

## Dear all SSC participants

It is now 2 months to the conference, and we are very much looking forward to seeing you all! We are proceeding as planned. As the restrictions and recommendations are in Norway the conference can be held almost normally. We have limited the number of participants to 250 to ensure we have the option to fulfill the 1m distance requirement if they apply at the time. So far 200 persons have registered for the conference and we have received more than 150 abstracts. The hotel is responsible for making sure all regulations are met and we will keep you informed of any changes.

If you cannot attend the conference you can get your attendance fee refunded before 1<sup>st</sup> of October. If we cancel or postpone the conference you will also get your attendance fee returned or transferred to the next conference.

With regards to entry into Norway there are no quarantine restrictions for vaccinated persons or those who can document that they have had COVID in the last 6 months. Please check the status of your country, what certificates are required and what applies to you here:

<https://www.helsenorge.no/en/coronavirus/international-travels/#what-is-the-colour-of-the-country-you-are-travelling-from>.

<https://www.fhi.no/en/op/novel-coronavirus-facts-advice/facts-and-general-advice/entry-quarantine-travel-covid19/?term=&h=1>

We are laying the final touches on the program and those who have requested oral presentations they will be announced soon. There have been several changes till now due to cancelations and restrictions and we expect more so please bear with us when we have to change things as we go along. Due to the uncertain situation, we have very few attendants from outside Europe, we hope that many who cannot attend will watch the live feed online and we will be able to meet in person in the not-too-distant future. We are working hard to make the conference as good, safe and enjoyable as possible given the circumstances and bringing the Svalbard Science community back together!

On the next page you will find some practical info. We will send out more details ahead of the meeting.

We are very much looking forward to seeing and hearing all of you in Oslo in November

On behalf of the planning group,

Karoline Bælum



**How to find your way:** The venue is: Scandic Fornebu, Martin Linges vei 2, 1364 Fornebu. +47 21 05 70 00. There are direct trains from the airport via Oslo Central station to **Lysaker station**. You can either take the airport express (trains F1 or F2) or the regular trains (trains R10, R11 or L12). The airport express runs more often and is slightly faster but more expensive. At Lysaker station you shift to bus 81 Fornebu, 31 Fornebu or 31 Snarøya. It is 5-10 min to "IT Fornebu" 200m from the hotel. Find more information on departures and how to buy tickets on [Ruter.no](https://www.ruter.no). At the moment masks are required when using public transport, including taxis.

**Registration:** The registration desk is situated in the main lobby, to the left of the reception. The registration opens 2<sup>nd</sup> of November at 08:00. Please collect your name tag at the registration desk. If you have sent your poster by mail you collect it here.

**What is included in the registration fee:** Access to all sessions. Lunch and coffee breaks on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of November and the conference dinner on the 2<sup>nd</sup> (including 2 glasses of wine/beer/soft drinks).

**Poster presentations:** The poster session is on November 2<sup>nd</sup> from 16:00 to 19:00. You can hang your poster (maximum size portrait A0) in your assigned space from 08:30. The poster wall is marked with your abstract number. An alphabetical list of all presenters and abstract numbers can be found in the back of the book of Abstracts. If you need help or just some extra tape, ask the staff at the registrations desk. Please take down your poster before 15:00 on 3<sup>rd</sup> of November. If you need to print your poster you can order from [www.vistaprint.no](https://www.vistaprint.no) (or another company of your choice) and ship to:

The Research Council of Norway  
Postboks 564  
1327 Lysaker  
Att: "*your name*" SSC2021 – Marianne Johansen

**Oral presentations:** The timeslots in the program are either 15 or 20 min depending on the session, but this includes change of presenter and questions so do not talk for more than 10/15 min. When your oral presentation is confirmed you will also be allocated a time slot. Please upload your presentation well in advance of the session in the speaker's room. You deliver the presentation on a USB memory stick so remember to bring one. Be in the presentation room at least 10 min before the session starts. There will be seats reserved for the presenters on the front row. Please let the chair of the session know you are in place and have uploaded your presentation.

**Did something go wrong?** Please tell us. We still have a few places left in session 4, A polar bear ate my Zodiac, where we invite you all to present 3 minutes about what went wrong. If you are interested in participating, please send a few lines about your mishaps and a title to Karoline Bælum ([kab@rcn.no](mailto:kab@rcn.no)).