



World Affairs Council
of Western Michigan

Great Decisions Global Discussions 2021

Know the World, then Change the World

March 15

The Warming Arctic

Kaare Sikuaq Erickson, North Slope Science Liaison, Ukpeaġvik Inupiat Corporation
Bob Hollister, Leader of Artic Ecology Program (AEP), Grand Valley State University

What impact will the warming Arctic have?



Because of climate change, the Arctic is warming, disturbing the delicate ecosystem that is felt locally and worldwide. How is the environment changing in the Arctic and what impact will it have on human settlements around the globe? And importantly, can global cooperation provide an answer to this climate challenge? Join Kaare Sikuaq Erickson and Dr. Bob Hollister as they outline the science of the warming Arctic and put it in a human perspective.



Kaare Sikuaq Erickson is the North Slope Science Liaison for the Ukpeaġvik Inupiat Corporation in Utqiagvik (formerly Barrow), Alaska. As liaison, Erickson represents hundreds of Arctic researchers to thousands of Arctic residents, and vice versa; he represents thousands of Arctic residents to hundreds of Arctic researchers. Day-to-day responsibilities include providing advice to Arctic research projects during all phases of their projects and facilitating outreach and engagement initiatives in communities in the Arctic. He also serves as board of director for the Arctic Research Consortium of the United States.

Dr. Hollister leads a collaborative multi-disciplinary research project funded by the National Science Foundation as part of the Arctic Observatory Network. He began Arctic research in 1995 working under Pat Webber at Utqiagvik and Atkasuk, Alaska. These sites are now among the longest continually monitored vegetation studies in the Arctic. He is currently co-chair of the ITEX (International Tundra EXperiment) network and he has worked with many research groups from around the world.

As a former member of the Global Change Biology Editorial Advisory Board, Hollister is well aware of the many changes currently impacting biological systems. He has experience working in systems outside the Arctic circle including tropical dry forests and temperate systems, especially Michigan wetlands. He also lead study abroad courses to the Arctic and Antarctica.

Livestreamed to YouTube
6 - 7:15 PM

Virtual event. Public invited.
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