ENVISIONING THE FUTURE OF VERMONT'S DIGITAL ECONOMY
A SUMMIT BY THE Vermont Council on Rural Development
Tuesday, September 23, 2014

8:00-9:00	Registration, Coffee and Muffins								
9:00-9:30	**Opening Ceremony with Governor Peter Shumlin**: "Vermont's Digital Future"								
9:30-9:45	**Multi-Media Presentation: "Vermont's Digital Stories"** hosted by Sharon Combes-Farr								
9:45-10:00	*break and transition to morning sessions*								
	Educating for a Digital World		**Building Effective Organizations**		**Creating Resilient Communities**		**Steering Vermont's Digital Future**		**Additional Topics**
	K-12 & Beyond	**Digital Divide**	**For Nonprofits**	**For Small Businesses**	**Open Data in Gov't & Beyond**	**Resilience through Engagement**	**The Vermont Tech Sector**	**Creative Economy**	
10:00-10:50: Stories & Ideas	**K-12 Goes Digital** Moderator: Peter Drescher *Dept of Education* Speakers: John Dawson, *BRSU*; Jeff Renard, *Vermont Virtual Learning Cooperative;* Betsy Calhoun, *Lake Region Union High School*	**Digital Literacy for a Thriving Economy** Moderator: Martha Reid, *State Librarian* Speakers: Linda McSweeney, *Vermont School Library Association;* Joe Fusco, *Casella Waste Systems*	**Nonprofit Problem Solvers** Moderator: Lauren-Glenn Davitian, *Common Good Vermont* Speakers: Elizabeth Craib, *Woodstock Job Bank;* Alex Tursi, *Fletcher Allen Health Care*; Kathryn Blume, *Vermontivate*	**Business Digital Champions** Moderator: Matt Dunne, *Google* Speakers: Carl Russell, *Earthwise Farm & Forest;* Suzy Hodgson, *YourFarmStand.com;* Adam Grinold, *Wilmington Works*	**A More Open Government** Moderator: Mark Snelling, *Snelling Center for Government* Speakers: Jamie Gage, *Vermont.gov;* Steve Sharp, *Vermont Center for Geographic Information;* Miro Weinberger, *Mayor of Burlington*	**Engaged Communities** Moderator: Michael Wood-Lewis, *Front Porch Forum* Speakers: Sarah Manning, *VTResponse.com;* Steve Butcher, *Mad River Valley;* Janette Shaffer, *Middlesex*	**Why Do Tech Businesses Choose Vermont?** Moderator: Jeff Couture, *vtTA* Speakers: Lisa Groeneveld, *Logic Supply;* Dimitri Garder, *Global Z;* David Brown, *Misys Inc.*	**Promoting Innovation in Vermont** Moderator: Lars Torres, *Office of the Creative Economy* Speakers: Emily Piper, *Launch VT;* Cathy Resmer, *Seven Days;* Paul Budnitz, *Budnitz Bicycles*	**Tell Your Digital Story** Moderator: *Nate Herzog*
10:50-11:00	*break and transition to morning track workshops, panels, and presentation*								
11:00-11:50: Education & Best Practices	**The Right Training for the Right Jobs** led by Tanja Hinterstoisser, *Champlain College;* Dr. Daniel Connolly, *University of Denver's Daniels College of Business*	**iConnect: Everyone Teaches Digital Skills** led by: Mary Kay Dreher, *CCV*	**Mission Critical: Evaluating & Optimizing Digital Tools** led by: Rob Fish, *VCRD*	**Emerging Trends in Digital Marketing for Small Business** led by: Pat Ripley, *vtSBDC*	**Advancing Municipal Communications** led by: Tess Gauthier, *Snelling Center for Gov't*	**Human-Centered Design to Improve the Delivery of Government Services** led by: Amanda Levinson, *ThirdSpace;* Erika Lowe, *Today Box Co*	**Marketing Vermont as a Place to Live, Work and Play** led by: Steve Cook, *VT Department of Tourism and Marketing*	**How to Foster A Creative Economy** led by: Lars Torres, *Office of the Creative Economy*	**React to Others' Digital Stories** Moderator: *Nate Herzog*
12:00-12:45	*lunch in State House cafeteria*								
01:00-1:30	**Key Note Speech by Julie Lenzer Kirk**, Director, Office of Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Economic Development Administration								
1:30-1:45	*transition to afternoon track discussions - in the afternoon, please stay with one conversation for both parts of the discussion*								
1:45-2:35: Discussion: Raising Questions on the Digital Economy	**What Role can Technology Play in Education?** Expert Facilitator: Dan French, *BRSU*	**What Causes the Digital Divide?** Expert Facilitator: Sam Becker, *US Impact Study*	**How Can Nonprofits Keep Pace?** Expert Facilitator: Kate Jellema, *Marlboro College*	**How Can Small Businesses Keep Pace?** Expert Facilitator: Linda Rossi, *vtSBDC*	**How do we Ensure Technology Supports Civic Life and Enhances Open Government?** Expert Facilitator: Susan Clark, *Middlesex*	**What Role Does Technology Have for Resilience? How Can Communities Get Tighter Knit?** Expert facilitator: Ben Rose, *Vermont Emergency Management*	**What is Needed to Foster New Technology Industries in Vermont?** Expert Facilitator: Mark Heyman, *Logic Supply*	**What is Value of Broadband? How Can We Best Keep Pace with Needs?** Expert Facilitator: Mary Evslin, *Evslin Family Foundation*	**Unconference Topic: to be determined by conference attendees** Expert Facilitator: Kristin Carlson, *Green Mountain Power*
2:35-2:45	*short break - come back!*								
2:45-3:35: Discussion: Ideas Towards Action	**Ideas on the Role of Technology in Education** Facilitator: Rebecca Holcombe, *Dept. of Education*	**Ideas on Solutions to the Digital Divide** Facilitator: Steve Gold, *Montpelier*	**Ideas to Help Nonprofits Keep Pace** Facilitator: Stuart Comstock-Gay, *VCF*	**Ideas to Help Businesses Keep Pace** Facilitator: Andrea Cohen, *VBSR*	**Ideas to Ensure Technology Supports Civic Life and Enhances Open Government** Facilitator: Steven Pappas, *Times-Argus*	**Ideas on the Role of Technology for Resilience** Facilitator: Lucy Leriche, *Agency of Commerce & Community Development*	**Ideas on Fostering New Technology Industries in Vermont** Facilitator: Patricia Moulton, *Agency of Commerce & Community Development*	**Ideas on Keeping Pace with Broadband Needs** Facilitator: Holly Groschner, *Vermont Telecommunications Authority*	**Discussion Continues. Ideas Towards Action are Determined** Facilitator: Kristin Carlson *Green Mountain Power*
3:35-3:45	*transition to House Chamber for Conference Conclusion*								
3:45-4:15	**Vermont Connected Ideas for Action:** Presented by Paul Costello								
4:15-4:30	**Multi-Media Presentation: "Our Digital Stories"** hosted by Sharon Combes-Farr								
4:30	*conference concludes*								
4:30-6:00	**Closing Reception**								