

2016 North Dakota Rural Grocers Meeting

Thursday, January 14, 9:30 a.m.

Meeting Location:

Farm Credit Services

1600 Old Red Trail

Mandan, ND

(Use east entrance)



Steering Committee:

- Main Street Market, Hazelton
- RE&T Development Center, NDAREC
- NDSU Extension Service
- Bowdon Community Cooperative
- Star Grocery, New Leipzig
- Tuttle Community Store
- Dakota College at Bottineau
- Northern Plains Electric Cooperative
- USDA Rural Development

A steering committee of rural grocers is hosting a meeting that will offer **statistics**, **ideas**, and **insights** toward helping all rural ND stores to not only keep their doors open, but **succeed**. Plan to attend this collaborating event!

- Hear from Kansas State University's Rural Grocers Initiative
- Results from the 2014 North Dakota Independent Grocer Survey
- Discussions on marketing, labor, networking & collaborating
- Distribution in North Dakota
- Walk away with ideas to help you succeed in your business

North Dakota's rural grocers face **challenges** at multiple levels: finances, vendor requirements, product pricing, and customer loyalty, to name a few. You will have opportunities to learn that other stores are struggling in the same areas as yours while getting an infusion of ideas that will **inspire positive change** in your rural store and throughout the state. **Networking** with other store owners and managers will allow you to be exposed to **ideas** that will help your store to stabilize in the areas of sales and purchasing. Networking opportunities will include **moderated conversations** about marketing, labor, networking & collaborating, supply, and more.

*"It is nice to know **we are not the only little grocery store** trying to survive for our community. Some ideas used in other stores have encouraged us to **try different things**, too. I think more participants in these meetings would make it even more **helpful to all**." – Shirley Roehl, volunteer bookkeeper, Star Grocery, New Leipzig*

*"ND rural grocers should attend the ND Rural Grocers meeting in 2016 because **it will be very informative**. Through small group meetings, I have learned that **many small stores** have some of the **same problems** we have at our store. I learned **new ideas** to address some of my situations. It made me feel **not so alone**. I was even **able to help** with some problems that others were having." – Theo Johnson, Tuttle Community Store*

NDAREC is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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