

February 3, 2025



Dear NDSU President Cook,

I am writing to express American Crystal Sugar Company's strong support for the New Horizon: NDSU 2035 proposal submitted by North Dakota State University. As a local business deeply invested in the economic and social well-being of our community, I believe that this proposal is crucial for the continued growth and development of North Dakota.

NDSU has a long-standing history of providing practical education and driving economic development in our state. The New Horizon: NDSU 2035 proposal aims to further this mission by addressing key areas that are vital to our local economy and workforce. The proposal outlines several strategic objectives, including:

1. **Ensuring successful pathways for workforce impact, industry connection, and affordability.** This includes continuing successful student support initiatives, improving curricula to lower costs and time to degree, recruiting students to degrees that match high-demand workforce needs, and build on industry-connected internships and learning experiences.
2. **Growing North Dakota's competitive edge through advancements in agriculture, engineering, energy and manufacturing.** NDSU aims to leverage its expertise in these fields to drive innovation and growth. This includes the development of new high-demand degree offerings such as Robotics and Automation, Materials Science and Engineering, and various stackable certificates.

The proposed funding of \$35 million will enable NDSU to implement these strategic tactics, which include improving curricula, establishing year-round programs, launching new apprenticeship models, and investing in faculty externships. These initiatives will not only enhance the educational experience for students but also ensure that our local businesses have access to a skilled and adaptable workforce.

American Crystal Sugar Company's current and future success is dependent upon technological advances in our industry and workforce ready professionals. We have historically hired and retained Agriculture and Engineering graduates from our local higher education institutions, which has led us to be a World Class Agricultural Cooperative. New Horizon: NDSU will allow for that continued success for American Crystal Sugar Company.

I urge you to support the New Horizon: NDSU 2035 proposal. By investing in NDSU, we are investing in the future of North Dakota and ensuring that our state remains competitive in a rapidly changing global economy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tom Astrup".

Tom Astrup
President and CEO
American Crystal Sugar Company



January 15, 2025

President David Cook
North Dakota State University
Post Office Box 6050
Fargo, North Dakota 58108

Re: Letter of support for New Horizon: NDSU 2035

Dear NDSU President Cook,

I am writing to express Agtegra Cooperative's strong support for the New Horizon: NDSU 2035 proposal submitted by North Dakota State University. As a local business deeply invested in the economic and social well-being of rural communities in North Dakota, I believe that this proposal is crucial for the continued growth and development of North Dakota.

NDSU has a long-standing history of providing practical education and driving economic development in our state. The New Horizon: NDSU 2035 proposal aims to further this mission by addressing key areas that are vital to our local economy and workforce. The proposal outlines several strategic objectives, including:

1. **Ensuring successful pathways for workforce impact, industry connection, and affordability.** This includes continuing successful student support initiatives, improving curricula to lower costs and time to degree, recruiting students to degrees that match high-demand workforce needs, and build on industry-connected internships and learning experiences.
2. **Growing North Dakota's competitive edge through advancements in agriculture, engineering, energy and manufacturing.** NDSU aims to leverage its expertise in these fields to drive innovation and growth. This includes the development of new high-demand degree offerings such as Robotics and Automation, Materials Science and Engineering, and various stackable certificates.

The proposed funding of \$35 million will enable NDSU to implement these strategic tactics, which include improving curricula, establishing year-round programs, launching new apprenticeship models, and investing in faculty externships. These initiatives will not only enhance the educational experience for students but also ensure that our local businesses have access to a skilled and adaptable workforce.

Agtegra Cooperative is a local agricultural cooperative that is owned by over 7,000 farmers and ranchers, predominately in North Dakota and South Dakota. We have a network of over 70 locations and 900 employees that work hard every day to meet the needs of our member-owners.

As a local business, we are particularly excited about the potential for NDSU to drive innovation to assist our workforce and benefit our member-owners. The investment in these areas will position North Dakota as a leader in cutting-edge technologies and create new opportunities for economic growth.

We strongly support the New Horizon: NDSU 2035 proposal and encourage the legislature to do the same. By investing in NDSU, we are investing in the future of North Dakota and ensuring that our state remains competitive in a rapidly changing global economy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Jason Klootwyk
Chief Executive Officer

January 15, 2025

To: President Cook, North Dakota State University
Re: Letter of support for New Horizon: NDSU 2035

Dear NDSU President Cook,

I am writing to express CHS support for the New Horizon: NDSU 2035 proposal submitted by North Dakota State University. As a business deeply invested in the economic and social well-being of our community, I believe this proposal is crucial for the continued growth and development of North Dakota.

NDSU has a long-standing history of providing practical education and driving economic development in our state. The New Horizon: NDSU 2035 proposal aims to further this mission by addressing key areas that are vital to our local economy and workforce. The proposal outlines several strategic objectives, including:

1. **Ensuring successful pathways for workforce impact, industry connection, and affordability.** This includes continuing successful student support initiatives, improving curricula to lower costs and time to degree, recruiting students to degrees that match high-demand workforce needs, and building on industry-connected internships and learning experiences.
2. **Growing North Dakota's competitive edge through advancements in agriculture, engineering, energy, and manufacturing.** NDSU aims to leverage its expertise in these fields to drive innovation and growth. This includes the development of new high-demand degree offerings such as Robotics and Automation, Materials Science and Engineering, and various stackable certificates.

The proposed funding of \$35 million will enable NDSU to implement these strategic tactics, which include improving curricula, establishing year-round programs, launching new apprenticeship models, and investing in faculty externships. These initiatives will not only enhance the educational experience for students but also ensure that our local businesses have access to a skilled and adaptable workforce.

I am particularly excited about the potential for NDSU to drive innovation in automation and robotics, which are critical to the future of our industry. The investment in these areas will position North Dakota as a leader in cutting-edge technologies and create new opportunities for economic growth.

I encourage support for the New Horizon: NDSU 2035 proposal. By investing in NDSU, we are investing in the future of North Dakota and ensuring the state remains competitive in a rapidly changing global economy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Megan Wolle
Senior Director of Stewardship
CHS Inc.



1-15-2024

To: President Cook, North Dakota State University
Re: Letter of support for New Horizon: NDSU 2035

Dear NDSU President Cook,

I am writing to express Deere & Co.'s strong support for the New Horizon: NDSU 2035 proposal submitted by North Dakota State University. As a local business deeply invested in the economic and social well-being of our community, I believe that this proposal is crucial for the continued growth and development of North Dakota.

NDSU has a long-standing history of providing practical education and driving economic development in our state. The New Horizon: NDSU 2035 proposal aims to further this mission by addressing key areas that are vital to our local economy and workforce. The proposal outlines several strategic objectives, including:

1. **Ensuring successful pathways for workforce impact, industry connection, and affordability.** This includes continuing successful student support initiatives, improving curricula to lower costs and time to degree, recruiting students to degrees that match high-demand workforce needs, and build on industry-connected internships and learning experiences.
2. **Growing North Dakota's competitive edge through advancements in agriculture, engineering, energy and manufacturing.** NDSU aims to leverage its expertise in these fields to drive innovation and growth. This includes the development of new high-demand degree offerings such as Robotics and Automation, Materials Science and Engineering, and various stackable certificates.

The proposed funding of \$35 million will enable NDSU to implement these strategic tactics, which include improving curricula, establishing year-round programs, launching new apprenticeship models, and investing in faculty externships. These initiatives will not only enhance the educational experience for students but also ensure that our local businesses have access to a skilled and adaptable workforce.

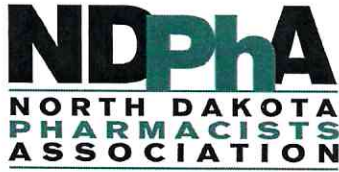
We are especially excited about the potential of this funding to scale up NDSU's precision ag research programs and to grow the precision ag domain specific workforce in the region, as well as research and workforce in the enabling technology of automation and robotics, which are critical to the future of our industry. The investment in these areas will position North Dakota as a leader in cutting-edge technologies and create new opportunities for economic growth.

I urge you to support the New Horizon: NDSU 2035 proposal. By investing in NDSU, we are investing in the future of North Dakota and ensuring that our state remains competitive in a rapidly changing global economy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Todd Pringle, PhD
Advanced Engineering Manager
Deere & Co.



1641 Capitol Way
Bismarck ND 58501-2195
Tel 701-258-4968
Fax 701-258-9312
Email: mschwab@nodakpharmacy.net

January 13, 2025

To: President Cook, North Dakota State University
Re: Letter of support for New Horizon: NDSU 2035

Dear NDSU President Cook,

The North Dakota Pharmacists Association is writing to express our strong support for the New Horizon: NDSU 2035 funding proposal submitted by North Dakota State University. We believe that this proposal is crucial for the continued growth and development of North Dakota.

NDSU has a long-standing history of providing practical education and driving economic development in our state. The New Horizon: NDSU 2035 initiative aims to further this mission by addressing key areas that are vital to our local economy and workforce. The proposal outlines strategic objectives, including:

1. **Ensuring successful pathways for workforce impact, industry connection, and affordability.** This includes continuing successful student support initiatives, improving curricula to lower costs and time to degree, recruiting students to degrees that match high-demand workforce needs, and build on industry-connected internships and learning experiences.
2. **Improving North Dakota's quality of life:** Expanding and modernizing programs in nursing, pharmacy, clinical trials, and health sciences will help meet workforce demands and improve healthcare outcomes in our state.

The proposed funding of \$35 million will enable NDSU to reform curricula, establish year-round programs, launch new apprenticeship models, and invest in faculty externships. These initiatives will not only enhance the educational experience for students but also help to ensure that our local businesses have access to a skilled and adaptable workforce.

We support the New Horizon: NDSU 2035 funding proposal. By investing in NDSU, we are investing in the future of North Dakota and improving the quality of life for our citizens.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Mike Schwab'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mike Schwab
NDPhA - EVP

01/14/25

To: President Cook, North Dakota State University
Re: Letter of support for New Horizon: NDSU 2035

Dear NDSU President Cook,

I am writing to express Doosan Bobcat's (Bobcat) strong support for the New Horizon: NDSU 2035 proposal submitted by North Dakota State University. As a local business deeply invested in the economic and social well-being of our community, I believe that this proposal is crucial for the continued growth and development of North Dakota.

NDSU has a long-standing history of providing practical education and driving economic development in our state. The New Horizon: NDSU 2035 proposal aims to further this mission by addressing key areas that are vital to our local economy and workforce. The proposal outlines several strategic objectives, including:

1. **Ensuring successful pathways for workforce impact, industry connection, and affordability.** This includes continuing successful student support initiatives, improving curricula to lower costs and time to degree, recruiting students to degrees that match high-demand workforce needs, and build on industry-connected internships and learning experiences.
2. **Growing North Dakota's competitive edge through advancements in agriculture, engineering, energy and manufacturing.** NDSU aims to leverage its expertise in these fields to drive innovation and growth. This includes the development of new high-demand degree offerings such as Robotics and Automation, Materials Science and Engineering, and various stackable certificates.

The proposed funding of \$35 million will enable NDSU to implement these strategic tactics, which include improving curricula, establishing year-round programs, launching new apprenticeship models, and investing in faculty externships. These initiatives will not only enhance the educational experience for students but also ensure that our local businesses have access to a skilled and adaptable workforce.

Headquartered in West Fargo, North Dakota, Bobcat is the state's largest manufacturer and a major employer with more than 3,500 people employed at our facilities in Bismarck, Gwinner, Fargo, West Fargo and Wahpeton. We continue to grow and evolve our business, and North Dakota State University (NDSU) and its graduates have been a crucial part of our workforce story. Ensuring a promising future for our company starts with strong educational opportunities that cultivate the next generation of innovators.

As a leader at Bobcat, I am particularly excited about the potential for NDSU to drive innovation in automation and robotics, which are critical to the future of our industry. The investment in these areas will position North Dakota as a leader in cutting-edge technologies and create new opportunities for economic growth.

I urge you to support the New Horizon: NDSU 2035 proposal. By investing in NDSU, we are investing in the future of North Dakota and ensuring that our state remains competitive in a rapidly changing global economy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Joel Honeyman
Vice President of Global Innovation
Doosan Bobcat



January 14th, 2025

To: Tim Mihalick, North Dakota Board of Higher Education
Re: Letter of support for New Horizon: NDSU 2035

Dear Board Chair Tim Mihalick,

I am writing to express Marvin's support for the New Horizon: NDSU 2035 proposal submitted by North Dakota State University. As one of the largest employers in the state, I believe that this proposal is crucial for the continued growth and development of North Dakota.

The New Horizon: NDSU 2035 proposal aims to address key areas that are vital to our local economy and workforce. The proposal outlines several strategic objectives, including:

1. **Ensuring successful pathways for workforce impact, industry connection, and affordability.** This includes continuing successful student support initiatives, improving curricula to lower costs and time to degree, recruiting students to degrees that match high-demand workforce needs, and build on industry-connected internships and learning experiences.
2. **Growing North Dakota's competitive edge through advancements in agriculture, engineering, energy and manufacturing.** NDSU aims to leverage its expertise in these fields to drive innovation and growth. This includes the development of new high-demand degree offerings such as Robotics and Automation, Materials Science and Engineering, and various stackable certificates.

The proposed funding of \$35 million will enable NDSU to implement these strategic tactics, which include improving curricula, establishing year-round programs, launching new apprenticeship models, and investing in faculty externships. These initiatives will not only enhance the educational experience for students but also ensure that our local businesses have access to a skilled and adaptable workforce.

I am particularly excited about the potential for NDSU to drive innovation in automation and robotics, which are critical to the future of our industry. The investment in these areas will position North Dakota as a leader in cutting-edge technologies and create new opportunities for economic growth.

I urge you to support the New Horizon: NDSU 2035 proposal. By investing in NDSU, we are investing in the future of North Dakota and ensuring that our state remains competitive in a rapidly changing global economy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Chris Barta, Senior Director of Operations

01/14/2025

To: President Cook, North Dakota State University
Re: Letter of support for New Horizon: NDSU 2035

Dear NDSU President Cook,

I am writing to express Packet Digital's strong support for the New Horizon: NDSU 2035 proposal submitted by North Dakota State University. As a local business deeply invested in the economic and social well-being of our community, I believe that this proposal is crucial for the continued growth and development of North Dakota.

NDSU has a long-standing history of providing practical education and driving economic development in our state. New Horizon: NDSU 2035 proposal aims to further this mission by addressing key areas that are vital to our local economy and workforce. The proposal outlines strategic objectives, including:

1. **Ensuring successful pathways for workforce impact, industry connection, and affordability.** This includes continuing successful student support initiatives, improving curricula to lower costs and time to degree, recruiting students to degrees that match high-demand workforce needs, and build on industry-connected internships and learning experiences.
2. **Growing North Dakota's competitive edge through advancements in agriculture, engineering, energy and manufacturing.** NDSU aims to leverage its expertise in these fields to drive innovation and growth. This includes the development of new high-demand degree offerings such as Robotics and Automation, Materials Science and Engineering, and various stackable certificates.

The proposed funding of \$35 million will enable NDSU to implement these strategic tactics, which include improving curricula, establishing year-round programs, launching new apprenticeship models, and investing in faculty externships. These initiatives will not only enhance the educational experience for students but also ensure that our local businesses have access to a skilled and adaptable workforce.

Packet Digital is an engineering and manufacturing company focused on UAS battery development and production. With a team filled by local talent that develops reliable, high-performance batteries and power systems for the world's most demanding UAS applications, we strongly support the potential for NDSU to drive innovation in automation and robotics, which are critical to the future of our industry. The investment in these areas will position North Dakota as a leader in cutting-edge technologies and create new opportunities for economic growth. Furthermore, Packet Digital will continue to thrive with NDSU producing high-quality graduates in cutting-edge fields as the company continues to evolve the battery and engineering markets.

I urge you to support the New Horizon: NDSU 2035 proposal. By investing in NDSU, we are investing in the future of North Dakota and ensuring that our state remains competitive in a rapidly changing global economy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Teri Zimmerman
CEO
Packet Digital



STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
GOVERNOR DOUG BURGUM

NORTH DAKOTA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MARK J. HARDY, PHARM.D | 1838 E INTERSTATE AVE SUITE D • BISMARCK, ND 58503
(701) 877- 2404 • WWW.NDBOARD.PHARMACY • MHARDY@NDBOARD.PHARMACY

January 14, 2025

To: President Cook, North Dakota State University

Re: Letter of support for New Horizon: NDSU 2035

Dear NDSU President Cook,

I am writing to express our steadfast support for the New Horizon: NDSU 2035 funding proposal submitted by North Dakota State University on behalf of the North Dakota Board of Pharmacy (Board). The Board is proud of the outstanding tradition of excellence that has been delivered by the NDSU Doctor of Pharmacy program now through the College of Health and Human Sciences. This program educates and trains over 90% of our pharmacists across the State of North Dakota which are responsible for delivering patient care in multiple settings. Pharmacies are pillars of the main streets across all of our communities and make significant contributions to the overall economy of our state.

As the health care needs of our citizens have changed, NDSU has been an integral partner in preparing our next generation of pharmacists and helping currently practicing pharmacists in our state to enhance their impacts. The Board supports NDSU's request to address the financial challenges which are faced and to enhance the impact of NDSU on the workforce demands in the highly critical profession of pharmacy.

The Board envisions some significant challenges in the future for meeting the pharmacist workforce needs in our state which affects both urban and rural communities in our state. The New Horizon proposal provides significant opportunities for helping with these needs which we have communicated to NDSU's Pharmacy program.

We appreciate your efforts and ask for your continued support to our land grant institution, NDSU.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark J. Hardy".

Mark J. Hardy, PharmD
Executive Director
MJH/bb

January 27, 2025

To: President Cook, North Dakota State University

Re: Letter of support for New Horizon: NDSU 2035

Dear NDSU President Cook,

AgCountry Farm Credit Services [AgCountry], a farmer-owned cooperative, is a leading provider of financial services to agriculture and rural communities. We are deeply committed to supporting initiatives that foster agricultural progress, innovation, and economic development. Accordingly, we support the New Horizon: NDSU 2035 proposal submitted by North Dakota State University for its focus on the growth and development of North Dakota.

Advancements in precision agriculture will require workforce development in fields such as automation and robotics. The New Horizon: NDSU 2035 proposal seeks to grow North Dakota's competitive edge through advancements in agriculture, engineering, energy, and manufacturing. NDSU aims to leverage its expertise in these fields to drive innovation and growth. This includes the development of new high-demand degree offerings such as Robotics and Automation, Materials Science and Engineering, and various Digital Agriculture/Agriculture Automation certificates such as Precision Ag, Bioenergy & Biomaterials, and Farm Management Software.

The proposed funding of \$35 million will enable NDSU to implement these strategic tactics, which include improving curricula, establishing year-round programs, launching new apprenticeship models, and investing in faculty externships. These initiatives will not only enhance the educational experience for students but also ensure that North Dakota businesses have access to a skilled and adaptable workforce.

Based on our customer research, 55% of farmers within the AgCountry footprint consider themselves early innovators. Currently, 9% of these farmers use AI technologies or AI-enabled software, and 7% use robots for field or livestock work to reduce labor. However, there is significant interest in adopting these technologies, with 46% of farmers planning to adopt AI technologies and 49% interested in using robots for field and livestock work. These statistics highlight the growing interest and potential technologies in agriculture, underscoring the importance of developing a workforce that can meet the needs of North Dakota's farmers and ranchers.

The missions of AgCountry and NDSU are closely aligned, with both organizations dedicated to advancing agriculture and supporting rural communities. Our broader role involves advocating for advancements that benefit agriculture and rural America, ensuring that our farmers and ranchers have access to the latest technologies and best practices.

Again, AgCountry strongly supports NDSU's request for funding for the New Horizon: NDSU 2035 proposal. We urge the legislature's approval of this funding request and help support the future of agricultural innovation.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Marcus L. Knisely
Executive Vice President, Business Development
AgCountry Farm Credit Services

Northrop Grumman Systems Corporation
Aeronautics Systems Sector
2 Grand Sky Blvd
Emerado, ND 58228

15 January 2025

Dear President Cook,

Northrop Grumman Grand Sky is pleased to provide this letter in support for the New Horizon: NDSU 2035 proposal submitted by North Dakota State University. Our Grand Sky site employs over 100 people and our activities center around the development and maintenance of large Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS). One of Grand Sky's largest challenges is labor force supply and finding workers with the skillsets we need.

The New Horizon: NDSU 2035 proposal outlines several strategic objectives, two of which directly support the development of technical talent within our local labor force:

Ensuring successful pathways for workforce impact, industry connection, and affordability

Growing North Dakota's competitive edge through advancements in agriculture, engineering, energy and manufacturing

In particular, our company is interested in NDSU's proposed degree offerings in Robotics and Automation and Materials Science and engineering, as well as stackable certificates in Mechanical, Manufacturing, Electrical, Computer, AI, and Machine Learning. These skillsets are critical to the future of our industry and investment in these areas will position North Dakota as a leader in cutting-edge technologies and create new opportunities for economic growth.

Sincerely,

Michael Fridolfs

Grand Sky Site Director

Northrop Grumman Systems Corporation



January 14th, 2025

To: President Cook, North Dakota State University
Re: Letter of support for New Horizon: NDSU 2035

Dear NDSU President Cook,

I am writing to express RDO Equipment Co.'s support for the New Horizon: NDSU 2035 proposal submitted by North Dakota State University. As a local business deeply invested in the economic and social well-being of our community, I believe that this proposal is crucial for the continued growth and development of North Dakota.

NDSU has a long-standing history of providing practical education and driving economic development in our state. The New Horizon: NDSU 2035 proposal aims to further this mission by addressing key areas that are vital to our local economy and workforce. The proposal outlines several strategic objectives, including:

1. **Ensuring successful pathways for workforce impact, industry connection, and affordability.** This includes continuing successful student support initiatives, improving curricula to lower costs and time to degree, recruiting students to degrees that match high-demand workforce needs, and build on industry-connected internships and learning experiences.
2. **Growing North Dakota's competitive edge through advancements in agriculture, engineering, energy and manufacturing.** NDSU aims to leverage its expertise in these fields to drive innovation and growth. This includes the development of new high-demand degree offerings such as Robotics and Automation, Materials Science and Engineering, and various stackable certificates.

The proposed funding of \$35 million will enable NDSU to implement these strategic tactics, which include improving curricula, establishing year-round programs, launching new apprenticeship models, and investing in faculty externships. These initiatives will not only enhance the educational experience for students but also ensure that our local businesses have access to a skilled and adaptable workforce.

In the past decade we have experienced significant advancements in productivity and efficiency leveraging emerging technologies in automation and sensing in both agriculture and construction. This continued investment by NDSU in these important sectors will ensure that North Dakota maintains its global leadership as machine learning and automation accelerate innovation.

As a business leader, I am particularly excited about the potential for NDSU to drive innovation in automation and robotics, which are critical to the future of our industry. The investment in these areas will position North Dakota as a leader in cutting-edge technologies and create new opportunities for economic growth.

On behalf of RDO Equipment Co., I support the New Horizon: NDSU 2035 proposal. By investing in NDSU, we are investing in the future of North Dakota and ensuring that our state remains competitive in a rapidly changing global economy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Adam A. Gilbertson' with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Adam Gilbertson
Senior Vice-President, Field Technology & Innovation
RDO Equipment Co.

Dear President Cook,

On behalf of Sanford Health Fargo, I am proud to express my support for the New Horizon: NDSU 2035 proposal that has been submitted to the North Dakota legislature for consideration.

Sanford Medical Center Fargo serves as the only Level 1 Adult Trauma Center and Level 2 Pediatric Trauma Center in the State of North Dakota. Annually, Sanford Medical Center has over 30,000 admissions with 60% of those patients coming from outside the Fargo metro area. Our organization has always valued our collaboration with North Dakota State University, which hosts the largest nursing school and the only pharmacy school in the state. We have also partnered with the university for over 20 years as the didactic training site in the allied science areas of respiratory therapy, radiology, ultrasound and echocardiology technology.

While we have a strong partnership, the number of students in these programs has not been enough to keep up with the growing health care needs of our region. Currently, Sanford Fargo has over 850 licensed and unlicensed position openings, including 207 registered nurse openings in Fargo and 21 registered nurse openings at our regional sites outside the metro area. In addition, Sanford Fargo has 74 allied science position openings and 23 pharmacy openings.

The proposal before you today aims to help address the present need for more health care professionals. Through the proposal, NDSU will strengthen its leadership in nursing by expanding traditional and accelerated BSN programs and address the critical need for allied health positions in respiratory care and radiologic sciences by working to increase the number of students within these programs. Alongside this, the proposal will also help expand the state's only pharmacy program.

Should the proposal go through, Sanford Fargo is committed to continuing to partner with NDSU on clinical experiences. Today, just for nursing students, Sanford Fargo provides over 100,000 hours of clinical experience rotations annually with all our educational partners.

I encourage you to consider supporting this \$15 million proposal, which is part of NDSU's \$35 million New Horizon plan. This plan will be a strong step forward in meeting the needs of North Dakota's workforce, increasing access to quality health care professionals and strengthening partnerships with our organization and other industry leaders.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Tiffany Lawrence

President & CEO, Sanford Fargo

January 15, 2025

To: President Cook, North Dakota State University
Re: Letter of support for New Horizon: NDSU 2035

Dear NDSU President Cook,

I am writing to express my strong support for the New Horizon: NDSU 2035 funding proposal submitted by North Dakota State University. As a local business deeply invested in the economic and social well-being of our community, I believe that this proposal is crucial for the continued growth and development of North Dakota.

NDSU has a long-standing history of providing practical education and driving economic development in our state. The New Horizon: NDSU 2035 initiative aims to further this mission by addressing key areas that are vital to our local economy and workforce. The proposal outlines several strategic objectives, including:

1. **Ensuring successful pathways for workforce impact, industry connection, and affordability.** This includes continuing successful student support initiatives, improving curricula to lower costs and time to degree, recruiting students to degrees that match high-demand workforce needs, and build on industry-connected internships and learning experiences.
2. **Improving North Dakota's quality of life:** Expanding and modernizing programs in nursing, pharmacy, clinical trials, and health sciences will help meet workforce demands and improve healthcare outcomes in our state.
- 3.

The proposed funding of \$35 million will enable NDSU to implement these strategic tactics, which include reforming curricula, establishing year-round programs, launching new apprenticeship models, and investing in faculty externships. These initiatives will not only enhance the educational experience for students but also ensure that our local businesses have access to a skilled and adaptable workforce.

Sanford Health is proud to support NDSU's New Horizon: NDSU 2035 initiative, a visionary plan that seeks to enhance North Dakota's quality of life through targeted investments in healthcare for workforce development, education, and research. As a leading healthcare provider in the region, we recognize the urgent need to expand and modernize programs to address the growing healthcare workforce shortage in North Dakota. Currently, there are over 3,000 open healthcare positions across the state, underscoring the critical need for well-trained professionals to meet this demand. This initiative aligns with our shared mission to meet the demands of a rapidly evolving healthcare landscape while ensuring access to high-quality care for communities across the state. By equipping future professionals with advanced skills and fostering innovative research, this effort will play a pivotal role in sustaining and improving the health and well-being of North Dakotans for generations to come.

As a business owner, I am particularly excited about the potential for NDSU to drive innovation in healthcare to augment systems for a growing population. The investment in these areas will position North Dakota as a leader and create new opportunities for economic growth.

I urge you to support the New Horizon: NDSU 2035 funding proposal. By investing in NDSU, we are investing in the future of North Dakota and improving the quality of life for our citizens.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Todd Schaffer, M

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Schaffer', with a stylized flourish at the end.

President/CEO
Sanford Health Bismarck



January 14, 2025

President Cook, North Dakota State University
Department 1000, P.O. Box 6050
Fargo, ND 58106-6050

Subject: Letter of Support for New Horizon: NDSU 2035

Dear NDSU President Cook:

I am writing to express Houston Engineering's support for the New Horizon: NDSU 2035 proposal submitted by North Dakota State University. As a regional business deeply invested in the economic and social well-being of our community, I believe that this proposal is crucial for the continued growth and development of North Dakota.

NDSU has a long-standing history of providing practical education and driving economic development in our state. The New Horizon: NDSU 2035 proposal aims to further this mission by addressing key areas that are vital to our local economy and workforce. The proposal outlines several strategic objectives, including:

1. **Ensuring successful pathways for workforce impact, industry connection, and affordability.** This includes continuing successful student support initiatives, improving curricula to lower costs and time to degree, recruiting students to degrees that match high-demand workforce needs, and build on industry-connected internships and learning experiences.
2. **Growing North Dakota's competitive edge through advancements in agriculture, engineering, energy and manufacturing.** NDSU aims to leverage its expertise in these fields to drive innovation and growth. This includes the development of new high-demand degree offerings such as Robotics and Automation, Materials Science and Engineering, and various stackable certificates.

The proposed funding of \$35 million will enable NDSU to implement these strategic tactics, which include improving curricula, establishing year-round programs, launching new apprenticeship models, and investing in faculty externships. These initiatives will not only enhance the educational experience for students but also ensure that our local businesses have access to a skilled and adaptable workforce.

NDSU has long been a reliable source of quality engineering graduates for Houston Engineering, with many of our staff and leadership being NDSU alumni. Maintaining this relationship is of great importance to our business, and we strongly support efforts to increase enrollment as we work to meet our staffing and growth goals. Investment in this area will ensure continued growth as well as the education of our future generations of leaders in the Fargo-Moorhead area.

I urge you to support the New Horizon: NDSU 2035 proposal. By investing in NDSU, we are investing in the future of North Dakota and ensuring that our state remains competitive in a rapidly changing global economy.

Sincerely,

HOUSTON ENGINEERING, INC.



C. Gregg Thielman, PE
President | CEO
Direct: 701.499.2080
ogthielman@houstoneng.com