



# the REALTOR<sup>®</sup> Report

News for you from the ND Association of REALTORS<sup>®</sup>  
February 9, 2016

## Statewide Housing Conference Feb 16-17

North Dakota Housing Finance Agency will host the 25<sup>th</sup> Statewide Housing Conference on Feb. 16-17, 2016, at the Ramkota Hotel in Bismarck, ND.

The North Dakota Real Estate Commission has approved the event for eight hours of continuing education if real estate agents attend the full conference. Agents also have the option to attend only one day of the event earning five hours for Tuesday attendance or three hours for Wednesday attendance.

The registration fee for the full event on or before Feb. 5 is \$150. One day only is \$80. Registration materials are available online at [www.ndhfa.org](http://www.ndhfa.org). For more information, contact NDHFA at [\(800\) 292-8621](tel:8002928621) or [hfainfo@nd.gov](mailto:hfainfo@nd.gov)

## Taxbot is an NDAR Member Benefit! Check it out!

Prepare now for the 2016 tax season... and beyond with Taxbot!

You can track all kinds of expenses with this program which is offered at a reduced price as a REALTOR<sup>®</sup> member benefit through NDAR.

Upcoming free informational Taxbot Webinars:  
April 6 & Sept 28

### NDAR Member testimonial!

"I started using Taxbot and my accountant is thrilled. Now she has a report, not an Excel spreadsheet. She can see each of my expenses, plus the total, and I've saved time inputting expenses...plus my mileage is automatically tracked by GPS. I LOVE it!"

Lorrie Nantt-RE/MAX Integrity Realty, Dickinson ND

## First Task for NAR Lab: Better Smart Home Devices

A new lab at the NAR building in Chicago is studying smart home devices with the aim of making them better. The goal is to test the devices and make recommendations to manufacturers and research institutions on what would make the devices better from a real estate professional's standpoint. The lab is a top story in The Voice for Real Estate for the week of January 25. The news video also looks at the surge in existing-home sales in December, the life sentence handed down to the killer of an Arkansas real estate agent, and recent court rulings on so-called ephemeral messaging, which is text messaging through apps like Snapchat that go away after a few seconds.

Watch the video at <http://tinyurl.com/j532yym> and know we are planning to have a demonstration from the NAR CRT Lab at our June meeting.

## Upcoming CE

The last week of March (29-31) NDAR is planning several CE sessions in at least three locations in the state. One course is on social media and the other on business planning. Details are being finalized with the instructor this week.

The Grand Forks Board of REALTORS®, in conjunction with NDAR, will be sponsoring CRS 206 Technology Course in April/May as well and those details are being worked out with the CRS Council and the instructor as well.

Watch our website - [www.ndrealtors.com](http://www.ndrealtors.com) for more info and dates as they become available for both courses.

Please note: you will need nine hours of continuing education credits from November 16, 2015 - November 15, 2016 to renew your license for 2017 unless you are a new licensee with other requirements.

See the *FAQ on CE Requirements* <http://ndrealtors.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/CE-FAQ-2016.pdf> and if you want to use a tracking form for your courses you have attended or taken visit <http://ndrealtors.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/edrecord-2016.pdf> for the *CE Tracking Form*.

**Also reminder that all REALTOR® members need to meet the quadrennial COE requirement by taking an approved COE from January 1, 2013 - December 31, 2016 as a requirement of membership. Please note this a requirement of membership not for license renewal.**

## Do You Need to Save Your Client Snapchats?

Two recent court rulings clarify whether automatically disappearing texts sent through ephemeral messaging apps should be retained for business purposes. Visit <http://tinyurl.com/jlrxgnb> for more information.

## Get registered for the 2016 Convention of the Dakotas!

Don't forget to register for the 2016 Convention of the Dakotas in Fargo! You won't want to miss it!

To register by credit card, please do one of the following:

- Go to [www.fmrealtor.com](http://www.fmrealtor.com) and click on the Convention Tab
- Scan and email registration to [patti@fmrealtor.com](mailto:patti@fmrealtor.com)
- Fax the registration form to FMAAR at [701-232-1831](tel:701-232-1831), attention Patti

To register by check please:

- Make check payable to FMAAR
- Mail to: Fargo-Moorhead Area Association of REALTORS®  
813 N University Drive, Fargo, ND 58102

Full registration includes all convention activities and education. Additional events are available for sign-up, including the Tuesday night "Downtown Experience", Wednesday "Creatively Uncorked" painting event and Wednesday Golf Outing at Oxbow. Space is limited for additional events and are limited to members registered for convention.

Tentative Convention Schedule

<http://www.fmrealtor.com/sites/default/files/documents/2016%20Convention%20Schedule%20%28website%29.pdf>

Convention Hotel Information

<http://www.fmrealtor.com/sites/default/files/documents/2016%20Convention%20Hotel%20Information%20List.pdf>

Hope to see you there!

## Summary of MLS Policy Changes for 2016

View a summary of key multiple listing policy changes for 2016 at <http://tinyurl.com/zydrdev>

## Summary of Professional Standards Policy Changes for 2016

View a summary of key professional standards policy changes for 2016 at <http://tinyurl.com/znlzx6>