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PRESS RELEASE:

CHNL gets NOK 5 million yearly support from the Norwegian government

In the revised state budget released on Tuesday the 12th of May the Centre for High North Logistics (CHNL) is allocated NOK 5 million per year in governmental support from the Ministry of Education.

As a result of the yearly state support, CHNL will be incorporated into the university structure of the University of Nordland (UiN) in Bodø and be part of the university's High North Center.

This means that CHNL can continue to develop into a major global knowledge base for maritime transport and logistics in the Arctic, headquartered in Kirkenes, North Norway with a branch office in Murmansk, Russia.

The initial public-private funding of CHNL expired in 2013 and the activity in 2014 was financed by contributions from Tschudi Shipping, DNV GL, Norwegian Shipowners' Association, the University of Nordland, and the Arctic University of Norway in Tromsø (UiT).

“The new governmental funding confirms that Norwegian authorities see CHNL's importance as a bridge between the business community and educational institutions in providing practical information and knowledge in maritime transport and logistics in the Arctic. We are very excited about the funding, which ensures a long-term commitment which is necessary to provide quality and up-to-date information in a field that is constantly evolving economically, technically and politically, says CHNL's Chairman Felix H. Tschudi in Tschudi Shipping.

High North Center at the University of Nordland will have the overall administrative responsibilities for CHNL in close cooperation with the Arctic University of Norway in Tromsø, which will also be represented on the CHNL's Board.

“Effective and sustainable solutions for transport and logistics will be crucial for the development of businesses in the North. Cooperation and partnerships that CHNL initiates between national and international organizations, can make important contributions to the development of the north, says Director Frode Mellemvik at the High North Center of the University of Nordland.

Rector Pål Pedersen and Director Stig Fossum at the University of Nordland are both pleased that CHNL is now being incorporated into the university structure, but continues being headquartered in Kirkenes.

“We believe such an organizational structure with annual state budgetary allocation is a good basis for further development of CHNL”, they say.

Dean Bjorn Olsen at the University of Nordland believes that the new state support for CHNL will lead to the generation of important new knowledge both on and for the High North.