



## Heart of the Continent Partnership

*Working together to sustain and celebrate the lakes, forests and communities on the Ontario/Minnesota border*



I am writing to invite you and your organization to consider contributing to HOCP's voluntary annual dues. Your annual support makes a huge difference for helping HOCP continue its mission to sustain and celebrate this wonderful cross-border region through collaboration.

Mutual beneficial outcomes are created and maintained by strong relationships and partnerships. Public-private partnerships like Heart of the Continent that includes stakeholders from government, private industry, tourism, local communities, non-profit clubs and organizations are vital for improvement in stakeholder relations, leveraging funds/expertise, marketing and long term sustainability. Our partnership with National Geographic Society – the Geotourism Initiative – continues to flourish and help brand our area as a world class destination. [www.traveltheheart.org](http://www.traveltheheart.org)

We have continued to make good steps forward at our general meetings, the core of our coalition building and held Recreational/Tourism Summits at three locations, a science symposium and land managers meetings that have all been successful at sharing interests, obstacles, strategy, all while collaborating to achieve common goals.

We look forward to the continued collaborations with you as we use this tool in the years ahead as a way to build our region and strengthen our ability to partner with each other. The HOCP collaboration continues to grow as groups perceive the benefits of working together to the benefit of the public lands and communities along the Ontario/Minnesota border.

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(807) 598 1074

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[www.heartofthecontinent.org](http://www.heartofthecontinent.org)

[hocp@heartofthecontinent.org](mailto:hocp@heartofthecontinent.org)

And we're asking for your support for the coming year:

**Annual Dues Renewal:** It's time once again to renew your voluntary annual dues to the Heart of the Continent Partnership. The level of dues paid is voluntary and on a sliding scale. Each partner chooses the level that works for them. We encourage you to make as strong a show of support as you can.

**Use of Funds:** The funds are used to cover general operating expenses of HOCP, as laid out and approved in an annual budget, especially coordinator hours and meeting costs. The steering committee has made it clear that the level of dues paid will have no bearing on the influence that the various partners will have in HOCP efforts. All partners, regardless of level of dues paid, will participate on an equal basis in all HOCP efforts, decisions, and initiatives.

**Annual Dues Levels:**

Supporting Partner: \$1000 - \$5000 per year  
Sustaining Partner: \$500 - \$999 per year  
Associate Partner: \$100 - \$499 per year  
Participating Partner: \$10 - \$99 per year

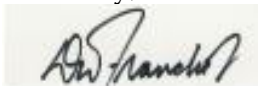
**Payment:**

**Please make cheques payable HOCP % Backus Community Center, 900 Fifth Street, International Falls, MN 56649**

We will be glad to send you an invoice, as requested. Also, please email us, at the address below, to inquire about an electronic payment.

Thank you for your participation in and support of the work of Heart of the Continent Partnership. Please give me a call if you have questions or concerns:  
1-612-801-6888

Sincerely,



Doug Franchot-Steering Committee Chair, Heart of the Continent Partnership

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