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## **BAYER TEAMS UP WITH NATIONAL CIRCLE FOR INDIGENOUS AGRICULTURE AND FOOD TO FOSTER INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT IN AGRICULTURE**

Calgary, AB. – September 30, 2024 – Bayer Crop Science Canada and the NCI AF are thrilled to announce their collaboration to advance reconciliation within Canadian agriculture. As part of this partnership, Bayer is contributing \$25,000 in support of the NCI AF to assist in building a connection between agriculture and Indigenous communities.

“Bayer is eager to begin this new relationship with NCI AF, as we strive to contribute towards reconciliation and healing of Indigenous Peoples in Canada,” says Antoine Bernet, Crop Science Canada Country Division Head. “We look forward building meaningful relationships with NCI AF, and supporting their creative and innovative projects that empower Indigenous agriculture and support Canada’s food sector.”

The National Circle for Indigenous Agriculture and Food exists to advance reconciliation by building bridges between Indigenous Peoples and communities and the agriculture and food industry. “As the first farmers of this land, NCI AF exists to help our First Nations People rekindle their relationship with agriculture; to grow, harvest and provide healthy food to their families and their communities,” said Kallie Wood, NCI AF president and CEO. “We invite the agriculture and agribusiness industry to collaborate and connect with Indigenous businesses to promote equitable partnerships that prioritize environmental, sustainability and social impact.”

As part of this new opportunity, Bayer will work with NCI AF to facilitate various activities that continue removing barriers for Indigenous communities, as well as engage Bayer employees in education and reconciliation opportunities. For example, Bayer is supporting NCI AF’s Community Garden in Saskatchewan, aiming to revitalize Indigenous community involvement in agriculture through a space where they can seed, grow, and harvest their own produce.

“This partnership not only addresses the barriers that have long hindered Indigenous involvement in agriculture, but also acknowledges the generational and systemic trauma that our communities have faced. By cultivating these opportunities, we are taking meaningful action to heal and reclaim our relationship with the land, ensuring that Indigenous voices and knowledge thrive in agriculture for generations to come,” said President and CEO Kallie Wood.



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#### About National Circle for Indigenous Agriculture and Food

The National Circle for Indigenous Agriculture and Food (NCIAF) is an Indigenous-led non-profit dedicated to advancing reconciliation for Indigenous communities and Peoples in the agriculture industry by revitalizing their involvement and fostering collaboration with non-Indigenous stakeholders. NCIAF's mission is to empower Indigenous communities in building sustainable businesses, reclaiming food sovereignty, and strengthening food security. Through strategic connections and initiatives focused on reconciliation, business development, and capacity building, NCIAF accelerates Indigenous agriculture, agribusiness, and food production, while promoting a more inclusive, sustainable future and honouring their traditions, lands, and Mother Earth. #NourishingNationsEmpoweringGenerations #ReconciliAG

#### About Bayer

Bayer is a global enterprise with core competencies in the life science fields of health care and nutrition. In line with its mission, "Health for all, Hunger for none," the company's products and services are designed to help people and the planet thrive by supporting efforts to master the major challenges presented by a growing and aging global population. Bayer is committed to driving sustainable development and generating a positive impact with its businesses. At the same time, the Group aims to increase its earning power and create value through innovation and growth. The Bayer brand stands for trust, reliability, and quality throughout the world. In fiscal 2023, the Group employed around 100,000 people and had sales of 47.6 billion euros. R&D expenses before special items amounted to 5.8 billion euros. For more information, go to [www.bayer.ca](http://www.bayer.ca).