

Downtown Business Association of Bismarck
204 N 4th St
Bismarck ND 58501

Press Release

Phone: 701-223-1958

FMI Contact: Kate Herzog

Email: kate@downtownbismarck.com

For Immediate Release:

September 28, 2015

5th Annual North Dakota Downtown Conference

Bismarck ND- The Downtown Business Association of Bismarck is hosting the 5th Annual North Dakota Downtown Conference Oct 20-21 in Downtown Bismarck. This two day event is geared toward Downtown Stakeholders in North Dakota and the surrounding region to learn about best practices while creating a network and providing a forum for Downtown stakeholders in North Dakota for the purpose of Downtown Revitalization for their communities.

The year five conference theme is Capturing Talent by Creating Vibrant Downtowns. Topics presented at this year's conference will focus on attracting and retaining talent in North Dakota by creating vibrant Downtowns and Main Streets, a key requirement for today's professionals. A highly experienced panel of Downtown Professionals will be presenting topics that promote talent recruitment.

Community Keynote Speaker Hugh Weber, founder of OTA, will kick off the conference with a presentation that is open to the public. Since 2009, OTA has served as a collaborative network for the region's creative class, offering extraordinary experiences and engagements that educate, empower and serve as a catalyst for community-builders and thought leaders to improve the lives of all people living in MinnesOTA, North DakOTA and South DakOTA. Hugh's presentation will start at 3:00pm October 20 at Dakota Stage Theater. Community attendance is encouraged with free tickets available online and social to follow.

The Kilbourne Group's Business Development Manager and Bismarck native, Cam Knutson, will be presenting his experience with Fargo's successful Great Rides Bike Share in a 1 Million Cups format as the ND Downtown Conference teams up with 1 Million Cups Bismarck-Mandan at 9am for the day two kickoff.

Wayde Sick, Director of Workforce Development at the ND Department of Commerce, will be showcasing the Find the Good Life in North Dakota Initiative encouraging workers to bring their talents to North Dakota. Wayde will be presenting along with two businesses that have used Downtown as a recruiting tool.

There will also be a Regional Downtown Spotlight to close the conference. Anthony Nemcek with the board of Downtown Red Wing (Minnesota) Main Street since 2011 and current active transportation coordinator for the City of Red Wing will speak on his work with Red Wing Downtown Main Street. The group has been maintaining the aesthetics of downtown and capitalizing on Red Wing's natural and historic beauty while also improving economic vitality through innovative programs and policy initiatives.

To register for the full North Dakota Downtown Conference, visit www.downtownbismarck.com.

For more information on each speaker or to register for Hugh Weber's community keynote, visit www.nddowntowns.com.