

East Regional Broadband Summit

“It’s not just the internet anymore”

Aitkin, Carlton, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, and Pine Counties

Sponsored by the Initiative Foundation and the Blandin Foundation

February 28, 2013 – Grand Casino Hinckley

- 8:30 Registration, breakfast and networking; with coffee and rolls
- 9:00 Welcome and Broadband Update
Bernadine Joselyn, Blandin Foundation
- 9:25 Regional Connectivity Facts & Statistics
Bill Hoffman, Connect Minnesota
- 9:50 Broadband Provider Perspectives Panel
TBD, CenturyLink
Kirk Lehman, Area Manager, Frontier Communications
Steve Johnson, Midcontinent
Scott Savage, Savage Communications
- 10:10 Local Perspectives: Why is Broadband Important
Kanabec Broadband Initiative Feasibility Study Report
Keith Thelen

Pine City Schools Superintendent
Wayne Gilman

Peoples National Bank, Mora & Aitkin, President
Doyle Jelsing

Broadband issues raised in Mille Lacs County Comp Plan Process
Roxy Traxler, Mille Lacs County

Other Local Businesses
- 10:45 Breakout Discussions by Economic Sector
Sectors: Health, Education, Business, Community, Broadband 101

Key questions:
1) How well does our network support current technology use?
2) What are the trends in our sector that will change our technology needs and are we prepared for these changes?
3) What might we do together that we cannot do alone?
- 12:00 Lunch
Margaret Keliher via Skype: Update on Minnesota Broadband Task Force (invited)
Reports from breakout discussions by Economic Sector

12:45 Breakout Discussions Round 2
Topics gathered from the Economic Sector Reports.

Key Questions:

- 1) What is the opportunity / barrier that we are trying to address?
- 2) What would be the long term goal?
- 3) What are the next steps in moving forward towards that goal?
- 4) Who is willing to lead?

2:15 Closing session
Breakout Discussion Reports – Round 2
Next steps action planning

2:45 Adjourn

Why should you attend?

Broadband affects all of us, whether a business, a school, another government sector or a resident; we are all connected in many ways. At this summit, attendees will learn about what is currently being done in the broadband field, both locally and statewide. You will also hear from regional businesses, educational representatives, and the government sector about the issues they face in using broadband services. Most of the day will be spent gathering your input about the challenges you face in relation to broadband and the direction broadband should move forward in our region. Working together and building a coalition on broadband issues is a desired outcome, with this event providing networking opportunities. This event is an opportunity to leverage existing infrastructure for collaboration around economic development, education, health care and government for operational efficiencies and innovation.

Registration:

Register at <http://www.kanabecbroadband.org/ecsummit/>. There is a \$10 re-fundable registration fee. For more information on registration please contact Jenny Gilman, ECMECC at 320-396-5213 or jgilman@ecmecc.org. Registration is limited to the first 150 that sign up. The registration deadline is Thursday Feb. 14, 2013.

If you would like more information about the event, please contact:

Bill Coleman at bill@communitytechnologyadvisors.com or

Roxy Traxler at roxy.traxler@co.mille-lacs.mn.us