

## Request for Bids to Host the International Conference on Polar and Alpine Microbiology

The International Conference on Polar and Alpine Microbiology has matured into a successful conference series. The PAM Conferences held every two years attract 150–250 delegates for a 4 to 5-day scientific and social program with the goal of sharing and reviewing discoveries and progress in polar and alpine microbiology research across disciplines. The conference series has provided a wealth of opportunities for the exchange of ideas and building of collaborations.

The 8<sup>th</sup> PAM Conference is scheduled for February 4-8 in Hamilton, New Zealand, and continues the tradition of the highly successful meetings previously held in Rovaniemi, Finland (2004), Innsbruck, Austria (2006), Banff, Canada (2008), Ljubljana, Slovenia (2011), Big Sky, Montana, USA (2013) Ceske Budejovice, Czech Republic (2015), and most recently Nuuk, Greenland (2017).

### Bidding Process

Bids are now welcome to host the 9<sup>th</sup> PAM Conference (in 2021). Since there is no formal society to run the conference series, a committee of past conference chairs will evaluate conference bids and select the next organizer.

The bid should include the following information:

- 1) Conference Chair/Team
- 2) Location and additional information on venue (e.g. accessibility & ground transportation).
- 3) Proposed Dates
- 4) Housing (hotels & hostels, with approximate cost)
- 5) Draft budget and potential funding sources in support of the conference
- 6) Proposed “theme” and outline of potential sessions
- 7) Any other information in support of the bid

In making its decision, the committee will consider maintaining an international balance in conference location, the accessibility and affordability of the site, as well as the ability of the organizing team to raise the funds needed to successfully run the conference. The aim is to have the organizer and site selected in advance of the next conference in order to provide sufficient time for the next organizers.

Please send bids by December 15, 2018 to Max Haggblom (haggblom@rutgers.edu)

