

7:15AM	Registration Opens , sponsored by Millennium	
7:15AM – 8:00AM	Networking Breakfast with Exhibitors , sponsored by GFiber	
8:00AM – 8:05AM	Welcome & Introduction Richard M. Williams Director of Content Programming, FBA, and Jessica Koch, Controller, CBS Oregon (DirectLink) & Welcome Video from Governor Bob Ferguson	
8:05AM – 8:15AM	Fiber Broadband: Leave No Community Behind Gary Bolton, President & CEO, Fiber Broadband Association	
8:15AM – 8:20AM	Platinum Sponsor Welcome & Introductions Jeff Brown, Senior Director, Segment Marketing, Calix	
8:20AM – 8:45AM	Opening Keynote: Role of Connectivity in enabling Smart Farms across WA State Dr. Lav Khot, Director, AgWeatherNet, Professor, Precision Agriculture, College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resources Sciences, Washington State University	
8:45AM – 9:20AM	A Case in Point: Open Access, Open Opportunity: Fiber’s Role in Regional Growth & Resilience Fiber infrastructure is a foundational tool for driving economic resilience, supporting local businesses, and enabling innovation across communities. This panel brings together leaders from Douglas County PUD, Chelan County PUD, and Native Network to explore how open access partnerships are delivering high-speed connectivity to diverse populations. Panelists will discuss real-world strategies for collaboration, lessons learned, and how open access networks are creating sustainable development opportunities while serving a wide range of customer needs. Moderator: Rebecca Carter, Director of Tribal Programs and Professional Services, Native Network, Inc. Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ben Carter, DCCN Coordinator, Douglas County Public Utility District• Chris Blayne, Managing Director, Fiber & Telecommunications, Chelan County Public Utility District• Jenny Rickel, Co-Founder & COO, Native Network, Inc.	
9:20AM – 9:45AM	Fireside Chat: Washington’s Broadband Priorities Dr. Joseph Williams, Acting Director, State Broadband Office, State of Washington with Jeff Brown, Senior Director, Segment Marketing, Calix	
9:45AM	Breakfast Sponsor Remarks Ariane Schaffer, Head of Federal & State Policy, GFiber	
9:45AM – 10:30AM	Networking Break with Exhibitors , sponsored by TAK Broadband	
10:30AM	Networking Break Sponsor Remarks Wendy Behee, Events and Marketing Manager, TAK Broadband	

- 10:30AM – 11:10AM **Tribal Broadband: A Community Approach to Tribal Broadband**
The Inland Northwest Tribal Broadband Coalition which represents the Colville Tribes, Spokane Tribes, Coeur d'Alene Tribe, Nez Perce Tribe, and the Shoshone-Bannock Tribe and have a mission to share resources to strengthen themselves and each other. This panel will include representatives from each tribe to share insights and lessons learned from the combined effort to deliver broadband services to every nation and home.
Moderator: Ernie Rasmussen, Executive Director, Bigfoot Telecommunications of the Coleville Tribes
Panelists:
- Melissa King, Department of Technology Manager, Nez Perce Tribe
 - Brodie Ford, Network Engineer, Spokane Tribe of Indians
 - Valerie Fast Horse, IT Director, Couer d'Alene Tribe
 - Francis Goli, Tribal Broadband Project Manager, Shoshone-Bannock Tribe
- 11:10AM – 11:50AM **The Community Connection: How Fiber Impacts Economics and Opportunity**
As the fiber broadband industry moves to connect every home, what does this mean for local stakeholders in terms of economic impact and opportunity? What role does fiber play in improving GDP, creating job opportunities, and new business development? What impact can it have on education, community services and home prices, and does fiber present the best catalyst for growth as local operators decide what technology to leverage with BEAD funding? At the heart of it is, does an option other than fiber equate to a decision to potentially leave a community behind?
Moderator: Ashley Travers, Vice President, Strategic Partnerships, KGPCo
Panelists:
- Kendal Ingraham, Network Analyst, Public Utility District No. 1 of Okanogan County
 - Drew Pappas, Director of Business Development, Bonfire Fiber
 - Donna Hilty, Chief Operating Officer, Whidbey Telecom
 - Roni Holder-Diefenbach, Executive Director, Okanogan County Economic Alliance & Facilitator Okanogan County & Colville Confederated Tribes Broadband Action Team
- 11:50AM – 12:00PM **The Dolly Parton Imagination Library and FBA Program**
Brooke Fisher-Clark, Executive Director, Imagination Library of Washington, Angela French, Director of Marketing, Imagination Library of Washington, and Ashley Travers, Vice President, Strategic Partnerships, KGPCo
- 12:00PM **Lunch Sponsor Remarks**
Scott Jackson, National Market Manager, Graybar
- 12:05PM – 12:45PM **Networking Lunch, sponsored by Graybar/Ciena**
- 12:45PM – 1:30PM **Networking Dessert with Exhibitors**
- 1:30PM – 2:05PM **Local Focus: Permit Me to Deploy Fiber**
One of the biggest challenges facing new broadband networks is the paperwork, specifically the environmental reviews, locates, and permitting approvals needed before construction can start. Given that urban and suburban deployments can mean building in



historic areas, in established neighborhoods, and the reality of dealing with HOAs and preservation groups, on top of federal, state, and local agencies, the permitting process for an operator can be overwhelming. Adding to this complexity are extremely rural locals located in the Puget Sound Barrier Islands and homes located in dense forests and in mountain ranges. This panel will discuss best practices, lessons learned, and how to forge local relationships that can help smooth this process.

Moderator: Ariane Schaffer, Head of Federal & State Policy, GFiber

Panelists:

- Bill Valentino, Vice President of Strategic Partnerships, DYCOM
- Sam Ackley, Chief Operating Officer, Hunter Communications
- Todd Way, CEO, DFN
- Tim Axelsson, Chief Operating Officer, OCIUS-X

2:05PM – 2:30PM

Fireside Chat: From Pavements to Pastures: Closing the Digital Divide Everywhere

Sabrina Roach, Chair, Washington State Digital Equity Partners Coalition with Jessica Koch, Controller, CBS Oregon (DirectLink)

2:30PM – 2:35PM

Sip & Stretch Coffee and Snack Break, sponsored by Dura-Line



2:35PM – 2:40PM

Networking Reception Sponsor Remarks

Rob Buck, Fleet Specialist, Sterling

2:40PM – 3:20PM

Critical Infrastructure: The Foundation and Capacity to Innovate

Washington State is home to several of the world's largest corporations and data center complexes. From coffee to computing, shopping to airplanes, innovators in Evergreen state continue to germinate new ideas. How does fiber broadband, as the underlying critical infrastructure, enable and foster innovation here. How does it support where entrepreneurs want to go next when they have access to unlimited capacity to the markets of the digital economy? This panel will discuss how innovation and entrepreneurship in the state that's motto is "Al-Ki" which comes from Chinook Jargon, translating "Hope for the future."

Moderator: Mike Vermeer, Manager, Broadband, Panduit

Panelists:

- Will O'Donnell, Broadband and Communications Director, Jefferson County Public Utility District #1
- Craig Friedson, Head of Sales, San Francisco/Seattle, GFiber
- Jimmy Todd, GM and CEO, Nex-Tech
- Dr. Sue Kane, CEO, NCW Tech Alliance

3:20PM – 3:25PM

Closing Remarks

Jessica Koch, Controller, CBS Oregon (DirectLink)

3:25PM – 4:30PM

Networking Reception with Expo Hall, sponsored by Sterling

