



MADC President leaving in late 2019; Board evaluating next steps

The Minot Area Development Corporation (MADC) announced in September that President and CEO Stephanie Hoffart will be transitioning away from her current position on November 2. The MADC Board of Directors is evaluating next steps to take in the continued effort to fulfill their mission of facilitating business attraction, expansion, retention, and advocacy to diversify and strengthen the Minot area.



"Stephanie has worked hard on behalf of MADC and has been an asset in our community," said MADC Board Chair Brekka Kramer. "We wish her the best of luck and we look forward to determining as a board and as a community the next steps toward reaching our stated vision of building a resilient, sustainable, and diversified economy to ensure Minot is the right place for businesses and families."

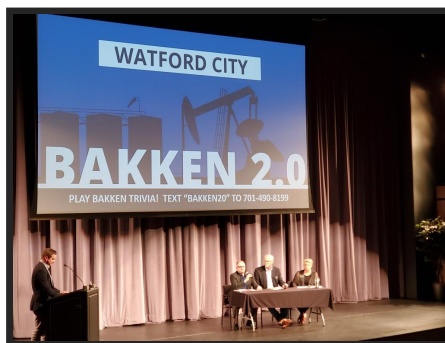
"I will continue to be a strong advocate for all that the Minot Area Development Corporation champions for businesses and growth in our region and I couldn't be prouder of all that our community and region have accomplished in recent years," said Hoffart.

Hoffart joined MADC as the vice president in November 2009 and was promoted to President and CEO in August 2014. Her work over the years has included leading the team to earn national distinction for the Industrial Park of Minot in becoming a BNSF Site Certified location. Her focused efforts on Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) has helped to grow the Minot MAGIC Sky Initiative. Hoffart also championed efforts to support Minot as the Gateway to the Bakken for energy companies, and as a leading hub for agriculture production in the region.

MADC presence at NDPC Annual Meeting

Did you know North Dakota set all-time records with oil and gas production in July 2019? It's only fitting for Ron Ness, President of the [North Dakota Petroleum Council](#) (NDPC), to

welcome the NDPC Annual Meeting with "Building the Bakken, Big Records Require Big Ideas." The three-day conference covered industry updates, including pipeline development, the future for royalty owners, NDPC's year in review, industry projects, workforce & skill training, and much more. Stephanie Hoffart, president and CEO, represented MADC at NDPC's Annual Meeting in Watford City.



Work continues on Minot's levee system

Minot is home to 22 miles of levees, which have been constructed to prevent the overflow of the Souris River. The levees are not meant to be driven on by any type of vehicle, said Public Works Director Dan Jonasson.



"We want to remind everyone that it's illegal to drive a vehicle of any kind on the levees, whether it's the old ones or the new ones," Jonasson said. "Vehicles leave ruts on top of the levees, and then we get water pooling in those ruts and that can endanger the structural integrity of the levees."

While they may look finished, the newly constructed levees in southwest Minot, near the Jack Hoeven Wee Links and baseball fields, are not yet open to pedestrian traffic, Jonasson said. Those levees include a dedicated walking path constructed on top.

"We should have those open for pedestrians by the end of October, but we don't want anyone using them yet because there will still be some work going on in those areas and it isn't safe for pedestrians," he said. "I know they look like they're done, but they're really not finished, and we'd ask the public for a little more patience while we complete the finishing touches."

Jonasson said there are still some small items to finish this fall on the levee work for Phase 2 and Phase 3. For the latest information on the work being done on multiple phases of the Mouse River Enhanced Flood Protection project throughout the basin, [click here](#).

Minot City Council to talk recycling with residents

Recycling will be on the agenda for the Oct. 21 Minot City Council meeting. A presentation from Assistant Public Works Director Jason Sorenson and the following discussion will focus on gathering opinions and information from community

members about the potential implementation of a curbside recycling program in Minot. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 5:30 p.m. on Monday the 21st in Council Chambers at City Hall.



Annual Scandinavian fall festival a success

The 41st Annual Norsk Høstfest is in the books. Norsk Høstfest, which translates to Norwegian Fall Festival, was a success in Minot at the end of September. Comedian Gabriel "Fluffy" Iglesias was a crowd favorite and one of the best attended shows with the younger demographic. The organizers of the event were pleased to see how the younger generation and their families came out to experience the "Pure Scandimonium" this year. Leann Mellum, marketing director, said they brought in several new vendors from North Dakota and around the world this year which enhanced their offerings and was well received by the attendees.



During the event, the City of Minot was pleased to welcome a Norwegian Delegation from Skien, Norway, Minot's Sister City. The delegation of eight participated in several activities with city officials and attended the annual festival for the lefse and, of course, for the fun! The annual event will return to the North Dakota State Fair Events Center in 2020 from September 30 to October 3.

Minot State inducts Pinnick to Academic Hall of Fame

Minot State University's Academic Hall of Fame committee honored its 2019 inductee Veronica (Cavallo) Pinnick (Class of 2004) at the MSU Student Center Conference Center in early October, during Homecoming Week.



Pinnick is currently an Integration and Test Manager at NASA Goddard Space Center in Greenbelt, Maryland.

She joins eight others in the Minot State Academic Hall of Fame. Robert Hubbard was inducted in 2014, Kim Baldrige in 2013, Robert Holmen and Joe Alme in 2012, and Carrie Forshner Evans, Lisa Feldner, Delane C. Kristky, and Rosanne Olson were a part of the inaugural class in 2011.

After earning a Bachelor of Arts in Chemistry degree from Minot State in 2004, Pinnick attended Texas A&M where she completed a doctorate in analytical chemistry in 2009.

Pinnick finished work on a highly advanced mass spectrometer for the Mars Organic Molecule Analyzer that will be sent into space in 2020 as part of the Exo Mars Rover's mission to Mars in June. She is transitioning into two new missions, Plankton, Aerosol, Ocean Ecosystem and a project for Mars Sample Return.

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