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February 14, 2020

Dr. Ataharul Chowdhury Assistant Professor School of Environmental Design and Rural Development University of Guelph Guelph, Ontario Sent via email: <u>mike@greenhouseacademy.ca</u>

Dear Dr. Chowdhury,

RE: University of Guelph bid to host the Association for International Agricultural and Extension Education Conference in 2022

The Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA) is pleased to provide our support for the University of Guelph's bid to host the Association for International Agricultural and Extension Education's conference in 2022 in Guelph, Ontario. Guelph would be a great location for this annual conference with lots to offer attendees.

OFA is Canada's largest voluntary general farm organization, representing more than 38,000 farm family businesses across Ontario. These farm businesses form the backbone of a robust food system and rural communities with the potential to drive the Ontario and national economies forward.

Ontario's diverse and innovative agri-food industry feeds our population, fuels our rural communities and drives the provincial economy, generating more than 837,000 jobs and contributing more than \$47 billion to Ontario's annual GDP. From farmers to our diverse food processing industry, our agri-food sector is a powerhouse of possibilities.

We hope your bid to host the 2022 conference is successful.

Sincerely,

Keith Currie President