# WELCOME TO THE

N\*RTHERN MICHIGAN CHAMBER ALLIANCE MOVING NORTHERN MICHIGAN FORWARD **NORTHERN** MICHIGAN FORWARD **NORTHERN** MICHIGAN FORWARD **NORTHERN** MICHIGAN FORWARD



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### N\*RTHERN MICHIGAN **CHAMBER** ALLIANCE

The Northern Michigan Chamber Alliance is a coalition of 16 chambers and economic development organizations from across northern Michigan. The Alliance partnership works from the premise that many legislative issues impact the U.P. and northern Lower Peninsula in similar ways. Our coalition exists to advocate for rural northern Michigan and move forward rural-centric business policy. Focus is given to supporting the success of existing northern Michigan businesses, developing and attracting a talented workforce in northern Michigan, and maximizing the competitiveness of the rural northern Michigan business environment. The Alliance includes nine Partners, , seven Associate Partners, and over 7,000 member businesses from across northern Michigan.

## **Elevating & Advancing Local Business**

#### ALLIANCE MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

#### PARTNERS

**Alpena Area** Chamber of Commerce

**Benzie** Area Chamber of Commerce

Cadillac Area Chamber of Commerce

Charlevoix Area Chamber of Commerce

**Gaylord** Area Chamber of Commerce

Lake Superior Community Partnership

Manistee Area Chamber of Commerce

The Petoskey Chamber of Commerce

Traverse

Connect

# **Boyne Area**

Chamber of Commerce

Leelanau

Peninsula Chamber of

Commerce

Cheboygan Area Chamber of Commerce

Sault Area

Chamber of

Commerce

East Jordan Chamber of Commerce

ASSOCIATE PARTNERS

Elk Rapids Chamber of Commerce

Harbor Springs Chamber of Commerce

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## 2023 NORTHERN MICHIGAN POLICY CONFERENCE

The Northern Michigan Policy Conference is a regional economic development conference led by the Northern Michigan Chamber Alliance. The Alliance is a coalition of 16 chambers and economic development organizations and over 7,000 member businesses from all across northern Michigan. The partnership exists to advocate for rural northern Michigan and move forward rural-centric business policy.

Now in its fifth year as a policy conference after serving as the Alliance's annual agenda-setting meeting for years, the Northern Michigan Policy Conference is designed to leverage diverse strategies to enhance the northern Michigan region's standing as a world-class place for business, residents, visitors, and students of all ages. This year's policy conference will be a collaborative, business-driven experience delivering actionable goals to energize and provide vision.

# SCHEDULE

8:15 AM	Registration Opens
9:00 AM	Opening Remarks • Sarah Van Horn, Northern Michigan Chamber Alliance • Doug DeYoung, Consumers Energy • TBA, Enbridge
9:15 AM	Northern Michigan Chamber Alliance Legislative Update
9:40 AM	Remarks from Federal Legislators • U.S. Senator Gary Peters • U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow • U.S. Representative John Moolenaar • U.S. Representative Jack Bergman Remarks from Michigan House Speaker • Representative Joe Tate
10:00 AM	Northern Caucus Panel
11:00 AM	Lunch and Networking
11:45 AM	Broadband and Infrastructure Panel
12:45 PM	Keynote Speaker • Lt. Governor Garlin Gilchrist II
1:20	Closing Remarks
1:30 PM	Adjourned

## **OPENING REMARKS**



**Sarah Van Horn** Chair, Northern Michigan Chamber Alliance President, Charlevoix Area Chamber of Commerce



**Doug DeYoung** Public Affairs Area Manager Consumers Energy



**Anna Mooney** Government Relations Manager Enbridge

## NORTHERN MICHIGAN CHAMBER ALLIANCE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



Henry Wolf Director of Government Relations Northern Michigan Chamber Alliance Traverse Connect

## **REMARKS FROM FEDERAL LEGISLATORS**



Debbie Stabenow U.S. Senator Michigan



Gary Peters U.S. Senator Michigan



John Moolenaar U.S. Representative Second District of Michigan



Jack Bergman U.S. Representative First District of Michigan

#### **REMARKS FROM MICHIGAN HOUSE SPEAKER**



Joe Tate Michigan House Speaker Michigan State House, District 10

### **NORTHERN CAUCUS: CURRENT AFFAIRS AND** WHAT TO EXPECT IN 2023



#### **MODERATOR**

**Carlin Smith** Northern Michigan Community Affairs Manager, Consumers Energy Past Chair, Northern Michigan Chamber Alliance

#### PANELISTS



John N. Damoose State Senator Michigan Senate District 37



**Michele Hoitenga** State Senator Michigan Senate District 36



**Betsy Coffia** State Representative





John R. Roth **Curt VanderWall State Representative State Representative** Michigan State House District 103 Michigan State House District 104 Michigan State House District 102









## **BROADBAND AND INFRASTRUCTURE PANEL**



#### **MODERATOR**

Dave Mengebier President and CEO, Grand Traverse Regional Community Foundation Chair, Traverse Connect Government Relations Committee

#### **PANELISTS**



**Eric Frederick** Chief Connectivity Officer Michigan High-Speed Internet Office (MIHI)



Gary Heidel Acting Executive Director Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA)



Brad Wieferich Acting Director Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT)

N<sup>\*</sup>RTHERN MICHIGAN CHAMBER ALLIANCE





# **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**



**Garlin Gilchrist II** Lieutenant Governor of Michigan

## JOIN US FOR THE 2023 ANNUAL CELEBRATION GALA

A Party Three Years in the Making

6:30 PM - 12:00 AM Grand Traverse Resort & Spa - 16th & 17th Floors of the Tower

Hosted by Traverse Connect

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