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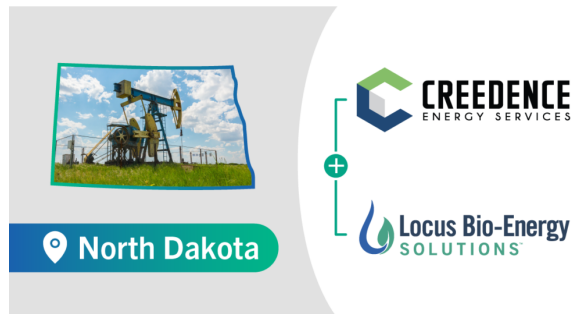
Minot, North Dakota's
GATEWAY TO THE BAKKEN

**ND INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION
 APPROVES GRANT TO TRIAL GREEN
 ENHANCED OIL RECOVERY (EOR)
 TREATMENTS**

Amid growing ESG and financial pressure on oil & gas operations nationwide, the [North Dakota Industrial Commission \(NDIC\)](#) has approved a grant to trial new green oilfield chemistries in wells across the state. In a 7-0 unanimous vote, funding was awarded to [Creedence Energy Services](#) through the commission's [Oil and Gas Research Program \(OGRP\)](#) for use of biosurfactant treatments developed by green tech startup, [Locus Bio-Energy Solutions \(Locus BE\)](#). Beginning in Q1, the trials will evaluate the treatments' ability to sustainably increase oil mobility and production -- providing operators with economically feasible means to do more with current assets to overcome depressed oil prices and reduced capital available for new well completions.

"Through our partnership with Locus Bio-Energy, Creedence is thrilled to have received the grant from the NDIC to conduct trials of our innovative and novel biosurfactants," said

Kevin Black, President of Creedence Energy Services. "This technology could be a game-changer for enhanced oil production and would make a meaningful impact on the oil and



gas industry in North Dakota."

Read more [here](#).

BUCKY ANDERSON TO REPRESENT WARD COUNTY ON MINOT CHAMBER EDC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Minot Area Chamber Economic Development Corporation (EDC) welcomes Bucky Anderson as the newest member of the board of directors.

Bucky was elected to the Ward County Commission in November of 2020 and will serve as the Ward County representative on the board.

MINOT AIR FORCE BASE ECONOMIC IMPACT

Minot Air Force Base contributed \$622.3 million to the local economy in the fiscal year 2020, an almost seven percent increase from the previous fiscal year.

The annual economic impact analysis was presented to the Minot Area Chamber EDC's Military Affairs Committee meeting on Thursday, February 4th.

The annual analysis includes the annual payroll of military members and civilians employed at the base, expenditures, and estimated dollar value of the jobs created. With a total of 12,400 personnel, Minot Air Force Base is the area's largest employer and the dollar value of jobs in the community created by the base comes in at \$106.4 million.



MINOT AIR FORCE BASE B-52 TO BE FEATURED IN SUPER BOWL FLYOVER

A B-52 Stratofortress from Minot Air Force Base will be featured in a trifecta bomber flyover, the first-of-its-kind, during the National Anthem performance at the fifty-fifth Super Bowl on February 7th.

The aircraft will take off for the Super Bowl flyover from their respective bases, join up for the flyover, and return to base following the event, demonstrating the flexibility of the

bombers and their ability to deploy anywhere in the world from the continental United States.

Find more information [here](#).

WINTER FUN IN MINOT

Living in North Dakota means we get to celebrate all four seasons throughout the year. As a Mid-westerer you know how to embrace winter. Visit Minot’s content helps travelers as they decide how to spend their time off. Whether you are traveling for business or for a family getaway, our recently updated Outdoor Winter Activities will keep you busy during the cooler months with outside fun right around the Minot area. Our city is perfectly located around some of the best snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, and snowmobiling in the state. After an outdoor adventure in Minot, we know our partners will make you feel right at home, with a hot meal, and a warm bed. Make time for fun!

For all [Outdoor Winter Activities](#) in Minot, check out our website for more details.

MAYOR SIPMA LIFTS CITYWIDE MASK MANDATE EFFECTIVE JAN. 29

Minot Mayor Shaun Sipma, through executive order, has lifted the citywide mask mandate, effective Jan. 29.

Sipma’s decision coincides with Gov. Doug Burgum’s announcement that he has moved the entire state to the low-risk category based on North Dakota’s falling coronavirus positivity rates and the number of hospitalizations related to COVID-19. Burgum’s change also took effect on Jan. 29.



“With these reductions, I feel it is prudent at the local level to lift the mask mandate through executive order to coincide with the governor’s statewide risk reduction,” Sipma said.

Read more [here](#).

FIREFIGHTERS ASSIST IN DELIVERY OF BABY

The first call of their shift on Jan. 9 turned out to be an interesting and unusual one for Capt. Casey Meadows and other members of the Minot Fire Department. In a good way.

They didn't respond to the scene of a heartbreaking fire, or a tragic accident. Instead, the crew was part of something much more positive.

"We were dispatched out for a call of a female who had just given birth. In that scenario, we assume the baby's been delivered, and that's what we found on this call," Meadows said.

Read more [here](#).

MINOT FD, PD GETTING COVID VACCINATIONS

Members of the Minot Police Department and the Minot Fire Department have begun receiving vaccinations for COVID-19. Police Chief John Klug and Fire Chief Kelli Kronschnabel said it's important for first responders to be vaccinated against the virus because they are in constant contact with members of the public.

"For us, we don't control the settings we respond to. We don't know who we're going to have contact with," Klug said. "When we've gotten vaccinations in the past, it's been for the same reason: We



We can't control the environment we're in and we have to try to protect ourselves as best we can."

Read more [here](#).

NEW NURSING SIMULATIONS AT MINOT STATE

As Minot State University nursing students left for semester break, construction crews began arriving. Less than a month later, the Spring 2021 term began with triple the simulation space.

Thanks to a \$246,000 CARES Act grant, the Department of

Nursing now boasts three full-sized simulation lab rooms, a new high-fidelity mannequin, and other accessories, including a flat abdomen for their maternal mannequin. Renovations should be completed by Spring Break, with a storage room expansion occurring this summer.



"We wouldn't have been able to make these changes without the CARES grant," said April Warren, nursing chair. "Back in October, Dr. Geller (Laurie Geller, vice president for academic affairs) sent an email to all the chairs letting us know there were funds available. We had an opportunity to submit a grant request, and we put items together regarding the need for simulation expansion. When we were awarded, we were incredibly grateful."

Read more [here](#).

HESS CORPORATION DONATES LAPTOP COMPUTERS TO MINOT STATE

Minot State University bolstered its laptop inventory for distance learning thanks to a donation of 189 computers by Hess Corporation. Minot State plans to utilize the laptops for HyFlex and virtual learning with the donation, increasing the number of computers available for check out by nearly five-fold.

"We have seen a positive impact on getting technology into the hands of students," said Brent Lohnes, Hess ND general manager. "It's a pleasure to continue our collaboration with Minot State University and to provide computers to help students on campus."



The MSU IT department has been busy reimaging the computers for use in the classroom and has doubled its current capacity for check out. Along with students virtual learning environments, the computers can be used by faculty and staff that have been forced to work from home.

Read more [here.](#)

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