

*Applying Knowledge, Delivering Results.™*

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April 20, 2012

To Whom it May Concern:

**RE: RRC Innovation Credit #1 Application**

I writing to affirm that the Red River College's application for a STARS Innovation Credit for its *Passive Solar Greenhouse for Northern Climates* project meets the criteria established by ASSHE.

With a growing demand for locally-sourced food, there is a renewed interest in the use of passive solar greenhouses in northern climates. Although the concept of passive solar greenhouses is not new, the vast majority of prior research occurred in the 1970s and 1980s in regions that are typically much more moderate than the cold northern climate of Manitoba and Canada's other prairie provinces.

There is considerably uncertainty about how relevant the results and experience with optimizing the design and operation of passive solar greenhouses in other jurisdictions are in Manitoba. In addition, there have been many new materials and technologies that have emerged in recent years that have yet to be tested for their suitability for improving the energy performance and growing environment of solar greenhouses.

RRC's initiative is unique because it addresses this gap in knowledge and will integrate the results of its applied research projects with its new passive solar greenhouse in the instruction provided to students enrolled in the College's Greenspace Management Program.

Please feel free to contact me if you require any additional information.

Sincerely,



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