

July 15, 2015

To: NITC Commissioners
From: Anne Byers
Subject: Community Council Report

Broadband Workbook. *Leveraging Broadband in Your Community: A Workbook to Help Communities Stimulate Broadband Development* is now available at <http://broadband.nebraska.gov/workbook/html5/index.html>. A press release about the workbook and the awards program (see below) was released by the University of Nebraska.

Broadband Awards Program. The Nebraska Broadband Initiative is accepting nominations for outstanding community broadband projects until August 14, 2015. Projects will be recognized in three categories:

- **Outstanding Infrastructure Development Project.** This award recognizes communities which have successfully partnered with a broadband provider to improve broadband availability.
- **Outstanding Digital Literacy Project.** This award recognizes communities for their efforts to improve digital literacy.
- **Outstanding Youth Project.** This award recognizes projects which engage youth in activities which support IT development.

Awards will be presented at the Rural Futures Conference in Lincoln on Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2015.

Additional information is available at <http://unlcms.unl.edu/ianr/extension/nebraska-broadband/broadband-awards>.

Rural Futures Conference Sessions. The Nebraska Broadband Initiative is organizing several broadband sessions for the Rural Futures Conference which will be held Oct. 21-23 in Lincoln. More information is available at ruralfutures.nebraska.edu.