

THE ARCTIC TOGETHER

EPISODE FIVE | SUMMER 2024 **PODCAST**

RESOURCE GUIDE

Centering Indigenous community voices, getting to the root of research, and what it means to be “Arctic Together” through sharing story

 Podcast Website

This Episode

**Special: Indigenizing Arctic Research
with Varvara Kuklina, Dalee Sambo Dorough, and
Matthew Druckenmiller**

Photo by Julius Lauber

About

The *Arctic Together* podcast is a podcast series that centers Indigenous community voices, shares Navigating the New Arctic (NNA) community stories, and highlights different approaches to issues and solutions in Arctic-based research. The NNA-CO Community Extension Office at Alaska Pacific University is the content developer and host of the *Arctic Together* podcast, and aims to build awareness, partnerships, opportunities, and resources for collaboration. From local to international scales, to supporting the next generation of Arctic researchers, *Arctic Together* offers stories and wisdom towards a more holistic understanding of the Arctic.

This special episode highlights Indigenizing Arctic Research from two Indigenous researchers and a research scientist with 2 decades of research within the Arctic, with and among Indigenous people. This precedes the 2025 NNA-CO Annual Meeting that is happening in conjunction with Arctic Science Summit Week and ICARP IV in Boulder, Colorado. ICARP IV in Boulder, Colorado. The shift in focus concerning Arctic research will hopefully become a renaissance of Arctic Indigenous Peoples cultures, languages, and more significantly for science, an affirmation of the essential need to include Indigenous Knowledge and Traditional Ecological Knowledge and its validity.



Produced by *Arctic Together* Co-Hosts
JAMES TEMTE AND JESSICA LEWIS-NICORI

NNA-CO Community Extension Office
Alaska Pacific University

Photo by Guangqing Chi

SPECIAL FEATURE GUESTS

Varvara Korkina Williams

Varvara Korkina Williams is a Kumandin Indigenous scholar from Altai, Siberia, working with Indigenous entrepreneurship, cultural economy and sustainable development. She is a project manager, Arctic Innovation Fellow at Institute of Arctic Studies. Varvara is an Indigenous leader with interests in dynamics of Indigenous sovereignty, knowledge co-production in Arctic research, sustainability and Indigenous economies. Varvara is one of the leads in a five-institution collaborative project “Indigenizing Arctic Research” co-led by Dartmouth's Institute of Arctic Studies (IAS) to inform and influence the future of Arctic research through an innovative, Indigenous-led, Indigenous Knowledge engagement process. She has extensive experience working with Indigenous youth in the areas of Indigenous rights and business, entrepreneurship, research and international policy.



<https://dickey.dartmouth.edu/people/varvara-korkina-williams>

Dalee Sambo Dorough

Dalee Sambo Dorough (Inuit-Alaska) is the former International Chair of the Inuit Circumpolar Council. She holds a PhD from the University of British Columbia, Faculty of Law and a Master of Arts in Law and Diplomacy from The Fletcher School at Tufts University. She has a fascinating and impressive professional background, which you can read [here](#). She specializes in Alaska Native self-determination and has extensive experience in the administration, management, and coordination of statewide, national, and international organizations. Her recent publications include a chapter co-authored with Federico Lenzerini entitled “The World Heritage Convention and the Rights of Indigenous Peoples” in the Oxford Commentaries in International Law (forthcoming 2022) and a commentary entitled “Perspective on Convention 169, its significance to Inuit and some troubling developments,” in The International Journal of Human Rights Volume 24, (2020).



<https://cca-reports.ca/experts/dalee-sambo-dorough/>

Matthew Druckenmiller

Matthew Druckenmiller serves as the Director of the Navigating the New Arctic Community Office (NNA-CO) and as a Research Scientist at the National Snow and Ice Data Center at the University of Colorado Boulder. Matthew earned his PhD in geophysics from the University of Alaska Fairbanks and has over 20 years of research experience in Arctic and sub-Arctic regions. He also co-leads the Exchange for Local Observations and Knowledge of the Arctic (ELOKA), is a lead editor for the NOAA Arctic Report Card, and is Vice President of the International Arctic Science Committee (IASC). Matthew is currently co-chairing the Local Host Committee for the ICARP IV Summit which will take place in Boulder, Colorado in March 2025.



<https://nna-co.org/team>

Podcast Show Notes

Click the links below for more information & resources shared by guests.



Kawerak Inc. is a nonprofit tribal consortium that provides over 40 different programs to the Inupiaq, St. Lawrence Island Yupik and Yup'ik people who reside in 16 communities of western Alaska and represents the 20 federally recognized tribes in the Bering Strait Region. See more of what they do [here](#).

One of Kawerak's programs is the [Social Science program](#), which does more than research! Check out Kawerak, Inc.'s website [here](#).



Founded in 1977 by the late Eben Hopson of Barrow, Alaska, the Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC) has flourished and grown into a major international non-government organization representing approximately 180,000 Inuit of Alaska, Canada, Greenland, and Chukotka (Russia). (<https://www.inuitcircumpolar.com/>)



The [International Arctic Science Committee](#) (IASC) is a non-governmental, international scientific organization. Learn more about IASC [here](#).

The [Fourth International Conference on Arctic Research Planning](#) (ICARP IV) continues a multi-year planning process lasting from 2022 until 2026. Learn more about ICARP IV [here](#).

The [Arctic Science Summit Week](#) (ASSW) is an annual gathering organized by IASC. From the outset, the central purpose of ASSW has been to provide opportunities for international coordination, collaboration and cooperation in all areas of Arctic science.



Further Reading & Resources

Featured Music



From the artist
Byron Nicholai

Kawerak, Inc., Chinik Eskimo Community, King Island Native Community, Native Village of Brevig Mission, Native Village of Council, Native Village of Diomedea, Native Village of Elim, Native Village of Gambell, Native Village of Koyuk, Native Village of Mary's Igloo, Native Village of Saint Michael, Native Village of Savoonga, Native Village of Shishmaref, Native Village of Teller, Native Village of Unalakleet, Native Village of Wales, Native Village of White Mountain, Native Village of Shaktoolik, Nome Eskimo Community, Stebbins Community Association, and Village of Solomon (2024) Kawerak-Region Tribal Protocols, Guidelines, Expectations & Best Practices Related to Research. Prepared by the Kawerak Social Science Program and Sandhill.Culture.Craft. Nome, Alaska. Available at: <https://www.kawerak.org/knowledge>

Inuit Circumpolar Council. (2022). Circumpolar Inuit Protocols for Equitable and Ethical Engagement. <https://www.inuitcircumpolar.com/project/circumpolar-inuit-protocols-for-equitable-and-ethical-engagement/>

Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami. (2018). National Inuit Strategy on Research. <https://www.itk.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/ITK-National-Inuit-Strategy-on-Research.pdf>

*Putting together Indigenous and Western knowledges
creates a new way of knowing, a new way of knowing.*

*- Varvara Korkina Williams
on Indigenizing Arctic Research*

*“The ICARP IV is an important opportunity to Indigenize Arctic
research -- this is a forum where the objective of Arctic Indigenous
Peoples to gain recognition of and respect for Indigenous
Knowledge could potentially land and help us to move toward
formal reception of our intellect and knowledge by scientists as well
as policy- and decision-makers.”*

*- Dalee Sambo Dorough
on opportunities to formally Indigenize Arctic Research*

*We need to look at how research happens (funding, schooling,
etc.) to find where we can create systematic change.*

*- Matthew Druckenmiller
on Indigenizing Arctic Research.*



**Navigating the New Arctic
Community Office**

The Navigating the New Arctic Community Office (NNA-CO) builds awareness, partnerships, opportunities, and resources for collaboration and equitable knowledge generation within, between, and beyond the research projects funded by the National Science Foundation’s NNA Initiative. The office builds capacity in early career researchers and provides unique opportunities to inspire and engage a wide audience toward a more holistic understanding of the Arctic—its natural environment, built environment, and diverse cultures and communities.

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For more information, visit nna-co.org.