



## HURRICANE ISLAND OUTWARD BOUND SCHOOL

4<sup>th</sup> April, 2020

Dear HIOBS Community,

Our hearts here at HIOBS go out to everyone who has been directly impacted by this pandemic, which we know is many of you. We want to share with you that we have made the decision to suspend some of our summer programming—hoping to err on the side of caution and to give us all some room to make plans for the summer ahead.

We are moving forward with a plan to continue running an adjusted schedule of July and August programming, and are mobilizing our efforts toward that end—and are still excited to be in the outdoors with our students this coming season. If you're anything like us, you probably need a good dose of outside time and connection with other humans—and we are still hopeful that we will be able to make that happen safely for our students and staff later this summer. Expedition, challenge, and safety are at the very core of who we are, and we look forward to getting back on course as soon as we can!

In order to allow us to be ready for the later start in the season, HIOBS is also making adjustments to staff schedules, backcountry permits and all the other “in-front-of and behind-the-scenes” work that make up a safe and life-changing HIOBS expedition. In this period of national uncertainty, we are working to be strategic to ensure we can be at full strength in May and June with lots of energy and ready to get our students out on course starting in July.

Please know that during the next few months HIOBS is committed to being here for our students and our community. Our senior leadership team is available to answer questions and help our students and families – so if you do have something come up that demands immediate attention you will have someone to reach out to. You can call our main line at 855-802-0307 or email [admissions@hiobs.org](mailto:admissions@hiobs.org), and someone will be in touch.

Kurt Hahn once said “There is more in us than we know.” We look forward to expeditioning again this summer—whether in the mountains, lakes or seas of Maine—spending time together in the wild places we love, and helping our students to discover that “more” that lies within them all.

Sincerely,

*Eric*

Eric Denny

President and Executive Director, HIOBS