

NATIVE AMERICAN COMMISSION
Thursday, September 4, 2025 | 12:00PM
City Commission Chambers
AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Approve Agenda & Minutes.....Action Item
3. Public Comment
4. Gladys Ray Award Nominations due October 3
5. Announcements
6. Indigenous Association Report
7. Staff & Liaison Reports
8. Governance and Operations
9. Adjourn

Native American Commission meetings are broadcast live on cable channel TV Fargo 56, subject to the availability of recording equipment. Broadcasts can be seen live by video stream on www.FargoND.gov/streaming. They are rebroadcast each Tuesday at 8:00 p.m. and Thursday at 5:00 p.m. Minutes are available on the City of Fargo Web site at <http://fargond.gov/city-government/boards-commissions/native-american-commission>.



People with disabilities who plan to attend the meeting and need special accommodations should contact the Planning Office at 701.241.1474. Please contact us at least 48 hours before the meeting to give our staff adequate time to make arrangements.

BOARD OF NATIVE AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

Regular Meeting:

Thursday, May 1, 2025

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Native American Commissioners of the City of Fargo, North Dakota, was held in the Meadowlark Room at City Hall at 12:00 p.m., Thursday, May 1, 2025.

The Native American Commissioners present or absent were as follows:

Present: Ashley Littlewolf, Daniel Frye, Dale Sayers, Lisa Ducheneaux, Emily Sargent

Absent: Suzanne Senske, Amanda Strauss

Also present: Fargo School Board Liaison Nikkie Gullickson, Fargo City Commission Liaison John Strand

Item 1. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Littlewolf welcomed Members to the meeting and introductions were made.

Item 2. Approve Order of Agenda & Minutes

Member Frye moved the Order of Agenda and the minutes of the January 2, 2025 Native American Commission meeting be approved. Second by Member Sayers. All Members present voted aye and the motion was declared carried.

Item 3: Public Comment

No public comment was presented.

Item 4: Retreat Recap

Chair Littlewolf provided an overview of the March 26, 2025 Native American Commission Retreat. She noted the central theme being the urgent need for greater attention and support around Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons (MMIP), and shared a three-pronged strategy to guide efforts through awareness, data, and prevention. She additionally explained a proposed meeting framework for 2025 in which various City departments would be invited to attend bi-monthly meetings for collaborative roundtable discussions.

Item 5. Discussion with Communications Department

This item was tabled for a future meeting in order to accommodate the schedule of Communications Department.

Item 6. Governance and Operations

Chair Littlewolf said that according to the bylaws, existing subcommittees are meant to meet quarterly, however she recommends temporarily suspending this requirement in

light of the board's new meeting framework for 2025 and the ongoing challenge to maintain active subcommittees.

Member Sargent motioned to approve to temporarily suspend the requirement for quarterly subcommittee meeting obligations as outlined in the bylaws. Second by Member Frye. All Members present voted aye and the motion was declared carried.

Director of Planning and Development Nicole Crutchfield provided an update on the City's budget cycle and impacts to the City's boards and commissions. She informed the Native American Commission that she has an informational meeting on June 9 to discuss options on how to move forward.

Item 7. Staff Reports

No reports were given.

Item 8. Announcements

No announcements were shared.

Item 9. Adjourn

The time of adjournment was 1:24 p.m.



2025 GLADYS RAY INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY AWARD NOMINATION



The Fargo Native American Commission is now seeking nominations for individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the Indigenous Peoples of Fargo. The recipient will be formally recognized at Indigenous Peoples Day on Monday, October 13, 2025. The deadline for returning nomination forms is **Friday, October 3, 2025**.

Background: The Gladys Ray Award was created in honor of Gladys Shingobe Ray. In her family's words, she was a dedicated lifelong human rights advocate and volunteer, who served her community through involvement in many organizations and by assisting in the development of many programs. She advocated for all people, especially American Indians, children, and the homeless. She served as a mentor and advisor to many individuals and for many projects. Gladys was devoted to sharing her love, wisdom and strength with all of her family, friends and all she knew.

To nominate someone for the Gladys Ray Award, please complete the information below and return this form by October 3, 2025 by email to Planning@FargoND.gov, or by mail to the Native American Commission, City of Fargo Planning Department, 225 4th St. N, Fargo, ND 58102. For more information, please contact the Native American Commission at 701.241.1474.

Date: _____ Name of Nominee: _____

Nominee Occupation: _____

Nominee Address: _____

Nominee Phone #: _____ Nominee E-mail: _____

Your Name: _____ Your Phone #: _____

Please provide a description of who you are nominating and why you feel this person should receive the Gladys Ray Award (use additional sheet if necessary).

NOTE: Should the nominee be chosen, the information provided will be used for the award ceremony and publicity. Therefore, it is important that all information be correct, complete and specific. Current members of the Fargo Native American Commission cannot be nominated for an award.

HOUSING RESOURCE FAIR

MONDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2025, 3 - 5 PM

INDIGENOUS ASSOCIATION

722 1ST AVE N, FARGO, ND 58102

Join us for a community-centered event focused on Indigenous housing needs, supports, and solutions. This gathering will feature:

- Talking Circle - An Indigenous and culturally led space to share stories, experiences, and wisdom
- Information Sharing - Learn about housing initiatives, rights, and resources
- Resource Fair - Connect with local organizations offering support and services

Scan the QR code to register or
email Alli.Fast@EssentiaHealth.org

