



The 2nd Annual Vermont Community Leadership Summit

Strategies, Skills, and Vision for the Future of Vermont Communities

August 12th 2019 | Vermont Technical College

Join local leaders working to improve life in their communities at the 2nd annual Vermont Community Leadership Summit. This event is for new, young, and emerging leaders and community organizers as well as veteran school and select board members, planning and conservation committee participants, local project organizers, and all who are working to improve the economies and quality of life of their communities.

In 2018, over 500 Vermonters came together from all corners of the state and all walks of life for “Making It Happen” the first annual Vermont Community Leadership Summit. Attendees took part in skill development and success story sessions, and shared ideas to advance youth leadership development, build diversity and inclusion in leadership, and support and foster leaders across the state for the economic and civil vitality of their communities. VCRD compiled those ideas into a set of Summit Findings and Next Steps. At the 2019 Summit, participants will review those findings, hear the work moving ahead today, share skills and strategies for success, and build a vision for the future of Vermont leadership and community vitality.

In democracy, all citizens are called upon to lead. Local leadership is the key ingredient in building unity, setting direction, and achieving progress. **Local leaders make it happen!**

Agenda

8:00 – 9:00 *Registration* | Coffee and Pastries..... Judd Hall

9:00 Conference Opening

Pat Moulton, *President, Vermont Technical College*
Introduced by Ross Sneyd, *VCRD Board Member*

Senator Patrick Leahy on “The Power of Local Leadership”

Paul Costello, *VCRD Executive Director*

- **Introduction: “Community Leadership in Vermont: What’s Next?”**

Summary of 2018 Findings: What we heard and where we’re headed

- **Agenda for the Day**

9:30 Community Leadership Showcase: 5 Minute Community Spark Stories

HOST: Jenna Koloski, *Vermont Council on Rural Development*

PRESENTERS: Ali Dieng, *Burlington City Council* | Zac Freeman, *RASTA* | Monique Priestly, *The Space on Main* | Lucy Rogers, *VT House of Representatives* | Melinda White, *Northwestern VT Medical Center*

10:00 Presentation of VCRD Leadership and Lifetime Achievement Awards

Paul Costello, *VCRD Executive Director* | Jenna Koloski, *VCRD Community & Policy Manager* | Ted Brady, *VT Agency of Commerce & Community Development*

10:30 *Break* | Leadership Fair Judd Hall

Breaks and Lunchtime will feature tables presenting resources and opportunities from key leadership programs and associations in Vermont.

10:45

Breakout Sessions Breakout Rooms

Leadership Skills Workshops: *Providing leadership training and community engagement techniques and best practices*

Vision Sessions: *Discussing what we should accomplish for the future of Vermont communities and leadership and how we work together to realize our vision.*

Driving Community Projects Forward: *Describing how projects were identified and advanced, and sharing tips and techniques from community leaders in towns throughout Vermont.*

S1. Developing a Communication and Media Plan

PRESENTER/FACILITATOR: Alex Maclean, Leonine Public Affairs

S2. Managing a Community or Committee Meeting

PRESENTER/FACILITATOR: Paul Costello, VCRD Executive Director

S3. Raising Money: Funding Community Projects

PRESENTER/FACILITATOR: Joyce Cellars, Christine Graham, and Shana Trombley, CPG Enterprises

S4. Avoid the Pitchforks: Building Inclusion and Engagement

PRESENTER/FACILITATOR: Susan Clark, *Slow Democracy*

V1. Youth Driving Change

FACILITATOR: Ben Freeman, *Vermont Learning for the Future*

P1. Expanding Community Wellness and Recreation

MODERATOR: Marissa Parisi, *RiseVT*

PANELISTS: Porter Knight, *Bristol Trail Network* | Tawnya Kristen, *Green Mountain United Way/The Phoenix Rising Program* | Andrea Malinowski, *RiseVT Bennington County*

P2. Building and Improving Community Infrastructure

MODERATOR: Ben Doyle, *USDA Rural Development*

PANELISTS: Charlie Hancock, *Montgomery* | Kristine Lott, *Mayor of Winooski* | Greg Stefanski, *Johnson*

P3. Advancing Your Local Climate Economy

MODERATOR: Kate Stephenson, *HELM Construction Solutions* and *VCRD Board Member*

PANELISTS: Sam Hooper, *Green Mountain Gloves/R3 Process* | Anne Watson, *Mayor of Montpelier* | Sarah Wolfe, *Northfield Energy Committee*

P4. Advancing the Creative Economy

MODERATOR: Karen Mittelman, *Vermont Arts Council*

PANELISTS: Ceilidh Galloway-Kane, *Wonderarts* | Kathryn Lovinsky, *GRACE* | Mary Lacy, *Mary Lacy Art*

12:00 – 1:00

LUNCH | Leadership Fair Judd Hall

1:00 – 2:15

Breakout Sessions Breakout Rooms

S5. Sustaining Cultures of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

PRESENTER/FACILITATOR: Curtiss Reed, *Vermont Partnership for Fairness and Diversity*

S6. Community Organizing for Political Change

PRESENTER/FACILITATOR: Amy Shollenberger, *Action Circles*

S7. Building Narrative: Telling Your Community's Story

PRESENTER/FACILITATOR: Allison Cleary, *Vermont StoryLab*

V2. Advancing Vermont's Climate Economy

FACILITATOR: Jon Copans, *VCRD*

V3. Overcoming the Opportunity Gap

FACILITATOR: Sarah Waring, *Vermont Community Foundation*

P5. Fostering Entrepreneurism and Co-Working

MODERATOR: John Antonucci, *Launch VT*

PANELISTS: Evan Carlson, *Do North Coworking* | Dimitri Gardner, *Lighting Jar* | Monique Priestly, *The Space on Main* | Samantha Sheehan, *VBSR/Valley.Works*

P6. Youth Driving Change: Engaging Youth in Local Decision Making and Amplifying Youth Voice (*Youth-led session organized by Vermont Afterschool Inc.*)

CO-FACILITATORS: Holly Morehouse, Alissa Faber, and Sam Gaulty, *Vermont Afterschool*

PANELISTS: Emma Bauer, *VT Youth Gunsense/UVM Student* | Adelle Brunstad, *LEAPS Afterschool and Summer Program* | Eric Buker, *Winooski High School* | Tyler Duso, *Enosburg High School*

2:15 **Break** | Leadership Fair Judd Hall

2:30 - 3:45 **Breakout Sessions** Breakout Rooms

S8. Facilitating for Successful Community Dialogue

PRESENTER: Bruce Mallory, *NH Listens*

S9. Change the Conversation! The Superpower of Community Identity

PRESENTER/FACILITATOR: Maia Segura and Daimian Lix, *Penniless Projects*

S10. Addressing the Pitfalls of Dominant White Culture to Build up Inclusive Leadership

PRESENTER/FACILITATOR: Susan McCormack, *Creative Discourse* | Kesha Ram, *Former State Legislator and Equity Policy Consultant*

V4. The Future of Economic Development in Vermont Communities

FACILITATOR: Tom Torti, *Lake Champlain Chamber of Commerce*

V5. Attracting and Supporting Young Families

FACILITATOR: Aly Richards, *Let's Grow Kids*

P7. Downtown and Village Revitalization, Events, and Vitality

MODERATOR: Jenna Koloski, *VCRD*

PANELISTS: Steve Costello, *Rutland* | Karen Duguay, *Better Middlebury Partnership* | Emily Maclure, *Craftsbury General Store*

P8. Advancing Marketing and Tourism

MODERATOR: Heather Pelham, *Vermont Department of Tourism & Marketing*

PANELISTS: Maura Adams, *Bike the Borderlands* | Michael Coppinger, *Killington Pico Area Association* | Matt Harrington, *Bennington Chamber of Commerce*

P9. VT Leadership Programs to Expand Leadership Skills and Capacity

MODERATOR: Fran Stoddard, *Vermont Public Television*

PANELISTS: Liz Dohrman, *VBSR/VT Changemakers Table* | Kate McGowan, *Center for New Leadership* | Chuck Ross, *UVM Extension* | Mark Snelling, *Snelling Center for Government*

4:00 **Plenary Conclusions and Action** Judd Hall
Paul Costello summarizes next steps | Megan Camp, *VCRD Board Chair*, shares Summit reflections

4:15 **Networking Social with Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream!!** Judd Hall



Vermont Council on Rural Development

Unleashing the power of Vermonters to create a better future