



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: September 20, 2023
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APEX Co-Hosts Insider Event at ALLETE/Minnesota Power Headquarters in Duluth

Duluth, MN: The Area Partnership for Economic Expansion (APEX) was pleased to co-host an APEX Insider event at the ALLETE/Minnesota Power headquarters building in downtown Duluth, MN, on Tuesday, September 19, 2023. The facility and Plaza were recently renovated to create welcoming community gathering spaces.

“ALLETE/Minnesota Power has long been a cornerstone company in our community and their family of companies is currently leading in the clean-energy transition in Minnesota and beyond. Their new space is welcoming, modern and designed to bring people together,” said Rachel Johnson, APEX President and CEO. “From the Hodnik Hall meeting space to the multi-purpose Plaza, this renovation project clearly demonstrates ALLETE/Minnesota Power’s commitment to our region’s future.”

Hodnik Hall, named in honor of Al Hodnik, ALLETE’s former Executive Chairman, President and CEO, is an expansive private conference room complete with space to host meetings and events up to 200 people. The room includes advanced technology, including large screens for presentations and an interconnected audio/video system for virtual meetings.

The Plaza construction project began in the summer of 2020 and was completed in 2022. The project was designed to be an open, welcoming space that serves as a gateway to Duluth’s downtown business district and Canal Park. Visitors find an accessible, multi-functional space complete with a variety of seating options, shade structures, gardens and trees. Events such as coffee socials, known as “Power Up the Plaza”, hosted by Downtown Duluth and Minnesota Power, with performers and more, were held weekly in the Plaza this summer. The back end of the Plaza hosts wooden swing benches below an impressive solar array and wind turbine blade to highlight ALLETE’s sustainability in action focus.

“ALLETE/Minnesota Power has been headquartered in downtown Duluth for over a century, with 2023 marking the 100-year anniversary at 30 West Superior Street,” said Frank Frederickson, Minnesota Power’s Vice President of Customer Experience and Engineering Services. “We are very proud to share our new spaces with our community as every aspect, from design to implementation, was carefully planned with broad stakeholder engagement. We’re beyond pleased with the result and it’s exciting to see the community embracing our Plaza.”

APEX was proud to co-host this Insider event with ALLETE/Minnesota Power and thanks them for their continued investment in our region. We invite business owners and investors to explore the benefits of opening, expanding or remodeling facilities in northeast Minnesota and northwest Wisconsin. For more information or to schedule a site visit, please visit www.APEXgetsbusiness.com.

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About APEX

APEX is the private sector-led business development engine for northeast Minnesota and northwest Wisconsin. APEX investor-members represent some of the most influential companies in the region, with a collaborative approach to promoting sustainable economic growth. APEX has impacted over 4,340 jobs in the region, resulting in an annual regional payroll of over \$177.9 million and contributing to over \$24.5 million in state and local taxes annually. For more information on APEX, please visit www.APEXgetsbusiness.com.