



November 23, 2023

Dear Manitoba Arts Council and Manitoba Agriculture;

Re: Letter of Support for Arctic Congress 2024, UArctic Entrepreneurship Fund, Thematic Network on Northern Food Security

The University of the Arctic (UARctic) is a cooperative network of universities, colleges, research institutes and other organizations concerned with education and research in and about the North. UArctic builds and strengthens collective resources and collaborative infrastructure that enables member institutions to better serve their constituents and their regions. Through cooperation in education, research and outreach we enhance human capacity in the North, promote viable communities and sustainable economies, and forge global partnerships.

James Bell, Kami Norland, Tootoo Fotheringham and Tony Eetak are leading the project “Niriqatiginnga: Fostering Food Security and Innovation for Northern Supply Chains”. The activity is proposed as part of the Arctic Congress 2024, UArctic Entrepreneurship Fund, and the UArctic Thematic Network on Northern Food Security.

The primary goals of this 2024 Arctic Congress presentation session in Bodø are to share the transformative outcomes of the Niriqatiginnga initiative, highlight its contribution to Arctic entrepreneurship education and research, and showcase its alignment with UArctic's Strategic Plan 2030. It aims to disseminate insights into fostering collaboration, inclusivity, and knowledge exchange, as well as emphasizing the project's role in strengthening circumpolar perspectives and addressing challenges faced by northern communities.

We believe that this proposal aligns strongly with UArctic’s goal of supporting youth and Indigenous participation in circumpolar education and research. We are confident that the project team and the network of institutions have the expertise, leadership and management skills to ensure the success of the project.

I thank you for considering this activity, which we hope will be supported.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lars Kullerud".

Lars Kullerud
President, University of the Arctic