

# DAKOTA DOWNLOAD

Governor Burgum's weekly update | May 25, 2018



## ZINKE VISITS NORTH DAKOTA

U.S. Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke got an up-close look at some of North Dakota's biggest challenges and opportunities during an extended visit this week. Zinke's visit included a tour of Theodore Roosevelt National Park with Gov. Doug Burgum and Lt. Gov. Brent Sanford; a meeting with members of the state's American Indian tribes; touring an oil drilling rig and delivering the keynote address at the Williston Basin Petroleum Conference; and discussions in which Zinke voiced support for a proposed Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library at Medora. Burgum and Sanford also joined Zinke and state legislators Wednesday on a tour of the McClusky Canal and Snake Creek Pumping Plant near Coleharbor, underscoring their importance to proposed water projects such as the Red River Valley Water Supply Project. To see more from Secretary Zinke's visit, click [here](#).

# OPTIMISM HIGH AT WILLISTON BASIN CONFERENCE



During his remarks to the 26th annual Williston Basin Petroleum Conference, Gov. Burgum highlighted the innovation that's driving a resurgence in North Dakota's oil industry and making the region ripe for investment, while also citing the state's significant workforce needs. With crude prices currently at their highest level in over four years, Burgum said there's reason for optimism. But he emphasized the state's workforce shortage is limiting economic growth and creating challenges for oil and gas operators and businesses statewide, with more than 14,700 online job listings and the nation's second-lowest unemployment rate at 2.6 percent. One way the state is addressing the shortage is through the Main Street Initiative, one of the governor's five strategic initiatives.



## BURGUM NAMED CHAIR OF IOGCC

The Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission (IOGCC) announced this week that member states voted unanimously to appoint Gov. Burgum as 2019 chairman of the commission. Richard Simmers of Ohio will serve as vice chairman and Charlie Burd of West Virginia will serve as second vice chairman. As governor, Burgum also serves as chairman of North Dakota's Industrial Commission, serving alongside the state's Attorney General and Agriculture Commissioner. Together, the three-person panel oversees regulation of the drilling and production of oil and gas. The IOGCC is a multi-state government agency that advocates for environmentally sound ways to increase the supply of American energy.



## LT. GOV. PARTICIPATES IN TRIBAL ENERGY TOUR

Lt. Gov. Sanford joined the U.S. Interior Department's Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, John Tahsuda III, Three Affiliated Tribes Chairman Mark Fox and other tribal leaders for a tribal energy tour hosted by Missouri River Resources. The tour highlighted innovation in energy development on tribal lands, as well as challenges the MHA Nation faces compared to non-tribal counterparts.



## GOVERNOR AND FIRST LADY ADDRESS YCC GRADUATION

Gov. Burgum and First Lady Kathryn Helgaas Burgum spoke Friday at the Marmot School Graduation at the North Dakota Youth Correctional Center in Mandan. Overcoming numerous challenges in life, 16 students earned their high school diploma or GED over the past year. After graduating, they will pursue continuing education or enter the workforce. The governor and first lady recognized the graduates' achievements and encouraged them to lead lives grounded in curiosity, humility, courage and gratitude.

## HIGHER EDUCATION TASK FORCE SEEKS OPEN COMMENT

Members of the Task Force for Higher Education Governance are seeking input from North Dakotans on the existing governance structure and areas for potential changes. The task force was created by Gov. Burgum in October to assess the current structure and provide recommendations to the 2019 Legislature. Those wishing to submit comments may do so [here](#). The deadline for submission is June 4.