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Fergus Falls Mayor Ben Schierer receives Excellence in Service Award from CGMC

ST. PAUL—Fergus Falls Mayor Ben Schierer was recognized by the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities (CGMC) July 25 during the Coalition’s three-day summer conference in Bemidji for his excellence in service to Greater Minnesota.

The Excellence in Service Award is given annually to city leaders who demonstrate knowledge, leadership and active participation in CGMC program areas over the past year.

Mayor Schierer took on a leadership role in the CGMC this year by joining its Board of Directors, where he quickly emerged as a passionate advocate and spokesperson on issues that impact his city and other communities in Greater Minnesota. He forged strong relationships with Governor Walz and the governor’s staff, and he never hesitates to reach out to legislators and administration staff when called upon to speak up about CGMC priorities. During the legislation session, he was instrumental in promoting key legislative proposals such as a push for an increase in Local Government Aid (LGA), never missing an opportunity to speak with policymakers or the press about role LGA plans in ensuring the vitality of cities like Fergus Falls.

“Ben’s energy and enthusiasm are contagious,” said Ron Johnson, a member of the Bemidji City Council and president of the CGMC. “Over the past year, he has really become a go-to leader for our organization. We can always depend on him to be a strong voice for rural communities.”

CGMC is a nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy organization representing 97 cities outside of the Twin Cities metropolitan area. The Coalition educates legislators about issues important to Greater Minnesota.

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