



August 27, 2019

His Excellency Xi Jinping  
President of the People's Republic of China

Dear President Xi,

Greetings to you and the people of China from Montana's cereal grain producers. We are encouraged by reports of progress on negotiations to secure an agreement on trade between our two countries. It is our sincere wish that our delegates will find a path forward that benefits both China and the United States.

Agriculture is Montana's most important economic industry, and wheat is the primary crop grown statewide. Our semi-arid climate is ideal for producing the high quality hard red spring, hard red winter and durum wheats desired by millers and bakers worldwide, along with exceptional barley for malting, food and feed use.

Montana's proximity to U.S. Pacific Northwest ports, and efficient rail transportation, is significant in facilitating the successful movement of goods between our grain producers and trading partners in China. We are confident that expanded purchases of Montana wheat and barley can supplement the needs of China's food and feed industries and enhance the products available to your discerning consumers.

Our farmers strongly support fair and open trade and we embrace the opportunity to expand agricultural commerce with China through direct procurement of our raw product or through investment in our agricultural infrastructure.

Please accept our very best wishes to you and the good citizens of China.

Sincerely,

Lola Raska  
Executive Vice President

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