



August 5th, 2009

John Cutler
Manager, Innovation Directorate
Room 138
Tower 5, 5th Floor
1341 Baseline Road, AAFC
Ottawa K1A 0C5

Mr. Cutler:

RE: Canadian Fertilizer Institute application for Science Cluster funding

The Grain Growers of Canada, representing 80,000 Canadian farmers through our Member Associations, would like to confirm our support for the Canadian Fertilizer Institute's application for \$60,000 in federal matching funding for a project entitled: *Planning for a Canadian Agri-Science Cluster: Managing N₂O Emissions*.

A strategic plan for an N₂O science cluster could make a significant contribution to the reduction of greenhouse gases (N₂O) on Canadian farms and to meeting Canada's Climate Change Commitments.

As farmers, we are well aware of the need to manage our operations in an environmentally friendly and sustainable manner, and are keenly aware of the need for our sector to take leadership to help ensure that results can also be implemented in an economically sound manner as well.

Other key benefits of the science cluster would include:

- Increase in N₂O research and support for soil science in Canada.
- Enhance the reputation of Canadian agriculture as environmentally sustainable.
- Enable Offsets payments to thousands of eligible farmers across Canada
- Train hundreds of Certified Crop Advisers
- Promote the 4R nutrient management system that will lead to additional economic and environmental benefits on Canadian farms

In the past, the Grain Growers and some of our members have been both involved in the Crop Nutrients Council and CFI's efforts to develop a Nitrous Oxide Emission Reduction Protocol and in the promotion of best management practices.

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Members:

Alberta Barley
Commission

Alberta Grain
Commission

Alberta Oat Rye &
Triticale Association

Alberta Pulse Growers

Alberta Winter Wheat
Producers Commission

Atlantic Grains Council

British Columbia Grain
Producers Association

Canadian Canola
Growers Association

Manitoba Corn Growers
Association

Oat and Barley Council
of Ontario

Prairie Oat Growers
Association

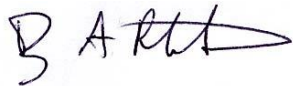
Western Barley
Growers Association

Western Canadian
Wheat Growers
Association

We look forward to continuing to work with CFI in the development of the project plan and to participate in the proposed science cluster.

In closing, we urge you to give full and timely consideration to this proposal and anticipate AAFC's approval of this worthy initiative. Please feel free to contact myself, or our Executive Director Richard Phillips, at any time for further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D Robertson". The signature is stylized with a large, looped initial "D" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Doug Robertson
President
Grain Growers of Canada