

# Development vs. Investment

Goal is economic growth and improved quality of life. By-product is return on investment.

**Commerce** ([commerce.nd.gov](http://commerce.nd.gov)) - supports entrepreneurship and new business development.

- Angel Match Program - matches investor commitments.
- Development Fund – provides flexible gap financing.
- Innovate ND – supports customer and market research support.
- LIFT- technology advancement.
- Wonder Fund North Dakota – provides direct investment.

**Commerce** - many of the same programs that support new business development help growing businesses expand and become more competitive.

*Other state agency assistance:*

**Bank of North Dakota** ([bnd.nd.gov](http://bnd.nd.gov)) - addresses the financing needs of businesses at every stage of development.

**Job Service** ([jobsnd.com](http://jobsnd.com)) – assists with employee recruitment and training, and labor market research.

**Tax Dept.** ([tax.nd.gov](http://tax.nd.gov)) – provides tax incentives and exemptions that allow growing businesses to keep more of the money they earn.

**Commerce** - strategic development supports targeted industries (i.e., Advanced Manufacturing, Emerging Technology, Value-Added Agriculture, Tourism and Energy) with research, marketing, and education; and provides specialized consulting and financial incentives.



**Entrepreneurs/  
New Businesses**



**Growing  
Businesses**



**Targeted  
Industries/Investment**

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**gener8tor North Dakota** ([gener8tor.com/north-dakota](http://gener8tor.com/north-dakota)) - venture capital fund and accelerator programs that support companies that have potential to scale quickly.

**Homegrown Capital** ([homegrown.capital](http://homegrown.capital)) - venture capital for early-stage, technology-driven companies.

**Badlands Capital** ([badlands.capital](http://badlands.capital)) - growth equity for technology-enabled companies.

**Bank of North Dakota** ([bnd.nd.gov/business/match-program](http://bnd.nd.gov/business/match-program)) - Match program supports large-scale economic diversification projects for investment-rated companies.

**Lewis & Clark AgriFood** ([lewisandclarkagrifood.com](http://lewisandclarkagrifood.com)) - late-stage, growth equity focused on food and agriculture sectors.

**LongWater Opportunities** ([longwateropportunities.com](http://longwateropportunities.com)) - private equity, private credit, and custom solutions.

**50 South Capital** ([ndgrowthfund.com](http://ndgrowthfund.com)) - manages the North Dakota Growth Fund; alongside managers in its network makes targeted investments in companies and private funds based in North Dakota or with a significant presence in the state.

**Learn more about:**

- Development, [www.nd.gov/doing-business-nd](http://www.nd.gov/doing-business-nd)
- Investment, [www.rio.nd.gov/in-state-investment-program](http://www.rio.nd.gov/in-state-investment-program) (Note: the investment entities listed all manage capital provided by North Dakota's In-state Investment program.)

# Investment fund commitments



“Gener8tor—a nationally-ranked venture capital firm and accelerator—has been around since 2012, but last year, in partnership with the North Dakota Growth Fund and 50 South Capital, the firm was brought to our state to assist startups in our area and attract more businesses to North Dakota. While many of their services help early-stage startups get their feet off the ground, this spring gener8tor was able to select and invest in six established startup companies for their first equity-based accelerator program. I [Sam Kise] sat down with each of the six companies—Cios, Farmented Foods, Pavewise, Detect Auto, generAI, and Aethero—to chat about their company’s inception, their experience in the gener8tor Investment Accelerator, their plans for the future, and more.”

Source: [“gener8tor’s First North Dakota Investment Accelerator Cohort Has Big Plans,” Fargo INC!](#) (page 46, a publication of Spotlight Media), July 2023



“In May [2022], Burgum and Sanford joined officials and workers at Coal Creek Station near Underwood to celebrate the finalized sale of the coal-fired power plant and a related high-voltage transmission line, highlighting the benefits of reliable, affordable baseload coal power and innovative technologies such as carbon capture. Minnesota-based Great River Energy (GRE) sold the 1,151-megawatt power plant – North Dakota’s largest – to Rainbow Energy Center LLC and sold the transmission system that runs from central North Dakota to Minnesota to Nexus Line LLC. Rainbow Energy Center and Nexus Line are both affiliates of Bismarck-based Rainbow Energy Marketing Corp.

The Coal Creek project also received a \$150 million loan from the Bank of North Dakota's Match Program, which provides low-interest rates to encourage and attract financially strong companies and is funded through the Legacy Fund per the passage of House Bill 1425 last year [2021 Legislative Session].”

Source: [“Burgum, Sanford reflect on progress and challenges during administration’s sixth year,”](#) Office of the Governor (news release), Dec. 16, 2022



“Bushel, the leading digital platform connecting farmers and agribusinesses, successfully closed an oversubscribed \$26 million funding round led by The Banc Funds Company with further support from new and existing investors. In addition to The Banc Funds Company, other investors in this round included The Andersons, Inc., Cargill, Germin8, Lewis & Clark AgriFood, The Scoular Company, Conti Ventures (an investment group within Continental Grain Company), and 50 South Capital, the general partner of the North Dakota Growth Fund.

Bushel is an independently-owned software company that develops digital tools for farmers and agribusinesses in the agricultural supply chain. Bushel’s software digitizes, permissions, and accelerates the flow of information, transactions, and payments through secure mobile and desktop applications.”

Source: [“Bushel secures \\$26 million to accelerate digitization in agriculture,”](#) Bushel (news release), Aug. 22, 2023