



The EXECUTIVE

mcce

January 6, 2016

2016 ANNUAL MEETING | [REGISTER TODAY](#) | INSIDERS HARD HAT TOUR OF U.S. BANK STADIUM JUST CONFIRMED

The 2016 MCCE Annual Meeting will be held January 27 - 29 at the [Intercontinental Saint Paul Riverfront](#). We hope that you make plans today to join us at this luxurious hotel for what promises to be highly valuable conference. Take this opportunity to learn, relax and return to your chamber with innovative ideas and lots of energy

The room block expires Friday, January 8th – reserve your room now!

[Click here](#) to book from the MN Chamber room block. After you click on the link, hit the [book now button](#), then choose your dates and click search. It will then take you to the room block. Room prices are \$129 without tax.

Kyle Sexton, an award-winning marketing strategist and international speaker and author on the topics of membership development, marketing and innovation, will be keynoting the 2016 Annual Meeting.

On Wednesday, January 27, Kyle will focus on membership:

- Membership ReBoot
- 10 Tiered Membership Mistakes (You don't have to make!)
- Membership Solutions Session

On Thursday morning, January 28, the focus will be social media and communications:

- Tomorrow's Membership Organization
- Turning Social Media Into Chamber Media
- Communications Strategies

Check out [this message](#) from Kyle to 2016 MCCE Annual Meeting Attendees!

The Minnesota Vikings will host conference attendees on a special tour of the U.S. Bank Stadium Thursday afternoon. Watch for a final agenda next week!

A limited number of full scholarships are available. To apply, fill out [this form](#) and return to [Alyssa Roach](#) by January 11th.

SAVE THE DATE! UPCOMING EVENTS

2016 Annual Meeting | January 27–29 – Intercontinental Saint Paul Riverfront

2016 Mini Institute | June 2 – Holiday Inn & Suites, St. Cloud

2016 America's Small Business Summit | June 13–15 – Omni Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D.C.

2016 Fall Conference | September 28–30 – Holiday Inn & Austin Conference Center, Austin

MNDOT TRANSIT INVESTMENT PLAN HELP

MnDOT is currently working on the 2016 Greater Minnesota Transit Investment Plan. This plan will develop a vision, strategies to reach those goals, and investment priorities for transit in Greater Minnesota. As part of the planning process, MnDOT is using two online outreach tools to help them refine their objectives. Your input is very important so I hope that you will participate in this process. The deadline is January 15, 2016.

View this [one page executive summary](#) for your reference and you can find more information about the plan at www.mndot.gov/transitinvestment

JOB OPENINGS

[New Member Relationship Manager, Minnesota Chamber of Commerce](#) - application deadline is January 22nd

IN THE NEWS

[Commentary, Doug Loon, Minnesota Chamber: Use surplus to improve competitiveness](#)

The recent forecast of a \$1.87 billion budget surplus is a perfect backdrop to our season of holiday cheer. State coffers continue to grow on the strength of the hard work and success of Minnesota employers and employees. By all accounts, tax relief will be center stage when the 2016 Legislature convenes in March. The budget surpluses the state has enjoyed since the permanent \$2 billion tax increase in 2013 signal it's time to bring taxes on Minnesota employers to a more competitive level.

The Minnesota Chamber of Commerce leads the statewide United for Jobs Coalition, which represents more than 75 local chambers of commerce and business associations including the Albert Lea-Freeborn County Chamber of Commerce. We recommend the governor and the 2016 Legislature focus on reducing the state business property tax, which will benefit Main Street businesses in every community. Also left undone from the 2015 Legislature was transportation funding.

[Chapdelaine has had an impact](#)

Don Chapdelaine has been a member of the Chamber of Commerce since 1956 and has always been a firm believer in building strong business relationships. So it should come as no surprise that the [Dakota County Regional Chamber of Commerce](#) recognized Chapdelaine with its Legacy Award during its annual Business Excellence program on Nov. 19. The Legacy Award recognizes long-term business activities that have improved the economic health of Dakota County. ... "It would be hard to imagine what the business community would be in the state of Minnesota without the Chamber of Commerce," Chapdelaine said. Chapdelaine became a registered lobbyist in Congress around 1960 and served as Dakota County Commissioner for four years in the early 1990s.

[New chamber president right at home](#)

After going for nearly a year without a permanent president, the Burnsville Chamber of Commerce has chosen one with hometown familiarity and a record of success at other chambers.

Burnsville resident Jennifer Harmening, 47, will begin work Jan. 5. The board of directors announced her appointment Dec. 16.