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Arctic Encounter Successfully Convenes the Third Annual Arctic Encounter Symposium in Seattle

The Arctic Encounter successfully convened for its 3rd annual Symposium in Seattle, WA. Nearly 280 stakeholders, domestic and international, gathered to address this year's theme, *Our Best Chance: Acting Right in the Arctic*. Participants and speakers represented many Arctic nations including Norway, Finland, Russia, Canada, and the United States. The Arctic Encounter Symposium (AES) was hosted by the University of Washington (UW) School of Law, produced by Kallander & Associates LLC, and took place at UW and the Museum of History & Industry (MOHAI) on January 15-16, 2016.

Nearly 80 expert speakers participated in 6 plenary session panels, 8 breakout session panels, and 6 keynote addresses. They covered a wide range of topics including infrastructure and connectivity in the Arctic, the health of Arctic peoples, and new media in the Arctic. Keynote speakers included U.S. Senator Lisa Murkowski, U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell, Alaska Lieutenant Governor Byron Mallott, U.S. State Department Special Representative for the Arctic Admiral Robert Papp, and Dr. Tom Wagner of NASA.

On Thursday, January 14th, AES participants were given an exclusive tour of the United States Coast Guard Cutter HEALY. The U.S. Coast Guard Icebreaker fleet was a widely discussed topic at the 2016 AES. U.S. Senators Murkowski and Cantwell – joint keynote speakers at the AES dinner on Friday night at MOHAI – discussed the need for increased U.S. icebreaking capability. The U.S. Coast Guard also had an impressive presence at the Arctic Encounter, including Vice Admiral Charles Ray, Pacific Area Commander, USCG Defense Force West, and Rear Admiral Daniel Abel, Commander of the 17th USCG District – Alaska.

"We are very proud of the dialogue and debate that took place at this year's AES on how we can collectively act right in the Arctic" said Rachel Kallander, Founder and Executive Director of the Arctic Encounter Symposium. "We are extremely grateful for the many policy makers, experts, and native leaders who made the 3rd annual Arctic Encounter Symposium a success including our speakers, our sponsors, our host, and all those who attended. We hope to build upon this discussion to drive positive change in the region."

To find a full list speakers and sponsors who participated in the 2016 Symposium, please visit www.ArcticEncounter.com. To review the 2016 detailed agenda, [please click here](#). Official photos and videos of all plenary panels and keynote addresses will also soon be available on the AES Facebook and YouTube pages. Members of the media may request specific content by contacting the AES Team at events@kallanderassociates.com.