

## Request for Bids to Host the International Conference on Polar and Alpine Microbiology

The International Conference on Polar and Alpine Microbiology has matured into a successful conference series. The PAM Conferences held every two years attract 150–250 delegates for a 4 to 5-day scientific and social program with the goal of sharing and reviewing discoveries and progress in polar and alpine microbiology research across disciplines. The conference series has provided a wealth of opportunities for the exchange of ideas and building of collaborations.

The 6<sup>th</sup> PAM Conference in Ceske Budejovice, Czech Republic, in September 2015 continues the tradition of the highly successful meetings previously held in Rovaniemi, Finland (2004), Innsbruck, Austria (2006), Banff, Canada (2008), Ljubljana, Slovenia (2011), and Big Sky, Montana, USA (2013). The 7<sup>th</sup> PAM Conference is scheduled to be held in Nuuk, Greenland in September 2017.

### Bidding Process

Bids are now welcome to host the 8<sup>th</sup> PAM Conference in 2019. Since there is no formal society to run the conference series, a committee of past conference chairs will evaluate conference bids and select the next organizer.

The bid should include the following information:

- 1) Conference Chair/Team
- 2) Location and additional information on venue (e.g. accessibility & ground transportation).
- 3) Proposed Dates
- 4) Housing (hotels & hostels, with approximate cost)
- 5) Draft budget and potential funding sources in support of the conference
- 6) Proposed “theme” and outline of potential sessions
- 7) Any other information in support of the bid

Please be prepared to present your bid at the 6<sup>th</sup> PAM Conference in September 2015.

In making its decision, the committee will consider maintaining an international balance in conference location, the accessibility and affordability of the site, as well as the ability of the organizing team to raise the funds needed to successfully run the conference. In the future, the aim will be to have the organizer and site selected 4 years in advance in of the conference order to provide sufficient time for the next organizers.

Max Häggblom, John Priscu, Brigit Sattler, Nina Gunde-Cimerman, Lyle Whyte, Rosa Margesin & Josef Elster

