



CENTRAL COUNCIL
Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska
Edward K. Thomas Building
9097 Glacier Highway • Juneau, Alaska 99801

TRIBAL UPDATE

February 2016

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GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES

2016 Delegate Elections Update

Central Council encourages all tribal citizens to exercise their right to vote! The voting period for the Delegate Elections is February 18 - March 17. This year, the accounting firm Elgee Rehfeld Mertz, LLC has been retained for ballot processing and counting. Absentee ballots and instructions on electronic voting will be mailed by February 18th (Craig and Kasaan are the only communities that have opted to vote electronically).

In order to vote in the Delegate Elections, individuals must be enrolled with Central Council, on the official voting list for the community they reside in, and eighteen (18) years of age or older by March 17, 2016.

Candidate & Preliminary Voting Lists: www.ccthita.org/government/elections/contacts.

If your name is not on the Preliminary Voting List for your community, please update your enrollment contact information online: www.ccthita.org/services/overview/forms/form-update-contact.



Notice of THRHA Board of Commissioner Vacancy

The Executive Council is soliciting candidates to fill a vacancy on the Tlingit-Haida Regional Housing Authority (THRHA) Board of Commissioners (BOC). Candidates are sought from all communities that have designated THRHA as their Tribally Designated Housing Entity under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act (NAHASDA).

Consideration will be based on the following guidelines/criteria:

- Statutory Qualifications: Per Alaska Statute 18.55.996 Establishment of Regional Housing Authorities, authorization is given to Central Council Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska in the appointment of members to the THRHA BOC.
- THRHA bylaws also define the following for members of the THRHA BOC:
 - Must reside in a community that utilizes THRHA as its Tribally Designated Housing Entity under NAHASDA.
 - May not be a current employee, vendor or contractor of the Authority, or any business conflict with THRHA.
 - Must possess professional or management level career experience with additional consideration given to finance, legal, business, banking, real estate, government agency, non-profit or housing related work experience.
 - No history of child or sexual abuse.
 - Must be of upstanding moral character.
 - Must not have a history of moral turpitude.

If you wish to be considered, please submit a letter of interest, declaration of intent to serve, biography, and current resume by **Friday, March 11, 2016**. Submissions can be mailed, faxed, or emailed to:

Grace Singh, Office of the President
Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska
9097 Glacier Highway • Juneau, AK 99801
Toll: 1.800.344.1432 ext. 7103 • Direct: 907.463.7103 • Fax: 888.335.8981
Email: gsingh@ccthita.org

Alaska Regional Coalition Hosts Legislative Reception



L-R: President Richard Peterson, Senator Hoffman, COO Corrine Garza, and Senator Wielachowski

On February 9, Central Council hosted a Legislative Reception at the Elizabeth Peratrovich Hall in Juneau. The event was co-sponsored by the Alaska Regional Coalition, a tribal alliance including Central Council, Tanana Chief's Conference and Kawarek, Inc.; Juneau Tlingit & Haida Community Council; and the University of Alaska Fairbanks Department of Alaska Native Studies and Rural Development.

The reception was well-attended with approximately 70 guests and served as an opportunity for tribal leaders, legislators, commissioners, and students to network, learn more about the State's budget crisis, and how proposed budget cuts may impact our Alaska Native communities and funding for programs and services administered by Central Council. President Richard Peterson provided a welcome and opening remarks that focused on the need for greater collaboration between the State of Alaska and Alaska tribes as part of addressing the State's budget deficit.

Funding Priorities for the Tribe: Maintain state funding levels for tribally-administered programs: Village Public Safety Officer (VPSO) and Head Start.

Legislative Priorities: [SB 117](#) (Tribal Courts Diversion), [SB 91](#) (Omnibus Criminal Law & Procedure, Corrections), and [SB 112](#) (Adoption of Child in State Custody).

Thank you to our legislators and commissioners who attended:

- Senator Lyman Hoffman
- Senator Bill Wielachowski
- Representative Jonathan Kreiss-Tompkins
- Representative Sam Kito III
- Representative Les Gara
- Representative Andy Josephson
- Department of Corrections Commissioner Dean Williams

Executive Council Meeting Overview

An Executive Council meeting was held January 28-29 in Juneau, Alaska.

During the two-day meeting, the Executive Council ratified proposed amendments to the Juneau Tlingit & Haida Community Council's (JTHCC) constitution and approved of Central Council to seek a tribal court diversion agreement with the Alaska Court System. The



diversion agreement will allow Central Council to begin the process of expanding court services and receive referrals from the Alaska Court System with a focus on youth and juvenile justice.

A legislative update was also provided by lobbyist Mary Sattler. Central Council has joined together with other regional nonprofits in a coalition that represents nearly 100 tribal communities throughout the State. The coalition's funding priorities include the VPSO program, Head Start, Rural Social Welfare Services, and education. The update included an overview of the State's budget crisis and possible solutions. Although some solutions may be prioritized, it is clear that the State needs to utilize all recommendations to avoid a significant budget shortfall and sequestration. House bills that do not address revenue or the budget have been postponed until a budget is passed.

Public comment was provided by President Emeritus Edward K. Thomas, John Martin Sr., and Juneau Delegate Doug Chilton. President Emeritus Thomas was recognized for his participation in the 21st Century Trust Modernization Forum hosted by the National Congress of Americans. John Martin Sr. presented a letter speaking to preserving our sovereignty, land, and way of life. Doug Chilton discussed the upcoming Celebration and asked Central Council to work with local IRA tribes on securing logs from the United States Forest Service land so every community can participate in the canoe society and continue traditional travel and navigation practices.

United States Fish & Wildlife Service Signs Native American Policy

United States Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) Director Dan Ashe signed the updated Native American Policy (NAP) on January 21, 2016.



Over the past two years, 1st Vice President (VP) Will Micklin has served as co-chair of the NAP work group composed of tribal and USFWS representatives tasked with developing the NAP, which was a significant overhaul of the original 1994 policy. First VP Micklin set three goals going in that were achieved – ensure the final policy was mandatory for each USFWS office, implementation of the final policy was a priority, the Alaska region with distinct needs not fully addressed by the policy had the opportunity for a regional plan and approve the final policy before the end of the current administration. First VP Micklin will continue to work on the team in drafting the Alaska regional NAP.

The USFWS manages federal public lands and resources, and enforces federal environmental law regarding species conservation that directly impacts the culture and welfare of tribal citizens and their tribal governments. NAP strengthens the USFWS policy mandating government-to-government relations with tribes through consultation, collaboration, and co-management. Co-management and collaborative management while permitting the tribal trust estate to be productive for economic resources is key to an effective federal-tribal working relationship. The policy promotes the building of tribal government capacity, the use of tribal ecological knowledge as expert knowledge, greater opportunity for USFWS training and education for tribes, and collaboration in USFWS-tribal law enforcement efforts where possible.

To view the final revised policy, please visit the USFWS website: www.fws.gov/policy/510fw1.html.

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

Central Council Participates in Juneau Project Homeless Connect



Rocky Estrada and Adam Arca



Carlene Nore



Staff boxing up items to be given away at the Juneau Project Homeless Connect.

On January 26, a range of Central Council's programs and services participated in the 5th Annual Juneau Homeless Coalition. The event was a great opportunity for Central Council to share information on our programs and services and network with other community resources. A total of 40 applications for

services were received from tribal citizens in need. Staff also distributed sleeping bags, hand warmers, duffle bags, and hats.

Other local agencies and supporters provided haircuts, housing assistance, Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend (PFD) registration, veteran support, legal assistance, voter registration, help with birth certificates, and much more. “It is always a humbling experience to see the community come together to serve our less fortunate,” said Head Start employee Molly Porter. “Collaboration is vital to serving our tribal citizens who are going through hardship.”

Central Council is a proud member of the Juneau Homeless Coalition, a partnership of local agencies and non-governmental organizations who serve Juneau's most vulnerable residents – the homeless and those most affected by limited and high cost housing.

Thank you to all our staff who participated in the Juneau Project Homeless Connect event and/or helped with preparations!

Employment & Training: LaTroy Burras & Richard Siverly

Head Start: Molly Porter

Second Chance Prisoner Re-Entry: Rocky Estrada & Talia Eames

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF): Marianna Bethel, Daniel Charles, and Lee Bagoyo

Tribal Child Support Unit (TCSU): Carlene Nore & Janae Franklet

Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation (TVR): Adam Arca

TFYS Speaks on Historical Trauma to Mongolia Delegates



Eunice and Le (center front row) with Mongolia's NCAV delegation.

On January 21, Tribal Family & Youth Service (TFYS) Indian Child Welfare Caseworker Eunice James and Elderly Services Coordinator Le Florendo provided a presentation to Mongolia's National Center Against Violence (NCAV) on historical trauma in Southeast Alaska. A group of 15 delegates from Mongolia comprised of social workers, shelter managers, and a police officer, traveled to Alaska to learn more about how Alaska is addressing sexual assault and domestic violence.

The Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault invited Eunice and Le to present to a delegation with an interpreter which was a new experience for the two. Le provided an overview of the “River of Culture” to show the major impacts of historical trauma on Alaska systems and indigenous tribes since discovery in 1747. The presentation also included current statistics on the impacts of historical trauma on tribes, communities, and young people. While in Juneau, Mongolia's NCAV public safety officer met with law enforcement before the delegation continued their travel on to Anchorage and Nome.

SAVE THE DATES

FREE Government Contracting Workshops



GOVERNMENT CONTRACTING

FREE WORKSHOPS

FEBRUARY 25—26, 2016

Vocational Training & Resource Center
3239 Hospital Drive, Juneau, AK 99801

The Business & Economic Development department is pleased to host FREE Government Contracting workshops in partnership with Two Rivers, Native Procurement Technical Assistance Center. If you are new in government contracting or just need a refresher, these workshops will provide you with the knowledge and resources needed to succeed!

To register for the workshops, please visit www.ccthita.org/info/events or contact Business & Economic Development at 1.800.344.1432, 907.463.7121, 907.463.7139 or deptbed@ccthita.org.

2016 Native Issues Forums



- SAVE THE DATE -

Native Issues Forums

Central Council is pleased to host the 2016 Native Issues Forum series! The forums are a great opportunity to hear presentations on issues of interest to our Native community. This year's forums will provide discussion on education, language, rural development, transboundary mining, tribal courts and wellness. All forums are open to the public and will be webcast live.

2016 Forum Schedule
February 23 • March 2 • March 9
March 23 • April 14

Time: Noon - 1:00 PM (Doors Open @ 11:30 AM)
Location: Elizabeth Peratrovich Hall
320 West Willoughby Avenue
Juneau, Alaska 99801
Lunch: Soup & Sandwiches (Free of Charge)

For more info on the Native Issues Forums, please visit Central Council's Event page: www.ccthita.org/info/events.

Please Join Us!

Sponsored By:


Central Council is pleased to host the 2016 Native Issues Forums. The forums are co-sponsored by Sealaska Corporation and are a great opportunity to hear presentations on issues of interest to the Native community. This year's forums will provide information on education, language, rural development, transboundary mining, tribal courts and wellness. All forums are webcast and open to the public. For more information, please visit our Events page: www.ccthita.org/info/events.

Next Forum: Tuesday, February 23

Topic: Municipal Special Election – Mayoral Candidates

Time: Noon - 1:00 PM (Doors Open @ 11:30 AM)

Location: Elizabeth Peratrovich Hall (320 W. Willoughby Ave.)

Lunch: Soup & Sandwiches (Free of Charge)