

## News Release

# Best of B3 Celebration Recognizes Top Sustainable Projects and Leaders in Minnesota

*By Elizabeth Tollefson on Monday, December 12, 2016* The State of Minnesota is leading the nation in requiring 70% more energy efficient State buildings in an effort to have all State construction carbon neutral by 2030. Designed to increase energy efficiency and sustainability, the State of Minnesota's Buildings, Benchmarks, and Beyond (B3) programs were developed for and are required on State-funded projects in Minnesota. On October 26, 2016, the second annual Best of B3 Recognition Luncheon was held at International Market Square in Minneapolis to recognize the achievements of B3 program participants. Three finalists were recognized in each of ten Best of B3 categories. One award winner in each category was announced at the luncheon.

The University of Minnesota Crookston Wellness Center was recognized as one of the top three in the category Best B3 Design. The the State of Minnesota's Buildings, Benchmarks, and Beyond (B3) website states, "The UMC Wellness Center excelled at using the B3 Guidelines to set and meet sustainability goals, resulting in a more efficient and higher value project. One notable feature is a façade design that uses fritted glazing to balance natural daylighting, outdoor views, thermal performance, and bird-safe design."

Other Best of B3 Design winners were DHS Saint David's Center - Phase 2 and Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) Bemidji State University - Memorial Hall Renovation and Addition.

To read about the Best of B3 Recognition for 2016 and the other award recipients, visit [www.b3mn.org/best](http://www.b3mn.org/best).

For more information, contact Richard Graves or visit [www.b3mn.org/best/index.html](http://www.b3mn.org/best/index.html)



## Contact

Andrew Svec

University Relations

218-281-8438

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2900 University Ave., Crookston, MN 56716  
800-862-6466 | 218-281-6510 | [umcinfo@umn.edu](mailto:umcinfo@umn.edu)

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