To whom it may concern,

This email is in regards to the recent budget cuts to the NDSU Extension Service. I would like to express how important I feel the Extension Service is to the people of Cavalier County.

My husband and I farm together with our son near Langdon, raising canola, wheat and soybeans. Over the years we have come to rely on and trust the research and advisement given by the County Extension Service pertaining to many questions pertaining to crops, weeds and disease.

Even more important to our family is the extensive support and guidance from the Extension Office for the 4-H program. In fact it is so much a part of our family that we just received the Century Family Award for having 105 collective years in the program. Our two daughters are currently members and I am a 4-H leader. Our local club has grown to close to 30 members over the last few years! Every year we have students representing Cavalier County at the State Level in many different competitive events, providing kids and family with opportunities that they may not receive otherwise.

The Prairie Rose 4-H group also is involved in several community service projects. Just last week several of the older 4-H kids wrapped presents for the Giving Tree which is a program providing needy individuals with gifts for Christmas. They also made cards of Thanks for local veterans and ornaments for residents living in the local assisted living facility. All these activities take a lot of time and commitment which would not be possible without the local Extension Service and the help, guidance and support that they provide.

I have also witnessed the value of Extension work in the school system, the local library, social service areas, classes for healthcare providers, single parenting, kindergarten preparedness, youth leadership development, and youth internet safety to mention just a few.

Please consider the value that these people and the resources they provide to our community when making future decisions. Many of these outreach programs are some of the ways that communities are held together, creating conversation, friendship, leadership and a sense of community.

Thank you for you time,

Sincerely

Janelle Bata
4-H Volunteer