



**RLND Seminar Eight Agenda
Understanding North Dakota Ag and Rural Policy
Bismarck, ND
Best Western Ramkota Hotel, ND
January 8-10, 2009**

Objectives of the Seminar:

- Understand the issues affecting agriculture and rural policy in North Dakota.
- Understand how to become involved in the policy making process.
- Visit with individuals and organizations that provide assistance to North Dakotans.
- Participants will observe and participate in the political process in North Dakota.

Prewrite for the Seminar

- Send invitation to your local legislators inviting them to the RLND “meet and greet” social on Thursday, January 8, 2009 at the Kelly Inn in Bismarck.

Hotel arrangements:

The Best Western Ramkota Hotel in Bismarck is located at 800 S. 3rd St.
1-800-528-1234, www.bestwestern.com.

Meeting room arrangements:

Best Western Ramkota Hotel, Room 2130
800 S. 3rd St.
Bismarck, ND
701-258-7700
800-528-1234
www.bestwestern.com

Marie’s cell phone # 701-730-1282

Cindy’s cell phone # 701-261-6699

Thursday, January 8th

Dress – Business Professional

- 12:30 – 12:45 ***Gather in meeting room at Bank of North Dakota (light refreshments will be available.)***
1200 Memorial Highway
Bismarck, ND 58504
1-800-472-2166
- 12:45 – 1:00 Review of January seminar agenda
Catherine, Mary and Angie, January SMT
- 1:00 – 1:15 Welcome
Eric Hardmeyer, President
Bank of North Dakota
- 1:15 – 2:15 U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Presentation
A. Fay Behm
Business Development Specialist
U.S. Small Business Administration
- ND Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Presentation
Nancy Krogen-Abel
Regional Director, Bismarck Office
ND Small Business Development Center
- Fay will take us on a tour of the bank.
- 2:15 – 3:15 The Effective Hometown Advocate presentation
Connie Sprynczynatyk
Executive Director
North Dakota League of Cities
- 3:15 – 3:30 Break
- 3:30 – 4:30 Presentation on what is happening in the Bismarck/Mandan area
Russ Staiger
President/CEO Bismarck-Mandan Development Association
- 4:30 – 5:30 Travel to Ramkota Hotel and check into rooms

- 5:30 – 5:45 Travel to the Kelly Inn for legislative social.
Kelly Inn is located at 1800 N. 12th St. (north of Capitol Bldg.)
- 6:00 – 8:00 Meet and greet social with local legislators of RLND alumni and participants.
Kelly Inn – Embassy Meeting room
Sponsored by Rural Leadership North Dakota (RLND) Alumni Association
RLND Alumni and participants - hosts
- 6:30 Welcome and short program
Becky Meidinger
President, RLND Alumni Association
- 8:00 – 8:45 Discussion with RLND alumni and participants
Pizza will be served
Embassy meeting room
- 9:00 Networking – Room 2130, Ramkota Hotel

Friday, January 9th

Dress – Business Professional

- 6:45 – 7:55 Breakfast at the hotel, Room 2130
- 8:00 – 8:25 Drive to Capitol Building
Meet in Ag Commissioner Johnson’s Office on 6th Floor
- 8:30 – 9:00 ***Meet with Ag Commissioner Roger Johnson (confirmed)***
6th Fl. Capitol Building
Conference Room
- 9:00 – 10:30 Meet with Senate/House Majority/Minority Leaders

Attend House/Senate Committee Hearing
- 10:30 – 11 a.m. Tour of Capitol (tentative)
- 11:00 – 11:30 ***Meet with Governor John Hoeven,***
Lance Gaebe, Deputy Chief of Staff (confirmed)
Governor’s Conference Room
Ground Floor, Capitol Building

- 11:30 – 11:45 Travel to Wood House Restaurant or ND Association of Counties Meeting Room for lunch and meeting.
- 11:45 – 1:45 p.m. Lunch – Wood House or ND Assoc. of Counties Meeting Room
Lunch Speakers:
Keith Trego, Director
North Dakota Natural Resources Trust
- Wayne Markegard, Coordinator*
North Dakota Resource Conservation & Development
- 1:45 – 1:55 Travel to Department of Commerce meeting room
1600 E. Century Ave. Suite 2
- 2:00 – 5:00 **North Dakota Department of Commerce Presentations**
- Paul Lucy, Director*
Economic Development & Finance Division
- Tracy Finneman, Marketing Manager*
Marketing and Communications
- Kathy Tweeten, Director*
Center for Community Vitality, NDSU Extension Service
- Break
- Sara Otte Coleman, Director*
Tourism Department
- Paul Govig, Director*
Division of Community Services
- Gordon LaFrance, Manager*
Renaissance Zone
(Paul and Gordon will give us a tour of the building.)
- 5:00 – 6:00 Travel time/unscheduled time
- 6:30 – 8:30 Leadership Dinner at Bistro (**RLND Alumni will be invited.**)
www.bistro1100.com
1103 East Front Ave.
Justin Dever, Manager
Office of Innovation and Strategic Initiatives
ND Department of Commerce – Dinner Speaker

9:00 and on Networking, Room 2130, Ramkota Hotel

Saturday, January 10th

Dress – Business Casual

6:45 – 7:55	Breakfast at the hotel in meeting room (2130)
8:00 – 10:15	Discuss Washington DC trip – professional development day, Saturday open day, subway “scavenger hunt” <i>Rich Blahut, facilitator</i>
	Participants complete non-employee reimbursement form Update on RLND projects Reflections <i>Marie Hvidsten, facilitator</i>
10:15 – 10:45	Break, check out of rooms
10:45 – Noon	Appropriate dress information - tentative JC Penney’s – Kirkwood Mall

Bringing It Home:

- Share information and ideas from the seminar with appropriate individuals in your organization and community.
- Make arrangements for professional development opportunities in Washington D.C.
- Interview one person with your questions around a topic from the political area.
- Challenge yourself to influence a political issue in your community.
- Work on your project.