



Making It Happen!

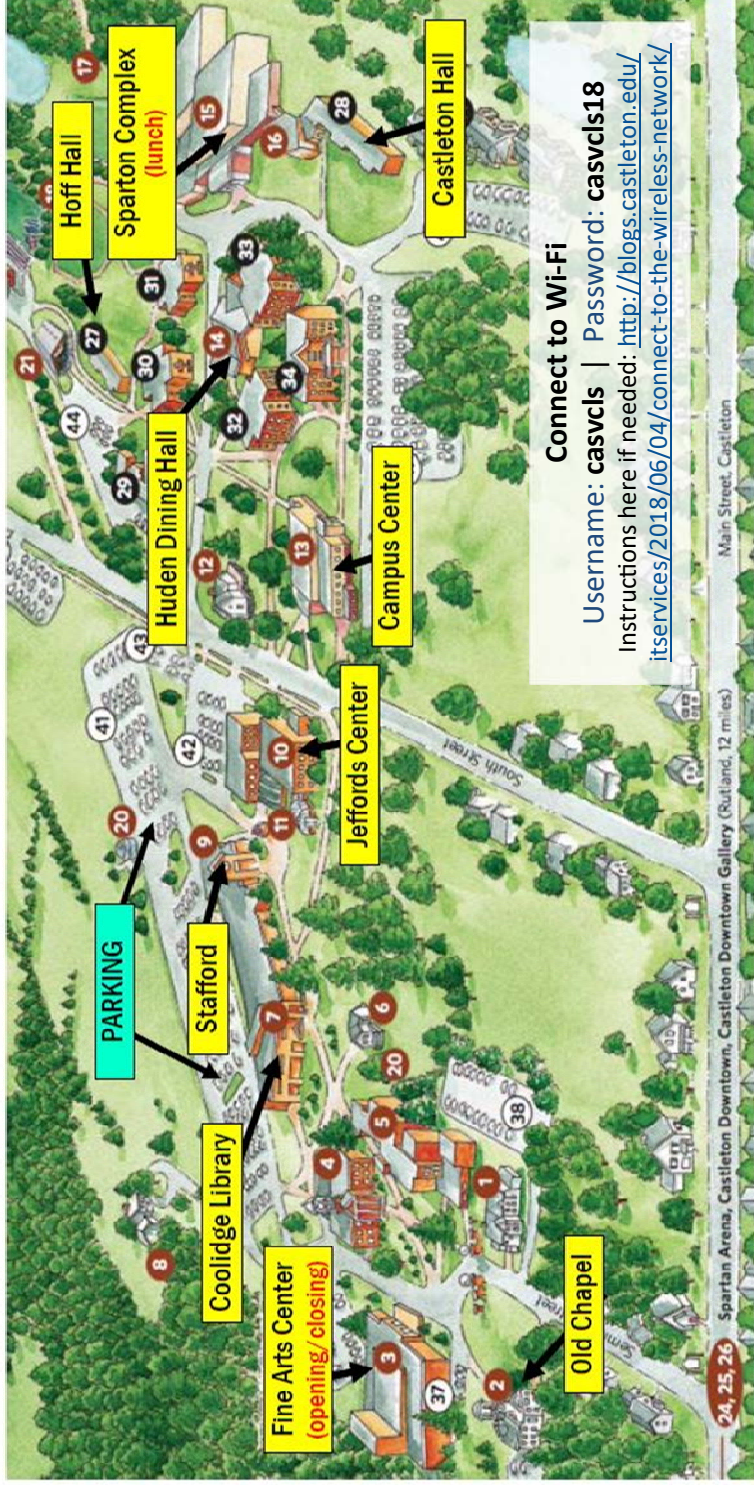
Local Leadership for the Future
of Vermont Communities

October 1, 2018
Castleton University





Castleton University



Agenda-At-A-Glance #MakingItHappenVT

- 9:00** **Opening Plenary**
- 9:30** **Panel: The Future of Vermont Leadership: Assets, Challenges, and Vision**
- 10:30** **BREAK | Leadership Fair**
Breaks will feature tables presenting resources and opportunities from key leadership programs in Vermont.
- 11:00** **Breakouts: skills workshops, dialogs, community projects, success stories**
- Noon** **LUNCH**
VCRD Community Leadership Award Presentation
Lunchtime Address: Leadership with Compassion
- 1:15** **Breakouts: skills workshops, dialogs, community projects, success stories**
- 3:15** **BREAK | Leadership Fair**
- 3:30** **Summit Deliberation: “The Future of Community Leadership!”**
8 groups evaluate: “What should be done today to support, encourage, and inspire active and equitable community leadership throughout the state?”
- 4:30** **Plenary Conclusions and Action**
Each group shares two priorities for action
- 5:15** **RECEPTION with Cash Bar**

Breakout Room locations:

11am

- W1 - Coolidge Library, Media Viewing Rm
- W2 - Fine Arts Center, Theater
- W3 - Jeffords, Rm 122 Auditorium
- D1 - Castleton Hall, Multi-Purpose Rm
- D2 - Old Chapel, Great Hall
- P1 - Campus Center, 1787 Rm
- P2 - Stafford Hall, Herrick Auditorium
- S1 - Hoff Hall, Conference Rm
- S2 - Jeffords Hall, Rm 101

1:15pm

- W4 - Fine Arts Center, Theater
- W5 - Stafford Hall, Herrick Auditorium
- W6 - Castleton Hall, Multi-Purpose Rm
- D3 - Jeffords Hall, Rm 122 Auditorium
- D4 - Sparton Complex, Glenbrook Rm B
- P3 - Old Chapel, Great Hall
- P4 - Hoff Hall, Conference Rm
- P5 - Campus Center, 1787 Rm
- S3 - Jeffords Hall, Rm 101
- S4 - Coolidge Library, Media Viewing Rm

2:15pm

- W7 - Fine Arts Center, Theater
- W8 - Campus Center, 1787 Rm
- W9 - Stafford Hall, Rm 146
- D5 - Old Chapel, Great Hall
- D6 - Coolidge Library, Media Viewing Rm
- P6 - Jeffords Hall, Rm 122
- P7 - Hoff Hall, Conference Rm
- P8 - Castleton Hall, Multi-Purpose Rm
- S5 - Stafford Hall, Rm 130
- S6 - Stafford Hall, Rm 139
- S7 - Jeffords Hall, Rm 101

3:30pm

- SD1 - Fine Arts Center, Theater
- SD2 - Jeffords Hall, Rm 122
- SD3 - Stafford Hall, Rm 146
- SD4 - Hoff Hall, Conference Rm
- SD5 - Castleton Hall, Multi-Purpose Rm
- SD6 - Old Chapel, Great Hall
- SD7 - Campus Center, 1787 Rm
- SD8 - Huden Dining Hall, Alumni Rm

Welcome!

Making It Happen! Local Leadership for the Future of Vermont Communities

Vermont communities are galvanized by leaders who identify local needs, rally partners, and implement projects ranging from developing community day care centers to building town economic development committees or local agricultural networks.

The 2018 Community Leadership Summit brings together current and emerging leaders from towns and cities throughout Vermont, to learn new skills from each other and from statewide experts, to address key community issue areas, and to frame new ways Vermont can systematically support community progress. New, young, and emerging leaders will participate along with veteran school and select board members, planning and conservation committee participants, local project organizers, students, and all who are working to improve the economies and quality of life of their communities.

The summit agenda features skills workshops, group dialogues, issue arenas, and strategy sessions for the future of community leadership in Vermont. The event includes a “leadership fair” sharing offerings and opportunities from leadership programs and supporting organizations in Vermont, and a presentation of the Vermont Council on Rural Development’s 2018 Community Leadership and Lifetime Achievement Awards. The Summit will close with a reception honoring all participants for their commitments to local action.

In democracy, all citizens are called upon to lead. Local leadership is the key ingredient in building unity, setting direction, and achieving progress. Where leaders step up, towns achieve great things. The Summit aims to support, encourage, inspire, and train leaders with the skills they need to succeed. Summit findings will contribute to a strategic planning process that works to advance opportunities, training, and partnerships to meet the needs of all kinds of leaders, expand leadership engagement in communities, and advance public policies and programs to support the long-term future of community leadership and all it means to the strength of our democracy and vitality of our Vermont communities.

Thanks for being with us and lending your leadership to the future of Vermont!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Costello". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "P" and "C".

Paul Costello, *Executive Director*
Vermont Council on Rural Development

Agenda

8:00 *Registration* | Coffee..... **Fine Arts Center**, Casella Theater

9:00 **Conference Welcome**

- **Megan Camp**, *VCRD Board Chair*
- **Karen Scolforo**, *President*, Castleton University
- **Governor Phil Scott**

Introduction: Vermont Communities “Making It Happen”

Agenda for the Day

- **Paul Costello**, *VCRD Executive Director*

9:30 **Opening Panel: The Future of Vermont Leadership**

Assets, Challenges, and Vision

MODERATOR: Paul Costello, *Vermont Council on Rural Development*

PANELISTS: Tiffany Bluemle, *Change the Story VT* | Hal Colston, *StoryTruths, LLC*
| Thomas Hark, *CCC US* | Mitzi Johnson, *Speaker of the VT House of Representatives* | Dan Smith, *Vermont Community Foundation*

10:30 *Break* | **Leadership Fair** **Fine Arts Center**, Lobby

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

11:00 Breakout Sessions

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

Group Dialogues: *Engaging participants to share their stories, consider needs of all VT communities, challenges, and opportunities, & describe potential actions to promote progress.*

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

Community Success Stories: *Describing how Vermont towns have engaged local leadership, connected to key resources, and took action to revitalize and strengthen their community.*

W1 Agenda Building and Meeting Management **Calvin Coolidge Library**,
Mary Peabody, *UVM Extension* Media Viewing Rm

W2 Inclusive and Empowered Community Engagement **Fine Arts Center**, Theater
Susan Clark, *Slow Democracy*

W3 The Art of Public Conversation **Jeffords Hall** Auditorium, Rm 122
Susan McCormack, *Creative Discourse*

D1 Youth Driving Change **Castleton Hall**, Multi-Purpose Rm
Liz Subin, *Essex Westford School District* | Jamaal Hankey, *Essex High School*

D2 Fostering New Leaders in Your Community **Old Chapel**, Great Hall
Liz Gamache, *Former Mayor of St. Albans*

Agenda

- P1 **Creating Events and Building Community Connection..... Campus Ctr, 1787 Rm**
MODERATOR: Gary Holloway, *VT Dept of Housing and Community Development*
PANELISTS: Jody Fried, *Catamount Arts* | Robert McBride, *Rockingham Arts and Museum Project* | Bill Moore, *Town of Brandon* | Orly Munzing, *Strolling of the Heifers*
- P2 **Advancing Energy Action and the Climate Economy Stafford, Herrick Aud**
MODERATOR: Jon Copans, *Vermont Council on Rural Development*
PANELISTS: Shannon Barsotti, *Empower Pownal Chair* | Sarah Brock, *Vital Communities* | Duncan McDougall, *Waterbury LEAP (Local Energy Action Partnership)* | Kate Stephenson, *Montpelier Energy Advisory Committee*
- S1 **RUTLAND Hoff Hall, Conference Rm**
Progress towards downtown and business development, fostering engagement and community connections, reinvigorating the Rutland brand and image, and addressing substance abuse challenges
MODERATOR: Steve Costello, *Green Mountain Power*
PANELISTS: Mary Cohen, *Rutland Regional Chamber of Commerce* | Gwen Flewelling, *Rutland Young Professionals* | Mark Foley, *MKF Partners* | Joe Kraus, *Project Vision*
- S2 **VERNON Jeffords Hall, Rm 101**
Framing and new Vernon Village Center, bringing together a community under pressure, and advancing a new economy
MODERATOR: Ted Brady, *VT Agency of Commerce & Community Development*
PANELISTS: Martin Langeveld, *Friends of Vernon Center* | Art Miller, *Vernon Community Visit Chair* | Patty O'Donnell, *Vernon Planning and Economic Development Commission* | Bob Spencer, *Vernon Planning and Economic Development Commission*
- 12:00 LUNCH..... Sparton Complex, Glenbrook Gym**
12:30
VCRD Community Leadership and Lifetime Achievement..... (same)
Award Presentations, presented by VCRD Board Members
“Leadership With Compassion”
Hal Colston, *Partnership for Change VT*
- 1:15 Breakout Sessions**
- W4 **Telling Your Story: Media and Communications Fine Arts Center, Theater**
Mark Johnson, *VT Digger*
- W5 **Recruiting, and Managing Volunteers..... Stafford Hall, Herrick Aud**
Sue Minter, *VT Special Olympics*

- W6 **Running for Public Office** **Castleton Hall**, Multi-Purpose Rm
 Deb Markowitz, *Gund Institute for the Environment*
- D3 **Advancing Women in Leadership** **Jeffords Auditorium**, Rm 122
 Cary Brown, *Vermont Commission on Women*
- D4 **Organizing for Young Professionals** **Sparton Complex**, Glenbrook Rm B
 Sarah Lang, *BDCC - Southern Vermont Young Professionals*
- P3 **Engaging the Public in K-12 Education** **Old Chapel**, Great Hall
MODERATOR: Susan McCormack, *Creative Discourse*
PANELISTS: John Castle, *North Country Supervisory Union* | Jamaal Hankey, *Essex High School* | Aidan Lodge, *Peoples Academy* | Liz Subin, *Essex Westford School District* | Lindsey Yablonowski, *Peoples Academy*
- P4 **Strengthening Agriculture and Food Systems** **Hoff Hall**, Conference Rm
MODERATOR: Anson Tebbetts, *Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, & Markets*
PANELISTS: Marie Audet, *Blue Spruce Farm* | Richard Berkfield, *Food Connects* | Tom Stearns, *High Mowing Organic Seeds* | Sarah Waring, *Center for an Agricultural Economy*
- P5 **The Wisdom to Know Difference: Increasing Diversity and Equity in Community Leadership** **Campus Center**, 1787 Rm
MODERATOR: Kesha Ram, *Vermont Community Foundation*
PANELISTS: Ali Dieng, *Burlington City Council* | Brent Reader, *Mississquoi Abenaki Tribal Council* | Lisa Ryan, *Rutland City Board of Aldermen*
- S3 **BRIGHTON** **Jeffords Hall**, Rm 101
 Reinvigorating the town through recreation, events, and celebrations and structuring ways to boost local businesses and attract visitors
MODERATOR: Jenna Koloski, *VCRD*
PANELISTS: Joel Cope, *Brighton Town Administrator* | Jeanne Gervais, *Island Pond Chamber of Commerce* | Doug Niles, *Brighton Recreation Director* | Mike Strait, *Brighton Selectboard Chair*
- S4 **BETHEL** **Calvin Coolidge Library**, Media Viewing Rm
 Bridging divides, addressing community needs, and breathing new life and vibrancy into the village center
MODERATOR: Rebecca Sanborn-Stone, *Bethel Revitalization Initiative and Community Workshop LLC*
PANELISTS: Lindley Brainard, *Arnold Block Co-Owner and Bethel Selectboard* | Lylee Rauch Kacenski, *Arnold Block Co-Owner* | Kirk White, *Bethel Revitalization Initiative*

Agenda

2:15 Breakout Sessions

- W7 Fundraising for Community Projects** **Fine Arts Center**, Theater
Andy Robinson, *Consultant*
- W8 Setting Goals and Tracking Success** **Campus Center**, 1787 Rm
Kate McGowan, *Marlboro Graduate School, Center for New Leadership*
- W9 Community Placemaking** **Stafford Hall**, Rm 146
Rebecca Sanborn Stone, *Community Workshop LLC*
- D5 Expanding Diversity and Inclusion** **Old Chapel**, Great Hall
Hal Colston, *StoryTruths, LLC* and Susan McCormack, *Creative Discourse*
- D6 Advancing Municipal and School Leadership** **Calvin Coolidge Library**,
Jim Condos, *Vermont Secretary of State* Media Viewing Rm
- P6 Revitalizing Buildings and Downtowns** **Jeffords Hall**, Rm 122
MODERATOR: Katie Buckley, *VT Dept of Housing and Community Development*
PANELISTS: Sara Coffey, *Broad Brook Community Center, Guildford* | Joe Kasprzak, *St. Johnsbury Assistant Town Manager* | Tom Lauzon, *Former Mayor of Barre* | Monique Priestley, *Bradford "The Space on Main"* | Bob Stevens, *Stevens and Associates, Brooks House Redevelopment*
- P7 Advancing Outdoor Recreation and Trails** **Hoff Hall**, Conference Rm
MODERATOR: Michael Snyder, *VT Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation*
PANELISTS: Steve Crihfield, *Ascutney Outdoors* | Zac Freeman, *RASTA VT* | Abigail Long, *Kingdom Trails*
- P8 Youth Driving Change: Stories of Leadership and Success** **Castleton Hall**
MODERATOR: Helen Beattie, *Up For Learning* **Multi-Purpose Rm**
PANELISTS: Milo Cress, *Be Straw Free Campaign* | Lili Platt, *Harwood Union International Refugee Club* | Faith Ploof, *TRY for the Environment*
- S5 ST. ALBANS** **Stafford Hall**, Rm 130
The City's path to downtown redevelopment, economic revitalization, and community vibrancy
MODERATOR: Tim Smith, *Mayor/FCIC*
PANELISTS: Dom Cloud, *St Albans City Manager* | Tom Gallagher, *People's Trust Company* | Liz Gamache, *Former Mayor of St. Albans* | Andrea Gagner, *14th Star Brewing Company*
- S6 CRAFTSBURY** **Stafford Hall**, Rm 139
Fostering school and community partnership, building engagement and connection, addressing childcare needs, and improving high speed fiber access
MODERATOR: Ben Doyle, *USDA RD*
PANELISTS: Kris Coville, *Craftsbury School and Community Partnership and Farmers Market* | Ceilidh Galloway-Kane, *WonderArts* | Melissa Jacobs, *Craftsbury Saplings* | Dave Stoner, *Craftsbury Fiber Access Initiative*

S7 **WINOOSKI** **Jeffords Hall**, Rm 101
Bringing new vibrancy to the City by fostering business growth and development,
and creating multi-cultural connections and engagement

MODERATOR: Seth Leonard, *Winooski Mayor*

PANELISTS: Jessie Baker, *Winooski City Manager* | Eric Covey, *Winooski City Council*
| Harka Khadka, *Winooski Planning Commission* | Sister Pat McKittrick, *Winooski
Peace Initiative* | Ali Nagle, *Monkey House and Waking Windows*

3:15 *Break* | Leadership Fair **Fine Arts Center Lobby & Breakout Rms**

3:30 Summit Deliberation Breakout Sessions

“The Future of Community Leadership!”

*Eight breakout groups evaluate “What should be done today to support, encourage, and
inspire active and equitable community leadership throughout the state?”*

FACILITATORS: Patricia Coates, *Vermont State Colleges* | Lauren-Glenn Davitian, *Center
for Media and Democracy; Common Good VT* | Jared Duval, *Energy Action Network* |
Jen Kimmich, *Alchemist Brewery* | Johanna Miller, *Vermont Natural Resources Council* |
Katherine Sims, *NEK Collaborative* | Mark Snelling, *Snelling Center for Government* |
Ross Sneyd, *National Life Group*

SD1 **Fine Arts Center**, Theater

SD2 **Jeffords Hall**, Rm 122

SD3 **Stafford Hall**, Rm 146

SD4 **Hoff Hall**, Conference Rm

SD5 **Castleton Hall**, Multi-Purpose Rm

SD6 **Old Chapel**, Great Hall

SD7 **Campus Center**, 1787 Rm

SD8 **Huden Dining Hall**, Alumni Rm

4:30 **Plenary Conclusions and Action** | *Each group shares 2 priorities for action*

Summary and Next Steps: Paul Costello, VCRD

Wrap-Up and Inspiration: Ted Brady, Vermont Agency of Commerce &
Community Development

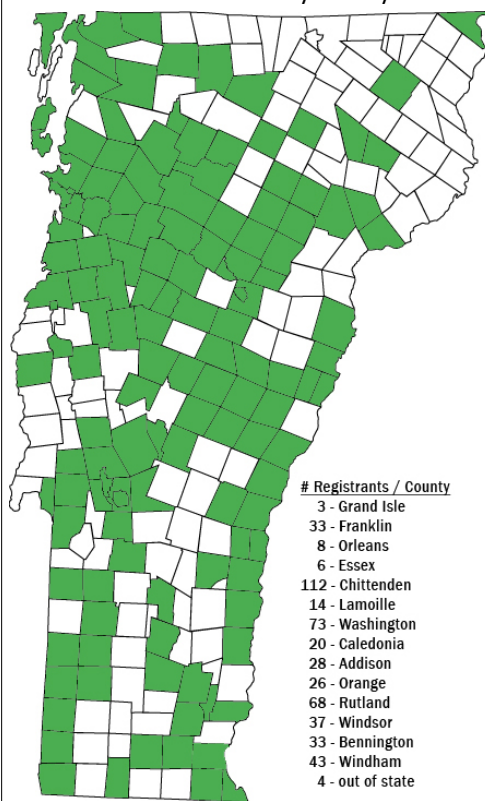
5:15 *Reception with Cash Bar*..... **Fine Arts Center**, Lobby

About Summit Participants

What are the most important issues facing your community?

- 72 - Housing and Homelessness
- 40 - Economic Development
- 40 - Lack of Leadership, Momentum, and/or Vision
- 38 - Substance Abuse
- 36 - Schools and Education
- 29 - Aging Population
- 28 - Jobs and Wages
- 27 - Community Engagement and Civic Dialogue
- 22 - Poverty
- 21 - Managing and Planning for Growth
- 19 - Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity
- 18 - Affordability
- 18 - Attracting Young Professionals and Families
- 16 - Environmental Protection/Water Quality
- 16 - Infrastructure
- 15 - Energy and Climate Change
- 15 - Supporting and Attracting Businesses
- 14 - Downtown or Village Revitalization
- 12 - Affordable and Accessible Childcare
- 12 - Economic Disparity
- 12 - Population Decline
- 12 - Transportation
- 12 - Workforce
- 11 - Taxes
- 10 - Building Redevelopment/Historic Preservation
- 10 - Youth Engagement and Activities
- 9 - Participation and Volunteerism
- 9 - Traffic and Parking
- 7 - Funding and Capital
- 7 - Health Care and Mental Health
- 6 - Attracting New Residents
- 6 - Identity
- 6 - Working Lands Viability
- 5 - Recreation
- 5 - Telecommunications
- 3 - Bicycle and Pedestrian Infrastructure
- 3 - Criminal Justice Reform
- 3 - Food Access
- 3 - Supporting New Americans
- 3 - Tourism
- 3 - Trust
- 2 - Access to Basic Services
- 2 - Domestic Violence
- 2 - Isolation
- 2 - Public Safety and Law Enforcement
- 1 - ADA Accessibility of Public Buildings
- 1 - Children in Foster Care
- 1 - Declining Property Values
- 1 - Events
- 1 - Local Market
- 1 - Public Pool Construction
- 1 - Senior Community Center
- 1 - Transparency

Over 500 participants from 140 Vermont cities and towns and every county.



VCRD Leadership Awards

Vermont Lifetime Leadership Award

Hank and Molly Lambert

Hank has over 35 years of experience serving Vermont municipal governments in the fields of management, transportation, and alternative dispute resolution. His experience includes service as town manager of Manchester, VT Commissioner of Housing and Community Affairs, and Director of the Vermont Local Roads Program. Since retiring in 2007, he has served in interim management positions for St. Albans Town, Hinesburg, Huntington and the City of Winooski. Hank has conducted a number of dispute resolution sessions for VT municipalities. He and his wife, Molly Doyle Lambert, are active in the Swanton Enhancement Project, a citizen-led community and economic development initiative.

Molly began her work in Vermont communities in 1986 when she was elected to the South Burlington City Council. At the same time she was Executive Director of the Downtown Burlington Development Association. In the 1990s she became Executive Director and Manager of the Church Street Marketplace, an award-winning business improvement district in the heart of downtown Burlington. In 1998 she served as Secretary of the Agency of Commerce and Community Development in the cabinet of Governor Howard Dean, the first woman to hold the position. The state's Downtown Program was implemented during her tenure. After 7 years as President of the Vermont Captive Insurance Association, Molly was appointed State Director of USDA Rural Development for Vermont and New Hampshire by President Barack Obama. Since retiring in 2013, Molly served as Interim Director for Building Bright Futures, a statewide organization dedicated to early childhood development. She also took on the interim role for the United Way of Northwest Vermont in 2017. Currently, she and her husband Hank are active participants in the Swanton Enhancement Project that hosted a VCRD Community Visit in 2015.



Vermont Community Leadership Award

Shannon Barsotti

Shannon Barsotti is co-owner of Longview Farm in Pownal where she and her family raise lamb for sale in the tri-state region. Shannon is originally from the Midwest and has a background in community health and youth development. She is a member of the Pownal Planning Commission and led the Empower Pownal initiative, the first VCRD Climate Economy Model Community program. Empower Pownal has evolved into Discover Pownal, which promotes the growth and development of Pownal's local businesses and farms, social organizations, land stewardship, and outdoor recreation through outreach, education, and community events.



Speakers

Marie Audet, *Blue Spruce Farm* | bluesprucefarm@gmail.com

P4 - Strengthening Agriculture and Food Systems

Marie is a member of a large multigenerational dairy farm family, and is the owner and operator of Blue Spruce Farm and Audet's Cow Power located in the Champlain Valley where they milk 1500 Registered Holsteins and Ayrshires, and crop 4,200 acres to feed them. In 2005 they started generating electricity from cow manure, which currently produces 2.4 million kWh of renewable electricity per year. In 2013 they added a Wind Turbine in collaboration with Green Mountain Power as part of their renewable portfolio producing 176,000 kWh per year, a 132 ton annual carbon offset. In 2012, they received the Outstanding Dairy Farm Sustainability Award from the Innovation Center for US Dairy. Marie regularly lends her voice to the conversation about sustainable practices.

Jessie Baker, *Winooski City Manager* | jbaker@winooski.vt.gov

S7 - Winooski

Jessie is the City Manager of Winooski. Before that he was the Assistant City Manager in Montpelier and previously held municipal management positions with the City of Somerville, MA. Jessie grew up in Waterbury Center and is a graduate of Harwood Union High School. She holds an undergraduate degree in psychology and anthropology from Columbia University and a Master's degree in planning and policy from Tufts University.

Shannon Barsotti, *Empower Pownal Chair* | sbarsottivt@gmail.com

P2 - Advancing Energy Action and the Climate Economy

(Bio previous page)

Helen Beattie, *Up For Learning* | helen@upforlearning.org

P8 - Youth Driving Change: Stories of Leadership and Success

Helen Beattie is the founder and Executive Director of UP for Learning (Unleashing the Power of Partnership for Learning). She has pursued a life-long passion for elevating the voices of those who feel disempowered and voiceless, either in the health or education realms. The goal of UP for Learning is to amplify the role of young people as change agents in their schools and communities, in partnership with adults.

Richard Berkfield, *Food Connects* | richard@foodconnects.org

P4 - Strengthening Agriculture and Food Systems

Richard is the co-founder and Executive Director of Food Connects. He has been leading food system development work in the Brattleboro area since 2008. He is a member of the VT Farm to Plate Steering Committee and Board Treasurer of the Brattleboro Food Co-op. He and his family enjoy growing and preparing as much of their own food as possible, though as work demands increase, he better understands the saying that "The cobbler's children have no shoes."

Tiffany Bluemle, *Change the Story VT* | tbluemle@changethestoryvt.org

The Future of Vermont Leadership: Assets, Challenges, and Vision

After a brief stint on the ill-fated Mondale presidential campaign, Tiffany worked as a middle and high school history teacher and at NYC Outward Bound, jobs that nurtured a deep passion for helping young people develop and use their talents and voice. Upon moving to VT in '97, Tiffany became Executive Director of Vermont Works for Women (VWW), an organization dedicated to assisting women and girls develop skills and capacities that are critical to long-term economic independence. In 2015 Tiffany left Vermont Works for Women to direct Change The Story VT, a multi-year, systemic approach to fast-tracking women's economic well-being that's fueled by VWW, the VT Commission on Women, and the VT Women's Fund. Change The Story has since published new baseline data on women, work, wages, entrepreneurship and leadership and is working to engage new allies - employers, men, and policymakers - in advancing change. She lives in Burlington with her partner and two teenage sons.

Speakers

Ted Brady, *Deputy Secretary of the Agency of Commerce and Community Devel.*

ted.brady@vermont.gov

S2 - Vernon; Summit Deliberations

Governor Phil Scott appointed Ted to be the Deputy Secretary of VT's Agency of Commerce and Community Development in Jan 2017. ACCD works to grow VT's economy, help businesses create jobs, encourage the creation of affordable workforce housing, and support vibrant and resilient communities. From 2013 to 2017, Brady served in the Obama Administration as the VT and NH State Director of USDA Rural Development. In that role, he led the investment of more than \$1 billion in federal grants, loans, and loan guarantees in rural housing, economic development, and community infrastructure focused on growing rural communities. Prior to that, Brady served as US Senator Leahy's senior economic development, international trade, community development, housing, and transportation field representative. Brady has a degree in Journalism and Political Science from St. Michael's College. While earning his degree, he worked with the US Immigration and Naturalization Service and volunteered with St. Michael's Fire and Rescue. Today, he lives with his wife and two sons in Williston and spends his free time skiing, fishing, and hunting musing about making Vermont a better place to live, work, and play.

Lindley Brainard, *Bethel Selectboard and Arnold Block co-owner*

lindleybrainard@gmail.com

S4 - Bethel

Sarah Brock, *Vital Communities* | sarah@vitalcommunities.org

P2 - Advancing Energy Action and the Climate Economy

Sarah Brock joined Vital Communities, a regional nonprofit serving 69 towns in the Upper Connecticut River Valley of Vermont and New Hampshire, in 2013 as Energy Program Manager. Sarah provides support for her region's 40+ local energy committees, engaging with dozens of volunteers and clean energy businesses in programs like Solarize Upper Valley, Weatherize Upper Valley, and the Upper Valley Green Real Estate Network. Prior to joining the Vital Communities team, Sarah was a fellow with the High Meadows Fund, a supporting organization of the Vermont Community Foundation. Sarah now lives in Warner NH, with her husband Zach and their growing flock of chickens.

Cary Brown, *Vermont Commission on Women* | cary.brown@vermont.gov

D3 - Advancing Women in Leadership

Cary Brown has been the Executive Director of the Vermont Commission on Women since 2012. She has worked as the Director of Girls' Programs for Vermont Works for Women, a non-profit organization supporting education, training and careers in non-traditional fields for women and girls, and directed the Women in Technology Project, a national award-winning summer technology camp for girls at Vermont Technical College. She has served on the boards of Northern New England Tradeswomen, Turtle Island Children's Center, the New England Association for Cooperative Education and Field Experience, and the Norwich University Alumni Association. Cary received her bachelor's degree from Haverford College, and a Masters of Public Administration degree from Norwich University. She lives in Montpelier with her family, where she is a Justice of the Peace.

Katie Buckley, *VT Department of Housing and Community Development*

katie.buckley@vermont.gov

P6 - Revitalizing Buildings and Downtowns

In January 2017, Katie was appointed by Governor Phil Scott to serve as Commissioner for the VT Department of Housing and Community Development, in the Agency of Commerce and Community Development. Under her leadership are the VT Community Development Program (CDBG funding), Housing and Mobile Home Parks, the Division for Historic Preservation and the

Division for Community Planning and Revitalization. She has served in a broad range of roles including Town Administrator for the Town of Guilford, Director of Housing Development for Windham & Windsor Housing Trust, Director of Parent Engagement for Vermont Academy, as well as managed a multi-million dollar retail business on the Church Street Marketplace in Burlington. She has served on the Board of Directors for the Preservation Trust of Vermont, the award-winning community non-profit, Friends of Algiers Village, Inc., founding member of the Broad Brook Community Center, and was a Commissioner for the Windham Regional Planning Commission. She currently sits on boards for the State of VT Downtown Development, VT Housing Finance Agency, Preservation Realty Holdings, and VT Disaster Recovery Fund. Katie has is deeply committed to her community and is passionate about strengthening, protecting, and revitalizing Vermont's downtowns and village centers. She lives in Guilford with her two children and her dog.

Megan Camp, *Chair of the VCRD Board* | mcamp@shelburnefarms.org

Opening Plenary

Megan serves as the VP and Program Director at Shelburne Farms providing leadership for organizational and educational program development. Much of her work has focused on building public private partnerships to conduct research, influence policy, and build networks to strengthen Education for Sustainability in Vermont and around the world. Shelburne Farms is a non-profit education center, 1400-acre working farm, and National Historic Landmark located in the Champlain Valley. The Farm's mission is to inspire and cultivate learning for a sustainable future.

John Castle, *North Country Supervisory Union* | john.castle@ncsvt.org

P3 - Engaging the Public in K-12 Education

John grew up in Holland VT and attended North Country Union HS. After a post-graduate year at Phillips Exeter Academy in NH, he attended Middlebury College where he majored in Sociology with a concentration/minor in Education. He received a Master's from Trinity College in Hartford, CT and pursued an Ed.D. From UVM (ABD). He has worked as a teacher, coach, athletic director, and school administrator at the high school and elementary levels in Vermont. He served as principal of Lake Region Union HS from 1997 to 2004 and the teaching principal at Holland Elementary School from 2004 to 2009. He was the Superintendent of Schools at Rutland Northeast Supervisory Union in Brandon for five years prior to returning to the Kingdom to be Superintendent of NCSU—now in year five. His home is on the family homestead in Holland where they have 100 acres with apple trees, wild blueberries, raspberries and black berries, gardens, a sugar house, network of cross country ski trails and great sunsets over the a wide range of the Green Mountains. He formerly served on the Northwoods Stewardship Board and currently serves on the board for Green Mountain Farm to School.

Susan Clark, *Slow Democracy* | sclark@sover.net; slowdemocracy@gmail.com

W2 - Inclusive and Empowered Community Engagement

Susan Clark is coauthor of *Slow Democracy: Rediscovering Community, Bringing Decision Making Back Home* (with Woden Teachout) and *All Those In Favor*, a book about VT town meetings (with Frank Bryan). Susan consults with communities across the northeast on creative education and outreach programs to strengthen civic engagement. She is Middlesex town .

Dom Cloud, *St. Albans City Manager* | d.cloud@stalbanstvt.com

S5 - St. Albans

Over the last ten years Dominic has directed the comprehensive redevelopment of St. Albans from his position as City Manager. Under his tenure the City has demonstrated the power of forming public/private partnerships to advance economic development projects. Dom previously served as Director of the VT League of Cities and Towns Municipal Assistance Center and as a lobbyist in the Statehouse. He received an MPA from the Maxwell School at Syracuse Univ and a BA in Govt from St. John's Univ. He lives in Essex with his wife Amanda and two kids, Abigail and Charlie.

Speakers

Patricia Coates, *Vermont State Colleges System* | tricia.coates@vsc.edu
Summit Deliberations

Patricia Coates is the Director of External and Governmental Affairs for the Vermont State Colleges System. She is the system's chief liaison to the VT Legislature and develops and maintains meaningful alliances with stakeholders in the business, government, education, non-profit, and philanthropic communities in support of the mission and work of the VSCS. Tricia joined the Chancellor's Office in 2015 after serving for eight years as State Director for Congressman Peter Welch. Tricia is a former high school history teacher. She has a BA in history from St. Michael's College and an MAT from Union College. She lives in Jericho with her family.

Sara Coffey, *Broad Brook Community Center, Guilford*
sara@vermontperformancelab.org
P6 - Revitalizing Buildings and Downtowns

Sara Coffey is an experienced leader and community builder with more than two decades of organizational management, community organizing, and public advocacy experience. She is the founder and Director of Vermont Performance Lab, a community-based organization that links art-making with civic engagement. Over the past decade, Sara's program leadership at Vermont Performance Lab and her innovative approach to building community and civic dialogue through the arts has been recognized by the Andrew Mellon Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, the New England Foundation for the Arts, the Vermont Arts Council, and the Vermont Community Foundation. Sara has been an active volunteer in her community, serving on several school associations and boards including Marlboro College and the Governor's Institutes of Vermont. She has been an active member of the Broad Brook Grange, Guilford's 250th committee, and most recently as the President of the Broad Brook Community Center, where she has been working with the community to steward a \$1.2 million campaign to transform Guilford's grange hall into a vibrant community center.

Mary Cohen, *Rutland Regional Chamber of Commerce*
mcohen@rutlandvermont.com
S1 - Rutland

Mary Cohen has been the Executive Director of the Rutland Region Chamber of Commerce for the past 2 years. Prior to that she was involved with non profit housing and real estate. She holds both a BS and an MBA from the University of Vermont. Mary has lived in Rutland County for the past 30 years where she raised four wonderful children.

Hal Colston, *StoryTruths, LLC* | hal@partnershipvt.org
The Future of Vermont Leadership: Assets, Challenges, and Vision; D5 - Expanding Diversity and Inclusion; and Lunchtime "TED style" keynote

After teaching at New England Culinary Institute as Director of Catering (1989), Hal created the Good News Garage (1996) and NeighborKeepers (2006) as a social entrepreneur. He received an honorary Doctor of Humanities Degree from Saint Michael's College (2000) for creating Good News Garage. After being appointed by Governor Peter Shumlin in 2011 as Executive Director of SerVermont, Hal served as Director of Partnership for Change from 2013 to 2018. Hal now consults having created StoryTruths, engaging and learning through story.

Jim Condos, *VT Secretary of State* | jim.condos@sec.state.vt.us
D6 - Advancing Municipal and School Leadership

Jim Condos, of Montpelier, was first elected as Vermont's 38th Secretary of State in 2010. Jim has over 30 years of public service including Chair of the South Burlington City Council, Vermont State Senate, Chair of Senate Education, Chair of Senate Government Operations. Since taking office in 2011 Jim has transformed the office from a paper driven system to a 21st Century digital environment. He has been a longtime champion for openness, accountability, and transparency in government, and has worked to ensure that VT leads the nation by expanding

voting rights to eligible voters. Jim actively represents VT on inter-state and national levels serving on the Executive Board for the National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS) since 2013. He currently serves as the President for NASS and currently serves on its Cybersecurity Task Force. He represents VT on the Department of Homeland Security Elections Critical Infrastructure Coordinating Council and is a member of the Council of State Governments Policy Committee on Overseas & Military Voting initiatives. He has held many other statewide, national, and local public service positions and before assuming office as Secretary of State Jim accumulated over 30 years of business experience including working for a Fortune 100 company, a family-owned \$30+ million VT distribution company, and a regulated utility.

Jon Copans, *Vermont Council on Rural Development* | jon@vtrural.org
P2 - Advancing Energy Action and the Climate Economy

Jon joined VCRD in 2017. He worked previously for the State of Vermont as Deputy Commissioner of the Public Service Department and at the Department of Environmental Conservation, and for eight years served in Congressman Peter Welch's Vermont office. Jon grew up in Brattleboro, graduated from Macalester College, and currently lives in Montpelier with his wife and three children.

Joel Cope, *Brighton Town Administrator* | joeltcope@comcast.net
S3 - Brighton

Cope has been administrator in Brighton since 1989. Before that he served on the Brighton Planning Commission, and was a reporter for several newspapers. He currently is chair of the NEK Waste Management District, past president of NVDA, the regional planning commission, and a board member of VLCT.

Paul Costello, *Vermont Council on Rural Development* | pcostello@vtrural.org
Opening Plenary; and the Future of Vermont Leadership: Assets, Challenges, and Vision

Paul Costello has served as the Executive Director of the Vermont Council on Rural Development since 2000. VCRD runs an annual Rural Summit, and conducts "Community Visits" that help rural communities build priorities, set action plans, and build connections to resources. It also provides customized facilitation on rural development policy at the local, regional and state level. With Paul's leadership VCRD has founded and produced the VT Agriculture Viability Council, the VT Forest Products Council, the VT Council on Culture and Innovation, the VT Council on Planning, the VT Rural Energy Council, the Council on the Future of VT, the Working Landscape Council, and the VT Climate Change Economy Council, and has led major initiatives to advance the use of broadband tools in rural VT communities. Paul recently served as Co-Chair of Governor Phil Scott's Climate Action Commission. He has served on boards ranging from corrections education to cooperatives and libraries, and is currently sits on the boards of Vermont Rural Ventures, the Center for an Agricultural Economy, and Partners for Rural America. Paul is a native Vermonter who attended UVM before earning a PhD in intellectual history at McGill.

Steve Costello, *Green Mountain Power* | steve.costello@greenmountainpower.com
S1 - Rutland

Steve Costello, a native of Burlington and a longtime resident of Rutland Town, has served as a vice president at Green Mountain Power since 2012. He is focused primarily on customer service, community and economic development in Rutland, and innovation, including GMP's Solar Capital and Energy City of the Future efforts. Prior to joining GMP, he was director of public affairs at Central Vermont Public Service, where he started in 1996 after a decade-long journalism career. His work in journalism included stints at the Rutland Herald and Barre-Montpelier Times Argus, the Addison Independent, Associated Press, and the Washington Bureau of the Hartford Courant. His reporting and editing earned numerous state and New England journalism awards, and he is past president of the Vermont Press Association. Steve has

Speakers

been active on numerous boards of directors. He is a past board member of the American Red Cross, Neighborworks of Western Vermont, and Paramount Theatre, and currently serves on the boards of the Rutland Economic Development Corp. and Rutland Region Chamber of Commerce. Steve is the founder and organizer of Rutland Blooms, is an active participant in Project VISION, and is one of the organizers of numerous annual Rutland community service projects, including the Gift-of-Life Marathon Blood Drive, which collected 2,350 pints of blood in one day in 2013, setting a national record that still stands.

Eric Covey, *Winooski City Council* | ecovey@winooskivt.org

S7 - Winooski

Eric currently serves as Chief of Staff for Vermont's Secretary of State Jim Condos, where he works to increase government transparency and accountability, and to reduce barriers to voting for eligible voters. He was elected to the Winooski City Council in March of 2017, where he advocates for progressive, people-centered policies that ensure Winooski residents are safe, connected and supported. Eric is the Founding Director of the Vermont New Leaders Council (NLC) chapter, which focuses on the mission of recruiting, training and supporting the next generation of emerging, progressive leaders. He was a founding board member and Director of the Maine NLC chapter before moving back to Vermont and is a trainer for the organization nationally. He also serves on the Board of Directors for Vermont Access, the state's non-profit abortion fund. Eric has years of progressive policy experience working to empower his community members to engage in the decision making process on a local, statewide and national level. He is an avid outdoorsman and loves spending time with his dog Luka.

Kris Coville, *Craftsbury School and Community Partnership and Farmers Market*
mama.kris.coville@gmail.com

S6 - Craftsbury

Kris is a farmer, parent, and community member in the township of Craftsbury. She cares deeply about the town, schools, people, and the beautiful landscape. She enjoys being part of a large posse of folks working towards positive change in her small community.

Milo Cress, *Be Straw Free Campaign* | milo@bestrawfree.org

P8 - Youth Driving Change: Stories of Leadership and Success

It's in Milo's nature to look around and see how things can be done differently. At 6, he designed and built a solar-powered popcorn machine. At 8, he realized we use far too many disposable plastics and began an international waste reduction project focused on straws, called Be Straw Free. He went on an international speaking tour aimed at encouraging kids to find and get involved in projects that interest them. At 16, he was appointed by the Governor of Vermont to a seat on the state's task force for Artificial Intelligence. It's his belief that this planet isn't a place that kids will inherit at some point, far off in the distant future; we live here right now and share responsibility for this planet already.

Steve Crihfield, *Ascutney Outdoors* | oscrihfield@gmail.com

P7 - Advancing Outdoor Recreation and Trails

Steve serves as Chair of Ascutney Outdoors (AO), a Brownsville non-profit whose mission is to promote vitality within our community by providing affordable and unique recreational, cultural and educational activities to local residents and visitors. Over the past several years, AO preserved over 1,800 acres in a combined conservation-recreation easement and built a multi-use center for our activities. Our community-driven approach is self-sustaining and designed to engage volunteers and passionate participants. Steve spent his career in industrial manufacturing with an emphasis on investment, development, and business strategy.

Lauren-Glenn Davitian, *Center for Media and Democracy; Common Good VT*
davitian@cctv.org

Summit Deliberations

Lauren-Glenn Davitian is a free speech activist and community media producer, celebrating 35 years as the founder and Executive Director of CCTV / Center for Media & Democracy based in Burlington.

Ali Dieng, *Burlington City Council* | diengali9@gmail.com

P5 - The Wisdom to Know Difference: Increasing Diversity and Equity in Community Leadership

Ali Dieng is a passionate and dedicated community leader. He is the Family Outreach Coordinator and Parent University Manager at the Burlington School District, working directly with families, especially those from different socio economic & cultural backgrounds. As Parent University founder and manager, Ali coordinates with a multitude of community partners to create engaging classes and workshops for parents and families of children in the district that encourage parents to engage in the school and community and provide them with concrete knowledge and skills to improve their quality of life and ultimately their children's success. Ali is a member of Rights & Democracy, board member at the Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity, representative on the Head Start Policy Council, and founder of Africa Jamono, a West African drumming and dance association. Ali attended the University of Mauritania in Africa, where he studied international law. He was recently elected to Burlington's City Council, being the only person of color in that role.

Ben Doyle, *USDA Rural Development* | benjamin.doyle@vt.usda.gov

S6 - Craftsbury; and Summit Deliberations

Ben Doyle is the Assistant State Director for USDA Rural Development in Vermont and New Hampshire. He works with communities and partners to advance Rural Development's mission to increase the quality of life and economic vitality of rural communities. Rural Development achieves this mission by making strategic investments in the areas of housing, businesses development, and essential community infrastructure. Ben is a former high school English teacher and has served as both a volunteer and administrator for the Peace Corps. He holds a BA in English from the University of Vermont and an MA in the Humanities from New York University.

Jared Duval, *Energy Action Network* | jduval@eanvt.org

Summit Deliberations

Jared Duval is the Executive Director of the Energy Action Network, a collective impact network devoted to achieving Vermont's energy and climate commitments and to serving as "Vermont's total energy think tank." Prior to leading EAN, Jared served as Economic Development Director at the VT Agency of Commerce and Community Development, where he was responsible for providing business support to working lands and green economy businesses across VT and helped to guide millions of dollars of state and federal investments in sustainable economic development via the Northern Border Regional Commission, the Working Lands Enterprise Initiative, and the Clean Energy Development Fund. Part of the ninth generation of his family to call VT home, Jared grew up in the Upper Connecticut River Valley and now lives in Montpelier with his wife, the Rev. Joan Javier-Duval and their four-year old son, Liam. Locally, he serves as Vice Chair of the Montpelier Energy Advisory Committee. He also Co-Chairs the Clean Energy Development Fund and is a Board member of both the Orton Family Foundation and the Public Assets Institute. Jared holds degrees from Princeton University – Woodrow Wilson School (Master in Public Affairs – Domestic Policy, 2014), University of Cambridge (MPhil, Modern Society and Global Transformations, 2012), and Wheaton College (Bachelor of Arts, Summa Cum Laude – Economics and Political Science, 2005).

Speakers

Gwen Flewelling, *Rutland Young Professionals* | gef@vtcpa.com

S1 - Rutland

Mark Foley, *MKF Partners* | mfoleyjr@foleylinen.com

S1 - Rutland

Mark is the fourth generation owner of Foley Services, the leading linen, uniform and mat rental Company in Vermont. Mark is also the owner of MKF Properties, a real estate management company which owns and manages commercial rental properties, primarily in Rutland's Historic Downtown. He serves on several Boards, including Vermont Business Roundtable, Vermont Community Foundation, Rutland Regional Medical Center and the Paramount Theatre. Mark lives in Rutland Town with his wife Kelly, and three children.

Zac Freeman, *RASTA VT* | zac@jsfreeman.com

P7 - Advancing Outdoor Recreation and Trails

Zac Freeman was born and raised in the Randolph area, which helps fuel his passion for seeing his community thrive, more specifically, outdoors. He is a founding member of the nationally recognized trails organization, RASTA and has logged countless hours building a more vibrant community through recreation and events.

Jody Fried, *Catamount Arts* | jfried@catamountarts.org

P1 - Creating Events and Building Community Connection

Andrea Gagner, *14th Star Brewing* | andrea@14thstarbrewing.com

S5 - St. Albans

Andrea Gagner is the CEO of 14th Star Brewing Company which has become known for its leadership in the St. Albans, Veteran and brewing community. In addition to producing award winning beers, the organization aligns all production with charitable causes ranging from social impact charities to Veterans organizations. Under Andrea's leadership 14th Star has grown from a small 200 barrel/yr producer to an 8000 barrel/yr production company distributing in 5 states.

Tom Gallagher, *People's Trust Company* | tgallagher@ptcvt.com

S5 - St. Albans

Tom is a life-long resident of St. Albans. He became the President and CEO of the Peoples Trust Company (the community bank that has served NW VT since 1886) in September of 2011. Prior to his appointment, Tom served as the bank's Senior VP and Senior Commercial Loan Officer and has held various positions within the institution during his 20 year career. He also continues to participate on his family's farm, which specializes in dairy and replacement cattle. An Accounting graduate of Champlain College, Tom serves on various community oriented boards including the St. Albans Rotary Club and is a Board Member and current Treasurer of the Vermont Economic Development Authority. He is a past Chairman of the Vermont Bankers Association, and still serves on the Government Relations and Executive Committees of the VBA.

Ceilidh Galloway-Kane, *WonderArts* | ceilidh@wonderartsvt.org

S6 - Craftsbury; and Summit Deliberations

Ceilidh is the Executive Director of WonderArts Vermont which serves the communities of Craftsbury and Greensboro. Previously, she was the Director of The Art House, which she joined in 2015. A native of East Hardwick, Ceilidh is a 2011 graduate of Smith College and holds a certificate in Arts & Culture strategies from the University of Pennsylvania.

Liz Gamache, *Former Mayor of St. Albans* | elizabeth.gamache@gmail.com

D2 - Fostering New Leaders in Your Community; and S5 - St. Albans

A long-time lover of downtowns, the intersection of commerce, community and culture, Liz's

professional and civic engagements have focused on building the strength and vitality of Vermont communities. Her professional experience includes nearly a decade in the energy sector, most recently as the Director of Efficiency Vermont, as well as, time spent in municipal management, the non-profit sector, and as a small business owner.

Jeanne Gervais, *Island Pond Chamber of Commerce* | jemubr1@hotmail.com
S3 - Brighton

Jamaal Hankey, *Essex High School* | jhankey@vt.ewsd.org
P3 - *Engaging the Public in K-12 Education*; and D1 - *Youth Driving Change*

Jamaal has lived in Vermont almost his entire life, but the state is far away from where his family calls home. He has enjoyed being involved with community engagement efforts, something he has now done for most of high school. He looks forward to sharing his insight as well as learning from others at the summit.

Thomas Hark, *CCC US* | thomas.l.hark@gmail.com
The Future of Vermont Leadership: Assets, Challenges, and Vision

Thomas founded the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps with one dollar and over thirty years built it into a multi-million-dollar social enterprise with more than 6,000 alumni, 400-acre campus, and training center. He has now reimagined the 1930's Civilian Conservation Corps as a private sector social enterprise, and envisions a million young people enrolled within the next ten years. His new organization is called CCC-USA. He lives in Williston with his wife Dana, and three children, Eli, Zachary, and Rosie.

Gary Holloway, *VT Dept of Housing and Community Development*

gary.holloway@vermont.gov
P1 - *Creating Events and Building Community Connection*

Gary Holloway is the Downtown Program Coordinator for the VT Department of Housing and Community Development where he provides support for the Designated Downtown program. He works in the field extensively, assisting communities with community revitalization initiatives, downtown organization development, and strategic planning, and provides other technical assistance as needed. Gary has worked in a variety of downtown economic and community development capacities, co-founding and managing the Bellingham Public Market in Bellingham, WA from 2004-2010. In 2010, he moved back to the east coast to serve as project manager for the City of Vineland, NJ overseeing the development of the Landis Marketplace downtown revitalization project and worked as Executive Director of Main Street Vineland, the local downtown organization.

Melissa Jacobs, *Craftsbury Saplings* | melissabnj@gmail.com
S6 - Craftsbury

Mark Johnson, *VT Digger* | mjohnson@vtdigger.org
W4 - *Telling Your Story: Media and Communications*

Mark Johnson is a senior editor and reporter for VTDigger. He covered crime and politics for the Burlington Free Press before a 25-year run as the host of the Mark Johnson Show radio program on WKDR and WDEV.

Mitzi Johnson, *Speaker of VT House of Representatives* | mjohnson@leg.state.vt.us
The Future of Vermont Leadership: Assets, Challenges, and Vision

Mitzi Johnson of South Hero was elected Vermont Speaker of the House in January 2017 - the 91st Speaker and 3rd female Speaker. She represents the towns of Alburgh, Grand Isle, Isle la Motte, North Hero, South Hero, and West Milton in the House of Representatives. Born in Clifton Park, NY, Mitzi moved to South Hero in 1993 after graduating with a BS from the University of Vermont. Mitzi also holds a Master's in Public Administration from the Harvard

Speakers

Kennedy School. Mitzi is the executive director of the Adaptive Leadership Network, a non-profit engaged in leadership training and complex problem solving. Her professional experience includes program and policy work for Hunger Free Vermont and the Vermont Freedom to Marry Task Force, as well as vegetable production at Allenholm Farm in South Hero. Mitzi is a current board member for the Vermont Foodbank and she previously served on the board of the Vermont Electric Cooperative. She volunteered for 20 years with South Hero Rescue and is a former board member of the Chittenden-Grand Isle County VNA, South Hero Land Trust, and UVM's College of Agriculture and Life Science Advisory Board. Prior to her election as Speaker of the House, Mitzi served on the Agriculture Committee from 2003-2006 and Appropriations Committee from 2007-2016, as Vice Chair from 2010-2014 and as Chair from 2015-2016.

Joe Kasprzak, *St. Johnsbury Town Assistant Town Manager* | jkasprzak@stjvt.com
P6 - Revitalizing Buildings and Downtowns

As the Assistant Town Manager of St. Johnsbury Joe's primary focus is on community and economic development managing business outreach and support, business recruitment, strategic planning, marketing, housing, and program development. Before joining the Town of St. Johnsbury Joe worked as an Economic Development Specialist for the Northeastern Vermont Development Association (NVDA) serving Orleans, Caledonia, and Essex Counties of Vermont. Joe is an active member of his community and has served on many boards and committees including Kingdom Trails, Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital, St. Johnsbury Housing Committee, NEK Chamber of Commerce, St. Johnsbury Development Fund, and was founder/member of the Burke Area Destination Development Committee. Joe has spent his entire career in Vermont and enjoys working with communities to solve problems and explore opportunities.

Harka Khadka, *Winooski Planning Commission* | harkaaspirant@gmail.com
S7 - Winooski

Harka Khadka is the Program Manager at Howard Center Developmental Services and also owns multi-family properties in Winooski, Essex Junction, and Underhill. He strives to be an agent of positive change through his community work which includes serving on the Planning Commission in Winooski, as Trustee with the Board of Directors for Pine Island Community Farms in Colchester, and is a member of the Community of Practice VT on Cultural and Linguistic Competence in Developmental Disabilities under Georgetown University Centers National Center for Cultural Competence. He has 2 children and enjoys gardening.

Jen Kimmich, *Alchemist Brewery* | jen@alchemistbeer.com
Summit Deliberations

Jen Kimmich is co-founder and CEO of the Alchemist Brewery and board chair of the Alchemist Foundation, focused on expanding opportunity for young Vermonters. With her husband John, she founded The Alchemist as a Waterbury brewpub in 2003. The Alchemist team opened their Stowe brewery in 2016, where it serves as a model of sustainable water use in brewing. Jen is active in public policy and a passionate advocate for working Vermonters and the environment. Jen serves on a wide variety of boards, including Main Street Alliance Vermont, Vermont's Workforce Development Board, VPIRG and the Vermont Council on Rural Development.

Jenna Koloski, *Vermont Council on Rural Development* | jenna@vtrural.org
S3 - Brighton

Jenna joined VCRD in 2015. She moved to Vermont from New Hampshire in 2009 and has since worked in outdoor education, community development, and food security. Jenna studied Conservation and Biodiversity at McGill University and holds a master's degree in Environmental Law and Policy from Vermont Law School.

Joe Kraus, *Project Vision* | joekraus@mac.com

S1 - Rutland

Joe is the Chairman of Project VISION. He has served on a variety of local boards including the Paramount Center, the Rutland Regional Field House, and the Mentor Connector. Joe worked for Central Vermont Public Service from 1980 until its sale in 2012. During his tenure he served as Senior VP, Secretary and General Counsel, oversaw many of the Company's unregulated ventures and played a large role in the development of renewable energy projects in North America and Europe. Later in his career there, he was responsible for all of the Company's Operations. Joe graduated from Heidelberg University in 1977 and from Cleveland-Marshall College of Law in 1980. He lives in Rutland.

Sarah Lang, *BDCC - Southern VT Young Professionals*

slang@brattleborodevelopment.com

D4 - Organizing For Young Professionals

Sarah is a graduate of the UMass, Amherst, earning a Masters in Regional Planning and Masters of Science in Sustainability Sciences. Prior to BDCC, she has spent several years as a research associate with the UMass Center for Economic Development, as well as working as a maker space coordinator in Springfield MA and a project manager at a Community Development Corporation in Cleveland OH. Sarah is from Cleveland but now calls New England her home. She currently lives in Brattleboro with her partner Tim and their dog Rodeo, and enjoys doing her part in lowering the median age of the region.

Martin Langeveld, *Friends of Vernon Center* | newsafternewspapers@gmail.com

S2 - Vernon

Martin Langeveld spent 30 years in the newspaper business from 1978 to 2008, and more recently has returned to that field as a board member and consultant to the local ownership group that acquired the Bennington Banner and the Brattleboro Reformer along with the Berkshire Eagle in Pittsfield MA. He lives in Vernon where he serves on the Planning Commission and is a board member of Friends of Vernon Center, a group that is working to plan and develop a village center for the town, which has never actually had a central village.

Tom Lauzon, *Former Mayor of Barre* | tlauzon@charter.net

P6 - Revitalizing Buildings and Downtowns

Seth Leonard, *Mayor of Winooski* | sleonard@winooskivt.org

S7 - Winooski

Aidan Lodge, *Peoples Academy - Communicating School Redesign*

aidan188@lssvvt.org

P3 - Engaging the Public in K-12 Education

Abigail Long, *Kingdom Trails* | abby@kingdomtrails.org

P7 - Advancing Outdoor Recreation and Trails

Abby is the newly appointed Executive Director of the Kingdom Trail Association. With her passion for outdoor recreation and abiding interest in the health and well being of her community, she envisions a commitment to providing a safe, inspiring trail network to elevate the economic, social, cultural, and environmental vitality of the beautiful Northeast Kingdom. As the past Executive Director for the Leadville Trail 100 Legacy Foundation and Manager for the Leadville Race Series in Colorado, Abby brings administrative, fundraising, capacity building, and program design & implementation experience in the nonprofit sector, plus extensive knowledge of the trail sports industry.

Speakers

Deb Markowitz, *Gund Institute for the Environment* | deborah.markowitz@uvm.edu
W6 - Running for Public Office

Deb is the Director of Policy Outreach for the UVM Gund Institute of Environment. She joined the UVM faculty following a long career in public service. She was elected Vermont's Secretary of State six times, serving from 1999-2011. In 2011, after losing a close race in the Democratic primary for Governor, Deb was appointed Secretary of the VT Agency of Natural Resources, where she served until 2017. Deb has spent much of her career providing training and assistance to local leaders, and encouraging Vermonters to get involved in their communities, and to run for public office.

Robert McBride, *Rockingham Arts and Museum Project* | ramp@sover.net
P1 - Creating Events and Building Community Connection

Robert McBride lives in Bellows Falls Vermont and is founder of The Rockingham Arts and Museum Project (RAMP) www.ramp-vt.org which is committed to integrating artists and the arts into the long-term sustainability of the community by creating effective partnerships that initiate and support accessibility, affordable housing for artists, artist town meetings, and public art initiatives.

Susan McCormack, *Creative Discourse* | suea.mccormack@gmail.com
W3 - The Art of Public Conversation; P3 - Engaging the Public in K-12 Education; and D5 - Expanding Diversity and Inclusion

As founder of Creative Discourse, and a Senior Associate with Everyday Democracy, Sue has spent her career working with municipalities, school districts, and grass roots community organizations to design and implement productive public conversations that lead to change. Sue is a student of the ways racism, implicit bias, and whiteness impact our public institutions, and has a special interest in helping people build their awareness and capacity to apply an equity lens to their community change work. She co-authored Facing Racism in a Diverse Nation, an Everyday Democracy discussion guide being used around the country to help communities address race relations and racial equity. For the past three years, Sue has been working with The Nellie Mae Education Foundation, Everyday Democracy, and Great Schools Partnership providing technical assistance to school districts around New England to build their capacity for effective community engagement. Recently, Sue served as Community Liaison for Creating Community Solutions, part of the National Dialogue on Mental health and also co-coordinated the Heart & Soul of Essex, a two year citizen led initiative funded by the Orton Family Foundation to identify shared community values, foster collaboration among two linked municipalities and increase civic participation. Sue also served as the Director of Leadership at the Snelling Center for Government, coordinating the Vermont Leadership Institute (VLI), and the Vermont School Leadership Project. While at the Snelling Center, Sue assisted with the design and implementation of several policy projects. She has been privileged to serve on the faculty of the Vermont Leadership Institute since 1999, and is a 2005 graduate of VLI.

Duncan McDougall, *Waterbury Energy Committee* | duncan@clifonline.org
P2 - Advancing Energy Action and the Climate Economy

Duncan McDougall founded Waterbury LEAP (Local Energy Action Partnership) in 2007. LEAP is an award-winning town energy committee and nonprofit that is very active in supporting renewable energy, energy efficiency, and emissions reduction in Waterbury and central Vermont. Among many outreach and community education events, LEAP hold Vermont's largest Energy Fair every April. Duncan has an MBA from the Tuck School at Dartmouth College, and worked as management consultant for seven years in Boston. He is also the founder and Executive Director of the Children's Literacy Foundation. Duncan is the past Chair of the Waterbury Conservation Commission, and is active in local and statewide political and environmental campaigns. He lives in Waterbury Center with his wife and son.

Kate McGowan, *Marlboro Graduate School Center for New Leadership*

mkcgowan@gradschool.marlboro.edu

W8 - Setting Goals and Tracking Success

Kate has been known to describe herself as a recovering CPA and an accidental, but happy tourist, in the mission-driven sector. With over 30 years of working in different capacities with nonprofit and for-profit organizations, coalitions and communities, she understands the importance and challenges of leadership, change management, communication, evaluation, continuous learning, and team building. In 2018, after five years of working with Center for New Leadership as a consultant, trainer, and facilitator, she has taken on the additional role of Interim Director. She's been the Executive Director for United Way of Addison County and for Addison County Humane Society for a combined 18 years. She began her career at Price Waterhouse as an auditor in Los Angeles and Century City, CA and then for 10 years lead her own consulting practice in Pasadena, CA, providing services to minority & women-owned businesses and nonprofit organizations in a Federally Designated Enterprise Zone and building an awesome team of women returning to the workforce after pausing their careers to raise children. She has served on various boards including the Addison County Chamber of Commerce, Lincoln School Board, United Ways of Vermont, United Way Worldwide's National Professional Council (NPC), Vergennes Opera House, Weathervane United (senior housing in Lincoln), and the Vermont Humane Federation. She has also volunteered for Meals on Wheels, Everybody Wins, VT!, and Charter House.

Sister Pat McKittrick, *Winooski Peace Initiative* | Pat.McKittrick@uvmhealth.org

S7 - Winooski

Sister Pat is a registered nurse working for the University of Vermont Medical Center and has been employed for over 23 years as the Coordinator of the Outreach program. She enjoys community building efforts as well as presenting Humor and Health and Reflexology workshops.

Art Miller, *Vernon Community Visit chair* | artjudymiller@icloud.com

S2 - Vernon

Art grew up on the family dairy farm in Vernon. Ten years ago, he converted to organic dairy and today he ships his milk to Stonyfield Yogurt. He is active in the community as part-time pastor at the local 7th Day Adventist Church, member of Vernon's Farmland Protection Committee, and chair of the Friends of Vernon Center group - which sprung from VCRD's 2016 Vernon Community Visit process that he also chaired - with the long-term and ambitious vision of building a small Vernon downtown. He and his wife Judy have four lovely children.

Johanna Miller, *Vermont Natural Resources Council* | jmiller@vnrc.org

Summit Deliberations

Johanna Miller is the Energy & Climate Program Director at the Vermont Natural Resources Council and the coordinator of the Vermont Energy and Climate Action Network, the statewide network of 100+ town energy committees and the partners who support them. In these roles, Johanna works from the grassroots to the Legislature to help advance clean energy and climate action programs and policies. Johanna recently served as a member of Governor Phil Scott's Climate Action Commission and also serves on the Clean Energy Development Fund board, the Vermont Energy Education Program board, the Vermont System Planning Committee and the Montpelier Energy Advisory Committee. Prior to joining VNRC in 2005, Johanna spent five years working as an organizer and policy expert for a statewide environmental policy and advocacy organization in Michigan where she helped to coordinate a statewide transportation coalition.

Sue Minter, *Special Olympics VT* | sueminter61@gmail.com

W5 - Recruiting and Managing Volunteers

Sue Minter has been recruiting and engaging volunteers in civic life since her days as an activist college student during the anti-apartheid era. Whether as a Waterbury Planning Commissioner,

Speakers

State Representative, Transportation Secretary, State Recovery Officer after Tropical Storm Irene, Candidate for Governor or, most recently, leading Special Olympics VT, Sue has relied on volunteer power. She knows that the future of our democracy relies on community leaders and passionate volunteers committed to a mission and well-organized to mobilize social change.

Bill Moore, *Town of Brandon* | bmoore@townofbrandon.com

P1 - Creating Events and Building Community Connection

Bill Moore is the Economic Development Officer and Recreation Director for the Town of Brandon, a marriage of titles that are more similar than one might imagine. Using his extensive background in marketing, community organizing, and asset management, Bill is currently working to help the greater Brandon community thrive during the largest municipal infrastructure improvement in the history of Rutland County.

Orly Munzing, *Strolling of the Heifers* | orlymunzing@gmail.com

P1 - Creating Events and Building Community Connection

Orly is the founder and executive director of Strolling of the Heifers Parade and Festival since 2001, rated one of Vermont's Top Ten Summer Events (and was rated one of America's Top 10 Summer Festivals in 2013, and one of North America's Top 100 Events in 2014). Over the years, Strolling of the Heifers launched educational programs, a microloan fund, and farm internship program for youth and adults, farm/food business planning competition; Windham Grows, the Locavore Index; and the Farm/Food Innovation Center at the Robert H. Gibson River Garden. In October 2016, Orly received from Governor Shumlin the Spirit of Americans with Disabilities Act Award. She was recognized by the Keene Sentinel with an award for the Extraordinary Women in 2016. The Brattleboro Area Chamber of Commerce recognized her as Person of the Year in 2010, in 2013 she received VCRD's Vermont Community Leadership Award and in 2006 Strolling of the Heifers received the Harvest Wave of the Future Award from Glynwood.

Ali Nagle, *Monkey House and Waking Windows* | ali.monkeyhouse@gmail.com

S7 - Winooski

Ali is the General Manager of the Monkey House, a small music venue and craft beer bar, and sister company, Fluid Bar Service, a bar catering business. She is also one of the owners of Waking Windows, a music, art, film and food festival that has taken place in Winooski every May for the last 8 yrs. She is a new Winooski resident but has been an active city member for years.

Doug Niles, *Brighton Recreation Director* | douglas.niles@yahoo.com

S3 - Brighton

Doug is a husband and father of two beautiful, young children. He has a professional background in sales, finance, and teaching, and previously served as Chairman of the Brighton Selectboard. Doug is currently the Brighton Recreation Director and remains actively involved in athletics and coaching.

Patty O'Donnell, *Vernon Planning and Economic Development Commission*

odonnellvt@comcast.net

S2 - Vernon

Mary Peabody, *UVM Extension* | mary.peabody@uvm.edu

W1 - Agenda Building and Meeting Management

Mary Peabody is an Extension Professor with UVM Extension where she works in Community & Economic Development. Since 1988 she has worked in the areas of rural economic development and farm business management. Her research interests include the sustainability of rural communities, entrepreneurship, and the application of information technology to community and economic development. She is a trained and regularly works with groups on best practices for meeting management.

Lili Platt, *Harwood Union International Refugee Club*

lplatt2020@wwsu.org

P8 - Youth Driving Change: Stories of Leadership and Success

Lili Platt is a sophomore at Harwood Union High School. She is committed to helping teachers and students create equal opportunities in classrooms. She is part of the team working with students and their teachers to implement the Harkness pedagogy in classrooms. In 2017 she launched the Harwood International Refugee Club, which has raised close to \$3,000 to support refugee causes locally and internationally.

Faith Ploof, *TRY for the Environment* | faithploof@gmail.com

P8 - Youth Driving Change: Stories of Leadership and Success

Faith Ploof, 15, has been an active 4-H member for 9 years. 4-H has provided her with a wealth of knowledge and experiences with horses as well as numerous leadership and community service opportunities. These opportunities include participation as a teen teacher with TRY (Teens Reaching Youth) for the Environment and other activities that allow her to use her voice to become actively engaged with youth and members in her community.

Monique Priestley, *Bradford "The Space on Main"* |

letsdothis@thespaceonmain.org

P6 - Revitalizing Buildings and Downtowns

Monique Priestley is a Connecticut River valley native who earned her undergraduate degrees in Vermont, coast-hopped for her Masters degree, and returned home for quality of life. She realized that years of volunteering in the community provided the training she needed to transform an abandoned five and dime into - The Space On Main - a community coworking center. Monique telecommutes as Director of Digital for an educational software company in Seattle by day and attends various board meetings by night. She believe strongly in stepping up and being an engaged citizen.

Kesha Ram, *Vermont Community Foundation* | kesha.ram@gmail.com

P5 - The Wisdom to Know Difference: Increasing Diversity and Equity in Community Leadership

Kesha Ram recently graduated from the Harvard Kennedy School with a Master in Public Administration. Prior to that, she served four terms in the Vermont House of Representatives, including three years on the Ways & Means Committee, and also worked for the City of Burlington as the Civic Engagement Specialist. She brings expertise in policy, finance, and community development, and a deep passion for equity and inclusion.

Lylee Rauch Kacenski, *Arnold Block Co-Owner* | lrrauch@gmail.com

S4 - Bethel

Lylee works at the intersection of community engagement and economic development. With an MA in community planning and background in visual art, local food systems, and business development, Lylee focuses on how collaboration and engaged citizenship leads to stronger towns and thriving communities. Lylee is a member of the Bethel Revitalization Initiative, an informal community group working to build a stronger, more vibrant, and inclusive town. She is also a co-owner and founder of Arnold Block LLC, a community focused business in Bethel which provides space for residents to move, play, meet, and work in a historic downtown building.

Brent Reader, *Mississquoi Abenaki Tribal Council* | brentmreader@gmail.com

P5 - The Wisdom to Know Difference: Increasing Diversity and Equity in Community Leadership

Andy Robinson, *Consultant* | andy@andyrobinsononline.com

W7 - Fundraising for Community Projects

Andy Robinson (www.andyrobinsononline.com) provides training and consulting for nonprofits in fundraising, board development, marketing, earned income, planning, leadership

Speakers

development, facilitation, and train-the-trainer programs. He specializes in the needs of organizations working for human rights, social justice, artistic expression, environmental conservation, and community development. Over the past 22 years, Andy has worked with organizations in 47 US states and Canada. Recent clients include the Association of Fundraising Professionals, National Main Street Center, American Rivers, the Land Trust Alliance, and many, many local organizations. Andy is the author of six books, including Train Your Board (and Everyone Else) to Raise Money, www.trainyourboard.com. His latest is What Every Board Member Needs to Know, Do, and Avoid. When he's not on the road, he lives in Plainfield.

Lisa Ryan, *Rutland City Board of Aldermen* | lryan@broc.org

P5 - The Wisdom to Know Difference: Increasing Diversity and Equity in Community Leadership

Lisa grew up in Rutland and attended Rutland City public schools. After earning a BA in Psychology and a minor in Spanish from Temple University in Philadelphia PA, she moved back home to Rutland and attained an MS in Mediation and Applied Conflict Studies from Champlain College. Currently, she is the Program Manager of Rutland County Community Justice Center at BROC Community Action and a 2017 elected official serving on Rutland City Board of Aldermen. She is also the First VP of the Rutland Area Branch of the NAACP, a Rotarian, Vermont Business Magazine's Rising Star of 2017, and Rutland Young Professional (RYP) member and 2017 RYP of the year. In June of 2018, she and her husband bought their first home in the city of Rutland!

Rebecca Sanborn-Stone, *Bethel Revitalization Initiative and Community Workshop*

rebecca@communityworkshopllc.com

S4 - Bethel; and W9 - Community Placemaking

Katherine Sims, *NEK Collaborative* | katherine@nekcollaborative.org

Summit Deliberations

Katherine Sims is the Director of the Northeast Kingdom Collaborative, bringing together partners to advance economic development in communities in the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont. She was the founder and Executive Director of Green Mountain Farm-to-School, and worked as a consultant to nonprofits on fundraising plans, leadership development, and succession planning. Katherine graduated from Yale University with a bachelor's in history and serves on the board of a several nonprofits. She lives in Craftsbury with her husband and son.

Dan Smith, *Vermont Community Foundation* | dsmith@vermontcf.org

The Future of Vermont Leadership: Assets, Challenges, and Vision

Dan joined the Vermont Community Foundation (VCF) as its President and CEO in August, 2016. Since joining, he has focused the VCF on closing Vermont's opportunity gap through strong partnerships, innovative grantmaking and a commitment to community engagement.

Tim Smith, *Mayor of St. Albans, Franklin County Industrial Development Corporation*

tim@fcidc.com

S5 - St. Albans

Tim Smith of St. Albans has served as the Executive Director of the Franklin County Industrial Development Corporation since March of 2001. Prior to that he owned and operated an office supply business with his brother Mike for six years. Over the years Tim has served on a variety of work related boards including Regional Planning Brownfields Committee, Challenger Learning Center, Workforce Investment Board, Friends of Northern Lake Champlain, Business Alliance for a Clean Lake and Regional Development Coordinators of Vermont. Tim has been a member of the Northeast Economic Development Association (NEDA) since 2006 and served as the NEDA President in 2016 and conference chair for the 2011 NEDA Conference which was held in Burlington. Tim has also served his local community in a number of capacities as youth coach, United Way Board Member, Rotarian, Friends of Franklin County Football incorporator, Vermont Recreation and Parks Association Citizen Rep, National Recreation and Parks Board of Trustees

and Aldis Hill Playground Trustee. Tim has received a variety of civic involvement awards and continues to be very active in his region. On Town Meeting Day of 2018 Tim was elected Mayor of the City of St. Albans. Tim lives in St. Albans with his wife Denise, three young children, Mackenzie, Duffy and Nellie, a dog Iris and two cats Oliver and Olivia.

Mark Snelling, *Snelling Center for Government* | mark@snellingcenter.org
Summit Deliberations

Mark is the volunteer president of the Snelling Center. He is also president of Greenleaf Metals, a distributor of copper and brass wire products. He has owned and operated a number of businesses in the ski, bike, and hardware industries. Mark served as chair of the Vermont Governor's Council of Environmental Advisors, and chaired the Governor's Commission on Downtowns and Growth Centers. He has previously served on the boards of Key Bank Vermont, the Vermont Land Trust, Medical Center Hospital of Vermont, and as Chair of Housing Vermont and the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps. Mark resides in Starksboro with his wife Linda.

Ross Sneyd, *National Life Group* | rsneyd@nationallife.com
Summit Deliberations

Ross Sneyd is chair of the Select Board in Plainfield, where he and his husband previously ran a bed and breakfast for 10 years. He works in Corporate Communications at National Life Group and previously covered politics and government for many years as an editor and reporter at The Associated Press and Vermont Public Radio.

Michael Snyder, *Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation*
michael.snyder@vermont.gov

P7 - Advancing Outdoor Recreation and Trails

Michael Snyder has served as Commissioner of Vermont Forests, Parks, and Recreation since January 2011. Prior to that he served for 14 years as Chittenden County Forester, providing land stewardship assistance to private landowners and municipalities. He also taught, for 12 years, two courses in Forestry at the University of Vermont and wrote the Woods Whys column for Northern Woodlands Magazine for nearly two decades. Previously he worked in forest ecosystem science at the Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest and in land surveying and forest management in New Hampshire, New Mexico, and Sweden. He lives with his family in Stowe and owns and manages a 91-acre forest in Essex County. He received both his Bachelor's and Master of Science degrees in forestry from the University of Vermont. He is an avid outdoorist, especially enjoying hunting, fishing, skiing, water sports, backpacking and camping.

Bob Spencer, *Vernon Planning and Economic Development Commission*
spencebbc@aol.com
S2 - Vernon

Bob has been on the Vernon Planning and Economic Development Commission since 2009, which recently completed an update of the Town Plan, with a major emphasis on redevelopment of the Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant site. The Town recently received a Village Center designation and is working on a master plan for the Village Center. Bob is the part-time Executive Director of Windham Solid Waste Management District in Brattleboro, and has a consulting business specializing in organic waste management. He received AICP certification as a professional planner.

Tom Stearns, *High Mowing Organic Seeds* | tom@highmowingseeds.com
P4 - Strengthening Agriculture and Food Systems

Speakers

Kate Stephenson, *Montpelier Energy Advisory Committee*

kate.m.g.stephenson@gmail.com

P2 - Advancing Energy Action and the Climate Economy

Kate is a partner in HELM Construction Solutions, which works with owners, designers and builders to create high performance and sustainable buildings and businesses. She is an experienced leader in the fields of green building, professional education, sustainability, and business management. She has worked with established and emerging businesses and non-profits to achieve triple bottom line metrics, develop business systems, and plan for a dynamic and resilient future. She has deep experience in post-secondary education, and led the Yestermorrow Design/Build School for over thirteen years. Kate manages the Vermont Farm Fund, a revolving loan fund providing low interest loans to farmers. Kate helped to develop and is a for NESEA's BuildingEnergy Bottom Lines program. Kate is the Chair of the Montpelier Energy Advisory Committee, and serves on the Board of the Vermont Council on Rural Development. She holds a MS in Management from Antioch University New England and a BA in Anthropology and Environmental Science from Haverford College.

Bob Stevens, *Stevens and Associates, Brooks House Redevelopment*

bstevens@stevens-assoc.com

P6 - Revitalizing Buildings and Downtowns

Bob Stevens is a principal of M&S Development, the founder & president of Stevens & Associates, and a graduate of the University of Vermont. As a principal for M&S, he directs a team of professionals to organize and guide business leaders, institutions, and communities to redevelop and revitalize main streets & downtowns. In addition to his development projects, Bob is a professional engineer and owner of Stevens & Associates with over 25 years of experience designing projects, as well as, planning, urban design, public bond campaigns and project finance & development. By integrating his experience of design and engineering with his knowledge of new markets tax credits, historical tax credits, grants, equity and debt, Bob successfully identifies project needs and develops sound solutions.

Dave Stoner, *Craftsbury Fiber Access Initiative* | davestoner@gmail.com

S6 - Craftsbury

Dave is a resident of Craftsbury Common, and is retired. As a community volunteer, he currently chairs the Craftsbury Broadband Committee and previously chaired the fundraising committee for the Craftsbury Public Library.

Mike Strait, *Brighton Selectboard* | mike@hearthandhomecountry.com

S3 - Brighton

Mike is originally from Ironton OH but made Vermont his home in 2004 and Island Pond in 2010. He owns and operates The Hearth & Home Country Store in downtown Island Pond along with his husband Tim. He is chairman of the Island Pond Renewal Committee, treasurer of the Brighton Community Forum, active member of the Island Pond Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, member of the Planning & Zoning Board, and previously served as one of the town auditors. On Town Meeting Day of 2018 he was elected to the Brighton Selectboard and subsequently became its chairman.

Liz Subin, *Essex Westford School District* | liz.subin@board.ewsd.org

P3 - Engaging the Public in K-12 Education; and D1 - Youth Driving Change

Liz holds a Masters Degree in International Administration and recently served as one of the Project Coordinators for the Heart and Soul of Essex, a two-year community engagement initiative. She now serves on the board of Heart & Soul and works to engage the community on what matters most to the people who live and work in Essex. She is a one of the founding

directors of the Pennywise Foundation, a small non-profit which seeks to generate and harness support for effective, innovative, and collaborative nonprofit organizations around the world that leverage relatively small donations of goods, services, or money to create significant and sustainable pathways to positive change. She has served on the school board in Essex since 2014, currently as chair of the communications and community engagement task team on the Essex Westford School District Board.

Anson Tebbetts, *Secretary of the VT Agency of Agriculture Food and Markets*

anson.tebbetts@vermont.gov

P4 - Strengthening Agriculture and Food Systems

Anson was appointed Vermont's Secretary of Agriculture, Food, and Markets by Governor Phil Scott in January of 2017. Prior to his appointment, Tebbetts spent more than twenty years as part of the WCAX news team, serving as the station's news director since 2009. From 2007-2009, he stepped away from his role at WCAX to serve as Deputy Secretary of the Agency of Agriculture, under the Douglas administration. An avid bird enthusiast, he co-hosts "For the Birds" on WDEV & WLVB radio. Tebbetts, a graduate of Emerson College, is a native Vermonter with deep agricultural roots. He was born and raised on his family's farm in Cabot, where he continues to reside today with his wife Vicky and their two children.

Sarah Waring, *Center for an Agricultural Economy* | swaring79@gmail.com

P4 - Strengthening Agriculture and Food Systems

Sarah has led the Center for an Agricultural Economy in Hardwick since 2013. The Center works towards the transformation of the food system for social, economic and ecological vitality; with programs that support farm and food producers, entrepreneurs, place-based education, community partners and more. Sarah currently serves on the Boards of the VT Community Foundation, NEK Collaborative, and the Public Assets Institute. She has worked in economic and community development in rural areas in Vermont and the Rocky Mountain West for nearly 15 years.

Kirk White, *Bethel Revitalization Initiative* | kirkwhitevt@gmail.com

S4 - Bethel

Still living in his Vermont hometown, Kirk is the founder and president of the Bethel Revitalization Initiative. He has been active in leadership of several local, state, and national non-profits and civic organizations with a particular interest in creative governance and operational structures.

Lindsey Yablonowski, *People's Academy - Communicating School Redesign*

lindsey.yablonowski@lssuvt.org

P3 - Engaging the Public in K-12 Education

Acknowledgements

Outreach Partners

- AARP
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- Burlington Young Professionals
- Center for an Agricultural Economy
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- Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission
- Central Vermont Young Professionals
- Champlain Area NAACP
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- Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission
- Common Good Vermont
- Efficiency VT
- Energy Action Network
- Food Connects
- Green Mountain Crossroads
- Hunger Free Vermont
- Leadership Champlain
- Leadership Southeast Vermont
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- Migrant Justice
- NEK Young Professional Network
- New England Grassroots Environment Fund
- New Leaders Council
- Northwest Regional Planning Commission
- Outright Vermont
- Preservation Trust of Vermont
- Rutland Area NAACP
- Rutland Young Professionals
- Small Business Administration Leadership
- Southern Vermont Young Professionals
- Southern Windsor Regional Planning Commission
- Story Truths
- The Root Social Justice Center
- Two-Rivers Ottauquechee Planning Commission
- United Ways of Vermont
- Up For Learning

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- UVM Extension 4-H Program
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- Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development
- Vermont Arts Council
- Vermont Association of Conservation Districts
- Vermont Association of Planning and Development Agencies
- Vermont Businesses for Social Responsibility
- Vermont Chamber of Commerce
- Vermont Change Makers Table
- Vermont Commission on Women
- Vermont Community Development Association
- Vermont Community Foundation
- Vermont Community Loan Fund
- Vermont Downtown and Village Program
- Vermont Energy Education Program - Leadership Program
- Vermont Housing and Conservation Board Leadership Program
- Vermont Land Trust
- Vermont Leadership Institute at the Snelling Center for Leadership
- Vermont Learning for the Future
- Vermont Mountain Bike Association
- Vermont Principals Association
- Vermont Rotary
- Vermont School Boards Association
- Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund
- Vermont Urban and Community Forestry Program
- Vermont Works for Women
- Vital Communities
- Women Business Owners Network

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- Castleton University
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- VT Digger

VCRD deeply appreciates the partnership and support of the **Vermont Community Foundation**

Leadership Fair

Center for New Leadership at Marlboro College

<https://www.marlboro.edu/community/cnl>

New Leaders Council

https://newleaderscouncil.nationbuilder.com/founding_vermont

UVM Center for Rural Studies

<https://www.uvm.edu/crs/>

UVM Extension 4-H Program

<https://www.uvm.edu/extension/youth>

Vermont Arts Council

<https://www.vermontartscouncil.org/>

Vermont Department of Housing and Community Development

<http://accd.vermont.gov/community-development>

Vermont Leadership Institute at the Snelling Center for Leadership

<https://snellingcenter.org/leadership/vermont-leadership-institute/>

Vital Communities

<http://vitalcommunities.org/>

Vermont Council on Rural Development

The Making It Happen! Summit is produced by the Vermont Council on Rural Development (VCRD). From local, citizen-led efforts to policy councils that build collaboration between state, federal, nonprofit, and private sector leaders, VCRD brings Vermonters together across political lines and organizational boundaries to create a better future.

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Vermont Council on Rural Development

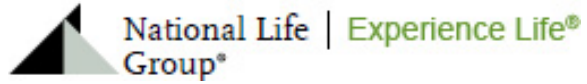
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