

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES 2021-2023

Description of the group (how it is governed)

The North Dakota Ethanol Council (NDEC) was established in 2009 by the North Dakota State Legislature to promote the state's ethanol industry. NDEC is funded by the first ethanol check-off program in the nation. Each ethanol plant pays a three one-hundredths of one cent assessment (check-off) per gallon of ethanol produced and sold in North Dakota.

NDEC consists of one individual appointed by each producer (plant). These include Blue Flint, Underwood; Dakota Spirit, Spiritwood; Hankinson Renewable Energy, Hankinson; Red Trail Energy, Richardton; Red River Biorefinery, Grand Forks; and Tharaldson Ethanol, Casselton. NDEC holds monthly meetings.

NDEC began contracting with Clearwater Communications for part-time executive director services in March 2010. Clearwater Communications Advisor Deana Wiese serves in this capacity.

Program descriptions (2021-2023)

NDEC reviews its mission and long-term goals annually as part of the development of its annual work plan and budget, which identifies its priorities for each year. In addition, NDEC held an industry strategic planning session in March 2022 to ensure long-term goals and objectives were still relevant given the changing nature of the industry. Below are the results of the strategic planning process.

Mission

Advance North Dakota's ethanol industry through innovative research, public education, industry and product promotion, and market development in collaboration with industry stakeholders.

Goal One – Increase consumption of North Dakota ethanol and coproducts

- A. Identified additional value-added products and markets for ethanol and coproducts
 1. Began outreach with stakeholders on opportunities and challenges with future endeavors such as sustainable aviation fuel, renewable chemicals and aquaculture
 2. Prioritized research that will assist in developing and employing carbon capture technologies and future opportunities such as sustainable aviation fuel, renewable chemicals and aquaculture
 3. Shared research priorities with ND Corn Utilization Council, ND State University and University of North Dakota to ensure research aligns with industry needs and identify ways to partner on ethanol and coproduct studies, as well as future opportunities
 4. Continued North Dakota Trade Office membership to support efforts to increase US ethanol exports
- B. Developed loyal consumers through education and incentives
 1. Initiated promotion efforts with retailer champions, including the Pink at the Pump campaign and outreach with Cenex-branded stations
 2. Continued to support and promote the ND Corn Utilization Council's Unleaded88 Expansion Program
 3. Collaborated with the ND Department of Transportation on Unleaded88 use in the state fleet
 4. Collaborated with Gateway to Science on an ethanol exhibit (funded through NDEC, industry stakeholders and ND Renewable Energy Council)
 5. Continued as a ND FFA Star Partner, providing outreach to students and educators
 6. Hosted numerous ethanol facility tours for local, state and federal leaders
 7. Updated and distributed 2021 and 2022 ethanol industry fact sheets to state and federal leaders, media and other stakeholders

8. Provided ethanol industry information to the ND EmPower Commission and Great Plains Energy Corridor for their respective publications
 9. Supported the Iowa Renewable Fuels Association Biofuels Tour
 10. Continued ethanol awareness radio campaign
- C. Continued relationships with national ethanol organizations, including the American Coalition for Ethanol, Renewable Fuels Association and Growth Energy, which monitor federal issues including the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS), Unleaded88 and trade
 - D. Participated in biannual State Renewable Fuels Trade Association Meetings to share best practices with state ethanol organizations in South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, and Illinois, which has resulted in several joint efforts between the states
 - E. Supported efforts to grow the state's livestock industry to increase use of distillers grains through participation in the ND Livestock Alliance and sponsorship of ND Dairy Convention

Goal Two – Ensure long-term ethanol industry sustainability

- A. Monitored state and federal issues impacting the ethanol industry and kept members informed
- B. Supported efforts to align ag improvements and technology to decrease the carbon intensity of corn to get ethanol plants to carbon neutral including collaboration with ND Farmers Union on the Evolution Ag Summit focused on carbon outreach
- C. Encouraged North Dakota scientists and academics to conduct research and studies in collaboration with industry to create more efficient production and utilization practices by holding annual meetings with ND State University and UND-EERC
- D. Supported research and development on next generation products and technology

Projected Activities (2023-2025)

Goal One – Increase consumption of North Dakota ethanol and coproducts

- A. Identify additional value-added products and markets for ethanol and coproducts such as aquaculture, pet food, renewable chemicals, and sustainable aviation fuels
- B. Provide producer input into ethanol-related research conducted by other entities, such as the ND Corn Utilization Council, ND State University and University of North Dakota
- C. Support efforts to increase US ethanol exports (i.e., NDTO membership)
- D. Develop loyal consumers through education and incentives
- E. Identify and address roadblocks to increased ethanol sales
- F. Partner with petroleum marketers to continue ethanol promotion activities
- G. Support the efforts of national ethanol organizations in collaborating with auto dealers and manufacturers
- H. Support efforts to grow the state's livestock industry to increase use of distillers grains

Goal Two – Ensure long-term ethanol industry sustainability

- A. Support efforts to align ag improvements and technology to decrease the carbon intensity of corn to get ethanol plants to carbon neutral
- B. Support national ethanol organization efforts to develop a regulatory infrastructure allowing E30 to be used across the fleet
- C. Develop better market access (pipelines)
- D. Support research and development on next generation products and technology
- E. Pursue opportunities to increase ethanol production efficiency

STATEMENT OF PROJECTED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
For the Current and Next Biennium
2021-2023 and 2023-2025
(UNAUDITED)

Prepared by North Dakota Ethanol Council

	2021-2023 <u>Biennium</u>	2023-2025 <u>Biennium</u>
Beginning Balance	\$237,350	\$172,000
Revenues:		
Assessments	\$310,000	\$310,000
Less:		
Refunds paid to producers	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Net Assessment Revenue	\$310,000	\$310,000
Interest Income	\$0	\$0
Grants	<u>\$85,000</u>	<u>\$70,000</u>
Total Revenue	\$395,000	\$380,000
Expenditures:		
Research, Education, Promotion	\$236,500	\$236,500
Executive Director	\$197,000	\$197,000
Copying & Printing	\$1,250	\$1,000
Equipment	\$200	\$200
Meeting Expenses	\$1,000	\$1,000
Audit	\$6,800	\$6,800
Postage	\$500	\$500
Supplies	\$350	\$200
Telephone & Conf. Calls	\$750	\$500
Sponsorships	\$9,000	\$6,000
Travel	\$6,000	\$4,000
Website	\$1,000	\$1,000
Total Expenditures	\$460,350	\$454,700
Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	-\$65,350	-\$74,700
Ending Balance	\$172,000	\$97,300