Northland Foundation Board announces new Trustees from northeastern Minnesota communities, 2018-2019 Executive Committee elected

Northeast MN - The Northland Foundation’s Board of Trustees announced the election of three new Trustees and the 2019-2020 Board Officers. Two Trustees have completed their nine-year term and are retiring from the Board. Visit www.northlandfdn.org to see a list of all current Trustees. The newly elected Trustees will serve up to three, three-year terms. They are:

**Mary Harrelson**, Grand Portage Reservation, is a member of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, Grand Portage Band. She is a licensed psychologist and owner of Mary Rademacher Psychological Services, serving the people of Grand Portage and elsewhere. She attended Southwest State University and Mankato State University, majoring in psychology and minoring in sociology/anthropology. Harrelson has also been engaged in Restorative Justice Circles and has performed Social Security evaluations in Cook County for the past 18 years.

**Sumair Sheikh**, Duluth, is a Career & College Readiness Specialist with the Duluth Public Schools – ISD #709’s Office of Education Equity. He holds a Bachelor’s degree in biological science, a secondary teacher certification, and a Master’s degree in Advocacy and Political Leadership. Sheikh has served as a volunteer in an array of community groups, including as a facilitator for community dialogues.

**JoAnn Smith**, International Falls, is a business consultant with Koochiching Economic Development Association and Small Business Development Center. She has Bachelor’s degrees in both mechanical engineering and business administration. In addition, Smith has experience as a small business owner and holds an ASQ Certified Six Sigma Black Belt Certificate.

Board Officers for 2018-2019 are: **Trent Janezich**, Chair – Interim Executive Director for Workplace Solutions, Minnesota State; **Jason Hollinday**, Vice Chair – Director of Planning, Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa; **Victoria Hagberg**, Secretary – Geotechnical Engineer, Barr Engineering; and **Tom Rider**, Treasurer – Co-owner, Lutsen Mountains Ski and Summer Resort.

Lynn Goerdt, Duluth, and Nevada Littlewolf, Virginia, have completed their ninth and final year of service on the Board as of August 2. The outgoing Chair, Steve Downing, Grand Rapids, will remain for a tenth year as the Immediate Past Chair.

The Northland Foundation is a publicly supported foundation serving the northeastern Minnesota counties of Aitkin, Carlton, Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, and St. Louis, and the three Tribal Nations in the region: the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa, Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, and Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa. Through grantmaking, an operating program, business lending, assisted living, and special initiatives, the Foundation invests in people and communities for a thriving northeastern Minnesota.