

2023 Annual Convention Agenda

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 Leader
Aaron Leggett, Chief and 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 the 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 (posthumously)

10:40 a.m. AFN President's Report
Julie Kitka, President, AFN

10:50 am 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 (pending, Zoom)

11:30 a.m. The Important Role of Storytelling in Strengthening Our Community
Nelson Angapak
Willie Hensley (pending)
Rosita Worl (pending)

12:00 p.m. Recess

Thursday, October 19 – Afternoon Session

12:30 p.m. Iñugialiqmiut Dance Group of Tikiġaq

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 AFN Strategic Planning Session in August, facilitated by the Foraker Group
Ana Hoffman and Joe Nelson, AFN Co-Chairs

1:40 p.m. Native to Native Leadership Panel – Each region speaks about their top three priorities for their region and the importance of working together
Moderators: Ana Hoffman and Joe Nelson, AFN Co-Chairs

3:00 p.m. Open Mic – Q&A
Moderated by: Ana Hoffman and Joe Nelson, AFN Co-Chairs

4:20 p.m. Summary Wrap Up
Ana Hoffman and Joe Nelson, AFN Co-Chairs

4:30 p.m. RECESS

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. U.S. 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. Governor's Special Award: Honoring the Legacy of Shirley Demientieff

Presented by Lt. Governor Nancy Dahlstrom

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

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 Partnerships in Alaska

Under Secretary David Crane, Department of Energy

Dr. Erin Whitney, Director, Arctic Energy Office

11:35 a.m. AFN Legislative & Litigation Committee Report – Tom Panamaroff, Chair,

and Nicole Borromeo, Executive Vice President and General Counsel

11:45 a.m. The Covenant House Video Presentation

Julie Sullivan

11:50 a.m. U.S. Senator Dan Sullivan

12:00 p.m. PLENARY SESSION RECESS

Friday, October 20 — AFTERNOON SESSION

12:30 p.m. Lower Yukon Drummers and 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

4:15 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

Major General Brian Eifler (pending)

2:15 p.m. Sharing Knowledge on Return 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

2:35 p.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, AFN Co-Chairs

3:30 p.m. ADJOURNMENT