



Saint Louis County

Public Health and Human Services Department
320 West Second Street, Room 605 • Duluth, MN 55802
Phone: (218) 726-2096 • Fax: (218) 726-2093 • www.stlouiscountymn.gov

Ann Busche
Director

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release:

August 8, 2014

CONTACT: Kelly Lind,
Public Health Nursing Supervisor
(218) 471-7621

St. Louis County Public Health welcomes State Health Commissioner to the Iron Range

What does Minnesota need to be healthy? And what does that have to do with horseshoes? St. Louis County residents will have an opportunity to share their ideas and concerns – and throw a few horseshoes while they’re at it – with the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Health, Dr. Ed Ehlinger, during two days of events next week on the Iron Range.

Ehlinger will host a “Pitch the Commissioner” event in Eveleth on Wednesday, August 13. Beginning at noon, at the Hockey Hall of Fame in Eveleth, Ehlinger will present “What does Minnesota Need to be Healthy.” Then, at 1:15, Ehlinger will move to the Eveleth Horseshoe Pits in Veterans Lake Park, 4392 Miller Trunk in Eveleth. There, he invites community members to join him in a round of horseshoes while discussing policies and proposals they’d like him to pursue during the 2015 legislative session. “Pitch the Commissioner” has become a tradition for Ehlinger, an avid horseshoe fan, as a way to hear about local public health issues and concerns and to highlight local public health achievements.

The following day, Thursday, August 14, Ehlinger will travel to River Street Park in Cook, where he will repeat his presentation at 9 a.m. Following that, at 10 a.m., will be a presentation highlighting local public health issues and programs, including the Lake Vermilion Fire Brigade Boat. Then, at 11 a.m., the public will have an opportunity to “Walk and Talk with the Commissioner”. Each person will have three minutes to share ideas and feedback as they walk around the park.

“We are thrilled to have Commissioner Ehlinger visit our county, and hope residents and healthcare professionals will take advantage of this opportunity to give him a local perspective on

programs that are working, as well as any ideas for new programs,” said Amy Westbrook, St. Louis County Public Health Division Director.

All events are free and open to the public, though reservations are needed for the lunch on Wednesday, or to take part in the “Pitch the Commissioner” or “Walk and Talk” events because limited spots are available. Reservations can be made by contacting Yodit Gidey of the Carlton-Cook-Lake-St. Louis Community Health Board at (218) 733-2863.

###