



Heart of the Continent Partnership

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

Heart of the Continent Partnership Quarterly Meeting

**February 7th and 8th, 2013
Duluth, Minnesota**

Thursday venue: Clyde Iron Works, Duluth
2920 W. Michigan, Duluth, MN 55806 218-727-1150

Friday venue: Boulder Lake Environmental Learning Center
7328 Boulder Dam Road, Duluth, MN 55803; (218) 721-3731

Day 1 (February 7th): Thursday Afternoon—General Meeting

Clyde Iron Works 2920 W. Michigan, Duluth, MN 55806; 218-727-1150

[all times are Central Standard Time]

1:00 pm - 1:30 pm

Welcome and Introductions (Doug Franchot, Steering Committee Chair, Heart of the Continent Partnership)

1:35 pm - 2:35 pm

Riki McManus, of the Upper Minnesota Film Office, will present on “How to Bring Hollywood to your Corner of the Heart of the Continent.” Her organization promotes Northeastern Minnesota as a location for contract filming of movies, documentaries, commercials, and related video media productions. She will present on the community and economic impact of films shot on location, share some really good stories, and lead a conversation to help her identify a list of new locations to promote.

2:40 pm – 3:15 pm

HOCP Steering Committee Business – Outgoing chair Doug Franchot will present HOCP business, including new steering committee members (for approval), new steering committee chair, other HOCP business.

3:15 pm – 3:45 pm

Coffee/Snack Break

3:45 pm – 4:15 pm

Gord Knowles, of the Atikokan Economic Development Corporation will present on plans for a Spring 2013 FAM tour: a bi-national bus tour to help tourism officials from various points around the region to become familiar with other regional assets besides those close to home. This project is the result of a team that attended the 2011 International Community Congress. He will be

seeking input, ideas for tour stops, and partners for planning and implementation.

4:20 pm – 5:00 pm

HOCP National Geographic—Geotourism Initiative. Frank Jewell, St. Louis County and HOCP Steering Committee, will give an update on HOCP's plans to partner with National Geographic Society to create a regional geotourism map and website. Drawing input and involvement from a wide spectrum of local stakeholders, this product will highlight the outstanding natural, cultural and historical resources in the Heart of the Continent, a binational region of more than 5 million acres of public lands, along with its historic gateway communities. HOCP will become a part of a network of related geotourism websites and will gain great visibility for our region by doing so.

5:00 pm

Adjourn

5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Dinner at Clyde Iron Works

We hope you'll plan on eating at the same place we're meeting, Clyde Iron Works. This will be a great time to connect with each other, make new plans, and relax between our afternoon session and our evening program, at the same place. Participants will pay their own meal costs. (Note: there are many other dining options in the area as well.)

Day 1 (February 7th): Thursday Evening—Program

Clyde Iron Works 2920 W. Michigan, Duluth, MN 55806 218-727-1150

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm CDT

Ride the Iron Curtain: Destination Mountain Biking in the Upper Midwest *Hansi Johnson, International Mountain Biking Association, introduced by Tim Dabney, Deputy Forest Supervisor, Superior National Forest.*

Join us for this exciting look at Mountain Biking opportunities in the Heart of the Continent and other nearby areas. Tim Dabney will touch on mountain biking initiatives within the Superior National Forest and introduce the main speaker, Hansi Johnson. Hansi is the Midwest Regional Director of the *International Mountain Biking Association*. Please join us for this exciting presentation, including conversation and refreshments.

Day 2 (February 8th): Friday morning— Forest Tour & Committee Work

[Boulder Lake Environmental Learning Center](#)

7328 Boulder Dam Road, Duluth, MN 55803; (218) 721-3731

WARM CLOTHING/BOOTS NEEDED: During this morning's forest tour, we will walk short distances into the forest from the road at several different stops. Please dress for the weather and wear boots for walking in the woods.

8:00 am – 8:30 am

Arrival and Welcome (note: Boulder Lake ELC is a 20 minute drive from Duluth). Director John Geissler will give us an

introduction to Boulder Lake Environmental Learning Center and the educational programs offered in our 18,000 acre classroom featuring full scale natural resource stewardship (more info at www.boulderlake.org)

8:30 am – 10:30 pm CST Forest Field Tour –John Geissler will lead us into several different forest stands and learn about our region's forest ecology/succession, forest management techniques, forest products, and how we regenerate what we harvest. (*Warm Clothing, Snow Boots needed!*).

10:30 am – 1200am CST Committee Meetings, Open to All

While we're out at Boulder Lake, we'll also spend some breakout time in concurrent committee work, moving forward on several of HOCP's initiatives. All interested parties are welcome and encouraged to attend. Please pick one and attend:

- Breakout 1: National Geographic Geotourism Initiative: Planning session hosted by Frank Jewell, St. Louis County Commissioner and Doug Franchot, Voyageurs National Park Association Board.
- Breakout 2: topic tbd

Noon: Adjourn

Afternoon: (optional) Skiing and Snowshoeing on the Boulder Lake trails.

After the meeting, Boulder Lake invites HOCP participants to take advantage of their 21 km of groomed ski trails (classic and skate cross country ski trails) and snowshoe trails. Bring your own equipment.

Costs—No Charge

There are no costs to attend any portions of the meeting or presentations. Your only costs will be your lodging (please arrange your own, see below) and meals.

Lodging

(Please book your own lodging)

[Days Inn Duluth Lakewalk](#) . **\$39/night!** Days Inn has generously offered HOCP a group rate of \$39/night for HOCP meeting participants. Call or email Sarah Warner at Days Inn (by Feb 4th) to make your booking. [218-625-2599](tel:218-625-2599); swarner@duluthwaterpark.com.

Please Pre-register

at www.heartofthecontinent.org
(not required, but helps us plan.)

Questions:

Frank Jewell: 218-726-2450.
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