

## LETTER OF INTENT

Montana State University-Northern (MSUN), Montana Farmers Union (MFU) together with Farmers Union Enterprise (FUE) have identified a critical need for training a skilled workforce in specific aspects of meat processing. The impacts of COVID-19 demonstrated a severe weakness in the meat processing supply chain for the state of Montana. Currently, our USDA and State inspected meat processing facilities are running at full capacity and are 6-12 months behind demand. Some of these facilities are utilizing Montana AG meat processing grants to upgrade their system, but they are still struggling to find skilled workers and inspectors to help increase their capacity. Moreover, most retail meat outlets in Montana are relying on imported meat with the USDA inspected "for sale" seal to process meats for their counters. Based on these considerations, the aforementioned parties agree to this Letter of Intent to each act within their scope of authority to create a Meat Processing Curriculum and operating facility.

### RESPONSIBILITIES OF EACH PARTY

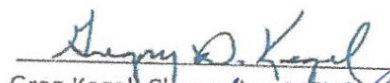
MSUN will follow the processes established by the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education and the Montana Board of Regents to develop a curriculum that will provide training in all aspects of Meat Processing. The curriculum is envisioned to include the skills of slaughter, meat processing, meat packaging, marketing, business management, and regulatory management. This curriculum may provide a one-year certificate or an associate's degree that could articulate to a bachelor's degree. All parties acknowledge that final approval of the curriculum is within the authority of the Board of Regents and the obligation of MSUN is limited to writing and submitting the necessary academic program proposal. The aforementioned parties hereby understand that there is no guarantee of final approval.

MFU/FUE will provide, permit and set up a Mobile Slaughter Unit on a site located near Havre. This is intended to set up a business structure for producers, butchers, and MFU/FUE to benefit cooperatively from the Mobile Slaughter Unit. MFU/FUE agrees that should MSUN determine that the Mobile Slaughter Unit is beneficial to the proposed curriculum, that MFU/FUE will enter into an agreement for the use of the facility at minimal cost to MSUN, but that MSUN shall have no business or ownership interest in the Mobile Slaughter unit.

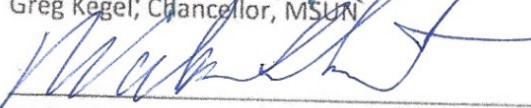
### VISION

As a result of this joint effort, a curriculum will be created, owned and delivered by MSUN. MFU and FUE may create a replicable business plan and retain the intellectual property rights to such plan. MFU and FUE agree to seek funding in addition to the revenue from the Mobile Slaughter Unit to make this program sustainable.

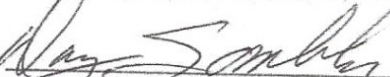
### SIGNATORIES:

  
Greg Kegel, Chancellor, MSUN

Date: 10-29-2020

  
Walter Schweitzer, President, MFU

Date: 10/29/2020

  
Doug Sombke, President, FUE

Date: 10-29-2020