

2026 SPRING C-SUITE MEETING



May 14-15, 2026
Trapp Family Lodge
Stowe, VT

Join Vermont Bankers Association, Inc. and New Hampshire Bankers Association
at this year's annual Spring C-Suite Meeting.



2026 SPRING C-SUITE MEETING

MAY 14-15, 2026 | TRAPP FAMILY LODGE, STOWE, VT

SPRING C-SUITE MEETING AGENDA

THURSDAY

MAY 14

11:45 AM

REGISTRATION – Hotel Lobby
Special Amenity Sponsored by COCC

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

LUNCH – Dining Room
Sponsored by Wolf & Company

1:00 PM – 1:05 PM

WELCOME – Mozart Room
Chris D’Elia, President, Vermont Bankers Association, Inc.

1:05 PM – 2:00 PM

ROAD MAP FOR GROWTH: RETHINKING YOUR RETAIL BRANCH NETWORK
Stephen L. Eckert, Vice President, Marketing, PWCampbell

During this session, we’ll dive into a practical, step-by-step approach to retail branch optimization—focused on assessing your entire network to identify areas for improvement, growth, and strategic expansion. You’ll learn how to evaluate individual branch performance, spot high-potential areas, and align site-level decisions with broader business goals. Attendees will walk away with a clear framework for building a data-driven roadmap that helps prioritize investments, streamline operations, and support smart, scalable growth. Whether you're looking to consolidate, optimize, or expand, this session will provide the tools and insights to make confident, goal-aligned decisions across your branch network.

2:00 PM – 2:45 PM

UNLOCKING FUTURE FINANCIAL PRODUCTS WITH TOKENIZED DEPOSITS AND STABLECOINS
Shawn Main, Executive Vice President, Chief Business Architect Officer, Vantage Bank

Tokenized deposits and stablecoins pave the way for seamless asset transitions in modern finance. By converting traditional bank deposits into digital tokens, tokenized deposits ensure secure and efficient transactions within the digital landscape. Stablecoins offer a reliable means of transaction and smoother asset transitions across borders and ecosystems. Integrating these technologies allows financial institutions to enhance their service offerings, retain deposits, and facilitate advanced and stable financial transactions. Embracing these innovations is crucial for future-proofing banking and maintaining a competitive edge.

2:45 PM – 3:00 PM

AFTERNOON BREAK – Mozart Lobby
Sponsored by Baker Newman Noyes and Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston

3:00 PM – 3:45 PM

FIRESIDE CHAT: WASHINGTON POLICY UPDATES
Naomi Camper, Chief Policy Officer, American Bankers Association
Chris D’Elia, President, Vermont Bankers Association, Inc.

3:45 PM – 4:30 PM

CYBERSECURITY THREATS, TRENDS, AND STRATEGIES
Kevin Hyde, Senior Manager, WipFli

Technology has changed how we run our businesses and service our customers. As a result, many organizations face new threats against data breaches and extortion. You can't protect your digital information unless you know what you are up against. To prevent becoming a victim, it's crucial to stay informed about the latest cyber security threats. Cybercrime has evolved to more targeted attacks leading to account takeover, financial scams, system interruption, and even extortion.

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4:30 PM

ADJOURNMENT

5:30 PM – 6:30 PM

RECEPTION – Dining Room
Sponsored by FiVerity

6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

DINNER – Dining Room
Sponsored by Independent Community Bankers Association (ICBA)

SPRING C-SUITE MEETING AGENDA

FRIDAY

MAY 15

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM

BREAKFAST – Dining Rom
Sponsored by BerryDunn and IntraFi

8:00 AM

WELCOME – Mozart Room
Chris D’Elia, *President*, Vermont Bankers Association, Inc.

8:00 AM – 8:30 AM

FIRESIDE CHAT WITH THE HONORABLE MICHELLE W. BOWMAN, VICE CHAIR FOR SUPERVISION, THE FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD
The Honorable Michelle W. Bowman, *Vice Chair for Supervision*, The Federal Reserve Board
Chris D’Elia, *President*, Vermont Bankers Association, Inc.

8:30 AM – 9:30 AM

ECONOMIC UPDATE
Dr. Chris Foote, *Principal Economist & Policy Advisor*, The Federal Reserve Bank of Boston

9:30 AM – 9:45 AM

MORNING BREAK – Mozart Lobby
Sponsored by Covington & Burling LLP

9:45 AM – 10:30 AM

UNDERSTANDING AND IMPROVING COMMUNICATION AMONG AND BETWEEN EXECUTIVE AND BOARD TEAMS
Larry Williams, *ExecutiveSense Consulting*

The executive team works together at the bank every day. However, each team member’s heavy workload and individualized objectives can lead to triage mode, causing fatigue, isolation, and even miscommunication. Board members generally don’t work at the bank and often come from different industries. Their communication is usually limited to board and committee meetings, making it hard, if not impossible, to build deep trust.

Joint board and executive meetings bring these two teams together. Because of the predetermined structure and time constraints, communication tends to be report-driven, preplanned, and may lack the transparency needed for genuine collaboration.

This session will give attendees actionable tools to improve understanding and collaboration within and between their bank’s executive and board teams.

10:30 AM – 11:15 AM

BIG, BEAUTIFUL BILL: TAX LAW CHANGES EVERY BANK NEEDS TO KNOW
Kristen Perry, *CPA, MST, Principal*, BerryDunn

Recent tax law changes present both opportunities and challenges for banks. This session breaks down the most relevant provisions for local and regional institutions, including OBBBA incentives designed to support lending across the state’s core industries, new tax credit opportunities—such as the purchase and use of transferable credits—and what the

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11:15 AM – 12:00 PM

SECURE 2.0 Act means for bank-sponsored retirement plans. Designed specifically for community bank leadership, this update will help CEOs understand how these changes may impact lending strategies, talent retention, and long-term planning in the communities they serve.

FACING THE FUTURE: DECISION DRIVERS FOR FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Chris Wilk, Business Development Supervisor, COCC

Community financial institutions are at a pivotal juncture, where industry trends demand agile decision-making and readiness to embrace change. These trends are not just reshaping the landscape but are also setting the pace for future operations and strategies.

The rise of fintech companies and neobanks introduce a new level of competition, driving community banks and credit unions to innovate and offer unique services that differentiate them in the market. Addressing these trends requires a strategic approach, focusing on leveraging technology, partnership and constantly evaluating the needs and expectations of customers. Embracing these changes not only ensures relevance but also positions community financial institutions as leaders in a rapidly evolving industry.

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

LUNCH AND ADJOURNMENT – Dining Room

**Agenda is subject to change as needed*

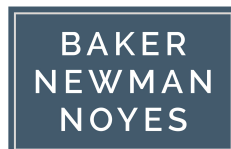
MEALS

If you have dietary restrictions, please note on registration form or email mail to: vtbanker@sover.net.

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