



KRATOM WORKING GROUP

Wednesday, August 12, 2026
Roughrider Room, State Capitol
Bismarck, North Dakota

- 10:30 a.m. Call to order
 Roll call
 Consideration of the [minutes of the August 7, 2026, meeting](#)
- 10:35 a.m. Comments by the Chairmen
- 10:40 a.m. Comments by interested persons related to the regulation of kratom
- 11:55 a.m. Committee discussion
- 12:00 noon Recess
- 12:30 p.m. [Presentation](#) by Ms. Charlene Rittenbach, Senior Forensic Scientist, Crime Laboratory, Attorney General's office, regarding kratom
- 12:50 p.m. [Presentation](#) by Dr. Danielle Thurtle, Pediatrician, Sanford Health, regarding kratom
- 1:10 p.m. [Presentation](#) by Ms. Cassandra Altringer, Certified Doctor of Nursing Practice, Coal Country Community Health Center, regarding kratom
- 1:30 p.m. Presentation by Ms. Jacki Gervais, Chief Operating Officer and Founder, Ridge Treatment and Reentry Center, regarding kratom
- 1:50 p.m. Presentation by Dr. Melissa J. Henke, Chief Medical Officer, Heartview Foundation, regarding kratom
- 2:10 p.m. [Presentation](#) by Ms. Molly Howell, Section Director, Disease Control and Forensic Pathology, Public Health Division, Department of Health and Human Services, regarding kratom
- 2:30 p.m. Working group discussion
- 2:35 p.m. Adjourn

A livestream of the meeting will be available to the public at: <https://video.ndlegis.gov>.

Committee Members

Senators: Michelle Axtman (Co-Chairman), Dick Dever

Representatives: Pat D. Heinert (Co-Chairman), Todd Porter, Robin Weisz

Staff Contacts: Victoria Christian, Counsel

Austin Gunderson, Counsel