Greetings from the IICWG Secretariat;

Following the May 23rd invitation from the IICWG co-chairs, this letter is a last reminder to register for the 19th Meeting of the International Ice Charting Working Group (IICWG-XIX). This year’s meeting is being hosted in Helsinki, Finland, by the Finnish Meteorological Institute (FMI) during September 24-28, 2018. The theme for this year’s meeting is “Ice Information for Navigating the Sub-Polar Seas”.

Registration

There is no fee to attend the meeting but, if you have not already done so, please register with the secretariat as soon as possible. Just send an e-mail to me at John.Falkingham@rogers.com indicating the following:

- The days (Monday-Friday) that you plan to attend
- Whether you will attend the icebreaker reception on Monday evening
- Whether you will attend the hosted dinner on Wednesday evening
- Whether you would like to participate in the Saturday excursion (extra cost)
- If you will be bringing a guest to any of the events

Meeting Venue

The meeting will be held at the Finnish Meteorological Institute (FMI) campus at Erik Palménin aukio 1, 00560 Helsinki. Over the week, we will be meeting in the Aura, Aqua, and Terra meeting rooms and the Brainstorm Theatre. FMI is about 6 km from the city centre. The best way to get from the city centre to FMI is via Tram No. 6. The trip takes about 15 minutes.

Agenda (see attached outline)

The latest draft agenda is attached. You will see that it is pretty full although there are a few spots for topical items.

Posters have been an increasingly valuable way to share information at the IICWG meeting and we are encouraging a continuation of this trend. In addition to poster sessions accompanying the health breaks, poster presenters will be given short time
slots in the agenda to introduce and highlight their posters to the plenary. Please let me know if you wish to present a poster.

You will also notice that we have maintained the extra-long health breaks to allow sufficient time for networking and side-bar meetings.

**Technical Tours**

We will be taking a technical tour to the Arctech Shipyard in Helsinki where an ice-breaking tanker is under construction. We will travel by bus from FMI to the shipyard (about 30 minutes).

**Accommodation**

There is no official hotel for the IICWG meeting. A list of recommended hotels is attached below. The first four are all near the city centre and close to the tram line. The last hotel is within walking distance of FMI.

**Travel**

International travellers will generally arrive at Helsinki-Vantaa Airport which is about 20 km from Helsinki city centre. A taxi from the airport to the city center costs about 40€ and takes about 30 minutes.

The train from the airport to the city centre departs every 10 minutes and takes about 30 minutes. Either of the Ring Rail Line trains – the I train via Huopalahti or the P train via Tikkurila – will take you to the same place. The Bus number 615 also travels between the airport and the city centre. A regional ticket (5.50€) must be purchased for trips between the city and the airport. You can get them from a ticket machine or bus driver but not on board the train. Trains and bus arrive in the city at Rautatietori near the central train station.

Most IICWG participants will not require a visa to visit Finland. However, you should check the Ministry of Foreign Affairs website to verify your own circumstances.

**Social Events**

At the end of the business day on Monday, the Finnish Meteorological Institute will host an icebreaker reception. On Wednesday evening, a no-host dinner will be held at a local restaurant following the technical tour. Additionally, a tour of the World Heritage Site Soumenlinna has been arranged as an optional social excursion on Saturday. This excursion will conclude after lunch leaving time for late afternoon departures.

**Tourist Information**

Helsinki, the capital of Finland, is a vibrant seaside city of beautiful islands and great green parks. The city’s rhythm is laid back yet at the same time refreshingly active in terms of both the number and quality of restaurants and nightclubs. The population is just over 600,000. There is an excellent public transportation system with bus, tram,
metro, railway, and ferry services. Whether your preference is nature, architecture, history, restaurants or nightclubs, you can find plenty to do.

At the time of IICWG-XIX, we can expect day-time temperatures in the low teens (°C) and nighttime lows a little above freezing. On average, September has 9 days of rain. We will be there just around the Autumnal Equinox with the sun rising about 7:00 a.m. and setting around 7:00 p.m.

Organizing Committee

The Organizing Committee for IICWG-XIX is:

- Antti Kangas (FMI - host)
- Dave Jackson (Canadian Ice Service)
- Mike Hicks (International Ice Patrol)
- Keld Qvistgaard (Danish Meteorological Institute)
- Penny Wagner, (Norwegian Ice Service)
- Caryn Panowicz (U.S. National Ice Center)
- Chris Readinger (U.S. National Ice Center)
- Jan Lieser (University of Tasmania)
- Shanna Pitter (U.S. National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration)
- Klaus Strübing and John Falkingham of the IICWG Secretariat.

If you have questions about the meeting, please contact the secretariat at (john.falkingham@rogers.com) or other members of the Organizing Committee. Additionally, you can check the IICWG website at http://nsidc.org/noaa/iicwg/ for periodic updates.

John Falkingham
IICWG Secretariat

Attach: Links and Websites

Hotels
Agenda - Draft 6
### Links and Websites

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<td>Helsinki Transit</td>
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19th MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL ICE CHARTING WORKING GROUP
September 24-28, 2018 – Helsinki, Finland

Hotels

Near the City Centre

**Hotel Seurahuone, Helsinki**
Address: Kaivokatu 12, 00100 Helsinki
Tel. +358 9 691 4019 | fax. +358 9 691 4010
helsinki.seurahuonesales@restel.fi
https://www.hotelliseurahuone.fi/en

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**Hotel Scandic Hakaniemi, Helsinki**
Address: Siltasaarenkatu 14, 00530 Helsinki, Finland
Tel. +358 (0)9 54660100 | fax +358 (0)9 54660101
https://www.scandichotels.com/hotels/finland/helsinki/scandic-hakaniemi

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**Hotel Scandic Paasi**
Address: Paasivuorenkatu 5, 00530 Helsinki, Finland
Tel. +358 9 2311700 | fax +358 9 231 17111
paasi@scandichotels.com
https://www.scandichotels.com/hotels/finland/helsinki/scandic-paasi

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**Hotel Scandic Kaisaniemi, Helsinki**
Address: Kaisaniemenväke 7, 00100 Helsinki, Finland
Tel. +358 9 689 99026
kaisaniemi@scandichotels.com
https://www.scandichotels.com/hotels/finland/helsinki/scandic-kaisaniemi

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Near FMI

**Hotel AVA**
Address: Karstulantie 6, 00550 Helsinki, Finland
Tel. +358 (0)9 774 751
reservations@ava.fi
http://www.ava.fi/

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