

# MAYOR'S GENERATIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD



## KYLE BENDER

A Native of Brookings, Kyle wants to help our community grow by bridging the gap between the community and SDSU to attract more young professionals. He wants Brookings to be seen as the most desirable community in the state of South Dakota.

Kyle earned a Bachelor's Degree in Business Economics at SDSU, where he was part of the International Honors Society for Economics. He also served as liaison between the Ultimate Frisbee Club and the SDSU Club Sports Office.

A Sales Account Manager at Falcon Plastics, Kyle was also one of the founders of Artic Ice, which are high-end, reusable ice packs popular with outdoor enthusiasts.

Kyle is active in the *Connect 2140 Committee*, *Connect Off the Clock*, and *One Million Cups*. He serves on the Brookings Area United Way board. He is also a Chamber Ambassador and was voted Ambassador of the year in 2017. In October, he will serve on the young professional's board of directors for the Manufacturers Association for Plastics Processors. In October, Kyle and his wife, Natalie, will also celebrate their son, Elijah's 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday and welcome a new daughter.

Please join me in thanking Kyle for all he does for Brookings!

