

November 22, 2017

File Number: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Dear [REDACTED]:

This letter is in reference to your application under the Agricultural Initiatives Program for funding of your project.

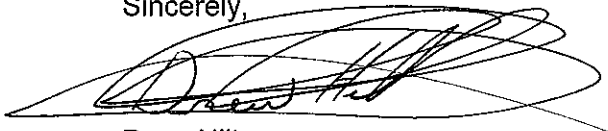
After a thorough review, we have made the decision to end funding for the Agricultural Initiatives Program. To this extent, we will not be moving forward to fund your application. This decision was very difficult as many worthwhile community projects were seeking program support.

As you know, Alberta's revenue forecasts were lowered for this fiscal year, so all departments were asked to find cost-saving measures where possible. Since then, government has been in the process of assessing the current budget to find savings in order to fairly and responsibly reduce the deficit. In-year-savings decisions were based on finding opportunities for efficiencies and focusing resources on core programs that position the agriculture and forestry sectors, and rural Alberta, for responsible and sustainable growth. To this extent, I'm pleased to inform you that core funding for Alberta's primary ag societies and the seven regional exhibitions has been maintained, continuing to provide approximately \$11.5 million in rural community support.

We understand that you may be disappointed with this decision and hope that you will be able to obtain financial support from other sources. We wish you success in your efforts.

If you have questions about this decision, I can be reached by calling 780-643-1830 (310-0000 toll-free). Thank you for your interest in the Agricultural Initiatives Program.

Sincerely,



Drew Hiltz,
Manager
Agricultural Initiatives Program

cc: Murray Greer, Director