

North Slope Borough

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

P.O. Box 69
Barrow, Alaska 99723
Phone: 907 852-2611 or 0200
Fax: 907 852-0337 or 2595



Charlotte E. Brower, Mayor

MEMORANDUM

TO: North Slope Borough Assembly

FROM: Charlotte E. Brower, Mayor

Charlotte E. Brower

DATE: July 7, 2015

SUBJ: June Status Report

Good evening Assembly Members and listening audience.

I am pleased to report on following accomplishments achieved by my dedicated staff during the month of June:

Staff from the **Mayor's Office** Division of Government and External Affairs met with a delegation of Canadians from the North West Territories and officials from the U.S. Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement to talk about NSB permitting and OCS development in the U.S. and Canadian Arctic. This meeting was to educate both U.S. and Canadian entities on each other's respective permitting regimes and to foster closer communication on OCS issues. Special Projects staff have assisted with outreach programs to ensure that community events and activities occur throughout the summer in every village. Upcoming in Barrow on July 9th at noon is the Seahawks Family Day, more information about this event can be found on fliers throughout the community.

The **Department of Administration and Finance** has been addressing flood damage to the reservoir in Prudhoe in coordination with State and Federal agencies. Property tax bills were issued to tax payers and we are pleased to note that almost all of the tax accounts were promptly paid. Funds from this cycle were used to make payments on our bonds. We also wish to extend our thanks to Emma Neakok who has retired after over 30 years of North Slope Borough service.

The **Department of Inupiat History, Language & Culture** staff had a very productive spring season and continued to work hard to develop work plans to reach milestones for the department's strategic plan, with our continued focus on the revitalization of our Iñupiaq language. Invitations to the upcoming Inupiaq Language Summit scheduled for July 20th and 21st were sent to regional organizations, tri-lateral leadership teams, Inupiaq language experts, and youth in our region. We are blessed to have volunteers who are stepping up to help out during the summit, and we are looking forward to a renewed sense of hope and commitment to strengthen our language.

The **Department of Search and Rescue's** aircraft flew 58.3 hours this month. There were 2 Search & Rescue Activities. Both searches were closed out safely and successfully with no loss of life. Pilots have begun to attend training for the new S-92 Helicopter for its delivery at the end of the year.

The **Department of Wildlife Management** staff attended the annual meeting of the Scientific Committee of the International Whaling Commission. That meeting was held in San Diego and during the meeting Robert Suydam was selected as the new Vice-Chairman for the IWC Scientific Committee. This is a 6 year appointment with 3 years as the Vice-Chairman and 3 as the Chairman. There was also significant new progress at the meeting in the Aboriginal Whaling Scheme (AWS) where investigations were initiated on a proposal that would replace 'phase-out' with an 'interim allowance'. Consideration focused on just the Bering-Chukchi-Beaufort Seas stock (BCBS) bowhead hunt. Under the new proposal, the block quota for the grace period would equal the strike limit produced by the Bowhead SLA without reduction, for a single 6-year block.

In addition to its normal workload, the **Department of Public Works** has been hard at work on the roads and on summer projects. These summer projects see an increase in work areas and heavy equipment usage in certain area, we ask that residents be cautious around these areas and to be aware of their surroundings. Nuiqsut raised concerns about homes on septic tanks, water and sewer connections are part of the capital process. Public Works will continue to work with the CIPM Department in trying to get this project funded.

The **Police Department** responded to 2,291 calls for service this month. 1085 calls were dispatched and 1,206 were officer initiated. 130 of the calls were alcohol related. There were 39 traffic related contact with 18 citations written, and a total of 13 criminal cases were submitted to the District Attorney. The officers have been doing outreach about bicycle safety and assisting and/or participating in Healthy community activities such as Walkin' Wednesdays.

The **Department of Health and Social Services** through AWIC has partnered with Ilisagvik to provide training on bullying prevention and healthy relationships for the Allied Health Summer Camp. The Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault conducted a biannual site visit for AWIC and the audit had zero findings. They also wrote in their report: "AWIC continues to be regarded in the community as a well-respected agency and a leader on dealing with the issues of domestic violence and sexual assault. The commitment and determination of AWIC's leadership in providing a full continuum of services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault is to be commended." Congratulations to the staff of the Health Department and AWIC for a job well done.

The **Human Resources Department's** Training & Development Division offered 18 trainings and 145 individuals received trainings this month. The upcoming Mayor's Job Program (MJP) cycle was posted from June 8th until July 3rd. Many of the new village positions for the upcoming fiscal year have been posted and we would like to encourage residents to apply.

The **Fire Department** held Heavy Rescue, Firefighter I, and Emergency Trauma Technician trainings