



CENTRAL COUNCIL
Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska
EDWARD K. THOMAS BUILDING
9097 Glacier Highway
Juneau, Alaska 99801

TRIBAL UPDATE

August 5, 2014

President's Message:

I am proud to share our very first Tribal Update. The news shared through these updates will highlight our progress, achievements, and important program and service activities relevant to our tribal citizens. Communication and outreach is extremely important to me as we move forward. Please remember to also visit us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/ccthita) and our website (www.ccthita.org) as we continue to expand our communication efforts.

Gunalchéesh/Háw'aa,

Richard J. Peterson

Chá Yaa Éesh

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Office of the President Relocates to Edward K. Thomas Building

In July, the Office of the President and the Property department moved their staff to new locations. The Office of the President is now located on the first floor of the Edward K. Thomas Building located at 9097 Glacier Highway; the Property staff now reside on the third floor of the Andrew Hope Building located at 320 W. Willoughby Avenue. These changes will allow the Property staff to be on site for improved management of the Elizabeth Peratrovich Hall rentals and building maintenance. It also allows the President and his staff to work more closely with the Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer.

Tribe Hires Government Affairs Liaison

Central Council Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Tlingit Haida Central Council) is pleased to welcome Barbara Blake as its new Government Affairs Liaison. Under the direction of President Richard Peterson and the Executive Council, the Governmental Affairs Liaison will oversee intergovernmental activities that protect and promote tribal interest in alignment with the Tribe's mission statement, strategic plan, and values.

“Barbara brings to the Tribe a depth of experience in federal, state, and tribal governments. She will help guide our Tribe into the future by forging new relationships and developing new opportunities,” said President Peterson.

Barbara received her Master’s degree from University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) in Rural Development with a project study on fisheries development in rural Alaska. She also holds a Bachelor’s of Arts in Rural Economic Development (UAF), an Associate’s degree in Tribal Management (UAF), and certificate in Tribal Governmental Business Law (Seattle University).

Barbara formerly served as Assistant Professor for the UAF Department of Alaska Native Studies and Rural Development, Technical Assistant Specialist for Intertribal Agriculture Council, and Program Assistant in the Office of the United States Secretary of Agriculture, Office of Tribal Relations. The many associations she developed through internships, fellowships, and public service will be a great asset to the Tribe.

Barbara is a member of the Alaska Native Sisterhood, Natives for Positive Change, Society of American Indian Government Employees, Native Alaskan Business Leaders, Native Emerging Leaders Forum, Alaska Native Science and Engineering Society, Polynesian Voyage Society-Worldwide Voyage, and the Heinyaa Kwan Dancers.

Barbara is of Haida, Tlingit and Ahtna Athabascan descent and belongs to the Yahkw ’Láanaas-Raven/Shark House. Her maternal grandparents are Franklin and Frances (Peele) Demmert; mother is Sandra Demmert of Klawock; paternal grandparents are Irene and Walter Johnson; and father is Kenneth Johnson of Chistochina.

Upon accepting the position Barbara shared, “My vision for the future includes the continued protection and cultivation of Alaska Native/American Indian rights to sustain environmental, cultural, social, and economic wellbeing for current and future generations. I’m excited to be returning to Southeast Alaska to work with our communities and tribal members to fulfill this vision.”

We are excited to have Barbara join Tlingit Haida Central Council’s administrative team and look forward to the great work she will provide the Tribe in her new role.

Tribe Awarded Grant for Community-Based Language Learning Project

Tlingit Haida Central Council is pleased to announce its Language program has been awarded \$5,000 by the Native Ministries Committee of the Northern Light United Church which administers a small fund established to promote projects and activities that build stronger native communities within the church and Southeast Alaska. The award will fund the implementation of a community-based language learning project that will focus on improving language transmission between generations and within families.

As part of the project, the Language program will host a series of family evening activities that will bring fluent speaking elders and families together for collaboration on the development of educational materials that will promote home-based language learning. A schedule and program for the family evening activities will be developed and distributed to tribal citizens by September.

Today there exists only approximately 160 fluent Tlingit speakers and 12 Haida speakers. This reality prompted the Central Council delegates to adopt a resolution at Tribal Assembly in April 2014 and gives charge to Central Council to develop a Language Department that promotes

language revitalization through cooperation with existing programs and identifies regional language projects like language nests and immersion schools.

For more information on the Language program, please contact Business and Economic Development Director Gail Dabaluz at 907.463.7177 or gdabaluz@ccthita.org.

T&H Services Awarded Government Contract

The Tlingit Haida Tribal Business Corporation (THTBC) is pleased to announce that its subsidiary and limited liability company (LLC), T&H Services, has been awarded a one year government contract by the State of Alaska Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA). THTBC's bid was one of four bids received by the DMVA to provide facility support services to the Juneau Army Aviation Operations Facility offices. The contract was awarded in the amount of \$65,000 and is the first contract to be awarded to THTBC's subsidiary company.

THTBC was organized, incorporated, and chartered by the Executive Council to promote economic development and generate unrestricted revenue for the Tribe. The THTBC board of directors include Richard Peterson (Chair), William Micklin, Morgan Howard, and Leilani Wilson-Walkush.

"This contract is essential and provides the foundation for the Tribe's pursuit of economic independence and growth," said President Richard Peterson.

T&H Services is operated by Chief Executive Officer Richard Rinehart and General Manager Robert Hamilton. Rinehart was hired as THTBC's CEO in 2013 to strategically develop a business plan, assess business opportunities that focus on revenue generation, and seek partnerships that will minimize the risk for THTBC while minimizing investment outlays. Rinehart is Haida and Tlingit, Raven/Frog from the Kiks.ádi clan, and originally from Wrangell, Alaska. Rinehart holds a Master's degree in business administration from Portland State University. He currently serves on the Sealaska board and is managing member of Raven Potlatch Real Estate in Bellevue, Washington.

"This is our first step achieved as we continue to execute our strategic plan presented during Tribal Assembly in April," said Rinehart.

For more information on the THTBC or its subsidiary, T&H Services, please contact CEO Richard Rinehart at 907.209.9094, rrinehart@ccthita.org, or visit T&H Service's website at www.thservicesllc.com.

President Appointed to Tongass Advisory Committee

In May, President Richard Peterson was selected by Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack as one of 15 members and 5 alternates to serve on the Tongass Advisory Committee (TAC) to the United States Forest Service (USFS). The committee members and alternates were selected from a pool of 75 candidates and bring a diverse range of viewpoints, expertise, and geographic representation.

The TAC is charged with reviewing and providing recommendations to the USFS on proposed amendments to the 2008 Tongass National Forest Plan and on how to achieve transition to a predominantly young growth-based timber program in the next 10-15 years while maintaining a viable timber industry on Tongass National Forest land. Consideration of the TAC may include bringing additional acres to the timber base, adjusting standards and *guides*, and addressing the age at which timber can be harvested. TAC's review process will be completed no later than

May 2015 in order for a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to be released by August 2015, Final EIS and Draft Record of Decision (ROD) by May 2016, and Final ROD by August 2016.

The first TAC meeting is currently scheduled for August 7-8, 2014 in Ketchikan, AK. TAC members who were appointed to serve and represent the interest of Southeast Alaska tribes include:

- Jaeleen J. Araujo – Juneau, AK
- Richard J. Peterson – Kasaan, AK
- (Woody) Lawrence A. Widmark – Sitka, AK
- Robert D. Mills – Kake, AK (Alternate)

For more information on the Tongass Advisory Committee, please visit the Tongass National Forest website: www.fs.usda.gov/goto/R10/Tongass/TAC.

Southeast Environmental Conference – Save the Date!

The Native Lands and Resources Department is pleased to host the annual Southeast Environmental Conference on September 8th – 13th at the Vocational Training and Resource Center. This year's conference is being held in partnership with the Chilkat Indian Village, Craig Tribal Association, Douglas Indian Association, Organized Village of Kasaan, Petersburg Indian Association, and Sitka Tribe of Alaska.

Topics that will be addressed include trans-boundary mining, harmful algae bloom, climate change, ocean acidification, herring, tribal conservation districts, the Prince of Wales Sea Otter Commission, and the State Tribal Response Program (Brownfields). Working groups will also be established to allow tribes to collaborate and share their resources throughout the year.

Please contact Native Lands Manager Desiree Duncan at dduncan@ccthita.org or Environmental Coordinator Ray Paddock at rpaddock@ccthita.org for more information. Hotel information and the agenda will be posted on our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/ccthita) and website (www.ccthita.org).