

A photograph of two fish, likely Arctic char, lying on a weathered wooden plank. The plank is positioned vertically on the left side of the frame, extending from the top to the bottom. The fish are positioned on the lower half of the plank, facing upwards. The background is a dark, rippling body of water. The text 'AFC' is overlaid in large blue letters on the right side of the image.

AFC

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ARCTIC FUNDERS  
COLLABORATIVE

2017/2018

Annual Report



*AFC is a project on Tides Canada's shared platform, which provides governance, human resources, financial, and grant management for leading environmental and social projects across Canada, allowing projects to more effectively achieve their missions.*

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## MISSION STATEMENT

The Arctic Funders Collaborative promotes more informed and effective grantmaking to support healthy Arctic communities and ecosystems. We leverage support for opportunities across the Arctic that advance land and water stewardship, capacity building for Indigenous peoples, and community and cultural well-being.

## VISION

To facilitate continued growth in Arctic philanthropy by building capacity within the philanthropic sector to support Arctic initiatives, and strengthening connections among philanthropic institutions and Northern, especially Indigenous, communities.

## OUR KEY OBJECTIVES

- Encourage, inform, and grow philanthropic investment in the Arctic by serving as a resource and support network for new and established Arctic funders
- Work as a collective to advance and create awareness about environmental and social issues impacting the North and its sub-regions
- Lead and share best practices that strengthen relationship building and collaborative actions among philanthropic, Indigenous and Northern communities
- Maximize the impact of our collective resources by collaborating and developing strategic partnerships that advance priorities led by the people of the North

## 2017 Members

444S Foundation  
Alaska Conservation Foundation  
Campion Foundation  
Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation  
Oak Foundation  
Pew Charitable Trusts U.S.  
Tamalpais Trust  
Tides Canada Foundation  
Trust for a Mutual Understanding  
Walter & Duncan Gordon Foundation  
Windrose Fund

# 2017/2018 *In Review*

**Northern Webinar Series** - In 2017, the AFC launched the Northern Webinar Series to:

- provide a platform for our Northern grant partners to share their perspectives on key topics and their stories of success, resilience and innovation
- raise awareness amongst the broader philanthropic community about the issues impacting Arctic communities and ecosystems
- demonstrate the opportunities for greater philanthropic support for the Arctic
- promote dialogue on best practices in grant-making and responsible partnerships

Past webinars on “Community-Led Conservation: Using Indigenous Knowledge, Science & Technology to Support Environmental Stewardship” and “Philanthropy 101: Insider Insights to Northern Philanthropic Funding” can be viewed at: <http://arcticfunders.com/webinars/>.

**2017 AFC Annual Meeting** - The AFC hosted our AFC Annual Meeting in Toronto, ON on October 18 & 19, 2017. This meeting brought together members to reflect on the progress made in the last ten years, the best practices developed, and lessons learned. Discussions and guest speakers focused on key issues including Indigenous co-management of resources and sustainable livelihoods. The 2018 AFC Annual Meeting will take place on October 17 & 18, 2018 in Anchorage, AK.

**AFC Feast + Learn** - Alongside our 2017 Annual Meeting, the AFC hosted a Feast + Learn event for members of the philanthropic community in Toronto to come out experience the smells, tastes, stories, cultures, and photos of Indigenous peoples of the North. This unique event featured a Northern Dene feast and guest speakers, Alethea Arnaquq-Baril and Raychelle Daniel.



**Angry Inuk Film Screening** - The AFC hosted a screening of the Indigenous documentary film, “Angry Inuk”, in Toronto, ON. The film raises awareness about food security in the Arctic, the importance of the commercial seal skin industry, and the impacts of anti-sealing campaigns on Inuit communities.



**Indigenous Leadership Gathering** - In May 2017, the AFC hosted a three-day knowledge exchange, which brought together 13 delegates representing seven Indigenous organizations from across the Arctic. The leaders came together to share about their work, ideas, visions, experiences and challenges supporting Indigenous leadership development across the North. A video report of the knowledge exchange can be viewed at: <https://youtu.be/NiiNUNJf1Tc>

**Communications + Outreach** - The AFC traveled to Traante in Norway in February 2017 to connect with Saami leaders and community members and learn about the Saami culture. AFC Director, Itoah Scott-Enns delivered a speech on reconciliation in philanthropy at the Circle on Philanthropy and Aboriginal Peoples in Canada All My Relations Gathering in May 2017. The AFC also attended the Confluence Philanthropy Conference and the Environmental Grantmakers’ Association Conference.

The AFC published and will continue to publish a quarterly newsletter and Annual Report to share AFC and member updates and announcements, and news on key Arctic topics.

2018/2019

## Looking Forward



### 2018 AFC Annual Meeting - Anchorage, AK

- The next 2018 AFC Annual Meeting - *Arctic Peoples, Cultures and Ecosystems: A Transboundary Lens* will take place on October 17 & 18, 2018 in Anchorage, AK. Northern Indigenous peoples have always and continue to have connections with places, wildlife resources, and each other in ways that transcend the geographic boundaries politically recognized today. Effective conservation initiatives will require holistic approaches to ecosystem management and cultural revitalization that responds to the transboundary history and existence of Arctic peoples. Philanthropic funders are uniquely positioned to surpass the limitations of political boundaries and understand and support Northern initiatives with the bigger picture in mind. This year's meeting will provide an opportunity for members to discuss how their work can support ideas and innovation in the North using a transboundary lens to strengthen approaches to environmental stewardship, community building, and cultural revitalization.

**Communications + Outreach** - The AFC will continue to publish a quarterly internal and external newsletter to create a platform for members to share project and program updates, announcements, events, and news on key Arctic topics. The 2018/2019 Annual Report will be published in June 2019 to accommodate the shift in reporting year.

To support ongoing outreach and community building, the AFC will be participating in the Biodiversity Funders Group Annual Conference on June 11-14, 2018 where AFC Director, Itoah Scott-Enns, will deliver a Spotlight Speech. Following that, Itoah has been invited to deliver the keynote speech at the Youth Funders' Summit in Vancouver, BC on June 20, 2018.

Photo Above & Photo Page 9: Arctic Indigenous Fund Advisors snowmobiling to their meeting on the shores of Great Slave Lake in March 2018. Learn more about the Arctic Indigenous Fund on the next page.

### AFC Northern Webinar Series -

The AFC Northern Webinar Series will continue with new themes and topics discussed in each one. The AFC already hosted a webinar in May 2018 to share about marine conservation opportunities in Chukotka and the Russian Arctic. The webinar featured the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation and Trust for a Mutual Understanding, and discussed the role of philanthropic funders in supporting environmental stewardship in Chukotka and the Russia Arctic with Indigenous leader, Eduard Zdor and consultant David Gordon. Upcoming webinars will feature themes such as: Arctic Voices Leading Arctic Policy Development from the Community to the International Level. Information about upcoming webinars and webinar recordings can be found on the AFC website at [www.arcticfunders.com/webinars](http://www.arcticfunders.com/webinars).

**Greenland Learning Trip** - The Arctic Funders Collaborative (AFC) will be hosting a learning trip to Greenland May 19-26, 2018. Twelve individuals representing six AFC members will be traveling to the communities of Nuuk and Ilulissat for a week-long experience connecting with Greenlandic community members. We are looking forward to having the Tamalpais Trust participate in this special opportunity to build our collective knowledge of the Arctic and to support growth in Arctic Indigenous philanthropy.

## 2018 Members

- 444S Foundation
- Alaska Conservation Foundation
- Campion Foundation
- Climate Justice Resilience Fund
- Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation
- NoVo Foundation
- Oak Foundation
- Pew Charitable Trusts U.S.
- Tamalpais Trust
- Tides Canada Foundation
- Trust for a Mutual Understanding
- Walter & Duncan Gordon Foundation
- Windrose Fund





From Left to Right: Arctic Indigenous Fund Advisors - Dewey Hoffman, Jana Angulalik, Marion Aslaksen Ravna, Christina Henriksen, Chandre Szafran, and AFC Director, Itoah Scott-Enns

*INTRODUCING THE*

# Arctic Indigenous Fund



The AFC is excited to partner with the Tamalpais Trust and Tides Canada Foundation to support development of the Arctic Indigenous Fund. This exciting new initiative is making space for Indigenous authority over philanthropic resources and building on best practices in Indigenous grantmaking. The Arctic Indigenous Fund is a philanthropic fund being led by inspiring young Indigenous leaders from across the circumpolar Arctic who are designing their own unique grantmaking strategy and will hold their first grant cycle and knowledge exchange in October 2018.

Our team of circumpolar advisors includes:

- Chandre Szafran, Alaska
- Dewey Hoffman, Alaska
- Jana Angulalik, Canada
- Kuluk Lyberth, Greenland
- Tukumminnguaq Olsen, Greenland
- Marion Aslaksen Ravna, Sapmi
- Christina Henriksen, Sapmi

By the end of 2018, another advisor from Canada will be added to the team and we are also hoping to recruit an advisor from the Russian Arctic in the future. The grantmaking strategy and a communications strategy is still in development, but the AFC website will host more information in the future and updates will continue to be shared with members and in the AFC Newsletter.

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