

# Closing remarks and next steps

Digital Futures Symposium  
Mar. 9-10, 2016  
Medicine Hat, AB



THE VAN HORNE INSTITUTE  
**DIGITAL FUTURES**

# Reflections

- ‘Why Broadband?’ is a key consideration
- Risk is not just financial but also social/political
- Strong desire for tools to support planning, communication
- Community portal focused on rural Alberta
- Inclusive community of practice - balancing diverse backgrounds and contexts
- Need for concise information that points to more technical documents and resources

# Digital Futures - Fall 2016 - Process

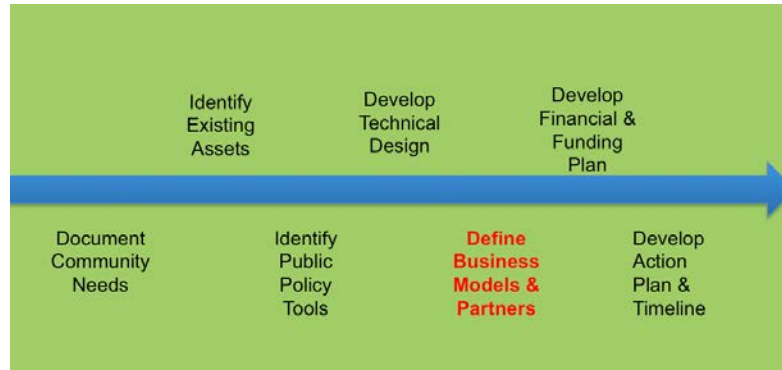
- Integrating presentations and research
- Facilitated discussions
- Workshops (ex. using tools and resources in portal)
- Pre-conference session: Intro to community broadband
- Multiple conference streams: policy / community / ?
- Discussing outcomes from information collected over past few days: report, portal, broadband communities
- Resources & discussion for community champions (ex. Connecting Community Committee in Olds)

# Digital Futures - Fall 2016 - Technical / Policy Topics

- Wireless technology and policy
- Remote and very rural communities
- Updates on CRTC BSO hearings (will have concluded)
- ?

# Digital Futures - Fall 2016 - Development Topics

- Stages in feasibility process
- Avenues for advocacy and engagement with Ottawa
- Portal governance / administration
- ?



# Digital Futures - Fall 2016 - 'Hands-on' Workshops

- Community engagement / communicating broadband to constituents (Q&A)
- Modifying / using portal tools (ex. calculator)
- Discussing and sharing portal resources (ex. bylaws, contracts, etc)
- ?

# Sustaining Momentum - We Need Your Input!

- Please complete the portal survey -  
Email: [digicom@ualberta.ca](mailto:digicom@ualberta.ca)
- Staying engaged between conferences - send us updates as well as materials for portal
- Who else needs to be here?
- Information-sharing - how to get the word out?
- How to build a 'community of practice'?