

NORTH DAKOTA GLOBAL TALENT

AUGUST 14, 2025 • BISMARCK, ND SUMMIT

8:30 - 8:45 am

Welcome & Global Talent Office Updates

Katie Ralston Howe, Commerce Deputy Commissioner, Workforce Director

8:45 - 9:15 am

Opening Remarks – Gov. Kelly Armstrong & First Lady Kjersti Armstrong

9:15 - 10:00 am

Plenary: Immigration Landscape & Labor Shortage

Speakers: John Medeiros, Rebekah Smith, Betsy Fisher

Moderator: Paige Kuntz

10:00 - 10:10 am

Break

10:10 - 11:10 am

Plenary: Skills Matching, Upskilling and Apprenticeships

Speakers: Mike Zimmer, Phil Davis, Betsy Fisher

Moderator: Janna Pastir

11:10 am - 12:10 pm

Plenary: Community Connection & Retention

Speakers: Holly Triska-Dally, Derrick Gross, Jasmine Tosseth-Smith

Moderator: Buba Kanagi

12:10 - 1:15 pm

LUNCH & BOOTHS

1:15 - 2:30 pm

Breakout Sessions

- **Advanced Degree Pathways - Room 431 4th Floor**

Available pathways for hiring advanced degree holders.

Speakers: John Medeiros, Amy Meyer, Theodore Jones

Moderator: Paige Kuntz

- **Entry-level and Skilled Trades Pathways - Basin Auditorium 3rd Floor**

Available pathways for employers to hire entry level and skilled trades.

Speakers: Federico Velasco, Kerri Babin, Shawn Packer

Moderator: Betsy Fisher

2:30 - 2:45 pm

Break

2:45 - 3:45 pm

Plenary: Recruiting, Retaining, and Integrating into the Worksite

Speakers: Janna Pastir, Tadd Wamester, Manpreet Teji

Moderator: Buba Kanagi

3:45 - 4:45 pm

Closing Plenary: Employer Success Stories

Speakers: Ryan Mickelsen, Blayke Nelson, Marlene Miller

Moderator: Paige Kuntz

4:45 - 4:50 pm

Closing Remarks