## DAKOTA RESOURCE COUNCIL 1200 Missouri Ave, Suite 102, Bismarck ND 58501 drc@drcinfo.com • www.drcinfo.com

## **News Release**

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## "The Little People in Boom Times" the theme of DRC's 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

Bismarck, ND— Dakota Resource Council will hold its 37th Annual Meeting this Saturday October 25 in Bismarck, ND. The public is invited to the keynote talk on "The Little People in Boom Times" presented by Derrick Braaten, attorney and partner in the Baumstark Braaten law firm in Bismarck.

DRC is a statewide, community-based group of mostly landowners, farmers, ranchers, or small business owners who are dealing with impacts of oil extraction. The current oil boom is more chaotic and damaging to people who live in North Dakota than previous oil booms. Members are concerned that current state officials are more interested in helping oil companies speed up oil extraction rather than follow a more balanced approach.

Linda Weiss of Belfield, ND and DRC chairperson, said, "We should be able to have oil and a good life that doesn't destroy so much of where we live. Derrick will help us be better advocates for our livelihoods and quality of life."

Braaten's practice has always centered on providing legal services to family farmers and ranchers. He is experienced in oil and gas issues on behalf of mineral owners and surface owners as well as agricultural and tribal law. He handles many matters in this area ranging from negotiating oil and gas leases and surface agreements to complex multi-jurisdictional litigation against large oil and gas exploration and production companies. Braaten continues to maintain a significant agricultural law practice as well, handling matters such as crop insurance arbitrations, NAD appeals, elevator insolvency actions, and other complex litigation.

DRC's member-driven oil and gas efforts are aimed at making sure that the lives and livelihoods of the many people who live in the Bakken can thrive while and after our oil resources are developed.

Braaten's presentation is Saturday, October 25 at the Bismarck AmVets Club, 2402 Railroad Ave, Bismarck, ND at around 1:30 pm, and it is open to the public.

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Founded in 1978, Dakota Resource Council is a statewide organization bringing together farmers, ranchers, small business owners, workers and other North Dakotans to address issues that affect their lives and livelihoods.