

From: Elisabeth Young <eyoung@bangordailynews.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 1:53 PM
To: Elisabeth Young <eyoung@bangordailynews.com>
Subject: Please Join Us! BDN Events Presents :: Broadband In Maine - A Four-Part Virtual Series

Hello!

We're reaching out to you to let you know about our upcoming virtual series that will present discussions and conversations around Broadband Access in Maine.

Today, it's not easy to get high speed internet in many of our rural communities, which makes learning and working from home harder. Broadband connectivity helps Maine's economy by developing a strong workforce, encouraging innovation, attracting new residents and businesses. It also supports our students and seniors who are spending more time at home.

Join us for this four-part virtual event series as we bring together policy makers, business leaders and educators who are charting the path forward for improving quality, cost and availability of high speed internet in Maine. Topic experts will help us learn something new and highlight where we are as a state when it comes to broadband connectivity — and where we could be in the future. Hosted by Bangor Daily News reporters and editors, sessions will include ample time for audience questions and discussion.

BDN EVENTS Presents
BROADBAND IN MAINE
A 4-Part Virtual Series

THU, FEB 18
Broadband Bond:
WHAT'S NEXT?

WED, FEB 24
Data Privacy, Security
& Accessibility

WED, MARCH 10
Broadband's Impact
on Education

THU, APRIL 22
GET CONNECTED:
Connectivity Options for Mainers

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Series Sponsors: **gwi** and **ISLAND INSTITUTE**

Thursday, Feb. 18 at 5 p.m.

Broadband Bond — What's Next?

We passed a bond in July to borrow \$15 million to invest in high speed internet infrastructure, aka broadband. It's the first ever bond investment of its kind in Maine. So...what's next?

Guest speakers: Nick Battista, chair of ConnectME; Kendra Jo Grindle, senior community development officer at Island Institute; Japhet Els, director of outreach at AARP; and Charlie Woodworth, executive director of the Greater Franklin Development Council.

Click here to register: tinyurl.com/BroadbandBond

Wednesday, Feb. 24 at 5 p.m.

Data Privacy, Security & Accessibility

How can you keep your data safe? What are the regulations around data privacy within the state? How can you access affordable internet and technology and who is there to help you?

Guest speakers: Attorney General Aaron Frey; Kerem Durdag, COO of GWI and Lori Sussman from the Department of Technology at the University of Southern Maine.

Click here to register: tinyurl.com/BroadbandSecurity

Wednesday, March 10 at 5 p.m.

The Case for Connectivity — Broadband's Impact on Education in Maine

What are schools, colleges and communities dealing with when it comes to making sure their students are connected online? What are the biggest issues and challenges across the state?

Guest speakers: Susan Corbett, Director of the National Digital Equity Center; Jeff Letourneau, Executive Director of NetworkMaine at University of Maine; and Beth Lambert, Policy Director at the Maine Department of Education.

Click here to register: tinyurl.com/BroadbandEducation

Thursday, April 22 at 5 p.m.

Get Connected — What Are the Connectivity Options Available for Mainers?

The current broadband bond will not be able to meet the needs for all Mainers. What are the connectivity options available for those in need?

Guest speakers: Peggy Schaffer, executive director of ConnectME. Additional speakers to be announced.

Click here to register: tinyurl.com/BroadbandConnectivity

Interested in supporting this series through a business sponsorship? Please reach out to Elissa Young at eyoung@bangordailynews.com.