



From:  
The foundation of the tall ship Statsraad Lehmkuhl  
Bradbenken 2, skur 7  
5003 Bergen  
Norway  
& The University of Tromsø - The Arctic University of Norway  
(charterer on the NW Passage from Nuuk to Anchorage)

To:  
Taloyoak Communities and Trappers Committee  
E-mail: [chimo@kitikmeothto.ca](mailto:chimo@kitikmeothto.ca)  
Phone:

Bergen 17.01.2025

We are contacting you in regards to our planned voyage through the North West Passage next year with the Norwegian tall ship Statsraad Lehmkuhl. We kindly ask for your support and permission to sail through your waters in this period with students and young scientists on board. We plan to do modest research along the way as part of the course that our charterer (The Arctic University of Norway) will have on board. The involvement and engagement of representatives from Inuit communities is crucial for the success of the voyage, see detailed information below.

### **One Ocean Expedition by the Norwegian tall ship Statsraad Lehmkuhl**

One Ocean Expedition is a global project, and a recognized part of the UN's Ocean Decade ([www.oneoceanexpedition.com](http://www.oneoceanexpedition.com)). The main goal of the expedition is to create attention and share knowledge about the crucial role of the ocean for sustainable development in a global perspective. It encourages cooperation across borders for a more sustainable ocean and serves as a reminder that the ocean itself knows no borders.

We share the visions and desired outcomes of the Ocean Decade and use our ship to inspire and

engage. Where the Ocean Decade focuses on “the science we need for the ocean we want”, we also focus on the “people we need for the ocean we want”. One Ocean Expedition aims to reduce the gap between science and the public, and to create hope for future generations.

Statsraad Lehmkuhl is one of the largest and oldest tall ships still in active use, and she is run by a non-profit foundation. She carries a permanent crew of around 30 and up to 130 voyage crew/students.

## **Background**

In April 2023, the Norwegian tall ship, Statsraad Lehmkuhl, returned home to Bergen, Norway after the first One Ocean Expedition — a 20-month long circumnavigation of the world. The expedition created a lot of attention and spread knowledge about the crucial role of the ocean for sustainable development in a global perspective.

The expedition was a brilliant showcase of the UN’s sustainable development goals, involving 40 international partners from public sector, education, research, innovation, and commerce. The 110-year-old sailing ship, now equipped with state-of-the-art research instruments, served as a floating university, bringing on board students and scientists from all over the world to discuss and study ocean matters. In the many ports along the way, the ship hosted conferences, receptions, high-level meetings and diplomacy events.

## **One Ocean Expedition 2025 – 2026: Northwest Passage**

The next One Ocean Expedition begins in April 2025, when Statsraad Lehmkuhl departs from Bergen, Norway, on the last day of the One Ocean Week conference. The 12-month expedition will take the ship to various ports in Europe, including Nice, France, where it will be a part of both the One Ocean Science Conference and the UN Ocean Conference (UNOC2025), before setting sail for its Arctic adventure, going from Greenland through the Northwest Passage to the west coast of North America. In Inuit Nunangat, the expedition will have stopovers in Gjoa Haven, Cambridge Bay and Vancouver. This Arctic portion of the expedition will be a significant contribution towards the UN's Ocean Decade, providing the younger generation of students and researchers first-hand knowledge about Arctic regions.

The general research questions addressed during the circumnavigation of the One Ocean II expedition are:

- How do biodiversity and indicators of human pressures vary over the world's ocean?
- What is the distribution and vertical displacement of mesopelagic sound scattering layers across the world's ocean?
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## **Educational and scientific program: Future Arctic Pathfinders - A journey through the Northwest Passage**

As part of the One Ocean Expedition, UiT The Arctic University of Norway has chartered the vessel to sail through the Northwest Passage in the autumn of 2025. The backbone of the voyage will be a 10 ECTS interdisciplinary course open for master’s students and doctoral fellows, with the preliminary title "Future Arctic Pathfinders - A journey through the Northwest Passage" ([en.uit.no/one-ocean](https://en.uit.no/one-ocean)).

The course will be in English, and it will be open to both Norwegian and international participants. In addition, UiT and partners will develop a dedicated research program specially designed for the voyage through the Northwest Passage. The course will be designed to be project-based and with high focus on developing inter- and transdisciplinary collaboration skills, personal reflections, and practice in dealing with complex issues related to the consequences of human-induced climate change, focusing on the overarching vision and purpose of the project: to raise awareness and share knowledge about the role of the ocean in sustainable development from a global perspective. Indigenous knowledge and perspectives, conventional science, and societal challenges at large will inform the course content. The target audience will be students and fellows who are socially engaged, adventurous, and wish to be part of the solution to major societal challenges related to climate change and sustainable use of the ocean (in a broad sense).

The course will run twice, first from Nuuk to Cambridge Bay in August 2025 and then from Cambridge Bay to Anchorage in September 2025, with 60 participants being enrolled for each run. We also want to invite Indigenous knowledge holders and elders to ensure the transmission of diverse perspectives and knowledges about the Arctic and foster cultural exchange. As such, the course becomes a platform for sharing diverse perspectives, experiences, and ways of knowing, enriching the educational journey for all the participants.

In addition, we plan three high-level events with prominent stakeholders at the ports in Nuuk, Cambridge Bay, and Anchorage. We will focus on Arctic Council related themes in Nuuk, given that Denmark has the Chairship of the Arctic Council at the time of our visit, recently handed over from Norway. In Cambridge Bay, we want to listen and learn about the diverse local and Indigenous perspectives about the Arctic. At last, in Anchorage, we will focus on climate and security. The Norwegian Embassies in Denmark, Canada, and USA are supporting these events. At these events, our ambition is to gather representatives of Indigenous and local communities, highly ranked politicians, representatives from local, regional, and national authorities, private sector, and academia.



The planned route for the One Ocean Expedition 2025-2026. UiT is responsible for the leg through the Northwest Passage,

*starting in Nuuk on August 5<sup>th</sup> and ending up in Anchorage on October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025.*

The voyage represents an excellent platform for research. Most likely, other ships will escort the Statsraad Lehmkühl from Nuuk to Anchorage. Thus, at any given time there will be two ships from where research can be conducted. The research plan involves a wide range of study areas including biodiversity, microplastic, physical oceanography, human health, marine studies, atmospheric studies, governance, socio-economic aspects, imaginaries and much more.

Finally, the expedition will be linked with the Norwegian national research initiative Arctic Ocean 2050 and the forthcoming International Polar Year in 2032/33. The students and Indigenous and local youth that we aim to bring with us today, will in 2032 be Arctic academics and knowledge holders that we rely on to provide the insight and knowledge we need for a sustainable management of a rapidly changing Arctic. These future researchers and decision makers will greatly benefit from the inter- and transdisciplinary competences and anticipatory skills that we will help develop as part of the voyage through the Northwest Passage. This will be the true legacy of the voyage.

## **Expedition itinerary – Northwest Passage**

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- Miĩtimalik/Pond Inlet (August 14<sup>th</sup>) **OR** Resolute/Qausuittuq (August 17<sup>th</sup>) (for border and immigration – weather and ice depending)
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## **Research through the Northwest Passage & collaborative opportunities**

Researchers from One Ocean II are interested in contributing to a better understanding of the Arctic biome, as well as the future challenges local and global communities are facing by climate-driven changes in the Arctic marine ecosystems, pollution, and other anthropogenic stressors. The research may also incorporate socio-economic and -political aspects, including law, of a changing Arctic marine environment. Our aim is to identify local Arctic challenges and make them visible on a wider public scale. We recognize that research activities on land and in the homeland waters of Inuit, Yupik and Unangan can only be carried out with consent by Indigenous rights holders. We would also like to invite elders on board the ship during a prolonged stop on land, for teaching onboard, and there are possibilities for outreach and exchange events, especially in Cambridge Bay, which can also be discussed further. We would like to stress that this is also a learning process for us, and we are eager to listen. In the following, we outline the competence and skills that we can contribute, and we would highly appreciate your input for the further development of the research and cruise plan.

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Statsraad Lehmkuhl and the One Ocean II (OOII) offer excellent opportunities to conduct research related to marine ecology and taxonomy, and to perform biodiversity assessments on small to large scales using state of the art molecular and monitoring techniques, such as analysis of environmental DNA. Researchers can perform near real time analyses during the cruise by taking advantage of infrastructure for data communication and sea observation on board the vessel. The tallship, Statsraad Lehmkuhl enables unique opportunities for conducting research without interference from engine and propeller noise, for studying e.g. marine mammals. Research evolves around:

- Assessment of fish and zooplankton populations
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- Health studies: impact of onboard watch system on health and wellness of OOII participants
- Physical oceanography: understanding changes in sea ice thickness

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- Ocean literacy: understanding and stewardship of marine environments through integrating diverse knowledge systems and emotional literacy
- Bridging knowledge systems for Arctic coastal management: document, revitalize, and integrate management and conservation practices of Indigenous peoples, and assess the changes experienced in their livelihoods because of governmental climate change adaptation and mitigation measures
- Creative futures thinking using experiential learning and worldbuilding through the course running on-board
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(charterer on the NW Passage from Nuuk to Anchorage)

To:  
Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board  
E-mail: [krwb@niws.ca](mailto:krwb@niws.ca)  
Phone:

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Finally, the expedition will be linked with the Norwegian national research initiative Arctic Ocean 2050 and the forthcoming International Polar Year in 2032/33. The students and Indigenous and local youth that we aim to bring with us today, will in 2032 be Arctic academics and knowledge holders that we rely on to provide the insight and knowledge we need for a sustainable management of a rapidly changing Arctic. These future researchers and decision makers will greatly benefit from the inter- and transdisciplinary competences and anticipatory skills that we will help develop as part of the voyage through the Northwest Passage. This will be the true legacy of the voyage.

## **Expedition itinerary – Northwest Passage**

The One Ocean Expedition starts from the ships' home port Bergen on 7<sup>th</sup> of April 2025 and is expected to return to Bergen almost 12 months after on the 17<sup>th</sup> of April 2026. The legs of the 12-month voyage are chartered by different institutions.

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## **Research through the Northwest Passage & collaborative opportunities**

Researchers from One Ocean II are interested in contributing to a better understanding of the Arctic biome, as well as the future challenges local and global communities are facing by climate-driven changes in the Arctic marine ecosystems, pollution, and other anthropogenic stressors. The research may also incorporate socio-economic and -political aspects, including law, of a changing Arctic marine environment. Our aim is to identify local Arctic challenges and make them visible on a wider public scale. We recognize that research activities on land and in the homeland waters of Inuit, Yupik and Unangan can only be carried out with consent by Indigenous rights holders. We would also like to invite elders on board the ship during a prolonged stop on land, for teaching onboard, and there are possibilities for outreach and exchange events, especially in Cambridge Bay, which can also be discussed further. We would like to stress that this is also a learning process for us, and we are eager to listen. In the following, we outline the competence and skills that we can contribute, and we would highly appreciate your input for the further development of the research and cruise plan.

### **Research of the Arctic marine biome**

Statsraad Lehmkuhl and the One Ocean II (OOII) offer excellent opportunities to conduct research related to marine ecology and taxonomy, and to perform biodiversity assessments on small to large scales using state of the art molecular and monitoring techniques, such as analysis of environmental DNA. Researchers can perform near real time analyses during the cruise by taking advantage of infrastructure for data communication and sea observation on board the vessel. The tallship, Statsraad Lehmkuhl enables unique opportunities for conducting research without interference from engine and propeller noise, for studying e.g. marine mammals. Research evolves around:

- Assessment of fish and zooplankton populations
- Biodiversity assessment using physical sampling, morphological and molecular (environmental DNA) analyses
- Biotechnology: exploring marine bioactive compounds and analysing marine hydrocarbon-metabolizing microorganisms
- Epidemiology and impact of diet transitions in Indigenous populations
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- Physical oceanography: understanding changes in sea ice thickness

### **Socioeconomics and –politics in the Arctic**

Potential OOII participants related to both research and teaching cover a range of scientific disciplines that all have a strong Arctic focus. Research and teaching with a focus on social sciences could be of interest for amplifying voices of Indigenous rights holders to a larger scientific and public audience. The research themes are:

- Arctic Memoryscapes – documenting changes in Arctic coastal and underwater heritage
- Information literacy by integrating Indigenous knowledge, experiential learning, and Extended Reality technologies
- Ocean literacy: understanding and stewardship of marine environments through integrating diverse knowledge systems and emotional literacy
- Bridging knowledge systems for Arctic coastal management: document, revitalize, and integrate management and conservation practices of Indigenous peoples, and assess the changes experienced in their livelihoods because of governmental climate change adaptation and mitigation measures
- Creative futures thinking using experiential learning and worldbuilding through the course running on-board
- International relations: interplay between the Arctic and Arctic local and Indigenous societies with global political, economic, security processes

## Summary

We hope the information above is sufficient to grant us access to sail through your waters next year with the tall ship Statsraad Lehmkuhl on her One Ocean Expedition. We kindly ask for your support for the planned voyage and would be very grateful to hear if you have any concerns or comments to the planned voyage, before we proceed with the application for the c

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Bergen 17/01/2025

On behalf of Statsraad Lehmkuhl and UiT The Arctic University of Norway,



Haakon Vatle  
CEO for Statsraad Lehmkuhl/Expedition leader for One Ocean Expedition



From:  
The foundation of the tall ship Statsraad Lehmkuhl  
Bradbenken 2, skur 7  
5003 Bergen  
Norway  
& The University of Tromsø - The Arctic University of Norway  
(charterer on the NW Passage from Nuuk to Anchorage)

To:  
Kugluktuk Hunters and Trappers Committee  
E-mail: kugluktuk@kitikmeothto.ca  
Phone:

Bergen 17.01.2025

We are contacting you in regards to our planned voyage through the North West Passage next year with the Norwegian tall ship Statsraad Lehmkuhl. We kindly ask for your support and permission to sail through your waters in this period with students and young scientists on board. We plan to do modest research along the way as part of the course that our charterer (The Arctic University of Norway) will have on board. The involvement and engagement of representatives from Inuit communities is crucial for the success of the voyage, see detailed information below.

### **One Ocean Expedition by the Norwegian tall ship Statsraad Lehmkuhl**

One Ocean Expedition is a global project, and a recognized part of the UN's Ocean Decade ([www.oneoceanexpedition.com](http://www.oneoceanexpedition.com)). The main goal of the expedition is to create attention and share knowledge about the crucial role of the ocean for sustainable development in a global perspective. It encourages cooperation across borders for a more sustainable ocean and serves as a reminder that the ocean itself knows no borders.

We share the visions and desired outcomes of the Ocean Decade and use our ship to inspire and

engage. Where the Ocean Decade focuses on “the science we need for the ocean we want”, we also focus on the “people we need for the ocean we want”. One Ocean Expedition aims to reduce the gap between science and the public, and to create hope for future generations.

Statsraad Lehmkuhl is one of the largest and oldest tall ships still in active use, and she is run by a non-profit foundation. She carries a permanent crew of around 30 and up to 130 voyage crew/students.

## Background

In April 2023, the Norwegian tall ship, Statsraad Lehmkuhl, returned home to Bergen, Norway after the first One Ocean Expedition — a 20-month long circumnavigation of the world. The expedition created a lot of attention and spread knowledge about the crucial role of the ocean for sustainable development in a global perspective.

The expedition was a brilliant showcase of the UN’s sustainable development goals, involving 40 international partners from public sector, education, research, innovation, and commerce. The 110-year-old sailing ship, now equipped with state-of-the-art research instruments, served as a floating university, bringing on board students and scientists from all over the world to discuss and study ocean matters. In the many ports along the way, the ship hosted conferences, receptions, high-level meetings and diplomacy events.

## One Ocean Expedition 2025 – 2026: Northwest Passage

The next One Ocean Expedition begins in April 2025, when Statsraad Lehmkuhl departs from Bergen, Norway, on the last day of the One Ocean Week conference. The 12-month expedition will take the ship to various ports in Europe, including Nice, France, where it will be a part of both the One Ocean Science Conference and the UN Ocean Conference (UNOC2025), before setting sail for its Arctic adventure, going from Greenland through the Northwest Passage to the west coast of North America. In Inuit Nunangat, the expedition will have stopovers in Gjoa Haven, Cambridge Bay and Vancouver. This Arctic portion of the expedition will be a significant contribution towards the UN's Ocean Decade, providing the younger generation of students and researchers first-hand knowledge about Arctic regions.

The general research questions addressed during the circumnavigation of the One Ocean II expedition are:

- How do biodiversity and indicators of human pressures vary over the world's ocean?
- What is the distribution and vertical displacement of mesopelagic sound scattering layers across the world's ocean?
- What are the physical characteristics of the regions and water masses we pass through?
- Is there a correlation between observations, models and satellite measurements, and can the measurements be used to improve weather and ocean forecasting?

## Educational and scientific program: Future Arctic Pathfinders - A journey through the Northwest Passage

As part of the One Ocean Expedition, UiT The Arctic University of Norway has chartered the vessel to sail through the Northwest Passage in the autumn of 2025. The backbone of the voyage will be a 10 ECTS interdisciplinary course open for master’s students and doctoral fellows, with the preliminary title "Future Arctic Pathfinders - A journey through the Northwest Passage" ([en.uit.no/one-ocean](https://en.uit.no/one-ocean)).

The course will be in English, and it will be open to both Norwegian and international participants. In addition, UiT and partners will develop a dedicated research program specially designed for the voyage through the Northwest Passage. The course will be designed to be project-based and with high focus on developing inter- and transdisciplinary collaboration skills, personal reflections, and practice in dealing with complex issues related to the consequences of human-induced climate change, focusing on the overarching vision and purpose of the project: to raise awareness and share knowledge about the role of the ocean in sustainable development from a global perspective. Indigenous knowledge and perspectives, conventional science, and societal challenges at large will inform the course content. The target audience will be students and fellows who are socially engaged, adventurous, and wish to be part of the solution to major societal challenges related to climate change and sustainable use of the ocean (in a broad sense).

The course will run twice, first from Nuuk to Cambridge Bay in August 2025 and then from Cambridge Bay to Anchorage in September 2025, with 60 participants being enrolled for each run. We also want to invite Indigenous knowledge holders and elders to ensure the transmission of diverse perspectives and knowledges about the Arctic and foster cultural exchange. As such, the course becomes a platform for sharing diverse perspectives, experiences, and ways of knowing, enriching the educational journey for all the participants.

In addition, we plan three high-level events with prominent stakeholders at the ports in Nuuk, Cambridge Bay, and Anchorage. We will focus on Arctic Council related themes in Nuuk, given that Denmark has the Chairship of the Arctic Council at the time of our visit, recently handed over from Norway. In Cambridge Bay, we want to listen and learn about the diverse local and Indigenous perspectives about the Arctic. At last, in Anchorage, we will focus on climate and security. The Norwegian Embassies in Denmark, Canada, and USA are supporting these events. At these events, our ambition is to gather representatives of Indigenous and local communities, highly ranked politicians, representatives from local, regional, and national authorities, private sector, and academia.



*The planned route for the One Ocean Expedition 2025-2026. UiT is responsible for the leg through the Northwest Passage,*

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Bergen 17/01/2025

On behalf of Statsraad Lehmkuhl and UiT The Arctic University of Norway,



Haakon Vatle  
CEO for Statsraad Lehmkuhl/Expedition leader for One Ocean Expedition



From:

The foundation of the tall ship Statsraad Lehmkuhl

Bradbenken 2, skur 7

5003 Bergen

Norway

& The University of Tromsø - The Arctic University of Norway (charterer on the NW Passage from Nuuk to Anchorage)

To:

Tuktoyaktuk Hunters and Trappers Committee

Email: tuk.htc@outlook.com

Phone (867)340-0057

Bergen 01.10.24

Dear Sir/Madam

We are contacting you in regards to our planned voyage through the North West Passage next year with the Norwegian tall ship Statsraad Lehmkuhl. We kindly ask for your support and permission to sail through your waters in this period with students and young scientists on board. We plan to do modest research along the way as part of the course that our charterer (The Arctic University of Norway) will have on board. The involvement and engagement of representatives from Inuit communities is crucial for the success of the voyage, see detailed information below.

We have been in contact with the Environmental Impact Screening Committee, but will await to send the final application before we have your support.

### **One Ocean Expedition by the Norwegian tall ship Statsraad Lehmkuhl**

One Ocean Expedition is a global project, and a recognized part of the UN's Ocean Decade. The main goal of the expedition is to create attention and share knowledge about the crucial role of the ocean for sustainable development in a global perspective. It encourages cooperation across borders for a more sustainable ocean and serves as a reminder that the ocean itself knows no borders.

We share the visions and desired outcomes of the Ocean Decade and use our ship to inspire and engage. Where the Ocean Decade focuses on “the science we need for the ocean we want”, we also focus on the “people we need for the ocean we want”. One Ocean Expedition aims to reduce the gap between science and the public, and to create hope for future generations.

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## **Educational and scientific program: Future Arctic Leaders - A journey through the Northwest Passage**

As part of the One Ocean Expedition, UiT The Arctic University of Norway has chartered the vessel to sail through the Northwest Passage in the autumn of 2025. The backbone of this expedition will be a 10 ECTS interdisciplinary course open for bachelor’s and master’s students and doctoral fellows, with the preliminary title "Future Arctic Leaders - A journey through the Northwest Passage".

The course will be in English, and it will be open to both Norwegian and international participants. In addition, UiT and partners will develop a dedicated research program specially designed for the expedition through the Northwest Passage. The course will be designed to be project-based and with high focus on developing inter- and transdisciplinary collaboration skills, personal reflections, and practice in dealing with complex issues related to the consequences of human-induced climate change, focusing on the overarching vision and purpose of the expedition: to raise awareness and share knowledge about the role of the ocean in sustainable development from a global perspective. Traditional and indigenous knowledge and perspectives, conventional science, and societal

challenges at large will inform the course content. The target audience will be students and fellows who are socially engaged, adventurous, and wish to be part of the solution to major societal challenges related to climate change and sustainable use of the ocean (in a broad sense).

The course will run twice, first from Nuuk to Cambridge Bay in August 2025 and then from Cambridge Bay to Anchorage in September 2025, with 60 participants being enrolled for each run. Our ambition is to ensure enrolment of participants from Indigenous nations and communities both from Inuit Nunangat and Norway, as their contribution to the learning environment on board the ship will be invaluable. Their participation in the course is essential for fostering unique insight about the Arctic, augmenting the learning experience and promoting authentic inclusivity and cultural exchange. As such, the course becomes a platform for sharing diverse perspectives, experiences, and ways of knowing, enriching the educational journey for all the participants.

In addition, we plan three high-level events with prominent stakeholders at the ports in Nuuk, Cambridge Bay, and Anchorage. We will focus on Arctic Council related themes in Nuuk, given that Denmark has the Chairship of the Arctic Council at the time of our visit (recently handed over from Norway). In Cambridge Bay, we see it natural to concentrate on the unique traditional knowledge, wisdom, and culture of the Indigenous nations and communities. At last, in Anchorage, we will focus on climate and security. The Norwegian Embassies in Denmark, Canada, and USA are supporting these events. At these events, our ambition is to gather representatives of indigenous nations and communities, highly ranked politicians, representatives from local, regional, and national authorities, private sector, and academia.



*The planned route for the One Ocean Expedition 2025-2026. UiT is responsible for the leg through the Northwest Passage, starting in Nuuk on August 5<sup>th</sup> and ending up in Anchorage on October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025.*

The voyage represents an excellent platform for research. Most likely, other ships will escort the Statsraad Lehmkühl from Nuuk to Anchorage. Thus, at any given time there will be two ships from where research can be conducted. The research plan is still to be developed, but we foresee a wide range of study areas including biodiversity, micro plastic, physical oceanography, human health, marine studies, atmospheric studies, governance, socio-economic aspects, imaginaries and much more.

Finally, the expedition will be linked with the Norwegian national research initiative Future Arctic Ocean (<https://uit.no/project/framtidenspolhav>) and the forthcoming International Polar Year in 2032/33. Some of the students and young academics that we will bring with us, will in 2032 be Arctic researchers that we rely on to provide the insight and knowledge we need for a sustainable management of a rapidly changing Arctic. These future academics will greatly benefit from the inter- and transdisciplinary skills that we will help develop as part of the voyage through the Northwest Passage. This will be the true legacy of the voyage.

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- Nome (for US border and immigration)
- A more detailed voyage plan is still under development to allow for collaboration with indigenous rights holders.

## One Ocean Expedition 2025 – 2026: Potential research through the Northwest Passage & Collaborative research opportunities

Researchers from One Ocean Expedition are interested in contributing to a better understanding of the Arctic biome, as well as the future challenges local and global communities are facing by climate-driven changes in the Arctic marine ecosystems, pollution, and other anthropogenic stressors. The research may also incorporate socio-economic and -political aspects, including law, of a changing Arctic marine environment. Our aim is to identify local Arctic challenges and make them visible on a wider public scale. We recognize that research activities on land and in the waters of Inuit Nunangat can only be carried out with consent by indigenous rights holders and should be based on co-creation. *Nothing about us without us* is a fundamental ambition and guiding principle that we adhere to. Therefore, we would like to invite for collaboration in the development of the project and the establishment of a research plan that links western and indigenous knowledge and that is relevant and useful for local communities. A certain number of berths on board Statsraad Lehmkuhl are reserved for Inuit youth to participate on the voyage. We would also like to invite elders on board the ship during a prolonged stop on land, and there are possibilities for outreach and exchange events, especially in Cambridge Bay, which can also be discussed further. We would like to stress that this is also a learning process for us, and we are eager to listen. In the following, we outline the competence and skills that we can contribute, and we would highly appreciate your input for the further development of the research and cruise plan.

## Research of the Arctic marine biome

Statsraad Lehmkühl and the One Ocean Expedition (OOE) offer excellent opportunities to conduct research related to marine ecology and taxonomy, and to perform biodiversity assessments on small to large scales using state of the art molecular and monitoring techniques, such as analysis of environmental DNA. Researchers can perform near real time analyses during OOE by taking advantage of infrastructure for data communication and sea observation on board the vessel. The tallship, Statsraad Lehmkühl enables unique opportunities for conducting research without interference from engine and propeller noise, for studying e.g. marine mammals. Research could evolve around (but not limited to):

- Establishing baselines of biodiversity on local, regional, and national scales using environmental DNA in combination with physical parameters, such as temperature and salinity of the ocean.
- Performing integrated studies of specific marine communities or species, e.g. plankton, benthic invertebrates, or fishes/mammals, using morphological and molecular analyses.
- Providing measures of microplastic occurrence and amounts in marine species or in different habitats.
- Biophysical oceanography studies combining behavior and presence of marine species with physical parameters, such as temperature and salinity, of the ocean.
- XR 3D underwater or landscape documentation with 360 cameras, drones, mobiles. Gaussian splatting etc.
- Health studies related to health status of OOE participants. Could be extended to also involve local communities.

## Socio-economics and –politics, including law, in the Arctic

Potential OOE participants related to both research and teaching cover a range of scientific disciplines that all have a strong Arctic focus. Research and teaching with a focus on social sciences could be of interest for amplifying voices of indigenous rights holders to a larger scientific and public audience. Some potential themes could be:

- Indigenous law and methodology; knowledge co-creation and ocean literacy. Decolonisation of knowledge, ecological literacy.
- Interplay between the Arctic and Arctic local and indigenous societies with global political, economic and security processes.
- Activities, practices and understandings of nature, outdoor activities and health, education and guiding in Arctic nature (sports science)
- The urban Arctic

## Summary

We hope the information above is sufficient to grant us access to sail through your waters next year with the tall ship Statsraad Lehmkühl on her One Ocean Expedition. We kindly ask for your support for the planned voyage and would be very grateful to hear if you have any concerns or comments to the planned voyage, before we proceed with the application for the Environmental Impact Screening Committee.

**Contact One Ocean Expedition:**

Haakon Vathe, CEO Statsraad Lehmkuhl and Expedition Leader [haakon.vathe@lehmkuhl.no](mailto:haakon.vathe@lehmkuhl.no)

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Bergen 01.10.2024

On behalf of Statsraad Lehmkuhl and UiT The Arctic University of Norway,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Haakon Vathe". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small circle above the 'i' in "Vathe".

Haakon Vathe  
CEO for Statsraad Lehmkuhl/Expedition leader for One Ocean Expedition



From:  
The foundation of the tall ship Statsraad Lehmkuhl  
Bradbenken 2, skur 7  
5003 Bergen  
Norway  
& The University of Tromsø - The Arctic University of Norway  
(charterer on the NW Passage from Nuuk to Anchorage)

To:  
Resolute Bay Hunters and Trappers Committee  
E-mail: rbhta@baffinhto.ca  
Phone:

Bergen 17.01.2025

We are contacting you in regards to our planned voyage through the North West Passage next year with the Norwegian tall ship Statsraad Lehmkuhl. We kindly ask for your support and permission to sail through your waters in this period with students and young scientists on board. We plan to do modest research along the way as part of the course that our charterer (The Arctic University of Norway) will have on board. The involvement and engagement of representatives from Inuit communities is crucial for the success of the voyage, see detailed information below.

### **One Ocean Expedition by the Norwegian tall ship Statsraad Lehmkuhl**

One Ocean Expedition is a global project, and a recognized part of the UN's Ocean Decade ([www.oneoceanexpedition.com](http://www.oneoceanexpedition.com)). The main goal of the expedition is to create attention and share knowledge about the crucial role of the ocean for sustainable development in a global perspective. It encourages cooperation across borders for a more sustainable ocean and serves as a reminder that the ocean itself knows no borders.

We share the visions and desired outcomes of the Ocean Decade and use our ship to inspire and

engage. Where the Ocean Decade focuses on “the science we need for the ocean we want”, we also focus on the “people we need for the ocean we want”. One Ocean Expedition aims to reduce the gap between science and the public, and to create hope for future generations.

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## Background

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The expedition was a brilliant showcase of the UN’s sustainable development goals, involving 40 international partners from public sector, education, research, innovation, and commerce. The 110-year-old sailing ship, now equipped with state-of-the-art research instruments, served as a floating university, bringing on board students and scientists from all over the world to discuss and study ocean matters. In the many ports along the way, the ship hosted conferences, receptions, high-level meetings and diplomacy events.

## One Ocean Expedition 2025 – 2026: Northwest Passage

The next One Ocean Expedition begins in April 2025, when Statsraad Lehmkuhl departs from Bergen, Norway, on the last day of the One Ocean Week conference. The 12-month expedition will take the ship to various ports in Europe, including Nice, France, where it will be a part of both the One Ocean Science Conference and the UN Ocean Conference (UNOC2025), before setting sail for its Arctic adventure, going from Greenland through the Northwest Passage to the west coast of North America. In Inuit Nunangat, the expedition will have stopovers in Gjoa Haven, Cambridge Bay and Vancouver. This Arctic portion of the expedition will be a significant contribution towards the UN's Ocean Decade, providing the younger generation of students and researchers first-hand knowledge about Arctic regions.

The general research questions addressed during the circumnavigation of the One Ocean II expedition are:

- How do biodiversity and indicators of human pressures vary over the world's ocean?
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## Educational and scientific program: Future Arctic Pathfinders - A journey through the Northwest Passage

As part of the One Ocean Expedition, UiT The Arctic University of Norway has chartered the vessel to sail through the Northwest Passage in the autumn of 2025. The backbone of the voyage will be a 10 ECTS interdisciplinary course open for master’s students and doctoral fellows, with the preliminary title "Future Arctic Pathfinders - A journey through the Northwest Passage" ([en.uit.no/one-ocean](https://en.uit.no/one-ocean)).

The course will be in English, and it will be open to both Norwegian and international participants. In addition, UiT and partners will develop a dedicated research program specially designed for the voyage through the Northwest Passage. The course will be designed to be project-based and with high focus on developing inter- and transdisciplinary collaboration skills, personal reflections, and practice in dealing with complex issues related to the consequences of human-induced climate change, focusing on the overarching vision and purpose of the project: to raise awareness and share knowledge about the role of the ocean in sustainable development from a global perspective. Indigenous knowledge and perspectives, conventional science, and societal challenges at large will inform the course content. The target audience will be students and fellows who are socially engaged, adventurous, and wish to be part of the solution to major societal challenges related to climate change and sustainable use of the ocean (in a broad sense).

The course will run twice, first from Nuuk to Cambridge Bay in August 2025 and then from Cambridge Bay to Anchorage in September 2025, with 60 participants being enrolled for each run. We also want to invite Indigenous knowledge holders and elders to ensure the transmission of diverse perspectives and knowledges about the Arctic and foster cultural exchange. As such, the course becomes a platform for sharing diverse perspectives, experiences, and ways of knowing, enriching the educational journey for all the participants.

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*The planned route for the One Ocean Expedition 2025-2026. UiT is responsible for the leg through the Northwest Passage,*

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Finally, the expedition will be linked with the Norwegian national research initiative Arctic Ocean 2050 and the forthcoming International Polar Year in 2032/33. The students and Indigenous and local youth that we aim to bring with us today, will in 2032 be Arctic academics and knowledge holders that we rely on to provide the insight and knowledge we need for a sustainable management of a rapidly changing Arctic. These future researchers and decision makers will greatly benefit from the inter- and transdisciplinary competences and anticipatory skills that we will help develop as part of the voyage through the Northwest Passage. This will be the true legacy of the voyage.

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On behalf of Statsraad Lehmkuhl and UiT The Arctic University of Norway,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Haakon Vatle". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'H'.

Haakon Vatle  
CEO for Statsraad Lehmkuhl/Expedition leader for One Ocean Expedition



From:  
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Bradbenken 2, skur 7  
5003 Bergen  
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To:  
Taloyoak Communities and Trappers Committee  
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From:

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Bradbenken 2, skur 7

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To:

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*starting in Nuuk on August 5<sup>th</sup> and ending up in Anchorage on October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025.*

The voyage represents an excellent platform for research. Most likely, other ships will escort the Statsraad Lehmkühl from Nuuk to Anchorage. Thus, at any given time there will be two ships from where research can be conducted. The research plan involves a wide range of study areas including biodiversity, microplastic, physical oceanography, human health, marine studies, atmospheric studies, governance, socio-economic aspects, imaginaries and much more.

Finally, the expedition will be linked with the Norwegian national research initiative Arctic Ocean 2050 and the forthcoming International Polar Year in 2032/33. The students and Indigenous and local youth that we aim to bring with us today, will in 2032 be Arctic academics and knowledge holders that we rely on to provide the insight and knowledge we need for a sustainable management of a rapidly changing Arctic. These future researchers and decision makers will greatly benefit from the inter- and transdisciplinary competences and anticipatory skills that we will help develop as part of the voyage through the Northwest Passage. This will be the true legacy of the voyage.

## **Expedition itinerary – Northwest Passage**

The One Ocean Expedition starts from the ships' home port Bergen on 7<sup>th</sup> of April 2025 and is expected to return to Bergen almost 12 months after on the 17<sup>th</sup> of April 2026. The legs of the 12-month voyage are chartered by different institutions.

UiT The Arctic University of Norway has chartered the leg through the Northwest Passage in Inuit Nunangat (Nunavut & Inuvialuit regions). UiT will embark the ship in Nuuk on August 5<sup>th</sup> 2025 and end their voyage in Anchorage October 4<sup>th</sup>, with planned stops in:

- Miĩtimalik/Pond Inlet (August 14<sup>th</sup>) **OR** Resolute/Qausuittuq (August 17<sup>th</sup>) (for border and immigration – weather and ice depending)
- Uqsuqtuuq/Gjoa Haven (August 22-26<sup>th</sup>)
- Ikaluktutiak/Cambridge Bay (August 29<sup>th</sup> to September 2<sup>nd</sup>)
- Nome (for US border and immigration)

## **Research through the Northwest Passage & collaborative opportunities**

Researchers from One Ocean II are interested in contributing to a better understanding of the Arctic biome, as well as the future challenges local and global communities are facing by climate-driven changes in the Arctic marine ecosystems, pollution, and other anthropogenic stressors. The research may also incorporate socio-economic and -political aspects, including law, of a changing Arctic marine environment. Our aim is to identify local Arctic challenges and make them visible on a wider public scale. We recognize that research activities on land and in the homeland waters of Inuit, Yupik and Unangan can only be carried out with consent by Indigenous rights holders. We would also like to invite elders on board the ship during a prolonged stop on land, for teaching onboard, and there are possibilities for outreach and exchange events, especially in Cambridge Bay, which can also be discussed further. We would like to stress that this is also a learning process for us, and we are eager to listen. In the following, we outline the competence and skills that we can contribute, and we would highly appreciate your input for the further development of the research and cruise plan.

### **Research of the Arctic marine biome**

Statsraad Lehmkuhl and the One Ocean II (OOII) offer excellent opportunities to conduct research related to marine ecology and taxonomy, and to perform biodiversity assessments on small to large scales using state of the art molecular and monitoring techniques, such as analysis of environmental DNA. Researchers can perform near real time analyses during the cruise by taking advantage of infrastructure for data communication and sea observation on board the vessel. The tallship, Statsraad Lehmkuhl enables unique opportunities for conducting research without interference from engine and propeller noise, for studying e.g. marine mammals. Research evolves around:

- Assessment of fish and zooplankton populations
- Biodiversity assessment using physical sampling, morphological and molecular (environmental DNA) analyses
- Biotechnology: exploring marine bioactive compounds and analysing marine hydrocarbon-metabolizing microorganisms
- Epidemiology and impact of diet transitions in Indigenous populations
- Health studies: impact of onboard watch system on health and wellness of OOII participants
- Physical oceanography: understanding changes in sea ice thickness

### **Socioeconomics and –politics in the Arctic**

Potential OOII participants related to both research and teaching cover a range of scientific disciplines that all have a strong Arctic focus. Research and teaching with a focus on social sciences could be of interest for amplifying voices of Indigenous rights holders to a larger scientific and public audience. The research themes are:

- Arctic Memoryscapes – documenting changes in Arctic coastal and underwater heritage
- Information literacy by integrating Indigenous knowledge, experiential learning, and Extended Reality technologies
- Ocean literacy: understanding and stewardship of marine environments through integrating diverse knowledge systems and emotional literacy
- Bridging knowledge systems for Arctic coastal management: document, revitalize, and integrate management and conservation practices of Indigenous peoples, and assess the changes experienced in their livelihoods because of governmental climate change adaptation and mitigation measures
- Creative futures thinking using experiential learning and worldbuilding through the course running on-board
- International relations: interplay between the Arctic and Arctic local and Indigenous societies with global political, economic, security processes

## Summary

We hope the information above is sufficient to grant us access to sail through your waters next year with the tall ship Statsraad Lehmkuhl on her One Ocean Expedition. We kindly ask for your support for the planned voyage and would be very grateful to hear if you have any concerns or comments to the planned voyage, before we proceed with the application for the c

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Bergen 17/01/2025

On behalf of Statsraad Lehmkuhl and UiT The Arctic University of Norway,



Haakon Vatlé  
CEO for Statsraad Lehmkuhl/Expedition leader for One Ocean Expedition