An Invitation from the MLC Chair

This is a milestone year for the Midwestern Legislative Conference Annual Meeting, and we are going to commemorate our 75th year with four days devoted to learning, deepening cross-state and cross-border friendships, forging new bonds with legislative colleagues, and advancing public policy.

Fittingly, this year’s landmark meeting will take place in Rapid City — South Dakota’s “gateway to Mount Rushmore” that is also within an hour’s drive or less from the Crazy Horse Memorial, Badlands National Park, Custer State Park, the Wild West town of Deadwood, and the motorcycle hot spot of Sturgis. **Our meeting will be held July 11-14,** an ideal time of year to explore these and other great places in South Dakota.

The family-friendly MLC Annual Meeting is the only event of its kind designed by and for legislators from the Midwest’s states and provinces. This brochure provides a glimpse of what we have planned for you — informative sessions with leading policy experts, site visits, highly renowned speakers, special evening events, and fun activities for guests of all ages. We plan to make this a memorable, enjoyable and worthwhile meeting for all attendees and their guests.

**Registering for the MLC Annual Meeting**

- Registration can be completed at csgmidwest.org; the registration deadline is June 4. **Please note: Any registrations received after June 4 will be subject to space availability for all business and social programming, including spouse and youth programs.**

- The cost of registration covers all meals and admittance to all meeting-related events. (All registration fees are in U.S. dollars.)

- Separate registration is required for the spouses, adult guests and children of attendees. The registration fee for adult guests is $175; there is no charge for children (under 18) to take part in the meeting’s youth events.

- Hotel reservations must be made separately (see below).

- Please contact CSG Midwest if you have questions: csgm@csg.org or 630.925.1922.

**REGISTRATION FEES (ATTENDEES REGISTERING BY MAY 11 WILL RECEIVE A DISCOUNT)**

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<tr>
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<td>Contributor ($3,500 or more)</td>
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* To receive their discount code, CSG Associate and Leadership Circle members can call 859.244.8117 or email Matthew Terry at mterry@csg.org.

Please note: The Midwestern Legislative Conference encourages all attendees to the MLC’s 75th Annual Meeting in Rapid City, South Dakota, to familiarize themselves with all COVID-19-related guidance provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and by the appropriate state, provincial and local public health authorities in the areas to and from which they will be traveling in order to attend the conference. Compliance with such guidance, and with any on-site health and safety protocols recommended by the MLC to help ensure the safety of all event participants, is strongly encouraged by the MLC but will ultimately remain the responsibility of individual attendees.

**About the Meeting Site and Hotels**

The Midwestern Legislative Conference Annual Meeting will be held July 11-14 at The Monument, located in the heart of downtown Rapid City (444 Mount Rushmore Road). The conference’s three hotels are a five- to 16-minute walk from The Monument. Transportation will be provided upon request. The cutoff date for reserving a room at one of these three hotels is June 4, after which reservations are subject to availability.

- Holiday Inn Rapid City-Rushmore Plaza is located at 505 N. 5th Street. Please call 844.516.6415 or 605.348.4000 and mention the “MLC” or “CSG Midwestern Legislative Conference” to receive the group rate of $156 (not including taxes).

- The Rushmore Hotel & Suites is located at 445 Mt. Rushmore Road. The hotel does not offer online group reservations. Please call 605.348.8300 and mention “The Council of State Governments” or “CSG-2021” to receive the group rate of $186 (not including taxes).

- The Hotel Alex Johnson is located at 526 Sixth Street. Please call 605.342.1210 and mention “The Council of State Governments” to receive the group rate of $186 (not including taxes).

Links to online hotel reservations (when available) can be found on the CSG Midwest website: csgmidwest.org. Complimentary parking is offered at all hotels except the Hotel Alex Johnson, which only has valet parking at $9.95 per night (not including taxes).
# Preliminary Conference Schedule

## SATURDAY, JULY 10
- **12 to 6 p.m.**
  - Meeting Registration and Information Desk
- **1:30 to 8 p.m.**
  - MLC Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee Tour: A Black Hills Excursion (casual attire; separate pre-registration required)

## SUNDAY, JULY 11
- **9 a.m. to 6 p.m.**
  - Meeting Registration and Information Desk
- **10 to 11:30 a.m.**
  - Concurrent Sessions of MLC Policy Committees
- **11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.**
  - MLC Executive Committee Meeting (lunch provided)
- **12 to 1:30 p.m.**
  - MLC Policy Committees’ Lunch
- **3 to 4:30 p.m.**
  - Concurrent Sessions of MLC Policy Committees
- **4:30 to 5 p.m.**
  - Newcomers Orientation
- **5 to 6 p.m.**
  - BILLD Alumni Reception (invitation only)
  - Newcomers Reception
- **6 to 9 p.m.**
  - Opening Night Reception at Reptile Gardens

## MONDAY, JULY 12
- **7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.**
  - Meeting Registration and Information Desk
- **7:30 to 8:45 a.m.**
  - Breakfast
  - Breakfast Table Topic Discussions
  - BILLD Steering Committee Business Session/Breakfast
- **9 to 10:30 a.m.**
  - Opening and Keynote Session
  - Welcoming Remarks
  - Keynote Address: The Post-Pandemic Midwest; Ben Hammersley; Futurist, Journalist and Technologist
- **10:45 a.m. to 12 p.m.**
  - Post-Pandemic Midwest: Policy Ideas and Opportunities for States and Provinces
- **12 to 2 p.m.**
  - Luncheon and Featured Presentation
- **2 to 3:30 p.m.**
  - Featured Presentation
- **3:45 to 11:15 p.m.**
  - MLC Committee-Sponsored Sessions
- **5:45 to 6:45 p.m.**
  - Kansas MLC 2022 Reception at The Monument
- **7 to 10:30 p.m.**
  - State Dinner at The Monument

## TUESDAY, JULY 13
- **7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.**
  - Meeting Registration and Information Desk
- **7:30 to 8:45 a.m.**
  - Breakfast
  - Breakfast Table Topic Discussions
  - BILLD Breakfast (invitation only)
  - MLC Resolutions Committee
- **9 to 10:15 a.m.**
  - Plenary Session: MLC Chair’s Initiative on Innovations in Land Conservation
- **10:30 to 11:45 a.m.**
  - Plenary Session
- **11:45 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.**
  - Luncheon and Featured Presentation
- **2 to 3:30 p.m.**
  - MLC Committee-Sponsored Sessions
- **3:45 to 5 p.m.**
  - MLC Committee-Sponsored Sessions
- **5:45 to 11:15 p.m.**
  - MLC Committee-Sponsored Sessions
- **7 to 10:30 p.m.**
  - State Dinner at The Monument

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 14
- **8:30 to 10 a.m.**
  - Meeting Registration and Information Desk
- **8:30 to 10 a.m.**
  - Breakfast and MLC Business Session
- **10 a.m. to 12 p.m.**
  - Closing Professional Development Workshop: Managing Legislative Stress; J. Scott Raecker, Director of The Robert D. and Billie Ray Center at Drake University

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### Sign Up to Lead a Breakfast Table Topic

On Monday and Tuesday mornings, legislators are welcome to facilitate a breakfast Table Topic conversation on an issue of interest to them. These roundtable discussions help lawmakers share policy ideas in an informal setting. If you would like to lead a discussion, please contact Tim Anderson: 630.925.1922 or tanderson@csg.org. The deadline to register is June 4.

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**Please note:** Photographers will be present during MLC Annual Meeting sessions. Photographs of MLC Annual Meeting attendees may appear in CSG publications and in printed and online promotional materials.
Spouse, Guest & Youth Program/Evening Events

**SUNDAY, JULY 11**

6 to 9 p.m.
For Children and Teens
Youth Meet & Greet at Reptile Gardens – Featuring Animal Friends!

For Attendees, Spouses and Adult Guests
Opening Night Reception at Reptile Gardens

**MONDAY, JULY 12**

9:45 a.m. to 2:15 p.m.
For All Ages
A Journey to the Journey Museum
Guided Walking Tour of Presidents’ Statues

3:45 to 11:15 p.m.
For All Ages
Family Night at the Crazy Horse and Mount Rushmore Memorials

**TUESDAY, JULY 13**

9:45 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.
For All Ages
A Day of Adventure at Custer State Park

5:45 to 6:45 p.m.
For Attendees, Spouses and Adult Guests
Kansas MLC 2022 Reception at The Monument (attire is business casual)

5:45 to 10:45 p.m.
For Children and Teens
Youth Farewell Event – Dinner and Fun at the Rushmore Plaza Holiday Inn

7 to 10:30 p.m.
For Attendees, Spouses and Adult Guests
State Dinner at The Monument (attire is business casual)

**Attendee Checklist**

- Registration can be completed at csgmidwest.org.
- The registration deadline is June 4; separate registration is required for spouses, adult guests and children.
- You must be 21 to attend events designated for attendees, spouses and adult guests.
- An adult must accompany children ages 5 and under.
- Adults can only attend youth activities if they are accompanying a child and have paid the $175 fee.
- Event times are subject to change.
- Unless otherwise indicated, attire for guest and social events is casual; attire for meeting’s business sessions is business casual.
- Meals will be provided at all events.

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Staying in Touch: How to Keep Up to Date on This Year’s MLC Annual Meeting

- Visit the CSG Midwest website: csgmidwest.org
- Follow us on Twitter: @CSGovts
- “Like” The Council of State Governments on Facebook and follow its Upcoming Events section
- Contact CSG Midwest at 630.925.1922 or csgm@csg.org
Session Highlights

MLC CHAIR’S INITIATIVE ON INNOVATIONS IN LAND CONSERVATION
As part of the MLC Chair’s Initiative of South Dakota Senate Majority Leader Gary Cammack, a plenary session will be held on innovative state, federal and private sector strategies that encourage the sustainable use and management of our region’s greatest natural resource — the lands we live on.

THE MIDWEST’S POST-PANDEMIC FUTURE
Led by acclaimed futurist Ben Hammersley, meeting attendees will explore the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead for state and provincial governments in the Midwest. This forward-looking session will focus in part on education and health policies, as well as trends likely to shape the region’s economy and the future of work.

MANAGING LEGISLATIVE STRESS
In this interactive workshop, participants will explore the new science of stress management and learn how to apply it to their work inside and outside the legislature. This workshop will be led by a former state legislator: J. Scott Raecker, director of The Robert D. and Billie Ray Center at Drake University.

About CSG’s Midwestern Legislative Conference
The Council of State Governments is a regionally based national organization that serves all three branches of government in the 50 states. CSG Midwest serves legislators and other state officials from the nation’s heartland. It provides staff support to the Midwestern Legislative Conference (MLC) and events such as the MLC Annual Meeting.

The MLC has 12 member jurisdictions: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Saskatchewan, South Dakota and Wisconsin. Three Canadian provinces are affiliate members of the MLC: Alberta, Manitoba and Ontario.

Contributor OPPORTUNITIES
The Contributor Program gives organizations the opportunity to support the MLC Annual Meeting. For information on how to contribute, please contact Ilene Grossman: igrossman@csg.org or 630.925.1922. The MLC appreciates the early commitment of support (as of March 19) for this year’s Annual Meeting from the following organizations.

PLATINUM CONTRIBUTORS
South Dakota Electric Utility Companies
• Black Hills Energy
• MidAmerican Energy
• Montana-Dakota Utilities
• Northwestern Energy
• Ottertail Power
• Xcel Energy

GOLD CONTRIBUTORS
• AT&T
• Government of the Republic of China (Taiwan)
• Johnson & Johnson
• TC Energy

SILVER CONTRIBUTORS
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• Anheuser-Busch Companies
• Comcast
• Genentech
• Independent Insurance Agents of South Dakota
• Lake Area Technical College and Watertown Development Company
• McLane Company, Inc.
• Michigan Restaurant & Lodging Association
• Renewable Energy Group
• South Dakota Education Association
• South Dakota Rural Electric Association
• South Dakota Telecommunications Association
• State Farm
• United Parcel Service
• Wellmark South Dakota

BRONZE CONTRIBUTORS
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• Amway
• Avera Health
• Dairyland Power Cooperative
• Harms Oil Company
• Michigan Association of Health Plans
• Wells Fargo & Company

FRIEND
• A.H. Meyer & Sons Inc.
• Delta Dental of South Dakota
• DeSmet Farm Mutual Insurance Company of South Dakota
• Molded Fiber Glass Companies / South Dakota
• South Dakota Realtors*
• Visit Rapid City
• Western Dakota Technical College
COME EARLY, STAY LATE: Ideas for extending your stay in South Dakota

**Badlands National Park**
The beauty of the “Land of Stone and Light” — including the park’s unique geologic formations that provide a glimpse into the Earth’s past — attracts visitors from around the world.

**The Needles Highway**
Located within the wondrous Custer State Park, this 14-mile National Scenic Byway takes travelers through pine and spruce forests and rugged granite mountains.

**Deadwood**
The world-famous Wild West town of Deadwood features fun activities for the whole family, including historical re-enactments, live concerts and comedy shows.

**Sioux Falls**
South Dakota’s largest city has something to offer visitors of all ages: a walkable downtown, the historic Old Courthouse Museum, the Great Plains Zoo and picturesque Falls Park.

**Corn Palace**
Every year, a half-million people come to visit this century-old structure and its uniquely designed corn murals. The world’s only Corn Palace is located in the town of Mitchell.

**Dignity Statue**
Sculptor Dale Lamphere designed this statue to honor the cultures of the Lakota and Dakota peoples. It is located on a Missouri River bluff near the town of Chamberlain.