



Iowa Broadband Summit: Empowering Communities

State Historical Building, 600 E. Locust St., Des Moines, Iowa
April 9, 2013

“Expanding community opportunities and economic growth through broadband access adoption and use”

The first annual Iowa Broadband Summit will bring together community leaders, industry and economic development professionals, broadband providers, and policymakers from across the state to address the progress being made in Iowa to expand broadband access, adoption and use. Summit attendees can learn more about broadband issues in communities, and how to turn those barriers into opportunities and economic growth.

9:00 – 9:45 **Registration**

9:45 – 10:00 **Welcome and Introductions**

Amy Kuhlers, State Program Manager, Connect Iowa;

Rita Grimm, COO/General Council, Iowa Economic Development Authority

10:00 – 11:00 **Iowa’s Broadband Landscape - Where are We?**

Tom Koutsky, Chief Policy Counsel, Connected Nation

It’s impossible to plan for the future without an understanding of where you are. In this session attendees will be provided with a basic understanding of broadband and an overview of Iowa’s current broadband landscape. Learn how Iowa’s access, adopt, and using broadband based on findings from the most recent Connect Iowa research.

11:00 – 12:00 **Where do we Want to Be? Community Planning for the Future**

Panelists: Naomi Hamlett, City of West Des Moines; Chelle Klootwyk, City of Indianola; Wayne Pantini, Union County

In this panel discussion, hear from communities in Iowa that have participated in the Connected community broadband assessment program and how the process is helping form the broadband vision for their community, including thoughts on current industry needs, applications and successes.

12:00 – 1:00 **Networking Lunch - Broadband Hero Award**

1:00 – 2:00

Keynote Presentation

Diane Smith, CEO, American Rural

What is the future of broadband? What broadband needs and trends should your business or community consider as you look to staying competitive in the future? Entrepreneur, author, attorney and broadband advocate, Diane Smith, addresses these questions and provides insight on how to ensure robust 'Money, Brains and Broadband' opportunities for small town America that will resonate with urban communities as well.

2:00- 2:15

Networking Break

2:15 – 3:15

The Future – How Do We Get There? (Breakout Sessions)

1. *Broadband Access: Provider panel:*

The ability to use broadband to spur economic growth in a community relies on the broadband network available. In this session, hear from broadband providers on the challenges, costs and new opportunities involved in providing broadband access, and what a community should know when they approach a provider to discuss an access proposal.

Panelists: Ross Wendell, Centurylink; Sheila Griffin, Arcadia Telephone; Beth Canuteson, AT&T; Tom Beem, Iowa Network Services

2. *Using Broadband for Economic Growth*

Broadband can be an effective tool in stimulating business growth in a community, but what are site selectors and businesses looking for when considering a new location? In this panel discussion hear how broadband needs can affect the decisions to move in *or out* of communities, and how community leaders, developers and providers can work together for success.

Panelists: Steve Ingracia, Olsson Associates; Tod Faris, Appanoose Economic Development Corporation; Will Walling, Iowa Network Services

3:15 – 3:30

Iowa's Economic Outlook

Debi Durham, Director, Iowa Economic Development Authority

3:30

Closing Remarks