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The Canadian Society of Soil Science and the Soil Science Society of America, as the scientific bodies representing the soil science discipline in Canada and United States respectively as well as the Soil and Water Conservation Society, representing conservation of soil resources, hereby proclaim the formation of North American Regional Soil Partnership (NARSP).

The North American Regional Soil Partnership will function as part of the Global Soil Partnership (GSP) that was established in 2013 under the auspices of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations with an overarching goal of increasing global adoption of sustainable soil management. All FAO member countries sit on the GSP. Both the Soil Science Society of America and the Canadian Society of Soil Science are members of the GSP.

At its initial plenary session in 2013 the GSP adopted five pillars of actions:

1. to promote sustainable management of soil resources for soil protection, conservation and sustainable productivity;
2. to encourage investment, technical cooperation, policy, education awareness and extension in sustainable soil management;
3. to promote targeted soil research on sustainable soil management and development focusing on identified gaps and priorities and synergies with related productive, environmental and social development actions;
4. to enhance the quantity and quality of global soil data and information: data collection (generation), analysis, validation, reporting, monitoring and integration with other disciplines;
5. harmonization of methods, measurements and indicators for the sustainable management and protection of soil resources.

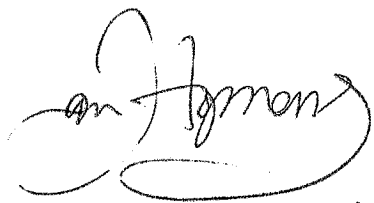
The North American Regional Soil Partnership will provide guidance on regional goals/ priorities and the required implementation mechanisms and will regularly review progress in reaching common objectives and targets. In particular, NARSP should facilitate links with national and local soil management programs and activities with a view to strengthening work on soils and to develop synergies with other relevant initiatives and activities.

Together as part of the North American Regional Soil Partnership we will:

1. Provide input to the development of work plans for the five pillars of the GSP program.
2. Develop implementation plans appropriate for North America of any initiatives that result from the five pillars of action of the GSP.
3. Provide names of scientific experts for GSP/ITPS initiatives such as section authors for the proposed State of the Worlds Soil Resource Report or peer-review of content produced for the report or other GSP/ITPS initiatives.

4. Coordinate North American regional projects such as the regional maps of selected threats to soil function (e.g. soil carbon change, nutrient imbalance) that are part of the State of the World Soil Resource Report.

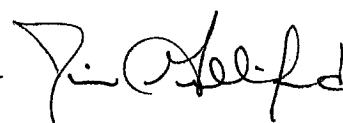
We enter into this relationship as founding members but will encourage additional members from government and non-government entities.



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