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## PRESS RELEASE

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## A FULLY CHARGED EVENING IS PROMISED AT THE VCDC'S ANNUAL BANQUET

**Vermillion, SD., July 27<sup>th</sup> 2021** – The 2021 Annual Banquet of the Vermillion Area Chamber & Development Company (VCDC) has been set for Thursday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021, at the Sanford Coyote Sports Center, with tickets now available for purchase. The public is encouraged to attend the banquet and help celebrate the accomplishments of the community.

"We want to celebrate the resilience this community showed over the course of last year. The battle may not be completely over yet, but we are well on our way back to what we used to consider normal," said Nate Welch, President and CEO of the VCDC. "There's no better way to celebrate 2020 and 2021; not only can we gather and re-connect under the same roof to commemorate the strength shown last year, but we can recognize and award those who went above and beyond when things were especially hard."

The evening's highlights will include the presentation of several awards, including the VCDC Community Leader of the Year, the Vermillion NEXT Young Professional of the Year, the VCDC Brick Awards, the Mayor's Community Service Award, the United Way Volunteer of the Year Award, and more.

This year, in place of a single keynote speaker, the VCDC has partnered with Plains Speaking People, an organization dedicated to sharing the stories of South Dakota. Attendees have grown accustomed to expect a spectacular event, with great entertainment, delicious food, surprise features, and keynote speakers that will surely amaze, and 2021 will be no different.

Doors will open for a cocktail social hour at 5:00 pm. Dinner will begin at 6:15 pm, with the official program starting at 6:30 pm.

Invitations will soon be mailed to chamber members, Vermillion NOW! 3 investors, and other stakeholders of the VCDC. Returning the RSVP card will reserve a seat for you. However, all are welcome to attend the event and tickets can also be obtained by contacting the VCDC office at 605.624.5571, or online at [LiveVermillion.com](http://LiveVermillion.com).



This year, the VCDC is offering an early bird special on tickets. Individual tickets purchased prior to Sunday, August 8<sup>th</sup> will be \$50 for chamber members and non-members. Tickets purchased after this date will cost chamber members \$60 and non-members \$70 per individual ticket. Vermillion NEXT members can purchase tickets for \$35. This year, corporate tables may be purchased for \$350. In addition, VIP tables will also receive special gifts and will include premier stage seating for \$650. A special rate of \$800 will provide you with a VIP and corporate table package. All tables seat between 8-10 guests.

The VCDC is currently seeking nominations for the following 2021 awards:

- **VCDC Community Leader Award**
- **Vermillion NEXT Young Professional of the Year**
- **Spirit of Entrepreneurship**
- **Prairie Family Business Award**

The Community Leader Award is given to a Vermillion Area individual with a prominent history of success, community involvement, and service-oriented leadership. This award recognizes the accomplishments of a Vermillion Area individual and his/her/their contributions to our community.

The Prairie Family Business Award is given to a Vermillion Area family business with a strong record of success, family involvement, community service, multi-generational culture, and a positive, family business structure. This award recognizes the accomplishments of a Vermillion Area family business and their contributions to the community.

The Vermillion NEXT Young Professional of the Year Award is given to recognize an outstanding young professional in our community who has committed themselves to excellence in community engagement, as well as in their professional lives.

The Spirit of Entrepreneurship Award is given to a Vermillion Area individual who demonstrates an entrepreneurial spirit. This award recognizes the recipient for not only the innovative ventures that enrich our community, but also for the challenges and risks that come with taking a project from an idea to reality.

The VCDC invites you to nominate your choice for one or any of these awards. Nomination forms can be found at the VCDC office – McVicker Plaza, 2 E. Main St., or online at [LiveVermillion.com](http://LiveVermillion.com). The nomination deadline is **Friday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021**.

For more information on the 2021 Annual Banquet, please contact Megan Davidson, Director of Strategic Communications & Tourism at [Megan@VermillionChamber.com](mailto:Megan@VermillionChamber.com) or call the VCDC offices at 605.624.5571.