



## KING BAUDOUIN FOUNDATION UNITED STATES

November 30, 2006.

Dear Belgian Friends:

As we near the end of this fiscal year, I write to invite you to support an outstanding initiative in Belgium, carefully chosen because of the quality of its work and its need for additional funding : The construction of the Princess Elisabeth Antarctic Station by the Brussels-based International Polar Foundation.

The final plans for Belgium's research station in Antarctica were recently unveiled. When reviewing the attached presentation and letter from renowned polar explorer Alain Hubert, chairman of the International Polar Foundation, I am convinced that you will be as excited by this project as I am.

The research station will make a significant contribution to the international scientific community through a better understanding of climate change and global warming. As the first 'Zero Emission' Antarctic Station, it will also represent international best practice, being entirely run on renewable energy and completely recycling all waste. No damage will be caused to the pristine Antarctic environment.

The Princess Elisabeth station will enable Belgium to confirm its position as a leader in the environmental movement. Furthermore, it comes with an interesting U.S. link : NASA is watching the station's design to identify fields of common ground with station projects for the Moon and Mars.

I hope that you will join us in this exciting initiative!

To support the construction of the Princess Elisabeth Antarctic Station, please complete the back of this letter and return it to KBFUS. To contribute by credit card, go to [www.kbfus.org](http://www.kbfus.org), click on the 'Donate Now' button and select 'Antarctic Station' under 'Giving Option 1: Non-Profit Partners Overseas'.

Because KBFUS is a 501(c)(3) public charity, you can claim maximum tax benefits.

With my very best wishes for a happy holiday season, kind regards,

Jean Paul Warmoes  
Executive Secretary

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- Please complete this form and make your check payable to 'KBFUS / Antarctic Station' -

- Send form and check to KBFUS, 10 Rockefeller Plaza, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10020 -

- If you wish to contribute with a credit card, go to [www.kbfus.org](http://www.kbfus.org), click on the 'Donate Now' button and select 'Antarctic Station' under 'Giving Option 1: Non-Profit Partners Overseas' -
  - If you have any questions, please contact us at (212) 713 7660, [info@kbfus.org](mailto:info@kbfus.org) -
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YES! I want to support the building of the Princess Elisabeth Research Station!  
By doing so, I am contributing to Belgium's efforts for groundbreaking research in Antarctica as well as a better understanding of climate change and global warming by the international scientific community.

I enclose a check payable to 'KBFUS / Antarctic Station' in the amount of :

- \$100
- \$250
- \$500
- \$1,000
- Other: .....

Because KBFUS is a 501(c)(3) public charity, I can claim maximum tax benefit for my contribution.

- Check this box if you wish for your gift to remain anonymous.

My name .....

Street address .....

City, State, Zip .....

Phone .....

Email .....

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The King Baudouin Foundation United States (KBFUS) helps U.S. donors achieve their personal giving goals in Europe and Africa. We make sure that their giving remains personalized, efficient, tax deductible and secure.

Over the years, we have enabled donors to reach out to organizations that protect children on-line, spotlight the next generation of great musicians, preserve historic sites, and develop sustainable sources of income for communities affected by HIV/AIDS, to name a few examples.

We'll be happy to help you support your favorite non-profit organization overseas!





International Polar  
Foundation  
Bridging the science-society divide

**The new Belgian Princess Elisabeth Antarctic Station:  
An outstanding opportunity to make your mark in history.**

Dear Belgian American,

On 18th August 1897, the Belgica expedition set sail from Antwerp, bound for Antarctica. It was the first purely scientific expedition to the sixth continent. Belgium returned to Antarctica in 1957 to set up its own research station and then became one of the original signatories of the Antarctic Treaty, which established Antarctica's internationally protected status, allowing only non-military activities.

110 years on from the Belgica expedition, the International Polar Year 2007-2008 provides **a unique opportunity for humanity**. The stakes are high, however. There is now, mainly due to polar research findings, a consensus that human activities are contributing to climate change. Antarctica constitutes **an irreplaceable archive of the planet's climatic history** and delving into that past is essential to know how to address urgent practical problems now needing answers.

**Once again, Belgium has set itself high goals.** The Belgian Federal Government has commissioned the International Polar Foundation to build a new research station, the Princess Elisabeth Station, to be launched in February 2008 ([www.antarcticstation.org](http://www.antarcticstation.org)). This will be a major first : the only polar base operating entirely on renewable energy, representing a technical achievement that blends the best science and technology can offer. The new station will house 20 people during the summer and be based on a small, snow-free granite ridge in the seldom-researched Dronning Maud Land Region.

The construction of this innovative project is expected to cost 8 million dollars, of which 30% has already been committed by the Belgian government. This means that we need to secure an additional \$5.6 million through sponsorship and private donations.

It would make us very happy to count you among the supporters of the soon-to-open Princess Elisabeth Station. **Don't wait and send back your check today** to the King Baudouin Foundation United States (KBFUS). Not only will your support enable us to complete groundbreaking research, but it will also give unprecedented visibility to Belgium's commitment to meeting the climate challenge.

Sincerely,

Alain Hubert  
Chairman of the Board

Thierry Touchais  
Executive Director



KBFUS



## **STATION DESCRIPTION**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Within limiting factors such as the extreme conditions and the logistic challenges typical of the Antarctic environment, the station will demonstrate excellence in engineering to achieve its high standards for functionality, safety and minimising environmental impact.

### **STATION**

- Austral summer base: open from November to February
- Occupation: 20 people
- Expected design life: 25 years minimum
- Accommodation (living, technical, research): 700 m<sup>2</sup>

### **LOCATION**

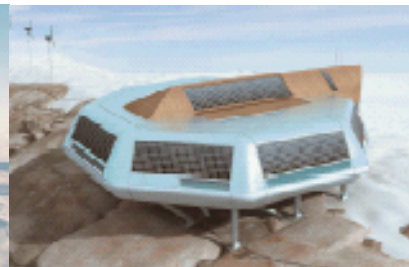
- Position: 71°57' S and 23°20' E at Utsteinen nunatak
- Distance to coast: 190 km; Distance to nearest base: 500 km
- Research opportunities: Sør Rondane mountains, glaciers, coast and Antarctic plateau

### **METEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS**

- Air Temperatures: -50 °C to -5 °C
- Dominant katabatic wind regime
- Prevailing wind direction: SE
- Monthly average wind speed: 6.0 m/s
- Monthly maximum wind speed: 35 m/s
- Monthly maximum gust speed: 70 m/s
- Average atmospheric pressure: 830 hPa
- 24 Hour daylight: 100 days out of 120 during summer season

### **LOGISTICS**

- Brief time windows for erection and limited access to construction machinery





International Polar  
Foundation  
Bridging the science-society divide

## **ACTIVITIES**

### **A RESEARCH STATION**

The station will provide the necessary services and facilities to efficiently support scientific research in the area. The research program will be the responsibility of the Belgian Federal Science Policy Office (BELSPO). This program will cover several disciplines in which the Belgian science community already excels, including: glaciology, seismic and geomagnetic activity, geophysical processes, climate process observations, atmospheric processes and biology.

### **AN EDUCATION STATION**

A communication and education program will be set up by the IPF in collaboration with BELSPO. A team member living in the station will be in charge of organizing activities with schools and non-governmental organizations, liaising with the press on different aspects of the life in the station and the ongoing research activities. The IPF will use the new base to reinforce the visibility of research in the Polar Regions and its contribution to understanding climate change. A documentary about the construction of the base and its research program is planned.

### **AN AMBITIOUS PROJECT**

New and proven technology could redefine the next generation of Antarctic research stations. Today the concepts emerging on the drawing boards, although optimizing energy efficiency, remain fully dependent on fossil fuel for energy generation regardless of the ecological and logistic challenges this imposes. In this unprecedented project sustainable technology will provide the primary energy source, without compromising on functionality, comfort or safety.





## PLANNING

### DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

- Jul 2004 - Apr 2005      Analysis & preliminary design
- May 2005 - Feb 2006      Final design and financing activities
- Feb 2006                      Design freeze
- Jul 2006 - Dec 2006      Manufacturing
- Feb 2007 - Jul 2007      Assembly & testing
- Aug 2007                      Exhibition and presentation in 'Tour & Taxis' (Brussels, Belgium)
- Sep 2007 - Nov 2007      Transport to Antarctica
- Nov 2007 - Mar 2008      On-site construction (BELARE 2007)
- Mar 2008                      Inauguration

