

Dear Representative Nathe,

Chairman, House Appropriations – Education and Environment Division

I am writing to express my strong support for the Department of Commerce Appropriations bill, SB 2018, which funds critical economic development programs in North Dakota. As the Owner of Onyx + Ivory, Donut Hole, Boomers Boarding, Ivy League Dog Training & Boarding, and Scoot N Boot Scooters I have directly benefited from NDWBC, which has been instrumental in growing and expanding my businesses and my knowledge.

The business coaching, training, and programs provided through this program offered key benefits such as expert business coaching, strategic non-dilutive funding, networking and community engagement, and relationship building.

Without this support, it would have been significantly more challenging to grow and expand my knowledge, network, and connection to key resources a business needs to thrive. Center's like NDWBC not only help individual businesses but also contribute to North Dakota's broader economic development by fostering innovation, job creation, and industry growth.

I urge you to support NDWBC in SB 2018 to ensure businesses like mine continue to have access to the resources necessary for success. Thank you for your time and consideration. If you would like to discuss my experience further, please feel free to contact me at 701-208-1316.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shannon Halvorson', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Shannon Halvorson

Owner

701-208-1316

s_halvorson@live.com