

Sustaining and Advancing Indigenous Cultures: Developing an Action Plan

DIGITAL INCLUSION IN NATIVE COMMUNITIES SUMMIT | October 19, 2021

6 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. HDT

8 a.m. - 1 p.m. ADT

9 a.m. - 2 p.m. PDT/AZ

10 a.m. - 3 p.m. MDT

11 a.m. - 4 p.m. CDT

12 p.m. - 5 p.m. EDT

Times listed on the agenda are Central Daylight Savings Time.

The goal of the “Sustaining and Advancing Indigenous Cultures” Digital Inclusion Summit is to establish a sustainable structure for helping tribal communities, cultural facilities, educational institutions, funders, and others improve access to technology for reservation-based populations. Today’s Summit will enable organizations to share needs, identify issues, and help develop a prioritized action plan.

Time	Agenda Item
11:00 am CDT	WELCOME <i>Susan Feller, President & CEO of the Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums (ATALM)</i>
11:02 am CDT	GREETINGS AND BLESSING <i>Walter Echo-Hawk, Chairman of the Board (ATALM)</i>
11:05 am CDT	DIGITAL INCLUSION NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY REPORT <i>Dr. Miriam Jorgensen, Research Director of Native Nations Institute, University of Arizona</i>
11:35 am CDT	LISTENING SESSION/JAMBOARD INSTRUCTIONS <i>Melissa Brodt, Director of Programs, Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums</i>
11:40 a.m. CDT	TRANSITION TO LISTENING SESSION BREAKOUTS
11:45 a.m. CDT	LISTENING SESSION ROUND 1 (35 minutes/10 minutes to transition to next session)
12:30 p.m. CDT	LISTENING SESSION ROUND 2 (35 minutes/10 minutes to transition to next session)
1:15 p.m. CDT	LISTENING SESSION ROUND 3 (35 minutes/10 minutes to transition to next session)

Each of the seven listening sessions is 35 minutes with a 10-minute transition period between discussions. You may self-select the Listening Sessions you wish to attend by entering the breakout room when the list appears on your computer screen. You may participate in three sessions of your choice. Listening Session topics are:

Group 1: Professional Development and Technical Support

Group 2: Technology Labs and MakerSpaces

Group 3: Expanding Support for Technology

Group 4: Community Outreach/Access to Public Computers and Broadband

Group 5: Software and Devices

Group 6: Policies

Group 7: Engagement with Tribal Leaders

Time

Agenda Item

2:00 pm CDT

REPORTS FROM THE FIELD | *Colin Rhinesmith, Associate Professor and Director, Community Informatics Lab, School of Library and Information Services, Simmons University*

2:00 p.m. Federal Funding Part 1: E-Rate and The Emergency Connectivity Fund

The FCC's E-Rate program makes telecommunications and information services more affordable for schools and libraries. With funding from the Universal Service Fund (fcc.gov/general/universal-service-fund), E-Rate provides discounts for telecommunications, Internet access, and internal connections to eligible schools and libraries. The FCC's Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) is a \$7.17 billion program that will help schools and libraries provide the tools and services their communities need for remote learning during the COVID-19 emergency period. ECF will help provide relief to millions of students, school staff, and library patrons and will help close the Homework Gap for students who currently lack necessary Internet access or the devices they need to connect to classrooms.

Marijke Visser, Associate Director and Senior Policy Advocate

2:10 p.m. Federal Funding Part 2: The Emergency Broadband Benefit and The American Rescue Plan Capitol Funds

The Emergency Broadband Benefit is the first significant acknowledgment by our federal government that affordability is a barrier to internet service in the home. This is an incredible first step. Next up – a permanent broadband benefit, support for digital literacy training, digital navigators, and devices. Technology is woven into every aspect of our lives and our society. Digital access and use is a tool that, when used successfully by more of us, collectively strengthens our economy, health, education, social and civic participation. Eligible applicants for the Capital Projects Fund are states, territories and freely associated states, and Tribal governments. While not a competitive grant program, states, territories, and freely associated states are required to submit an application and a grant plan to receive their allocated Capital Project Funds. Once applicants receive their funds, they can sub-award funds to other levels or units of government, nonprofits, or private entities. The guidance allows for multiple uses of the funds, and thus we expect many eligible applicants will have multiple projects and multiple sub-grantees.

Angela Siefer, Executive Director, National Digital Inclusion Alliance

2:20 p.m. The Toward Gigabit Libraries Toolkit and Broadband Improvement Plan

The Toward Gigabit Libraries Toolkit and Broadband Improvement Plan was initially developed for rural and tribal libraries from an Institute of Museum and Library Services grant, where the team piloted the toolkit with 58 public and tribal libraries. The project team recently received a new IMLS grant to improve upon and expand the toolkit's reach to more libraries, including urban libraries, across the nation.

Carson Block, President, Carson Block Consulting

2:30 p.m. What is Measurement Lab?

M-Lab is an open source project with contributors from civil society organizations, educational institutions, and private sector companies dedicated to: providing an open, verifiable measurement platform for global network performance; hosting the largest open Internet performance dataset on the planet; and creating visualizations and tools to help people make sense of Internet performance. M-Lab aims to advance Internet research by empowering consumers with useful information about their Internet performance. By providing free, open Internet measurement data, researchers, regulators, advocacy groups, and the general public can get a better sense of how the Internet is working for them, and how to maintain and improve it for the future.

Chris Ritzo, Program Management & Community Lead at M-Lab

Time

Agenda Item

2:40 p.m. Ideas Boxes

The Ideas Box is a mobile “pop up” multimedia center and learning hub that provides educational and cultural resources to communities in need, including refugees and displaced persons in camps around the globe, and underserved communities in developed countries. The Ideas Box is highly-durable, easy to set-up and energy-independent. Within twenty minutes of unloading the box, users will have access to a satellite internet connection, digital server, a power generator, 25 tablets and laptops, 6 HD cameras, 1 large HD screen, board games, arts and crafts materials, hardcover and paperback books, and a stage for music and theatre. Our expert team also ensures that each Ideas Box is customized to meet local needs by collaborating with organizations, leaders and members within the community.

Edouard Delbende, Director of Development and Communications at Libraries Without Borders

2:50 p.m. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS (Please use the Chat Box or raise your hand to be recognized.)

3:00 pm CDT

LISTENING SESSION REPORT OUT | *David Delmar, Senior Program Coordinator, Native Nations Institute, University of Arizona*

3:30 pm CDT

POLLS: PRIORITIZE STRATEGIC ACTIONS | *Joan Timeche, Executive Director, Native Nations Institute, University of Arizona*

3:50 pm CDT

NEXT STEPS AND CLOSING REMARKS

4:00 pm CDT

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SAVE THE DATES

- **Wednesday, October 27, 2021, 2:00 PM Eastern - Listening Session for Tribal Leaders, Staff, and Outreach Partners on Expanding Tribal Library Participation in the E-Rate Program.** To register or submit comments, view the [Public Notice](#).
- **May 3-4, 2022, from 12:00 – 4:00 PM Central - Digital Inclusion in Native Communities Workshop** – This FREE workshop features practical training that will help tribal librarians and others address the digital inclusion needs of their communities. Stay tuned for a call for proposals.