

Cragun's Resort ~ Brainerd Minnesota
November 18-19, 2014

[#mnbroadband](#)



What!?!... Isn't Minnesota supposed to be "above average"!?

According to the Governor's Broadband Task Force, Minnesota is not on track to meet the state's current broadband goals, established in 2010 by the state legislature:

Universal Access and High-Speed Goal

It is a state goal that as soon as possible, but no later than 2015, all state residents and businesses have access to high-speed broadband that provides minimum download speeds of 10 to 20 megabits per second and minimum upload speeds of five to 10 megabits per second.

State Broadband Leadership Position

It is a goal of the state that by 2015 and thereafter, the state be in:

- The top five states in the nation for broadband speed universally accessible to residents and businesses
- The top five states for broadband access
- The top 15 when compared to countries globally for broadband penetration

Let's fix this!

Thanks for coming. Now let's get to work.

~Bernadine Joselyn

Director of Public Policy & Engagement, Blandin Foundation

On behalf of the conference planning team



Blandin Foundation™
STRENGTHENING RURAL MINNESOTA



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Agenda at a Glance

Tuesday, November 18

- 2:30** **Broadband Networks: Community Considerations** (Paul Bunyan 3-4)
- 5:00** **Opening Reception – Exhibit Hall** (Paul Bunyan 1-2)
- 6:30** **Dinner and *Border to Border Broadband Film Fest*** (Dining Room)
- 8:30** **Adjourn**

Wednesday, November 19

- 8:00** **Breakfast** (Dining Room)
- 9:00** **Welcome** (Lakeshore 1-3)
- 9:15** **Developments in Federal Broadband Policy: What Should Minnesota Be Paying Attention To?**
- 10:15** **Youth Speak for Themselves**
- 11:10** **Break in Exhibit Hall** (Paul Bunyan 1-2)
- 11:25** **Breakout Sessions - Round I**
- **Broadband-based Economic Development** (Lakeshore 1-3)
 - **Best of the BBCs** (Lakeshore 4)
 - **Libraries and Technology Centers – Places of Access and Innovation** (Paul Bunyan 3-4)
- 12:15** **Lunch** (Dining Room)
- 1:20** **Breakout Sessions - Round II**
- **Making Public-Private Partnerships Work!** (Lakeshore 1-3)
 - **How Education Initiatives and Innovations Impact Broadband Deployment and Use** (Lakeshore 4)
 - **Broadband Messaging – Effective Messaging for Community Engagement** (Paul Bunyan 3-4)
- 2:10** **Break in Exhibit Hall** (Paul Bunyan 1-2)
- 2:25** **Hold On to Your Hat: State Policy Makers and Doers Preview Highlights of What’s Coming and What Could Be** (Lakeshore 1-3)
- 3:25** **Grasp Your Goal Before Your Feet Hit the Ground!**
- 4:15** **Closing Exercise**
- 4:30** **Adjourn**

Program

Tuesday, November 18

Paul Bunyan 3-4

2:30-4:30

Preconference Session

Broadband Networks: Community Considerations

Facilitated by Bill Coleman, Community Technology Advisors

Speakers: Milda K. Hedblom, Dain Consulting; Telecomm Forum, U of M School of Public Affairs;
Augsburg College
Tim Johnson, Operations Manager, MVTV Wireless
Andy Sackreiter, Director, AT&T Radio Access Network
Pat Sims, VP Solutions, LCI Service Group

Bill Coleman helps communities make the connection between telecommunications and economic development. As owner of Community Technology Advisors since 2000, he assists community, foundation and corporate clients to develop and implement programs of broadband policy, infrastructure and market development. As an accomplished public speaker and group facilitator, Bill helps organizations and communities make sound technology decisions and implement innovative strategies.

His creative vision and project management work as consultant to the Blandin Foundation, community clients, and as executive director of Dakota Future has been verified through research and recognized with awards for its positive impact. The Intelligent Community Forum, the Minnesota High Tech Association and the Economic Development Association of Minnesota have each recognized the work that Bill has done for his clients. Bill has recently subcontracted with the Intelligent Community Forum and Strategic Networks Groups to manage projects on their behalf in Louisiana and Maryland, respectively.

He participates in his own community by leading TEDxMahtomedi, serving on the board of the non-profit PCs for People and as a member of the Mahtomedi Community Education Advisory Council. Bill previously served on the board of the Economic Development Association of Minnesota and on the Mahtomedi Planning Commission. Earlier in his career, Bill managed Onvoy's (now Zayo) Integrated Community Network rural market development efforts and staffed the MN Department of Trade and Economic Development Star City and Business Retention and Expansion Programs.

Bill has a Bachelors Degree in Urban Studies and Political Science from Mankato State University. He has studied telecommunications management at Saint Mary's University of Minnesota, completed non-profit management, facilitation and training programs at the University of St. Thomas and is certified as an Economic Development Finance Professional.

Milda K. Hedblom is a policy expert, professor, consultant and lawyer with broad experience in broadband network development for public and private clients. Her work covers development of broadband projects, regulation, entry of new services, cable franchise and multi-party agreements for fiber, cable, wireless and broadband services in Minnesota and nationally.

She is a policy leader on broadband matters in Minnesota including as director of the Telecommunications and Information Society Policy forum at the HHH Institute of Public Affairs., U. of Minnesota. She has held policy positions at the FCC and CSIS, Washington D.C., and at the UN World Summit, Geneva. She is professor of digital studies and Internet Law at Augsburg College, Minneapolis and teaches in the online program of the College. She has a B.A. from Macalester College, St. Paul, MN, and a Ph.D. and J. D. from the University of Minnesota.

Tim Johnson is a technology industry veteran with more than 30 years of experience in management and executive roles within the computer, telecommunications, manufacturing, and service industries. (Northgate Computer Systems, Bell Atlantic BSS, SunGard Data Systems BCDR, Nextera Communications, PCS Technologies) As a private wireless consultant, Tim has provided business, management and technology planning to electric utilities, competitive and incumbent exchange carriers, municipalities and independent WISPs. Tim has been involved in MVTV Wireless' expansion and growth in WiMAX/LTE since 2009. He is a graduate of Concordia College, Moorhead, Minnesota with B.A. degrees in both Computer Science and Business Management.

Andy Sackreiter is the Radio Access Network (RAN) Director for the AT&T Northern Plains region. His team is responsible for the planning, design, and optimization of the wireless network across Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota. In this role he utilizes information from business partners and customer analytics to create and sustain a premiere wireless broadband experience for AT&T's customers.

Previous to this role, Andy has held management roles in Real Estate and Construction, Cost Optimization, Network Sales Support, and Network Operations. Additionally, he has worked on national and regional RF engineering teams developing standards and performing quality testing of new network software and hardware before it is deployed into the field.

A report on the potential uses of fiber optics in 1985 as a 7th grader solidified a future both as a telecom engineer and as a lifelong nerd. After finishing his Master Degree in Physics at Washington State University, Andy started with AT&T in 1997 as a RF performance engineer in Minneapolis. He also earned an MBA from Augsburg College in 2006. Andy is a native of Minnesota and lives in St. Paul with his wife Lisa and their two young sons, Soren and Kai.

Patrick Sims is focused in the growth industries of advanced IT, Wireline and Wireless Communications, Managed Services Sectors for SDN/Analytics & NFV, Smart Grid, Tele-Health/Medicine, Machine-to-Machine, and Smart Communities. His primary roles are to define the technical development strategy in access technologies, lead the technical direction for new product introduction, and ensure the sustainable development of the technical direction. Patrick's 35-year experiences include: CTO, Director of R&D, Product Management and Business Development, Design Engineering for Optical Networks, Wireless Backhaul, and DAS, and acts as an industry consultant to both equipment manufacturers and service providers within the Global FTTx industry. Pat is a Certified Passive Optical Network (PON) Designer and an RCDD, holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Electrical Engineering from Florida A&M University, and has an MBA from the University of Florida. Pat is also one original team members responsible for establishing the FTTH Council.



Tuesday, November 18 Continued

Paul Bunyan 1-2

5:00 Registration and Reception in the Exhibit Hall

Dining Room

6:30 Dinner

Border to Border Broadband Film Fest

8:30 Adjourn



Wednesday, November 19

Dining Room

8:00 Breakfast Buffet

Lakeshore 1-3

9:00 Welcome

Bernadine Joselyn, Director, Public Policy & Engagement, Blandin Foundation

Bernadine Joselyn directs Blandin Foundation's Public Policy and Engagement program area, where she leads efforts to facilitate the building of knowledge and catalyze community action around issues and opportunities that align with the Foundation's mission of strengthening rural Minnesota communities, especially the Grand Rapids area. A native of Minnesota, Bernadine spent the first 15 years of her professional life in Soviet (and then post-Soviet) Affairs. She served seven years as diplomat with the U.S. Department of State, where — after an initial tour in New Delhi, India — she was assigned to Moscow, Russia, and Washington, D.C., focused on the U.S.-Soviet/Russian relationship. After the collapse of the Soviet Union Bernadine left the diplomatic corps to work on international academic and cultural exchange programs with the International Research & Exchanges Board (IREX) and subsequently the Eurasia Foundation, where she oversaw a \$5 million annual grant program.

In 2000 Bernadine returned to Minnesota to complete a second master's degree in public affairs at the University of Minnesota's Humphrey Institute. She also has an undergraduate degree from the University of Minnesota and a master's degree in international security policy and certificate in advanced studies from Columbia University.

9:15

Developments in Federal Broadband Policy: What Should Minnesota Be Paying Attention To?

Moderated by William Hoffman, State Program Manager, Connect Minnesota

Speakers: Dominic Henderson, USDA

Al Juhnke, Office of Senator Franken

Lindsay Shanahan, Counsel, Broadband Research & Planning, Connected Nation

Diane Wells, Office of Broadband Development, MN DEED

William Hoffman is the Connect Minnesota Program Manager. In that role, he leads Connect Minnesota's continuing statewide effort to map broadband availability and increase broadband access, adoption and use. Connect Minnesota's efforts have been underway since 2008 to bring the economic and quality of life benefits of broadband to all Minnesota residents. As Connect Minnesota's program manager, Hoffman's duties include promoting collaboration between Connect Minnesota, the Minnesota Office of Broadband Development, the Governor's Task Force on Broadband, and local, state, and federal policymakers.

William Hoffman has over 20 years of public policy, advocacy, and program management experience on issues ranging from telecommunications and environmental policy to economic development and electoral reform. He began his career in Washington, DC as a policy expert and lobbyist for international trade associations before moving to Minnesota where he has worked with nonprofits, on the staff of Governor Tim Pawlenty, and heading the Minnesota practice of a national government affairs company. Hoffman holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the Loyola University of New Orleans and a Masters of Public Administration and Policy from the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, University of Pittsburgh.

Al Juhnke serves as U.S. Senator Al Franken's state advisor for agriculture, energy, environment, and telecommunication issues. Al understands how important these sectors are to creating jobs and spurring economic development in Minnesota. He works closely with key groups, stakeholders, and communities on these issues and knows how significant they are to Minnesota's economy and its future. He is stationed in his hometown of Willmar and travels throughout the state on behalf of Senator Franken.

Prior to his position with the U.S. Senate, Rep. Juhnke served 14 years in the Minnesota State Legislature where he chaired the House Agriculture & Veterans Affairs Finance Committee and was Speaker pro tempore. During his tenure as a state legislator, Juhnke was recognized for his work on bio-fuels and renewable energy, helping make Minnesota a national leader in these areas. He played key roles on a number of agriculture, energy, and telecommunication related initiatives in the MN House of Representatives.

Al lives in Willmar with his wife of 30 years, Claire, has two grown children and two grandchildren.

Lindsay Shanahan is Counsel, Broadband Research and Planning at Connected Nation. In this role, she supports Connected Nation's state and federal broadband policy agenda and initiatives, including external stakeholder outreach and communication of CN's broadband planning and research findings. Lindsay also prepares and presents Connected Nation's regulatory filings to support and advance CN's mission, and helps formulate policy recommendations that follow from CN's research regarding broadband access, adoption, and use.

Lindsay has a passion for technology and extensive experience with digital inclusion initiatives. She worked as a member of the Federal Communications Commission internal taskforce focused on developing Connect2Compete, and established a digital skills training and computer program adopted by Habitat for Humanity International. Lindsay also managed 24 nonprofit organizations enrolled in the AT&T/One Economy AccessAll Grant Program in Ohio, which provided low-income families throughout Ohio with in-home computer and Internet access. Lindsay joined the Connected Nation team in April of 2013 as Program Outreach Assistant for Connect Ohio before later transitioning into her role as Counsel.

Lindsay holds a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from the University of Kentucky and a Juris Doctor and Master of Arts in Public Policy and Management from The Ohio State University.

Diane Wells has over 25 years of experience working with telecommunications and broadband issues for the State of Minnesota. She joined the Office of Broadband Development at the MN Department of Employment and Economic Development at its inception in 2013. Previously, Ms. Wells managed the telecommunications division at the MN Department of Commerce for eight years and served on the telecommunications staff of the MN Public Utilities Commission for 17 years. Ms. Wells received her undergraduate degree from St. Cloud State University and her M.P.A. from the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin.

10:15

Youth Speak for Themselves

Students discuss how young people can be engaged in community broadband initiatives, both adding and receiving value.

Two Harbors High School

Sydney Ross, Senior
Jasmine Huikka, Senior
Kris Lee, Media and Technology Coordinator

Fond du Lac Ojibwe School

Mary Ammesmaki, 8th grade
James Friedman, 8th grade
Charles Hilliard, eLearning/Technology Coordinator

Lac qui Parle Valley High School

Rachel Schroeder, Junior
Jim Daly, Senior
Ryan Giles, Industrial Technology Teacher

Paul Bunyan 1-2

11:10 Break ~ Exhibit Room



11:25 Breakout Sessions – Round I or Exhibits

Lakeshore 1-3

Broadband-based Economic Development

Economic development is often cited as a key justification for broadband investment. Learn about strategies that can leverage broadband connectivity.

Moderated by Bill Coleman, Community Technology Advisors

Speakers: Samantha DiMaggio, Economic Development Coordinator, City of Shakopee
Tom Garrison, Communications Director, City of Eagan
Dave Hengel, Executive Director, Greater Bemidji
Gary Johnson, CEO / GM, Paul Bunyan Communications

Lakeshore 4

Best of the BBCs

Blandin Broadband Community leaders share how their best projects generated community excitement and positive outcomes around access to and use of broadband.

Moderated by Bernadine Joselyn, Director of Public Policy & Engagement, Blandin Foundation

Speakers: Jason Holliday, Fond du Lac Reservation
Sandy Layman, Itasca County
Marc Johnson, Kanabec County
Rena Tostenson, Lac qui Parle Valley Schools
Chris Langenbrunner, Lake County
Ralph Christofferson, Lake of the Woods County
Roxy Traxler, Mille Lacs County
Naomi Pederson, Southwest Minnesota Broadband Services

Paul Bunyan 3-4

Libraries and Technology Centers – Places of Access and Innovation

How can communities use existing assets to spur technology use?

Moderated by Karl Samp, Community Technology Advisors

Speakers: Neela Mollgaard, Executive Director, Red Wing Ignite
Ann Treacy, Treacy Information Services
Pang Yang, Community Services Coordinator, Saint Paul Public Library



Dining Room

12:15 Lunch



1:20 Breakout Sessions – Round II or Exhibits

Lakeshore 1-3

Making Public-Private Partnerships Work!

Public-private partnerships are the middle ground between community network and private-sector only advocates. Within these bounds, there is a large grey area of uncertainty. What is legal? What is smart? What are the options for finance, ownership and operations? Join the director of the DEED Office of Broadband Development and several private-public partners as they discuss the challenges of creating these partnerships.

Moderated by Danna MacKenzie, Executive Director, Office of Broadband Development, MN DEED

Speakers: Jenny Boulton, Kennedy and Graven

Shannon Sweeney, David Drown Associates

Milda K. Hedblom, Dain Consulting; Telecomm Forum, U of M School of Public Affairs;
Augsburg College

Lakeshore 4

How Education Initiatives and Innovations Impact Broadband Deployment and Use

Education initiatives deployed or planned at the state level have great potential to drive the value derived from broadband connections and to leave unconnected citizens a bit further behind. What are these applications and how will they change the way education is delivered and accessed? How is the lack of connectivity at state broadband goal levels hindering the deployment of these education innovations?

Moderated by Bill Coleman, Community Technology Advisors

Speakers: Marc Johnson, Executive Dir., East Central MN Educational Cable Cooperative (ECMECC)

Michael Olesen, Director, Rural Information Technology Alliance (RITA), MNSCU

Bob Rubinyi, Director of eLearning, University of Minnesota


Paul Bunyan 3-4

Broadband Messaging – Effective Messaging for Community Engagement:

What are the most effective messages to promote broadband deployment, access and use in your community? How can community leaders generate enthusiasm for broadband investments? How can chambers of commerce and others motivate businesses to make better use of technology to increase profitability?

Moderated by Bernadine Joselyn, Director of Public Policy & Engagement, Blandin Foundation

Speaker: Allison Ahcan, Director of Communications, Blandin Foundation



Paul Bunyan 1-2

2:10 Break ~ Exhibit Room

Lakeshore 1-3

2:25

Hold On to Your Hat: State Policy Makers and Doers Preview Highlights of What's Coming and What Could Be

Moderated by William Hoffman, State Program Manager, Connect Minnesota

Speakers: Representative Ron Kresha

Danna MacKenzie, Executive Director, Office of Broadband Development, MN DEED
Senator Matt Schmit

Paul Weirtz, State President, AT&T Minnesota

Ron Kresha has been involved in telecommunications and technology since 1994 as an educator and network administrator. After bringing broadband and online curriculum to a group of central MN schools, he co-founded Atomic Learning, an online education company. In 2010, Ron founded the rural economic development company Golden Shovel Agency with the vision of assisting rural communities in improving their online economic development. In 2012, Ron was elected to the House of Representatives to serve District 9B and further economic development policy.

Danna MacKenzie joined the State of Minnesota in January 2014 to head up their new Office of Broadband Development, which is housed within the Department of Employment and Economic Development. As Executive Director, MacKenzie leads broadband strategy and program development efforts within the state and provides support to both the Governor's Subcabinet on Broadband and the state's Broadband Task Force. MacKenzie currently oversees the execution of the state's new \$20M Border-to-border Broadband Infrastructure Incentive fund that was passed during the 2014 legislative cycle.

Prior to joining the Office, MacKenzie served as technology director for Cook County, Minnesota for 17 years, where one of the roles she held was that of administrator for the Cook County Broadband Commission, which was instrumental in bringing fiber to the home to the whole of the rural community. During these years she also served as a member of the Blandin Foundation Broadband Strategy Board focusing on connectivity and broadband use throughout the rural parts of the state.

Senator Matt Schmit (DFL-Red Wing) represents District 21 in the Minnesota Senate, which includes portions of Goodhue, Wabasha, Winona and Dodge counties. Elected in 2012, Schmit serves as Vice Chair of the Senate Jobs, Agriculture and Rural Development Committee, which oversees telecommunications issues. He also sits on the Capital Investment and Energy and Environment policy committees, as well as the Environment, Agriculture, and Economic Development finance division. In addition, he holds the gavel for the Senate Game and Fish Subcommittee.

Outside his official legislative duties, Schmit runs a small consulting firm, P3 Strategies, and is a member of the National Transportation Research Board. He is also active with the National Conference of State Legislatures, sitting on the Telecommunications and Nuclear Legislative work groups, respectively.

A lifelong resident of Red Wing, Schmit's academic background includes undergraduate studies in biology and political science and graduate studies in economics and public policy.

Paul Weirtz was named President of AT&T Minnesota in March 2013.

For the 10 years prior to becoming President of AT&T Minnesota, Paul served as the Director of Government Affairs for AT&T Ohio, leading AT&T's state legislative, regulatory and community initiatives in Columbus and across the state. Paul played a key role in AT&T Ohio's passage of legislation impacting telecom reform, video franchise reform, scrap metal and E-911 funding.

A native of Akron, Ohio, Paul served as the Director of External Affairs in the Greater Akron region prior to his promotion to Columbus in 2002. Paul holds a Bachelor of Arts in History and Masters of Public Administration from the University of Akron. An honorably discharged veteran of the U.S. Marine Corp Reserve, Paul served stateside during Operation Desert Storm. Paul is a current member of the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce's Leadership Minnesota program and serves on the Governor's Task Force on Broadband.

Paul and his wife Mary and their two daughters currently reside in Bayport, Minnesota.

3:25

Grasp Your Goal Before Your Feet Hit the Ground!

Dr. M. James Bensen, President Emeritus, Bemidji State University

Introduced by Wade Fauth, Vice President, Blandin Foundation

Jim Bensen is enjoying his role in working with organizations throughout the country to improve the "common good". He Chairs the Stewards of BemidjiLeads!, a nationally recognized community revitalization initiative where he lives. In addition, he speaks throughout the world, writes for his profession, serves on more than a dozen boards, consults with corporations, and contributes to innovations in education. Leadership and innovation are his passion!

Jim retired as president of Bemidji State University in August, 2001, after seven years of service and currently works with the university on a voluntary basis in the promotion of research, innovation, economic development, international relations, and advancement. Earlier, he served five years as president of the Dunwoody College of Technology and also was the Dean of the School of Industry and Technology at the University of Wisconsin-Stout, Menomonie, Wisconsin. He holds a Bachelor's Degree from Bemidji State University, his Master's from UW-Stout, and his Doctorate from Penn State University.

Jim has held numerous offices in professional associations on the local, state, national and international levels and has been the recipient of many awards by the organizations that he has served. Having been involved in educational development in several countries and after holding leadership and administrative assignments for over three decades, he values most being named by the students at Stout as their "distinguished teacher".

4:15 **Closing Exercise**

4:30 **Adjourn**



Exhibitors

Visit the exhibits in Paul Bunyan 1-2

A-Vu Media Corporation

www.avumedia.com

16841 Creek Ridge Trail, Minnetonka, MN 55345

John Goodman, President & CEO

john@avumedia.com

612-839-2329

A-Vu Media provides a primary care telemedicine system on a hosted or Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) business model. The system is low cost, easy to use and can be implemented on existing hardware. Designed for rural applications, the system can connect to remote specialty providers and community locations including: remote clinics, nursing homes, work place clinics, schools, and home locations.

BeBloomin

www.BloomEverywhere.com

6521 Rowland Rd, Eden Prairie, MN 55344

Joel Ackerman, President

joel.ackerman@BeBloomin.com

612-396-6521

BeBloomin is a Minnesota-grown software and services company promoting a whole-life approach to healthcare and technology, and supporting "aging in place". BeBloomin provides a safe, secure and user friendly Web-based platform for individuals to connect with and enjoy the benefits and opportunities within their own community. BeBloomin leverages the power of broadband to build strong partnerships within communities, empowering individuals and organizations to thrive, to connect, to Bloom Everywhere(sm).

Calix

www.calix.com

16305 36th Ave N, Suite 300, Minneapolis, MN 55446

Keith Carlson, Regional Sales Director

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Calix is a global leader in access innovation. Its Unified Access systems and software portfolio enables network and business transformation for communications service providers worldwide.

Compass Consultants Inc.

www.trustcompass.com

155 2nd St. SW, Perham, MN 56573

David Pawlowski, Director of Operations

david.pawlowski@trustcompass.com

(218) 347-3638

Compass offers a lengthy history of managing multi-disciplinary publically funded broadband projects and is credentialed to provide a broad spectrum of services including: Professional Engineering Services, Land Surveying, Professional Project Management Services, Environmental and Regulatory Services, Project Feasibility Studies, Contract Management, Administration and Construction Management of FTTx, broadband middle networks. Compass applies a structured and methodological approach resulting in the efficient management of schedules and budgetary while minimizing risk and ensuring a quality deliverable that enmeshes local, state, and federal mandates.

KGP Logistics

kgplogistics.com

9336 Redbud Ln, Lenexa, KS 66220

Paul Cook, National Sales Manager

pcook@kgptel.com

913-488-2900

KGP Logistics is a national distributor of Broadband Communications products and services. We are a certified woman owned business enterprise headquartered in Faribault, MN.

MP Nexlevel

www.mpnexlevel.com

500 County Road 37 E, Maple Lake, MN 55358

Derek Groth, Business Development Director

dgroth@mpnexlevel.com

320-963-2400 x2423

MP Nexlevel has been employed in the planning, installation and maintenance of aerial and underground infrastructure work for over three decades. We are licensed and registered to perform work in over 30 states across the U.S. MP Nexlevel is an industry leader with a significant national presence of over 1,200 employees and a diverse customer base that consists of Communications, Power, Gas, Educational Institutions, Water and Sewer Utilities, Alternative Energy, and Private Industry.

PCs for People

www.pcsforpeople.org

1481 Marshall Ave, St Paul, MN 55104

Sam Drong, Program Director

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PCs for People is a non-profit organization that provides personal computers to low-income families across the Upper Midwest.

Telcom Construction, Inc.

www.telcomconstruction.com

2218 200th Street East, Clearwater, MN 55320

Larry Sanders, Director of Customer Relations

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320-558-9485

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Resources

Conference Web Page <http://tinyurl.com/BBConfNov14> or scan the QR code→

Conference materials will be archived and shared on the conference web page.



View the *Border to Border Broadband* Conference **Social Media Wall**. Visit www.mnbroadbandtalk.com or scan the QR code→



New this year! Check out the **conference app** – find the link on the conference web page or scan the QR code→



Notes

Notes

Conference Sponsors



Blandin Foundation™
STRENGTHENING RURAL MINNESOTA

Blandin Foundation stands with rural Minnesota communities as they imagine and claim ambitious, vibrant futures. It is one of only a handful of foundations in the U.S. focused exclusively on rural communities and the largest rural-based private foundation in Minnesota.

Blandin Foundation believes that encouraging the use of broadband is a critical component for increasing the technological vitality of Minnesota's rural communities. The Blandin Community Broadband Program works in partnership with others to increase awareness about the value of broadband; increase business and residential use of broadband in rural communities; and increase public and private investment in rural broadband capacity. Learn more at <http://broadband.blandinfoundation.org>.



Since late 2008, **Connect Minnesota** has been working to ensure that all can experience the benefits of broadband. Technology, especially widespread access, use and adoption of broadband, improves all areas of life.

Connect Minnesota operates as a non-profit in the state of Minnesota, in partnership with the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development's Office of Broadband Development. We work with broadband providers, communities, and residents across the state of Minnesota to create detailed maps and data detailing availability of broadband coverage to inform policy makers, communities, residents, and businesses. Connect Minnesota's efforts are funded by the United States Department of Commerce's State Broadband Initiative (SBI) grant program through the National Telecommunications and Information Administration. More information is available at www.broadbandusa.gov.

Thanks to the following organizations for their support:

Arrowhead RDC, Association of MN Counties, Economic Development Association of MN, Fiber to the Home Council, Greater MN Partnership, Headwaters RDC, Initiative Foundation, League of MN Cities, MN Association of Community Telecommunications Administrators, MN Association of Townships, MN High Tech Association, MN Rural Education Association, Northland Foundation, Northwest MN Foundation, Office of the MN Secretary of State, Region Five Development Commission, Region Nine Development Commission, Resilient Region Virtual Highway Taskforce, Southern MN Initiative Foundation, Southwest Initiative Foundation, Southwest RDC, West Central Initiative