

Strategic Planning, Meeting Management, and Organizational Development Assistance

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With its emphasis on long-term thinking and track record of guiding plans toward reality, Northspan has been at the forefront of addressing strategic and organizational development needs for over twenty years. Our deep understanding of our region and our clients prepare us to work with area businesses, local units of government, agencies, and philanthropic and non-profit organizations to navigate change. We carefully customize our approach to fit our clients' situations, challenges, and opportunities.



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Northspan's seasoned staff offers affordable facilitation services for a wide variety of situations. We have assisted businesses and organizations such as the Minnesota Business Finance Corporation, IRRRB, Natural Resources Research Institute, Centra Ventures, Animal Allies, and Duluth Bethel with organizational strategic plans that frame, address, and guide actions and positive outcomes. When opportunities for growth emerge, we can help position our clients to best take advantage of new possibilities, as with the Range Readiness Initiative in 2008 and our more recent work with the Hermantown Economic Development Authority and Advance Hermantown. When companies or communities confront crises, Northspan can provide services to develop an immediate response that is aligned and targeted to the situation. We have worked to merge services among communities such as the new East Range Police Department providing law enforcement services for Hoyt Lakes and Aurora.

We develop long-term relationships with communities that allow us to assist with economic development strategies, both in response to short-term projects and continuous economic development planning. Clients for these relationships range from individual communities that lack dedicated economic development staff such as Sandstone or Moose Lake to multi-county regions, as in our recent engagement with the GPS 45:93 economic development group in east central Minnesota. We assist counties as they identify economic development priorities, as in our work with Go Cook County and Voyage Forward in Koochiching County, and helped others such as Kanabec County build their own economic development capacity. Our staff is a trusted source of facilitation services for regional partnerships such as the Arrowhead Growth Alliance, Laurentian Vision Partnership, Minnesota Power



Community Advisory Panels, and the [Recharge the Range Livable Communities Action Team](#) that mesh with our goals of broad cooperation in the name of economic and community development.

Ultimately, Northspan's organizational development services help create clients that are flexible, resilient, and ready to build off their existing strengths to chart a course toward a brighter future. As a deeply invested stakeholder in the economic growth of the Northland and the Upper Midwest, we work diligently to lay a foundation that advances the development of our client organizations. Contact Northspan President Randy Lasky at 218-529-7561 or rlasky@northspan.org to learn how we can best address your needs.