MEMORANDUM

TO: North Slope Borough Assembly
FROM: Charlotte E. Brower, Mayor
DATE: March 3, 2015
SUBJ: February Status Report

Good evening Assembly Members and listening audience.

February was a busy month, and I am pleased to report on following accomplishments achieved by my dedicated staff over this past month:

Staff from the Mayor's Office hosted another successful Kivgiq, it was amazing to have friends and family gather for the event. I'd like to take a moment to thank the Assembly for their continued and on-going support of Kivgiq, our sponsors will be thanked in an ad in the Alaska Dispatch and the Arctic Sounder. The Port Authority Board has met and Gordon Brower was elected Interim Chair. Conversations will continue about Bylaws, Board Terms and other operating needs.

This past month there have been several issues that have highlighted the need for leadership from our local and regional tri-lateral groups to get together and discuss issues that are impacting our communities and come to a consensus on the views we express to the outside world, a great forum for these discussions would be the Voice of the Arctic. I look forward to joining with leadership to move forward with this forum.

The Department of Search and Rescue only had one personal locator beacon (PLB) activated, the individual was found and returned to his village with no injuries. There was also a 24 hour overdue hunter search, the individuals were found 15 miles outside of Barrow via helicopter, and there were no major injuries to either party. The primary helicopter flew 9.7 hours this month, the Lear Jet flew 39.9 hours and the King Air flew 20.7 hours this month. Search and Rescue held training on Human Factors in Aviation in Barrow. Staff also kicked off a meeting with Village Volunteer Search and Rescue. The Alaska State Troopers also met with staff to discuss mission numbering.

The Department of Inupiat History, Language and Culture (IHLC) continues to develop policies and procedures for the new department. Staff assisted in coordinating production efforts at Kivgiq. Post-production and editing of the Best of Kivgiq DVD is already underway. The IHLC
The preliminary decision (PD) covers approximately 17,144 acres in 2 different areas called Nuiqsut and the Barrier Islands, which are both located with the North Slope’s legal boundary.

The Police Department responded to 2,431 calls for service this month. 823 calls were dispatched and 1,608 were officer initiated. There were 49 traffic related contact with 12 citations written, and a total of 39 criminal cases were submitted to the District Attorney. Officers seized 9,000 milliliters (12 bottles) of alcohol. Officers conducted frequent walkthroughs of various basketball games being held in Barrow and the villages, as well as walkthroughs and security at Kigiq. One officer participated with a dance group during Kigiq. An officer in Anaktuvuk Pass assisted with teaching the hunter safety program.

The Fire Department has received new fire hose, fire hose pressure testers and pressure washing equipment in the villages for maintenance of the fire engines. Maintenance staff has ordered necessary parts for village maintenance. Emergency Trauma Technician (ETT) training was held in Nuiqsut, there were 6 new volunteers who attended the class.

The Human Resources Department’s Training and Development Division offered 14 trainings this month with a total 114 individual who received trainings. These assorted trainings included First Aid/CPR, 40 hour Hazwoper, Workplace Expectations, CDL training and more.

The Department of Health and Social Services met with Maniilaq leadership regarding healthcare delivery to Point Hope. A meeting is planned for March in Point Hope to improve communications and delivery of care for that village. The Nuiqsut Village Clinic is operating on alternate hours of operations in an attempt to alleviate the after hour non-emergency hours ambulance calls. The clinic is open until 7:00 p.m. and so far the community feedback has been positive. This is the first trial and each village will be evaluated on needs identified. Childcare staff will attend the Nuiqsut City council meeting in March to assist with childcare staffing and moving forward in anticipation of the new facility to be completed this spring.

There has been an increase of psychiatric medical emergencies. Staff is working with the NSB Police Department and Samuel Simmonds memorial hospital for community awareness and collaboration to ensure safety and appropriate care for individuals.

This concludes my summary report for the month of February. Thank you!