

Vera Kingeekuk [king GEE kuck] Metcalf

Vera is Yupik and was born and raised in Savoonga on St. Lawrence Island, Alaska. Since 2002, Vera has been the Director of the Eskimo Walrus Commission at Kawerak, Inc., which represents 19 coastal Alaska Native communities to promote community involvement in research, document Indigenous knowledge, and co-manage the Pacific walrus population.

Vera is Special Advisor on Native Affairs on the Marine Mammal Commission, an Advisory Panel member of the North Pacific Research Board, a Steering Committee member for the Alaska Center for Climate Assessment and Policy, a advisory board member on the Sea Grant Marine Advisory Program and the School of Fisheries and Ocean Science at University of Alaska Fairbanks.

Vera is also a Bering Strait Commissioner for the U.S. Department of State facilitating travel between the Indigenous people of Chukotka, Russia and the Bering Strait regions of Alaska.