of the High Street side of the building and The Red Door on Cameron for the Cameron Street side of the premises.

Both stores have committed to offering Co-op member discounts and Circle of Friends will maintain the long-held Christmas window tradition.

In the medium-term, the Co-op plans to re-develop the Department Store site.

Customers with an existing Department Store gift voucher are urged to visit the store before July 31.

Post-July 31, Co-op account holders who have previously paid their accounts at The Department Store office are invited to visit Hastings Co-op's Corporate Centre at Level 1, 9-13 High Street, Wauchope.

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