



Monthly President's Report

Special Report | GOVERNANCE

Jan/February 2013

Dear AFN Co-Chairs, Board Members & Membership,

On February 13th the AFN Board of Directors officially updated the bylaws of our organization.

The Board called for three major changes to the organization's bylaws including the creation of a new Executive Governance committee, formal co-chair structure and a new category of membership for Federally Recognized Tribes.

Tribes now have their own category of AFN membership: Class A(4). The bylaws of AFN were officially amended to establish the new Class A membership category for Tribes and to reorganize the voting structure for Convention. Please read on for more details about this exciting change.

The size of AFN's Board of Directors remains the same and each region will determine who holds their village board seat, the A(3) ANCSA Village Corporation representative or the A(4) Federally Recognized Tribe representative, and who serves as alternate.

This month, AFN's Co-Chairs made an exciting executive decision to approve the creation of a new AFN Tribal Relations Ad-Hoc Committee, Chaired by AFN Board Member Ed Thomas, President of Tlingit & Haida Central Council. This all new committee is tasked with exploring new ways to engage Alaska's Federally Recognized Tribes and strengthen partnerships.

The Co-Chairs have asked the Board for nominations of individuals to serve on the new Tribal Relations Committee, so we will have more information about the committee and its members after the Board's May meeting. Stay tuned!

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10,691 total
votes are now available to
AFN's membership beginning
with the 2013 Annual
Convention this October.

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Keeping AFN Current & Responsive

ANATOMY OF AN ORGANIZATIONAL UPDATE

For an organization as large and long-standing as AFN, the process of identifying and implementing changes is a thoughtful process with multiple, formal steps.

Research + Discussion

Before any change is considered by the Board of Directors, it is referred to a designated committee for in-depth research and discussion. Committee members, with the support of AFN staff, review the issue at hand and all potential options for AFN engagement, vote, and then prepare a report for the Board.



Formal Recommendation

AFN's full Board of Directors reviews committee recommendations and background information presented in committee reports. Questions that are not addressed in the report are referred back to committee. When the Board has enough information to proceed, a vote is initiated.



Board Vote

Major decisions (like the recent bylaws changes) require the attention of AFN's full Board of Directors. Some decisions can be made by a subset of the Board, while Bylaws changes must be addressed by a quorum or majority of the Board at a regularly scheduled meeting.



Enactment

Following Board approval, decisions must become actions. Decisions that need further clarification may be referred back to committee, while concrete recommendations are directly assigned to staff for implementation.

Monthly President's Report



AFN's Structure

REORGANIZATION & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

At the 2009 AFN Annual Convention, resolution 09-05, which included directives to the Board to review the bylaws and undertake a process to reorganize AFN was adopted. In response to this resolution and its charges, the Board directed AFN's Leadership Committee, led by Tara Sweeney of ASRC, to undertake a thorough review of AFN's structure, membership, and governance. The Leadership Committee's recommendations to the Board helped drive the current reorganization effort and identify the areas of focus that are currently guiding the Board's thinking about our organization's structure. Our reorganization process is ongoing, but the current membership and committee updates represent great progress.

On September 28, 2012 the AFN Board of Directors established an Executive Governance Committee to address AFN reorganization and a number of administrative issues related to AFN operations:

Restructure – *preparing board recommendation*

- Review existing proposals – research other options
- Determine how to engage tribes – region by region – conduct research – build capacity
- Determine size of board
- Membership criteria review
- Resolution process review
- Committees – focused on priorities like transportation, health, subsistence, etc.
- Bylaws revisions as needed
- Timeline to accomplish goals

Fundraising – *financial resilience*

- Membership dues
- Partnerships – list of all Native organizations – networks
- Setting up a 501(c)-3

Administration

- Board and Staff transition planning
- Build board capacity
- Clear communications within committees, board and members

Further Define the Overall Purpose of AFN

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Structured for Progress

AFN'S NEW EXECUTIVE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

The committee is comprised of members from every region in Alaska and an equal mix of AFN Class A membership. The Board of Directors elect or designate the Executive Governance Committee members on an annual basis at or immediately following the AFN Annual Convention.

AFN's new Executive Governance committee is comprised of one Co-Chair, one regional representative from each of the twelve regions, and three at-large members to be selected from the Board. To qualify as a regional representative, the nominee must be a member of the AFN Board, and will be appointed by the regional representatives on the Board. The Executive Governance committee will meet quarterly, at a minimum, and more frequently at the call of the chair.

Governance Committee Duties and Authorities

- Make emergency decisions for the board after the board is surveyed to develop consensus.
- All decisions made by this committee must be reported at the next meeting of the board.
- Work with the President to ensure accountability for all AFN goals as defined by the board, and to secure needed resources for financial sustainability.
- With input from the board, conduct an annual evaluation of the President/CEO.
- Ensure all members of the board, and their alternates, received adequate orientation on the organization and their duties.
- Annually review the structure and policies and recommend changes as needed to ensure efficiency and accountability.
- Review the policy and procedures manual and recommend changes as needed.
- Establish a foundation or endowment.

2013 GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Albert Kookesh, AFN Co-Chair } *One Member*
Ralph Andersen, AFN Co-Chair } *& One Ex-officio*
Gregory Razo, Committee Chair, CIRI
Tara Sweeney, Arctic Slope Regional Corporation
Georgianna Lincoln, Doyon, Limited
Rosita Worl, Sealaska Corporation
Margaret Galovin, Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association
Myron Naneng, Association of Village Council Presidents
Francis Norman, Chugachmiut, Inc.
Ian Erlich, Maniilaq Native Association
Brenda Rebne, Ahtna Villages
Thomas Tilden, Bristol Bay Villages
Steve Ivanoff, Bering Straits Villages
Nancy Barnes, Chugach Villages
Ana Hoffman, Y-K Delta Villages
Denise May, Kodiak Villages

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AFN's New Membership Category

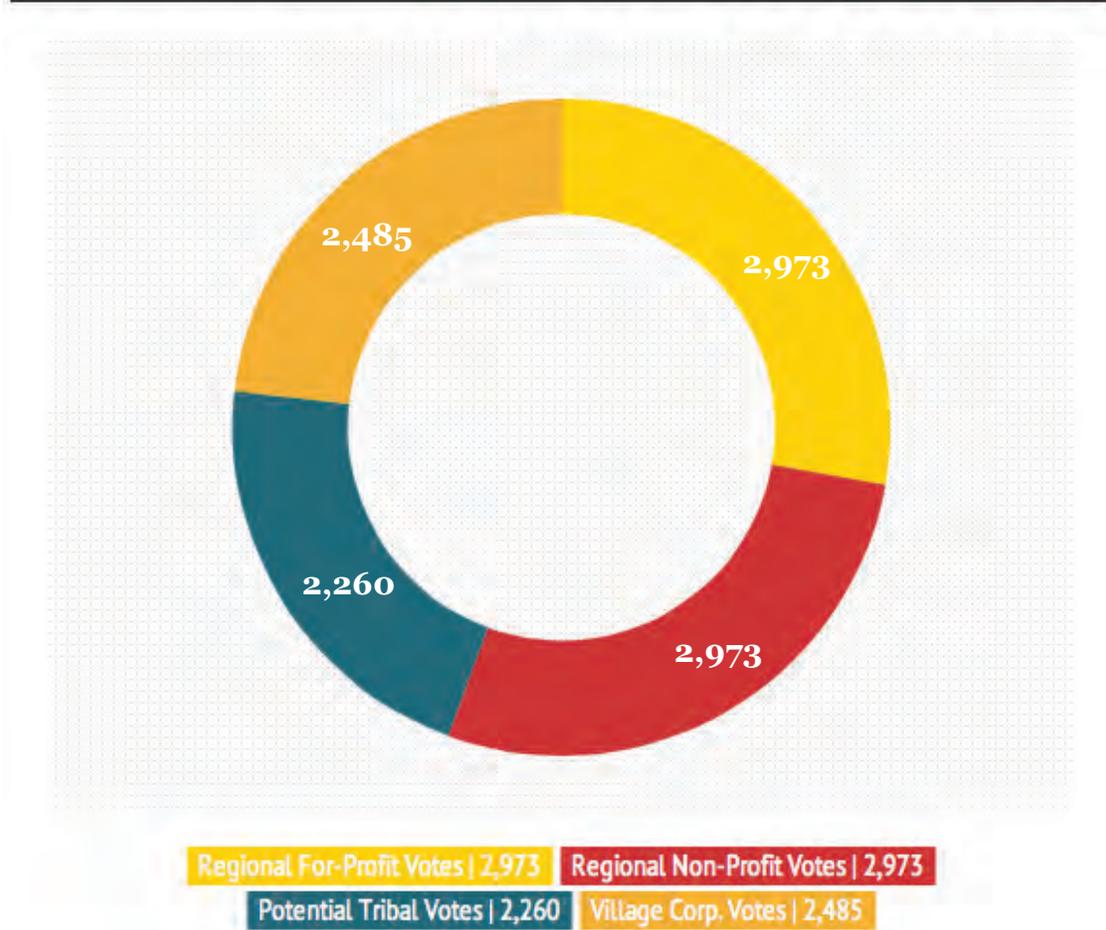
NEW TRIBAL MEMBERSHIP STRUCTURE

On February 13, 2013, the AFN Board of Directors voted to amend AFN's Bylaws to establish a separate Class A membership category for Federally Recognized Tribes in Alaska and a separate Class A membership category for ANCSA Village Corporations. This means that there will be a lot more votes at the AFN convention for tribal and village leaders.

The AFN Board remains at 37 members, plus two co-chairs. Each region will continue to have three representatives on the Board:

- ANCSA regional corporation seat
- ANCSA non-profit organization seat
- Village seat

Maximum Votes Available by Sector



Monthly President's Report



Our Memberships' New Votes

WHAT THIS MEANS: VOTING & MEMBERSHIP

All federally recognized tribes in Alaska, along with all ANCSA Village Corporations, remain eligible for Class A membership in AFN. Class A members who are in good standing are entitled to vote at the meetings of the Membership, including the annual AFN Convention.

In the past, the Tribe and Village Corporation from the same community were required to share the votes allotted to Class A(3) Village members. The Village Corporation and the Tribe from the same community will no longer have to split the votes allocated to the Village. Both the Tribe and the Village Corporation will have to become members of AFN and pay their membership dues if both want to vote at the Convention.

At any meeting of the membership of AFN, Class A (3) members (Village Corporations) and Class A(4) members (Tribes) that are members of AFN and current on their membership dues, will be entitled to be represented by a delegation of one or more delegates and alternates. Delegations are made up of one delegate for each twenty-five persons (or fraction thereof) who were enrolled pursuant to the provisions of ANCSA to the community. The fee for each vote is \$50.00.

The 2013-14 membership dues for the Class A(3) (Village Corporation) and the Class A(4) (Federally Recognized Tribe) members will be the same for each entity. Payment of the membership dues is required in order to be eligible to purchase votes and vote at the Convention. Membership also entitles the member organization to utilize AFN's insurance plans and vote to select a Board member and alternate for the Village seat on the Board of Directors. For further information about AFN's membership insurance, please contact our office directly at afninfo@nativefederation.org or 907-274-3611.

1 vote for every
25 in population

Class A(3) and A(4) members are entitled to a delegation made up of one delegate for every 25 persons based on the original ANCSA enrollement.

The village or tribe will select their delegates as they see fit.

The AFN Board continues to work on updating the voting and population numbers. We anticipate that this will change after the 2013 Convention.

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A New Tribal Relations Committee

AFN NATIVE TRIBAL RELATIONS AD HOC COMMITTEE

There are 227 federally recognized tribes in Alaska. The Alaska Federation of Natives is the largest and most recognized voice for Alaska Native issues and concerns. The increasing number of tribal issues emerging at the state and national levels make it essential that we give more help to Federally Recognized tribes to protect their rights.

The Alaska Federation of Natives Tribal Relations Committee (AFNTRC) is established to provide more help for tribes by:

1. Clearly identifying and defining issues of importance to Tribes in Alaska.
2. Exploring alternatives to address the issues or concerns.
3. Recommending strategies to provide a unified voice in effectively addressing these issues and/or concerns.
4. Recommending policy changes that improve public policies on these issues and/or concerns for the long-term.
5. Advocating recommendations to national Native American organizations.

The AFNTRC will begin as an ad hoc committee of the AFN Board. Committee members must be AFN Board members appointed by the AFN Co-Chairs.

AFNTRC NOMINATIONS

This new committee will be Chaired by AFN Board Member Ed Thomas, President of Tlingit & Haida Central Council.

The Co-Chairs have asked the Board for nominations of individuals to serve on the new Tribal Relations Committee.

Please let your AFN Board representative know if you would like to recommend someone.

Monthly President's Report

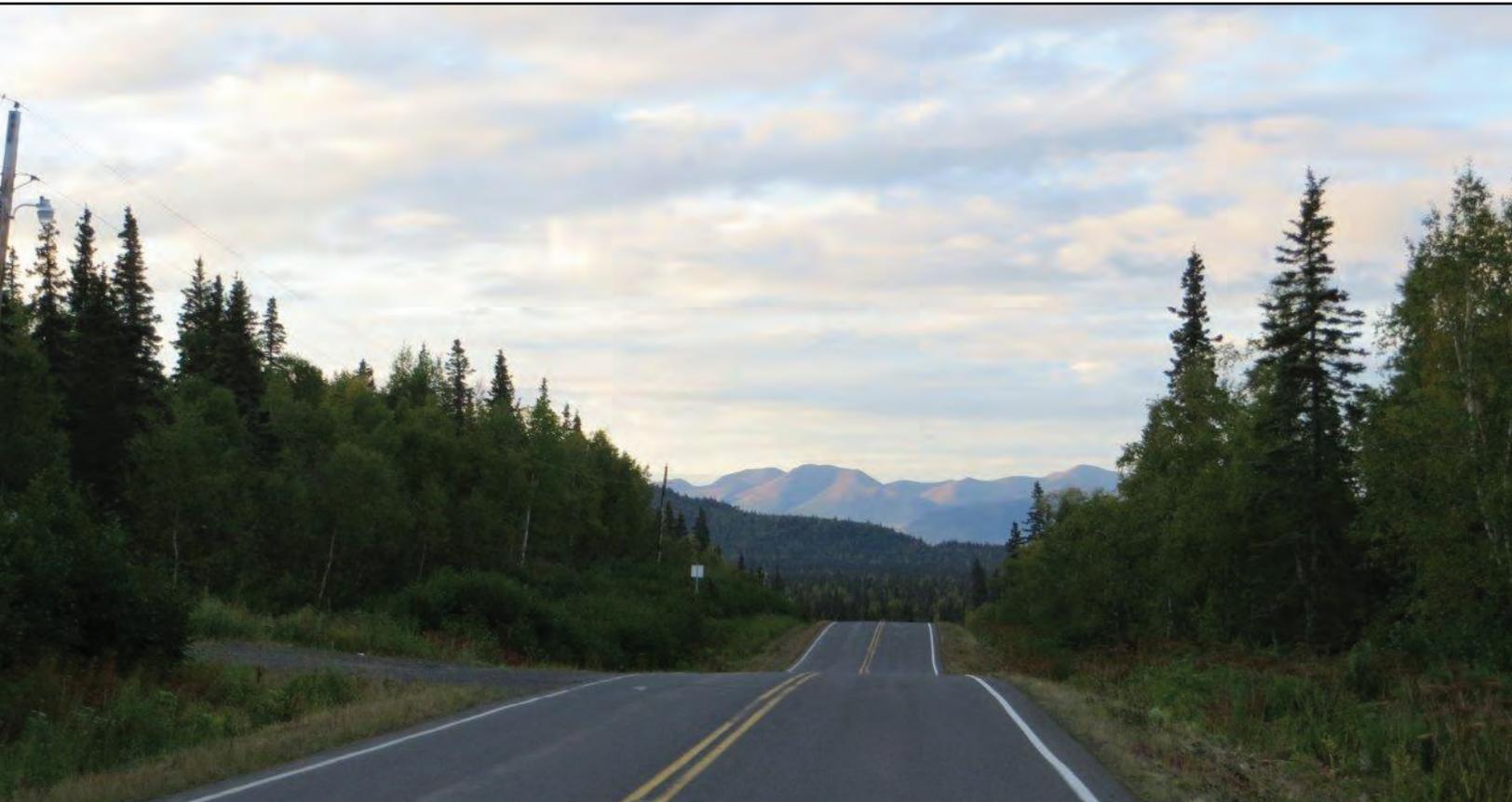


Thank You

From AFN's office here in Anchorage, thank you. We look forward to working with you to protect Alaska Native rights and advance on every front.

Sincerely,

Julie Kitka



Alaska Federation of Natives

1577 C Street, Suite 300 | Anchorage, Alaska | 99501 | 907.274.3611 | afninfo@nativefederation.org





Monthly President's Report

Dear AFN Co-Chairs, Board Members & Membership,

Preparations are underway for our 2013 AFN Convention. This year our annual meeting will take place on October 24-25-26 at the Carlson Center, 2010 Second Avenue in Fairbanks, Alaska.

Who would you like to hear at this year's big event? Let us know! We're accepting speaker nominations - especially Elder leaders and outstanding youth. Please email us: afninfo@nativefederation.org

The latest Convention news can always be found online at: www.nativefederation.org/annual-convention/

Please read on for a detailed overview of everything you'll need to know to make the most of this year's Convention, including registration and nomination details. You'll also find an array of useful documents appended to this report in PDF format.

April 2013

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CONVENTION COMMITTEE

CHAIR

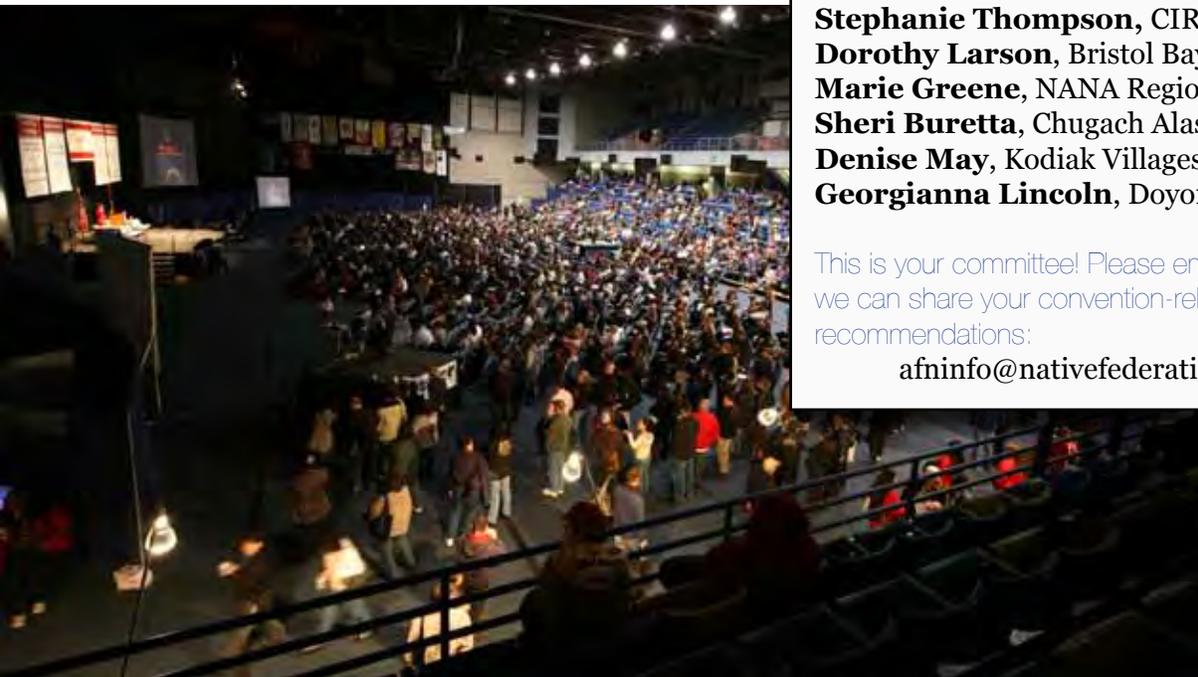
Ed Thomas, Central Council of Tlingit Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska

MEMBERS

- Stephanie Thompson**, CIRI Villages
- Dorothy Larson**, Bristol Bay Native Corp.
- Marie Greene**, NANA Regional Corp.
- Sheri Buretta**, Chugach Alaska Corp.
- Denise May**, Kodiak Villages
- Georgianna Lincoln**, Doyon Limited

This is your committee! Please email or call AFN so we can share your convention-related comments and recommendations:

afninfo@nativefederation.org | 907.274.3611



Monthly President's Report



Theme & Keynote

CELEBRATING OUR VALUES & COMMUNITY

Theme

This year's convention theme is Traditional Family Values, recognizing our rich culture as Alaska Natives and the importance of family.

Keynote

Our keynote speaker will be Nelson Angapak, Senior Vice President of AFN and has been with AFN since 1975 as a board member, chairman of the board, and as staff. Nelson also served as President and Vice President of Calista Corporation and worked in the land department of Calista for more than 10 years.

Nelson has successfully lobbied the U.S. Congress for passage of legislation benefitting Alaska Natives including amending ANCSA on land and resources and experience in developing partnerships and collaborations with national organizations such as LARAZA, NCAI, NAACP.

Nelson graduated from Mt. Edgecumbe High School in 1965, received a Bachelor's of Arts in Mathematics from Ft. Lewis College in 1969, a Masters in Land and Resources from Antioch University in 1978, and has a degree in Theology in 202 from Golden Gate Theological Seminary. Nelson will be retiring from AFN later this year after 35 years



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For Delegates

VOTING & MEMBERSHIP

NEW! The Board of Directors amended the AFN Bylaws to separate ANCSA Village Corporations and Federally Recognized Tribes in their own Class A category.

This is good news, it means that there will be more votes at the AFN Convention for tribal and village leaders and we look forward to a greater participation at the Convention. Unity will make us stronger!

Delegates

We encourage you to use our online form, available at: www.nativefederation.org/annual-convention/delegates/

If you require the hard copy form, please see attached.

Registration Schedule

Thursday, October 24, 2013
7:30AM-11:00AM
2:00PM-4:30PM

Friday, October 25
7:30AM-11:00AM
2:00PM-4:30PM

Saturday, October 26
8:00AM-11:00AM

Location

Main Level, Arena Floor
Carlson Center, 2010 Second
Avenue, Fairbanks, Alaska



Monthly President's Report



Resolutions

MAKE OUR VOICES HEARD

Resolutions Policy

On an annual basis, the AFN Resolutions Committee – appointed by the Co-Chairs of the AFN Board of Directors – has meetings and reviews resolutions that are submitted to AFN that may be considered by the delegates of the Annual Convention.

The deadline for submittal of resolutions for the 2013 Annual Convention is close of business, September 26, 2013.

Criteria for Submitting Resolutions

- The AFN Resolutions Committee will entertain resolutions submitted by any recognized Alaska Native delegate to the AFN Convention, Alaska Native Group, or Member AFN Organization.
- The Resolutions Committee will consider only resolutions that address issues of statewide or broader significance.
- Resolutions submitted must address only one issue with action on the resolution to be stated positively.
- Resolutions requesting funding may be referred to the AFN Board of Directors, or to an appropriate regional or local organization.
- The Resolutions Committee may refer to AFN Board of Directors or an appropriate member organization all resolutions that request legal action.
- The Resolutions Committee will refer to the AFN Board of Directors all resolutions that are determined to be a divisive issue between member organizations.
- The Resolutions Committee shall refer all resolutions of endorsements, commendations, or recognition to the AFN Board of Directors.

Procedures & Follow-up

- When a resolution does not follow the established format, it will be referred back to the sponsor or be rewritten.
- Duplicate resolutions may be consolidated. All sponsors of duplicates will be noted on final

2013
**RESOLUTIONS
DEADLINE**
September 26



Monthly President's Report



- resolutions.
- The Resolutions Committee will consider only resolutions that are received by the deadline. The deadline is to be established four weeks prior to the AFN Convention on an annual basis.
 - Resolutions should be one issue per resolution with limited negative views.
 - Resolutions making misstatements on issues will be returned to their sponsor(s) with draft language for the considerations of the sponsor(s) or be modified.
 - The AFN President or Designee, which may include the Chair of the Resolutions Committee, shall make a summary report of actions that occurred on the Resolutions adopted at the prior Annual Convention.
 - An authorized member delegate may present a resolution(s) to the Annual Convention by "suspension of the rules" procedure set out in The Robert Rules of Order provided, that copies were handed out the day before the resolutions are to be acted on.
 - The Resolutions Committee shall categorize all resolutions received into the following categories: AFN Board Resolutions, Special Recognition, Subsistence, Health, Safety and Welfare, Cultural, Land & Natural Resources, Education, Economic, ANCSA/Tribal, Elders and Youth, and Other.
 - Resolutions presented to the Annual Convention and passed by the delegation shall be processed by the Resolutions Committee into a final set of resolutions for presentation to the AFN Board of Directors.



Presentation at the Annual Convention

The Chair of the Resolutions Committee, or designee, shall preside over the presentation of resolutions to the membership at each Annual Convention. The Chair will explain: 1) the policy and process; 2) notice and instructions for submitting resolutions; 3) criteria for submission; and 4) technical management of the resolutions.

The Committee Member will read the number, title of the resolution, and the recommendation of the Committee, and he/she makes the motion to accept the recommendation of the Committee. A Committee Member seconds the motion. (1) Amendments of three words or less and grammatical amendments may be accepted by unanimous consent by the Convention. (2) Amendments of greater length must be in writing and brought to the Committee and may be tabled to the end of the session. (3) Suspension of the Rules according to The Robert Rules of Order must have 2/3 vote or unanimous consent of the Convention. Newly submitted resolutions must be in writing and brought to the Committee.

Please see the attached Resolutions Format document for further details.

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Sponsorship

MAKE IT ALL HAPPEN

The AFN Convention Sponsorship provides an opportunity to support and participate in this exceptional gathering of Alaska's Native leaders, national and international observers, invited guests, speakers and attendees as they address the critical issues of our times. We offer a variety of sponsorship levels and benefits outlined below. Visit our website today to make your pledge: www.nativefederation.org/annual-convention/sponsorship-opportunities/ or call Alissa at 907.274.3611.

DENALI (\$50,000)

- 30-second television commercial aired each day of Convention and link to commercial on AFN Webpage and Facebook page
- One full-page, four color ad in the AFN Convention Guide
- Television banner ad (once a day for all three days of Convention)
- Acknowledgement on agenda and from podium
- Opportunity to provide an interview (taped or live) that will be aired during Convention
- Listing of name, logo & link on AFN web page
- Sponsor page link on AFN Facebook and Fairbanks Convention & Visitors Bureaus special AFN Convention web site
- Listing in Convention Guide, Banquet Program and Qujana Program
- Listing on Sponsor display during Convention
- Listing in "Thank you" Ad
- Two Premium 8x10 exhibit booths in the Carlson Center Foyer
- Two VIP Banquet tables seating 20 total
- Organization name on AFN stage banner
- Twenty tickets to Qujana evening events (40 tickets total)
- Organization's logo on event tote bags
- A branded gift in 1500 delegate tote bags (gift provided by sponsor)



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KATMAI (\$25,000)

- One half-page, four color ad in the AFN Convention Guide
- Television banner ad (once a day for all three days of Convention)
- Acknowledgement on agenda and from podium
- Listing of name, logo & link on AFN web page
- Sponsor page link on AFN Facebook and Fairbanks Convention & Visitors Bureaus special AFN Convention web site
- Listing in Convention Guide, Banquet Program and Quyana Program
- Listing on Sponsor display during Convention
- Listing in "Thank you" Ad
- One Premium 8x10 exhibit booth in the Carlson Center Foyer
- One VIP Banquet tables seating 10 total
- Organization name on AFN stage banner
- Twelve tickets to Quyana evening events (24 tickets total)
- Organization's name on event tote bags
- A branded gift in 1500 delegate tote bags (gift provided by sponsor)

SUSITNA (\$10,000)

- One quarter-page, four color ad in the AFN Convention Guide
- Listing of name, logo & link on AFN web page
- Sponsor page link on AFN Facebook and Fairbanks Convention & Visitors Bureaus special AFN Convention web site
- Listing in Convention Guide, Banquet Program and Quyana Program
- Listing on Sponsor display during Convention
- Listing in "Thank you" Ad
- One premium 8x10 exhibit booth in the Exhibit Hall
- Organization name on AFN stage banner
- Six tickets to Quyana evening events (24 tickets total)



Monthly President's Report



TAKU (\$5,000)

- Listing of name & link on AFN web page
- Sponsor page link on AFN Facebook and Fairbanks Convention & Visitors Bureaus special AFN Convention web site
- Listing in Convention Guide, Banquet Program and Quyana Program
- Listing on Sponsor display during Convention
- Listing in "Thank you" Ad

KOBUK (\$2,500)

- Listing of name on AFN web page
- Sponsor page link on AFN Facebook and Fairbanks Convention & Visitors Bureaus special AFN Convention web site
- Listing in Convention Guide, Banquet Program and Quyana Program
- Listing on Sponsor display during Convention
- Listing in "Thank you" Ad

Friends of AFN (under \$2,500)

- Listing in Convention Guide
- Listing on Sponsor display during Convention
- Listing in "Thank you" Ad



Monthly President's Report



President's Awards

RECOGNIZING THE BEST IN OUR PEOPLE

By popular demand, the President's Awards will be presented as part of the main Convention Agenda this year!

Nomination Information

You may nominate an outstanding individual in the following categories:

Culture Bearer Recognizes an Alaska Native who demonstrated strong involvement in the arts. Individuals nominated for this award may be involved in theater, music, dance, painting, sculpture, and storytelling. This award can also recognize an artist, an arts administrator, or a preserver of Native culture.

Della Keats Healing Hands Named for the late Dr. Della Keats, an Inupiaq healer who served the health care needs as a tribal healer within the Northwest Alaska area for over 50 years. This award recognizes an Alaska Native who has demonstrated strong commitment, competence and sensitivity as a tribal healer or health care provider whose accomplishments have most directly affected Native people in their home communities.

Dr. Walter Soboleff Warrior of Light Recognizes an Alaska Native who uplifts, enriches, and unifies our Native people in their communities.

Eileen Panigeo MacLean Education Named for the late State Legislator, elementary and bilingual teacher. Recognizes an Alaska Native who as demonstrated strong commitment, competence and sensitivity in the education field, and whose accomplishments have improved educational opportunities for Alaska



Monthly President's Report



Natives. Individuals nominated for this award may be involved in traditional education, preschool, elementary, secondary, or postsecondary education, the nominee can be cultural educators, parent committee members, school board members, administrators, teacher aides, or other education-related professionals, who have been a positive role model for the Alaska Native community.

Elder of the Year Recognizes an Alaska Native Elder who exemplifies the highest of values and qualities important to Native people. This individual is recognized leader, an educator and preserver of the Native culture whose contributions have benefited Native peoples throughout his/her life.

Glenn Godfrey Law Enforcement Named for the late Glenn Godfrey, Colonel and Director of the Alaska State Troopers and Alaska Commissioner of Public Safety. This award recognizes an Alaska Native law enforcement officer federal, state or local who has shown outstanding dedication to the safety of the public in any locations(s) within Alaska, often requiring heroic courage in the face of danger.

Hannah Paul Solomon Woman of Courage Recognizes an Alaska Native woman who demonstrates throughout her life and works the strengths of our cultural and values with tremendous courage.

Health Recognizes an Alaska Native who has demonstrated strong commitment, competence and sensitivity in the health fields, whose accomplishments have improved health care for Alaska Natives. Nominees may be involved in the areas of health advocacy, program administration, and professional care and in the health professions.

Hunter-Fisher Recognizes an Alaska Native who exemplifies and preserves the spirit of successful subsistence hunting, trapping and sharing, and our way of life. Nominees must acknowledge and ensure that the next generations of providers will carry on the traditions and customs in harmony and peace to sustain their extended families.



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Lu Young Youth Leadership Named for the Late Lu Young, who encouraged young people to expand their horizons and challenge themselves to become future leaders. Nominees must be a young woman of high school age or student in college, who demonstrates leadership qualities.

Parents of the Year Recognizes Alaska Native parents who exhibit many of the qualities and values important to the continued physical, social and cultural survival of Native people. These values may include sharing and teaching of Native culture, love of children, respect for Elders, spirituality, cooperation, and responsibility and involvement in the community.

Public Service Recognizes an Alaska Native who has demonstrated dedication, competence and sensitivity in the area of public service. This award recognizes individuals who have promoted and assisted in the development of their community, or whose accomplishments and leadership qualities have most directly affected and benefited Native peoples.

Roger Lang Youth Leadership Named for the late Roger Lang former AFN President, who encouraged young people to expand their horizons and challenge themselves to become future leaders. Nominees must be young men of high school age or students in college, who demonstrates leadership qualities.

Small Business Recognizes an Alaska Native business owner or manager who has demonstrated success in the business with a commitment to their community, and has improved economic opportunities for Alaska Natives.



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Exhibit Show

RECOGNIZING THE BEST IN OUR PEOPLE

Every year, AFN makes a limited number of exhibit spaces available during its Annual Convention. AFN Convention Sponsors at the Susitna (\$10,000) or higher level receive an exhibit table with their sponsorship. Other than sponsors, exhibit tables for the 2013 Convention will be offered only to AFN member organizations, government agencies, tribes, nonprofits, and educational institutions. Tables are assigned on a first-come, first-serve basis.

To inquire about exhibit space, email Alissa Grohall at agrohall@nativefederation.org.

Exhibitor Information

Location

Carlson Center, 2010 Second Avenue, Fairbanks, Alaska, 99701

Cost

Main level exhibit area (first floor):

\$3,500 Government agencies and ANCSA corporations

\$2,500 Nonprofits and educational organizations



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Mezzanine exhibit area (second level)
\$1,500 Government agencies and ANCSA corporations
\$1,000 Nonprofits and educational organizations

Move-in Time

3:00PM – 5:00PM Wednesday, October 23, 2013

Exhibit Hours

8:00AM – 6:00PM Thursday, October 24

8:00AM – 6:00PM Friday, October 25

8:00AM – 3:00PM Saturday, October 26

Move-out Time

3:00PM – 4:00PM Saturday, October 26

Exhibit Booth Details

AFN will provide its exhibitors with:

- One 10x10 display booth space
- One skirted 6ft table and two folding chairs
- Pipe and drape back area (10'tall and wide) and side dividers (3'tall)
- Electricity if requested



Monthly President's Report



Customary Art Show

THE LARGEST IN THE STATE

For 30 years, AFN has hosted the largest Customary Art Show representing over 125 Native artisans from across Alaska and beyond showcasing and selling their finest work.

Artist Information

If you are an Alaska Native or an American Indian artist and are interested in space, email Nicole James at njames@nativefederation.org. Tables are assigned on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Location

Pavilion at the Carlson Center, 2010 Second Avenue, Fairbanks, Alaska, 99701

Cost

\$300

Move-in Time

3:00PM – 5:00PM Wednesday, October 23, 2013

Show Hours

8:00AM – 6:00PM Thursday, October 24

8:00AM – 6:00PM Friday, October 25

8:00AM – 3:00PM Saturday, October 26

Move-out Time

3:00PM – 4:00PM Saturday, October 26

Booth Information

AFN will provide each space with:

- One skirted 6ft table and two folding chairs
- Electricity if requested due to limited access



Monthly President's Report



Quyana Alaska

CELEBRATING OUR TRADITIONS

Our traditional dances remain the lifeblood of our culture and our communities. For 30 years, Alaska Natives come together in dance to celebrate Quyana Alaska during the AFN Annual Convention. This year, we will feature eight dance groups representing our cultures across Alaska.

Quyana Alaska I
Thursday, October 24, 2013
7:00PM – 11:00PM
Tickets \$10

Quyana Alaska II
Friday, October 25
7:00PM – 11:00PM
Tickets \$10



You may purchase your tickets at the Carlson Center, 2010 Second Avenue in Fairbanks during the following hours:

Wednesday, October 23
2:00PM to 5:00PM

Thursday, October 24
9:00AM to 6:00PM

Friday, October 25
9:00AM to 6:00PM

Stay tuned on our website for the latest developments!



Monthly President's Report



AFN Banquet

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2013

Our AFN Banquet brings our annual Convention to a fitting close each year. This great event represents our membership's final chance to exchange stories and ideas, and nurture relationships before returning home to our villages and hometowns across Alaska and the nation.

Seating: 6:30PM to 7:00PM

Dinner & Program: 7:00PM – 9:30PM

Call now to reserve your tables and/or seats!

VIP Table	\$2,000
Gold Table	\$1,500
Silver Table	\$1,000
General Admission	\$100

Contact Judy Jaworski, 907-263-1309 or by email at jjaworski@nativefederation.org.



Monthly President's Report



Thank You

We look forward to sharing another productive and thought-provoking annual Convention with you this October!

As always, we are deeply grateful for the support of our Convention Sponsors, the year-round contributions of our Convention Committee, and the devotion of our tireless staff who make 4,000+ attendees feel at home at our Convention each and every year.

Sincerely,

Julie Kitka



Alaska Federation of Natives

1577 C Street, Suite 300 | Anchorage, Alaska | 99501 | 907.274.3611 | afninfo@nativefederation.org





Monthly President's Report

Dear AFN Co-Chairs, Board Members & Membership,

The first quarter of 2013 has seen significant legislative, policy, and legal progress related to a wide range of our communities' priorities.

Highlights of our recent advocacy on the Hill and the Courts:

- We (finally) saw the renewal of the Violence Against Women Act signed into law in early March, but not without controversy -- more on page 2
- The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) formally endorsed a plan to support the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, a great step toward broader US endorsement of the Declaration -- more on page 7
- Our Congressional Delegation made an unprecedented unified declaration of support for the introduction of comprehensive immigration reform legislation, citing Alaska's diversity and strong Native community as their inspiration -- more on page 6
- Senator Begich will reintroduce his Safe Families and Villages Act and he needs our full support to move this important legislation forward -- more on page 4

Last week, Carol Daniel, Bob Anderson and Rick Agnew completed an AFN white paper on the recent Akiachak court decision on land into trust. The implications of the decision will be explained further at the May AFN Board meeting in Kotzebue by Carol Daniel, our In-House Counsel. The full text is included with this report in PDF format.

Please read on for further updates on these issues as well as some of our other priorities. . . .

May 2013

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UPCOMING

Listening Session

May 2, '13 | Ahtna Region, AK

Alaska/Villages Visit

Chairwoman Maria Cantwell,
US Senate Indian Affairs
Committee | August 2013



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Violence Against Women Act Signed into Law

VAWA IN ALASKA

On March 7th, President Obama signed a bipartisan bill to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act, finally ending a year-long effort to renew legislation that provides federal funding for programs aiding the prosecutions of domestic and sexual violence cases.

Although Alaska Natives comprise only 15.2% of the population of the State of Alaska, they comprise 47% of the victims of domestic violence and 61% of the victims of sexual assault. Regional studies revealed that Native women in the Ahtna region are 3 times more likely to experience domestic violence than other women in the U.S., and 8-12 times more likely to experience physical assault. The statistics are even higher among Athabascan women, 64% of whom reported that they had experienced domestic violence. Approximately half of the perpetrators in these situations were non-Natives. [read the text of AFN's submission to the Department of Justice with full citations in the PDF appended to this report]

The State of Alaska's public safety system does not effectively serve vast areas of the State, in which many remote Alaska Native villages are located, except in response to serious crimes involving severe injury or death, which are handled by Alaska State Troopers who are located in only a small number of hub communities around the State. The vast majority of Alaska Native communities have no formal state law enforcement presence. As of 2011, there were Village Public Safety Officers (VPSOs) in only 74 rural communities, and Village or Tribal Police Officers (VPOs and TPSs), which are supervised by the Tribes and not the State, in 52 communities. The remaining 91 rural communities have no law enforcement presence at all.

Alaska Natives are eligible to receive funding under many of the grant programs reauthorized or created through amendments to the VAWA, including the following:

- Grants to combat violent crime against women (STOP grants), which have been expanded to include training of law enforcement officers including for VPSOs.
- Grants to assist tribes and states to retain and expand rape crisis centers and other programs to help victims of sexual assault, including elder abuse, sexual assault and to provide training to law enforcement agencies to better serve the elderly.
- Amendments to the Public Health Service Act to include tribal sexual assault coalitions in the grant program for rape prevention and education; provides for grants to enhance the safety of youth and children who are victims of or exposed to domestic violence; and to revise and consolidate grant programs that address domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking by developing or enhancing and implementing interdisciplinary training for health professionals, education programs and comprehensive statewide strategies to improve the response of clinics,

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- public health facilities, hospitals and other health settings to domestic violence and sexual assault.
- Grants for transitional housing assistance and support services for victims of domestic violence.
- An amendment to the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to include sex trafficking as a target of the grants to Indian tribal governments;
- Also, under Title IX – Safety for Indian Women, Section 902 allows tribal coalition grants to be used to develop and promote state, local and tribal legislation and policies that enhance best practices for responding to violent crimes against Indian women; Section 903 requires the Secretaries of Interior, HHS and the Attorney General to participate in consultations with Indian tribes regarding the administration of tribal funds and programs, enhancement of Indian women's safety, and federal response to violent crimes against Indian women. Section 907 requires that Alaska Native Villages be included in the National Institute of Justice study of violence against Indian women, and Section 909 directs the Attorney General to report to Congress on whether the Alaska Rural Justice and Law Enforcement Commission should be continued.

Despite appalling statistics showing that Alaska Native women are vastly overrepresented among the victims of domestic violence, Alaska's tribes were excluded from the important tribal jurisdiction amendments to the VAWA.

By way of background, when AFN learned that Alaska's tribes had been excluded from major provisions of the VAWA in the Spring of 2012, AFN's Legislative/Litigation Committee convened an emergency meeting on April 23, 2012, to discuss S.1925 and H.R. 4154, both of which excluded Alaska's tribes from the jurisdiction provisions. The Committee passed a Resolution opposing any language that would exclude Alaska's tribes, and directing the staff to work with other Native and civil rights organizations, including NCAI and our tribes to preserve the ability of Alaska Native women and children to seek civil protections in their tribal courts on par with all Native Americans within the United States.

On April 26, 2012, the Senate voted to reauthorize the VAWA with the provisions that excluded Alaska's tribes. At that point AFN directed its efforts to trying to obtain better language in the House. On May 7, 2012, AFN partnered with the Leadership on Civil and Human Rights to send a joint letter to Congressman Young, urging him to work to include provisions



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that would enable tribal governments in Alaska to more effectively combat domestic violence. On May 10, 2012, the Alaska Native women who serve on AFN's Board (14 in number) also wrote to Congressman Young urging him to ensure the legislation included local solutions to address the crisis in Alaska's rural villages. Our efforts failed when, on May 16, 2012, the House passed H.R. 4970, which stripped out the tribal jurisdiction provisions altogether.

On January 22, 2013, S.47, a bill to reauthorize the VAWA, was introduced in the Senate. It was essentially the same bill that passed the Senate in the 112th Congress. S.47 passed the Senate on February 12, 2013, and on February 28, the House passed the Senate's version of the bill. The renewed act expanded federal protections to Native Americans but excluded Alaska's tribes from section 904 and the amendments to section 905 of the Act.

Section 904 amends the Indian Civil Rights Act of 1968 to provide special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction to participating tribes in Indian country. It recognizes and affirms the inherent power of a participating tribe to exercise special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction over all persons, concurrent with the jurisdiction of the United States, the State or both. Section 905 amends the current law which addresses tribal court jurisdiction to issue and enforce civil protective orders anywhere in Indian country of the Indian tribe *or otherwise within the authority of the Indian tribe*.

Unfortunately, Section 910 sets out special rules with regard to jurisdiction applicable to Alaska. It restricts the expanded jurisdiction afforded by sections 904 and 905 in Alaska to only the Metlakatla Indian Community. It further provides that the remaining tribes in Alaska retain their existing authority (prior to passage of the VAWA of 2013) to issue and enforce civil protection orders. In the face of criticism for excluding Alaska Native tribes from the jurisdictional provisions of the VAWA, and recognizing the devastating effects of substance abuse, the soaring rates of domestic violence and sexual assault in Alaska, and the lack of law enforcement in many of our communities, both Senator Murkowski and Senator Begich have expressed a desire to address the issue through legislation.

On Friday, March 15, Senator Murkowski unveiled a "discussion draft" of her Rural Public Safety Initiative, which would create a pilot project under the Justice Department for 12 villages. Her draft calls for the state to deputize tribal or village police to enforce state criminal laws, provide Justice Department grants to put one police officer in villages that lack law enforcement, and allow offenders who violate state misdemeanor laws under the influence of drugs or alcohol to choose to accept sanctions from tribal courts.

As discussed below, Senator Begich has agreed to reintroduce his Alaska Safe Families and Villages Act. Significant work remains ahead of us in securing full protection and support for Alaska Native women.

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Safety for Our People

SAFE FAMILIES AND VILLAGES ACT

Back in 2011, Senator Begich introduced the Alaska Safe Families & Villages Act to improve public safety in Alaska's most remote communities. Senator Begich's bill is more important than ever, following the passage of VAWA with amendments that leave most Alaska Native women and children vulnerable.

The bill would begin by creating a demonstration project by which participating tribes would have clearly confirmed authority to enforce tribal laws regarding alcohol and substance abuse, and domestic violence, within their villages.

The Act passed through committee, but died on the Floor of the Senate last year. Senator Begich pledged this month to reintroduce his legislation, vowing that he would "be more aggressive with this legislation now that I am on the Indian Affairs Committee."

Senator Begich is currently circulating a new draft bill, and is in discussions with Senator Murkowski in an effort to gain her support as a co-sponsor.

ACTION ITEM

Tell Senator Begich you support his reintroduction of the Safe Families & Villages Act:

By Email Form: www.begich.senate.gov
By Mail: 111 Russell Senate Office Bldg,
Washington, DC 20510
By Fax: 202-224-2354
By Phone: 202-224-3004



Monthly President's Report



Voting Rights

MAKING OUR VOICES HEARD

Early this year, AFN filed an Amici Curiae brief (or Friend of the Court brief) with the U.S. Supreme Court in the case of *Shelby County vs Holder* addressing the issue of whether Congress' decision in 2006 to reauthorize Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act under the pre-existing coverage formula of Section 4(b) of the Voting Rights Act exceeded its authority under the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments, and thus violated the Tenth Amendment and Article IV of the United States Constitution. AFN supports the Voting Rights Act and Congress' 2006 decision to protect voting rights under Section 5.

AFN membership includes numerous tribes and villages covered by Sections 4(b), 5, and 203 of the Voting Rights Act, which have a direct interest in this case's outcome. Emmonak Tribal Council, Kasigluk Traditional Council, Levelock Village Council, Togiak Traditional Council, Willie Kasayulie, Anna Nick, Vicki Otte, and Mike Williams are also Applicants for Intervention in the State of Alaska's recent challenge to Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act in the District Court for the District of Columbia, *Alaska v. Holder*, which has been stayed pending a decision by the Supreme Court in the *Shelby County* case. All Applicants are registered voters or, in the case of the tribes, represent registered voters in Alaska who are impacted by the State's failure to comply with the Voting Rights Act and have a direct interest in the outcome in this case.

AFN submitted the brief for two reasons: (1) to correct misrepresentations about Alaska in support of the argument that the Voting Rights Act coverage formula is inappropriate, and (2) to respond to the State of Alaska's *amicus* brief that falsely claims that the State has no history of voting discrimination and thus Section 5 is not a congruent and proportional response. AFN is now, and has been, party in voting rights cases against the State of Alaska, and filed our brief to correct the record. AFN argued that "Alaska is a textbook case for why the coverage formula remains valid and Section 5 remains a necessary response to widespread educational and voting discrimination against Alaska Native citizens."

The full text of AFN's 100-page brief is appended to this report in PDF format.



Monthly President's Report



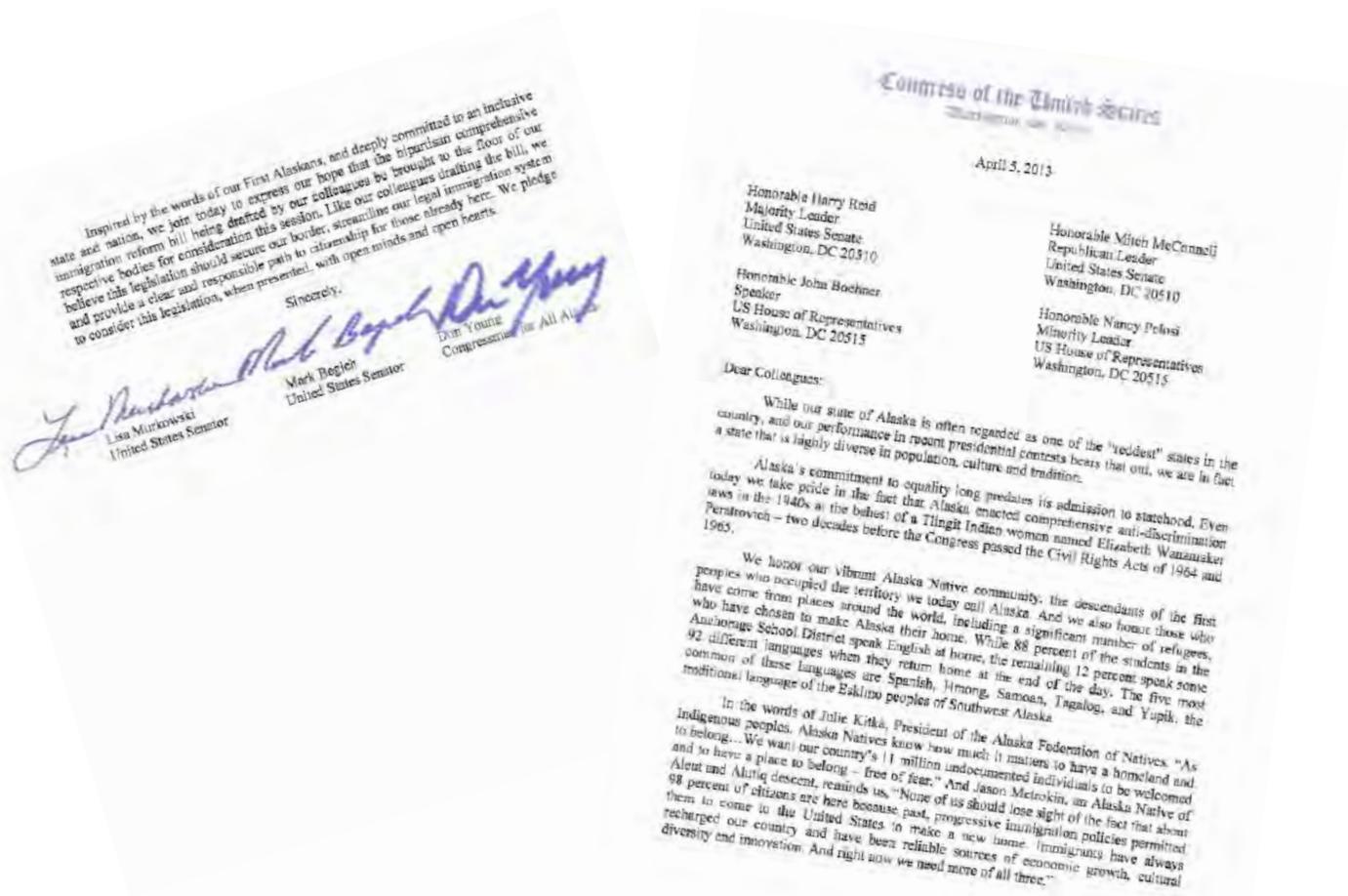
Immigration Reform

MAKING ALASKA'S VOICE HEARD

On April 5th Alaska's Congressional delegation boldly voiced their support for the drafting and introduction of a bipartisan comprehensive immigration reform bill with the strong backing of the Alaska Native community.

Senators Lisa Murkowski and Mark Begich and Congressman Don Young addressed their "Dear Colleague" letter to the leadership of both houses of Congress, sending a clear message of support for a bill that would "secure our border, streamline our legal immigration system and provide a clear and responsible path to citizenship for those already here."

Read the full text of the letter, our Delegation's press release about their statement, and AFN's supporting documents in PDFs appended to this report.



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United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

ACHP ENDORSEMENT & PROGRESS

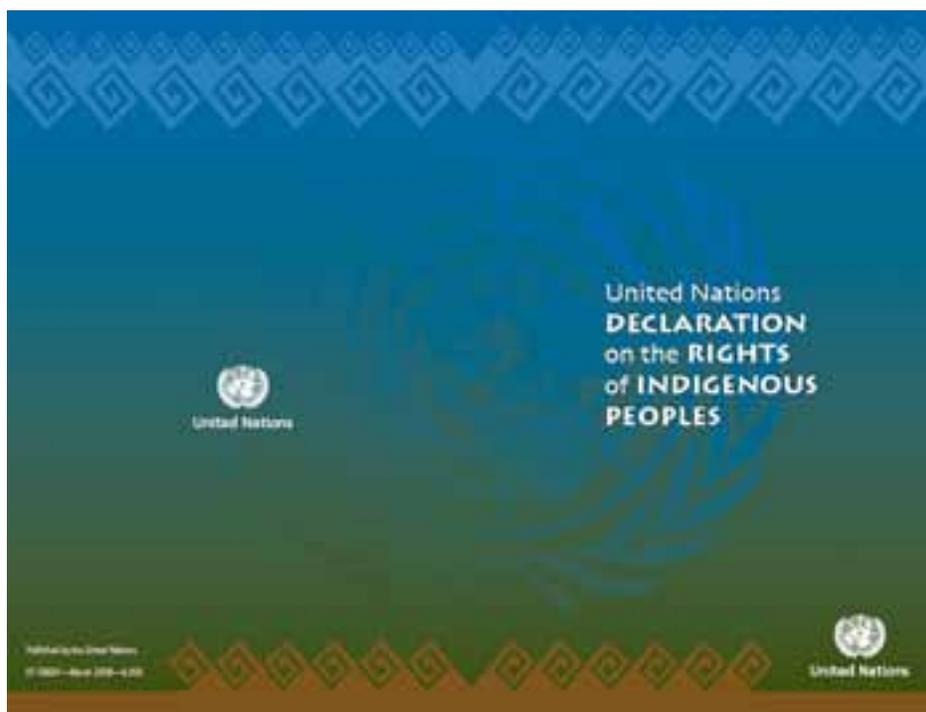
The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) formally endorsed a plan to support the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in early March.

John L. Berrey, Chairman of the Quapaw Tribe, is the Native American member on the 23-member ACHP. He moved that the ACHP endorse the Declaration plan. The motion was approved unanimously. The fact that the ACHP is the first federal agency to adopt such a plan makes this an important first step toward greater adoption of the tenants of the Declaration.

Under the approved plan, the ACHP will “raise awareness about the Declaration within the preservation community; make information about the Declaration available on its Web site; develop guidance on the intersection of the Declaration with the Section 106 process; reach out to the archaeological community about the Declaration and the conduct of archaeology in the United States; and generally integrate the Declaration into its initiatives such as the Traditional Cultural Landscapes Action Plan.”

A PDF of the ACHP's press release about their endorsement and plan is appended to this report in PDF format.

You can learn more about the ACHP's endorsement and download the full text of the Declaration here: <http://www.achp.gov/UNdeclaration.html>



Monthly President's Report



Fighting Discrimination

SUPERINTENDENT MARY MILLER REINSTATED

The National Park Service (NPS) has been ordered by the U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board to reinstate Mary A. Miller to her position as superintendent at the Sitka National Historical Park. Miller appealed her removal and brought suit claiming her removal among other charges was “tainted by discrimination” based on her Alaska Native race, sex and physical disability.

The park commemorates the 1804 Tlingit battle as part of its park status designation. Miller's termination from the NPS in August 2010 occurred amongst the park's major events celebrating its 100-year anniversary.

AFN, along with Sealaska, advocated for Miller from the beginning. This decision demonstrates there is due process for those facing similar circumstances. Mary had energy and brought value and a Native presence to the Sitka National Historical Park. We were disappointed about her removal and protested directly to the Department of Interior. This decision highlights the need for the federal government to look at Alaska Native employment statistics, with a view toward increased retention and increased opportunities for Alaska Natives in key management positions.

In addition to reinstatement, Miller will receive back pay and benefits. The agency must also report back to Miller once it has fully carried out the Merit System Protection Board's order.



Monthly President's Report



Department of Interior in Transition

SALLY JEWELL SWORN IN AS SECRETARY OF INTERIOR

Early this month, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar celebrated his last day on the job with a 40-second YouTube video thanking his staff -- you can view the video here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=STKS-OfeoGU>

Secretary Salazar is replaced by Sally Jewell, who's appointment was confirmed by the Senate on April 10th. She was officially sworn in on April 12th.

Prior to her confirmation, Jewell worked in the private sector, most recently as President and Chief Executive Officer of REI. Jewell joined REI as Chief Operating Officer in 2000 and was named CEO in 2005. During her tenure, REI nearly tripled in business to \$2 billion and was consistently ranked one of the 100 best companies to work for by Fortune Magazine.

Before joining REI, Jewell spent 19 years as a commercial banker, first as an energy and natural resources expert and later working with a diverse array of businesses that drive our nation's economy. Read more about Secretary Jewell in the PDF press release attached.

Photo: RurAL CAP

DEPUTY SECRETARY DAVID HAYES DEPARTS INTERIOR

This week, the Department of Interior announced that Deputy Secretary Hayes will leave Interior at the end of June to serve as a Senior Fellow at the Hewlett Foundation and teach at Stanford Law School in the fall.

Deputy Secretary Hayes "played an instrumental role in settling the long-standing Cobell Indian trust litigation and overseeing implementation of the settlement, ending 14 years of litigation regarding the Interior Department's management of trust resources for more than 500,000 American Indians and Alaska Natives."

Learn more in the PDF press release attached.



Monthly President's Report



Contract Support Costs & Opportunity

FY 2014 BUDGET IMPACT ON CONTRACT SUPPORT COSTS

Early this month, the President's proposed FY 2014 budget was released.

“It contains small increases for contract support costs (CSC) for both the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and the Indian Health Service (IHS). More significantly, the proposed appropriations bill for both agencies introduces a new approach to CSC spending that would cap not only the aggregate appropriation but also, apparently, the allocation of that amount to each individual tribe or tribal organization. The intent appears to be a legislative “Ramah fix” that would remove the Government’s responsibility, as held in *Salazar v. Ramah Navajo Chapter*, to fully fund CSC for each contract and eliminate tribes’ ability to recover CSC shortfalls through contract actions.”

Read a complete initial analysis in the HOBBS, STRAUS, DEAN & WALKER, LLP report attached here as a PDF.



FUNDS AVAILABLE FROM THE DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION

On April 22, the Department of Transportation announced the availability of \$473.8 million in funds to be awarded for National Infrastructure Investments (TIGER Funds). These funds, which are available to tribal applicants, will be awarded on a competitive basis for projects that will have a significant impact on a community.

Please read the NOFA at <http://www.dot.gov/policy-initiatives/tiger/tiger-notice-funding-availability-2013> for more information about project eligibilities, application requirements, and other important information.

The “Apply” function on www.Grants.gov will open on April 29, 2013. Final applications are due by Monday, June 3, 2013.

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Safety in Our Schools

SAFE COMMUNITIES, SAFE SCHOOLS

Senator Murkowski has been working on two bills that include provisions intended to assist schools to better serve students and to keep schools safe.

The first bill is the Mental Health Awareness and Improvement Act, which is intended to allow schools to use Title I, II and Safe & Drug Free Schools funds to provide Positive Behavioral Supports and Intervention programs and to establish school-based mental health partnership programs and help states to help schools develop good crisis management plans. The next step for this bill is consideration by the full Senate.

The second bill passed the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee on April 10th and is currently under consideration on the Senate floor: S. 649, the Safe Communities, Safe Schools Act. The school-related provisions in this bill would allow schools to use Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) grants to install surveillance equipment and establish tiplines, establish an interagency task force to update advisory school safety guidelines, establish a National Center for Campus Public Safety, and provide training and other assistance to colleges' public safety personnel.

Bill summaries and the full text of each of these bills is included with this report in PDF form. Senator Murkowski is seeking community input on both.

ACTION ITEM

Share your thoughts and ideas with
Senator Murkowski:
Share your input, including recommendations
for amendments, via Senator Murkowski's
website:
[http://www.murkowski.senate.gov/public/
index.cfm?p=EMLisa](http://www.murkowski.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=EMLisa)



Monthly President's Report



Protecting Our Children

NEW AD HOC AFN CHILDREN'S TASK FORCE

The AFN Co-Chairs have approved the creation of an ad-hoc AFN Children's Task Force under the AFN Legislative & Litigation Committee. Patrick Anderson has been asked to Chair this new task force. AFN solicits recommendations of interested AFN Board members or others to be part of this task force. The task force will work with the NCAI's Children's Task Force.

The research and policy foundations for the task force will be the U.S. Attorney General's Task Force on Defending Children and the report filed in December, 2012. Link: <http://www.justice.gov/defendingchildhood/cev-rpt-full.pdf>

An additional research foundation will be the Adverse Childhood Experience Study. Link: http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/pub-res/pdf/childhood_stress.pdf

We will also want to look at the NIH National Children's Study currently under development. Link: <http://www.nationalchildrensstudy.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

We hope the new AFN Children's Task Force will accomplish some important work which can be shared with the convention delegates in October. There will be an update at the AFN Board meeting in May.

Thank You

I am repeatedly amazed and inspired by our membership's tireless commitment to not only defend our rights, but to do so on so many fronts simultaneously. We have made great strides already in 2013. We have laid the foundation for an incredible year. To accomplish all that we hope to achieve, we must remain strong, focused, and committed.

Sincerely,

Julie Kitka

Alaska Federation of Natives

1577 C Street, Suite 300 | Anchorage, Alaska | 99501 | 907.274.3611 | afninfo@nativefederation.org





Dear AFN Co-Chairs, Board Members & Membership,

June was a month of transitions.

Our Senior Vice President Nelson Angapak officially retired from his position at AFN. We are deeply appreciative of his many years of service to our people. We wish him all the best and many healthy, happy years fishing and enjoying the company of his family. We look forward to his keynote address at this year's AFN Convention in October.

We welcomed Maude Blair to the AFN team. She joins our Anchorage-based staff as vice president, bringing a rich array of talents and experience to our work. Read more in the press release attached. Christopher Liu from Bethel also joined AFN as Special Assistant to the President - Fundraising.

We lost a beloved leader with the passing of Katie John in early June. We will continue to be inspired by Katie's great contributions and will continue to defend our rights and traditions in her name.



Nelson was honoured during last month's meetings in Kotzebue.

June 2013

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Katie John near her fishwheel on the Copper River, 1994. Erik Hill, ADN

Monthly President's Report



First Annual Alaska-Hawaii Roundtable

NURTURING OUR ONGOING RELATIONSHIP WITH NATIVE HAWAIIANS

On June 4th AFN and the Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement (CNHA) convened an Alaska-Hawaii Roundtable for Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian business, policy and community leaders. The event was intended to honor the rich legacy of collaboration left by the late senators Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii) and Ted Stevens (R-Alaska) and kick off an ongoing series of annual Roundtables devoted to facilitating ongoing collaboration among Native communities, hosted alternating years in Alaska and Hawaii.

The first hour of this two-hour event was devoted to Native-Native discussions and goal-setting. Native leaders were joined in the second hour by the full-delegations of both states, including:

U.S. Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska)
U.S. Senator Mark Begich (D-Alaska)
U.S. Congressman Don Young
(R-Alaska)
U.S. Senator Mazie Hirono
(D-Hawaii)
U.S. Senator Brian Schatz (D-Hawaii)
U.S. Congresswoman Colleen
Hanabusa (D-Hawaii)
U.S. Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard
(D-Hawaii)

More than two dozen Native leaders traveled to Washington, D.C. for the event, which was preceded by a reception honoring Congressman Don Young's 40 years of service to our state. The event also garnered significant news coverages in both Alaska and Hawaii, as well as the lower 48.

View video coverage by Honolulu Civil Beat here: <http://www.civilbeat.com/articles/2013/06/07/19227-dc808-on-the-wire-the-alaska-connection/>

See the event programs appended to this report as a PDF document for more details about the attendees and agenda.



Monthly President's Report



Convention Update

NEW PRESIDENT'S AWARD

Last month the AFN board formally announced a new President's Award that will debut at this year's Convention. The GIN'TITH (RICHARD FRANK) MILITARY SERVICE AWARD will recognize an Alaska Native who demonstrates a strong commitment and willingness to serve in the U. S. Armed Forces in the defense of the United States of America. Individuals nominated for this award may be involved in the U. S. Armed Forces in active duty, reserves, National Guard or as a veteran who was honorably discharged from active duty or reserves.

THANKS TO OUR GROWING LIST OF 2013 CONVENTION SPONSORS

Denali (\$50,000)

ExxonMobil
GCI

Katmai (\$25,000)

Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute
Alyeska Pipeline Service Company
Chugach Alaska Corporation
NANA Regional Corporation
Red Dog Mine-Teck Alaska
Shell Exploration & Production Company

Susitna (\$10,000)

Alaska Airlines
Anglo American US (Pebble)
Bristol Bay Native Corporation
BP
ConocoPhillips
Donlin Gold
KeyBank Foundation
Pebble Ltd. Partnership
Statoil
Sam's Club
UIC

Taku (\$5,000)

Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority
Bering Straits Native Corporation
Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce

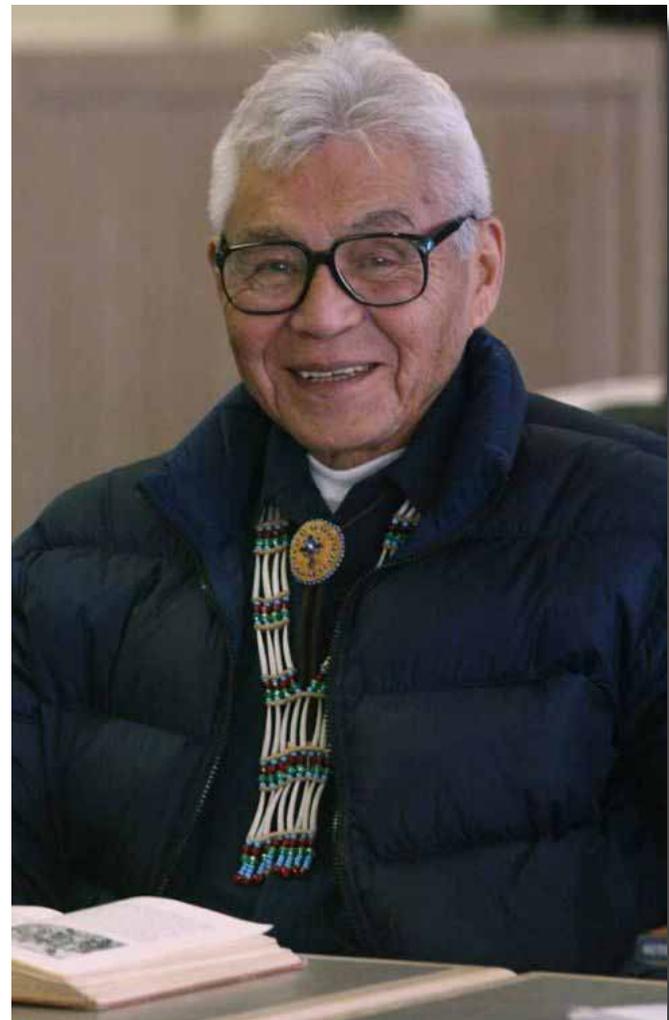


photo: Richard Frank courtesy of newsminer.com

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Kobuk (\$2,500)

Afognak Native Corporation
Central Council of the Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska
Kenai Peninsula College
KPMG
Lynden
Mikunda, Cottrell & Company
Southwest Alaska Vocational & Educational Center
The Tatitlek Corporation
TDL Staffing
Fairbanks Convention and Visitors Bureau
Fairbanks Memorial Hospital/Denali Center
MAC Federal Credit Union

Friends of AFN

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Teamsters Local 959
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Cook & Haugeberg LLC
Fairbanks Economic Development Corporation
Mt. McKinley Bank
Power and Transmission, Inc.
Schneider & Shilling, CPAs
The Pumphouse Rest
The Turtle Club
Usibelli Foundation
Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation
AlasConnect, Inc.
Fairbanks Printers & Office Equipment
Frontier Supply Company
Gana-A'Yoo, Ltd.
Jolly Roger Designs
Lemongrass Thai Cuisine
Spirit of Alaska FCU
Sourdough Express, Inc.
Zimmerman and Wallace
Alaska Rare Coins
Tammy Randolph, State Farm Ins.

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Today!

Contact AFN at 907-274-3611
or visit our online sponsorship form:
<http://www.nativefederation.org/2013-sponsorship-form-page/>

Monthly President's Report



Secretary Jewell's Direction for DOI

TESTIMONY OFFERS GLIMPSE OF PRIORITIES

Secretary of Interior Sally Jewell offered testimony before the U. S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on May 15. She offered far-reaching views on a variety of subjects, providing some new insight into how she will likely shape DOI's priorities during her tenure.

We are pleased to see Secretary Jewell begin her testimony by recalling her work for NANA and emphasizing her respect for, and understanding of, the "government-to-government relationship with, and obligations to, American Indian tribes and Alaska Natives." She promises that she is committed to "... upholding the Federal government's obligations to Native Americans and to strengthening the United States' government-to-government relationship with Indian tribes and Alaska Natives."

Her remarks related to *Carcieri v. Salazar* will be perhaps most significant for Alaska Natives. She indicates that she may have had conversations with DOI's solicitor regarding this case. DOI currently supports a legislative fix to *Carcieri v. Salazar*.

Secretary Jewell states that "... the *Carcieri* decision creates uncertainty and adversely affects the tribes' ability to progress as a government." She indicated that she will carry forward the Administration's position in support of a legislative solution to address the "negative impacts and increased burdens on the Department and on Indian Country resulting from this decision."

The full text of Secretary Jewell's testimony is appended to this report in PDF format.



photo: Secretary Sally Jewell courtesy of csmonitor.com

Monthly President's Report



Arctic Policy

WHITE HOUSE ANNOUNCES NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR THE ARCTIC REGION

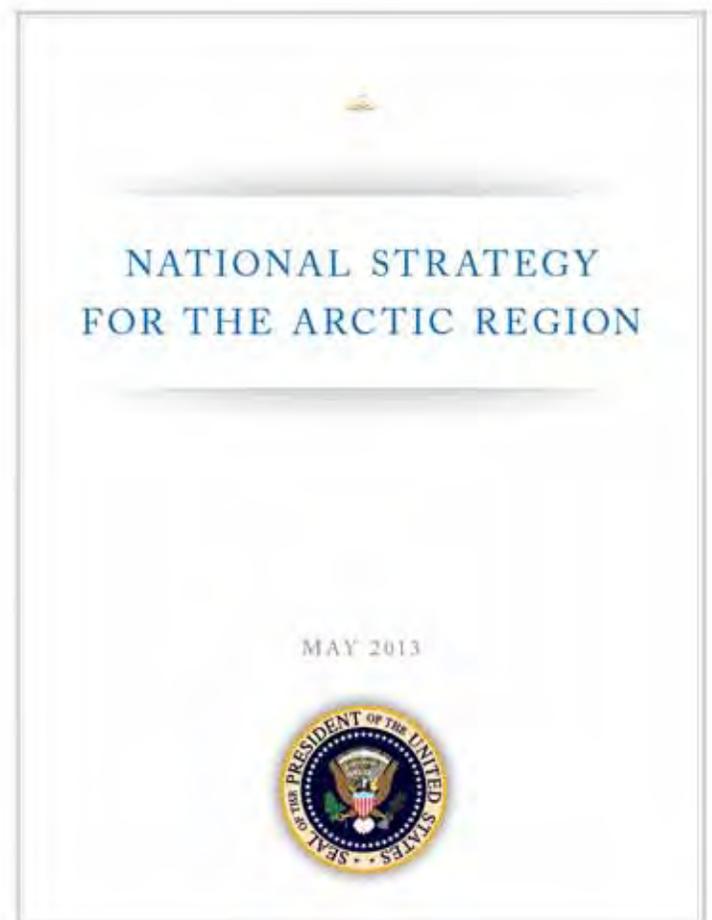
In late May, President Obama signed a National Strategy for the Arctic Region. With his signing of this document, the United States joined the Arctic Council members Canada, Norway, Denmark, Iceland, Finland, Russia, and Sweden in articulating our nation's strategic priorities for the arctic region.

The Administration solicited input from Alaska Natives, the State of Alaska and others as it was developing the National Strategy for the Arctic.

In a statement from the White House, the Administration stated that "Successful implementation of the high-level lines of effort identified in the National Strategy will depend upon active engagement with Alaska Natives, the State of Alaska and other key stakeholders. In particular, proceeding with the stewardship of Arctic resources under an Integrated Arctic Management approach requires, by its terms, meaningful, up-front input by the State, Alaska Natives, and others."

The Administration hosted a roundtable discussion for state and local officials in Alaska on June 14th to discuss how best to move forward with the implementation. Read more about the first meeting here: <http://www.alaskajournal.com/Alaska-Journal-of-Commerce/June-Issue-4-2013/Feds-visit-Alaska-for-input-on-Arctic-policy/>

A PDF of the full strategy document accompanies this report.



Monthly President's Report



Honoring Native Veterans

VETERANS SPOTLIGHT IN THE CAPITAL

Senator Lisa Murkowski's "Veteran Spotlight" was recognized last month at a Library of Congress event as a model of the 'Best Practices' for its Veterans History Project – an effort to share the oral accounts of war from America's veteran community and inform future generations of their bravery and valor.

Senator Murkowski launched her "Veteran Spotlight" series last Memorial Day, and Alaskans from the Alaska Territorial Guard to veterans of our present military conflicts have shared their stories.

The full Veterans Spotlight Project can be viewed here:
<http://www.murkowski.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=spotlight-veterans>

ACTION ITEM

Thank Senator Murkowski for her great work on behalf of our veterans:

By email form: <http://www.murkowski.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=EMailLisa>
By mail: 709 Hart Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510
By phone: 202-224-666-55301



Monthly President's Report



Supreme Court Decision

INDIAN CHILD WELFARE

Native Village of Tununak v. State, Office of Children's Services Decision

The Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) establishes adoptive placement preferences for placing an Indian child with a member of the child's extended family, with other members of the child's tribe, or with other Indian families. A court may deviate from these preferences only upon a showing of good cause. ICWA does not state what standard of proof applies to the good cause determination, nor does it state what factors a court must consider in determining whether there is good cause to deviate from the preferences. The Superior Court in this case placed an Indian child with a non-Native family.

On appeal, the Alaska Supreme Court overturned a long line of prior cases, and held that ICWA requires the lower courts to find good cause to deviate from the ICWA placement preferences by "clear and convincing evidence" rather than the lower "preponderance of the evidence standard." In reaching this decision, the Court gave substantial deference to the policies underlying ICWA. It held that "ICWA implicitly mandates that good cause to deviate from ICWA's adoptive placement preferences be proved by clear and convincing evidence. To the extent our prior cases hold otherwise, they are overruled." A link to the decision is pasted below.

No. 6788 S-14562 Native Village of Tununak v.
State, Office of Children's Services

<http://www.courtrecords.alaska.gov/webdocs/opinions/ops/sp-6788.pdf>



Monthly President's Report



Fighting Sequestration

FORMING A NATIONAL COALITION TO PROTECT TRIBAL PROGRAMS FROM IMPACTS OF SEQUESTRATION THROUGH LEGISLATION

AFN's Human Resources Committee has taken the lead on a far-reaching response to Sequestration that will be driven by a national coalition of Native organizations and allies. One of our primary goals is to raise the visibility of importance of tribal programs and funding, highlighting the devastating impacts that a 5% across the board cut will have in Alaska and across Indian Country. We will also highlight the unique political relationship that we have with the federal government and its associated non-discretionary fiduciary trust obligation to tribal nations.

We will seek passage of legislation that immediately exempts all tribal programs from current and future sequestration of appropriations.

The HRC is in the process of crafting a draft resolution that, once passed, will be presented to our Alaska Delegation in Washington DC. AFN will work with our Delegation to introduce legislation based on the resolution, likely through a Dear Colleague Letter, and to shop for support.

AFN staff and HRC committee members are working closely with NCAI to make our coalition truly national in scope, while also concurrently working in-state to ensure the unique Alaska perspective is preserved. We expect to finalize the draft resolution by early July.

AFN staff and board members continue to concurrently work with Appropriations Committee staff to raise the designated budgets for programs affected by sequestration. We are now looking ahead to influence the budgeting process for FY2014 and beyond.



Monthly President's Report



Thank You

In May, we had the pleasure of visiting our friends in Kotzebue for our May Board and Committee Meetings. NANA and Maniilaq were wonderfully generous hosts. Everyone who was able to attend the meetings left with a renewed sense of connection and appreciation for our many versions of “paradise” we enjoy here in Alaska. Our thanks again to our Northern hosts - for the beautiful hotel accommodations, delicious meals, precious time at the Utuqqanaat Inaat Elder Care Center in Kotzebue, dancing, ice fishing and sledding with our favorite Iditorod winner John Baker.

Sincerely,

Julie Kitka





Monthly President's Report

August 2013

Dear AFN Co-Chairs, Board Members & Membership,

Late summer is an interesting time at AFN. There is always a flurry of advocacy and legislative activity just before the Congress goes into recess, a push to support decisions that will either enact legislation or position important issues for early consideration when session begins again.

During the same period, the final preparations for our annual Convention pick up speed. In August, deadlines approach for resolutions, awards, outreach for traditional dance groups for Quyana and the artists' showcase. This year, we're doing even more now, to further improve our delegates' experiences at the big event!

On August 15, we opened our online pre-registration for the first time. Delegates who pre-register will receive their bag and materials in a separate express line and may purchase up to four tickets for each Quyana night before they go on sale the public. More details follow on page 3.

Last week the HRC voted to become the all new Council for the Advancement of Alaska Natives (CAAN). Next week, Native leaders will testify regarding ANILCA and subsistence for the first time in nearly 20 years. Press releases about both of these announcements are included here as PDFs.

Please read on for more exciting updates about AFN's recent activities, Convention planning reminders, and an all-new Spotlight on Innovation section highlighting great ideas from AFN's members across Alaska...

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UPCOMING

NCAI TRIBAL UNITY WEEK
Days of Action: Sept. 11-12
Washington D.C.

ANICLA HEARING
September 19th, 9:30am EST
Washington, D.C.
Webcast available:
<http://www.energy.senate.gov/public/>

2013 TRIBAL CONFERENCE
October 23
Fairbanks, AK

2013 AFN CONVENTION
October 24-26
Fairbanks, AK

Monthly President's Report



In the Press

CALLING FOR CHANGE: Open Letter to AG Holder

In early August, the Native Sun News out of Rapid City ran an article that was very critical of the Safe Families Act introduced by our Senators. The meat for the article came from a string of emails from attorneys working on the legislation, none of whom were interviewed nor had they given permission for the email communications to be used.

The article was picked up by Indianz.com, and AFN immediately took action to re-focus the discussion on facts and the way forward. The next edition of the Native Sun included the full text of an Open Letter for Attorney General Eric Holder from AFN President Julie Kitka.

Our letter ran the same day on indianz.com (<http://www.indianz.com/News/2013/010868.asp>). A PDF of the full letter accompanies this report.

NATIVE PRIORITIES IN THE NEW YORK TIMES

One of the challenges we face in defending our communities against the devastating effects of sequestration is a lack of understanding on the part of representatives from the lower 48.

In mid-July, the New York Times ran an article titled "Pain on the Reservation" that did a tremendous job beginning to introduce the scope and serious impact of the impending cuts on Indian Country. More coverage like this in mainstream publications will help tremendously as we continue our efforts to hold harmless funding for Native programs.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/07/13/business/economy/us-budget-cuts-fall-heavily-on-american-indians>.

The Red Cloud-Bissonette family, members of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, lives in an encampment of run-down trailers on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota. Frank Bissonette, shown here with his wife, Norma, outside their trailer home, is disabled. Neither works — not that there are many jobs to hold. The unemployment rate on the reservation is estimated to be as high as 85 percent, and the surrounding county is the second-poorest in the nation.

RELATED
Article: Pain on the Reservation

Monthly President's Report



Convention Update

CONVENTION IN THE NEWS

The Fairbanks community is once again doing an amazing job of welcoming AFN to their city. Articles have been running weekly in our statewide press and the Fairbanks Convention and Visitors Bureau has done a great job of sharing information and supporting event activities online. Our thanks to their dedicated team for their passion and excitement.

REGISTRATION

We invite all of our delegates to register early via our online registration form, available at <http://www.nativefederation.org/2013/08/15/pre-registration-open-for-delegates/>. A Microsoft Word version of the form is also included here for those who prefer to email or mail in their delegate registration.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions are due September 26th! A document explaining the resolutions submission process accompanies this report, along with the resolutions submission form. Resolutions are the heart of convention and an incredible opportunity to share and discuss our shared priorities. We look forward to another great round of resolutions submissions for this 2013 convention.

THANKS TO OUR GROWING LIST OF 2013 CONVENTION SPONSORS

DENALI

ExxonMobil
GCI

KATMAI

Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute
Alyeska Pipeline Service Company
Chugach Alaska Corporation
NANA Regional Corporation
Red Dog Mine-Teck Alaska
Shell Exploration & Production Company
Tanana Chiefs Conference
Wells Fargo

RESOLUTIONS Deadline September 26th

The 2013 resolutions guidelines and submission form are included with this report. Please return your completed form by post, email or fax:

afninfo@nativefederation.org
907.274.3611

Monthly President's Report



Convention Update, Continued

SUSITNA

Alaska Airlines
Alaska Energy Authority
Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium
Anglo American US (Pebble)
Arctic Slope Regional Corporation
AT&T
Bristol Bay Native Corporation
BP
ConocoPhillips
Cook Inlet Region, Inc.
Donlin Gold
Flint Hills Resources
KeyBank Foundation
Mission 100
Office of Indian Energy
Pebble Ltd. Partnership
Statoil
Ukpeagvik Inupiat Corporation
Sam's Club®

TAKU

Allen Marine, Inc.
Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority
Bristol Bay Native Association
Bering Straits Native Corporation
Chenega Corporation
Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce
Wallace Insurance/Premera

KOBUK

Afognak Native Corporation
Central Council of the Tlingit & Haida Indian
Tribes of Alaska
Kenai Peninsula College
KPMG
Lynden
BDO, USA LLP
Southwest Alaska Vocational & Educational
Center
The Eyak Corporation
The Tatitlek Corporation
Fairbanks Convention and Visitors Bureau
Fairbanks Memorial Hospital/Denali Center
MAC Federal Credit Union
Seekins Ford Lincoln
TDL Staffing

Monthly President's Report



Convention Update, Continued

FRIENDS OF AFN

AlasConnect, Inc.

Alaska Rare Coins

Amy Love

CLIA Alaska

Co-op Market Grocery & Deli

Construction Machinery Industrial, LLC

Cook & Haugeberg LLC

Denali Alaskan Federal Credit Union

Denali State Bank

Dimond Fence Company, Inc.

Donny Robinette, M.D.

Dr. Chris Henry

Fairbanks Economic Development Corporation

Fairbanks Printers & Office Equipment

Frontier Supply Company

Gana-A'Yoo, Ltd.

Grace Berg Schaible

Hoffer Glass Company

Interior Regional Housing Authority

Jolly Roger Designs

Kenneth A. Murray Insurance, Inc.

Kohler, Schmitt & Hutchison

Lemongrass Thai Cuisine

Linc Energy

Mt. McKinley Bank

Nabors Alaska Drilling, Inc.

Northrim Bank

Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation

Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 375

Power and Transmission, Inc.

Ranch Motel

Rimpac Rentals

Riverboat Discovery

Schneider & Shilling, CPAs

Sourdough Express, Inc.

Spirit of Alaska FCU

Tammy Randolph, State Farm Ins.

Teamsters Local 959

The Aleut Corporation

The Pumphouse Restaurant

The Turtle Club

True North Federal Credit Union

Usibelli Foundation

Vend Alaska

Zimmerman and Wallace

JOIN US

Become a Convention Sponsor
Today!

Contact AFN at 907-274-3611
or visit our online sponsorship form:
<http://www.nativefederation.org/2013-sponsorship-form-page/>

Monthly President's Report



2013 Tribal Conference

SAVE THE DATE: Tribal Conference October 23 in Fairbanks

The Second Annual Tribal Conference is scheduled for October 23rd, one day prior to the start of this year's Alaska Federation of Natives Convention in Fairbanks.

The primary purpose of this conference is to provide a forum for tribal representatives to hear important reports on statewide and national issues critical to tribal governments in Alaska. The conference will include presentations from high level federal and state officials to provide current information and to hear concerns on issues important to Alaska tribes.

Another important purpose of this gathering is to listen and record concerns of participants on the challenges that face Alaska Natives and Alaska tribal governments. AFN and NCAI officials will be in attendance to learn more about tribal members' concerns as well as suggested solutions to our challenges. We will discuss obstacles to tribal government credibility and some things that divide our people and share some things that other tribes have done that helped strengthen their tribal government.

The end-goal of this year's gathering is to promote strong and credible local tribal governments and a more unified voice on tribes' priority issues.

More information and a PDF save-the-date are included with this report in PDF format.

SAVE THIS DATE!
OCTOBER 23, 2013

*2nd Annual
Alaska Federation of Natives /
National Congress of American Indians
Tribal Conference*

WHERE
Tanana Chiefs Community Center
111 Clay Street • Fairbanks, Alaska

TIME
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
[8:30 AM Registration]

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
Tana Bell: (907) 463-7379
Aurora Lehr: (907) 263-1305

*Alaska tribes must join together to have our
voices heard by state and federal officials on
issues important to our people!*

Monthly President's Report



Advocating for Our People

TESTIMONY ON INDIAN TRUST ADMINISTRATION & REFORM

On July 19, President Kitka testified on behalf of AFN before the Commission on Indian Trust Administration & Reform. This Commission is a Secretarial Commission in the US Department of Interior. There are five members of the Commission: Fawn Sharp, Tex Hall, Stacy Leeds, Dr. Peterson Zah and Robert Anderson.

President Kitka spoke on the role of village corporations, as well as on trust land issues in light of the recent U.S. District Court decision in *Akiachak Native Community v. U.S. Department of the Interior* decided March 31, 2013. Her testimony also addressed trust reform, and offered specific recommendations for Alaska regarding the federal trust relationship with Alaska Native tribes, trust lands, or subsistence hunting and fishing rights. Her full testimony is included here as a PDF.

INTERTRIBAL CARCIERI LETTER

On July 23, AFN joined tribes and Native organizations across the nation in calling on members of the the Senate Indian Affairs Committee and the House Natural Resources Committee and Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs urging swift enactment of legislation to address the Supreme Court's misguided decision in *Carcieri v. Salazar*, 555 U.S. 379 (2009).

The full text of the letter is include with this report as a PDF.

INTERTRIBAL CARCIERI LETTER

In late July, AFN supported the National Indian Education Association (NIEA) in working with Congress to amend the Student Success Act (H.R. 5) with the Young-Gabbard-Hanabusa-McCollum Amendment to ensure Congress understood the need to reinstate a stand-alone Title into the House of Representatives' Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) reauthorization. This protected critical funding that guaranteed high-quality, culturally-appropriate education for Native students across the country.

The full text of the letter AFN signed onto with NIEA is include with this report as a PDF, along with a PDF thank you letter from NIEA for AFN's support.

Monthly President's Report



SPOTLIGHT ON INNOVATION

NANA SHAREHOLDER SPECIALIST

There are incredible things happening in regions across Alaska, spearheaded by our innovative corporate and tribal leadership teams. Beginning with this report, we plan to highlight inspiring stories from across Alaska both to recognize those who are making a difference as well as to help us learn from one another.

Our first regional Spotlight is on **NANA's new Shareholder Development Specialists**. This summer NANA announced range of shareholder development services they are making available through a newly formed shareholder development division. The NANA Shareholder Development Division is staffed by 12 shareholder development specialists, who work directly with shareholders to assist them in identifying and reaching personal, educational, and career goals. Specialists will be available in each NANA office in Northwest Alaska, and at the NANA office in Anchorage, where they will connect

**GOT
INNOVATION?**

Does your region have an innovative practice to share? Please let us know!

Send us an email at afninfo@nativefederation.org with "Innovation Spotlight" in the subject line!

NANA Shareholder Development Specialists Announced



The new NANA Shareholder Development Specialists are based in each NANA community to assist individual shareholders with achieving their life goals. (L to R) Bertha Comstock (Ukpeagvik), Bonita Ester (Deering), Agnes Bernhardt - Director (Kaktuk), Cheryl Curtis (Kleena), Mary Jayne Katooth (Anbar), James Henry (Shaktak), Kelly Sosa (Nisalak), Elise Coffin (Nisovik), Andrea Henry (Sawik), Kristen Jackson (Korrbue), Jacissa Reich (Anchorage), Jada Adams (Kwalea, not pictured)

NANA is pleased to announce a range of shareholder development services now available through the newly formed shareholder development division. The division, staffed by 12 shareholder development specialists, works directly with

shareholders to assist them in identifying and reaching personal, educational, and career goals. This division is housed in the Shareholder Relations department and directed by Agnes Bernhardt.

"NANA works hard to respond to changing shareholder needs and to make them aware of opportunities available to them," said Cia Hanna, vice president of Shareholder Relations.

SHAREHOLDER DEVELOPMENT

Continued on page 4

people with information about postsecondary education, training, and grants and scholarships. The idea is that "by working together, and focusing on job readiness, shareholder development specialists and shareholders increase the capacity of the region, and help shareholders reach their personal goals."

Kudos to NANA for coming up with this innovative community resources. Learn more in the PDF newsletter included with this report.

Monthly President's Report



Thank You

This summer we have also had a pleasure of working with leaders from groups across the country who are dedicated to equality and immigration reform. AFN contributed to a conference hosted by the National Council of La Raza in Louisiana in July, and we have had the pleasure to work alongside more than a few new allies in communicating the Native community's support for the rights of "new Americans" with our delegation.

Working with all of these new friends, and learning more about their struggle for safety and a sense of acceptance, I am reminded that the deep sense of belonging we feel on our lands and in our communities is an incredible privilege -- one that we have fought hard for and one that we will always defend.

Sincerely,

Julie Kitka

Alaska Federation of Natives

1577 C Street, Suite 300 | Anchorage, Alaska | 99501 | 907.274.3611 | afninfo@nativefederation.org





Monthly President's Report

September 2013

Dear AFN Co-Chairs, Board Members & Membership,

As our staff, volunteers and board members wrap up all of the final details for this month's annual Convention, we're all very much looking forward to seeing you in Fairbanks. Convention is the culmination of our year's work - an incredible opportunity to share, strategize and plan for the year ahead. This year, we'll enjoy an array of new opportunities to learn and interact.

As always, we thank the Convention Committee for their tireless work on what promises to be a great 2013 Convention.

You'll find our near-final draft agenda included with this report. Please read on to learn more about the array of workshops that will be available to our delegates during Convention in Fairbanks.

Resolutions will be considered and acted upon in the afternoon of Saturday, October 26.

Delegate Registration Schedule

Thursday, October 24
7:30-11:00 AM
2:00-4:30 PM

Friday, October 25
8:00-11:00 AM

Delegate Registration will take place at:

The Carlson Center
2010 2nd Avenue
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
nativefederation.org



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UPCOMING

2013 TRIBAL CONFERENCE
October 23, 2013
Fairbanks, AK

2013 AFN CONVENTION
October 24-26, 2013
Fairbanks, AK

PRESIDENT'S AWARDS

October 26 | 2:20pm
Carlson Center

BANQUET

October 26 | 6:30pm-10pm
Carlson Center

WHITE HOUSE TRIBAL
NATIONS CONFERENCE
November 13, 2013
Washington, DC

Monthly President's Report



Convention 2013!

QUYANA ALASKA | Thursday and Friday October 24-25, 7 pm-11 pm

Quyana Alaska I – Thursday

Fairbanks Native Assn. JOM Potlatch Dancers
Suurimmaanitchuat
Ahtna Heritage Dancers
Nanwalek Sugpiaq Dancers
Tanana Traditional Dancers
Chevak Kinguliaret Yurartait
Neets'aii Gwich'in Dancers

Quyana Alaska II – Friday

Akula Elitnaurvik
Kuugmuit
Di'haii Gwich'in Dancers
Stebbins Dance Group
Woosh.ji.een
Tikigak Traditional Dancers
Tanacross Traditional Dancers



Ticket \$10, available at the Carlson Center box office during AFN.

2013 ALASKA NATIVE CUSTOMARY ART SHOW

SHOW HOURS

8:00am-6:00pm on Thursday, October 24th
8:00am-6:00pm on Friday, October 25th
8:00am-3:00pm on Saturday, October 26th

Artists Registration will take place at:

THE CARLSON CENTER
2010 2nd Avenue
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701



Monthly President's Report



2013 Convention Workshops

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT WORKSHOP

A pre-convention meeting to develop a strategy that will lead to better protection for Alaska Native Women. The meeting will feature an overview of the Violence Against Women Act, its impact in Alaska in light of the scope of the problem in our state, and an update on the Alaska Safe Families and Villages Act of 2013. There will be a presentation from the Justice Department's Office of Violence Against Women on the proposed Tribal Governments Program Formula Funding. The meeting is being co-sponsored by AFN, NCAI, the Tanana Chiefs Conference and the National Indigenous Women's Resource Center and is open to the public.

When: Tuesday, October 22 from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, David Salmon Tribal Hall, 111 Clay Street

ALASKA NATIVE LAW SECTION ANNUAL CLE: Case Law Updates and Discussion of Thorny ANCSA Land Issues

Join the Alaska Native Law Section in Fairbanks for their annual half-day CLE. Speakers will cover recent court decisions affecting Alaska Natives, problems associated with the ANCSA conveyance of contaminated land, and legal issues associated with subsistence and ANCSA lands. If you are going to the AFN Convention in Fairbanks this year, come a day early and get some CLE credits!

Wednesday, October 23 from 12:30 pm – 4:00 pm, Westmark Hotel, Fairbanks

AFFORDABLE CARE ACT SEMINAR

This seminar will sort fact from fiction: the top things you need to know about the Affordable Care Act. Seminar will cover the new insurance Marketplace, tax credits, the individual mandate and review of additional protections offered to health care consumers.

When: Thursday, October 24 from 10:00am-11:30am, Foraker Room, Carlson Center

Monthly President's Report



2013 Convention Workshops

ANNUAL ELIZABETH PERATROVICH LEGAL CLINIC

AFN is pleased to announce the 3rd annual Elizabeth Peratrovich Legal Clinic and Seminar Thursday October 24, 2013. This clinic is by appointment only from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Please see attached flyer regarding more information and how to make an appointment.

When: Thursday, October 24 from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm, Foraker Room, Carlson Center

UAF INDIGENOUS STUDIES PHD PROGRAM WORKSHOP

An informative session to showcase success stories in education and how that contributes back to our communities and heritage. The audience will be given an opportunity to discuss, question the processes and seek advice from people who have or are currently walking the path to their doctoral degrees.

Thursday, October 24 from 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm, Media Room in the Carlson Center

ALASKA NATIVE LANGUAGE PRESERVATION & ADVISORY COUNCIL WORKSHOP

The purpose of this workshop is to introduce and learn more about the Alaska Native Language Preservation & Advisory Council, its goals, mission and priorities. This session will be interactive and invite public input.

Thursday, October 24 from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm, Northern Lights Room in the Carlson Center

POWER COST EQUALIZATION WORKSHOP

Alaska Energy Authority and AFN are co-hosting an energy workshop regarding the State of Alaska's Power Cost Equalization (PCE) program. PCE is one of the most important programs affecting energy costs in rural Alaska, however the details of how the program works are not widely understood. This workshop will explain the basics of PCE, how it affects rates paid by rural residents and businesses, and how it interacts with other energy programs such as the Alaska Energy Authority's Renewable Energy Fund.

When: Friday, October 25 from 1:30-3:30pm, Foraker Room, Carlson Center

3rd Annual Elizabeth Peratrovich Legal Clinic & Seminar
Alaska Federation of Natives Convention - October 24, 2013
Foraker Room - Carlson Center, Fairbanks, Alaska

WHEN
Thursday, October 24, 2013 by appointment from 12:00pm-4:00pm.
Appointments are for one hour for civil issues.
Appointments for Wills are for two hours starting at either 12:00pm or 2:00pm. Space is limited.

HOW
Send an email to EPLC@alaskafederation.org to receive your appointment form.
Please include the information in your appointment request:
- Name, city, contact address and phone number.
- What best describes your legal issue? Pick one: Family law, housing, consumer, public benefits, setting a will, or other.
- If you choose other, please describe briefly.
- The name of the opposing party if applicable.

Do you have a legal problem?
Volunteer lawyers will be available to assist AFN convention attendees with civil legal issues and simple Wills.

NEW 2013 SEMINAR!
AFFORDABLE CARE ACT
Thursday, October 24 12:30pm-2:00pm in the Foraker Room

QUESTIONS? Please contact the Alaska Bar Association at 877-333-7869.

Alaska Bar Association
Alaska Native Justice Center

Monthly President's Report



Thank You 2013 Convention Sponsors!

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Anglo American US (Pebble)
Arctic Slope Regional Corporation
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Bristol Bay Native Association
Bering Straits Native Corporation
Chenega Corporation
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Tribes of Alaska
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The Aleut Corporation
Teamsters Local 959
Donny Robinette, M.D.
Grace Berg Schaible

Monthly President's Report



Advocating for Our People

NEW COUNCIL FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF ALASKA NATIVES (CAAN)

In early September, we formally announced the creation of the Council for the Advancement of Alaska Natives (CAAN), replacing AFN's existing HRC. The council's mission is to advance opportunities for Alaska Native peoples.

CAAN will be comprised of leaders from the regional tribal consortia and Alaska Native non-profits including First Alaskans, ANTHC, the Alaska Native Justice Center, RuralCa, the Association of AK Native Housing Authorities and the Alaska Native Health Board. Kawerak President Melanie Bahnke and Tanana Chiefs Conference President Jerry Isaac will serve as the council's Co-Chairs.

Learn more from the PDF press release that accompanies this report.

ANILCA SUBSISTENCE HEARING

On September 19th, the United States Congress held its first oversight hearing in nearly 20 years on the Alaska National Interest Lands Act (ANILCA) and critically important subsistence food security priorities for Alaska Natives. The hearing in the U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resource Committee was the first major hearing to examine wildlife management authority within the State of Alaska under the ANILCA and the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA).

AFN Subsistence Committee Chairwoman Dr. Rosita Worl and Robert Anderson, a Professor at the University of Washington School of Law, testified on behalf of AFN. Other witnesses included AFN Board members Jerry Issac and Ana Hoffman, as well as Anthony Christenson, mayor of Hyaburg.

Our representatives reviewed the history and policy decisions that led to the adoption of Title VIII of ANILCA, and how Title VIII no longer fulfills Congress' intent to protect Alaska Natives hunting and fishing way of life. We urged the Committee to include two demonstration projects in any legislation that moves during this Congress to allow the Native community to show the value and efficiency of co-management in the context of the Yukon River fisheries and on Native-owned lands in the Ahtna region, paving the way for a statewide solution to the current system of dual management.

An archive of the hearing webcast is available on the U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resource Committee website (<http://www.energy.senate.gov/public/>). A PDF summary of witness testimony provided by the North Star Group is included with this report.

Monthly President's Report



Opportunities

NCAI PARTNERSHIP FOR TRIBAL GOVERNANCE INITIATIVE

NCAI has funds available to make investments in tribal governance projects as a part of their Partnership for Tribal Governance Initiative (PTG). NCAI plans to make 10-12 investments in tribal projects, ranging from \$30,000-\$50,000.

The PTG focuses efforts on four strategic areas identified by tribal leaders as critical to their success:

- Government Reform
- Leadership Development
- Citizen Engagement
- Public and Media Education

If your tribe is interested in applying for funds from NCAI, please submit a letter of interest that includes the information detailed in the PDF that accompanies this report by October 23, 2013.



2013 WHITE HOUSE TRIBAL NATIONS CONFERENCE

[EXCERPT FROM WHITE HOUSE PRESS RELEASE DISTRIBUTED ON SEPT. 27, 2013]

On Wednesday, November 13, President Obama will host the White House Tribal Nations Conference at the Department of the Interior. The conference will provide leaders from the 566 federally recognized tribes the opportunity to interact directly with the President and members of the White House Council on Native American Affairs. Each federally recognized tribe will be invited to send one representative to the conference. This will be the fifth White House Tribal Nations Conference for the Obama Administration, and continues to build upon the President's commitment to strengthen the government-to-government relationship with Indian Country and to improve the lives of Native Americans. Additional details about the conference will be released at a later date.

Monthly President's Report



SPOTLIGHT ON INNOVATION

SEALASKA HERITAGE INSTITUTE'S WALTER SOBOLEFF CENTER

The Walter Soboleff Center will fill a need for more public education and insight into traditional Native cultures. Our Center will allow Alaska Natives to share their heritage, culture and arts with the general public to promote a cross-cultural understanding. The new Center will be built in downtown Juneau, Alaska, just steps away from the capitol building, cruise ship docks and museums.

The Center will feature space for art demonstrations and exhibits, retail sales, and venues for ceremonies and presentations. It will also house a research facility, climate-controlled collections storage and work areas.

The Center will provide a richer, more context-filled experience, including a living history center with distance learning technology about the rich language and culture of Southeast Alaska.

SHI undertook a capital campaign to raise funds for the project, which is supported by donations from the Alaska Native Education Program, ArtPlace, City and Borough of Juneau, Cruise Industry Charitable Foundation, Juneau Lions Club, M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust, Rasmuson Foundation, Sealaska, State of Alaska, Walter Soboleff Trust and numerous individuals and businesses.

Learn more at <http://www.sealaskaheritagecenter.com>.

GOT INNOVATION?

Does your region have an innovative practice to share?
Please let us know!

Send us an email at afninfo@nativefederation.org with "Innovation Spotlight" in the subject line!

Our Remaining Native Language Speakers



These are approximate figures of Alaska Native Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian speakers.

We are working to revitalize our languages. In Southeast Alaska, there are language programs in Yakutat, Klukwan, Juneau, Hoonah, Sitka, Wrangell, Kake, Ketchikan, Metlakatla and Craig.



Monthly President's Report



Thank You

AFN's annual Convention is a yearly manifestation of our unity. It is our chance to confront the most difficult challenges that our people face and to build out our strategies for taking advantages of our greatest opportunities.

I look forward to learning from and with all of you at this year's event, and to executing on our people's priorities in the year to come.

See you in Fairbanks!

Sincerely,

Julie Kitka



Alaska Federation of Natives

1577 C Street, Suite 300 | Anchorage, Alaska | 99501 | 907.274.3611 | afninfo@nativefederation.org





October 2013

Dear AFN Co-Chairs, Board Members & Membership,

The few weeks since our annual Convention have flown by here at AFN's headquarters in Anchorage. Last week, the State of Alaska filed a petition to the US Supreme Court in the legal case *State of Alaska v Sally Jewell, Secretary of the United States Department of Interior et al*, widely known as the Katie John Case that is a direct attack on the subsistence rights of our people. AFN issued an immediate response, live with the press. With this report you will find a PDF of the statements delivered by AFN's new co-chairs Ana Hoffman and Tara Sweeney, Subsistence Committee Chair Rosita Worl, and myself.

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We are mobilizing to fight the state's petition with a renewed sense of urgency, fed by the stark contrast between the Governors remarks before the floor of our annual Convention and his administration's decision to file this petition not two weeks later. We welcome your contributions to AFN's Subsistence Defense Fund to help support our work - with the press, in Juneau and Washington DC, and in the courts.

As we organize around this next chapter in the fight for our subsistence rights, Nelson's Angapak's rallying cry rings in our ears:

*"When is it wrong to fish and feed our families; or, to put this in another way, is it wrong to fish to feed our families? **We say, NO, it is not.** Let us say NO with a united voice, the only way our people are truly heard."*

We must come together now, with strength and clarity. We must know and trust the power our people weild when we confront a challenge united. We must heed Nelson's call, and that of so many of our elders, to fight for what we know to be right.

A PDF of Nelson's full address is included with this report.



Monthly President's Report



2013 Convention Debrief

NEW CO-CHAIRS

AFN's membership this year voted in two new co-chairs of the organization's board of directors:

Ana Hoffman – CEO, Bethel Native Corporation

Tara Sweeney – Senior Vice President of External Affairs, Arctic Slope Regional Corporation

Ana Hoffman was the candidate with the most votes and will serve a 2-year term. Tara Sweeney received the second most votes and will serve a 1-year term. AFN is moving to staggered terms for co-chairs beginning with this year's election, which means that beginning next year only one co-chair will be elected at each year's annual AFN convention to serve a two-year term.

Four incredible Native leaders from the AFN board of directors were nominated for the position of co-chair:

Ralph Andersen – Current AFN Co-Chair and CEO, Bristol Bay Native Association

Ana Hoffman – CEO, Bethel Native Corporation

Ed Thomas – President, Central Council of the Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska

Tara Sweeney – Senior Vice President of External Affairs, Arctic Slope Regional Corporation

Our deepest gratitude to Albert Kookesh and Ralph Andersen who have dedicated so many years to serving our communities as AFN's co-chairs. Their contributions and leadership have paved the way for a bright future of continued success for our organization and our people.

RESOLUTIONS

A total of 41 resolutions were passed at this year's annual convention. The full text of all our passed resolutions is included with this report as a PDF. The AFN staff and board have already begun the process of following up on and implementing resolutions.



Monthly President's Report



2013 Convention Debrief Continued

AFN & PRESIDENT'S AWARDS

Every year AFN honors those who have made outstanding contributions to their families and the Native community -- it never fails to be one of the best and most inspiring parts of our annual event.

AFN recognized three Native community leaders selected for recognition by the AFN board of directors:

Toni Mallott - 2013 AFN Citizen of the Year

Dr. Lawrence Kaplan - Denali Award

Robert Marshall - Elder of the Year

AFN honored the following outstanding individuals as this year's President's Awards recipients:

Vernon Stickman, Sr - Dr. Walter Soboleff "Warrior of Light" Award

Teisha Simmons - Hannah Paul Solomon "Woman of Courage" Award

Sally Swetzof - Culture Bearer Award

Mildred Black - Della Keats "Healing Hands" Award

Dr. Shari Huhndorf - Eileen Panigeo MacLean
Education Award

Glenn Godfrey, Jr. - Glenn Godfrey Law
Enforcement Award

Charles Akers - Health Award

Nick Alexia, Sr. - Katie John Hunter-Fisher Award

Raissa Boskofsky - Lu Young Youth Leadership
Award

Nancy Cecile Barnes - Parent of the Year Award

Peter Captain, Jr. - Public Service Award

Kyle Demientieff – Worl – Roger Lang Youth
Leadership Award

Melvin John Kewan - Small Business Award



Monthly President's Report



2013 Convention Debrief

NEW JOURNALISM INITIATIVES

Between sessions at this year's Convention, we announced three new initiatives aimed at engaging the media more effectively. The announcement was made during a first of its kind Convention press briefing. We look forward to sharing more and engaging your support as these initiatives take shape in early 2014.

New AFN President's Award for Journalism

Next year, AFN will add a new AFN President's Award for Journalism to its list of Annual Convention awards. The award will be given to the best Native journalist or the best Native news story of the year (which can be written or produced by either a Native or a non-Native journalist).

New Two-Day Native Media & Policy Summit

AFN and Alaska Dispatch will convene a two-day Native Media & Policy Summit in 2014 that will explore the news media's portrayals of modern day life for Alaska Natives, American Indians and Native Hawaiians. The first-of-its-kind event in Alaska will also explore the challenges faced by Native journalists as they explore ways to expand their ranks and improve coverage of Native issues in Alaska and beyond. The Summit is expected to take place in Anchorage, and specific dates and a location will be forthcoming. Inquiries about sponsoring the conference are welcome at smallott@nativefederation.org or by calling Ben Mallott at AFN at 907-274-3611.

New Alaska Native Journalism Scholarship Program

Alice Rogoff, the publisher/owner of Alaska Dispatch, announced the launch of a new Alaska Native Journalism Scholarship Program for Alaska Native journalism students. Eligibility requirements and details about the application process will be posted shortly on the AFN and Alaska Dispatch websites.



Monthly President's Report



2013 Convention Debrief Continued

SUBSISTENCE

Dr. Rosita Worl, Chair, AFN Subsistence Committee provided a compelling briefing and status report before the Convention floor, with members of the AFN Subsistence Committee: Denise May, Joe Chythlook, Taqulik Hepa, Mary Ann Mills, Myron Naneng, Rosita Worl, Michelle Anderson.

Dr. Worl reiterated AFN's committed to the long-term goal of achieving full and lasting federal protections for the Alaska Native hunting, fishing and gathering way of life, and a co-equal role in the management of fish, wildlife and other renewable resources that form the basis for our economic and cultural existence. She went on to provide a detailed report, available for download [here](#).

Dr. Worl shared that AFN is also working with AVCP and TCC, as well as the Ahtna tribes to advance several demonstration projects.

Myron Naneng and Jerry Isaac shared details about the AVCP/TCC proposal that would create Inter-Tribal Fish Commissions for the Yukon and Kuskokwim Rivers and require the Secretary to enter into cooperative and funding agreements with these Commissions for the conservation and management of fishery resources in both river drainages.

The Ahtna demonstration project would allow the tribes in the region to manage wildlife on Ahtna and other Native-owned lands, and create a Federal/State/tribal co-management structure. Michelle Anderson, accompanied by Roy Ewan, Eleanor Dementi, and Nick Jackson shared further details.

The demonstration projects were highlighted in the Senate Energy & Natural Resources Hearing in DC, and legislative language has been sent to the Alaska congressional delegation and to the State of Alaska.

The full text of Dr. Worl's comments is included here in PDF format.

Stay tuned for a special Subsistence Report in December with litigation details and strategies for you to support the Subsistence Defense Fund!



Monthly President's Report



Thank You 2013 Convention Sponsors!

DENALI

ExxonMobil
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KATMAI

Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute
Alyeska Pipeline Service Company
Chugach Alaska Corporation
NANA Regional Corporation
Red Dog Mine-Teck Alaska
Shell Exploration & Production
Company
Tanana Chiefs Conference
Wells Fargo

SUSITNA

Alaska Airlines
Alaska Energy Authority
Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium
Anglo American US (Pebble)
Arctic Slope Regional Corporation
AT&T
Bristol Bay Native Corporation
BP
ConocoPhillips
Cook Inlet Region, Inc.
Donlin Gold
Flint Hills Resources
KeyBank Foundation
Mission 100
Office of Indian Energy
Pebble Ltd. Partnership
Statoil
Ukpeagvik Inupiat Corporation
Sam's Club®

TAKU

Allen Marine, Inc.
Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority
Bristol Bay Native Association
Bering Straits Native Corporation
Chenega Corporation
Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce
Wallace Insurance/Premera

KOBUK

Afognak Native Corporation
Central Council of the Tlingit & Haida Indian
Tribes of Alaska
Kenai Peninsula College
KPMG
Lynden
BDO, USA LLP
Southwest Alaska Vocational & Educational
Center
The Eyak Corporation
The Tatitlek Corporation
Fairbanks Convention and Visitors Bureau
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FRIENDS OF AFN

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Donny Robinette, M.D.
Grace Berg Schaible

Monthly President's Report



Advocating for Our People

ADVANCING OPPORTUNITIES FOR EMPLOYMENT IN INDIAN COUNTRY

Just prior to Convention, Senator Murkowski introduced S.1574, the **Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Consolidation Act of 2013**. The purpose of the bill is to facilitate the ability of Indian tribes to integrate the employment, training and related services they provide from diverse federal sources in order to improve the effectiveness of those services; reduce joblessness in Indian communities; serve tribally determined goals consistent with the policy of self-determination; and eliminate duplicative regulations. It was referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs and AFN, along with our allies in the lower 48, will be providing comment.

A PDF of the full bill accompanies this report.

AFFORDABLE CARE ACT FIX

On October 17th, Senator Begich, along with Senators Max Baucus (D-MT), Tom Udall (D-NM), Brian Schatz (D-HI), Al Franken (D-MN), co-sponsored legislation to correct an inconsistency in the Affordable Care Act (ACA), which without a permanent fix could prevent health care benefits for thousands of Alaska Natives and American Indians.

The current version of the health care law includes important provisions for Native Americans including permanent reauthorization of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act. However, the health care law contains several different definitions of "Indian" which led to conflicting interpretations of eligibility for benefits and requirements for coverage.

The Senators' proposed legislation adds new and comprehensive definitions that are outlined in the related documents included with this report.



Monthly President's Report



Updates and Opportunities

NEW LEADERSHIP AT NCAI

In mid-October, the National Congress of American Indians elected a new Executive Committee. The Executive Committee is charged with advancing the mission of NCAI to protect and advance tribal sovereignty by representing the issues and priorities of tribal nations throughout the country. NCAI's new executive committee includes:

President: Brian Cladoosby, Chairman, Swinomish Indian Tribal Community

First Vice President: Michael Finley, Chairman, Colville Tribes

Recording Secretary: Robert Shepard, Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate

Treasurer: Dennis Welsh, Jr., Tribal Council Member, Colorado River Indian Tribes



As with AFN, NCAI's Executive Committee is elected by the organization's membership. Each of these officers is a member of the NCAI board and serves a two-year term beginning October 2013.

With this election, NCAI bids farewell to President Jefferson Keel. We had the pleasure of working with President Keel and thank him for his leadership and many years of service. We are confident that he will remain a leader in the Native community and we look forward to working with him in new capacities moving forward.



Monthly President's Report



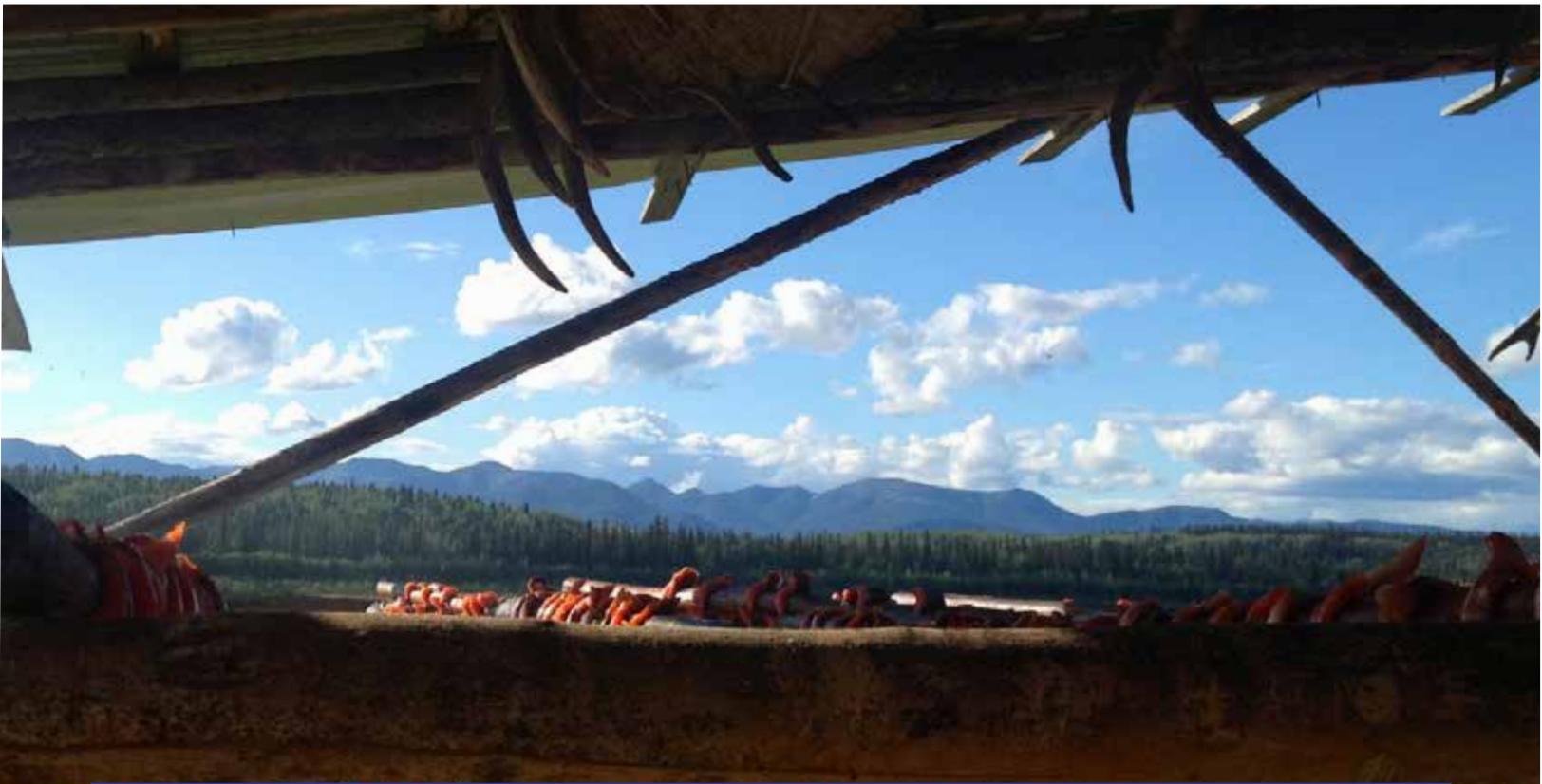
Thank You

This year's annual Convention was one of the most exciting and dynamic Convention's I can remember. Thank you all for making time in your lives to help support our people and pave the way to a brighter future.

We have much work ahead of us, most especially with regard to defending our subsistence rights. With our membership fully engaged, I look forward to the battles and to the progress I am confident we will achieve.

Sincerely,

Julie Kitka



Alaska Federation of Natives

1577 C Street, Suite 300 | Anchorage, Alaska | 99501 | 907.274.3611 | afninfo@nativefederation.org



Monthly President's Report



December 2013

Dear AFN Co-Chairs, Board Members & Membership,

As we approach the holidays and the end of 2013, we look back with gratitude for the support of our allies and the strength of our communities. We are inspired by the legacy of the great leaders we have lost and by the promise of new leaders emerging.

We move forward now into 2014 with a renewed sense of determination. Attacks on our way of life have mounted and the urgency of our need to act with unity has never been greater.

2014 will begin with subsistence defense. AFN will host a focused, one-day Leadership Retreat that our board is planning for early February. This high-level convening will be crafted to provide our community's leaders with a detailed overview of our strategic options for 2014 as well as ample time to discuss the best way forward and establish a plan of action. Please read on for more year-end updates and a look forward at what lies ahead...

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UPCOMING

**LEADERSHIP RETREAT
ON SUBSISTENCE**
February, 3 2014 | 8am-4pm
Anchorage Marriott Downtown
Anchorage, Alaska



Monthly President's Report



Subsistence

AFN LEADERSHIP RETREAT ON SUBSISTENCE | FEBRUARY 3, 2014

On November 4, 2013, the State of Alaska escalated the timeline for subsistence action with its petition to the US Supreme Court for writ of certiorari seeking to reverse the Ninth Circuit's *Katie John* decision.

The AFN Board will host a leadership-level gathering in early 2014 to expand understanding of the paths forward toward protecting our peoples' legal rights and opportunities to live our lives free from fear. During this one-day event, we will hear from legal experts and subsistence leaders, discuss options, and determine the actions necessary to defend our essential rights.

The involvement of Native and non-Native leaders from every region and representing every interested organization or group will be critical as we move forward. We request your continued leadership in protecting our rights to live well in our homeland, continue our traditions, and feed our families.

The AFN Leadership Retreat on Subsistence will be held on **February 3, 2014, at the Anchorage Marriott Downtown from 8am to 4pm** with breakfast beginning at 7am and a working lunch. Participants will include Alaska Native leaders from across the state and key decision makers who will shape the future of Alaska.

More information, including a detailed agenda, will be available in early January.

A PDF invitation is attached. Please visit the AFN website to RSVP today (note that this is a leadership-level gathering and, as such, space is limited - thank you!):

[http://www.
nativefederation.org/
subsistence-retreat/](http://www.nativefederation.org/subsistence-retreat/)



Monthly President's Report



2014 AFN Convention

RISE AS ONE

In early December, our board officially announced that our 2014 Convention will take place October 23-25, 2014 at the Dena'ina Center in Anchorage.

Our 2014 Convention theme will be "Rise as One."

Speakers at our 2013 Convention in Fairbanks again and again called for unity. Again and again, our brightest leaders rallied the attending crowd to work together for a better shared future for our people. We will answer the call of our elders and leaders in 2014, and rally together with a theme that our allies in the lower 48 and Hawaii have also shared. Our people will come together next year, truly united... rising as one.

Watch our RISE AS ONE video and read the full press release announcing our 2014 Convention

theme at: <http://www.nativefederation.org/2013/12/06/afn-board-of-directors-selects-theme-and-dates-for-2014-convention/>

"Rise as One is all about coming together, working together, meeting the challenges together."

- Sheri Buretta, Chair
AFN Convention Committee



Monthly President's Report



Resolutions Follow-Up

AFN staff track all Convention Resolutions -- along with each resolution's area of jurisdiction, recommended associated actions, and follow-up progress -- in an interactive planning grid that is updated in real-time. Each month we will include updates in this new section of the President's Report to keep you abreast of progress being made to advance our members' priorities.

The following are a few examples of resolutions follow-up that has taken place since the end of October. Please look for further updates in the new year!

Resolutions 13-3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 are Subsistence Committee priorities.

13-3 A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE NORTH PACIFIC FISHERIES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL TO REDUCE THE CHINOOK BY-CATCH TO NO MORE THAN 15,000, SUPPORTING FUNDING FOR RESEARCH ON CLIMATE CHANGE, AND PRIORITIZING ACCESS FOR SPECIFIED SUBSISTENCE USERS TO ENHANCE ESCAPEMENT

AREA: Federal/State – Subsistence

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Letter to be sent to Alaska's Delegation, ADF&G and NPFMC. Resolution action considered in Subsistence committee.

RECENT ACTIONS TAKEN: Letters drafted (pending approval and delivery after the holidays)

13-4 PROTECTION OF ALASKA NATIVE SUBSISTENCE PRIORITY IN FEDERAL REVIEW OF RURAL QUALIFICATION CRITERIA AND CURRENT FAILURE OF COMPLIANCE WITH CONGRESSIONAL INTENT FOR TITLE VIII OF ANILCA

AREA: Federal – Subsistence

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Letter to be sent to Alaska's Delegation and Sec. Jewell. Rural Qualification criteria already address in previous letters and AFN materials/priorities. Resolution sent to Subsistence Committee.

RECENT ACTIONS TAKEN: Petition delivered to Brian Deese, Jodi Gillette and Charlie Galbraith in the White House; and mailed to Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture. Letter sent asking the delegation to put language funding an NAS study into a legislative bill early November for petition, 12/19/13 for NAS study letter.

13-5 REQUESTING THE STATE OF ALASKA TO FINANCIALLY SUPPORT THE OPERATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ALASKA MIGRATORY BIRD CO-MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Monthly President's Report



AREA: State - Subsistence

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Letter to be sent to Governor and Alaska Legislature Resolution sent to Subsistence Committee.

RECENT ACTIONS TAKEN: Letter drafted (pending approval and delivery after the holidays)

13-7 FEDERAL PRIORITY OF INDIGENOUS HUNTING, FISHING, TRAPPING AND GATHERING

AREA: Federal – subsistence

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Federal Priority has been a continuing priority of AFN Resolution sent to Subsistence Committee.

RECENT ACTIONS TAKEN: Leadership Retreat on Subsistence planned for February 2014 to address this and State's actions in the Supreme Court.

Resolutions 13-8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 17, 18, 28, 29, 40 and 41 are CAAN priorities.

13-8 ALASKA SAFE FAMILIES AND VILLAGES ACT OF 2013 AND REPEAL OF SECTION 910 OF THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

AREA: Federal – Health, Safety, Wellness

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Resolution action considered in CAAN meeting and letters to be sent to Senator Begich and Senator Murkowski. AFN staff is also coordinating efforts with the National Indigenous Women's Resource Center.

RECENT ACTIONS TAKEN: Coordinated with the National Indigenous Women's Resource Center and waiting on a joint letter.

13-9 IN SUPPORT OF FULL FUNDING FOR NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING ASSISTANCE AND SELF DETERMINATION (NAHASDA) 2013 & 2014 FISCAL YEAR FUNDING

AREA: Federal – Health, Safety, Wellness

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Continuing resolution priority from 2012. Resolution action considered in CAAN meeting and letters to be sent to Alaska's Delegation and administration.

RECENT ACTIONS TAKEN: Letter written (pending approval and delivery after the holidays)

13-11 TO AMEND THE ALASKA NATIVE EDUCATION EQUITY ACT AND UTILIZE ALL LEGISLATIVE TOOLS TO ENSURE THAT FUNDING IS ADMINISTERED BY ALASKA NATIVE ORGANIZATIONS

AREA: Federal – Health, Safety, Wellness

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Continuing resolution priority from 2012. Resolution action

Monthly President's Report



considered in CAAN meeting and letters to be sent to Alaska's Delegation. Combine with 13-16.

RECENT ACTIONS TAKEN: Letter written (pending approval and delivery following the holidays)

13-14 PROTECT ALASKA NATIVE WOMEN

AREA: Federal – Health, Safety, Wellness

RECOMMENDED ACTION: VAWA is a continuing AFN priority. Resolution action considered in CAAN priorities. AFN staff is also coordinating efforts with the National Indigenous Women's Resource Center.

RECENT ACTIONS TAKEN: Coordinated with the National Indigenous Women's Resource Center and waiting on a joint letter.

13-17 RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF REAUTHORIZATION OF THE RURAL ALASKA VILLAGE GRANT SANITATION FACILITIES PROGRAM

AREA: Federal/State - Health, Safety, Wellness

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Letter to be sent to the Alaska's Delegation, Governor and State of Alaska Legislature. Further action to be considered in CAAN priorities development.

RECENT ACTIONS TAKEN: Letter written (pending approval).

13-18 A RESOLUTION URGING THE GOVERNOR AND THE ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE TO ENSURE THAT THE FULL IMPACT OF POTENTIAL MEDICAID EXPANSION IS CONSIDERED AND TO TAKE COMPLETE ADVANTAGE OF FEDERAL RESOURCES TO EXPANDING MEDICAID COVERAGE TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH OF ALASKANS AND TO IMPROVE THE ALASKAN ECONOMY

AREA: State- Health, Safety, Wellness

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Letter to be sent to Governor Parnell and Alaska State Legislature. Further action to be considered in CAAN priorities development.

RECENT ACTIONS TAKEN: Letter written (pending approval).

Other Issue Areas

13-35 SUPPORTING THE FAIRBANKS FOUR

AREA: State - Other

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Fairbanks Four was considered in previous L&L committee and a letter will be sent to Governor Parnell to Pardon the Four. Another letter sent to the DOJ to review the case (Senator Murkowski already followed up with this action).

RECENT ACTIONS TAKEN: Copy of the letter sent to Bill at Alaska Innocence and waiting for feedback.

Monthly President's Report



Advocacy Update

NATIVE AMERICAN VETERANS' MEMORIAL AMENDMENTS ACT

Native American Veterans' Memorial Amendments Act of 2013 has passed the House and moved on to the Senate. The Act would amend the Native American Veterans' Memorial Establishment Act of 1994 to authorize the construction of the National Native American Veterans' Memorial on the property of the National Museum of the American Indian (currently, its location is restricted to the interior structure of the Museum). The Act would authorize the Museum to participate in the selection of the Memorial's design, on more than a consultative basis, with the National Congress of American Indians. It would also make the Museum and the National Congress of American Indians responsible for accepting contributions for, and paying the expenses of, establishing the Memorial.

DUCK STAMPS

Senator Mark Begich has introduced legislation to increase the price of federal duck stamps purchased annually by hunters. Begich said it will be a "fair adjustment" to hike the price from the current \$15 to a proposed \$25, and possibly to \$30 within the next five years. In an email release, Begich said the price hasn't changed since 1991.

However, Begich supports waiving Alaska Native subsistence hunters from needing to purchase the federal duck stamps altogether, a provision which has been requested by AFN. The legislation is cosponsored by Senators Chris Coons (D-DE), Max Baucus (D-MT), and Jon Tester (D-MT), and has been supported by Ducks Unlimited.

FOSTER CARE

Tanana Chiefs Conference has entered into a first-of-its-kind agreement with the State of Alaska that recognizes the ability of the tribal organization to provide foster care services to its own citizens.

Tanana Chiefs Conference and its associated 37 tribes will now have access to federal Title IV-E funds to help pay some costs associated with housing children in tribal-licensed foster homes. That means an additional \$300,000 to \$400,000 annually in federal reimbursements within the next three to five years, according to Don Shircel, director of client development for TCC. He said that's money that can now be freed up to help better develop other TCC child-welfare programs. (source: Alaska Dispatch, read more at <http://www.alaskadispatch.com/article/20131218/historic-agreement-opens-federal-funds-tribal-foster-care>)

Monthly President's Report



Opportunities

NOMINATION OF KEITH HARPER

In early December, AFN submitted a letter voicing our strong support for the nomination and confirmation of Keith Harper to the position of United States Ambassador to the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC). Mr. Harper, if confirmed, will be the first Native person to serve as a United States Ambassador. Read more in the full letter attached.

NATIVE CORPORATIONS AND VALUES AT U OF A

University of Alaska Anchorage will be offering a new course in spring of 2014, "Traditional Values & The Modern Alaska Native Corporation." This new course will explore the use of modern corporations and their applications to traditional societies in Alaska. Read more in the attached flyer.

INSURANCE PLAN RENEWAL

The AFN Plan renewal will be mailed out to you shortly, please look it over carefully as there are some changes due to the new, mandated underwriting methodology set forth by the Affordable Care Act legislation.

AFN is introducing several new enhanced benefits:

- Medical Travel Support to Seattle provides more access to medical procedures in Seattle for Alaska residence.
- Tele-medicine will be available beginning April 1st. Access will include connecting with a physician by phone or video conference. More information to come.
- Employee Assistance Program will include several valuable services including confidential counseling.
- Short Term Disability coverage will now have six (6) different options and our premiums have NOT increased.
- All participating employers will be granted free access to our monthly Human Resource newsletter along with a gigantic library of HR information.

The due date for the election form is earlier this year because of the changes mentioned above. **The election form must be submitted by February 28th.** Open enrollment for groups conducting this process can still use March. Please refer questions to the Wallace Insurance Group: (907) 272-0114 | www.wallaceinsurancegroup.com

ALASKA'S FUTURE

...EXPLORING MODERN CORPORATION



Traditional Values & The Modern Alaska Native Corporation (39437)

Spring 2014 Elective, PADM 671-002
Meets Fridays (5-9p) Feb. 14 and
Saturdays (8a-5p) Feb. 15

This class will explore the use of the modern corporation and its application to traditional societies in Alaska. Students will have an opportunity to discuss the corporation in the context of culture and tradition or to experiment with business corporations.

While working his way for Alaska Pipeline Service Company, he served as Commissioner of Commerce and Economic Development and served on the Oil and Gas Policy Council, the Board of Directors of the Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation, Alaska National Corporation and the Alaska Industrial Development Authority. He has also served for 12 years in the Alaska Legislature, 8 years in the House and 4 years in the Senate. He was a member of ANA Regional Corporation, director for 20 years and faculty president. He has helped form the Alaska Federation of Natives, serving as Executive Director, President and Co-Chairman. He is currently Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Free Alutians Institute and Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees of Chukchi College. He is the author of *My Kin: Inuit, Yupik, and Athabaskan of Alaska and the Real People*, published by Lorenz, Jones and Green.

UAA College of Business and Public Policy
UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA ANCHORAGE



Monthly President's Report



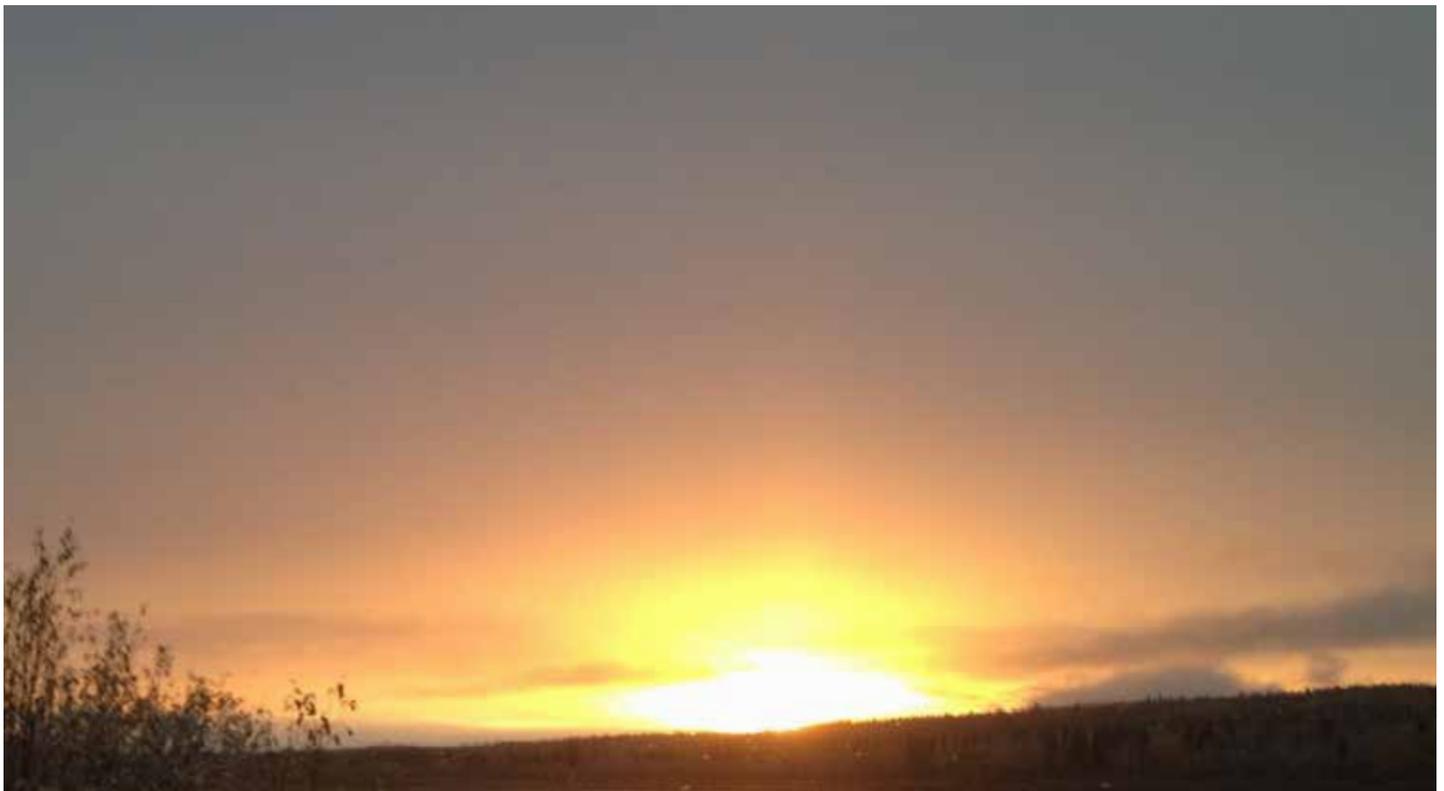
Thank You

From the AFN staff here in Anchorage, thank you for all you contributed to the advancement of our peoples in 2013. Thank you for your time, your resources, your energy, and your passion. We look forward to meeting the challenges ahead with one united Native voice and with a level of commitment from our Native leadership equal or stronger than we have ever seen before. We look forward to rising with you, as one, in 2014.

Wishing you the happiest of holidays and a healthy, fulfilling new year.

Sincerely,

Julie Kitka



Alaska Federation of Natives

1577 C Street, Suite 300 | Anchorage, Alaska | 99501 | 907.274.3611 | afninfo@nativefederation.org

