



QEQERTALIK
BUSINESS COUNCIL
A/S

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Thank you very much for giving me the floor on this occasion, first of all, on behalf of Qeqertalik Business Council & Destination Diskobay, I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year.

Our small organization has now been active for two years, advising entrepreneurs, competence development in form of many different courses for citizens and destination development within tourism in the municipality's towns and villages.

If we look closely to what we have achieved in 2022, it can be mentioned that we have advised 32 entrepreneurs and merchants in various industries, entrepreneurs with a dream to open their small shops and kiosks, eateries, car workshops, laundries and other businesses in all of Qeqertalik. There are no dreams too small or too big, it can also just be people who would like help to create CVR numbers for their sole businesses, they are also welcome.

We have had a number of different courses and workshops held, as examples I can mention the service and culture course in Aasiaat, the fund application course, course in bookkeeping, budgeting and tax matters in both Qeqertarsuaq and Qasigiannuit, workshops for associations as well as branding and marketing for entrepreneurs and businesses.

We believe it is imperative that our fellow citizens have the necessary skills to develop themselves, their businesses and in this way contribute to the flourishing of our municipality as a whole.

As part of our service contract with the Municipality of Qeqertalik, we have also committed to submit proposals to the municipal budget, with our own business and tourism inputs as well as from the citizens and our stakeholders, in both Kangaatsiaq, Qeqertarsuaq, Qasigiannuit, Aasiaat and their settlements. In this connection, we usually invite to workshops during the spring, where we listen to the citizens about their business and tourism potentials, which Qeqertalik can benefit from. They pass them on to the municipal council, which makes the final decisions on which of them the municipality must include in their budgets for the following year.



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Tourism

In the field of tourism, we are busy preparing our region for the airport in Ilulissat to be expanded, because it is certain that the expansion will also have an impact on our region and its business and tourism operators. We have prepared city maps and walking routes, signage around Aasiaat, to make it easier for outside guests to find the accommodation, so that they can more easily find the hospital, the church, the museum and the airport in Aasiaat.

In addition, we have established a good collaboration with our business and tourism colleagues from our neighboring municipality, Avannaata. We share Disko Bay with them, and we must jointly develop the entire region together.

We have also drawn up community specific guidelines in collaboration with AECO (Organisation for cruise ships in the Arctic), so that our citizens in Qeqertarsuaq, Qasigiannuit and Aasiaat can have a clear consensus of expectations with the guests from the cruise ships. Clarifications such as whether they are allowed to touch the dogs, whether they can take pictures of private people at home without consent, etc. This is just one of the few topics in our preparation work.

But I must say and urge that it is our responsibility as citizens of Qeqertalik to create reason-to-go in our region ourselves. In other words, creating attractions that aim to entice guests to come and visit us.

Because remember that what we see as everyday things here in our society is typically something completely new and different for many other of our fellow citizens in the rest of the world. Even the cold and stormy weather, when it reaches - 31 degrees, is an experience few have felt, so don't let yourself be limited and expand your dreams!

I wish you all health and prosperity in the year 2023, then I will look forward to a good collaboration with you that we will meet on our way.

Thanks