

March 30, 2014

Senator Pete Kelly, District B
State Capitol Room 516
Juneau AK, 99801

Dear Senator Kelly,

I am a teacher at Pearl Creek Elementary School in Fairbanks. I am writing to express my support for continuation funding via the capital budget for BAKLAP – the **Boreal Alaska – Learning, Adaptation, Production** program. I have been involved with BAKLAP 1 and the development of lessons, materials and teacher networks, and hope to be a part of the process if BAKLAP 2 receives the rest of its funding. I have seen firsthand how interested and excited my second and third grade students can be when working with real materials that are a part of their daily lives. Our school is fortunate to have access to forested areas on site, and we have investigated tree growth and tapping potential of birch trees so far this year, as well as keeping scientific journal records of data collected, analysis of data, and art projects with collected materials.

I believe that it is important that our children learn from an early age the power and responsible use of the resources around them, and I see this happening in the scope of the BAKLAP program and what it aims to do in developing curricula and supporting classroom instruction. I urge you to give the highest consideration to funding the rest of the BAKLAP program (BAKLAP 2) so that the important work of educating Alaska's students about a sustainable and viable resource can continue and reach more students statewide.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "J. M. Martin".

Jacqueline M. Martin
Pearl Creek Elementary
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