



UAA College of Engineering
UNIVERSITY of ALASKA ANCHORAGE

UAA Professional Development Seminar Series



Alaska's Role in the Private Space Race

**Presented by Ben Kellie,
Co-Founder and CEO, K2 Dronotics**

The private space race has been heating up for the last decade. There are currently over 25 separate efforts underway in the U.S. alone to build small private rockets to launch the next generation of micro and nano satellites. Can Alaska have a role in this future? This talk will focus on Ben's experience serving as a lead engineer developing launch sites, landing sites, and other assorted projects as part of this new space race, and share the unique perspectives that Alaskan's, with our creative, frontier "backwoods" thinking, can offer. The evolution of multiple large scale projects will be discussed, along with the myriad missteps, failures, and follies along the way—hopefully reminding students and professionals alike that big projects don't always work out the first time, and we must persist to get the results we want when working in a new area.

Ben Kellie, co-founder and CEO of K2 Dronotics, was raised as a bush pilot, trained as a mechanical engineer, and began his career helping SpaceX launch and land rockets on both U.S. coasts. Now based in Anchorage, K2 Dronotics deploys drones and expertise across Alaska to increase safety, lower costs, and make new discoveries. K2 Dronotics also provides consultation and design to start-up rocket companies in Alaska and across the U.S.

Friday, September 28, 2017

11:45 am-12:45 pm

UAA College of Engineering, EIB 211