



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

TRIBAL UPDATE

March 2016

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GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES

State and Tribe Sign Tribal Title IV-E Maintenance Agreement

For the first time in its history, Central Council has accepted transfer of jurisdiction of cases from the State of Alaska. In a ceremony held March 2, 2016 in Juneau, Alaska, President Richard Peterson and State of Alaska Department of Health and Social Services Commissioner Valerie Davidson signed a Tribal Title IV-E Maintenance Agreement which will allow the Tribe to receive federal Title IV-E funds to provide an array of services through its Child Welfare program and Tribal Court, including extensive case management, foster home licensing, and financial support to tribal foster homes.



DHSS Commissioner Davidson and President Peterson signing the Tribal Title IV-E Maintenance Agreement.

Recent statistics show that 55% of children in state custody were Alaska Native or American Indian. In Southeast, that percentage increases to 66%, with Juneau's disproportionality rate at 64.5%.

"Reducing the number of tribal children in State custody is crucial to the Tribe and its citizens," said Central Council's President Richard Peterson. "Placing our children in culturally appropriate homes helps to ensure they will grow up with a sense of belonging to their community and develop an identity nurtured by our Tlingit and Haida traditions."



L-R: Commissioner Valerie Davidson, TFYS Director Francine Eddy Jones, and President Richard Peterson

This agreement between the State of Alaska and the Tribe supports and recognizes the ability of Central Council to provide services to its tribal citizens, increasing the likelihood that tribal foster children will be able to stay in their communities with relatives, their culture, and traditions.

Tribal Family and Youth Services Director Francine Eddy Jones said, "Central Council has had a Title IV-E Agreement for administration and training with the state for over 16 years.

During this time, the Tribal Family and Youth Services department has strengthened and developed its infrastructure in order to assume tribal custody of Tlingit and Haida children. This has been a work in progress, continuously raising the bar to have a program that meets and exceeds all of the stringent federal requirements for Title IV-E."

To read the full press release, please visit Central Council's website: www.ccthita.org/info/press.

Additional News Coverage:

Juneau Empire: [Historic Agreement Gives Tribe Foster Care Control](#)

KTUU: [State Signs Agreement Giving Tribal Council Jurisdiction over Foster Children](#)

KTOO: [Tribal Council Takes over Foster Care for Region's Native Children](#)

Webcast Recording of Signing Ceremony: www.livestream.com/accounts/507620/events/4903889

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

2016 Program Profiles Booklet Published

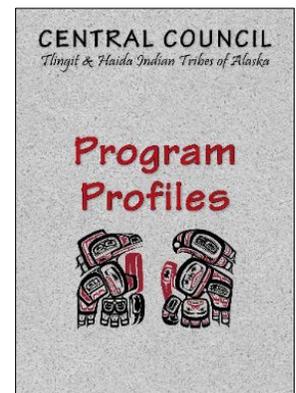
Central Council is pleased to announce it has released an updated Program Profiles booklet. The publication was created to provide tribal citizens with important information on the wide range of individual and community services offered through Central Council.

In the spirit of Central Council's mission, we are proud of the services we provide and are honored to serve our tribal citizens! The Program Profiles booklet is also available online at www.ccthita.org/services/overview/documents.

If you have any questions regarding the eligibility requirements or application process, please contact our eligibility technicians:

Cecilia Bagoyo: 1.800.344.1432 ext. 7125, 907.463.7125, or cbagoyo@ccthita.org

Donna James: 1.800.344.1432 ext. 7170, 907.463.7170, or djames@ccthita.org



PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

Support the 20th Annual Spring King Salmon Derby



The 20th Annual Spring King Salmon Derby is just around the corner! Every year we receive a tremendous level of support from the community through sponsorships and donations. We are once again looking to our community to help support this wonderful family event that raises scholarship funding for our tribal students. You can contribute to the derby by becoming a sponsor, making a monetary donation, or donating a service/merchandise to go towards our derby prizes.

The Annual Spring King Salmon Derby is Central Council's largest fundraiser effort and supports the Alumni Scholarship Assistance program which provides annual scholarship awards to eligible enrolled Tlingit or Haida citizens who are attending college. Last year's derby raised \$30,800 in scholarships which was distributed to 88 tribal citizen students!

Sponsorship Levels:

Killerwhale \$1000+	King Salmon \$500-\$999	Sockeye \$100-\$499	Coho \$50-\$99	Dog Salmon \$20-49	Humpy \$1-\$19
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If you'd like to support our derby, please contact Higher Education Coordinator Leslie Isturis at 1.800.344.1432 ext. 7133, 907.463.7133, or listuris@ccthita.org.

2016-2020 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Draft Plan

Every five years, Central Council's Business & Economic Development department partners with Southeast Conference to prepare a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) plan for Southeast Alaska. A draft of the 2016-2020 CEDS is now available online and Central Council is requesting input from tribal citizens.

CEDS initiates and sustains local planning and implementation processes by which jobs are created, more stable and diversified economies are fostered, and living conditions are improved. It is a mechanism for coordinating economic development activities and is a valuable tool for bringing focus to the planning and development efforts of our unique and diverse communities throughout the region.



How to Provide Input:

- Review the draft CEDS Plan: www.seconference.org/strategy
- Provide any missing objectives at the end of each section
- Pick an objective to elevate to priority status
- Complete the [Priority Objective Submittal](#) form

If you have any questions regard the draft CEDS Plan, please contact Economic Development Specialist Annette Ulmer at 1.800.344.1432 ext. 7121, 907.463.7121, or aulmer@ccthita.org.

Teikhweidí Chilkat Blanket Repatriated



On February 19, Central Council repatriated a *Xhoots Naaxhein* (Brown Bear Chilkat Blanket) from the Whatcom County Museum in Bellingham, Washington. The *Xhoots Naaxhein*, believed to have been woven by Mary Willard (*Akhlé*) of Klukwan around 1900, comes from the *Teikhweidí* clan of Yakutat and had been in the collection of the Whatcom County Museum for more than 40 years. It is not known when it was removed from Yakutat.

George Samuel (*Xhoots Kháa*) of the *Taantaan Khwaan Teikhweidí* from *Kaats' Hít* (House of *Kaats'*, The Man Who Married the Bear) wore a nearly identical *Xhoots Naaxhein* as he spoke of its return, likening it to the story of the *Cub That Washed Away*, a story of a mother bear crossing a raging river in the Spring and one of her cubs was washed away. The mother bear looked and looked for her cub but could not find it. A song was composed commemorating this event.

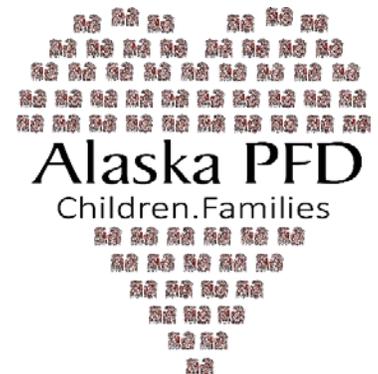
The song for the *Cub that Washed Away* was sung, but wasn't finished due to recent deaths within the clan. After the song was completed, George Samuel referred to the repatriation ceremony as "this time the cub was found" and the *Haandéi Ee Jín* and *Haida Laas* dance groups to perform happy songs to give the *Xhoots Naaxhein* a proper send off on its journey home.

President Richard Peterson accepted the *Xhoots Naaxhein* for the tribe. President Emeritus Edward K. Thomas also attend the ceremony. Both spoke on the importance of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) and the return of our cultural objects.

Central Council would like to thank the dance groups for their performance and the Whatcom County Museum for taking great care of the *Xhoots Naaxhein* while in their collection, giving it respect while it was on display, and for hosting the reception that officially transferred the blanket to Central Council.

Alaska PFD is a Resource for Children and Families

The Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend (PFD) is a valuable resource for families that have child support cases, as well as a resource to help non-custodial parents pay child support. Over the years, Central Council's Tribal Child Support Unit (TCSU) has learned that many tribal citizens who have child support cases do not apply for a PFD because they believe they are ineligible. Even if you are certain you are not eligible for a PFD, you should always still apply. Applying every year documents your continued residency in Alaska and makes the application process easier when you become eligible again.



Every year TCSU collaborates with the State of Alaska Child Support Services Division (CSSD) to collect PFDs on behalf of tribal child support cases. Last year, TCSU distributed nearly \$90,000 directly to families from the 2015 PFD. For some families, this is the only child support they receive all year. Because non-custodial parents

receive credit for their payments to the custodial families, this also helps non-custodial parents catch up on past due child support.

In fact, many child support orders direct the non-custodial parent to apply for a PFD, whether or not he/she is eligible. If you apply for the PFD and are denied, TCSU encourages you to notify your child support agency of the denial so the agency can document your efforts to support your family and your compliance with the child support order.

Don't Forget to Apply for Your PFD by March 31, 2016
[Apply Online Now](#) • [Find a Paper Application Near You](#)

For questions regarding the Tribal Child Support Unit, please contact Carlene Nore at 1.800.344.1432 ext.7132, 907.463.7132, or cnore@ccthita.org.

SAVE THE DATES

Upcoming Native Issues Forum

Native Issues Forums

Central Council of the Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska is pleased to host the 2016 Native Issues Forum series. The forums are a great opportunity to hear presentations on a wide range of topics important to our Native community (education, language, rural development, transboundary mining, tribal courts, and wellness). All forums are open to the public and webcast (live at www.livestream.com/accounts/507620).

Topic: H.B. 275 Indigenous Peoples Day

Sen. Donny Olson
Rep. Harriet Drummond

Date: March 17, 2016
Time: Noon - 1:00 PM (Hours Open @ 11:30 AM)
Location: Elizabeth Pennekich Hall, 320 W. Willoughby Ave., Juneau, AK
Lunch: Catered by Abby's Kitchen (Free of Charge)

For more information, please contact:
Megan Gregory, Secretary to the President
907.463.7379 • 800.344.1432 ext. 7379 • mgregory@ccthita.org

The 2016 Native Issues Forums are co-sponsored by
Central Council Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska and
Sealaska Corporation

Please join us on March 17, 2016 for our Native Issues Forum on House Bill (HB) 275 Indigenous Peoples Day with Senator Donny Olson and Representative Harriet Drummond. HB 275 proposes to establish the second Monday of October of each year as Indigenous Peoples Day. The bill has been scheduled for a hearing with the House State Affairs committee on March 22, 2016 at 8:00 AM in Capitol Room 106.

The forums are co-sponsored by Sealaska Corporation and are a great opportunity to hear panel discussions on a wide range of topics important to our Native community (education, language, legislative session, rural development, transboundary mining, tribal courts and wellness).

We hope you can join us in person or by webcast!

Miss one of our Native Issues Forums? Watch online at www.livestream.com/accounts/507620.

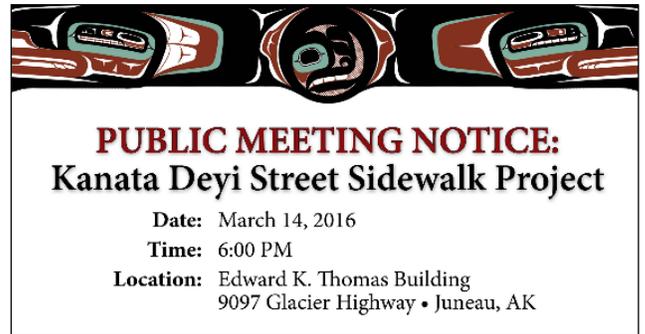
- 1.26.16 Legislative Update: Sen. Dennis Egan, Rep. Sam Kito III, and Rep. Dan Ortiz
- 2.10.16 Lt. Governor Byron Mallott
- 2.23.16 CBJ Mayoral Candidates: Karen Crane and Ken Koelsch
- 3.2.16 Rural Development: Katherine Eldemar and Danielle Lindoff
- 3.9.16 Transboundary Mining: Will Micklin, Rob Sanderson Jr., Barbara Blake, and Jennifer Hanlon

Upcoming Native Issues Forums: March 17 • March 23 • March 31 • April 5 • April 14

Public Meeting on Kanata Deyi Street Sidewalk Project

Central Council's Tribal Transportation department invites you to a public meeting on March 14, 2016 to discuss plans for constructing sidewalks along both sides of Kanata Deyi Street in Juneau, Alaska. The meeting will include a Question & Answer period and opportunity for public comment.

Please contact the Tribal Transportation department if you or someone you know requires special accommodations to respond to the public notice or attend the meeting.



PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE:
Kanata Deyi Street Sidewalk Project

Date: March 14, 2016
Time: 6:00 PM
Location: Edward K. Thomas Building
9097 Glacier Highway • Juneau, AK

For more information on the project, please contact Tribal Transportation Manager William Ware at 1.800.344.1432 ext. 7796, 907.463.7796, or wware@ccthita.org.

2016 Annual Caregivers Workshop



SAVE THE DATE

2016 ANNUAL CAREGIVERS WORKSHOP

Date: Thursday, March 24, 2015
Time: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm
Location: Juneau T&H Community Council
3235 Hospital Drive, Juneau AK 99801

Central Council's Elderly Services program is pleased to host the 2016 Annual Caregivers Workshop on March 24, 2016 at the Juneau Tlingit & Haida Community Council in Juneau, Alaska. The workshop will cover emergency preparedness, preplanned or prearranged funeral arrangements, and medical alarms/emergency response. The workshop are a valuable resource for elders, family members, and caregivers (i.e. spouse, sons, daughters, grandchildren, or friend).

For more information on the workshop, please contact Family Service Worker Laura Cooper at 1.800.344.1432 ext. 7131, 907.463.7131, or lcooper@ccthita.org

Enrollment Now Open for Tlingit & Haida Head Start

Tlingit & Haida Head Start is now enrolling preschoolers for the 2016-2017 school year. Head Start is a free pre-school program that provides learning experiences for children and their families, four days a week. If you have a child between the age of three and five and meet income-eligibility guidelines, don't miss this great opportunity!

For more information or to obtain an application, please contact Head Start at 1.800.344.1432 ext. 7127 or 907.463.7127 or visit Head Start's webpage: www.ccthita.org/services/family/headstart.



Tlingit & Haida Head Start
Now Enrolling for 2016-2017 School Year

Tlingit & Haida Head Start is now enrolling preschoolers for the 2016-2017 school year. Children ages 3-5 years old, or turning 3 years old by September 1, 2016, may apply.

Head Start is a free pre-school program that provides learning experiences for children and their families, four days a week. All low-income households are eligible.

Application Requirements:

- Income Verification
- Original Birth Certificate
- Current Immunizations
- Tuberculosis (TB) Screening Results
- Physical & Dental Exams

FOR AN APPLICATION, PLEASE CONTACT:
Tlingit & Haida Head Start
In Juneau: 907.463.7127
Toll Free: 800.344.1432, ext. 7127
Fax: 877.389.7796

Head Start—Supporting children, families, and communities.