



North Dakota Secretary of State Michael Howe Biography

Michael Howe has deep North Dakota roots. He is a fifth-generation farmer and is actively involved in the operation of their seed farm near Casselton with his family.

Michael's connection to agriculture took him to North Dakota State University, and later to Washington, D.C., where he served as agriculture policy director for North Dakota Congressman Rick Berg. After a stint in DC, he returned to North Dakota to continue policy work for the North Dakota Corn Growers Association. In 2014, he returned to the family farm and served on the Board of Directors for the North Dakota Grain Growers Association.

Michael served rural Cass County in the North Dakota Legislature for six years as State Representative from District 22, prior to becoming Secretary of State. In his second legislative session, he was appointed to the House Appropriations Committee and served as chairman of the interim Government Finance Committee.

Michael was honored with the prestigious 2025 Horizon Award from North Dakota State University. Since graduating from NDSU in 2010, he has demonstrated leadership and commitment to serving North Dakota while maintaining strong connections to his alma mater. He was recognized alongside other distinguished alumni during the NDSU Foundation's 2025 Evening of Distinction ceremony.

Michael is actively involved in the National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS) and currently serves as the President-elect on the 2026-2027 Executive Board. He is a member of the NASS Elections, Cybersecurity, and Business Services committees and previously served as Midwestern Region Vice-President and as co-chair of the NASS Business Services Committee.

As North Dakota Secretary of State, he also serves on the following state boards: Board of University and School Lands, Emergency Commission, State Historical Board, State Canvassing Board, Theodore Roosevelt Rough Rider Award.

Michael and his wife, Katie, were married a year before he became North Dakota's 15th Secretary of State on January 1, 2023. They and their black lab, Cannon, greatly enjoy exploring the beauty of North Dakota.