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NDRPA Annual Report

Advancing parks, recreation and conservation for an enhanced quality of life in North Dakota

Year In Review

NDRPA offered **virtual education** to members in partnerships with Florida Recreation and Park Association who held webinars January through May, and with Illinois Park and Recreation Association who hosted the Skills Webinar Series and CPRP and CPRE exam preparation courses.

NDRPA continued its **Cohort/Peer Mentor Program** in efforts to better connect park and recreation professionals across the state to share resources and knowledge. The program includes quarterly cohort meetings led by member volunteers to facilitate discussions and, when available, info-share workshops hosted by volunteer park districts sharing staff expertise on a particular topic.

The **Certified Playground Safety Inspector Course** was held for the 22nd year on March 19-21 in Bismarck. The North Dakota Insurance Reserve Fund (NDIRF) and North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department (NDPRD) sponsored course scholarships for the training.

The association celebrated its **50th anniversary** at the annual **state conference** hosted by Watford City Parks and Recreation in September.

Dale McCamish was inducted into the **NDRPA Hall of Fame**, the association's highest honor. The following **NDRPA awards** were also presented: Outstanding Young Professional - Caleb Burgard, Dickinson Parks and Recreation; Golden Egg - Friendship Park, Dickinson Parks and Recreation; Impact Award - Amanda Nelson, Williston Parks and Recreation; Innovative Programming Award - STRONGkids Program, Dickinson Parks and Recreation and Fargo Park District Forestry Team; Partnership Award - Dickinson State University Sanford Sports Complex and U.S. Forest Service.

NDRPA was actively engaged in the **2024 State Legislative Interim**, tracking studies relevant to the membership such as legacy fund earnings, political subdivisions' levying authority and public employee retirement programs. The association also signed on to the Keep it Local Coalition, a statewide coalition against Measure 4, which sought to abolish property tax in North Dakota. The measure was defeated in the November 2024 election.

NDRPA continued its publications, the monthly electronic **NDRPA eUpdate**, quarterly magazine **FOCUS** and biennial **Professional Directory**.

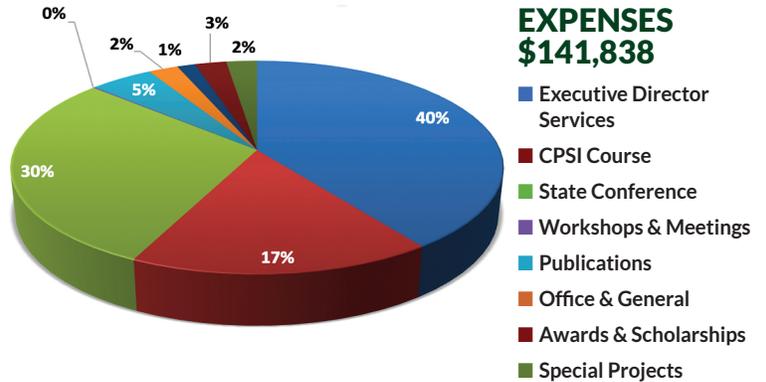
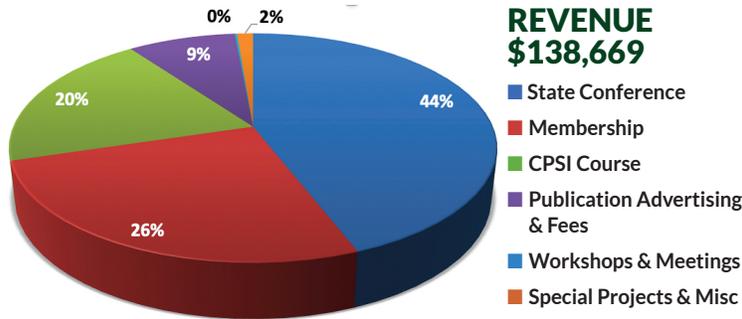


Membership

MEMBERSHIP TYPE	2024
Agencies	66
Professionals.....	551
Board Members	322
Allied Organizations	8
Allied Individuals	3
Universities/Colleges	1
Students	2
Lifetime.....	15
Commercial	14
TOTAL	982



Financials



Leadership 2023-2024

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Mike Wald, President
- Mike Orr, Past President
- Joe Barsh, President Elect
- Ashley Martinson, Secretary/Treasurer
- Cole Higlin, Public Policy Chair
- Dylan Thiem, Engagement Chair
- Amy Walters, Education Chair

COUNCILS, COMMITTEES AND LIAISONS

- Hall of Fame Council - Randy Bina, Chair
- Conference Planning Committee -
- Watford City Parks and Recreation:
 - Robin Arndt
 - Sara Fitzpatrick
 - Josh Nollmeyer
- North Dakota Community Forestry Council - Jeremy Ludlum
- North Dakota Missouri River Advisory Council - Cole Higlin
- North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board - Tyler Jacobson
- RTP Advisory Committee - Tony Schmitt

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