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Digital Projects Roundtable to be held in Pierre

PIERRE, S.D. – State organizations involved in digitization projects will be meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 13, in Pierre to talk about their digital projects.

The Digital Projects Roundtable will be held at the Cultural Heritage Center at 1 p.m. CDT. The South Dakota State Historical Society-Archives, South Dakota State Library, the Black Hills Knowledge Network, the University of South Dakota, Northern State University and Dakota State University will have presentations about their digital projects.

The public is invited to attend the discussion and presentation to learn more about these projects. Presenters will discuss how their digital projects started, what types of content are available on their websites, any upcoming projects, and ideas for those who are just starting a digital project for their organizations.

“Many organizations in the state, including archives, universities, libraries and city governments, are involved in digitization projects,” said Chelle (SHEL-ee) Somsen, state archivist with the South Dakota State Historical Society and chair of the State Historical Records Advisory Board. “These projects vary in content and scope, but all of them seek to increase access to records and collections documenting South Dakota history.”

The Digital Projects Roundtable is sponsored by SHRAB, which advocates for the preservation of historical records, educates the public and records caretakers about the importance of the historical record, and leads the historical community in preserving, promoting and providing access to the state’s documentary heritage.

“This is an opportunity for representatives from organizations with digital initiatives from around the state to share their experiences and the focus of their projects with others,” Somsen said. “There is a large amount of content on these websites, and perhaps this discussion will draw attention to the many resources available for researchers and the public in South Dakota.”

For more information on South Dakota State Historic Records Advisory Board, please visit history.sd.gov/archives and click the link to “SHRAB.”

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The South Dakota State Historical Society is a division of the Department of Tourism. The Department of Tourism is comprised of Tourism, the South Dakota Arts Council, and the State Historical Society. The Department is led by Secretary James D. Hagen. The State Historical Society, an Affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, is headquartered at the South Dakota Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre. The center houses the society’s world-class museum, the archives, and the historic preservation, publishing and administrative/development offices. Call (605) 773-3458 or visit history.sd.gov for more information. The society also has an archaeology office in Rapid City; call (605) 394-1936 for more information.