



CENTRAL COUNCIL

Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska

320 W. Willoughby Ave., Suite 300 • Juneau, AK • 99801
907.586.1432 • Fax: 907.586.8970 www.ccthita.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Tribe Welcomes New Youth Education Manager Deena LaRue

The Central Council Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Central Council) is pleased to announce that Deena LaRue has joined the Community Services & Self-Governance (CSSG) Division as their new Youth Education Manager. She will oversee the Dropout Prevention Program funded by U.S. Department of Education, and both the Johnson-O'Malley and Higher Education Programs which are funded through a Compact with the Office of Self-Governance, Department of Interior.

Ms. LaRue graduated from Juneau-Douglas High School and received her Bachelor of Arts in Education from Sheldon Jackson College. She is currently working towards her Master's Degree in Public Administration.



Deena LaRue

Her past work experience with the Tribe's education and employment programs, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Indian Studies Program, Kake School District, and Sealaska Heritage Institute where she is currently the Scholarship Administrator and Grants Manager, have focused on education, training, and employment opportunities for tribal members.

"I look forward to the opportunity to work in the capacity as the Youth Education Manager," said Ms. LaRue. "I will utilize my education, work experiences and knowledge of the various programs to promote student success."

Ms. LaRue's foremost objective will be to administer the Dropout Prevention Program, "*Creating A Model Program to Prevent Alaska Native Student Drop-out*". With the Native student drop-out rate being the highest in the State of Alaska, Ms. LaRue will be partnering with school districts in Juneau and Ketchikan to find ways of reducing the number of students that are dropping out.

"Ms. LaRue is a perfect addition to the CSSG Division," said CSSG Director Georgia Finau. "We are pleased to have another tribal member join our team. She will begin her new position on January 11, 2010 and her office will be located at the Andrew Hope Building. Please join us in welcoming her to Central Council."

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Contact:

Georgia Finau, Director

Community Services & Self-Governance Division

Central Council Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska

Direct: 907.463.7157 Toll Free: 1.800.344.1432 ext. 7157

Email: gfinau@ccthita.org