

Thank you for inviting me to the first Asian Business Summit.

It's nice to get out of the Capitol – even if it has gotten quieter over there in the last couple of weeks. Mark Twain always says that watching laws being made is a little like watching how sausage is made. We have now taken sausage off the menu at the Residence!

THESE EVENTS ARE MY FAVORITE PART OF THE JOB AS YOUR GOVERNOR.

I LOVE BEST WORKING WITH THE PEOPLE OF MINNESOTA.

PEOPLE LIKE:

- Doctor Bruce Corrie, who has played such an important role in making today happen.
- Ilean Her, who has been a great advisor to my administration during these past months.
- Regent Kim, who helped during our Transition, and who has our deepest respect for her work in education.
- Dr. Sung Won Sohn, who was an early economic advisor.

THE FUTURE IS IN THE HANDS OF PARENTS WHO RAISE THEIR CHILDREN TO DO WELL IN SCHOOL AND SUCCEED

THE FUTURE IS IN THE HANDS OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE GOOD IDEAS TO BUILD A BUSINESS AROUND.

THE FUTURE IS IN THE HANDS OF EVERY CITIZEN WHO MAKES A DECISION TO INVEST IN THEIR COMMUNITY.

THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE ASIAN COMMUNITY ARE MANY IN MINNESOTA...AND WE NEED MORE.

I HAVE TRAVELED IN ASIA DURING MY CAREERS AS A NAVY SEAL AND AS A WRESTLER...AND WILL DO SO AGAIN AS A GOVERNOR.

- I ADMIRE THE COMMITMENT OF YOUR CULTURES TO FAMILIES...YOUNG AND OLD. WE WILL DO WELL TO LEARN FROM THE WAY THE ASIAN CULTURES RESPECT THE GENERATIONS. I DON'T NEED TO TELL ANY OF YOU THAT WE ARE ALL AGING.
- I ADMIRE THE ENTREPRENURIAL SPIRIT OF THE ASIAN PEOPLE.
 - I see Storefronts along University Avenue are filled – revitalizing the neighborhood.
 - I see grocery stores in Rochester.
 - I see restaurants in Duluth.
 - I see promise in this room of businesses that will create opportunities for you and your employees.

IT'S CALLED SELF-SUFFICIENCY...and I BELIEVE IN IT.

ACROSS AMERICA AS I'VE TRAVELED TO TALK ABOUT MY BOOK, IT HAS BEEN MADE CLEAR TO ME THAT IT'S TIME FOR POLITICIANS TO QUIT MAKING PROMISES AND TELL PEOPLE THE TRUTH.

- EVERY MINNESOTA PARENT NEEDS TO STEP UP, GET INVOLVED, AND MAKE SURE THEIR CHILD CAN READ, DO MATH, AND LEARN.
- WORKERS WHO CAN'T FIND A JOB IN THIS LABOR SHORTAGE NEED TO BE COMMITTED TO KEEP LEARNING...FIND NEW SKILLS...TAKE A CHALLENGE...FIGHT TO BE EXCELLENT.
- AND THE ROLE OF GOVERNMENT IS TO DO ONLY THAT WHICH PEOPLE CANNOT DO FOR THEMSELVES.

THE WORLD IS A VERY SMALL PLACE TODAY.

- ASIA IS ONE FAX OR PHONE CALL AWAY.
- ASIAN WORKERS ARE COMPETING FOR YOUR BUSINESS.



- ASIAN CONSUMERS WANT TO BUY YOUR PRODUCTS.
- ASIAN PEOPLE NEED TO EAT OUR FOOD.

MINNESOTA BUSINESS NEEDS TO DELIVER.

MINNESOTA GOVERNMENT NEEDS TO DELIVER.

MINNESOTA PEOPLE NEED TO DELIVER!

MY CABINET IS THE BEST THAT HAS EVER BEEN ASSEMBLED.

TOGETHER WITH THE COUNCILS OF COLOR, THE ADVISORY GROUPS, AND
CITIZENS WHO WANT TO GET INVOLVED, WE ARE LOOKING AT THE WORLD OF
POSSIBILITIES.

THE DEPARTMENTS OF TRADE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND
ECONOMIC SECURITY ARE LOOKING AT:

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS
PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT
OPENING MARKETS
BUILDING COMMUNITIES THROUGH INVESTMENT

THE DEPARTMENTS OF HUMAN SERVICES AND HOUSING ARE LOOKING AT:

NEW AND BETTER WAYS OF HELPING NEW
AMERICANS AND CITIZENS BUILD THOSE
SKILLS AND EQUITY TO BE SELF-SUFFICIENT.

THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND LEARNING IS WORKING
WITH DISTRICTS ACROSS MINNESOTA TO:



GET BETTER RESULTS FOR ALL STUDENTS,

INCLUDING STUDENTS WITH LIMITED OR NO
ENGLISH

STATE GOVERNMENT CAN'T DO THIS JOB ALONE...AND, FORTUNATELY, WE
DON'T HAVE TO.

THERE ARE IMPORTANT ORGANIZATIONS THAT WILL HELP MAKE THAT
DIFFERENCE:

THE LAO FAMILY PARTNERSHIP

THE HMONG AMERICAN PARTNERSHIP

VIETNAMESE SOCIAL SERVICES

UNITED CAMBODIAN

And others.

THE GREATEST QUESTIONS ARE THE ONES WE WILL ASK TOGETHER OVER
THE NEXT MONTHS.

Question: WHAT TAX POLICIES HELP YOU AND OTHER
PLAYERS IN THE MINNESOTA ECONOMY
BECOME MORE SUCCESSFUL?

Question: WHAT WORKFORCE TRAINING PROGRAMS
WILL HELP YOU AND YOUR EMPLOYEES BE
SUCCESSFUL?

Question: WHAT CAN STATE GOVERNMENT DO TO
HELP BUILD VITAL COMMUNITIES ACROSS
THE STATE THAT ADD TO YOUR SUCCESS?

And for you in this room: WHERE DO YOU WANT TO BE IN FOUR YEARS AND
HOW CAN THE STATE OF MINNESOTA HELP YOU GET THERE?

THE FACE OF MINNESOTA IS CHANGING.

Not all of us look the same any more.

We're all different ages.

We have different religions.

BUT WE WANT MANY OF THE SAME THINGS:

Affordable health care and a good life.

Chances to be successful no matter where we live,
no matter what we look like, no matter how
old we are, no matter what our religion may
be.

A nice house to live in that we can afford ourselves.

A safe neighborhood where people care about each
other, where the kids are playing together,
and there is no violence because there are good
things to do.

YOU IN THIS ROOM HAVE TAKEN ACTION AND THAT'S WHAT MAKES ALL OF
THIS HAPPEN.



I AM HERE TO EXTEND A COMMITMENT TO WORK WITH YOU AS THE DETAILS OF
WHAT YOU WISH TO ACCOMPLISH TAKE SHAPE.