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**American Bus Association names World Eskimo-Indian Olympics and Midnight Sun Festival two of North America's 100 Best Events for 2016**

*Fairbanks, Alaska* - The American Bus Association (ABA) announced that Fairbanks is host to two of the Top 100 Events in North America for 2016. Inclusion in the Top 100 list, published as a supplement to the September/October issue of *Destinations* magazine, indicates that both the World Eskimo-Indian Olympics and Midnight Sun Festival offer excellent entertainment value to both tour groups and individual travelers from around the world, according to ABA.

"Congratulations to WEIO and the Midnight Sun Festival for being included in ABA's 2016 Top 100 Events in North America list," said Explore Fairbanks Director of Tourism Scott McCrea. "Events such as these, along with the many other ones that we proudly celebrate in Fairbanks, play an important role in our local visitor industry and help define us as a year-round destination."

At the World Eskimo-Indian Olympics, Native peoples of the Far North gather to participate in games of strength, endurance, balance and agility, along with dancing and storytelling. Visitors learn about Alaska Native culture and witness their incredible athleticism; feel the beat of the drums and get carried away by the timeless song and motion of traditional dance; and appreciate the skills of carving, beading, weaving and sewing handed down for generations.

The Midnight Sun Festival, put on by the Downtown Association of Fairbanks invites visitors to join locals in celebration of the summer solstice in downtown Fairbanks, Alaska, as they bask in 24-hour daylight just 200 miles from the Arctic Circle. The festival is Alaska's largest single-day event, with a 35-year history of celebrating sunshine in the Golden Heart city. The 12-hour street fair is marked by 30,000 attendees perusing hundreds of vendors and 33 live performances, and is host to gold panning, break dancing and a climbing wall. Musical guests, tasty treats and a family-friendly atmosphere make this a "don't miss event."

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**About Explore Fairbanks**

Explore Fairbanks is a non-profit marketing and management organization whose mission is to be an economic driver in the Fairbanks region by marketing to potential visitors and optimizing the visitor experience. Explore Fairbanks markets Fairbanks as a year-round destination by promoting local events, attractions and activities to independent travelers, group tour operators, travel agents, meeting planners and the media as well as by developing public policy and infrastructure to achieve marketing objectives. Find out more at [explorefairbanks.com](http://explorefairbanks.com).