



**News Release**  
For Immediate Release

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## **North Dakota Dollars for Scholars and BND Announce Partnership**

**Bismarck, ND – February 20, 2008:** In an exciting new partnership, North Dakota Dollars for Scholars (NDDFS) has teamed with Bank of North Dakota (BND). NDDFS and BND share a similar mission and vision in relation to higher education, and now the two will work side by side to promote such education through scholarship opportunities.

“Part of BND’s vision is to promote higher education in North Dakota by making higher education funding and educational opportunities available for students and families,” said Gov. John Hoeven. “Now the bank’s new partnership with Dollars for Scholars can be added to other programs that help make a college education accessible to North Dakotans.”

BND already supports a number of initiatives such as student loans; College Information Service, a free information program; the North Dakota Jump\$tart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy; and the administration of College SAVE, North Dakota’s 529 education savings plan.

NDDFS works to encourage education beyond high school for all North Dakota students through leadership of community chapters, encouraging philanthropy and increasing scholarship opportunities for North Dakota’s students. On the local level, Dollars for Scholars helps hometown students by raising scholarship funds, establishing endowments, and distributing scholarships each year.

“We are very excited to partner with Bank of North Dakota,” said Chuck Stroup, NDDFS Board member and Union State Bank (Hazen) president. “As a grass roots effort across the state, it was becoming increasingly difficult to support and provide management services for our state chapter. The work that Dollars for Scholars does, both on the state and local levels, is important to North Dakota’s students. This new partnership will establish a firm foundation for our work well into the future.”

“By supporting North Dakota Dollars for Scholars, BND furthers its commitment to higher education for the citizens of our state by providing a one-stop shop for educational services,” said Agriculture Commissioner Roger Johnson.

Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem said the shared mission and vision by the two entities is important for the success of this union. “BND has supported a number of Dollars for Scholars initiatives over the years. By providing financial assistance through scholarships across North Dakota, they are helping to give today’s students a better and brighter future.”

“Bank of North Dakota is proud to partner with Dollars for Scholars,” said Eric Hardmeyer, BND president. “Lori Saylor of BND will work as the NDDFS Director to assist local chapters and maintain regular communications with Scholarship America. She will promote and organize chapter trainings, and cultivate strong relationships with Collegiate Partners in North Dakota. BND also will dedicate resources for public relations, assistance with statewide fundraising opportunities, and Web site management.”

Scheels, a long time financial supporter of North Dakota Dollars for Scholars, will continue to assist the organization’s initiatives, and encourages other businesses to become involved as North Dakota Dollars for Scholars moves forward in this new venture.

The Industrial Commission of North Dakota, consisting of Governor John Hoeven, as chairman, Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem and Agriculture Commissioner Roger Johnson, oversees the Bank of North Dakota.

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