

INTERNATIONAL POLAR COMMITTEE

Name : the ICOMOS International Polar Committee (IPC)

Date of creation : 2000

President : Susan Barr (Acting President 2000)

Secretariat : Norway

Statutes : To be passed October 2000

The particular object of the IPC is to promote international cooperation in all aspects of protection and conservation work concerning the non-indigenous heritage of the polar areas, the Arctic and the Antarctic, and to advise on the development of activities in this field. Protection of the polar environment is also important for the IPC, but the cultural heritage may take precedence where there is a conflict of interests. The IPC shall accomplish its objectives by providing a forum for the interchange of experience, ideas, knowledge, and the results of research between administrators, archaeologists, conservators, historians, legislators and other professionals, by coordinating existing studies, by promoting further studies, by extending technical cooperation and by establishing links with specialised institutions in appropriate fields.

FORMAL ESTABLISHMENT (October 2000)

Since the nomination process for representatives to the Committee is rather slow in some countries, the Committee has not yet had its official foundation meeting, where the statutes will be passed and the President elected. There exist preliminary statutes and a suggested programme of activities. Susan Barr of ICOMOS Norway is acting as president until the formal election takes place. It has been decided that the official establishment will take place in October by e-mail communication and that the Committee will meet in person as far as possible in the Spring 2001.

MEMBERS (September 2000)

Susan Barr (Norway)

Peter Boyarsky (Russia)

Paul Chaplin (New Zealand)

Håkan Jorikson/Urban Wråkberg (Sweden – main representative to be decided)

Jean-François le Mouél (France)

Doug Olynyk (Canada)

COOPERATION and INFORMATION

In addition several institutions and persons in various countries have asked to be associated with the IPC including:

Antarctic Heritage Trust, New Zealand

The Arctic Circumpolar Route, Canada

The International Studies Centre of the Kola Science Centre, Russia

Elmer E. Rasmuson Library/Alaska & Polar Regions Dept., USA

Scott Polar Research Institute, Cambridge UK

Notice of the IPC has otherwise been sent to the following institutions:

International Arctic Science Committee (IASC)

Danish Polar Centre

Swedish Polar Research Secretariat

World Wildlife Fund/Arctic Division

Norwegian Polar Institute

Committee for Environmental Protection in Antarctica (CEP)

Australian Antarctic Heritage Newsletter AHSIG

As well as having been reported in ICOMOS News and various national ICOMOS newsletters.

PUBLICATIONS

In addition to the publication in the proceedings of the Historic Sites and Gardens Committee of Susan Barr's paper *Polar Monuments and Sites: An ICOMOS Challenge* at the General Assembly in Mexico, two articles announcing the establishment of the IPC are currently in print:

Barr, Susan 2000: *Arctic Monuments and Sites: An International Challenge*. In: Proceedings of the International Congress on the History of the Arctic and Sub-Arctic Region, Reykjavik June 1998.

Barr, Susan 2000: *Our common heritage: Monuments and sites of the polar regions*. In: *Journal of Architectural Conservation*, November 2000.