



North Dakota Tribal College System *Strategic Plan*

March 2024 - February 2029

Member Institutions:

Cankdeska Cikana Community College, Fort Totten, ND
Nueta Hidatsa Sahnish College, New Town, ND
Sitting Bull College, Fort Yates, ND
Turtle Mountain College, Belcourt, ND
United Tribes Technical College, Bismarck, ND

NDTCS

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SECTION I: INTRODUCTION

The North Dakota Tribal College System (NDTCS) is an intertribal organization made up of the five tribal colleges within the State of North Dakota. The history of the North Dakota tribal colleges goes back to the early 1970s when Native tribes and Tribal communities realized the need to make higher education more accessible to Native people on and near Tribal communities.

Aside from the United Tribes Technical College, the other four tribal colleges (Cankdeska Cikana Community College, Fort Totten, North Dakota; Turtle Mountain College, Belcourt, North Dakota; Nueta Hidatsa Sahnish College, New Town, North Dakota; and Sitting Bull College, Fort Yates, North Dakota) are all located on their respective reservations. United Tribes Technical College is located in Bismarck, North Dakota and serves a diverse population of Indian Tribes from throughout the United States.

Twenty-five years ago, the North Dakota Association of Tribal Colleges was incorporated.

In that original incorporation was a goal to create a Tribal College System. In this anniversary year the NDTCS will be born

to honor the vision of the founders of our organization. Along with that vision we will take the next steps to solidify our association as a system of Higher Education.

A strategic plan for the NDTCS was revisited as a means of strengthening the association and collectively working to serve Native peoples in the state. The main premise of the NDTCS is to provide a collaborative and working partnership on various projects that are similar in nature. Over the past ten years, projects have been funded to address common issues and needs, such as on-line classes, research, programs of study, STEM research, curriculum, teaching and learning, and and create stronger partnerships with the North Dakota University System.

This strategic plan will strengthen the bond amongst the tribal colleges and help each college move more successfully into a new era of a higher education system in North Dakota. It will also strengthen our position in working with other North Dakota institutions of higher education, and other state, federal, and tribal organizations and agencies.

SECTION II: VALUES, VISION STATEMENT AND MISSION STATEMENT



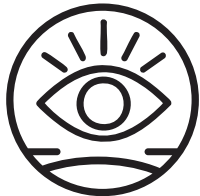
OUR VALUES

- Integrity & Ethics
- Equality
- Teamwork
- Compassion & Caring
- Culture & Tradition
- Collaboration & Partnerships



OUR MISSION

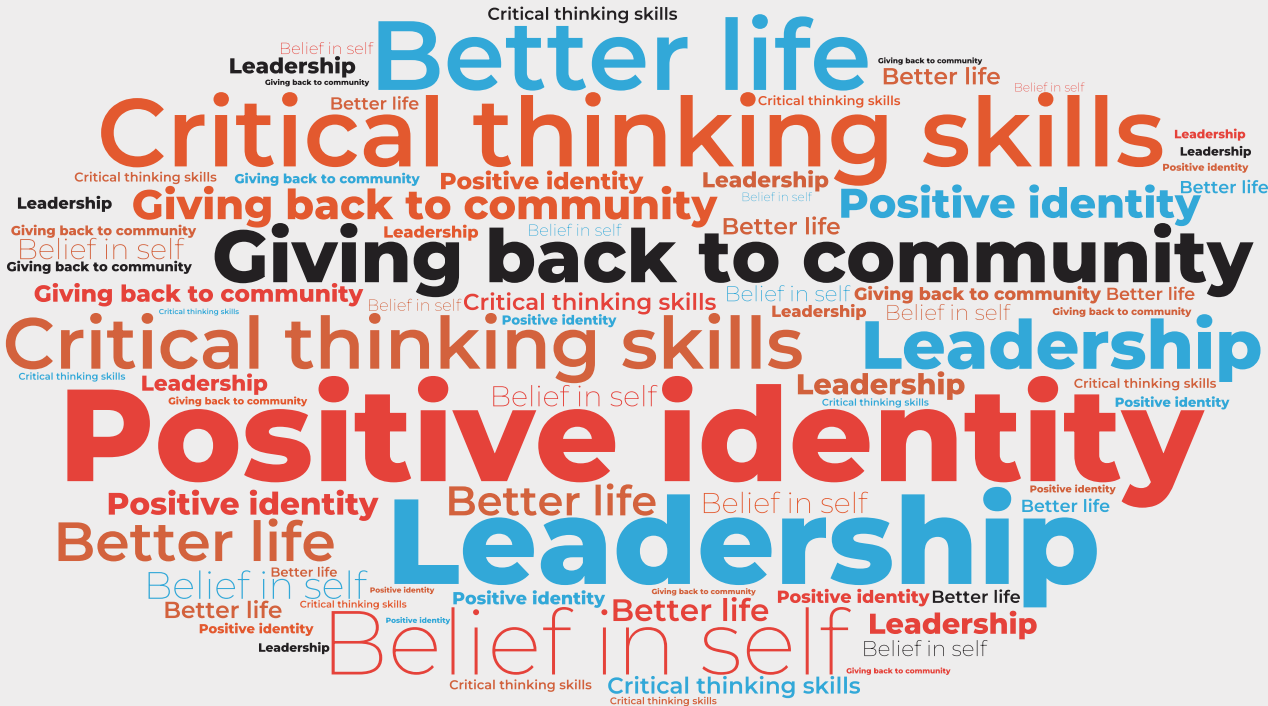
North Dakota Tribal College System empowers students to facilitate change for Tribal Nations and communities.



OUR VISION

North Dakota Tribal College System advocates and advances culturally focused post-secondary opportunities for Indigenous students.

STUDENT SUCCESS



SECTION III: GOALS & OBJECTIVES

NDTCS leverages the higher education experience by sharing ideas and broadening networks and alliances, toward improving student outcomes. The focus is to help students and communities thrive by:

- 1. Assuring rigorous curricula and high-impact education practices
- 2. Supporting a culture of institutional effectiveness and accountability for NDTCS that ensures the success of the organization
- 3. Advancing enrollment, retention, and completion rates
- 4. Cultivating partnerships for Tribal communities
- 5. Nourishing the integration of culture into college programming



GOAL ONE Assuring rigorous curricula and high-impact education practices

Objective 1.1: Completion of articulation agreements between ND Tribal Colleges

Activities:

- Research program and course offerings of each ND Tribal College
- Establish a standardized articulation agreement between ND Tribal Colleges
- Establish standardized credit transfer policies between ND Tribal Colleges
- Expansion and alignment of online enrollment
- Standardize programs offerings
- Align general education requirements

Responsible parties: Vice/Deans of Academics and NDTCS Executive Director

Objective 1.2: Completion of articulation agreements with other Colleges and Universities outside of ND Tribal Colleges system.

Activities:

- Research program and course offerings needs of ND Tribal Colleges beyond current ND Tribal Colleges offerings
- Research other Colleges and Universities to determine which institutions meet the ND Tribal Colleges needs
- Develop articulation agreements if needed
- Continue to work with the NDUS for general education articulation agreements

Responsible parties: Presidents, Vice/Deans of Academics, NDTCS Director

Objective 1.3: Establish data outcomes, monitoring, and coordinating

Activities:

- Determine data needs
 - Examples: Fall enrollment, persistence, retention, and graduation rates, employment numbers etc.
- Collect data from each ND Tribal College and complete fact sheets to be used for legislative and funding raising efforts, including grants.

Responsible parties: Presidents, NDTCS Director, Registrars, Offices of Institutional Research



GOAL 2

Supporting a culture of institutional effectiveness and accountability for NDTCS that ensures the success of the organization.

Objective 2.1: Determine funding and personnel needs for NDTCS

Activities:

- Determine current and future personnel needs for the organization – examples Transfer Specialist, Office of Sponsor Research
- Determine current and future funding needs for the organization
 - Short term – one to five years
 - Long term – five to ten years
- Develop a budget for the organization – how long will the current grants sustain the organization
- Research investment and endowment opportunities

Responsible parties: Presidents and NDTCS Director

Objective 2.2: Establish research protocol for ND Tribal Colleges

Activities:

- Research possible funding opportunities to establish an Office of Sponsored Programs
- Research that can assist each ND Tribal College
- Apply for available funding
- Establish research protocol

Responsible parties: Presidents and NDTCS Director

GOAL 3

Advancing enrollment, retention, and completion rates

Objective 3.1: Determine best practices for recruitment and retention of students and employees.

Activities:

- Research and determine best practices such as ATD to utilize for students and employees recruitment and retention
- Determine mythology for sharing of best practices
- Sharing of best practices among ND Tribal College constituents
- Research how Jenzabar and Enpower can assist with developing best practices
- Research and determine professional development opportunities for the ND Tribal Colleges constituents

Responsible parties: Presidents, Vice/Deans of Academic and Student Services, IT staff, and NDTCS Director

Objective 3.2: Continue to expand the work stated with ROI and Gallup projects

Activities:

- Research the progress made and determine what additional information is needed, required, or useful
- Determine how the work will be shared and with whom

Responsible parties: Presidents and NDTCS Director

GOAL 4
Cultivate partnerships for Tribal communities

Objective 4.1: Develop national and state legislative goals

Activities:

- Develop strategies to increase non-beneficiary funding
- Develop strategies for infrastructure funding
 - Example: CTE facilities
- Develop strategies to introduce funding for all students

Responsible parties: Presidents and NDTCS Director

Objective 4.2: Continue to serve as advocates to Tribal, state, and federal agencies

Activities:

- Attend meetings as require for Tribal, state, and federal agencies
 - Examples: ND University System, TrainND, USDA

Responsible parties: Presidents and NDTCS Director

Objective 4.3: Implement a marketing and communication plan

Activities:

- Update Economic Impact Study as needed
- Research and develop other marketing material as needed
- Update fact sheets as needed

Responsible parties: Presidents and NDTCS Director



GOAL 5
Nourishing the integration of culture into college programming

Objective 5.1: Grow a culture for Indigenous curriculum at ND Tribal Colleges

Activities:

- Develop guidebook or general documents
- Provide workshops for faculty

Responsible parties: Presidents Vice/Deans of Academics and Student Services and NDTCS Director

Objective 5.2: Develop resources that ND Tribal Colleges can share and utilize to increase culturally relevant curriculum

Activities:

- Establish speaker bank, shared tool box, and best practices

Responsible parties: Presidents Vice/Deans of Academics and Student Services and NDTCS Director