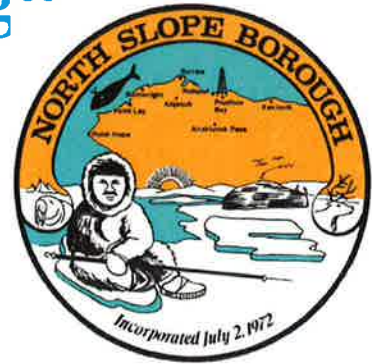


North Slope Borough

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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Charlotte E. Brower, Mayor

MEMORANDUM

TO: North Slope Borough Assembly

FROM: Charlotte E. Brower, Mayor

DATE: December 3, 2013

SUBJ: Status Report

Good evening Assembly Members and listening audience. The month of November was a time for thanksgiving for our many blessings here in the North Slope Borough. Borough employees worked very hard to provide Thanksgiving food to each of our communities, and many thanks go out to each and every employee for their dedication to serve members of our communities during the annual NSB Thanksgiving celebrations. As we gave thanks for our blessings, we also acknowledged those who passed on this year, and extended our respect and support for the Filipino community here on the North Slope whose families and friends were affected by Typhoon Haiyan. We co-sponsored a Thanksgiving celebration with our partner ASRC on Friday the 29th, and we were all blessed.

We weathered the fall storms without major impact on life, health and safety for our residents. I held a briefing with my lead administrators in between storms, and the outcome was very positive for our departments including the school district and college. We were well prepared and everyone worked together to protect our communities.

The **Department of Health and Social Services** Director Doreen Leavitt and her staff is working very closely with partner organizations to ensure the level of care that is expected for all people of the North Slope. Thank you to the public for expressing their concerns to improve health care across our region. We are blessed to have partnerships and together we are strengthened to provide the best level of service that we can for our people. The department supported a walk against violence and continues to support healthy communities in their educational outreach program. The Community Health Aide Program, or CHAP, is recruiting for local health aides who can start at the trainee level, and there are openings for elder care in the villages. Everyone is encouraged to seek employment and training in this field.

The **Department of Administration & Finance's** work for the FY15 budget is underway with our goal focused on essential services for the residents of the North Slope Borough. Construction of the pad for the new Utility Plant at SA-10 is nearly complete, and a request for proposals (RFP) for the steel package required for the actual construction was advertised. The FY14 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) is in final draft status. Our auditors will be presenting the results of this project to the North Slope Borough Assembly within the next three months.

As we all know responsible oil and gas development that is aligned with the protection of our cultural resources is a huge priority for us on the North Slope. My office continues to work closely with the **Department of Wildlife Management, Planning and Community Services**, and the **Law Department** to remain engaged as the major stakeholder with the Bureau of Land Management as it relates to the NPRA

Management Plan, lease sales and proposed development. Additionally, staff continues to work on the NSB/Shell Baseline Studies Program. A meeting is planned for early this month to engage stakeholders in the Camden Bay study.

During the month of November, there were seven fire calls and 183 ambulance calls with 19 alcohol and drug related calls, which amounted to roughly 10% of the total volume of calls. The **Fire Department** is working closely with the new hospital to coordinate Medevac missions. As we all know our first responders are essential personnel in all communities, and we encourage our community members to choose this field of service. Ilisagvik College will be starting another cycle of training in January for those who are interested. In other **Public Safety** activities, new hire Sean Gueco graduated from the Academy and is now in the Field Officer Training Program here in Barrow. In the month of November, the **Police Department** had 676 dispatched calls with 120 alcohol and drug related cases, or about 17% of total call volume.

This concludes my summary report for the month of November. Have a safe and blessed holiday season!