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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:****WILL STEGER TO EXPLORE ARCTIC WITH INTERNATIONAL YOUNG EXPLORER TEAM**

*Steger to lead six young explorers on a 60-day, 1,400-mile dogsled expedition across Ellesmere Island, an area on the front-line of global warming*

**MINNEAPOLIS – December 3, 2007:** In early 2008, polar explorer Will Steger will lead a team of six young explorers on a 1,400-mile dogsled across Ellesmere Island to document the impact of climate change in the Canadian Arctic. The international team includes emerging leaders from Norway, Great Britain, Canada and the United States; together, they aim to inspire and mobilize Generation Y to act collectively to solve global warming.

Steger, the 2007 recipient of two prestigious awards from National Geographic and The Explorer's Club, selected the team members, ages 21–28, for their accomplishments in exploration: two National Geographic grantees, two kite-skiing international record holders, the 2007 Iditarod "Rookie of the Year," a polar historian and Sam Branson, the son of Virgin mogul Sir Richard Branson who joined Steger on his 2007 expedition to Baffin Island.

The team will follow in the footsteps of polar explorers who traversed the Canadian Arctic in the early 1900s to document the disintegrating ice shelves, retreating glaciers and destruction of wildlife habitat as a result of global warming. Using historical routes, journals and archived photos, they will cross fjords, mountain ranges, ice shelves and sea ice, and will leave time-lapse cameras on northern Ellesmere to capture global warming firsthand.

"My team is composed of some of the brightest young explorers in the world" Steger said. "They continue to inspire my efforts to solve global warming and will serve as excellent role models for their generation."

For the 2008 Expedition, the Will Steger Foundation is collaborating with Fagen, Inc., the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Geographic Society, the International Polar Year and James Balog's Extreme Ice Survey to educate, inspire and empower the next generation of adventurers and eyewitnesses to global warming. People from around the world will be able to track the Ellesmere Island Expedition team on [www.globalwarming101.com](http://www.globalwarming101.com), which will include videos, images, podcasts and blog entries from team members.

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**About the Will Steger Foundation and Global Warming 101**

Established in January 2006 by renowned polar explorer Will Steger, the Will Steger Foundation promotes change through education and advocacy. Global Warming 101 is the first initiative of the Will Steger Foundation and raises broad public awareness about global warming as witnessed through Will Steger's polar expeditions. Global Warming 101 expeditions offer a unique view of people and places at the tipping point of climate change, while [www.globalwarming101.com](http://www.globalwarming101.com) serves as an international platform for furthering education, discussion and activism, and sharing the experiences and updates from each global warming expedition.

**About the Ellesmere Island Expedition**

The northernmost island in Canada, Ellesmere Island is the nation's third largest island and the world's tenth largest island. The island is mountainous, and contains mostly glaciers and ice. In winter, temperatures on Ellesmere Island can reach minus 95 degrees Fahrenheit.