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**CHRIS COLEMAN IGNORES ST. PAUL'S STRUGGLING BUSINESSES,
SKY-HIGH OFFICE SPACE VACANCIES, AND DEMONSTRATES NO LEADERSHIP**

Saint Paul, Minnesota, April 21, 2009 – “In his final State of the City Address, Saint Paul Mayor Chris Coleman ignored Saint Paul’s struggling businesses, sky-high office space vacancies, and demonstrated no leadership,” states Eva Ng, a businesswoman with 30 years of experience in the private sector. Ms. Ng is a non-partisan candidate in the 2009 Saint Paul Mayoral race. She describes herself as a center-right conservative who is stepping up to serve the public good. “I intend to represent everyone in Saint Paul,” she states, “across all nationalities, political persuasions, and income levels.” “I especially wish to give voice to those who have not had a voice in Saint Paul’s government for quite a while.”

“Mr. Coleman offered no solutions to the struggling businesses in Saint Paul. In fact, he is creating more programs designed to dig deeper into the taxpayer’s pocket,” says Eva, who has served as a Fortune 100 trouble-shooter and internal consultant for 10 years, followed by 10 years as a turn-around specialist for small to mid-sized businesses. Her biography may be found at www.EvaForMayor.com.

“Hand in hand with the languishing businesses are the sky-rocketing office space vacancies. On April 4, 2009, the Pioneer Press published Saint Paul’s office space vacancies at 28.2%. This has to be a historic high by any stretch of the imagination. In fact, if you speak with industry insiders, the general consensus is that the office space vacancies statistic well exceeds 30%,” she states emphatically.

“It is time for the Mayor of Saint Paul to demonstrate leadership. Mr. Coleman must step out of the shadow of Mayor R. T. Rybak of Minneapolis. R. T. Rybak announced Minneapolis Advantage, a forgivable home loans program on April 7, 2009, and Chris Coleman proposes something similar called the Heroes Program a couple weeks later on April 20, 2009,” she continues. “R. T. Rybak introduced Sustainable Minneapolis in 2004, and Chris Coleman follows suit shortly after in 2006 with Sustainable Saint Paul. Mr. Rybak embraces light rail, and Chris Coleman buys in seven years later. This style of leadership shows a lack of imagination and, perhaps, a lack of will to use one’s executive skills. The fact is what works for Minneapolis may or may not make sense for Saint Paul, as Minneapolis’ population is at least 50% higher than that of Saint Paul’s.”

When asked what she would do for Saint Paul, she says, “I would create a much friendlier business environment in Saint Paul. The growth of businesses in Saint Paul will play a big part in pulling us out of this downward spiral of office space vacancies and negative housing demand. Our city’s population has actually declined 4 to 5% since Mayor Coleman took office. Meanwhile, the city’s budget grew 25% from about \$500 million to \$620 million during his administration. Now, the taxes and fees burden has become heavier on each resident and each business in Saint Paul. Onerous ordinances on housing and re-investment must be reviewed and, if necessary, revised or repealed. Another important thing to look at is creating cost efficiencies in the City’s budget. There are many ways to consolidate buying power and stretch the use of existing assets while serving the people of Saint Paul. We can restructure debt, as well as right size or eliminate outdated programs. There are many tools in our arsenal without cutting essential services like fire and police. Furthermore, we need to promote the city. Saint Paul is a blank canvas waiting to be painted with exciting businesses, good-paying jobs, scenic parks and walking paths, as well as a passionate citizenry from all walks of life. The more I know about Saint Paul, the more I love it. That’s why I am Saint Paul Proud, per my campaign slogan.”

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