



SVALBARD LABOUR PARTY ELECTION PROGRAM 2019 - 2023

Svalbard Arbeiderparti's main policies and goals for the period 2019-2023

- Proper wages and working conditions for all professions in Longyearbyen.
- A town with excellent conditions for our children's upbringing.
- Escalation of the project for a new and sustainable energy system.
- In focus: Nature, environment, well-being and ensuring that Longyearbyen is an attractive place to live
- A stronger community



Arild Olsen speaks – our local council leader candidate

Nearly four years have passed since I became your local council leader. This period has been filled with both happiness and sorrow, and of course, major changes in Longyearbyen.

Of all of the days that passed, December 19, 2015 was the day that changed Longyearbyen forever. Our community was put through a tremendous test. The efforts made by our residents were crucial, and demonstrated the strength that is to be found in our society; local groups, clubs and organizations, both big and small. I will carry this with me always.

Longyearbyen is a place where many of us choose to nurture our families. Our family community is a central element in national and local Svalbard politics. Our children must have the best possible conditions to foster all aspects of their development and wellbeing. At the same time, we are in the midst of a period of change, both locally and globally. We must adapt to a changing climate, and our infrastructure must be adapted to meet our needs. We must intensify our work in finding a new and sustainable energy system.

Our most important resources are you, the people who live here, and we must therefore ensure that the local services provided are suited to you. We would be all the poorer without the competence each and every one of us brings to the table. Due to this, wage and working conditions are one of our top priorities.

Longyearbyen is warm and generous. A place where the volunteering spirit is strong, and contributes to our rich cultural lives with a variety of activities. This builds a unique community spirit, and Svalbard Arbeiderparti wishes to build a supportive framework around this. At the same time, we must do our best to reduce social differences within our community.

All of this is worth fighting for, and together this forms the basis for my political motivation.

To be able to contribute to the building of our community here at 78 degrees North is a privilege. Together with wonderful group from AP, I am therefore looking forward to standing as Svalbard Arbeiderparti's candidate for local council leader for the coming period

Choose well!

Arild Olsen – Local council leader candidate 2019-2023



Our politics

We who live here in Longyearbyen

Our residents are our greatest resource and we want to see you stay in Longyearbyen over a longer period and thrive here. Growth in the number of inhabitants is not a goal in itself. We want to adapt the level of services and infrastructure so that Longyearbyen is better prepared to meet the future. We also need to channel pedestrians, vehicles and snowmobiles through our town better, to ensure an improvement in traffic safety.

SVALBARD ARBEIDERPARTI WILL:

- Focus on ensuring that everyone who works in Longyearbyen have proper working conditions, rights and regulations.
- Ensure the maintenance of the community's emergency response capacity, particularly in connection to geohazards and ambulance transport.
- Support volunteer emergency service initiatives like the Red Cross and a further development of the Norwegian Rescue Dogs (Norske Redningshunder) on Svalbard.
- Focus on the inclusion and involvement of the whole community, remembering the diverse range of nationalities amongst us.
- Ensure that the services offered by Longyearbyen lokalstyre are realistic relative to the taxation level and the framework provided in national Svalbard politics.
- Reduce the level of turn-over in Longyearbyen lokalstyre, especially at Longyearbyen school.
- Work closely with Longyearbyen Hospital (Longyearbyen Sykehus) to adapt the health services to the residents' needs.
- Complete work on the pedestrian and bicycle paths.
- Establish clear and signposted snowmobile trails in Longyearbyen to better channel snowmobile traffic, avoiding school roads, residential areas and playgrounds

Housing situation in Longyearbyen

A safe and acceptable home at a reasonable price is a prerequisite for ensuring that our residents stay here. There is still a great need for new housing, and measures that can help to adjust the housing market in Longyearbyen.

SVALBARD ARBEIDERPARTI WILL:

- Ensure that more housing is built to suit with the town's needs. New solutions such as micro-houses and smart-homes should be considered.
- Make sure that Sjømrådet is developed into a housing and industry area.
- Regulate Airbnb rental
- Rework the land-use plan to ensure it meets the housing requirements.



Children and youth

Youth and children are an essential part of the family community. They are the future, and we must ensure that our younger residents thrive here, and are well looked after. We wish to give the younger generation the best possible conditions for their upbringing.

SVALBARD ARBEIDERPARTI WILL:

- Maintain 100 % kindergarten coverage, and keep a lower rate than the state's maximum price.
- Ensure the kindergartens are open throughout the summer.
- Increase staffing in each kindergarten with one extra full-time equivalent.
- Ensure that the kindergartens and Longyearbyen school have acceptable resources for language education.
- Introduce sibling rebates for those with children at both SFO and kindergarten.
- Map the need for, and costs involved in, the provision of free school meals.
- Implement the project for a new "childhood development area" near the school, including a new kindergarten building.
- Reinstate the self-run youth house.
- Further develop the 'kulturkortet' (culture card) for youth.
- Explore solutions for a youth accessible psychologist service.
- Encourage Longyearbyen lokalstyre to offer more summer jobs for youth.
- Support Camp Svalbard.



Sport, culture and leisure

Sport and culture are important in Longyearbyen, particularly for the welfare of our residents, public health, integration, inclusion, business and as inspiration. It is the backbone of our identity. Much of this work is built on volunteers and voluntary service.

SVALBARD ARBEIDERPARTI WILL:

- Start a project for a new sports building in close consultation with interested groups.
- Expand the floodlit cross country ski trail in town.
- Support the establishment of a summer trail for dog wagons in the Adventdalen area.
- Make sure the downhill ski lift is in operation.
- Ensure that Kulturskolen has sufficient staffing and capacity to provide every child with at least one activity.
- Upgrade social meeting places for residents, like the barbecue areas in Bjørndalen and Sjøområdet.
- Begin the process of moving Galleri Svalbard and the Kunst- og håndverksenteret to an appropriate place and look for possible cooperations with other art and cultural institutions.
- Organise and establish free hire of leisure equipment.



Climate, nature and the environment

Environment and climate are on the agenda all over the world, and Longyearbyen must also embrace this. We will have a strong environmental focus in all political matters and facilitate for better environmental management at all levels. Longyearbyen, the hub of the world's most well-managed wilderness, must be presented as such, and made such through sustainable, environmentally friendly solutions and healthy attitudes towards nature and wilderness.

SVALBARD ARBEIDERPARTI WILL:

- Be a clear voice for residents' rights to access and travel through the wilderness of Svalbard.
- Ensure that Longyearbyen lokalstyre's bidding processes have strong environmental considerations.
- Initiate the building of a recycling centre at Hotellneset.
- Look into the reuse of buildings which are scheduled to be destroyed or moved in Svea and Longyearbyen.
- Differentiate harbour fees to reward ships with low emissions.
- Support Bruktikken, and together with the UNIS students look for a new, appropriate location.
- Arrange a 'Park the car - Use your legs!' campaign.
- Introduce a test project for electric bicycles.
- Upgrade the town centre with better lighting and seating, and facilitate for 'dog parking' away from entrances and playgrounds. It should be nice to spend time in the town centre.
- Cut out all single use plastic at Longyearbyen lokalstyre's enterprises and encourage others to do the same

Energy

Now is the time to intensify our focus on the new energy supply. Building owners should be motivated to improve existing properties in consideration of environmental and energy saving factors. It should be worthwhile to be environmentally friendly.

SVALBARD ARBEIDERPARTI WILL:

- Escalate the current project for a new and sustainable energy supply, including the storage of energy and environmentally friendly energy production.
- Strive to ensure that energy prices do not go above today's level
- Motivate users to reduce their energy usage through scaled fees.
- Establish a support scheme for energy conservation measures.
- Set high environmental standards for new buildings.
- Ensure Longyearbyen lokalstyre continues to employ an energy advisor.



Employment and business

Everyone in our town should be provided with proper wage and workplace conditions. There should be an advantage in being a locally established company. We will focus on making existing business sector more robust.

SVALBARD ARBEIDERPARTI WILL:

- Introduce the 'allmenngjøringsloven' (General Application Act) so that everyone is assured an acceptable minimum wage.
- Ensure that the public sector's bidding processes promote organised working conditions, rights and regulations.
- Secure and safeguard the industrial jobs at Gruve 7, and contribute to the further development of Store Norske.
- Facilitate a project to provide small businesses with access to offices and meeting places.
- Strive for better and more affordable freight and logistical solutions for residents and businesses alike.
- Challenge the Svalbard fee at Posten (the postal service).
- Support better access to commercial building sites.
- Contribute to the development of Hotellneset as a new commercial area.
- Increase the number of apprentice positions in Longyearbyen lokalstyre and encourage others in Longyearbyen to do the same.
- Strengthen local business development through increased cooperation between the industrial, research, education and innovation sectors.
- Support the further development of UNIS.
- Be an active owner of Svalbard Folkehøyskole.
- Strengthen the cooperation between LO Svalbard and other employee organisations.
- - Ensure that the harbour remains publicly owned and further develop it to support local businesses

Tourism

Tourism represents a significant portion of the business community in our town. It is important that the local residents and tourism industry work well together.

SVALBARD ARBEIDERPARTI WILL:

- Advocate for a tourist tax that is earmarked for facilitation of projects to benefit residents and visitors.
- Revise the tourism regulations to ensure more sustainable operations, and to give local businesses an advantage over external companies.
- Work to limit the overseas- and expedition cruise traffic.
- Set a limit for the number of ships and/or passengers who can visit the town per day.
- Increase the call time for cruise and expedition ship traffic at Port of Longyearbyen, to share the passengers over a longer period.
- Build a footpath along the main road to the harbour.
- Ensure that there are more public toilets available in the town centre.
- Start a dialogue with the tourism industry to find solutions for the use of local areas which serve a recreational purpose for local residents, but which are also used by the industry.
- Continue to promote cooperation between government, business and interested organisations such as Visit Svalbard and AECO.

Ours politicians for the election periode 2019-2023

LOKALSTYRELEDER-KANDIDAT



Arild Olsen (41)

Profession: Lokalstyreleder 2015-2019 / previously employed at SNSK.

Resident: 19 years

Passionate about: Labour rights. Volunteerism. A safe and supportive community for children. Energy, and a more environmentally friendly town!

2. KANDIDAT



Elise Strømseng (37)

Profession: Advisor, UNIS / violin teacher at Kulturskolen

Resident: 15 years

Passionate about: Labour rights, nature, climate and environment, children and youth, volunteers in our cultural life.

3. KANDIDAT



Per Nilssen (53)

Profession: Mine manager SNSK

Resident: 25 years

Passionate about: Diverse and sustainable businesses, infrastructure for the future, supportive conditions for children and youth.

4. KANDIDAT



Kristin F. Grøtting (58)

Profession: Manual therapist, Longyearbyen Sykehus (UNN)

Profession: 23 years

Passionate about: Focussed on the entirety: children & youth and culture & sport

5. KANDIDAT



Tommy Anderssen (47)

Profession: Manager, Maler Anderssen AS

Resident: 13 years

Passionate about: Clear framework for private businesses. Whole year employment, Maintaining a stable family community.

6. KANDIDAT



Silje Våtvik (39)

Profession: Guide manager, Svalbard Wildlife Expeditions

Resident: 35 years

Passionate about: Local businesses, permanent whole year jobs with good wages and conditions.



7. KANDIDAT



Didrik Paulsen (34)

Profession: Koordinator, Artica Svalbard

Resident: 4 years

Passionate about: Increased well-being through rich cultural life and proper working conditions for all.

8. KANDIDAT



Kjersti Storø (46)

Profession: Specialist nurse / coach.

Resident: 3.5 years

Passionate about: Safe and foreseeable housing situation for all. Labour rights. Safe conditions for the development of children. Regulation of tourism.

9. KANDIDAT



Svein Jonny Albrigtsen (54)

Profession: Safety inspector, Mine 7/Store Norske.

Resident: 45 years

Passionate about: Labour rights and ensuring continued operation in Mine 7.

10. KANDIDAT



Merethe Stiberg (42)

Profession: Substitute teacher / Widerøe ground services

Resident: 5.5 years

Passionate about: Favourable and safe conditions for children, leisure activities for organised sport and otherwise. School meals and free swimming lessons.

11. KANDIDAT



Rune Seljevold (45)

Profession: Miner at SNSG

Resident: 13 years

Passionate about: Mining industry and labour rights

12. KANDIDAT



Veronika Langteigen (39)

Profession: Chef/canteen staff Svalbard Catering

Resident: 14 years

Passionate about: Safe and fair working conditions for everyone.

13. KANDIDAT



Jan Telstø (59)

Profession: Machinist, SNSK (Svea)

Resident: 11 years

Passionate about: Serious, permanent, Norwegian jobs. More affordable housing for all, and a reduction in social differences.

14. KANDIDAT



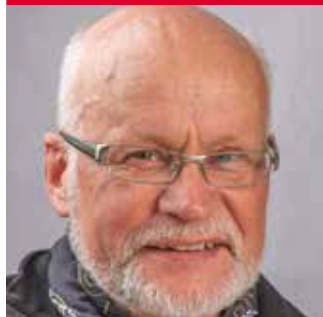
Anika Paust (37)

Profession: International Sales Manager, Hurtigruten Svalbard

Resident: 11 years

Passionate about: An open and inclusive community, fair work rights, permanent jobs and sustainable growth.

15. KANDIDAT



Snorre Olaussen (73)

Profession: Professor, UNIS

Resident: 10 years

Passionate about: Labour rights, increased knowledge in sciences and natural sciences, increased efforts in research, avoiding CO2 emissions and damage to the environment.

16. KANDIDAT



Tora Hultgren (66)

Profession: Director, Svalbard Museum

Resident: 12 years

Passionate about: Nature and culture. Limiting cruise and expedition cruise traffic. No to social dumping

17. KANDIDAT



Ottar Svensen (65)

Profession:

Office manager, Longyearbyen Sykehus

Resident: 15 years

Passionate about: Health, culture, and a good environment to grow up in.

18. KANDIDAT



Gerd-Irene Sigernes (52)

Profession: Lab-leader, UNIS

Resident: 24 years

Passionate about: Labour rights: laws connected to tariff agreements.

19. KANDIDAT



Anders Lindseth (63)

Profession:

Warehouse /logistics: LNSS

Resident: 32 years

Passionate about: The environment, and the right to recreational travel on Svalbard. Volunteers, and the spirit of volunteerism.



Our vision for the future!

A warm town where people want to live, a family community with something to offer people of all ages, a town with a diverse commercial sector and proper conditions at work, employees who are active members of the community, a community which focuses on environmentally friendly and climate friendly solutions for the future.

A stronger community!