Dear Members,

I hope you will make plans to join us this summer for the 58th Annual Board of Delegates Meeting, scheduled for July 30 to Aug. 1 at the Grand Hyatt Denver. We look forward to this annual gathering of members where we can learn about and discuss the opportunities and challenges facing our collective industries.

This meeting will be an excellent opportunity for you to engage directly with fellow delegates and Council staff on opportunities and challenges facing U.S. agriculture. True to this year’s theme, Friends and Frontiers, we will dive into discussions on our global efforts to strengthen relationships with key partners and build new demand for coarse grains and co-products, including ethanol. Our A-Teams will also meet to get updates on specific commodities and markets and provide direction for staff in the coming critical months.

The sun never sets on our efforts to develop critical markets, dismantle trade barriers and serve our customers overseas – and we rely on your engagement as we peruse the important trade policy and market development work happening around the world.

Come, participate and share your ideas to help continue expanding U.S. exports of corn, sorghum, barley, ethanol, DDGS and more!

I look forward to seeing you in Denver.

Sincerely,

Deb Keller | Chairman

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**Message from the Chairman**

58 Annual Board of Delegates Meeting
Grand Hyatt Denver
Denver, Colorado
July 30 - Aug. 1, 2018

**Sunday, July 29**
AFTERNOON
Optional Tour: Denver City Tour

**Monday, July 30**
MORNING
Introducing the Council: New to the U.S. Grains Council? This session is for you! Meet USGC board and staff members and learn how to take full advantage of the USGC membership meeting. By Invitation Only.

General Session: Start Monday morning with an official welcome to Denver, building on this year’s theme Friends and Frontiers.

Spouse/Guest Welcome Breakfast: Join old friends and make new ones at this welcome for spouses and guests. There is no charge for this event, but registration is required.

Optional Tour: Food Bank of the Rockies

AFTERNOON
A-Team Meetings: USGC

Advisory Teams (A-Teams) are the backbone of the council, guiding strategy related to Asia, Ethanol, Innovation and Sustainability, Middle East/Africa, Trade Policy, Value-Added and Western Hemisphere. The Council encourages anyone who is not a member of an A-Team to sit in on these sessions to find out more about USGC programs.

**EVENING**

Evening Reception: Join fellow USGC members and guests at an evening reception. This
Planning Guide

Hotel Reservations

All meetings will take place at the:

Grand Hyatt Denver
1750 Welton Street
Denver, CO 80202
Phone: 303-295-1234

Reservations can be made online at the Council’s website, www.grains.org/event/denver, or by calling the hotel’s reservation department at 303-295-1324 and identifying oneself as an attendee of the U.S. Grains Council meeting to receive the discounted rate.

The Council has negotiated a room rate of $195 per night, single or double occupancy, plus taxes of 15.75 percent. Check-in time is 3 p.m.; check-out time is noon.

The room reservation deadline is Monday, July 2018. After this date, the hotel will accept reservations on a space-available basis.

Ground Transportation

The Grand Hyatt Denver is approximately 25 miles from the Denver International Airport (DEN). Transportation to the hotel via taxi will cost approximately $65 one way. Uber is available at an estimated cost of $40 one way.

SuperShuttle service is available, estimated at $24 one way from Denver International Airport (DEN). To book a Super Shuttle, visit www.supershuttle.com.

Attire

Business casual attire is appropriate for all meetings. Casual attire with comfortable shoes is appropriate for the tours. In Denver, the average high temperature for July/August is 88 degrees with an average low of 59 degrees. The average rainfall for July/August is 2.057 inches.

REAL ID Act

Starting on October 10, 2018, passengers flying on commercial aircraft will need to have driver’s licenses compliant with the REAL ID Act or an alternative form of acceptable identification. This regulation will affect travel to the USGC meeting in Denver.

The REAL ID Act, enforced by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), was passed following recommendations by the 9/11 Commission to set standards for secure driver’s licenses and identification documents. The REAL ID Act prohibits federal agencies from accepting, for certain purposes, driver’s licenses and identification cards from states that do not meet the Act’s minimum standards.

Find out more about the REAL ID Act and if your state is affected by going to www.dhs.gov/real-id#.

Optional Tour: Denver Botanic Gardens

LATE MORNING

General Session: Using current events as a backdrop, the Council has a robust line-up of speakers to wade into important issues impacting the global grain trade.

LATE MORNING

Breakouts: Hear about what USGC is doing around the world to seize opportunities in key pockets of demand. These workshops will create time for deep dives into key countries and regions as well as group discussion.

EVENING

Offsite Event: The Denver Zoo is the host of the USGC offsite event. This event is free for registered attendees; additional guests can register for $115 each.

Wednesday, Aug. 1

MORNING

Board of Delegates Meeting: The last working session of the conference will be the Council’s business meeting. During this session, A-Team and sector leaders will present to the USGC Board of Delegates on priorities and key takeaways from their breakout sessions. Delegates will also elect new officers and members to the Board of Directors.

AFTERNOON

Board of Directors Meeting with Advisory Team Leaders

Optional Tour: Denver Craft Brewery Tour
DENVER CITY OVERVIEW TOUR

This city tour is an entertaining drive that will immerse you in the local history and culture of Denver. From Lower Downtown (LoDo) to several surrounding neighborhoods, you will hear aspiring stories that make Denver unique. Significant sites like Denver Union Station, Coors Field, the Denver Mint, Colorado State Capitol Building, Civic Center Park and Molly Brown House will be included in the tour.

Cost: $65 per person
Tour Includes: Roundtrip transportation, private tour, water, snacks and lunch.

MONDAY, JULY 30

FOOD BANK OF THE ROCKIES

Volunteer with the Food Bank of the Rockies. Spend your afternoon in the organization’s warehouse packing, sorting and distributing goods to local agencies to help feed those in Denver in need.

Cost: $25 per person
Tour Includes: Fee is to cover roundtrip transportation only. *Participation is limited.

TUESDAY, JULY 31

DENVER BOTANIC GARDENS

Take a tour of the world class art exhibitions and plants from the Rocky Mountain region at Denver Botanic Gardens, including the sculpture exhibit “Pixelated” by Mike Whiting. Afterwards, enjoy a private lunch at Bigsby’s Folly, a local Denver craft winery.

Cost: $70 per person
Tour Includes: Roundtrip transportation, docent tour and lunch.

DENVER ZOO – OFFSITE EVENT

The Denver Zoo is the place for the final offsite event where we can have a chance to relax and enjoy what the zoo has to offer after hours.

Cost: $115 per person for guests; this is free for registered attendees.
Tour Includes: Roundtrip transportation, entertainment and dinner.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 1

DENVER CRAFT BREWERY TOUR

Denver’s craft brewers are among the most innovative in the nation. On this tour, you will learn local beer and be immersed in Denver’s different neighborhoods and entrepreneurial vibe. You will meet local brewers who are masters of their trade, learn more about their passion and sample hand-picked selections of their delicious beer.

Cost: $75 per person
Tour Includes: Roundtrip transportation, guided tour, snacks and beverages.