

I. Action:	Develop a coordinated plan for addressing the information technology needs of Nebraska's rural communities.	
II. Sponsoring Entity:	Community Council of the NITC	
III. Goals and Objectives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To develop a database of information technology resources which would be available through the NITC Clearinghouse. ● To perform a gap analysis to determine if additional resources are needed. ● To develop strategies for addressing the IT needs of rural communities and prepare recommendations for the NITC. 	
IV. Justification / Rationale:	In order to prosper in the increasingly competitive global economy, rural communities must be prepared to fully participate in the Information Age. Currently there are a number of IT development programs in the state, ranging from introductory Internet training to network certification training programs. There is, however, no coordinated plan for addressing the broad spectrum of IT training and development needs in rural communities.	
V. Work Plan:	1. Identify key stakeholders.	February 2000
	2. Gather information on programs and resources available and incorporate this information into the NITC clearinghouse.	March 2000
	3. Form a subcommittee to work on this issue.	March 2000
	4. Perform a gap analysis.	April 2000
	5. Develop strategies and prepare recommendations for the NITC.	April -May 2000
VI. Required Resources:	Staff time and resources, and possibly reimbursement of travel expenses of subcommittee members.	
VII. Estimated Cost (if appropriate):	No additional costs are anticipated at this time.	