

THE ALASKA LEGISLATURE



*** HONORING ***

*** BARROW ***

*** 125TH ANNIVERSARY ***

*** INTERNATIONAL POLAR YEAR ***

The Twenty-fifth Alaska State Legislature is proud to recognize Barrow as Alaska's Arctic Science City and as Alaska's focal site for the 125th Anniversary of the International Polar Year, 2007 to 2009. Barrow was the site of America's First International Polar Year (IPY) in 1881-1883. The United States is now preparing to celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the first IPY and Barrow is the focal site of this occasion. The opening of the new Barrow Global Climate Change Research Facility (BGCCRF) will coincide with the celebration.

Science has been part of the community of Barrow for the past 125 years, starting in the 1880's with early international explorers hosted by Charles D. Brower. During the 1940-1980 time period, the Naval Arctic Research Laboratory (NARL), based in Barrow, established polar ice island research expeditions, conducted arctic terrestrial research, and oil and gas exploration. The research was supported by Inupiat traditional knowledge, arctic survival, and logistics expertise. Barrow has the most intensively studied and longest continuously monitored air column in the world through auspices of the National Oceanographic & Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Point Barrow National Weather Service, NOAA's Global Monitoring Division, the Department of Energy's Atmospheric Radiation Measurement (ARM) project, and numerous National Science Foundation projects. Additionally, research conducted by the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission (AEWC) has contributed enormously to the science and understanding of the bowhead whale.

Today, the Barrow Arctic Science Consortium (BASC) currently hosts over 140 active research projects. Distinguished scientists from all over the world come to Barrow to participate and contribute to a variety of research efforts. The village corporation of Barrow, the Ukppegyik Inupiat Corporation (UIC), has set aside 7,466 acres of Native land for the continuance of long term ecological research in the area. Exciting cutting edge research on a variety of matters, including climate change, permafrost, sea ice studies, and marine and terrestrial research of all kinds is on-going at the facility.

The members of the Twenty-fifth Alaska State Legislature would like to recognize Barrow as Alaska's Arctic Science City and that Barrow is Alaska's focal site for the International Polar Year celebration, 2007-2009.



JOHN HARRIS

LYDA VIGEN

Date: January 31, 2007

REGGIE KOTLE

Cosponsors: Representatives Harris, Chenault, Cissna, Coghill, Crawford, Dahlstrom, Doll, Doogan, Fairclough, Gara, Gardner, Gatto, Gruenberg, Guttenberg, Hawker, Holmes, Johansen, Johnson, Kawasaki, Kelly, Kerttula, Ledoux, Lynn, Meyer, Nelson, Olson, Ramras, Ross, Salmon, Seaton, Stoltze, Thomas, Wilson; Senators Olson, Green, Bunde, Cowdery, Davis, Dyson, Ellis, Elton, Hoffman, Huggins, Kookesh, McGuire, Stedman, Stevens, Therrault, Thomas, Wagoner, Wielechowski, Wilken