

the REALTOR® Report



News for you from the ND Association of REALTORS®
December 20, 2016

2017 Legislative Session - REALTORS® Legislative Impact Day

REALTORS®! Mark your calendars now for REALTORS® Legislative Impact Day. It will be on Wednesday, February 15. That is the day REALTORS® and Home Builders go to the Capitol to meet with legislators and educate them on the value of REALTORS® and Home Builders and the positive economic impact we have on our communities. This day also gives us an opportunity to share important policy messages with our legislators and allows us to share statistics and inform them about what has been happening in the real estate industry in their communities. We will have tables for each local board set up in the Memorial Hall so local associations can share information specific to their legislative districts.

We meet early in the morning at the Capitol and attend committee hearings where legislation that impacts REALTORS® is being heard. Then we adjourn to the Brynhild Haugland Room and receive an update from our REALTOR® legislators and House and Senate leaders on important legislation. Next we sit in on the House and Senate sessions as they debate and pass or defeat legislation. This year we're asking everyone to wear their blue REALTOR® R t-shirts to make it obvious that it's our day at the legislature. Finally we host a social at the Ramada to thank legislators for being supportive of the REALTOR® Party.

More information will be forthcoming as the day approaches, but mark your calendars now...we'd love to have a massive turnout! <http://ndrealtors.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/Legislative-Impact-Day-2017-21517-Flier-only.pdf>

Applications Open for Claus Lembke Political Involvement Award

We are seeking nominations for the Claus Lembke Political Involvement Award. This award is presented every two years during Legislative Session to an individual NDAR member REALTOR, REALTOR Associate or Association Executive in recognition of them having assisted in advancing NDAR's legislative agenda through political involvement both in the public arena and on REALTOR political issues. Recipients only can win the award once. Selection is based on points for advocacy activities on the local level, state level, national level and for RPAC contributions. Deadline to submit nominations is February 3, 2017. The award will be presented during Legislative Impact Day on February 15, 2017.

For more information and for the application form click <http://ndrealtors.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/2017-Political-Involvement-Award-Criteria-and-Application.pdf>

Weekly Legislative Update Calls Begin January 13

As we have done in the past, NDAR will host weekly Legislative Update calls every Friday at 12 p.m. noon Central Time. These calls are open to anyone who wants to learn more about what has transpired at the legislature during that week and where legislation being supported, opposed or followed by NDAR stands. To join in the call dial 800-326-0013 Passcode: 8736912. Weekly reminders with information packets will be sent out to all NDAR Executive Committee, Board of Directors and Government Affairs Committee members. Any state Calls For Action during session will be communicated via texting, Facebook, Twitter, the REALTOR® Party App and posted on the NDAR website. www.ndrealtors.com

NDAR Board and Committee Meetings February 14 & 16, 2017

Plan to attend NDAR's first committee and board meetings for the year! NDAR Committees will meet on Tuesday, February 14 and the NDAR Board will meet Thursday, February 16 at the Ramada Inn in Bismarck. These meetings are being held in conjunction with Legislative Impact Day on February 15. You don't have to be a committee or board member to attend. All members are invited and welcomed!

Do You Have Your Code of Ethics requirement met?

The Code of Ethics training is required by the National Association of REALTORS® and is a requirement to maintain membership in the local board of REALTORS®, the ND Association of REALTORS® and the National Association of REALTORS®. The Code of Ethics training is a quadrennial requirement – each member must take an approved course every four years. If you are unsure if you have met this requirement contact your local board, as they are responsible for keeping record of this.

The current quadrennial cycle is January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2016.

All members must have completed an approved Code of Ethics course of at least 2 ½ hours by December 31, 2016 to continue their membership in the local, state, and national association.

- [Existing member training resources](#)

REALTORS® who have completed the required ethics training within a four-year cycle in one association shall not be required to complete any further ethics training for that same training cycle if the REALTOR® becomes or is a member of another association.

Early Bird Registration for the 2017 Convention of the Dakotas

The Aberdeen Area Association of REALTORS® presents “Lights. Camera. Action!” September 13 – 15, 2017 in beautiful Aberdeen, SD. Just 12 days until **Early Bird** Registration Ends for the 2017 REALTOR® Convention of the Dakotas! Early Bird Registration will get your name on the Walk of FAME. Detailed information regarding the educational speakers, entertainment, golf, and hotel booking can all be found at <http://www.sdrealtor.org/realtorconventionofthedakotas/>

Standard Mileage Rates to Drop in 2017

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) issued the 2017 standard mileage rates used to calculate the deductible costs of operating a car for business, charitable, medical or moving purposes.

Beginning Jan. 1, 2017, the standard mileage rate for the use of a car for business purposes will be 53.5 cents per mile, down from 54 cents per mile in 2016. The standard mileage rate for business dropped half a cent based on an annual study of the fixed and variable costs of operating an automobile. The charitable rate is 14 cents per mile, and is unchanged because it is set by statute.

Taxpayers always have the option of calculating the actual costs of using their vehicle rather than using the standard mileage rates.

NDAR Office Closed for Christmas Holiday

The NDAR office will be closed Monday, December 26th in observance of the Christmas Holiday. Wishing all of our members a very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from all of us here at the North Dakota Association of REALTORS®.