UArctic ry

UArctic Assembly Meeting / Bodø, Norway / June 2024

Agenda item: 12

Proposal – Invitation to join the Friends of UArctic

Proposal: The Assembly Executive Committee (Toyon) proposes that the Assembly makes the following decision:

a) *The Assembly acknowledges the contributions of **Ross A. Virginia**, and thanks him for his dedicated engagement as member of UArctic Board.*

b) *The Assembly acknowledges the contributions of **Karla J. Williamson**, and thanks her for her dedicated engagement as the Chair of the Avatitsinni Committee.*

c) *The Assembly acknowledges the contributions of **Stephen Heal** and thanks him for his dedicated engagement in developing the Heal Fund and UArctic's fundraising activities.*

d) *The Assembly joins the Board in inviting Ross A. Virginia, Karla J. Williamson and Stephen Heal to the Friends of UArctic.*

References: UArctic Bylaws / Section 6 – Friends of UArctic

The current list of Friends of UArctic

Background:

The Board and Assembly may invite distinguished individuals to serve as the Friends of UArctic. Between 2001 and 2023, total of 62 individuals have joined the Friends of UArctic.

In their meeting in April 2024, the Board decided to propose inviting the following individuals to the Friends of UArctic.

Ross A. Virginia has served as the member of the Board for two three-year terms, from 2018 to 2024. He has also served as a member of the Board's Philanthropic Fundraising Advisory Group Týr in 2020-2024.

Karla J. Williamson served as the Chair of the Avatitsinni Committee, formerly known as the UArctic Indigenous Issues Committee, in 2021-2023.

Stephen Heal initiated the establishment of the Heal Fund – UArctic Founders' Fund. At the moment, he is serving as a member of the President's Cabinet, the advisory body providing concrete support to the UArctic President on philanthropic fundraising.

Rationale:

UArctic Bylaws, section 6 – Friends of UArctic

> *The Assembly and the Board, acting together, may invite distinguished individuals to serve as a Friend of UArctic. A Friend of UArctic has no fixed term of office. The function of the Friends of UArctic is advisory: a Friend of UArctic may be asked to serve as a special advisor for program areas*

in which his or her special competence may be relevant. In offering advice, Friends are not responsible individually or collectively for the operation of corresponding UArctic activities.