



professional soil classifiers association
north dakota

February 23, 2008

Dear Senator Holmberg,

Thank you for your help in the state legislature to support the Professional Soil Classifiers Association of North Dakota (PSCAND) to meet our goal of financial support of the North Dakota monolith for the Smithsonian Soils Exhibit. The gift of \$7,800 to the Agronomic Science Foundation, a 501(c)3 organization, allowed us to meet our financial goal of support for this Soils Exhibit.

With your help, over \$2 million has been raised to date towards the \$2.5 million Washington D.C. Soils Exhibit, which enables the Smithsonian to move ahead with the exhibit design. We are truly grateful for your gift and also would appreciate your efforts to get the word out about this project. Please visit www.soils.org/smithsonian and see the latest information about what The National Academies endorse as, "Unquestionably, the most important opportunity that the field of Soil Science has ever had to educate the general public about soils and their role in food and fiber production, environmental quality at local and global scales, and in human health."

Opening July 19, 2008, the 5,000 square foot *Dig It! The Secrets of Soil* exhibit will occupy one entire hall of the most visited natural history museum in the world and be viewed by more than six million visitors a year. The five take-home messages from the exhibit are that soils: are living; are varied; change over time; link the Earth's land, air, and water; and are precious resources, subject to misuse and overuse. A section of the exhibit will include a state soil monolith from each of the 50 states, plus three territories.

The Smithsonian's next goal is to raise \$750,000 for a traveling exhibit which will begin following the Washington, D.C. Soil Exhibit. The traveling exhibit will provide a wonderful educational experience about soil to thousands of additional people around the United States.

Thank you again for your commitment to this groundbreaking, once-in-a-lifetime project.

Sincerely,

Perry Sullivan
PSCAND President

C: Scott Hochhalter, NDSU
Keith Anderson, PSCAND