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12th Annual North Country Symposium to Address Relationships of K-12 Education, Economic Development, and Community Partnerships

The 12th annual North Country Symposium will be held in St. Lawrence University's Eben Holden Conference Center on April 7th, 2014. Mark your calendars and [register now!](#)

As described in the [October 2010](#) edition of the Community Connections Newsletter, the annual Symposium convenes stakeholders in northern New York to explore and enhance the region's economic, environmental, and social vitality.



The theme of this year's event is "Education, Community and Economic Development," in which we will explore the important ways that our North Country K-12 educational institutions contribute to our community vitality and economic security. Symposium attendees will tackle this important question: As our North Country Schools continue to experience financial degradation and face the subsequent diminishment of curricular and extra-curricular offerings, how can community stakeholders work with those institutions to expand opportunities for our students?

Joining the program will be Dr. Doug Huntley, former Superintendent of the Massena Central School District and current Superintendent in Queensbury, NY. Dr. Huntley will share his insights on the current state of rural schools in New York, how they can effectively deliver services to their students, and how they can engage in community partnerships.

A pair of panels, featuring business representatives, workforce representatives, university students and more will address the topics of "What Kids Need Now" and Community-Based Learning programs.

Symposium attendees will then have the opportunity to break into smaller group discussions focused on school-community partnerships in issue areas of business and commerce, arts and culture, energy, recreation and tourism, health, and food and agriculture.

Register [here](#) for this important and timely event. For more information, visit the Symposium website at

www.northcountysymposium.org or contact Symposium coordination assistant Doug Welch at 315-229-5052 or Ben Dixon at 315-229-5664.