

Professor Nikolay Kradin  
Director  
Institute of History, Archaeology and Ethnology, FEB RAS  
89 Pushkinskaya St., Vladivostok, 690001, Russia

Dear Dr. Kradin

I wish to express my greetings and congratulations to you and the Institute of History, Archaeology and Ethnology of the Peoples of the Russian Far East on the celebration of its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Since its inception on July 1, 1971 the Institute has functioned as a scholarly center and sponsor of research for both Russian and international academics.

The Institute first supported my research in the Russian Far East in 1995 and continued through 2004. This valuable support took the form of equipment, transportation and collaboration with resident scholars. It was my privilege to collaborate with numerous esteemed resident experts, such as Nina Kononenko, Nikolai Kluev, Alla Garkovik, Igor Sleptsov, Yuri Vostretsov and Evgenia Gelman. This led to further collaboration with researchers from other Russian Institutes, such as Irina Ponkratova, Alexander Popov, Andrei Tabarev, Alexander Krupianko, Alexander Korotkii and Vladimir Popov. My association with these scholars, and others, greatly enhanced my knowledge of the history of the Russian Far East and the ultimate value of my research throughout the Russian Far East and among international audiences.

In addition to the physical and logistical support provided by the Institute my research was also jointly supported through collaborative partnerships with the University of California Santa Barbara and the Fulbright Foundation. These collaborative efforts have resulted in publications on the Russian Far East in numerous international journals, including those produced by the Institute, the British Archaeological Record and the journal of North Pacific Prehistory (Volumes 1, 2 and 3). An edited volume entitled “Maritime Prehistory of Northeast Asia”, co-edited by Irina Ponkratova Ben Fitzhugh and myself is presently in press with Springer Nature publications.

Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend your Institute meeting scheduled for July 1, 2021 but wish to convey my personal best wishes and support for continued success to the staff and scientific community.

Best Regards,

Dr. Jim Cassidy  
Chair of Maritime History and Archaeology  
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