



TRIBAL UPDATE

May 2016

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GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES

President Peterson Appointed to Governor's Tribal Advisory Council



Governor Walker announces newly appointed GTAC members.
Photo courtesy of State of Alaska, Office of the Governor

On May 5, 2016 Governor Bill Walker and Lt. Governor Byron Mallott announced the newly appointed members of the Governor's Tribal Advisory Council (GTAC). President Richard Peterson has been appointed to represent Alaska tribes on Economic Development and joins 10 other tribal leaders on the advisory council.

The GTAC was established by Administrative Order 227 and was signed by Governor Walker last year. Alaska tribes nominated candidates and members were appointed by Governor Walker based on the unique skill

set and experiences of the candidates that would benefit the administration in addressing important issues to Alaska's tribes.

The 11 member advisory council is tasked with providing input and assisting the State's administration in finding opportunities for the State and tribes to work collaboratively in the areas of wildlife and fisheries, transportation, housing, subsistence, public safety, justice, language and culture, economic development, energy and natural resources, healthcare, and education. The first meeting between GTAC members, Governor Walker, and Lt. Governor Mallott focused on establishing goals and priorities for the group moving forward. To read the full press release, please visit the Office of the Governor's [website](#).

Governor’s Tribal Advisory Council Members:

Wildlife & Fisheries: Chester Ballot
Transportation: Gerry Hope
Housing: Guy Adams
Subsistence: Harry Brower
Public Safety: Jody Juneby Potts
Justice: Melanie Bahnke

Language & Culture: Melissa Borton
Economic Development: Richard Peterson
Energy & Natural Resources: Ralph Anderson
Healthcare: Victor Joseph
Education: Tiffany Jackson

Enrollment Committee Meets

The Enrollment Committee met May 24-26, 2016 in Juneau, Alaska. The committee reviewed and approved 322 tribal enrollment applications, processed eight blood quantum corrections and six relinquishments bringing the Tribe’s total enrollment to approximately 30,400.

The Enrollment Committee is comprised of five Delegates appointed by the President – Ella Bennett, Chair (Juneau); LaVerne Wise, Secretary (Seattle); Bertha Karras (Sitka); Judy Helgesen (Ketchikan); and Frank Wright (Hoonah). The committee is responsible for ensuring that any person applying for tribal citizenship is eligible for enrollment by reviewing all documentation relative to the application and certifying eligibility.



L-R: LaVerne Wise, Bertha Karras, Stephanie Rainwater, Ella Bennett, and Judy Helgesen (Frank Wright not pictured)

For more information regarding enrollment, please contact the Program Compliance department at 1.800.344.1432 ext. 7359 or 907.463.7359.

Executive Council Board Representation



L-R: Sam Thomas, Marvin Adams, Jackie Pata, Ralph Wolfe, Richard Peterson, Rob Sanderson Jr., William Micklin, and Micians Hutcherson

VP), Edward (Sam) K. Thomas (6th VP), and Micians Hutcherson (Emerging Leader).

For the draft list of the Executive Council’s board and committee representation, please visit the Executive Council’s [webpage](#).

On April 22, 2016 the Executive Council met in Juneau, Alaska to establish their roles and representation. The Executive Council is comprised of the President, six Vice Presidents (VP), President Emeritus, and an Emerging Leader. The mission of the Executive Council is to enhance the governance and provide oversight on the performance of program and business activities of the Tribe.

Executive Council members elected by the 81st Tribal Assembly include: Richard Peterson (President), Rob Sanderson Jr. (1st VP), Will Micklin (2nd VP), Ralph Wolfe (3rd VP), Jacqueline Pata (4th VP), Marvin Adams (5th

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

Tribe Receives \$50K in Federal Highway Safety Fund

Central Council was recently awarded \$50,000 in Tribal Transportation Safety Funds from the United States Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA). The safety funds will be used to complete two projects—Public Service Announcements on Pedestrian Safety Education (\$15,000) and Road Safety Audit on Riverside Drive and Other Planning Activities (\$35,000).



Each year the FHWA Tribal Transportation Program sets aside 2% of its available national funding allocation to address safety issues. This funding is available to federally recognized Indian tribes through a competitive, discretionary program. Projects are awarded based on outcomes that address the prevention and reduction of death or serious injuries in transportation related crashes.

Central Council's Tribal Transportation department's next step will be to create a Road Safety Team made up of multi-disciplinary partners that will identify safety concerns as well as resolutions. If you live in Juneau and are interested in serving on the Road Safety Team, please contact the Tribal Transportation department at 1.800.463.7763 ext. 7763, 907.463.7763, or jhawkins@ccthita.org.

Central Council Awarded Economic Development Administration Funding



Thane property — future location for the Tlingit & Haida Immersion Park

Central Council's Business & Economic Development department received notice from the United States Economic Development Administration (EDA) that its Technical Assistance grant application was approved in the amount of \$83,901 for a Feasibility Assessment of the Tlingit & Haida Immersion Park to be designed and developed at the property formerly known as the Thane Ore House located at 4400 Thane Road in Juneau, Alaska. This funding will support the assessment of the building for condition and use. It will provide the Tribe with professional reports – architectural, engineering, mechanical, electrical, and a business plan to assess the viability of the project, anticipated

costs, and sustainability. This is the second award Central Council has received from EDA in 2016 – the first award (\$65K) was received in April for economic development planning.

Head Start 2015-2016 School Year Wraps Up

Another school year has come and gone for Tlingit & Haida Head Start! Graduation ceremonies were held in each community to celebrate the great leap forward Head Start children will make from preschool to Kindergarten next year. Thank you to the wonderful work of our teachers, administrative staff, parents, and volunteers for another successful school year. Congratulations to our Head Start students, may you all continue to grow, learn, and stay on the path to success!



Saxman Head Start Students

Happy Retirement Edna Skaflestad



Edna Skaflestad with her sons
Kolbjorn and Killian

With the close of the school year, Head Start also said goodbye to Edna Skaflestad, an outstanding teacher who retired after 20 years of service. Her journey with the Hoonah Head Start program began in 1993 as a parent volunteer in the classroom. Soon Edna became a volunteer bus monitor and then was elected to serve as the Head Start Policy Council representative.

By 1995 Edna joined Head Start's team as a bus driver/teacher aide. Cornelia Koenig was the lead teacher at the time and mentored Edna to excel as an early childhood teacher. Edna eventually moved into the cook/teacher aide position and was then promoted to lead teacher following Cornelia Koenig's retirement after 20 years of dedicated service.

Edna believed in expanding play and learning beyond books. She believed in going out and enjoying nature because "it is an effective way to learn". The children spent a lot of time on the beaches studying the wonders of nature and the joy of hands-on learning. Edna created a great beach curriculum with these experiences. On one beach trip the children had the opportunity to dig for clams and cockles their parents had dug up and re-buried in shallow spots earlier that day. The clams were brought back to the class, prepared, and given to the Elders at the senior center. During the winter season, the children would make ice decorations to decorate the trees. As the weather warmed the children observed the changes as their decorations melted away.

Edna's love of children gave them opportunities to learn and grow through socializing, play, and using their imaginations. Thank you Edna for your years of service to Head Start's children and families in Hoonah!

Open Enrollment

Tlingit & Haida Head Start is now accepting enrollment applications for the 2016-2017 school year. Head Start promotes school readiness and provides education activities that support cognitive, social, and emotional development. If you have a child between the age of three (3) to five (5) and reside in Angoon, Craig, Hoonah, Juneau, Klawock, Petersburg, Saxman, Sitka, Wrangell, or Yakutat, don't miss this great opportunity to apply now!



For more information or to apply, please visit Head Start's [webpage](#) or call 1.800.344.1432 ext. 7127 or 907.463.7127.

SAVE THE DATES

Fatherhood is Sacred® Juneau Community Picnic



Please join the Fatherhood is Sacred® (FIS) program at their 4th Annual Juneau Community Picnic on Saturday, June 18th. The event celebrates Native American Responsible Fatherhood Day with fun, food, and prizes in support of fathers in the program.

The FIS program supports and challenges fathers to be more involved in the lives of their children, families, and communities. We welcome new fathers to join our cause in strengthening families and communities!

For more information on the upcoming picnic or the Fatherhood is Sacred® program, please contact Ian Petershoare at 907.463.7737 or ipetershoare@ccthita.org.

Motherhood is Sacred™

Central Council's Motherhood Is Sacred™ (MIS) program launched its second twelve (12) week course on May 26th. The MIS program helps mothers to strengthen their families through responsible parenting. The program provides encouragement to mothers and focuses discussions on choice, wisdom, self-identity, and relationships.

For more information or to register for the MIS program, please contact Lexy Gallant at 907.463.7167 or lgallant@ccthita.org.

