

PRESS RELEASE

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NORTH SLOPE IŃUPIAQ COMMUNITY AIMS TO SPEAK AS ONE

Voice of the Arctic IŃupiat brings together organizations from across region

(Point Hope, AK) A new nonprofit corporation has taken shape on the North Slope, bringing together the leadership of 20 organizations from the region with the goal of providing a unified front on topics ranging from engagement and advocacy to legislative outreach. Voice of the Arctic IŃupiat (VOAI) held its first annual meeting this week to launch the corporation and set its long-term agenda.

“For decades we have watched as outside groups, some even well-intentioned, have attempted to speak for the IŃupiaq people,” said Rex A. Rock Sr., VOA Board Chairman and “with the formation of Voice of the Arctic IŃupiat, we begin to communicate collectively on a wide variety of issues that affect our way of life, our traditions, our region and our future.”

“The people of the North Slope have very similar interests, whether you live in my hometown of Point Hope or Anaktuvuk Pass,” added Sayers Tuzroyluk Sr., VOA President. “Until now, there just hasn’t been a vehicle for us to come together and find ways of protecting those interests. I’m excited to see Voice of the Arctic IŃupiat up and running with the promise to live up to its potential.”

The goals of VOA include addressing and participating in legislation, increasing communication and information-sharing among all IŃupiat organizations of the North Slope, promoting IŃupiat stewardship of the region and to provide local advocacy and engagement for the IŃupiat to local, state, federal and international forums.

VOAI membership organizations include Arctic Slope Native Association (ASNA), Arctic Slope Regional Corporation (ASRC), Atqasuk Corporation, City of Anaktuvuk Pass, City of Atqasuk, City of Barrow, City of Kaktovik, City of Point Hope, City of Wainwright, Ilsaġvik College, Kaktovik IŃupiat Corporation (KIC), Native Village of Atqasuk, Native Village of Point Hope, Native Village of Point Lay, Wainwright Tribal Council, North Slope Borough, Nunamiut Corporation, Olgoonik Corporation, Tikigaq Corporation and Ukpeaġvik IŃupiat Corporation (UIC).

Member Organizations

Arctic Slope Native Association	City of Anaktuvuk Pass	City of Wainwright	Native Village of Point Lay	Tikigaq Corporation
Arctic Slope Regional Corporation	City of Atqasuk	Ilsaġvik College	North Slope Borough	Ukpeaġvik IŃupiat Corporation
Atqasuk Corporation	City of Barrow	Kaktovik IŃupiat Corporation	Nunamiut Corporation	Wainwright Tribal Council
	City of Kaktovik	Native Village of Atqasuk	Olgoonik Corporation	
	City of Point Hope	Native Village of Point Hope		