



KAWERAK, INC.

REPRESENTING

Brevig Mission

Sitaisaq

Council

Diomedede

Iñaliq

Elim

Niviarcaurluq

Gambell

Sivuqaq

Golovin

Chinik

King Island

Ugiuvak

Koyuk

Kuuyuk

Mary's Igloo

Qawiaraq

Nome Eskimo

Sitnasuak Inuit

Savoonga

Sivungaq

Shaktoolik

Saktuliq

Shishmaref

Qikiqtaq

Solomon

Anuutaq

St. Michael

Taciq

Stebbins

Tapraq

Teller

Tala

Unalakleet

Uñalaqñiq

Wales

Kinigin

White Mountain

Igalaik /

Nutchirviq

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Monday, June 3, 2019

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ALASKA NATIVE PEOPLES RELIANCE ON WALRUS EVENT IN WASHINGTON D.C.

Kawerak Inc. along with generous support from the Rasmuson Foundation, Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation, Bering Strait Native Corporation, Arctic Slope Regional Corporation is hosting a roundtable on June 10 at 4 p.m. in 188 Russell featuring Inuit leaders and artists to share our Native way of life in the Arctic and our relationship with walrus and ivory carving.

The roundtable will convene the agencies and lawmakers with Inuit leaders and cultural bearers to share the Inuit perspective of our way of life and walrus. Inherent to our way of life is the sustainable harvest of walrus. The Bering Strait region is well-known for the diversity in Inuit culture: St. Lawrence Island Yupik, Central Yupik and Inupiaq communities. Our communities are home to Inuit hunters and ivory carvers, our cultural bearers and living Inuit artists. Ivory carving is a tradition that has been passed down from generation to generation and reflects the customary and traditional use of walrus ivory. Inuit Art provides the economic means for a basic living, and often the sole source of cash income for many families in our region.

Following the roundtable will be a reception from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. in room 485 Russell to allow for further questions, conversation and cross-cultural dialogue.

Kawerak's mission is to advance the capacity of our people and tribes for the benefit of the region. Kawerak is a nonprofit tribal consortium that provides over 40 different programs to the Inupiaq, St. Lawrence Island Yupik and Yupik people who reside in 16 communities of western Alaska and represents the 20 federally recognized tribes in the Bering Strait Region.

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KAWERAK, INC.

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Advancing the capacity of our people and tribes for the benefit of the region.