



March 2, 2026: Ethics Commission Chair Announces Intent to Step Down

Bismarck N.D. – Dr. Cynthia Lindquist, Chair of the North Dakota Ethics Commission, has announced her intent to step down from the Commission on June 1, 2026. Chair Lindquist is stepping down for an employment opportunity out of state.

Dr. Lindquist indicated that “it has been an honor and privilege to serve on the Ethics Commission. In the last six years, the Commission has made significant progress and will continue to do so in the future. I have great confidence in my colleague’s ability to serve the people of North Dakota by effectuating the spirit and language of Article XIV of the North Dakota Constitution.”

Dr. Lindquist was one of five initial members of the Ethics Commission appointed in August of 2019. Lindquist initially was reappointed to a four-year term in August 2023. Lindquist was elected by the Commission to serve as Chair in July of 2025.

Dr. Lindquist currently serves as the Director, Tribal Initiatives & Collaborations, with the University of North Dakota. Prior to serving in her current role, she was the president of Cankdeska Cikana (Little Hoop) Community College from 2003 to 2024. Lindquist is a member of Spirit Lake Dakota Nation, Fort Totten, ND. As a Bush Foundation Leadership Fellow, Dr. Lindquist earned a PhD in educational leadership from the University of North Dakota; a master’s in public administration with an emphasis on tribal health systems from the University of South Dakota; and a bachelor’s in Indian Studies/English from the University of North Dakota.

“Dr. Lindquist’s service to the Ethics Commission has been invaluable, and her leadership has shaped and strengthened the Commission’s work over the past six years. Her humility, resolve, and creativity have not only advanced thoughtful solutions to complex challenges, but have also inspired those around her to strive for excellence and to serve others with integrity” said Executive Director Rebecca Binstock.

Appointment for Dr. Lindquist’s replacement will be made by the Governor, Senate Majority Leader, and Senate Minority Leader. Dr. Lindquist will continue her service on the Commission until June 1, 2026.

For more information, contact Ethics Commission Executive Director, Rebecca Binstock, at 701-328-5325. Individuals interested in serving on the Commission may apply through the Governor’s Office at: [Boards \(nd.gov\)](https://boards.nd.gov).