Letter of Appreciation

To the esteemed members of the Board of Regents, University of Wisconsin System

It is my pleasure and honor on behalf of the faculty of the Kuban State University to express high appreciation of the contribution made by our partners at the University of Wisconsin/Extension to enhance our efforts to engage in community development in Russia.

There is a continuing history of interaction between faculty and administrators from the Universities that dates back to 1995. This interaction gave Kuban State University faculty vast opportunities to learn much about what is known as the Wisconsin Idea and its implementation for the benefit of local communities in the state of Wisconsin. It had a significant impact on theoretical studies on community development issues, field researches and strategic planning conducted by KubSU faculty in Kuban local communities.

These on-going interactions between KubSU and UW-Extension culminated in the signing of an official agreement on June 4, 2003. The Interinstitutional Agreement is aimed at encouraging direct contacts and cooperation between KubSU and UW-Extension faculty members, departments, research institutions and campuses in the field of local community development.

We hope that this cooperation would help our respective Universities to upgrade our outreach education systems to help citizens become involved in growing local economies and participating in local self-governance.

We know and deeply respect the role of the Board of Regents in strategic development of University of Wisconsin System and hope for your support of our cooperative work.

Rector of Kuban State University
Academician of The Russian Academy of Sciences

V.A. Babeshko
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We want to express our thanks to UW/Extension as a whole and personally to Marvin van Kekerix, Carl O’Connor, Thomas Blewett, Alan Anderson, Thomas Geiger, David Sprehn, David Hinds, Gary Green, Steve Deller, John Preissing, who made a significant contribution in positive changes at Kuban State University and our activities in local community development.

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