

INCREASING INFLUENCE AND BUILDING BOARD CONSENSUS



NRECA Board Leadership #952 | **Nov. 15, 2025**

The Cooperative Center | NDAREC headquarters | 3201 Nygren Drive NW | Mandan, N.D

BOARD LEADERSHIP (BL) CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS

To earn the certificate, directors must complete 10 credits from the 900-level courses. The BL courses are grouped according to eight specialty areas: grassroots, power supply, cooperative business model, governance, finance, communications, technology and risk management. Each course is one day unless otherwise noted.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Electric cooperative boards face new challenges in finance, technology and energy transition while navigating shifting population demographics. This course provides directors with the skills necessary to successfully meet these complex challenges. Through group discussion and case studies, participants will learn negotiation techniques, how to navigate difficult power asymmetries, establishing influence, and the importance of team diversity in avoiding groupthink.

KEY TOPICS

- Navigating power asymmetries on a team and building your authority
- Exploring demographic and cognitive diversity in teams and recruiting for diversity
- Building consensus through interest-based negotiation
- Recognize and avoid groupthink in the boardroom

MEET THE INSTRUCTOR

James "Bo" Todd began his military career right after high school. He joined the U.S. Army in 1982 and served until 2003. He served as an infantryman until his selection for Special Forces. As a Special Forces operator and defense contractor, Bo provided training for U.S. and Partner Nation Special Forces, commando/infantry troops



James "Bo" Todd

and various federal agencies spanning 25 nations including multiple combat and contingency operations.

After retiring from the military, Bo served in a variety of leadership positions in the private sector for both privately held and publicly traded companies. These positions included director, chief operating officer, general manager and president. He has participated in mergers and acquisitions, transitioning, and integrating companies into publicly held firms and conducting business development in high-risk areas.

Bo holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Liberal Arts and speaks German and Spanish.

SCHEDULE FOR SATURDAY, NOV. 15

All times listed are Central Time.

8:30 a.m.	Hot breakfast buffet
9 a.m.	Increasing Influence and Building Board Consensus
12 p.m.	Lunch
12:30 p.m.	Increasing Influence and Building Board Consensus - continued
3:45 p.m.	Adjournment

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

To register for this NRECA board-governance program, please go to <https://www.ndarec.com/ndarec-education-programs>. The registration deadline is October 27.

For NDAREC members with a 2025 prepaid education plan, there is no registration fee/person. For members who do not have a prepaid education plan, the registration fee is \$595/person. No advance payment is necessary; NDAREC will send an invoice for the registration fee (if applicable) following the program. The cost for breakfast, two refreshment breaks and lunch will be billed back to participating cooperatives.

CANCELLATIONS

If you need to cancel your registration, please notify Pamela Clark-Stein at pstein@ndarec.com 14 days in advance of the program. If notice is provided 14 days or more in advance, there is no cancellation fee. If notice is provided less than 14 days in advance, a cancellation fee of \$70/day will be charged. Please note: Substitutions are permitted at no extra charge if NDAREC is notified of the substitution prior to the program date.

NRECA'S CANCELLATION POLICY

NRECA charges a 50-percent cancellation fee if one of their courses is canceled 15 or fewer business days prior to the start of a scheduled course. Therefore, NDAREC reserves the right to cancel due to a lack of registrations.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

For your convenience, a block of sleeping rooms is reserved for Friday, November 14, at the hotel listed below.

COMFORT INN & SUITES

1516 27th St. N, Mandan

To make your room reservation, call 701-204-6712.

For online reservations: <https://www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/po70h2?checkInDate=2025-11-14&checkOutDate=2025-11-15&ratePlanCode=BZHNDW>

The block of sleeping rooms is reserved under "REC Board Leadership." The release date for the reserved block of rooms is October 31.

SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS AND OTHER ACCOMMODATIONS

Please notify Pamela at pstein@ndarec.com of any dietary restrictions such as food allergies, gluten-free options and other special accommodations needed. A minimum of 72 hours' advance notice is required.