



2023 CONVENTION AGENDA
OUR WAYS OF LIFE

October 19-21, 2023

Dena'ina Civic & Convention Center

Anchorage, Alaska

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19 MORNING SESSION

8:30 a.m. **Qasgirmiut Dancers**

9:00 a.m. **Call to Order**

Ana Hoffman and Joe Nelson, Co-Chairs, AFN

Veterans March & Posting of Colors

Alaska Native Veterans Council

Invocation

Nelson Angapak

National Anthem & State Flag Song

Welcome Remarks from Dena'ina Leaders

Aaron Leggett, Chief & President, Native Village of Eklutna

Michael Curry, Board President & Chair, Eklutna, Inc.

Welcome Video from the City of Anchorage

Mayor Dave Bronson

Recognition of Major Sponsors

Ana Hoffman and Joe Nelson, Co-Chairs, AFN

Welcome Video from Governor Mike Dunleavy

9:40 a.m. **Introduction of AFN Board of Directors**

9:45 a.m. **Keynote Address**

Sophie Minich, CEO of Cook Inlet Region, Inc.

Ryan Redington, 2023 Iditarod Champion

10:15 a.m. **Denali and Citizen of the Year Awards**

Denali Award: Courtney Carothers

Citizen of the Year Award: Margaret Roberts

10:40 a.m. **AFN President's Report**

Julie Kitka, President, AFN

10:50 a.m. **Transformation in Education**

Julie Kitka, President, AFN; Commissioner Deena Bishop, Alaska Department of Education and Early Development; Joel Isaak, Director of Tribal Affairs, Alaska Department of Education and Early Development; Gloria O'Neill, President/CEO, Cook Inlet Tribal Council; Pat Pitney, President of the University of Alaska; Dr. Michael Johnson, former Commissioner of Education, Alaska Department of Education and Early Development

11:30 a.m. **The Important Role of Storytelling in Strengthening Our Communities**

Nelson Angapak

Rosita Worl (pending)

Willie Hensley (pending)

12:00 p.m. **PLENARY SESSION RECESS**

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19

AFTERNOON SESSION

- 12:30 p.m. **Iñugialinmiut Dance Group of Tikigaaq**
- 1:00 p.m. **Call to Order**
Ana Hoffman and Joe Nelson, Co-Chairs, AFN
- Preliminary Credentials Report**
Nicole Borromeo, Executive Vice President and
General Counsel, AFN
- 1:05 p.m. **U.S. Senator Thom Tillis (North Carolina)**
Live via Zoom, Introduced by Julie Kitka, President, AFN
- 1:20 p.m. **2023 Elders and Youth Conference Report**
Elizabeth La Quen Náay Medicine Crow, President,
First Alaskans Institute
- 1:30 p.m. **Report from the AFN Strategic Planning
Session in August, facilitated by the Foraker
Group**
Ana Hoffman and Joe Nelson, Co-Chairs, AFN
- 1:40 p.m. **Native to Native Leadership Panel**
Each region speaks about their top 3 priorities and the
importance of working together
Moderated by: Ana Hoffman & Joe Nelson, AFN Co-Chairs
- 3:00 p.m. **Open Mic - Q&A**
- 4:20 p.m. **Summary Wrap Up**
Ana Hoffman and Joe Nelson, Co-Chairs, AFN
- 4:30 p.m. **RECESS**

DOWNLOAD THE APP

Download the AFN 2023 Convention App for updates, reminders, and opportunities!

Search “Alaska Federation of Natives” in the Apple App Store or Google Play Store.

Be sure to follow us on Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter!



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20

MORNING SESSION

8:30 a.m. **Barrow Dancers**

9:00 a.m. **Call to Order**

Ana Hoffman and Joe Nelson, Co-Chairs, AFN

Recognition of Major Sponsors

Ana Hoffman and Joe Nelson, Co-Chairs, AFN

Invocation

9:05 a.m. **Senator Lisa Murkowski**

Live via Zoom

9:15 a.m. **AFN Co-Chair Candidate Presentations**

9:25 a.m. **AFN President's Awards**

Moderated by Sheri Buretta, AFN Convention Committee Chair

10:25 a.m. **Honoring the Legacy of Shirley Demientieff**

Presented by Lt. Governor Nancy Dahlstrom

10:30 a.m. **U.S. Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland**

Introduced by Raina Thiele, Senior Advisor to the Secretary for Alaska Affairs & Strategic Priorities, Department of the Interior

10:45 a.m. **Casey Sixkiller, Regional Administrator, U.S. EPA**

10:55 a.m. **Vanita Gupta, Associate Attorney General of the United States**

11:05 a.m. **Department of Energy's Role in the Arctic**

Assistant Secretary Gene Rodrigues, Office of Electricity, DOE
Dr. Erin Whitney, Director, Arctic Energy Office
Rose Dady, Director, Office of Community Engagement, Associate Director, Office of State and Community Energy Programs, DOE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20

AFTERNOON SESSION

- 11:35 a.m. **AFN Legislative & Litigation Committee Report**
Tom Panamaroff, Committee Chair, and Nicole Borromeo, Executive Vice President and General Counsel
- 11:45 a.m. **The Covenant House of Alaska Video**
Introduced by Julie Sullivan, Board Member, Covenant House
- 11:50 a.m. **U.S. Senator Dan Sullivan**
- 12:00 p.m. **PLENARY SESSION RECESS**
- 12:30 p.m. **Lower Yukon Drummers & Dancers**
- 1:00 p.m. **Call to Order**
Ana Hoffman and Joe Nelson, Co-Chairs, AFN
- Final Credentials Report**
Nicole Borromeo, Executive Vice President and General Counsel, AFN
- 1:05 p.m. **Convention Forum**
Knowledge Sharing - Salmon Crisis, Climate Change, and Hunting & Fishing
Moderated by: Ana Hoffman & Joe Nelson, AFN Co-Chairs; Joe Williams, RurAL CAP Chair; Heather Gurko, Alaska Native Brotherhood President; Gayla Hoseth, AFN Subsistence Committee Chair
- 4:00 p.m. **Forum Wrap-Up**
Gayla Hoseth, AFN Subsistence Committee Chair
- 4:30 p.m. **RECESS**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21

MORNING SESSION

9:00 a.m.

Call to Order

Ana Hoffman and Joe Nelson, Co-Chairs, AFN

Invocation

Recognition of Major Sponsors

Ana Hoffman and Joe Nelson, Co-Chairs, AFN

9:05 a.m.

Announcement of AFN Village Representatives and Election of 2023 AFN Co-Chair

9:10 a.m.

Special Report: Section 29 Update

Alyeska Pipeline Services Company

9:20 a.m.

Alaska Bush Caucus

Alaska State Senator Donnie Olson

9:35 a.m.

Consideration of 2023 AFN Convention Resolutions

Moderated by Jodi Mitchell, AFN Resolutions

Committee Chair. Accompanied by AFN Resolution Committee members, Gail Schubert, Linda Tyone-Pete, Liz Qaulluq Cravalho, Malia Villegas, Nathan McCowan, Karen Pletnikoff, Martha Whitman, Julie Roberts-Hyslop, Elizabeth La Quen Náay Medicine Crow, Greta Goto, and Russell Nelson

12:00 p.m.

PLENARY SESSION RECESS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21

AFTERNOON SESSION

- 12:30 p.m. **Chevak Tanqik Dancers**
- 1:00 p.m. **Call to Order**
Ana Hoffman and Joe Nelson, Co-Chairs, AFN
- 1:05 p.m. **Contributions to Our Ways of Life: Alaska
Native Veterans & Military Service Speak Out**
Benno Cleveland, Chair, Alaska Native Veterans Council;
Emil Notti; Jerry Ward; Lieutenant General David S. Nahom,
U.S. Air Force; Lieutenant General A.C. Roper, U.S. Army
Reserve; Major General Torrence Saxe, Adjutant General,
Alaska National Guard and the Commissioner, Alaska
Department of Military and Veterans Affairs; Major
General Brian Eifler, 11th Airborne Division and U.S. Army
Alaska, Senior Army Commander
- 2:15 p.m. **Sharing Knowledge on Returning of Significant
Cultural Artifacts**
Introduced by Sheri Buretta, Chair, Chugach Alaska
Corporation; John F.C. Johnson, Vice President, Cultural
Resources, Chugach Alaska Corporation; Guests from Germany
- 2:30 p.m. **Alaska State Senator Forrest Dunbar**
Presenting Doug Tansy with legislation citation
- 2:35p.m. **U.S. Representative Mary Sattler Peltola**
- 2:55 p.m. **Introduction of new AFN Board Members**
- 3:00 p.m. **Closing Comments and Benediction**
Ana Hoffman and Joe Nelson, Co-Chairs, AFN
- 3:30 p.m. **ADJOURNMENT**