

Developed in collaboration with partners in 2018-19, the Northern Center has adopted the following protocols.

Our Arctic Protocols

We, the undersigned, endorse the following protocols for partnership engagement among local, regional, and national groups on campaigns to halt oil and gas exploitation on Arctic lands and waters. They apply and provide guidance to individual as well as organizational relationships:

- 1. Include Arctic Indigenous Peoples in advocacy about Arctic lands, waters and wildlife, whose survival depends on their protection.** Our campaign strategies must include Indigenous groups or organizations and ensure that the leadership of those partner organizations are included in the development of those strategies. This includes media and communications development, events planning, and long-term campaign strategy.
- 2. Include local organizing from local people as a critical strategy.** The success of our collective work depends on building a diverse base of support engaging and organizing at the local level, centering impacted communities and building outwardly. Trusting, empowering and amplifying Alaska strategies, communications, and leadership is key to success. This requires meaningfully increasing the capacity of impacted communities to ensure they are able to collaboratively engage in messaging development, strategic pathways, and movement building. Impacted communities do not need saving -- their leadership is in place and simply needs to be supported as the key strategy it is.
- 3. Be curious and don't assume: Clarify roles, representation, and accountability structures regularly.** In order to build trust and understand the differing dynamics present for differing organizations, we cannot assume we know all about one another. We must make intentional space for reflecting and clarifying our roles, representations, and accountability processes.
- 4. Make efforts to meaningfully align visions.** When developing campaign strategies and goals for work in the Arctic, ensure local communities and organizations are included from



the beginning. Actively seek alignment for a long-term vision and incorporate goals of solidarity in campaign strategies.

5. Support just and equitable resource sharing amongst coalition members. Groups bring different levels and kinds of resources, including funding and expertise, to coalitions. To promote equitable and effective access to resources, groups should identify and articulate what they need and can contribute to the coalition's success. Jointly raising funds is necessary but not sufficient. Groups also should examine where they can directly share resources that they enjoy disproportionately and help strengthen and build relationships with other groups by responding to their articulated needs.

6. Engage in ongoing organizational and individual learning and unlearning for transformative and adaptive change. Success depends upon a commitment to regular and consistent training, practices, and evaluations of ourselves and our organizations to build deep intersectional analysis. Coalition partners need to make time for reflection, growth, and adaptation while building trust and accountability to each other and ourselves. Staff and board involved in Arctic advocacy must prioritize training, resources, actionable practices, and check-ins for growth and accountability.

7. Be accountable to each other for group growth. It will be important for the coalition, as they adopt these Protocols, to build meaningful accountability measures and commit to each other to follow them, constructively and generously. These should be developed together, through an open dialogue on how best to build trust, while ensuring organizations and individuals have an ability to process and resolve breaks in protocol fairly and with the goal of continued growth.

By endorsing these protocols, we acknowledge that our work is stronger and more effective when there is inclusivity of diversity of people, groups, strategies and ideas; clear and consistent communication; commitment to transformative and adaptive change; and trust. We recognize that this is an iterative, living document, and we commit to reviewing the protocols as their implementation warrants.

