



Council on the Arts

Arts Across the Prairie: *Placemaking in Rural North Dakota*

This statewide program is in collaboration with the North Dakota Department of Transportation, North Dakota Tourism, and the State Legislature.

The seven-year program has an approximate budget of \$5 million.

ARTS ACROSS THE PRAIRIE: PLACEMAKING IN RURAL NORTH DAKOTA

Arts Across the Prairie is a first-of-its-kind, statewide, public art program from NDCA. This program will create eight large-scale art installations – one for each geographic region in the state – that reflect the unique history, landscape, and cultural heritage of these regions.

All eight installations will be placed in rural locations. Rural = no buildings or people!

WHAT IS PUBLIC ART?

Public Art is conceived for a particular place or community with the intention of being broadly accessible.

It can take a variety of forms, sizes, and scales. Additionally, the art can be temporary or permanent.



Public art can include:



MURALS



SCULPTURES



MEMORIALS

and more!



WHAT IS CREATIVE PLACEMAKING?

Creative Placemaking instills meaning—a greater sense of identity and understanding of where we live, work, and visit—creating memorable experiences for all.

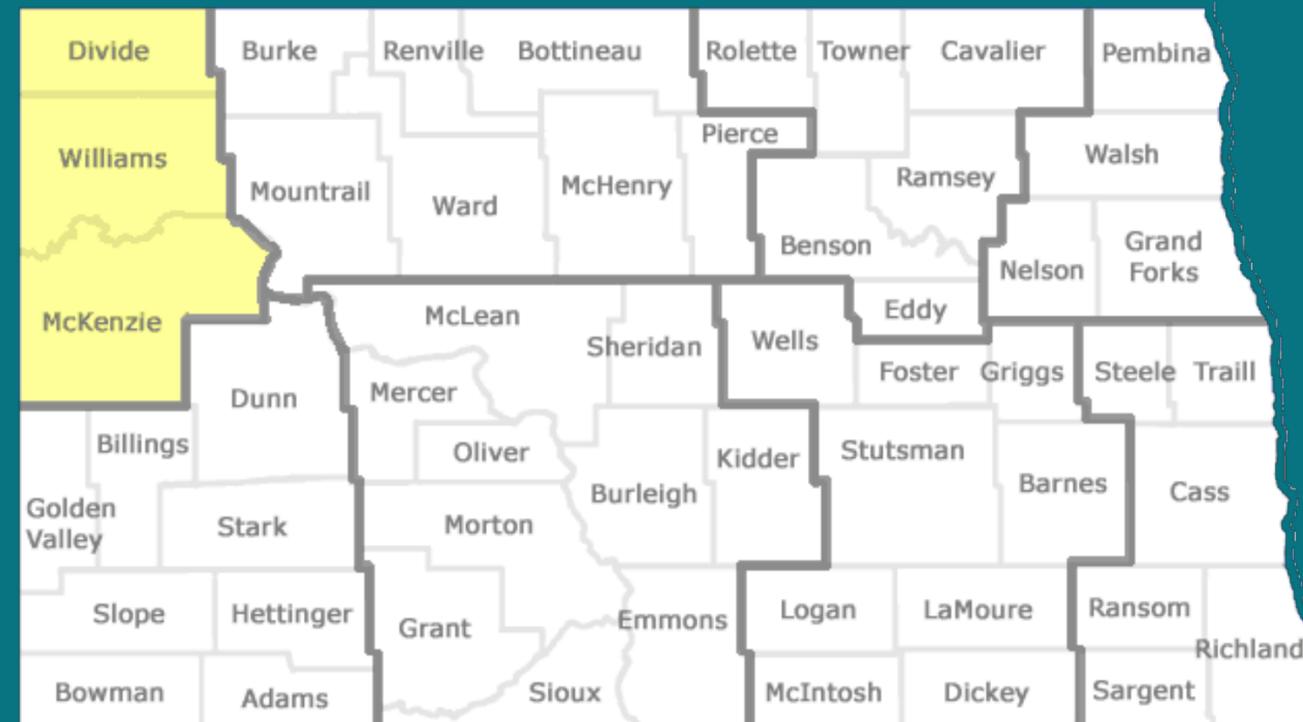
A sunset over a beach with wooden structures in the foreground. The sky is a mix of blue, orange, and yellow. The text is centered on a white rectangular background.

Creative Placemaking humanizes
the environment, provides
an intersection between
past, present, and future,
and can help communities thrive.

WHERE WE ARE:

Region 1- NW North Dakota

- NEA “Our Town” grant received, along with additional funds from private donors, ND Commerce and the Andrist Charitable Foundation
- Private land sought near Writing Rock State Historical Society site
- Artist and project selected

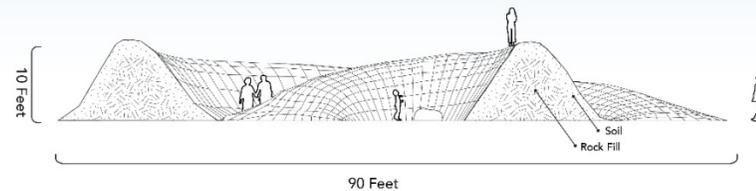


Region 1- NW North Dakota

Artist: Thane
Lund

THANE LUND
Arts Across The Prairie - Writing Rock
DRAFT

Artwork Section Elevation



Wildflowers

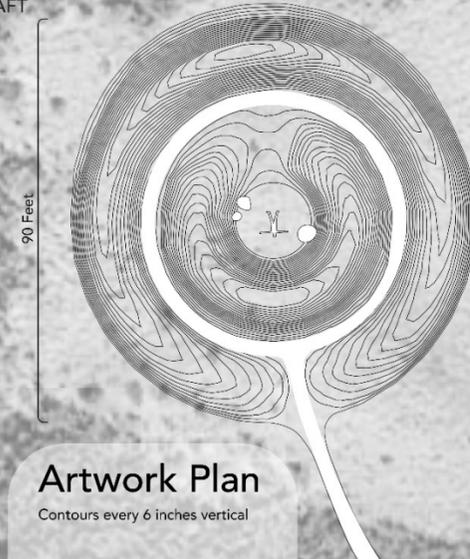


Local Boulders



Native Grasses

THANE LUND
Arts Across The Prairie - Writing Rock
DRAFT



Artwork Plan

Contours every 6 inches vertical



THANE LUND
Arts Across The Prairie - Writing Rock
DRAFT

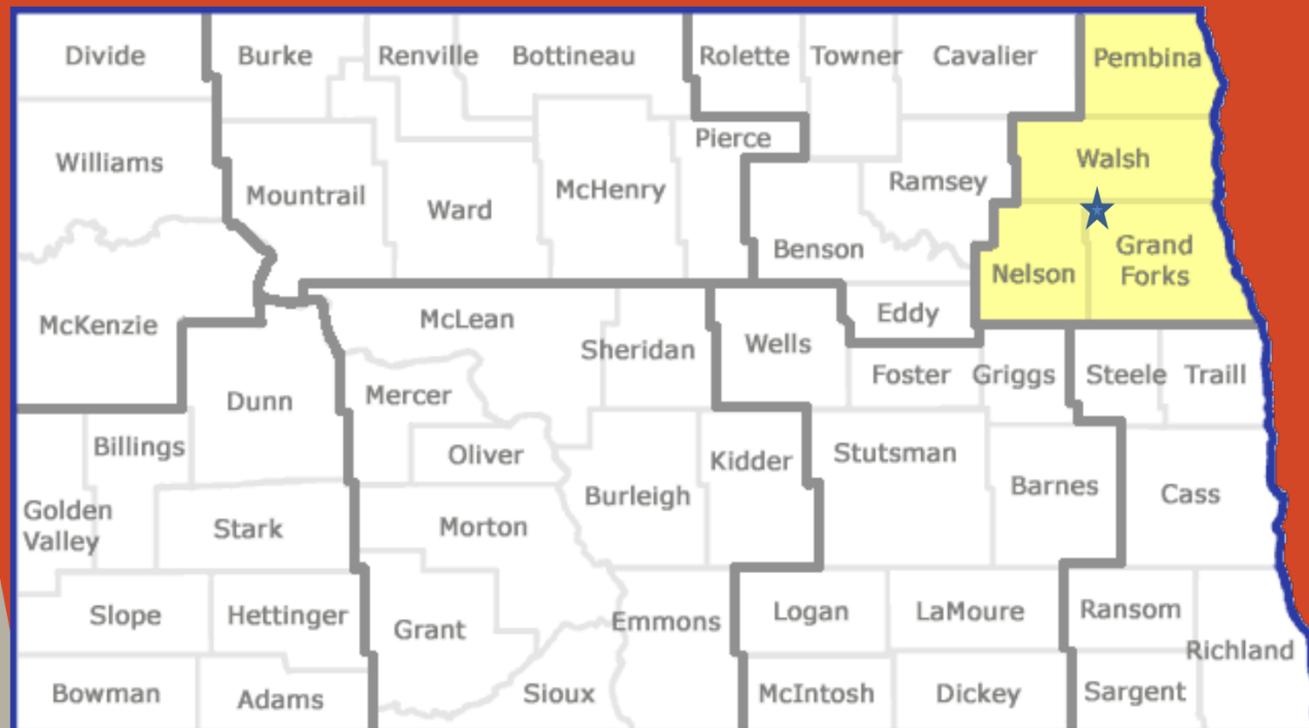


THANE LUND
Arts Across The Prairie - Writing Rock
DRAFT

WHERE WE ARE:

Region 4 - NE North Dakota

- Stakeholder group developed and active
- Site selected – Dahlen Esker, a glacial formation; private land nearby for build
- Artist selected, initial site visit just took place





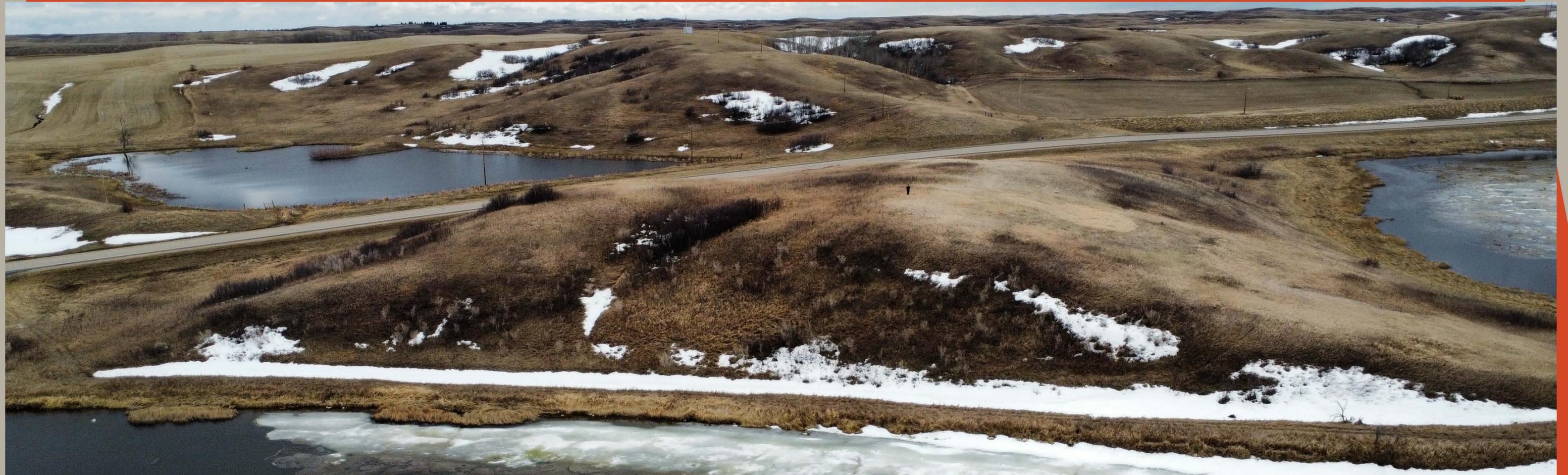
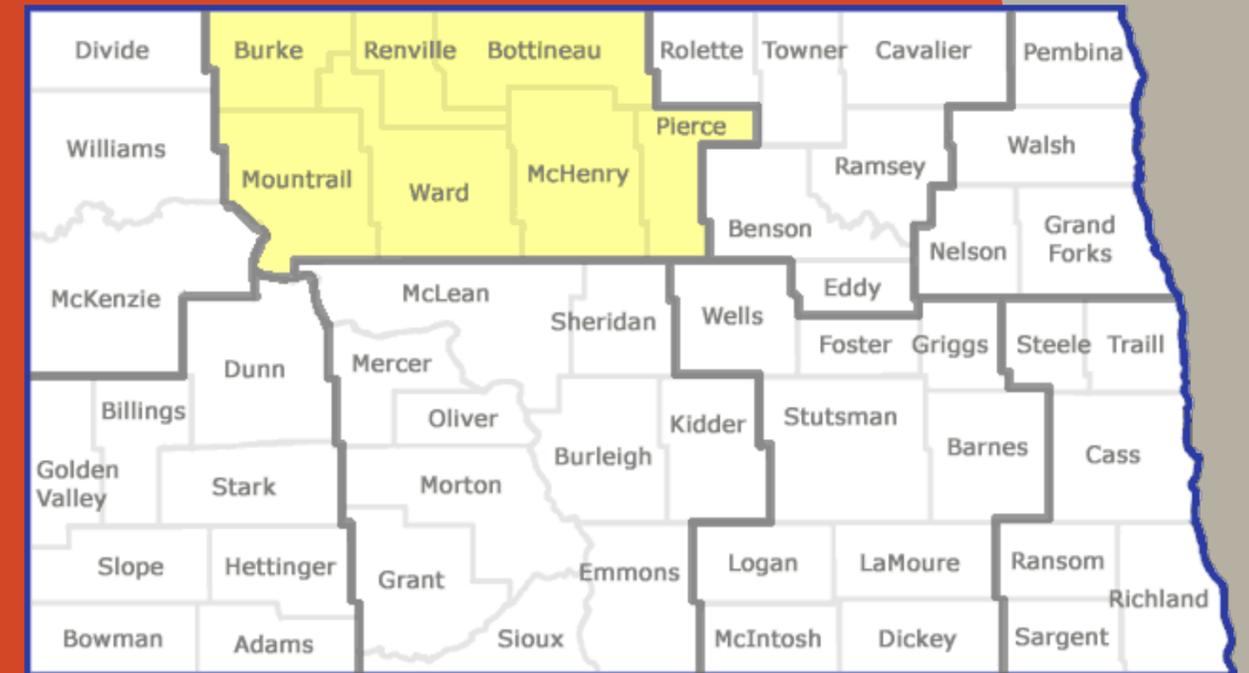
Concept proposals 'Sky B' and 'Esker C1' for Region 4 - "Endless Sky - Dynamic Layers" (final design yet to be determined)

Large-scale sculptor and designer, James Peterson is the artist for the project titled “Endless Sky - Dynamic Layers“. The installation will be located on private property near the Dahlen Esker site, midway between the city of Fordville, in Walsh County, and Dahlen, a small unincorporated community in Nelson County.

WHERE WE ARE:

Region 2 - North Central North Dakota

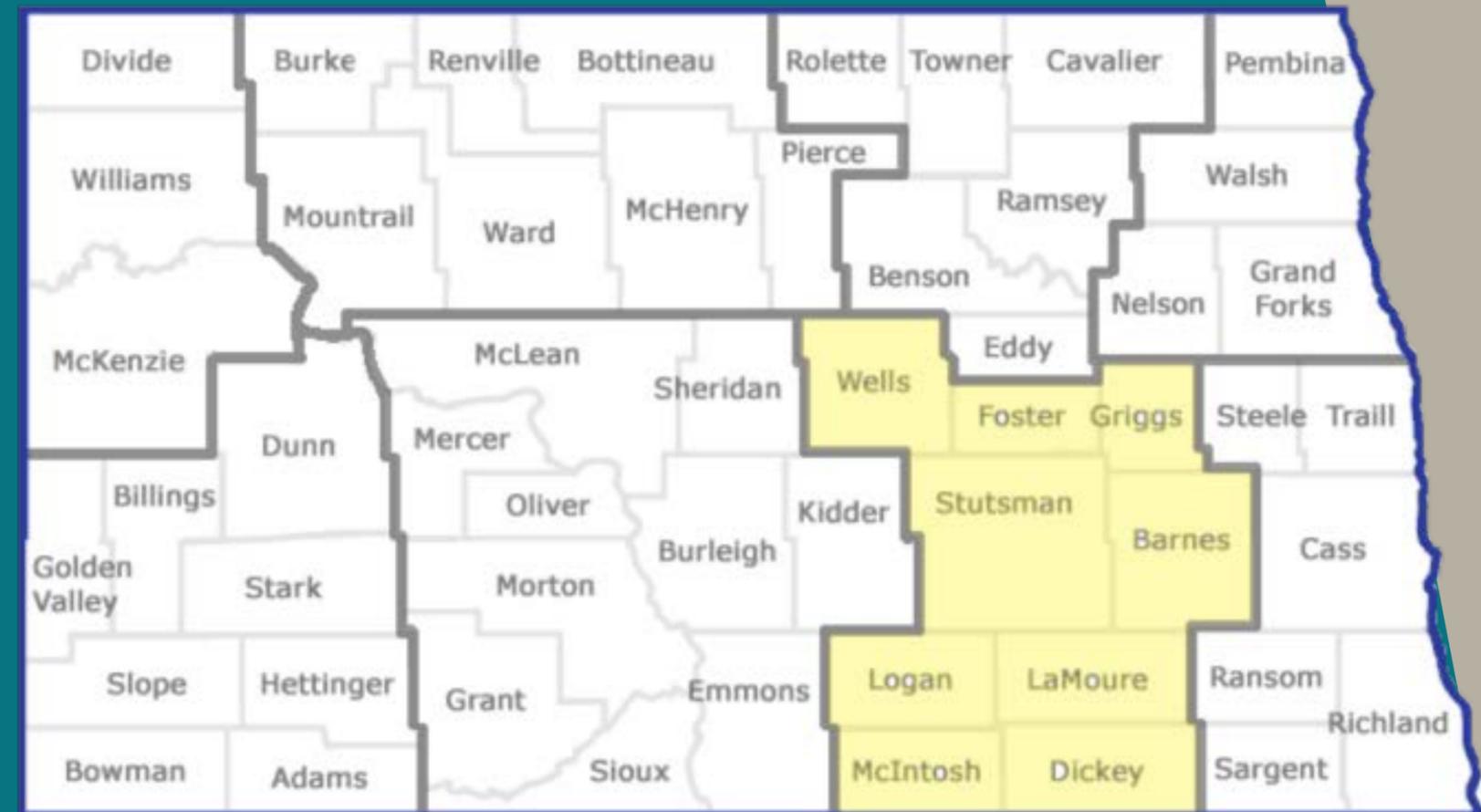
- Stakeholder group developed and active
- Potential sites toured
- Next, securing land and developing concepts for artist RFP



WHERE WE ARE:

Region 6 – SW Central ND

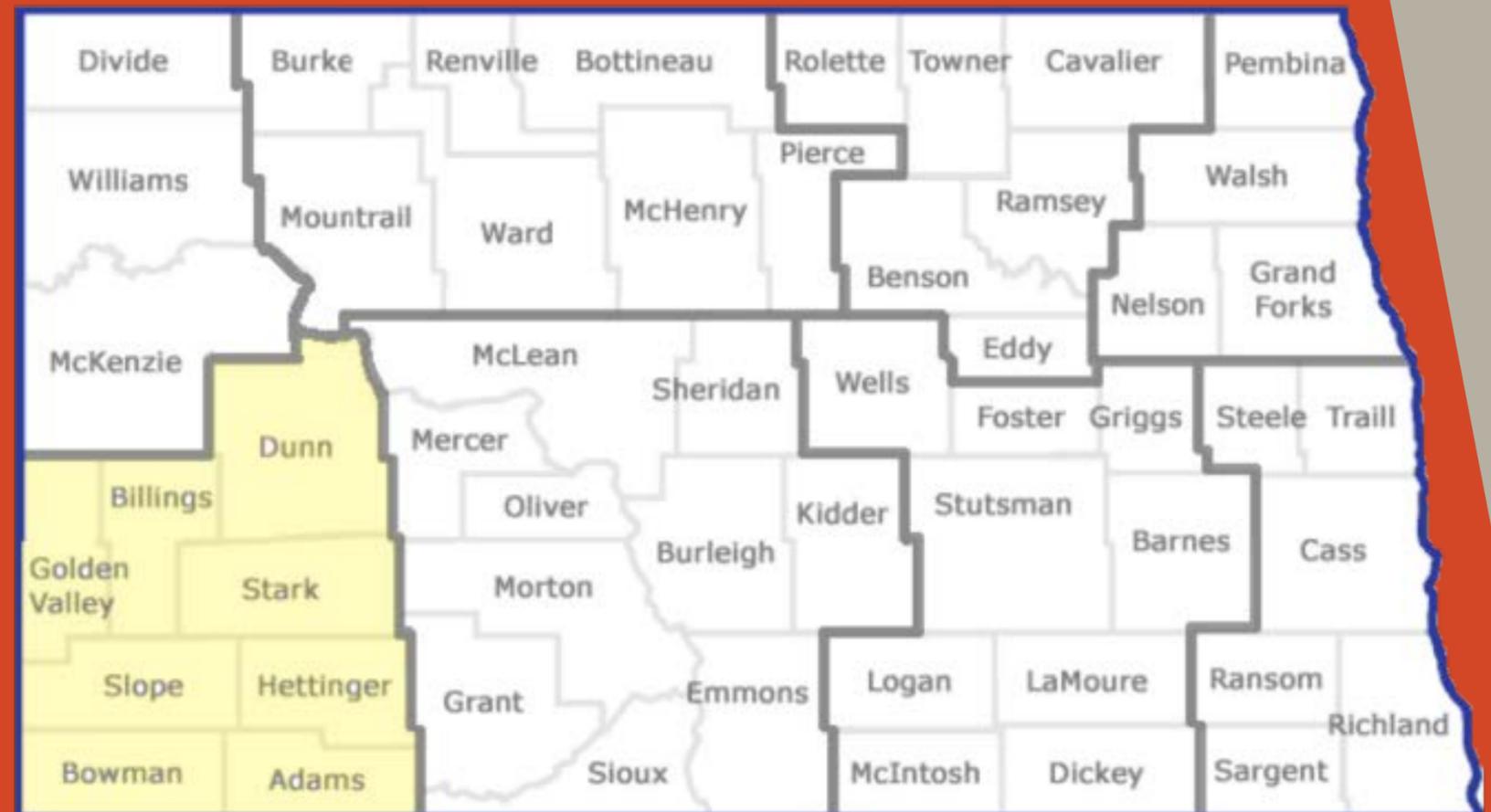
- Stakeholder group developed and active
- Stakeholder group visiting potential site locations
- Next, securing land and developing concepts for artist RFP



WHERE WE ARE:

Region 8 - SW North Dakota

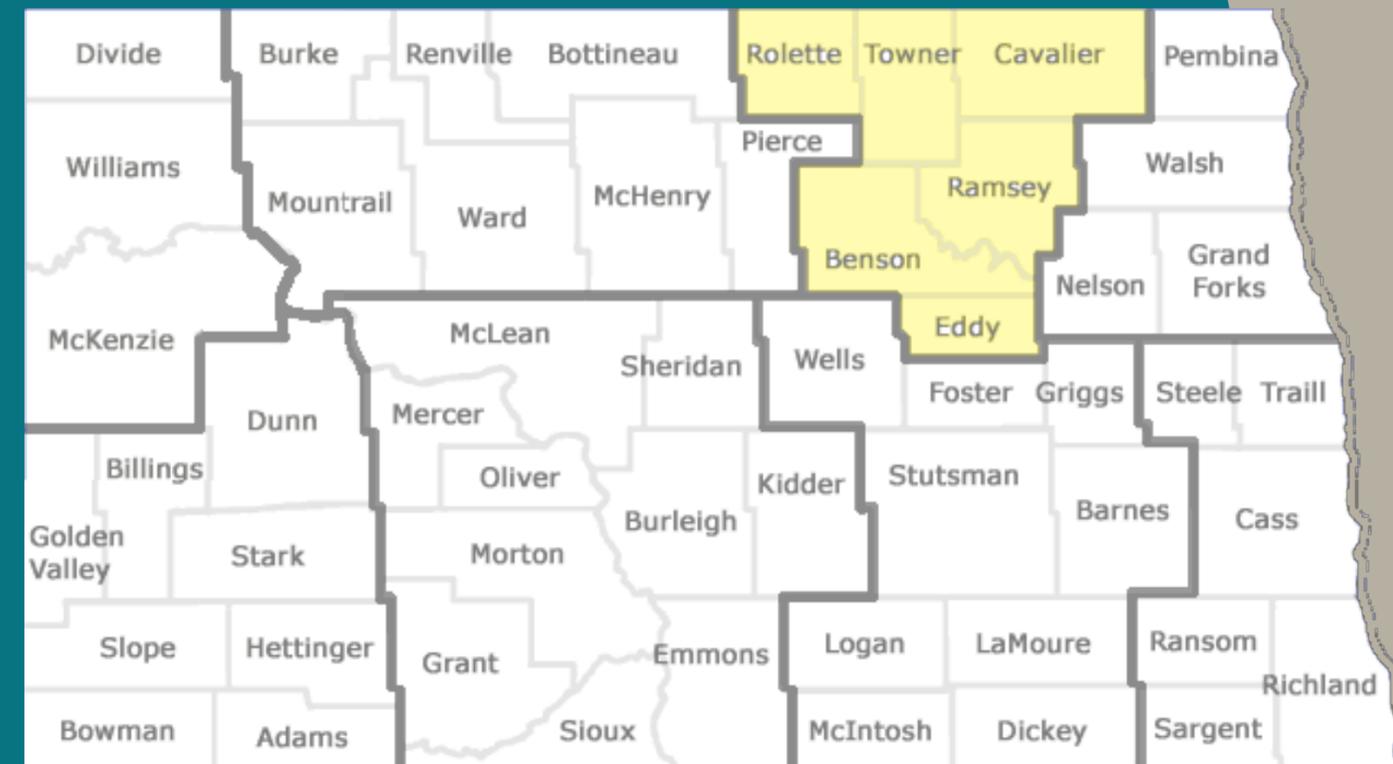
- Stakeholder group developed and active
- Site Selection process underway with community and Stakeholders—potential sites toured
- Next, securing land and developing concepts for artist RFP



WHAT'S NEXT:

Region 3

- Seeking stakeholders to commit to project
 - Arts, education, business, tribal members, government, community; partners from all walks of life
- Potential sites for installation
 - Rural = no buildings or people!
 - Natural landscape based on cultural heritage
 - Located off a State Highway, best based on partnership with ND DOT
- Funding, partnerships, community engagement, and more!



What is a Stakeholder?

- Diverse individuals from across all counties
- Commit to ongoing (monthly) meetings over Zoom
- Facilitate site selection for proposed art installation
- Engage community members and leadership
- Assist in artist selection
- Celebrate regional cultural heritage and spread knowledge

ARTS A CROSS THE PRAIRIE

GOALS

- Strengthen cross-county networking and regional collaboration
- Promote tourism for in- and out-of-state visitors
- Heighten visibility of ND's creative sector and talent

- Stimulate economic activity and development in rural areas of North Dakota
- Build stronger arts communities across the state

- Invest in North Dakota artists by providing professional training and support
- Celebrate and leverage existing assets with an infusion of creative expression





Arts Across the Prairie was developed to celebrate the cultural heritage of rural areas, foster creative relationships across counties and regions, bolster NDCA's role as a rural development partner, and spur economic development through tourism.

Furthermore, as a community-driven initiative, it aims to promote civic pride, affirm uniqueness of place, and strengthen cultural identity. This program will create public-private partnerships throughout the state and will provide a national model of this type of creative placekeeping.

STAY UP TO DATE!



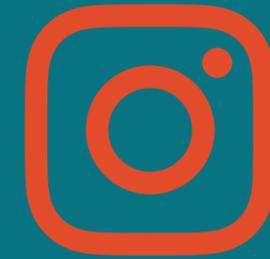
FACEBOOK

@artscrosstheprairieND



WEB

[www.arts.nd.gov/
arts-across-prairie](http://www.arts.nd.gov/arts-across-prairie)



INSTAGRAM

@ndcouncilonarts

NDCA SPECIAL PROJECTS COORDINATOR

Brenna Lahren

blahren@nd.gov