Subject: Award Ceremony Invitation to the Press

Date: Thursday, October 19, 2017

Time: 10am-10:30am

Location: 900 Old Highway 53, Eveleth, MN 55734

Participants: Bruce Lundgren Owner of Lundgren's Ford in Eveleth, MN, Senator David Tomassoni, Representative Jason Metsa, St. Louis County Commissioner Keith Nelson, Eveleth Mayor Robert Vlaisavljevich, Congressional Field Representative for Congressman Rick Nolan Tom Whiteside, and Executive Director of East Range Developmental Achievement Center in Eveleth, MN Robin Harkonen.

Purpose: MEDIA: We have an opportunity to celebrate something good that's happening in Eveleth on October 19th at 10am. The event focuses on a state level award given to a business (Lundgren Motors) that is being recognized for its commitment to employing people with disabilities. They are receiving one of only twelve awards being given statewide.

We are planning to be at Lundgren Ford Lincoln, at 10am, to be a part of the ceremony involving the Outstanding Disability Award given by the Minnesota Organization for Habilitation and Rehabilitation (MOHR). The East Range DAC, a local program serving people with disabilities, will be making the presentation.

Please let me know if you can make it. I believe it's important to recognize the work that employers are doing to provide opportunities to people with disabilities to live normal and productive lives.

Lundgren Ford Lincoln is located on Highway 53 in Eveleth.

Additional Information: A quote from MOHR's president and something about National Disability Employment Awareness Month in October.

"We cannot overemphasize the importance of employers in our efforts to provide meaningful services to people with disabilities in Minnesota," said Mike Burke, president of MOHR. The organization represents more than 110 disability service providers across the state.

Celebrated every October, this year's theme for National Disability Employment Awareness Month is "Inclusion Drives Innovation". It celebrates the contributions of workers with disabilities and educates about the value of a workforce inclusive of their skills and talents. The national observance began under a different name in 1945.

Please RSVP your attendance to Robin Harkonen, Executive Director at East Range DAC, <u>r.harkonen@erdac.org</u> or (218)744-5130.

I appreciate you considering covering this event!

Robin Harkonen

Executive Director

East Range DAC