

## **The 6th International Conference in Arctic Fox Biology**

The international conference in arctic fox biology is the most important meeting point for arctic fox researchers, conservation managers, policy makers, tour operators, students and any other people interested in arctic foxes and its arctic habitats and ecosystems. It has for a long time been a tradition that end-users of environmental research, i.e. various stakeholders and management authorities participate at these conferences.

Since 1991, circumpolar arctic fox biologists have established a network which has previously arranged five international conferences in arctic fox biology. The conferences took place in Sweden in 1991 and 2009, in the UK in 2001, in Iceland in 2013 and in Canada in 2017. The now upcoming conference will for the first time be arranged by Norway, through the Norwegian Polar Institute, in Longyearbyen, Svalbard.

The 6th international conference in arctic fox biology will be held at the Svalbard Research Park, University Studies in Svalbard (UNIS)/Norwegian Polar Institute (NPI), <https://www.unis.no/> Longyearbyen, Svalbard August 27-30, 2021. Registration and abstract is now open: <https://www.npolar.no/arrangement/arctic-fox-conference2020/>

### **PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME**

Longyearbyen, Svalbard August 27-30, 2021

Conference content in short

Climate warming is rapidly increasing in the Arctic as well as the tourism activity. In order to start a discussion about climate change, increased tourism, vulnerable Arctic species and ecosystems, and how to build on knowledge to develop sustainable tourism, we start the conference with a panel discussion for arctic fox researchers, stakeholders, the management and stakeholders and guides of the local tourism industry at the first conference day (27. August 2021). The “Conference Icebreaker happening” will be held the same evening. The second and third day (28.-29. August 2021) are for presentations held by the arctic fox researchers and poster sessions. For the fourth day (30. August 2021) we will have a field trip by boat in the Isfjorden area for the conference participants.

Preliminary programme

The following schedule is tentative, and may be changed prior to the conference:

Friday August 27, 2021.

08:00-09:00: Registration at the reception at Svalbard Research Park/UNIS 09:00-12:00: Workshop/panel discussion 12:00-12:30: Lunch (UNIS cafeteria) 12:30-17:00: Workshop/panel discussion 18:45 Bus to “Icebreaker” and dinner at Camp Barentz in Adventdalen 23:00 Bus back to Longyearbyen and hotels

Saturday August 28, 2021.

07:30-0900 Continued registration and poster set-up (Svalbard Research Park/UNIS) 09:00-09:30 Welcome word (MØYSALEN, Svalbard Research Park) 09:30-12:00 Research talks (Session 1) 12:00-13:00 Lunch (UNIS cafeteria) 13:00-16:45 Research talks (Session 2) 17:00 Poster session 19:00-22:00 Dinner

Sunday August 29, 2021.

08:30-11:45 Research talks (Session 3) 12:00-13:00 Lunch (UNIS cafeteria) 13:00-16:45 Research talks (Session 4) 17:00 Concluding remarks 19:00 Arctic fox banquet dinner

Sunday August 30, 2021.

Bus to Longyearbyen harbour. Field trip with a boat to Pyramiden, including lunch on the boat. Bus from Longyearbyen harbour. Dinner at a restaurant.

**Practical information**

Information about flight schedules and available hotels will be announced later.