ARCTIC ECONOMIC COUNCIL WORKING GROUPS: CONNECTIVITY

The AEC has established four Working Groups based on the selected business areas set by the Arctic business community. The AEC’s current Working Groups are Infrastructure: Maritime Transportation, Connectivity, Responsible Resource Development and Arctic Stewardship. The Working Groups consist of industry experts from across the Arctic. The Working Groups are open to all AEC members and invited external experts.

The way the Working Groups conduct their work:
- Analyze the current business climate in the Arctic
- Incorporate the five overarching themes of the AEC
- Define actionable recommendations and variables that will raise the standard of economic development in the Arctic
- Execute, Report, Review

The five overarching themes of the Arctic Economic Council:
1. Establishing strong market connections between Arctic states
2. Promoting stable and predictable regulatory frameworks
3. Encouraging public-private partnerships for infrastructure investments
4. Facilitating knowledge and data exchange between industry and academia
5. Disseminating traditional indigenous knowledge, stewardship and focus on small businesses

Connectivity

Chair: Mr. Heidar Gudjonsson (Iceland)

The AEC Working Group on Connectivity builds upon the work of the AEC Working Group on Infrastructure: Telecommunications chaired by Robert McDowell (USA). The Working Group on Infrastructure: Telecommunications concluded its work in 2017 with the publication of its report “Arctic Broadband – Recommendations for and Interconnected Arctic”. Based on the great interest towards connectivity in the Arctic, the AEC decided to continue its work within this field with a new Working Group under Mr. Gudjonsson’s leadership.
Report: “Arctic Broadband – Recommendations for an Interconnected Arctic”

The report: “Arctic Broadband – Recommendations for an Interconnected Arctic” was published in January 2017. The AEC’s Telecommunications Working Group’s report was the first of its kind, providing an analysis of the state of Arctic broadband. It also presents different funding options applicable in the Arctic, an overview of planned and ongoing projects related to connectivity, and gives recommendations for future. The report can be found at www.arcticeconomiccouncil.com

Top of the World Arctic Broadband Summit

The Working Group has initiated the AEC Top of the World Arctic Broadband Summit (TOW Summit). The first TOW Summit was held in Barrow, Alaska in 2016. It gathered more than 100 participants including policy leaders, tech industry experts and other executives. Following positive feedback from the industry, the second TOW Summit was held in Oulu, Finland in 2017 in collaboration with the City of Oulu. Being held back-to-back with the EU Arctic Stakeholder Forum, the 2017 TOW Summit provided great synergy opportunities for improved dialogue between the Arctic business community and policy decision makers.

3rd TOW Summit in Hokkaido, Japan

The 3rd TOW Summit will be held on June 27-28, 2018 in Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan together with the Hokkaido Government, University of Hokkaido and the Hokkaido Committee for Economic Development. If you have questions or would like to discuss speaking opportunities, please contact info@arcticeconomiccouncil.com.

Join the AEC:

Information regarding AEC membership: https://arcticeconomiccouncil.com/about-us/

Contact:

For more information please contact: info@arcticeconomiccouncil.com
www.arcticeconomiccouncil.com