**Arctic Race in Lofoten, August 2019**

As many of you will know, this year’s Arctic Race cycling event will be taking place in Lofoten. In Vågan this will affect Henningsvær and Svolvær in particular, these being the Start and Finish of the second stage. Enclosed you will find all the information we have received so far with regard to the closing of public roads. For our part, the dates in question will be Thursday the 15th, Friday the 16th and Sunday the 18th of August. As you probably also know, a number of events in conjunction with the Arctic Triple / Norwegian Triathlon Championships will also be taking place in Henningsvær and Svolvær on a number of days during this same week, but the roads will not be closed for as long as they will be on Friday, so Friday is the day that will be the most demanding when it comes to driving motor vehicles and receiving or delivering goods in our municipality.

Agreement has been reached with land and property owners with regard to the areas in question, and practically the whole of Svolvær town centre will be affected in one way or another. Since the main road (E10) will be closed for much of the day, it is important that goods deliveries, arrivals and departures at accommodations, necessary errands and any other business are well planned in advance and preferably moved to the days before or after the event. Remember that on Thursday the 15th, the whole of western Lofoten will be closed and on Sunday the 18th, the E10 will be closed most of the day all the way from Evenes to Lofoten. Visitors travelling to or from Evenes on that day will no doubt appreciate information to that effect.

For businesses located in the Vorsetøya area of Svolvær, access will be very limited due to barriers at the finishing line (in the area in front of Nordic Last og Buss). All of these companies should now have received the necessary information, or have been given the opportunity of acquiring such information, via meetings, personal visits or other channels. Should anyone feel the need for further information, however, they are welcome to contact the undersigned or Mr. Tor Henriksen at Lofotvekst.

Please be advised that the cycling race is organized by Arctic Race, not Vågan Municipality, that the closing of public roads will take place under their direction, and that they have obtained all the necessary authorizations from the police, the Municipality and the highways authority.

The event will start at approximately 13:55 in Henningsvær and Finish at approximately 18:00 in Svolvær.

The Norwegian Triathlon Championships and Arctic Race will make every effort to adapt to each other’s events in order to avoid collisions, and the times given are therefore approximations.

You can never get enough information, we know this, and consequently information has now been provided through a number of articles in the local press and two information meetings at the Town Hall, together with an Arctic Race Facebook page, which we recommend you to follow. Relevant information will be posted continually on this Facebook page. The local press will also provide relevant information at frequent intervals as the event approaches. Information has also been posted on social media and our website and been distributed via a number of emails, but sometimes it can be difficult to reach the right people, find the right addresses and ensure that information is further distributed to those who need it.

We hope that good planning will ensure that the event will be entertaining and full of enjoyment and high spirits, with fine weather and cheerful street life throughout the entire week, and that it will take place without any major difficulties.

Vågan Municipality