
1:00-3:00

Four
Concurrent
Sessions

Work Session: Healthy Communities (Arteaga)

What does a healthy community look like and how can we draw upon the strength of our shared values to face the challenges of modern-day social problems? The challenges facing our communities these days are many—from alcohol and substance abuse (including the increased use of methamphetamines), to the disengagement of our youth, and the isolation of families. Panelist representing various health-related organizations will be joining us with their perspectives on what makes a healthy community and how their organizational or individual contribution is meeting this challenge.

Moderator:

Janie Leask, President, First Alaskans Institute

Panelists:

Sarah Sherry, AFN/FAI Elders & Youth Conference

Stacy A. Bohlen, Executive Director, National Indian Health Board

Sally Smith, Chair, National Indian Health Board

Jeff Jessee, Chief Executive Officer, Alaska Mental Health Trust

Harold Napoleon, Author, *The Way of the Human Being*

Aurora Johnson, President, Alaska Dental Hygiene Association

Tim Gilbert, Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

Will Mayo, Past President, Tanana Chiefs Conference

Work Session: Maintaining Our Traditional Way of Life (La Perouse)

A discussion of the various state and federal actions threatening our ability to continue to practice our traditional way of life. What impacts are the steady growth of urban Alaska and the increased competition for fish and game having on our villages? What policies and practices are being challenged in the courts and how can we ensure the Native community's interests are protected? In light of recent changes to the composition of the Regional Advisory Committees, how can we ensure that rural subsistence users continue to have a strong voice in the federal management system? The new Chair of the Federal Subsistence Board will brief us on proposed policy changes under consideration by the Board and the Secretary.

We will also hear a report from the AFN Subsistence Forum held on October 25 and discuss proactive measures we can take to protect our way of life for the next generation and beyond.

Moderator:

Myron Naneng, President/CEO, Association of Village Council Presidents

Panelists:

Matt A. Kookesh, Chair, Southeast Intertribal Fish & Wildlife Commission

Michael R. Fleagle, Chair, Federal Subsistence Board

Carol Daniel, AFN Counsel

Designated Spokesperson from the AFN Subsistence Forum: TBA

Work Session: The High Cost of Energy & Avenues Toward Affordable Energy (PAC, Sydney Lawrence Theater)

Unlike Native Americans in the Lower 48, we were not forced off our lands and relocated. We own these lands where our ancestors lived for generations. Due to the high cost of energy in rural Alaska, however, the choice of staying where we were born is increasingly unsustainable. The high cost of energy is impoverishing our families and our communities. Consequently more Alaska Natives feel forced to relocate to urban centers. Panelists will discuss their innovative solutions and share alternative models of energy production and consumption. Come share your ideas and creative solutions.

Moderator:

Ralph Andersen, CEO, Bristol Bay Native Association

Panelists:

Nels Anderson, Jr., Co-Chair, Governor Frank Murkowski's Rural Energy Action Committee

George Cannelos, Federal Co-Chair, Denali Commission

Bill Allen, Director, Alaska State Department of Economic Development

Mike Harper, Deputy Director of Rural Energy, Alaska Industrial Development & Export Authority

Working Session: Culture & Development in a Globalizing World (Cook)

As Alaska Natives, we have been charting our own path of economic development since 1971 and the journey continues today. At the AFN Leadership Forum in July, world-renowned Peruvian economist and keynote speaker Hernando de Soto said to Governor Walter Hickel in the Q&A, *"If you have a position in Alaska whereby you feel that you are not ready to take the full model that the other [48] states have, but you propose alternatives which actually work and allow your people to peacefully make a transition to their own form of capitalism, to their own form of market economies, to me, this is necessary -- this is acceptable."* Join this panel for a frank discussion on how to maintain our cultural values and integrate them into institutional forms while striving to achieve "economic development and success" as we define it. What steps can we take today to continue honoring our heritage while creating economic opportunity for tomorrow? Can our economies be completely self-sufficient without needing to count on the global marketplace? Are there examples of such self-reliant economies? These and other questions dealing with the tough choices that come with the transition into a market economy will be addressed.

Moderator:

Dr. Rosita Worl, President, Sealaska Heritage Institute

Panelists:

Bernice Joseph, Executive Dean, College of Rural Alaska, University of Alaska Fairbanks

Jon Panamaroff, Business Development Officer, Native American Bank, NA

Jacob Adams, Arctic Slope Regional Corporation

Steve J. Langdon, Professor of Anthropology, University of Alaska Anchorage

3:00-5:00 PM

Four
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Work Session: ANCSA Issues (Arteaga)

It has now been three and a half decades since passage of ANCSA. Every Congress since then has considered and passed amendments proposed by the Native community to fine-tune aspects of this complex land settlement. Issues continue to arise which need Congressional attention. This work session will include discussion of recent amendments to ANCSA and potential new amendments for the next Congress. Examples of ANCSA amendments which have far-reaching impacts include such issues as enrollment of Alaska Natives born after December 18, 1971, land exchanges, and the 8(a) government contracting provision which has its roots in a package of ANCSA amendments passed in 1986.

Moderator:

Sheri Buretta, Chair, Association of ANCSA Regional Corporation CEO's & Presidents

Panelists:

Roberta Quintavell, President/CEO, Arctic Slope Regional Corporation
Margie Brown, President/CEO, Cook Inlet Region, Inc.
Chris McNeil, President/CEO, Sealaska Corporation

Work Session: Climate Change (Cook)

Evidence of global warming is undeniable in rural Alaska and many of our Native communities have been directly impacted. In response, the Alaska Legislature created the Alaska Climate Impact Assessment Commission earlier this year to report on the real and potential effects of warming trends on communities, natural resources and the economy of the state. Four of the 11 members of the commission will be on this panel. The Commission's final report, which will also include proposed legislation, is due to the legislature Jan. 10, 2008. The panelists will discuss how they will be approaching the assessment – what are the considerations and threats that will be addressed by this commission? Will they be addressing your worries and helping your community mitigate impacts like coastal erosion or village displacement? This is a rare opportunity for delegates and community leaders to have your voices heard by the members who will ultimately recommend action and legislation on this issue. Come share your concerns, innovative solutions and expectations of this climate impact commission with its members.

Moderator:

Richard Glenn, Vice President - Lands, Arctic Slope Regional Corporation

Panelists:

Deborah Williams, President, Alaska Conservation Solutions
Representative Reggie Joule, Alaska State Legislature
Representative Ralph Samuels, Alaska State Legislature
Bob Pawlowski, Executive Director, Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation
Caleb Pungowiyi, Maniilaq Association

Work Session: Rural Justice & Law Enforcement (La Perouse)

Much attention has been given to rural justice in the last year. In 2004, Congress, at the urging of Senator Stevens, formed the Alaska Rural Justice and Law Enforcement Commission. After a year of travel and the work of four citizen-driven work groups, the Commission is preparing to release its *Initial Report*. Come hear the recommendations that have resulted from their work. State Senator Seekins will also introduce his newly formed task force assigned to review issues surrounding

VPSOs in rural Alaska. This panel will give delegates a chance to share their views on the present VPSO system: What are the strengths and weaknesses? How can improvements be made to serve the people? Can the VPSO program be incorporated into other capacities within the village framework? Delegates are encouraged to join in this critical conversation – your input will help shape the future of rural justice and law enforcement in rural Alaska.

Moderator:

Timothy M. Burgess, Judge, U.S. District Court for Alaska

Panelists:

Loretta Bullard, President, Kawerak, Inc.

Bruce Botelho, Mayor, City & Borough of Juneau

Wilson Justin, Health Director/VP, Mt. Sanford Tribal Health Consortium

Gail Schubert, Executive Vice President & General Counsel, Bering Straits Native Corporation

Senator Ralph Seekins, Alaska State Legislature, sponsor of new State VPSO Committee

**Work Session: Preparedness: Pandemic Influenza
(PAC, Sydney Lawrence Theater)**

What are the risks of an influenza pandemic or avian flu in Alaska? What is the difference between avian flu and pandemic flu? What preparations are underway to assist Alaskan families and communities with the possible effects of avian flu in the wild migratory birds that are an integral part of the diet of many Alaska Natives? What is the current status of monitoring wild birds? The panel will discuss the state's pandemic influenza plan and efforts to ensure that Alaskans across the state have the information they need to deal effectively with this potentially high-impact issue.

Moderator:

Dr. Richard Mandsager, Director, Division of Public Health, Alaska Department of Health & Social Services

Panelists:

Mike Bradley, Program Manager, Traditional Food Safety & Emergency

Preparedness, Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

Dr. Jay Butler, Chief Epidemiologist, Alaska Division of Public Health

Matt Robus, Director, Alaska Division of Wildlife Conservation

Jim Mackin, Preparedness Program Manager, Alaska Division of Public Health

5:00

Recess for the day
