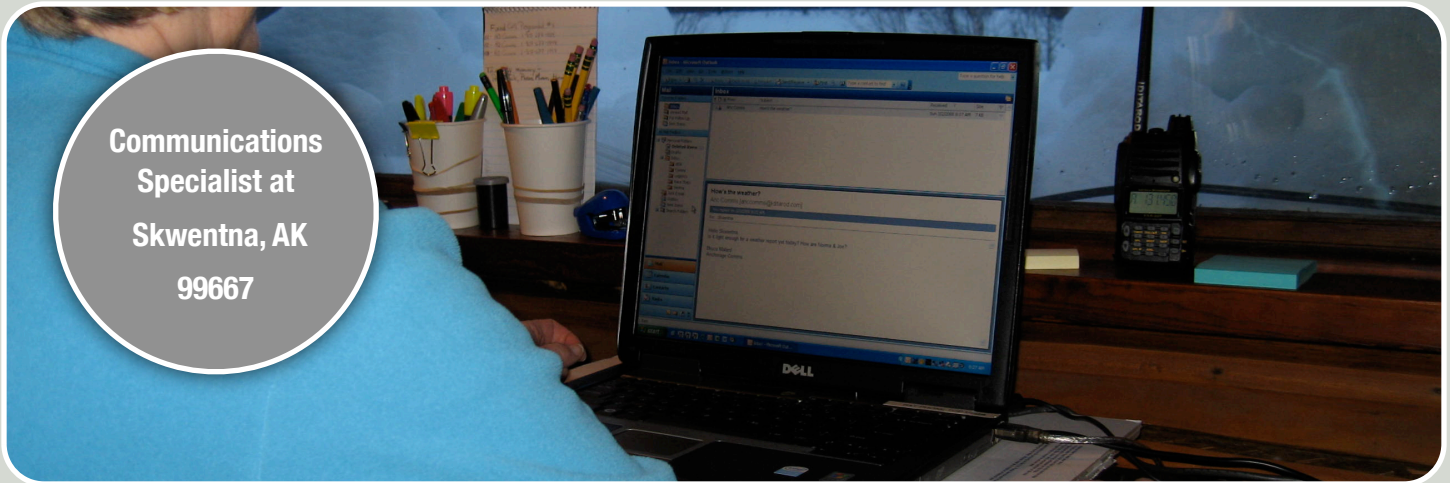


COMMUNICATE

Communications
Specialist at
Skwentna, AK
99667



IDITAROD COMMUNICATIONS

Without Iditarod Communications Specialists, no one in the world would know anything about how the race was progressing, how many dogs remained on a team, how fast the team was moving or where a team was. People and animals are constantly communicating. Communication is a very important part of living in a community.

Communication is the act of sharing or exchanging information, news, ideas, feelings, or directives. Iditarod has a whole division of volunteers dedicated to communication. Trail Comms reports race information to Comms in Anchorage at headquarters. HQ Comms posts race statistics and information on the internet so people around the world can know what is happening out there on the Iditarod Trail.

Communication is important so that we know what is going on around us. A baby who is crying is communicating. A child riding a bike signals the intention of stopping or turning by using hand signals. A teacher gives an assignment using verbal or written information. Sharing news, information, feelings and ideas accurately is extremely important.

People communicate by using words, actions and body language. Babies don't know how to use words so they cry when hungry, Words can tell others about feelings and ideas more accurately than crying. Signs are posted to communicate warnings or rules. Smiling or frowning shows what you're feeling. Writing a letter, sending an email or texting is communication

Dogs communicate verbally and thru body language. Barking calls for attention and the tone - fierce barking compared to howling or little yips and yaps communicates different messages. Growling, showing

teeth, ears laid flat, hair standing up along the back indicates anger or fear. Licks and kisses are a message of affection. Rolling on the back and exposing the stomach says a dog is submissive. Maybe a dog is holding a foot up, limping or isn't eating as usual. Musher understand these messages that the dogs are communicating.

An army of Iditarod communication specialists have worked long and hard to develop procedures and practices for communicating race information to the world. It takes time and effort to develop good communication skills. Whether it's Iditarod, in school, at home, with friends or parents, accurate communication let's people know exactly what's going on. Do your best to communicate with those around you.

