



A Message on Postponing our Public Programs

Dear members and friends of the Alaska World Affairs Council,

On the advice of public health experts and the guidance of state and local leaders, the Alaska World Affairs Council has postponed all in-person events through May 15. We hope you and your family enjoy good health and will join the community effort to battle the COVID-19 pandemic.

Alaska Gov. Mike Dunleavy and Anchorage Mayor Ethan Berkowitz have put into place strong social distancing measures to try to “flatten the curve” on the spread of the virus. These measures include prohibitions on meetings of 50 or more people and closures of schools, restaurants, gyms, theaters, and other gathering places.

These measures are needed to save lives and reduce suffering. We fully support them despite the personal and professional disruptions they entail. Our highest priority is the health of our community. That’s why we are putting off all in-person programming at least through May 15.

We’re not, however, stepping back from our mission of informing Alaskans about world affairs – in fact, we know times like this are just when that information is needed most. Though we cannot gather in-person, we will do our best to connect you with top-notch online and virtual programs of World Affairs Councils here and around the country. Please watch your in-box for information on how to join in. Thank you for your understanding and for your support of our work.

The lengthy suspension of our programming will have a significant impact on the revenue that supports our work. If you would have attended community programs or would have welcomed international visitors into your work or home, please consider donating as if you were still supporting our work through in-person participation.

We encourage everyone to stay informed and join other members of our community in taking preventative steps to help keep us all safe and healthy. We will get through this together.

Please reach out directly to me or my colleague, Stephanie Hoyer at info@alaskaworldaffairs.org if you have any questions, concerns, or ideas about how you would like to engage with global topics and issues during this time.

Sincerely, and With Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lise Falskow".

Lise Falskow
President/CEO

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Lindbeck".

Steve Lindbeck
Chairman of the Board of Directors