

# What the Knight Commission recommended

---

Here are the 15 recommendations made by the Knight Commission on Oct. 2 of last year: Please make a note of the two or three best, feasible initiatives that could be undertaken by the Bennington area community starting tomorrow.

1. Ensure that every local community has at least one high-quality online hub.
2. Direct media policy toward innovation, competition and support for business models that provide marketplace incentives for quality journalism.
3. Increase support for public-service media aimed at meeting community information needs.
4. Integrate digital and media literacy as critical elements of education at all levels through collaboration among federal, state and local education officials.
5. Engage young people in developing the digital information and communication capacities of local communities.
6. Empower all citizens to participate actively in community self-governance, including local "community summits" to address community affairs and pursue common goals.
7. Increase the role of higher education, community and nonprofit institutions as hubs of journalistic activity and other information-sharing for local communities.
8. Require government at all levels to operate transparently, facilitate easy and low-cost access to public records, and make civic and social data available in standardized formats that support productive public use.
9. Develop systematic quality measures of community information ecologies, and study how they affect social outcomes.
10. Fund and support public libraries and other community institutions as centers of digital and media training, especially for adults.
11. Support the activities of information providers to reach local audiences with quality content through all appropriate media, such as mobile phones, radio, public-access cable and new platforms.
12. Expand local media initiatives to reflect the full reality of the communities they represent.
13. Emphasize community information flow in the design and enhancement of a local community's public spaces.
14. Set ambitious standards for nationwide broadband availability and adopt public policies encouraging consumer demand for broadband services.
15. Maintain the national commitment to open networks as a core objective of Internet policy.