

MEC WELCOMES NEW DISTRICT 2 DIRECTOR – HUNTER ANDES

Hunter Andes, a Makoti native, grew up on his family farm in southeast Mountrail County. His family has been involved with agriculture and the building of rural America since the 1730s. He now lives north of Emmet.

Andes attended Bismarck State College where he earned an associate of applied science in Engineering Technology to be a land surveyor. Although he will forever hold a love for land surveying, Andes felt the call to become an English teacher, so he extended his higher education.

“As time went on, everything seemed to fall into place,” Andes said. “My wife and I are very thankful for the opportunities and good timing we’ve been blessed with along the way.” Years later, in 2024, Andes graduated from the University of North Dakota with a master’s degree in teaching and leadership with the goal of someday becoming a principal. He started teaching English in Garrison in 2022. Prior to Garrison, he taught in White Shield and New Town, which he credits with giving him the experience he needed in the quest of becoming an effective educator.

Andes has been a director on the Makoti Thresher’s Association for nearly a decade and is also the president of St. Paul’s Lutheran Church (rural Makoti). He is an avid J. I. Case collector and Studebaker/Packard fanatic. Much to his surprise, after conducting family research, he recently discovered he is second cousins with the founder of Studebaker Corporation. His greatest passion, however, is being chairman and founder of Friends of Wabek – a non-profit he started to fully restore a rare country schoolhouse in the ghost town of Wabek; he successfully raised nearly half a million dollars for its restoration and was able to prevent a data center from being built within a half mile of the state and national historic site. Andes is also a board member on the BLCG Foundation, an active volunteer at the Manitoba Thresherman’s Reunion, and was the lead role in the 2025 Dickens Festival play. As of July 4, 2026, he is also a member of the Sons of the American Revolution – having proved five ancestors helped secure independence from Great Britain in the Revolutionary War.

From a young age, Andes said he has been fascinated by electric cooperatives and Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who his grandfather was named after. Andes said he is extremely excited to serve on the board of McLean Electric and carry on his family’s century’s long legacy of public service.