

Department of Natural Resources

ALASKA HISTORICAL COMMISSION OFFICE OF HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY

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Lt. Gov. Nancy Dahlstrom, Chair Jonathon Ross, Member Judith Bittner, Member Givey Kochanowski, Member Joan Skilbred, Member

Wayne Jensen, Member Rebecca Poulson, Member Mark Rollins, Member Vacant

Friends:

In 2026, the United States will mark a historic milestone—the Semiquincentennial, or the 250th anniversary of the signing of the U.S. Declaration of Independence and the founding of the Nation. In preparation for the celebratory year, Alaska Governor Mike Dunleavy signed Administrative Order 357, designating the Alaska Historical Commission, chaired by Lieutenant Governor Nancy Dahlstrom, as the agency responsible for coordinating statewide observances, events, and activities, and working with the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission at the national level.

On behalf of Lt. Governor Nancy Dahlstrom and the Alaska Historical Commission members, I would like to present *Alaska's Fields of Dreams: Baseball in America's Far North*, a traveling exhibit for America250Alaska, which celebrates two powerful national narratives: The American Pastime and the Last Frontier.

Presented as innings, the nine freestanding, retractable panels explore Alaska's unique baseball history and its evolution in places such as Anchorage, Fairbanks, Nome, and the Pribilof Islands. *Alaska's Fields of Dreams: Baseball in America's Far North* demonstrates how the game gave those who historically had been excluded the opportunity to become participants—game changers—not only on the diamond, but in shaping Alaska's future. Significantly, the exhibit highlights how Alaskans, in surprising ways, embraced baseball over the decades and made it our game.

Designed by Archgraphics and produced by the Office of History and Archaeology, *Alaska's Fields of Dreams: Baseball in America's Far North* exhibit was made possible through generous support from the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission, Alaska's Department of Natural Resources, and State Parks and Outdoor Recreation.

If your organization or community is interested in displaying the nine-inning exhibit on a short-term basis or ordering the files to fabricate for permanent use, please contact the Office of History and Archaeology at dnr.oha@alaska.gov or call 907-269-8714 for details.

For now, get out there and Play Ball!

Katherry Rugsmith

Katherine J. Ringsmuth, PhD

Alaska State Historian







