

university of saskatchewan College of Agriculture and Bioresources Agbio.usask.ca

March 21, 2025

H.E. Mr. Bolorchuluun Khayangaa Minister of Food, Agriculture and Light Industry of Mongolia (MoFALI) 13381 Government Building 9th, Peace Avenue 16a, Bayanzurkh District, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia <u>info@mofa.gov.mn</u>

Dear H.E. Mr. Khayangaa:

As Dean of the College of Agriculture and Bioresources at the University of Saskatchewan, it is my pleasure to write to you to request that our college be recognized as a partner of the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP) in 2026.

Our college has a rich history and is committed to promoting the responsible and sustainable use of rangelands as we find solutions to meet the demands of a hungry and growing world. IYRP will bring awareness and visibility to the important mission of rangeland conservation and elevate our goal of training the next generation of rangeland managers, ecologists and pastoralists. We train students through various courses related to rangeland resources, rangeland ecology and management, and we are the academic home to an engaged and successful University of Saskatchewan Range Team, who regularly participate in international rangeland management competitions.

We have a diverse committee working on engagement and participation plans for IYRP. The college is committed to promoting and celebrating the year with a variety of public events and featured stories, including highlighting the work of our researchers. We will host a kick-off event in January 2026, and the months to follow will engage in various important topics ranging from Indigenous land access and agriculture to rangeland biodiversity, sustainable livestock production, and sustainable technologies and innovations. We will aim to ensure that the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists 2026 remains visible throughout our college, the university and through work we do in our community, the country and beyond.

The College of Agriculture and Bioresources will be a proud financial sponsor for these events and has capacity for in-kind support from our many engaged faculty, staff and researchers in the form of volunteer hours. Additionally, the planning committee aims to solicit external financial sponsorship.

We look forward to our participation and to supporting the goals and mission of the 2026 Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists!

Sincerely,

Angela Bedard-Haughn, PhD, PAg Dean and Professor College of Agriculture and Bioresources University of Saskatchewan