Minnesota State FY2020–FY2021 Legislative Request: NHED – Vermilion Community College

LOCATION: Ely

vcc.edu | Bill Maki, President

FY18 STUDENT PROFILE: 948 Credit-seeking Students | 27.4% Pell Eligible | 17.3% Students of Color

ABOUT THE COLLEGE
Vermilion Community College is located in the heart of Superior National Forest on the doorstep of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area. VCC is nationally recognized for niche programming in natural resource use and natural resource protection. Most popular degrees include fisheries and wildlife biology, natural resource technology, wildland/wildlife law enforcement, wilderness and parks management, outdoor leadership, and watershed science. VCC’s unique location affords students a million-acre outdoor laboratory out the back door. More than three-fourths of the college’s students come from beyond the immediate commuting area.

SERVICE TO MINNESOTA
» Each year, as part of NHED, VCC (Vermilion), RRCC, HCC, ICC, and Mesabi Range College generate $211.3 million in economic impact, as well as produce 1,100 graduates, and support and sustain 1,809 jobs.

PARTNERSHIPS
» National Park Service: Vermilion is one of seven colleges in the country with an accredited pathway to provide National Park Rangers.

From An Alumnus:

“Vermilion is a great place to connect with people that care about the environment. In my job, I talk to landowners about the benefits of clean water and wildlife habitat made possible through conservation easements.”

– Jack Bushman, alumnus, Le Sueur County Soil and Water Conservation District

Request Details
Amounts are estimates and subject to change
» $5.3 million (as part of NHED) of $169 million in campus support
» 1,016 students, faculty, and staff will use NextGen
» An estimated 100 students will receive grants

What’s At Stake?
A fully funded request will:
» Provide students with access to education opportunities and career paths in the natural resources arenas.
» Protect past investments currently threatened by aging roofs and infrastructure.

Not fully funding the request will:
» Impact our ability to continue to be a strong partner in providing highly trained employees for multiple Minnesota agencies and businesses.
» Greatly restrict our ability to reinvest in our academic programming and state-of-the-art equipment for in-field training.

2019 Capital Request
» $4.7 million in asset preservation and replacement to replace roofs and install boilers (as part of NHED)