

June 12, 2012

Coaches Training Institute – Leadership Program
Attention: Selection Committee for CTI Leadership Leaders

I would like to recommend **Andrew Bek** for your consideration as a front of the room leader for the CTI Leadership Program.

Andrew has been a public persona in our community since his leadership of the non-profit, *Upper Great Lakes Educational Technologies, Inc.* over a decade ago. The purpose of that non-profit was to promote and develop broadband opportunities in the rural part of Michigan where we live. The efforts under Andrew's leadership were cutting edge. And leading edge describes Andrew's continuing contribution and mindset. It is these qualities that elevate him as a candidate worth your consideration for your leading edge program.

I met Andrew through our local Coaches group. We are both graduates of the CTI Coach and Leadership Programs. (I am a Comet and also attended the inaugural Mastery Program in 2005).

The first time I met Andrew, I knew I was in the company of a highly intelligent, competent individual with an almost zen-like demeanor who could hold the room by his mere presence. He has a crisp and laser sharp intensity. There is a disciplined utilitarianism about him. When he speaks, it is with clarity and preciseness. And these efficient qualities are juxtaposed with his warm, caring and interested attention to those around him.

In our many interactions, I have seen Andrew as even-keeled, dependable, responsible, and trustworthy. He has a broad-based skill set and can mingle and relate in a wide spectrum of settings, both professional and social.

I had the opportunity to watch Andrew perform what some call "magic" when he worked with my daughter's family and their dog under his Dog Whisperer business. He wore several hats – teacher, coach and consultant – and overarching all was his leadership. In a short amount of time, he had four people (including two children) and their pooch turned on, tuned in, and tapped in. His leadership skill was masterful and integrated. He wasn't glib. He wasn't silly. He wasn't cutesy. His approach was gentle, yet firm. He was compelling and held the attention of both human and canine. He was the Andrew who knows that to lead is not to push and prod, but to hold the vision and with a few highly succinct cues and corrections, rearrange the thinking and performance of all.

This is just one small example of many that demonstrates the many gifts that Andrew Bek brings as leader. He is the caliber of individual that will enhance the world-renowned CTI program.

I recommend Andrew Bek.

Sincerely,

Garee Zellmer
Personal and Executive Coach
Smaller Learning Communities Facilitator
Marquette Area Public Schools
Marquette Michigan 49855
garethz@chartermi.net
906-228-6554