



July 2, 2013

Mr. Chad MacPherson  
General Manager  
Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association  
Box 4752  
REGINA SK S4P 3Y4

Dear Mr. MacPherson:

Thank you for your email of June 12, 2013, regarding the Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association (SSGA) Annual General Meeting resolution relating to the Temporary Foreign Worker Program (TFWP).

As you are aware, the TFWP falls under federal jurisdiction. The Government of Saskatchewan recognizes the critical importance of this program to the Saskatchewan economy, and in particular, to certain economic sectors including agriculture. The Government of Saskatchewan was consulted by the federal government recently as part of its formal review of the TFWP, and I can assure you that Government of Saskatchewan officials recognize the importance of both a permanent and temporary workforce in Saskatchewan. The Government of Saskatchewan is aware of the need for adjustments to this program and has provided input to the federal government during its recent consultations.

As part of this effort, I have also written to The Honourable Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development expressing our concerns relating to these reforms and requesting further discussion with her on this topic in order to continue to advocate for increased efficiencies and effectiveness of the program in Saskatchewan.

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I can assure you that developing an educated and skilled workforce is a key priority for the Government of Saskatchewan. To that end, we will continue working together with Saskatchewan employers and stakeholders on strategies to address labour market needs. I appreciate and note your concerns regarding the labour shortage in Saskatchewan, in particular, and will certainly take your perspective under consideration when engaging with our federal counterparts on this issue going forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Boyd". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "B" and a long, sweeping tail.

Bill Boyd  
Minister of the Economy