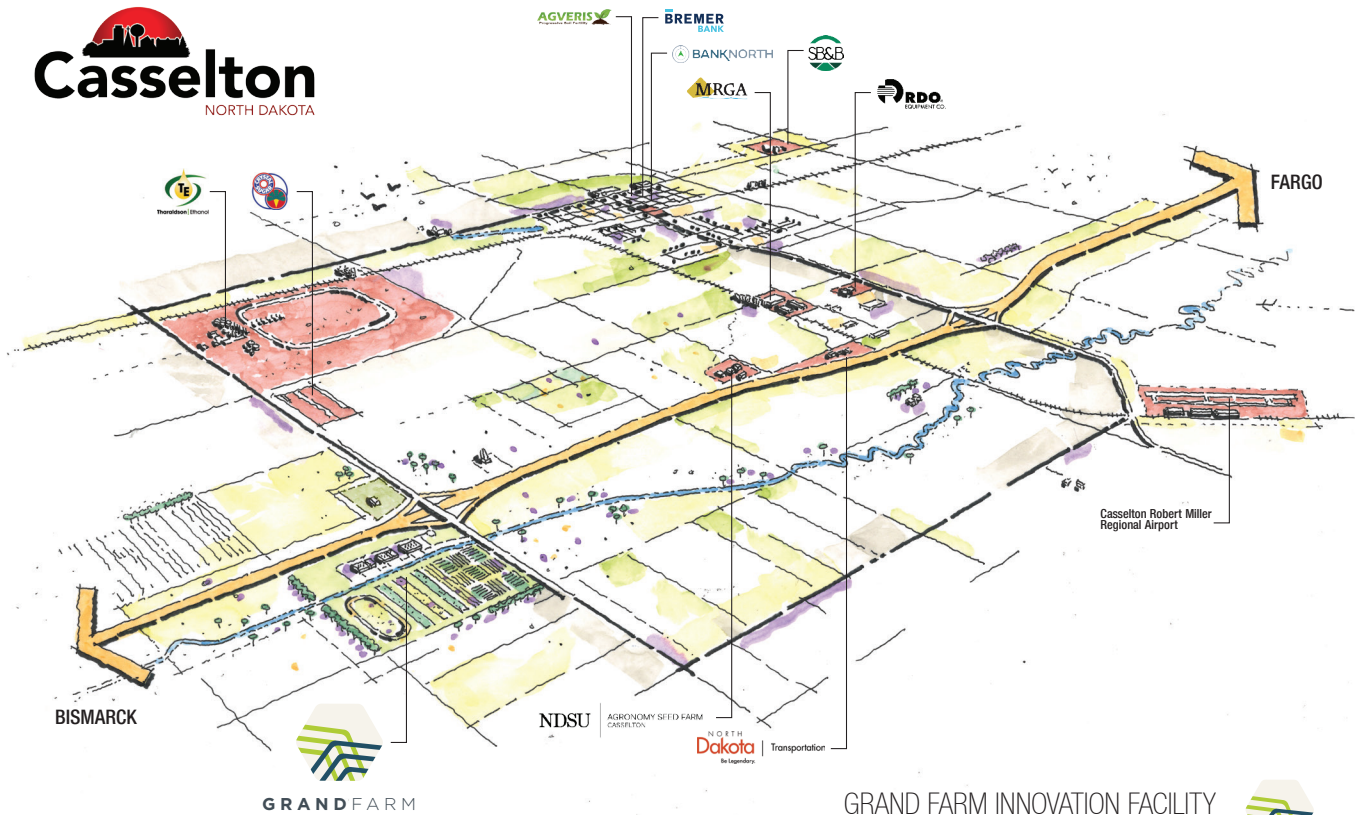


# ***Activating Innovation***



**GRAND FARM**

# The Future of Grand Farm



JLG ARTWORK BY © 2022 JLG ARCHITECTS

GRAND FARM INNOVATION FACILITY  
CASSELTON, ND



# Gratitude to Those Who Make this Possible



## \$10 Million Matching Grant from ND

Grand Farm was awarded a \$10 Million matching grant by the North Dakota Legislature and State Department of Commerce to further advance agriculture technology through a world-class innovation facility.

## Gary Tharaldson \$1 Million Donation

Following the announcement of the State of North Dakota's matching grant, Gary Tharaldson stepped forward a \$1 Million gift.



## Business Supporters

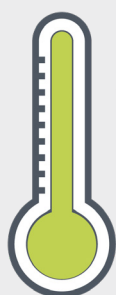


## Thank You

Barry Batcheller  
Cynthia Schreiber-Beck  
Julie Burgum

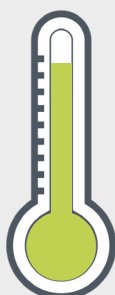
Howard Dahl  
Greg Tehven  
Keith Peltier

## Fundraising Update



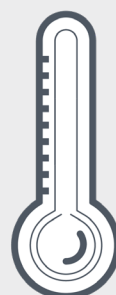
**Phase 1 //**  
**Acquire the Land**  
Amount: \$750k

**COMPLETE!**



**Phase 2 //**  
**Infrastructure for the Campus**  
Amount: \$2.25 Million

**ALMOST THERE!**



**Phase 3 //**  
**Build the Innovation Facility**  
Amount: \$7 Million

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

\* all donations matched 1:1 by State of North Dakota

# GRAND FARM PARTNERS



Kevin & Stacy  
Biffert



Microsoft

NDSU



Tharaldson | Ethanol



BUSHEL



LAND O' LAKES, INC.



Botlink



splunk>

spotlight.



TRILOGY



## GRAND FARM BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**Mike Derheim**  
Co-Founder,  
The Nerdery



**Cynthia Schreiber-Beck**  
North Dakota State  
Representative



**Jay Schuler**  
Regional Ag  
Entrepreneur



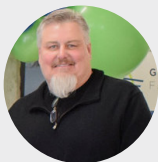
**Taya Spelhaug**  
TechSpark Manager,  
Microsoft



**Mark Watne**  
President, North Dakota  
Farmers Union



**Eric Hardmeyer**  
Former CEO,  
Bank of North Dakota



**Ron Holiday**  
Grower



**Jake Joraanstad,**  
CEO,  
Bushel



**Sarah Lovas**  
Agronomist,  
GK Technology, Inc.

## A special thank you to Grand Farm's founding steering committee

**Lauris Molbert**, Retired CEO, TMI Hospitality, Inc.

- Steering Committee Co-Chair

**Christi Offutt**, Chair, RD Offutt Co.

- Steering Committee Co-Chair

**Barry Batcheller**, Former President + CEO,  
Appareo Systems

**Tammy Miller**, COO, State of North Dakota

**Jake Joraanstad**, Co-founder, Bushel

**Eric Hardmeyer**, Former CEO, Bank of North Dakota

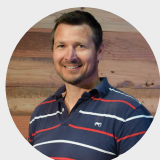
**Kevin Biffert**, Founder, 701x

**Mike Derheim**, Co-founder, The Nerdery

**Michelle Kommer**, Former Commissioner,  
North Dakota Department of Commerce

**Greg Tehven**, CEO + Co-founder, Emerging Prairie

## GRAND FARM GROWER ADVISORY BOARD



**Kyle Courtney**  
Dickey County, ND



**David Gorder**  
Grand Forks County, ND



**Verna Kragnes**  
Clay County, MN



**Vanessa Kummer**  
Richland County, ND



**Kathi Luther**  
Cass County, ND



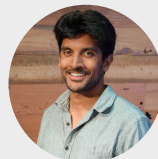
**Sarah Lovas**  
Traill County, ND



**Shelby Lyons**  
Ransom County, ND



**Ryan Olson**  
Norman County, MN



**Quinn Renfandt**  
Ward County, ND



**Adam Spelhaug**  
Richland County, ND.

## Capital Campaign Steering Committee

**Barry Batcheller**, Co-Chair, Former President + CEO,  
Appareo Systems

**Bernie Sinner**, Co-Chair, President/Senior Lending  
Officer, BankNorth

**Jim Hodge**, Consultant

**Scott Holdman**, Chief Transformation Officer,  
Impact Institute

**Jonathan Holth**, Managing Director, Office of Recovery  
Reinvented, State of North Dakota

**Taya Spellhaug**, TechSpark Manager, Microsoft

**Eric Wilkie**, Executive Director, FM Area Foundation

## Why Build?

We've explored our options and determined that constructing an innovation facility on our own acreage will best allow us to activate innovation. While our current test site has exceeded expectations, the reality is that we have outgrown the acreage we have and seek to provide additional capabilities to our partners.

### Current challenges include:

- Grand Farm does not own its current acreage.
- Desire for closer proximity to growers and partners.
- Need for year-round access of permanent physical structure(s) and amenities.
- Lack of onsite capabilities including laboratory and prototyping.
- Inability to house full-time onsite staff.

## Our Vision for the Innovation Facility

Over the course of deploying more than 350 agriculture technology projects in the field, we have gained valuable insight into the needs and capabilities required for our partners.

### Our vision includes space to accommodate additional partners, staff, and community members. Including:

- Large welcome area that also tells the story of our region's leadership in agriculture innovation.
- Conference rooms and meeting space that provide classroom and presentation capabilities.
- Working office space for partners and staff members with individual desk space and group tables where product development can occur.

### We envision capabilities to enable partners to ideate, create, build, and test all in one location. Including:

- Workshop space for product development and testing, the latest equipment, and private, secured workspaces with close proximity to project acreage.
- Large garage workshop space for development and testing on larger pieces of equipment with direct access to the field.
- Dirt track availability to conduct experiments in the field.

“Our state can be the leader in advanced agriculture technology as a place bringing together growers, established businesses, aspiring companies, and entrepreneurs”



**Sen. Ron Sorvaag**  
North Dakota State Senator

# TIMELINE

## October 2019

Microsoft pledges \$1.5 million to support and accelerate the Grand Farm initiative



## April 2019

Launch of Grand Farm, with U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue, U.S. Senators John Hoeven & Kevin Cramer & ND Governor Doug Burgum



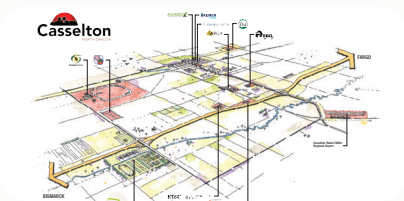
## February 2022

Awarded \$10M Matching Grant from State of North Dakota



## May 2022

Site Location Announced



## June 2022

Property Acquired



## June 2022

First \$1 Million Donation Made



## October 2022

Ground Breaking

## Spring 2023

Projects Begin at the Site

## Fall/Winter 2023

Phase 1 Complete

## Our Mission

# Enabling Technology to Feed the World

## Our Story

Grand Farm empowers a neutral platform for industry, producers, higher education, and government to collaborate on autonomous and advanced agriculture technology.

Grand Farm started around a community challenge and has transformed into a global leader of AgTech innovation.

In 2017, local entrepreneur Barry Batcheller challenged the community to define our region's major - a specialty that attracts innovation and new businesses to the area. What followed was an idea to lean into our region's strong history in agriculture innovation and create a place where stakeholders across the globe could come together to solve the biggest challenges facing agriculture.

By 2018, local business and civic leaders had come together to champion the idea, led by Emerging Prairie. Local AgTech business owners, Kevin and Stacey Biffert, donated land to be used for the concept. By the spring of 2019, Grand Farm was positioned with land, partners, and projects. The U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, Sonny Perdue, came to North Dakota as a guest of Senator John Hoeven to help break ground on the Grand Farm Test Site. And in the fall of that year, Microsoft pledged \$1.5 Million to support and accelerate Grand Farm.

In early 2022, Grand Farm was awarded a \$10 Million matching grant by the North Dakota Legislature and State Department of Commerce to further advance agriculture technology through a world-class innovation facility.

Today, our partners are collaborating on cutting edge autonomous and advanced agriculture technology innovations, and Grand Farm has grown its reach from regional to global.

## A MESSAGE FROM

## OUR DIRECTOR

“If you’ve ever been to the Grand Farm site you know that it is more than just dirt. It’s where we bring together growers, research institutions, startups, and established companies to collaborate on some of the biggest issues facing the agriculture industry. When you step onto the site you see the test plots where AgTech projects are being facilitated. You see our partners conducting experiments and working together. You see our dedicated staff providing their world-class expertise in the field. But what you don’t see is our own facility. We are quickly outgrowing our current acreage and infrastructure as we have become a leader in providing cutting-edge research and analysis, and seek a permanent innovation facility that will continue our leadership in developing technological and human solutions for farming in a new era. We’re asking you to join us in activating innovation.

Brian Carroll  
Director, Grand Farm



## A MESSAGE FROM

## OUR CO-FOUNDER

“In 2019, we introduced Grand Farm to the World. We believed it was our region’s moonshot. And we have seen its impact unfold in providing space for research, access to the AgTech community, and opportunities for innovators to participate alongside growers and producers. Our vision was bold, but held enormous potential. The North Dakota Legislature and State Department of Commerce believed in our vision and awarded Grand Farm a \$10 Million matching grant towards our Innovation Facility. This new facility will allow us year-round capability to continue activating innovation. The next step is here. Let’s keep building - together.

Greg Tehven  
CEO + Co-founder, Emerging Prairie  
Co-founder, Grand Farm



# Our Impact

Grand Farm directly engages the community, bringing together local stakeholders with organizations from around the world to collaborate on innovations solving some of the world's largest challenges in AgTech.

Grand Farm was developed to be additive to existing infrastructure, programs, and state/federal investments. Its independent, neutral-platform allows for direct and rapid engagement with growers, industry, researchers, and government. This gaps-based approach maximizes investment into programs, facilities, and infrastructure.

## SINCE 2019



**350+**  
Projects Deployed



**55+**  
Countries Engaged



**300+**  
Event Presenters



**80+**  
Events Hosted



**55+**  
Partners



**2,800+**  
People Engaged  
with Grand Farm

## Future Impact

Grand Farm has already demonstrated its ability to attract businesses, people, and capital to the region, whether for collaboration, relocation, or investment, and our Innovation Facility will allow us to significantly grow this impact.

The Innovation Facility will not only create a hub of innovative activity in the agriculture and technology industries leading to high-paying, high-skilled jobs, it will also serve as an attractor of venture capital for early-stage companies and long-term investment by enterprise and research organizations. This activity and investment will flow into our community and ultimately create a deep, positive impact on our region.



**Ehsan Soltan**

Founder + CEO at Soiltech Wireless



“There is a true entrepreneurial spirit in North Dakota and a wonderful ecosystem that has been created that does all it can to enable growth and success. We had such a positive experience that we selected Fargo as the hub for our midwest operations.”

# Meet the Team



**Dr. William Aderholdt**  
Director, PMO



**Liz Campbell**  
Director of Organizational  
Development



**Andrew Jason**  
Ecosystems Director



**Belle McLean**  
Partner Relations Coordinator



**Greg Tehven**  
CEO, Emerging Prairie



**Brian Carroll**  
Director



**Dr. Ruchi Joshi Bhardwaj**  
Grants & Education Coordinator



**Hali Christenson**  
Events Manager



**Nathan Marcotte**  
Project Manager



**Lloyd Nelson**  
Director of Finance  
& Operations



**Matt Wendel**  
Director of Marketing &  
Communications



**Ann Nobriga**  
Field Operations  
Program Manager



# Join us in activating innovation.

**Contact Greg Tehven**

greg@emergingprairie.com  
(701) 361-7274



**GRAND  
FARM**