

Visioning 2026 Technology Group  
Session two  
8/28/06 5:30 pm

The group of participants divided into 3-smaller groups and was asked to answer the following two questions:

Based on the key factors identified last time, and the “trendpacters” we have selected, what 3-ideas do you think will be important to NE Nebraska in 2026?

Based on the “Innovation Edge” Article what ideas may help NE Nebraska prepare for 2026?

Group 1 identified the following ideas:

- 1) Demographics – older – culture changes –higher education (bring in professionals)
- 2) Technology – how to train the older generations and service their health needs (Wellness, preventive and insurance)
- 3) Education – must be adaptable to handle changes, NECC continue to be flexible ie. Detailing center classes and creating new jobs such as golf course maintenance

Group 2 identified the following ideas:

- 1) Economic Development – “capture” the youth, use community college demographic data
- 2) Incentives – Taxes for out of state vs metro, offer internships to retain graduates
- 3) Communication – education, distance learning
- 4) Problem solving, skills (new)
- 5) Support the older generation, keep them a vital part of the workforce.

Group 3 identified the following ideas:

- 1) Education – reaching the bottom 10%, as well as the top 10%, alternate education/online classrooms, seamless and/.or continuous education.

- 2) Jobs – availability and types, Diversity, pressure on the youth to decide career choice at too young an age, multiple career changes throughout lifetime, jobs becoming obsolete or creation of new job/skills, technology/robotics
- 3) Connectivity/connections (internet-global economy) including communication such as GPS Systems, network/internet.
- 4) Continue educating our youth and current workforce, create new educational possibilities at NECC such as; expanding the nursing program to a 4-year bachelor's degree program in conjunction with UNMC, continue to utilize the economic development partnership with the college including new campus at S. Sioux City, Create incentives for Master's level education.

Group agreed that the focus should center on:

- 1) Education/Continuing Education
- 2) Demographics

Things to consider are the areas of drug abuse (Meth) and the special needs child population due to the drug abuse during pregnancy.