

# Community of Minnesota Resorts What's Happening? January 2024

Members, We hope you are looking forward to your busy spring season! Here is *What's Happening* in the CMR.

**From your Board:** CMR Members-at-large are welcome. The *Minnesota Resorter* magazine liaison is currently open for one volunteer. You can also join any of the four committees at any time. Please get in touch with Kayla Daigle at CMRPresident@Minnesota-Resorts.com | 320-295-3199 if you have any questions or to volunteer.

Welcome to CMR Member-at-Large Lorrie Yeschick, Birch Bay Resort, now a part of our CMR Facebook moderator team.

## Legislative:

### CMR Day on the Hill February 27 – 28, 2024

The bus ride, hotel, MN Wild hockey tickets, and some meals are paid for from the proceeds of the 2023 Fall Conference Silent and Live Auctions! Deadline to sign up is **January 26**, **2024.** Sign up Here!

We need you there to support our **Day on the Hill topics:** 

- 1. **Resort and Campground Property Tax Bill -** Last year, we almost had this passed, but the session ran out of time. Joel believes the Resort Property Tax Bill to re-adjust the tiers will pass in 2024. The new proposal is even stronger than the one we had in 2023. This should bring resorts and campgrounds significant property tax relief and our most important topic this year. As a group, we must push hard to pass the bill.
- 2. **Earned Sick and Safe Time -** We plan to receive more education on these new bills while at the Capital. Then, gather information from you and start working to address these concerns.
- 3. **Post Labor Day School Start -** To make sure we push to prevent early school year start dates to help our August shoulder season bookings.
- 4. **Funding for Explore Minnesota Tourism** Focus on strong funding and the benefits we receive as resorts and campgrounds in the rural areas of Minnesota. How important resorts and campgrounds are to the local economies, the tax dollars we bring into the state, and the out-of-state dollars that come with tourism in the rural areas. There has been a significant push with new management to spend these dollars in the larger cities.

**Questions?** Contact Michael Boldt at cmrlegislative@minnesota-resorts.com | 218-396-0042.

#### **Education:**

**2024 Spring Workshop**: The dates and details will be announced soon!



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## Membership:

**Scholarships:** Each year, the CMR offers scholarships to qualified high school students, current undergraduates, or technical school students of children and grandchildren of CMR members. For 2024, we are pleased to offer three generous scholarships through donations from sponsors: the Marc Bloomquist Memorial Scholarship, the Pine Insurance Agency Scholarship, and the CMR Scholarship. Each scholarship recipient is awarded \$1500 for tuition and/or related fees to aid students in pursuing their academic or vocational advancement.

The 2024 Scholarship application will open **February 15, 2024**, and close **March 15, 2024**, at <a href="https://minnesota-resorts.com/membership/scholarships/">https://minnesota-resorts.com/membership/scholarships/</a>. Contact Tracy Boldt, at CMRScholarship@Minnesota-Resorts.com if you have any questions.

## **Marketing:**

**Website:** To update your listing on our newly designed CMR website. Log-in steps have stayed the same. Here is a link to a <u>Loom tutorial</u> to change items within your listing that walks you through all the basics. **Uploading photos:** The ideal file size will be around 5KB to 200KB, or your photos may not load onto your page. Note: One site to help with compressing your images is tinypng.com.

If you have any questions about your listing, don't hesitate to contact the office at CMR@Minnesota-Resorts.com | 320-212-5107.

From *Minnesota Resorter* Editor Amanda Wheece: I hope your off-season is going well and you've had a chance to relax, enjoy the holidays with family, and go through your winter "to-do" list. We're gearing up for another issue of the magazine and are looking for articles from you. Do you have a resort story you'd like to share? Articles typically run 500 to 750 words, and if they include photos, that helps draw interest in the story. If you have time to spare in the next few weeks, please consider writing an article. As the motto goes, "None of us are as smart as all of us!" Please share things you've learned, a fun resort story, or even an experience you've had at a Community of Minnesota Resorts event. The deadline for Articles is February 9. To submit articles or questions please contact Amanda at CMRMagazine@Minnesota-Resorts.com.

Please let me know if you have any questions. I am happy to help.

Sincerely, Sue Malikowski, CMR Office Manager