



**CENTRAL COUNCIL**  
*Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska*

Office of the President | Communications  
9097 Glacier Highway, Juneau, Alaska 99801  
communications@ccthita-nsn.gov | www.ccthita-nsn.gov

**PRESS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Emily Edenshaw Hired as Tribe's Business & Economic Development Director**

**Juneau, AK** (April 5, 2018) – Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Tlingit & Haida) is pleased to announce the hire of Emily Edenshaw as Business & Economic Development Director.

As the Director, Edenshaw will lead efforts that promote business and economic opportunities for the Tribe, its tribal business enterprises and citizens, and Southeast Alaska communities. This will be achieved through partnerships with local, state and federal agencies, and supporting community sustainability and planning efforts, economic development projects and job creation in Southeast Alaska.

"It has been my top priority to economically diversify the Tribe's revenue streams so that we can serve our tribal citizens no matter where they live," said President Richard Peterson. "It's only through our business development efforts that we will remove the barriers created by federal and state funding restrictions that limit our ability to support our tribal citizens. With Emily's experience, I believe we can accomplish this and the Tribe's long-term commitment to support commerce and our local economies, workforce development and job creation, and create opportunities for our people."



Edenshaw holds an Executive Master of Business Administration (EMBA) degree in Strategic Leadership from Alaska Pacific University and a Bachelor's degree in Journalism and Public Communications from the University of Alaska Anchorage. She comes to Tlingit & Haida from the First Alaskans Institute where she served as the Sustainability Director. She currently serves as President of Friends of ANCCS, a non-profit organization that supports the Alaska Native Cultural Charter School. Edenshaw previously served as the Academic Policy Committee Vice President of the Alaska Native Cultural Charter School.

"I'm so excited to start this new chapter of my life with my Tlingit & Haida family," said Edenshaw. "Aside from working alongside amazing people and being of service to all Southeast communities, I'm looking forward to applying my professional, personal and volunteer experiences towards important projects like Tlingit & Haida's Cultural Immersion Park, a powerful vehicle that will promote economic development and cultural awareness."

Originally from Emmonak, Alaska, Edenshaw is the great-granddaughter of Axel and Pearlie Johnson, granddaughter of John and Cecilia Sipary, and daughter of John Neeley and Helen Miller. Edenshaw and her husband Devin have three beautiful sons and one adventurous daughter. Her Yup'ik name, *Keneggnarkayaaggaq* which means a person with a beautiful persona, spirit, aura and friend.

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**Media Contact:**

Office of the President

Raeanne Holmes, Communications Coordinator

Phone: 907.463.7368 | Email: communications@ccthita-nsn.gov