



Marathon's Robert Doore presents check to NDWBC Board Director Kodee Furst, Executive Director Christy Dauer, Board Director Kathy, and Director of Business Development Kayla Wallgren.



Marathon Petroleum Partner, Connects to Women Business Owners

FARGO | Recently, Marathon Petroleum's Inclusive Communities & Stakeholder Engagement Representative Robert Doore toured multiple North Dakota's women-owned businesses.

The latest US Census survey shows that women own 42.9% of small businesses in North Dakota; however, the potential represented by those businesses has not been fully realized. Most of these businesses are Main Street businesses, the heartbeat of North Dakota's communities and their local economies.



The group leans into the conversation with women business owners at Connect Interiors

Doore met with NDWBC's clients who told their business ownership story. First on the tour was Sarah Haugen's Perfectly Nuts and Dan Coleman's Dakota Property Services. Next, Connect Interiors, owned by CharRae Chwialkowski, Kim Dean, and Amy Hannaher-Overby. Other visits included Shelby Terstriep co-owner of 701 Eateries and City Brew Hall, and Lori Bartram owner of the co-working space at the Railyard in Fargo.

NDWBC staff and board joined Doore for a strategy session offering solutions to meet diversity in business. They discussed their commitment to helping entrepreneurs reach their next level through community investment in training, connecting, and scaling business owners. Marathon presented NDWBC with a \$45,000 grant to move the mission forward to support our thriving Main Street businesses and further NDWBC's impact.

"Marathon has an impressive track record of supporting small businesses. This partnership is a major milestone in our mission to support women entrepreneurs, and we can't wait to see the incredible results we will achieve together," said Christy Dauer.

To learn more about NDWBC's annual partner program, please email partners@ctbnd.com