

October 2019 Update Melissa Cox, President/CEO, <u>melissac@laurentianchamber.org</u> Laurentian Vision Partnership

Legislative Panel

The Laurentian Chamber of Commerce Legislative Committee is partnering with the Hibbing Area Chamber of Commerce to provide quality legislative events for our members and the region. On Oct. 29, our Range legislators including Rep. Dave Lislegard, Sen. Tomassoni, and Rep. Sandstede will be panelists at Minnesota Discovery Center at 4 p.m. for networking and appetizers and panel discussion from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. The event is sponsored by Range Association of Realtors, U.S. Steel and Northeast Technical Services. We are looking to host forum with U.S. Rep. Stauber at 7:30 a.m. on Nov. 5. More details are to come.

Legislative Priorities

The Chamber will participate in the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce Federation session in St. Paul on Oct. 24, as an opportunity to learn about the priorities for the upcoming legislative session. Our members are encouraged to reach out to us on issues impacting their businesses and join us at a legislative meeting.

PCs for People Impact

As part of being a Blandin Broadband Community, the Quad Cities region will receive 50 PCs that we will give to low-income families in the region. We have partnered with AEOA to make this possible. One of the technology grants will provide transportation to get these families to an event where they will also learn how to utilize the PCs so it can make a broader impact. We will be having that event from 2 to 4 p.m. on Nov. 13 at AEOA.

Broadband & Technology Funding

The first round of technology projects has been awarded through the Blandin Broadband. The next round of funding will be accepted through the end of 2019 for additional technology projects in the Quad Cities region. Reach out to Melissa for information how you can apply.

Networking & Connections

Join the Quad Cities community for the following networking opportunities:

-Business After Hours from 5 to 7 p.m. October 23, at the Sawmill hosted by Mesabi Daily News -Business After Hours Festival of Trees from 5 to 7 p.m. November 20, at the Virginia Elks,

hosted by Culbert Realty, Komatsu, North Gate Café & Catering, Mesabi Range College.

-Ladies Night Out, 4:30 p.m. Nov. 9, Sawmill, Fortune Bay

-Breakfast Connections, 7:45 to 8:45 a.m. Dec. 11, at Apple Tree Learning Center

-Chamber Funspiel, 8:00 a.m. Dec. 13, Range Recreation Civic Center

-Business After Hours from 5 to 7 p.m. Dec. 18, at Super One Liquor

-2020 Annual Fundraising Gala 5:00 p.m. Feb. 28, Fortune Bay.

These events help the chamber raise funds to fulfill its mission of promoting business through education and advocacy to advance the prosperity of the region.