



June 29, 2021

The Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau
Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food
1341 Baseline Road
Ottawa, ON K1A 0C5

By email: Marie-Claude.Bibeau@parl.gc.ca

RE: Federal Recognition of 4R Nutrient Stewardship

Dear Minister Bibeau,

I am writing this letter to provide strong support on behalf of the Western Canadian Wheat Growers regarding Fertilizer Canada's request for formal federal recognition of 4R Nutrient Stewardship. Our organization believes that 4R Nutrient Stewardship is foundational to our members' success in producing sustainable crops on the farm.

We are a farm advocacy organization dedicated to developing ag policy solutions that strengthen the profitability and sustainability of farming and the agricultural industry. Our membership represents millions of acres of prairie farmland, which grows and exports high value commodities such as wheat, canola, barley, oats and lentils, to name a few.

4R Nutrient Stewardship is an industry-led, science-based program that helps ensure the competitiveness of Canadian producers and processors and provides the tools and resources they need to continue to innovate and capitalize on emerging market opportunities. 4R Nutrient Stewardship is exactly the sound science base needed to advance agricultural producers to remain both environmentally responsible and competitive.

We have a particular interest in this initiative because it recognizes the modern agriculture techniques that we have been using and supporting for many years. The health of our soil is our livelihood. Many of our farms are operated by multiple generations and been handed down from generation to generation.

Your government has committed to increase Canadian agriculture exports from \$55B in 2015 to at least \$85B by 2025. This 55% increase is attainable if the Federal Government supports the agriculture sector and this is one way to provide such support.

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Federal recognition is an important stepping stone in advancing increased adoption of 4R Nutrient Stewardship and will position Canadian agriculture as a leader in environmental stewardship and production efficiency.

Please accept this letter as formal recognition of the value of this request. We look forward to your positive response to the proposal and look forward to the opportunity to participate in this important endeavor.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Jochum", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Gunter Jochum
President

cc: Jeremy Gauthier: Jeremy.Gauthier@Canada.ca
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