The 2018 Tanana Chiefs Conference Annual Convention and Full Board of Directors Meeting will be held March 12th through the 15th in Fairbanks at the Westmark Hotel.

This year’s theme is “Working Together for a Stronger Future.”

We would like to focus our attention on ensuring that we continue to work together to protect and strengthen our way of life, traditions, language, and culture.

We are pleased to announce that Jessica Black of Fort Yukon/Nenana and Julia Fisher-Salmon of Beaver have been selected as this year’s Keynote Speakers. This year there will be three seats up for election for our Executive Board of Directors: Lower Yukon Representative, Upper Kuskokwim Representative, and Secretary/Treasurer.

The convention will be broadcast live on our website. The agenda is subject to change. For an updated agenda visit www.tananachiefs.org.

Learn more about our Keynotes on Page #6.

Tanana Chiefs Conference

Arts & Crafts Bazaar

March 14th & 15th, 2018 • 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. • Westmark Hotel in Fairbanks

Interested in a Table? Contact April Ojala at 907-452-8251 ext. 3450 or april.ojala@tananachiefs.org

PLEASE BOOK IN ADVANCE - TABLES ARE LIMITED!
Dear Tribes and Tribal Members,

With the arrival of spring, I have many announcements I would like to share with you. This March we will gather at our Annual Convention to celebrate our accomplishments, but it is also a time for us to reflect upon our history, and discuss challenges affecting our region and the future of our tribes. This year, the theme for our Convention, “Working Together for a Stronger Future,” celebrates our strength and recognizes that we are stronger together as Healthy Strong Unified Tribes. It also provides an opportunity for our tribal leaders, delegates, community partners, TCC staff and guests to participate in a safe, positive and open dialogue on important topics such as public safety, Native justice, energy, water and sewer, elder housing, cancer treatment and health care, and other issues affecting our communities. Speakers will share their successes and challenges from the past, and lead discussions with our delegation on how to promote tribal advocacy and strengthen our future.

This year we have two outstanding keynote speakers Dr. Jessica Black of Fort Yukon/Nenana, and Julia Fisher-Salmon of Beaver/Chalkyitsik. Dr. Black, is currently an Assistant Professor for the Department of Alaska Native Studies and Rural Development and Tribal Management at UAF. She teaches, co-leads several research projects, and serves her Alaska Native community by being a strong voice for Native issues. Julia Fisher-Salmon is an emerging leader from Beaver and Chalkyitsik. She is attending the University of Alaska Fairbanks, where she is majoring in Criminal Justice and working towards achieving her Associate’s Degree in Tribal Management. Currently she is working in Washington, D.C. as an intern for Congressman Don Young. Ms. Fisher-Salmon will share her experiences at Convention and help lead the discussion on how to prepare for our future and overcome current challenges within our tribal communities.

I also want to share a few announcements from TCC. Last December, TCC’s Executive Board adopted four important policies at their quarterly board meeting. Two of the new policies require the Executive Board and Health Board members to successfully pass an Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act (ICPA) background and drug test prior to serving their term. The two remaining policies align the Boards with TCC’s employee policies regarding business travel and the organizations’ Code of Ethics. Many of the board members have already met the requirements detailed in the background and the drug free policies, and the two Boards expect to have all of the members fulfill the requirements by Convention. Please see page 15 for more information regarding these policies.

In January, the Executive Board authorized a distribution of $100,000 to TCC’s 37 Federally Recognized Tribes for a total of $3.7 million. The Executive Board approved the funds to assist communities and help strengthening tribal operations. Tribes will also have the opportunity this year to apply for $100,000 to be utilized in their communities. Please see page 10 for more information on how to apply for these funds.

In February, TCC implemented a new electronic health record called AthenaHealth. We started the process of evaluating various health records over two years ago, narrowing the search down to AthenaHealth because it is the best tool to meet the needs of our patients and help improve the quality of our health care. Recently, the “2018 Best in KLAS” Report was published and it rated AthenaHealth as the #1 rated electronic health record in the industry for comparably sized health care organizations. We are really excited about AthenaHealth, and we have high expectations for improvements in your health care and access to care.

Spring brings a renewal of events to our villages and an increase in travel among our communities. Please use caution when traveling and watch for weather advisories throughout our region. I hope you have a safe and happy carnival season! We look forward to seeing you at Convention as we continue to work towards our vision of Healthy, Strong, Unified Tribes.

Ana Bassee,
Victor Joseph
Chief/Chairman
Billing and Purchased/Referred Care (PRC) FAQ’s

1. What is the breakdown between hospital and clinic as far as how the billing works?
When patients are seen at the hospital, PRC is alerted the following business day of these visits. PRC staff reviews each patient for Alternate Resources, Certificate of Indian Blood (CIB) and residency for the TCC Region. Once this process is complete, PRC sends the alert back to the hospital, noted on the alert whether the patient is approved or denied. A Purchase Order (PO) is issued for the approved, and denial letters are sent to the patient and provider for the non-covered patients. There are patients that do not list TCC or only list TCC when they have other insurance. For those that do not list PRC, TCC doesn’t know about their bill until they start receiving statements or have gone to collections. Make sure that you provide all insurance information to Fairbanks Memorial Hospital (FMH) and other vendors each time you visit as each encounter has a different account number.

2. I keep getting bills from the hospital who do I talk to?
Call Purchased/Referred Care @ 451-6682 ext. 3613, and you will be transferred to the PRC biller that handles your part of the alphabet.

3. I was referred to a place in the community for care (ex: the sleep clinic) went to one apt and then a follow up and I got a bill?
Always call PRC if you’re not sure if you need a Purchase Order. Each Provider visit outside of CAIHC does require a Purchase Order. If you went to the appointment without a purchase order or have insurance and the insurance hasn’t paid, then you will receive a statement from that clinic until your insurance has paid. When you receive a statement you need to call PRC and talk to someone.

4. I need help understanding my bill(s) and Explanation of Benefits (EOB’s) who should I call? Call PRC @ X3613 to get transferred to the correct biller that handles your part of the Alphabet.

5. Why would FMH and our other Vendors send me to collections when I was referred by TCC?
Management has been made aware of this situation and we are asking our vendors to let us know when patients are about to go to collections so that we can intervene before this happens. It is very important to contact PRC when you receive any billing statements or insurance explanation of benefits. We can help you understand why you’re receiving these statements.

Culture & Wellness Camps

In March 2017, Tanana Chiefs Conference announced the establishment of Culture and Wellness Camps coming to communities throughout the TCC Region with the help of TCC funding. Culture camps play an important role in the education and preservation of Athabascan traditions, cultures, and beliefs. TCC provides staff, elders, or other experts to host workshops on a variety of wellness and prevention topics such as: suicide prevention, health relationships, preventing drug abuse, traditional parenting, and more. While TCC will be there to provide support for the culture camp, it is up to the tribe to determine what they want to offer to their tribal members at the camp; which traditional skills and values they want them to learn; and what things they want them to get more information about. Tribes are selected for participation through their subregion as a whole. Each subregion is allowed two camps per year.

This past year, seven Culture and Wellness camps were held with a total of 612 participants ranging from three years old to Elders. Camps were held in Anvik, Arctic Village, Fort Yukon, Holy Cross, Minto, Nulato, and Tanana. To learn more and watch a short recap video from each camp visit www.tananachiefs.org.

2018 TCC Culture & Wellness Camps:

**YUKON TANANA**
- TBD
- TBD

**YUKON FLATS**
- Chalkyitsik - July 9th-13th
- Venetie - May 29-June 3rd

**LOWER YUKON**
- TBD
- TBD

**UPPER KUSKOKWIM**
- Nikolai - March 20th-22nd
- TBD

**YUKON KOYUKUK**
- TBD
- TBD

**UPPER TANANA**
- Northway - Date TBD
- Tetlin - June 9th-13th
April is Alcohol Awareness Month

April is Alcohol Awareness Month and March 30 to April 1 is Alcohol Free Weekend. Alcohol Free Weekend is an opportunity for everyone to contribute to a weekend in our communities with little to no alcohol being consumed.

We invite you to recognize this weekend by abstaining from alcohol. This year’s theme is “Changing Attitudes: It’s a ‘rite of passage.’” Adolescence is a time of risk-taking and as alcohol and drugs are introduced, parents are faced with a unique set of challenges. Parents often forgive underage drinking as a “rite of passage.” This year instead of hoping our youth “get through it,” we can change our attitudes and take an active role in learning about alcohol and help our youth do the same. We recognize that alcohol has had a major impact on all aspects of our people including physical health, emotional health, social health, culture, and spirituality.

The issues surrounding alcohol are complex and varied and we will be sharing messages surrounding the issues in effort to raise awareness and give hope to those who are struggling with this substance. The issues surrounding alcohol are complex and varied and we will be sharing messages surrounding the issues in effort to raise awareness and give hope to those who are struggling with this substance.

We encourage you to take the information shared and sit with your family or friends to have your own discussions about what you can do to be a part of the solution. We are all in this together.

TCC will be sending out selfie signs to all of the TCC communities and community members can gather together to get a group picture of everyone who will be recognizing the weekend by abstaining from alcohol use.

Be sure to watch for your local announcement of when your community will be gathering for your community picture!

For questions or more information contact Roxanne Frank at 1 (800) 478-6822 ext. 3581
Everyone can Prevent Excessive Alcohol Use

Many communities in our region experience the negative impacts of alcohol use. TCC wants you to know we are here to help and prevent these very serious issues. Everyone can contribute to the prevention of excessive alcohol use. Most of our people do not drink excessively, but it is critical to remember the impacts and risk associated with excessive alcohol consumption.

Binge drinking is the most common, costly, and deadly pattern of excessive alcohol use in the United States. Binge drinking is defined as a pattern of drinking that “brings blood alcohol concentration levels to 0.08 grams percent or above. This typically occurs after 4 drinks for women and 5 drinks for men—in about 2 hours,” according to the Center for Disease Control and National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.

Most binge drinkers are not alcohol dependent; but binge drinking can result in many health problems. We encourage you to sit down with your family or friends and have your own discussions about what you can do to be part of the solution.

- Talk to your children and friends about the importance of healthy habits.
- Support and participate in healthy, cultural activities that build strong relationships.
- Be an advocate for change in your community through policies or enforcement to reduce problem drinking.

If you know someone, or you are experiencing problems with alcohol. Please reach out. TCC offers many solutions to help you approach these issues.

TCC Behavioral Health supports people as they heal from trauma, choose healthy lifestyles and overcome substance use. Their services cover coping with suicide as well as alcohol and other substance use. They offer recovery services with the Old Minto Family Recovery Camp and outpatient services such as psychotherapy, psychiatry, and case management.

The Division of Wellness and Prevention works to address and prevent the most pressing health and wellness issues in our communities. This includes elder population, suicide awareness and prevention, alcohol and substance use prevention, and community wellness. We work with communities to create sustainable and resilient systems of health and caring through education, information, and services to empower TCC beneficiaries to practice health and wellness skills.

For questions or more information contact Wellness and Prevention at (907) 452-8251 ext. 3066

RAMPART JOB OPENINGS

Tanana Chiefs Conference
- **Home Care Provider** - $18.00 per hour, 20+ hours per week
- **Part Time Health Aide** - $19.00 per hour (starting pay), 20 hours per week
- **Behavioral Health Aide** - $14.67 per hour (starting pay), range up to $21.63, 30 hours per week, full time benefited
- **Sub Elder Cook** - $11.20 per hour, on call/ when needed (elder cook will be taking a leave of absence March- May)

Yukon-Koyukuk Schoo District
- **Sub Cook** - $12.00 per hour, on call/ when needed (cook will be taking a leave of absence March- May)

Rampart Village Council
- **Tribal Workforce Development Specialist** - $11.50 per hour, 20 hours a week

Requirements for Payment of Relocation Expenses
- Family must have children enrolled at the Rampart School the entire school year.
- At least one (1) adult member of Family has been hired or offered employment with either the Rampart Village Council, Tanana Chiefs Conference, and Yukon Koyukuk School District.

Method of Moving to Rampart:
The Rampart Village Council will pay moving expenses for either one airplane charter or reimbursement for truck and boat gas, moving vehicle rental.
- Airplane Charter: The size of the plane will be determined/ preapproved by the Rampart Village Council based on the size of the family and their belongings.
- Reimbursement for truck and boat gas, moving vehicle rental: All receipts must be provided to the Rampart Village Council Tribal Administrator before reimbursement will be issued. The amount of reimbursement must not exceed the value of an airline charter
TCC to Provide Firefighter Training

By Will Putman TCC Forestry Director

In late 2016, TCC Forestry successfully negotiated a funding agreement with the BLM/Alaska Fire Service (AFS) that will enable TCC staff to administer RT-130 Annual Fireline Safety Refresher Training and Work Capacity Testing (pack test) for Emergency Firefighter (EFF) crews at villages under AFS jurisdiction in the Tanana and Galena Zones.

Village visits are being scheduled from late March to the end of April. The projected schedule for the village visits for this training delivery is subject to change and adjustment, but is currently set for the following:

- March 26-27 Holy Cross
- March 28-31 Grayling
- April 3-4 Kaltag
- April 6-7 Nulato
- April 9-10 Koyukuk
- April 13-14 Ruby
- April 16-17 Galena
- April 19-20 Huslia
- April 25-26 Minto
- April 30- May 1 Tanana
- May 3-4 Hughes
- May 6-7 Allakaket

Questions concerning these training opportunities can be directed to:
James Ludecker (email: james.ludecker@tananachiefs.org, phone ext. 3376) or Clinton Northway (email: clinton.northway@tananachiefs.org, phone ext. 3379).

Any questions for the Alaska Fire Service can be directed to:
Hudson Plass, AFS EFF Coordinator (email: hplass@blm.gov, phone: (907) 356-5611).

Jerry Isaac, Tanacross

This month’s Legacy elder is Jerry Isaac of Tanacross, who was featured in Volume Two of the Legacy of our Elders series. Jerry was born in Tanacross in 1953 to Martha and Oscar Isaac. Isaac experienced trauma from a very young age when his mother had a severe case of Tuberculosis and was sent hundreds of miles away to a sanitarium in Anchorage. Shortly after that Isaac was sent to live with his grandparents. Isaac found comfort and emotionally relied upon his older sister, Arlene from the very beginning.

Although Isaac was born in a time where they already transitioned between the subsistence lifestyles to the cash economy, his family relied heavily on the land. “I was fortunate,” Isaac says.

It was a difficult transition for himself when his mother returned home from treatment. These feelings left him hopping between homes for many years, struggling to sort out what he wanted.

Isaac said despite the trauma he suffered during his childhood and watching other people in the village abuse drugs and alcohol, he began to find himself falling into that same pattern. His children were a huge factor in his path to sobriety.

His sister often joked about Isaac stepping into leadership roles. The year that his sister was killed in a tragic car accident was the year that Isaac stepped into a leadership role by becoming a member of his local tribal council.

Isaac has become one of the key leaders in Alaska. His speeches, work, strength, and wisdom have touched countless people, despite the tragedies he has endured.

To hear Jerry’s full story, visit www.tananachiefs.org

TCC’s Legacy of our Elders series documents the lives and stories of Athabascan elders throughout the TCC region. Their interviews are compiled into volumes that include a DVD movie as well as an accompanying book. The books and DVDs highlight the elders and the stories that they want to share. These videos are available on our website at www.tananachiefs.org

Funding for Legacy Project made possible by TCC & The National Park Service.
Many families in Alaska have to haul their drinking water, with this especially true for rural communities that do not have piped drinking water to their homes. Fortunately, rural communities in Interior Alaska have water treatment plants that produce great drinking water that meet State and Federal quality standards. For the health of everyone, it is highly recommended that only drinking water from the community water treatment plant is used in homes.

If you haul your drinking water it is important to know how to keep your household storage tank clean and sanitary. Don’t forget about the container used to transport the drinking water home! That also needs to be kept clean and sanitary. Use only containers that are food-grade, with a tight fitting lid, to transport or store drinking water. If you use a dipper to get drinking water out of your home’s water tank/barrel, make sure it is stored in a sanitary way; the dipper should be cleaned and sanitized daily.

Home water storage tanks should be cleaned and sanitized at least twice a year, or more often if needed. Follow these steps to safely clean and sanitize your water storage tank:

• Empty the water tank and/or barrel.
• Carefully mix 1 tablespoon of unscented, household bleach (5.25% chlorine) into 1 gallon of water. Using this mixture and a stiff brush, scrub the inside of your tank.
  ○ Safety Note: You will be using a disinfecting solution with a concentration of about 100ppm chlorine—this is a strong solution and should be handled carefully. Use rubber gloves, goggles, and a rain coat while mixing the solution and cleaning your tank. This will protect you and your clothes!
  ○ Safety Note: Do not physically crawl into your tank to scrub it. This is not safe!
• Rinse the container thoroughly, then fill it with clean water from the water treatment plant.
• Once the container is full of clean water, add enough unscented, household bleach (5.25% chlorine) to reach about 1ppm. (see instructions below)
  ○ 1ppm bleach is high enough to keep bacteria/viruses/algae from growing, but is far below the level that will harm people or animals.
• As long as these guidelines are followed, you do not need to add additional unscented, household bleach to your water tank each time you haul water.
• If you have a closed water storage tank or you can’t scrub the inside of it for other reasons, follow these steps to sanitize your tank at least twice a year.
  • Empty the water tank as much as possible.
  • Fill the container with clean water from the water treatment plant.
  • Once the container is full of clean water, add enough unscented, household bleach (5.25% chlorine) to reach about 1ppm. (see instructions below)
  • 1ppm bleach is high enough to keep bacteria/viruses/algae from growing, but is far below the level that will harm people or animals.
  • As long as you are getting water from a community water treatment plant (or Water Wagon in Fairbanks) you do not need to add additional unscented, household bleach to your water tank each time you fill up.
  *To help prevent contamination of your water storage tank, make sure your tank’s vent is screened and fill cap is tight fitting.*

How to mix a 1ppm sanitizing solution for your home water storage tank

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tank Capacity</th>
<th>Unscented, Household Bleach (5.25%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>500 gallons</td>
<td>2 Tablespoons (or 6 teaspoons)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100 gallons</td>
<td>2 Teaspoons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 gallons</td>
<td>1 Teaspoon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 gallons</td>
<td>10-15 Drops</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Some household bleach is “concentrated” and much stronger than 5.25%. Read the label before mixing the sanitizing solution.
Methamphetamine (meth) is becoming more prevalent in our communities, and we are seeing an increase of our people – men and women – using meth. In fact, meth-related deaths in Alaska quadrupled between 2008 and 2016, according to the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, Section of Epidemiology (2017). The number of deaths were the highest in a few areas of Alaska, one being the Interior. Our youth are also using meth. Amphetamine related treatment has gone up from 2015. In the TCC Meth Treatment Report from March 15, 2017, 390 people that were served by TCC used methamphetamines. And in urban areas such as Fairbanks the use is higher than in the rural/village areas.

Meth is a powerful drug that causes users to feel a sense of intense excitement, happiness, and pleasure. What can make it addictive is that the pleasure that is produced when a user takes meth is more than the pleasure gotten from taking other drugs, from eating, or from having sex. However, the negative consequences from using meth quickly overshadow the good feelings associated with using.

The method of use often escalates from snorting, to smoking, to intravenous use (using needles). In particular, using needles increased the risk for contracting HIV, STDs, and other diseases. It is also common for meth to be used along with other drugs; for example, combining meth and heroin together is a common practice. Meth use can lead to severe and often deadly consequences.

Unfortunately, there are also many negative effects on families and communities when people use meth:

- families become broken
- children lose parents
- governmental or tribal entities get involved
- family members go to jail
- family members steal from other family members
- family members become distant or secretive

### Negative Consequences of Meth

- Brain damage
- Depression, suicidal thoughts, psychosis
- High risk for a co-occurring mental health disorder
- Inability to use the part of the brain that is involved in reasoning and judgment
- Disrupted appetite, leading to poor nutrition
- Sleep disturbance – a user will often stay up for days and then “crash”
- Increased risk of heart failure and/or heart attack
- High risk of engaging in unsafe sexual practices
Is Recovery Possible?

Recently, TCC Behavioral Health brought trainers to Fairbanks to give a presentation on the effects of meth on the body and brain, meth recovery, meth and trauma, and strategies for treatment providers in working with those who use meth.

‘Myths’ Concerning Meth:

**Myth #1:** Meth users are simply making bad decisions – if they use meth, there is something morally wrong with them.

*Truth #1:* Once you begin to use meth, your ability to make good decisions becomes compromised, because the part of our brains that allow us to make good decisions is damaged. Meth addiction is actually a disease, not a moral condition.

**Myth #2:** Meth users can’t ever truly recover, no matter how hard they try.

*Truth #2:* Meth users CAN become sober from meth, and can recover. What makes meth recovery different from recovery from other drugs is that it often takes much longer to get full functioning back. This process can take as long as 2 years.

**Myth #3:** The brain can’t ever grow back after being damaged by meth.

*Truth #3:* The brain can actually regenerate itself to some extent. While it will likely never grow back to exactly how it was before, it CAN recover.

**Myth #4:** Once meth users attend and complete treatment, the recovery process is done.

*Truth #4:* Recovery from meth is a long process, often taking years. It is important for the user and for their family, friends, and community to know this, so that they can offer support even after a user gets out of treatment.

If you are a meth user, or the loved one of a meth user, there IS hope. You and your family can heal from meth use, but it will take time and may be a very challenging process. We are here to help. Currently, TCC Behavioral Health is working to incorporate meth-specific treatment into our addictions programs so that we can respond to the meth issue more effectively. Both our outpatient treatment staff and Old Minto Family Recover Camp staff are working hard to learn more about how to treat meth. Together, we can work to stop this growing problem.

Behavioral Health After-Hour Emergencies

Chief Andrew Isaac Health Center 907-451-6682
Toll Free in Alaska: 800-478-6682
TCC E-Board Approves $100k Tribal Distribution

Pursuant to the action taken at the 1/9/18 Executive Board meeting to approve the $100k tribal distribution to the TCC 37 Federally Recognized Tribes, for a total of $3.7 million, a letter and blank draft resolution was provided to TCC Federally Recognized Tribes on 1/30/18. Tribes will have the opportunity to apply for the $100,000 to utilize for improvement project within their community to strengthen tribal operations.

We have asked tribes to fill out and return a resolution stating how they plan to use the funds with a focus on jobs and economic development.

State and Federal payroll taxes will take priority for the funding, so verification that both are current will be required to receiving the funding. In the event the $100k distribution will be utilized for payment of the tribe’s payroll taxes to IRS, TCC will make the payment directly to the IRS. In the event the tribe’s payment to the IRS is less than $100k, they must outline the planned use to first pay the tribe’s IRS payroll tax bill, and how the remaining funds will be utilized.

The deadline to submit resolutions is March 30, 2018 by 5:00pm, with the plan to have the funds mail/direct deposited to federally recognized tribes by April 30, 2018.

We will be following up with tribes asking to report back to TCC by July 31, 2018, confirming how the funds were used along with the number of jobs created, debts paid down, projects completed, etc. so we can compile the information and report the totals out to all the tribes. $10,000 will be withheld from each distribution and will be released to the tribe as soon as the final report is received by TCC.

This funding is another way that TCC is working towards its vision of Healthy, Strong, Unified Tribes.

Deadline to Submit Resolutions:
March 30, 2018 by 5:00pm

Team Hollywood visits Minto

On February 5th, Team Hollywood Celebrity Streetball traveled to Minto to play basketball against the Minto Lakers and Lady Lakers.

Team Hollywood is known for traveling around the world to reach out and mentor the youth while playing a fun game of basketball. The team involves everyone in their fun including small children and adults to dance in front of everyone and hand out pizza to all. At the end, the team spoke about the importance of traditions and culture.

The team is planning on returning to Minto in the future to host a basketball camp.
UAF Job Opening

Indigenous Events Coordinator

**Position Summary:** Do you have an appreciation for culture and bringing people together to share in that culture? If you do, please apply here. The Indigenous Events Coordinator will be responsible for planning events in coordination with the CRCD Vice Chancellor’s Office in our continued effort to celebrate and share Indigenous cultures.

**How to Apply:**
- Cover letter detailing your interest and qualifications
- Resume
- Three professional references to include previous supervisors

**Term Funded, Full-Time, 12 months**

**Salary:** DOE  
**GRADE:** Grade 78  
**LOCATION:** Fairbanks  
**SCHOOL/BUSINESS UNIT:** Rural College


---

**FAIRBANKS NATIVE ASSOCIATION**

**2018 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**Chief David Salmon Tribal Hall**  
**March 9, 2018 | 5pm**

- FNA Annual Report  
- FNA Program Information  
- Board Elections  
- Door Prizes  
- Food

**Important Dates**

- February 5: Deadline to submit board member application by 5pm
- March 9: Annual Membership Meeting, where elections will be held

For more information:  
www.fairbanksnative.org  
(907) 452-1648  
info@fairbanksnative.org

---

**DOYON, LIMITED**

**TRANSFORMATION**

**VOTE YOUR ePROXY AT [https://eproxy.doyon.com](https://eproxy.doyon.com) BEFORE THE PROXY DEADLINE ON MARCH 14, 2018, AT 3 P.M. AKDT**

**JOIN US FOR THE 2018 ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS**  
**FRIDAY, MARCH 16, 2018**  
**WESTMARK FAIRBANKS HOTEL**  
**813 NOBLE STREET, FAIRBANKS, AK**  
**DOORS OPEN AT 8 A.M.**
Dr. Jessica Black is a Gwich'in Athabascan from the villages of Gwich'yaa Zhee [Ft. Yukon] and Toghotthele [Nenana], Alaska. Her paternal grandparents are the late Sarah and Issac John of Gwich'yaa Zhee and the late Marvin and Zelda Black of Cloverdale California. Her parents are Marlene [John] Desrochers and Bill Black. Jessica currently resides in Fairbanks with her partner Daniel Lee and their daughter Aurora. She returns to her home communities as much as she can and especially loves her time at fishcamp in the summer with her large extended family on the Yukon River.

Jessica is passionate about prevention, well-being and tribal governance, as it pertains to Alaska Natives, American Indians, and other Indigenous Populations. She believes that culture and Alaska Native values are the keys to well-being and important aspects of prevention.

In her current job as Assistant Professor for the Department of Alaska Native Studies and Rural Development and Tribal Management at UAF Jessica teaches, co-leads several research projects, and serves her Alaska Native community in various ways. She currently serves on the Fairbanks Native Association Board of Directors as well as the Tanana Chiefs Conference Health Board. Outside of work and community responsibilities Jessica enjoys learning and spending time with elders, culture bearers, and language warriors. She is learning to sew from her cousin Dixie, practicing her language with her cousin Paul Williams Jr. and friend Allan Hayton and seeks every opportunity to learn more. Her vision of the future includes strong, health, vibrant Alaska Native children and people, practicing their culture, speaking in their language and working together. K'gwathat Na’ooli.
Agenda at-a-Glance

2018 Annual Convention & Full Board of Director Meeting

MONDAY
MARCH 12TH, 2018
Call to Order
8:15 a.m.
Don Honea, Sr. 1st Traditional Chief
Welcome Addresses
8:30 a.m.
Don Honea, Sr. 1st Traditional Chief
Trimble Gilbert, 2nd Traditional Chief
Victor Joseph, TCC Chief/Chairman
In Memoriam
Presentation of Colors
8:45 a.m.
Alaska Native Veterans Association
Native Honor Song
9:15 a.m.
Committee Assignments
9:25 a.m.
Victor Joseph, TCC Chief/Chairman
Welcome Addresses
10:05 a.m.
Aaron Schutt, Doyon, Limited
Steve Grinis, Fairbanks Native Association
Jana George, Interior Regional Housing Authority
The Honorable Bill Walker,
Governor State of Alaska
10:50 a.m.
Aaron Schutt, Doyon, Limited
Steve Grinis, Fairbanks Native Association
Jana George, Interior Regional Housing Authority
Elder & Youth Addresses
11:20 a.m.
Sharon McConnell, Denakkanaaga & Denakkanaaga Board of Directors
Katina Charles, TCC Youth Program Coordinator
& Youth Participants
Keynote Addresses
2:05 p.m.
Dr. Jessica Black, Fort Yukon/Nenana
Julia Fisher/Salmon, Beaver/Chalkyitsik
Jefferson Keel, NCAI President
3:15 p.m.
Rural Alaska Public Safety/Native Justice Challenges & Opportunities
3:30 p.m.
Judy Potts, VFSG Coordinator
Gerald Albert, President Northway Traditional Council
Lorraine Titus, Tribal Safety Advocate
Curtis Sommer, Vice Chair Tanana Tribal Council

TUESDAY
MARCH 13TH, 2018
Reconvene & Call to Order
8:15 a.m.
Don Honea, Sr. 1st Traditional Chief
Tribal Client Services Report
8:20 a.m.
Energy from Tribal Leaders Perspective
Dave Pelunis-Messier, Rural Energy Coordinator
Maintaining the PCE program
Solar in our villages - Wilmer Beetus,
1st Chief Hughes
Updated power system - Rhonda Pitka,
1st Chief Beaver
Village Biomass Systems - Carl Burgett,
1st Chief Huslia
Tribally Driven Housing
9:55 a.m.
Mitchell Stewfelt, Housing Coordinator
Una Edwardson, 1st Chief Tanana
Ilya Benesch, Cold Climate Housing Research Center
The Honorable Senator
Dan Sullivan
11:30 a.m.
The Honorable Congressman
Don Young
11:50 a.m.
The Honorable Senator
Lisa Murkowski
12:00 p.m.
Tribal Client Services Report
12:30 p.m.
Katina Charles
Community Wellness Behavior Health and Tribal Government Collaboration
3:00 p.m.
Tiffany Simmons

WEDNESDAY
MARCH 14TH, 2018
Call to Order
8:15 a.m.
Don Honea, Sr. 1st Traditional Chief
Victor Joseph, TCC Chief/Chairman
Credentials Committee Report
8:20 a.m.
Roll Call & Establishment of Quorum
8:25 a.m.
Financial Report
8:40 a.m.
TCC Chief/Chairman Report
10:15 a.m.
Question & Answer
Cancer Panel
1:15 p.m.
Jacoline Bergstrom
Elder Services Panel
3:15 p.m.
Andrew Jimmie, Chairman of the ANTHC Eldercare Committee
Anna Frank, Commission on Aging & Denakkanaaga Vice-Chair
Luann Strickland, TCC Homecare Services
Dr. Wright, MC, TCC, End of life care and support in our villages
Water & Sewer Funding and Alternate Systems
4:15 p.m.
Bill Justice

THURSDAY
MARCH 15TH, 2018
Reconvene & Call to Order
8:15 a.m.
Victor Joseph, TCC Chief/Chairman
Resolutions Committee Report
8:25 a.m.
Continue Considerations of Resolutions
8:25 a.m.
Election Committee Report
11:30 a.m.
ELECTIONS
1:15 p.m.
Swearing In Ceremony
TCC Executive Board & Secretary/Treasurer

ADJOURN

LEGACY OF OUR ELDER
Debut
6:00 p.m.
Westmark Hotel

TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE • THE COUNCIL NEWSLETTER 13
TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE • THE COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

SUBREGIONAL ADVISORY BOARD ELECTIONS

TCC Executive Board of Directors

Subregional Positions:
- Lower Yukon Subregion ........................................ 3 Year Term 2018-2021
  Currently Eugene Paul, Holy Cross
- Upper Kuskokwim Subregion ................................. 3 Year Term 2018-2021
  Currently Nick Alexia, Nikolai

Eligibility Criteria:
- Must be a current village director, as authorized by tribal/village resolution. (Article 7, Section 4)
- Must be residents of the State of Alaska and Alaska Native Members of member villages of the corporation. (Article 4, Section 1)
- Employees of the corporation shall not be eligible to serve as Directors or officers of the corporation with exception of the President and temporary or seasonal E-Board Members and Full Board Members. (Article 4, Section 2)
- Must successfully pass an ICPA and Alaska Barrier Crimes Act Background check. (See also Executive Board Policy 50-5003).

AFN Village Representative

Election of IRHA seat is not affected by the TCC Bylaws per (Article 7, Section 7)
- Employees of TCC or IRHA are not eligible to serve as IRHA Commission Members.
- Must be eligible to serve on TCC Board of Directors.
- Currently Janet Woods, Rampart

Yukon Tanana Subregion ........................................ 3 Year Term 2018-2021
- Currently Andrew Jimmie, Minto

Yukon Koyukuk Subregion ........................................ 3 Year Term 2018-2021
- Currently Walter Stickman, Sr., Nulato

TCC Regional Health Board

Lower Yukon Subregion ........................................ 3 Year Term 2018-2021
- Currently Vivian Juneby, Beaver

Yukon Koyukuk Subregion ........................................ 3 Year Term 2018-2021
- Currently Gertie Sam, Huslia

Interior Athabascan Tribal College Board of Trustees

Yukon Koyukuk Subregion ........................................ 3 Year Term 2018-2021
- Currently Jenny Pelkola, Galena

Lower Yukon Subregion ........................................ 3 Year Term 2018-2021
- Currently Margie Walker, Grayling

Yukon Tanana Subregion ........................................ 3 Year Term 2018-2021
- Currently Eugene Paul, Holy Cross

Upper Kuskokwim Subregion ................................. 3 Year Term 2018-2021
- Currently Nick Alexia, Nikolai

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Officers must be members of a member village of the corporation and eligible to be selected as a Director of a member village. (Article 5, Section 1)

On March 19, 2009, the TCC full board of directors adopted Resolution 2009-30 “Barrier Crimes” directing TCC to come into compliance with federal and state background check requirements. The TCC President, Executive Board or Health Board positions will have regular and foreseeable contact with Indian children and is a full time TCC employee and therefore must pass the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act (ICPA) and the State DHHS background checks. Executive Board and Health Board members also have foreseeable contact with Indian children as well as oversight of financial budgets with funds received by the State of Alaska.

Potential candidates to the Executive Board and Health Board must turn in a completed and correct background check application to Heather Rogers in Human Resources by February 10 to guarantee background checks will be completed by February 28. Individuals contemplating running for a board position should turn in a background check application now to ensure the ability to make corrections to mistakes in the lengthy application.

Background check applications will be confidential and only Human Resources will have access to the application and the names of individuals. Those individuals that do not submit complete paperwork or fail to pass a background check will not be eligible candidates for the TCC President, Executive Board or Health Board positions.

DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY

Individuals who want to declare themselves a candidate for any of the above seats must submit a written, signed and dated letter of intent by February 8. We recommend that you confirm receipt of your letter of intent with the TCC Executive Secretary prior to March 2nd. We may not know of the submission of your letter of intent; but we can confirm the receipt of your letter of intent.

Individuals may submit a letter of intent for AFN Village Representative and IRHA Commissioner Seats but they must be nominated from the floor to declare themselves a candidate.

Letter of intent (see example on page 4) must be received by fax, mail or delivered in person no later than 5:00 PM on March 2, 2018 to:

Tanana Chiefs Conference
ATTN: Norma Dahl, Executive Secretary
122 First Avenue, Suite 600
Fairbanks, AK 99701
1-800-478-6822 ext.3112 FAX # (907) 459-3884

FULL BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTIONS

AFN Village Representative

1 Seat ............................................................... One year term 2018-2019
- Currently Julie Roberts-Hyslop, Tanana

* The AFN Village Representative seat is not affected by the TCC Bylaws; however, we notify villages of AFN candidates who declare their written intent as a candidate, for informational purposes.

IRHA Board of Commissioners

Seat A............................................................. Three year term 2018-2021
- Currently Larry Nathaniel, Circle

Seat B............................................................. Three year term 2018-2021
- Currently Janet Woods, Rampart

* Must be eligible to serve on TCC Board of Directors
* Employees of TCC or IRHA are not eligible to serve as IRHA Commissioners (Article 7, Section 7)
* The election of the IRHA seat is not affected by the TCC Bylaws pertaining to the declaration of candidacy requirements; however, we notify villages of IRHA candidates who declare their written intent as a candidate for informational purposes.

Important Dates for the 2018 TCC Elections

March 2nd at 5:00pm:
- The open period in which a candidate may declare candidacy ends.
- Candidates must declare their candidacy in writing. TCC must provide a list of eligible candidates to member tribes.

March 15th:
- TCC elections held at the TCC Full Board of Directors Annual Meeting at the Westmark Hotel in Fairbanks.

2018 TCC Full Board elections process follows the TCC Elections Rules; the elections rules are posted on the TCC website at www.tananachiefs.org under the 2018 TCC Annual Convention information and is also enclosed with the First and Official Call to Convention mailed to TCC member tribes. A copy of the elections rules can be requested by contacting Natasha Singh, General Counsel, at ext. 3178.
Background Checks and TCC’s Full Board of Directors Election

ICPA BACKGROUND CHECK INFORMATION:
The Indian Child Protection Act (ICPA), requires TCC Executive and Health Board of Directors to pass a federal ICPA background check, and the Alaska Barrier Crimes Act background check.

The TCC Executive Board has made the commitment to both comply with current laws, Board policies and advocate for reasonable changes in background check requirements. As part of compliance, TCC Executive Board and Health Board candidates must submit their complete background check application which includes fingerprints by February 1st submitted to Heather Rogers, Human Resources Director. This allows enough time for the check to be complete. Only those candidates that pass the background check will be eligible to continue as official candidates for the March 15, 2018 election. This process was mandated in the 2014 Presidential Election as well.

2018 TCC ELECTIONS: ELECTION RULES
RULE 10. MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED
To be elected to a position, nominees are required to receive a majority vote from the votes cast by the TCC Board of Delegates. If no nominee receives a majority vote on a ballot, the Election Committee shall conduct a subsequent ballot provided by these Election Rules until a nominee receives a majority vote.

RULE 11. FAILURE TO ACHIEVE MAJORITY
1. In the event of a tie occurring for a Subregional seat, a coin toss will occur to determine the outcome of the election.

2. Ballots where there are four (4) nominees or more. If no nominee receives a majority vote on the first ballot the following rules will apply with the intent to eliminate candidates to achieve a majority:

The Election Committee will eliminate all nominees except for the three (3) nominees receiving the highest number of votes and conduct a subsequent ballot.

If there are three (3) or more candidates that receive the second highest number of votes, all those with the second highest number of votes will proceed to the next ballot including the candidate with the most votes. The remaining candidates will be eliminated.

If there is a tie for candidates with the third highest vote and there are two (2) or more candidates that receive the first and/or second highest number of votes, only the two (2) or more candidates that receive the highest number of votes will proceed to the next ballot. The rest will be eliminated.

If there are more than three (3) candidates tied for first highest vote, all of those receiving the first highest will proceed to the next ballot. The rest will be eliminated.

If all but one candidate ties for second, the Election Committee will distribute an “elimination ballot” that includes only the nominees who tied for second. The Election Committee will eliminate the one nominee receiving the lowest number of votes on the “elimination ballot” and resume the balloting between all remaining nominees.

3. Ballots where there are three (3) nominees. If no nominee receives a majority vote on a ballot having three (3) nominees, the Election Committee will eliminate the one nominee receiving the lowest number of votes, and conduct a subsequent ballot. If all three (3) nominees tie for the votes cast, the Election Committee shall conduct a subsequent ballot including all nominees.

If two nominees tie for the fewest votes cast, the Committee will distribute an “elimination ballot” that includes only the two nominees who tied for the fewest votes cast on the prior ballot. The Election Committee will eliminate the one nominee receiving the lowest number of votes on the “elimination ballot” and resume the balloting between all remaining nominees.

4. Ballots with two (2) nominees. The nominee receiving a majority vote shall be elected. If neither nominee receives a majority vote, the Election Committee will prepare another ballot without elimination of the nominee receiving the fewer votes. This Election Committee will repeat this process as necessary until one nominee receives a majority vote.

** Majority is based on the number of Directors present for the 2018 Full Board of Director’s roll call.

LETTER OF INTENT
Tanana Chiefs Conference
ATTN: Norma Dahl, Executive Secretary
122 First Ave, Suite 600
Fairbanks, AK 99701 | Fax (907) 459-3884 1-800-478-6822 ext. 3112

DATE (Must be between 8 a.m. Feb. 1, 2018 and 5 p.m. March 2, 2018).
I, ___________________________________________ of _________________________ declare my intent to run for the Tanana Chiefs Conference position of ______________________

(Insert seat you intend to run as a candidate for. Example: Secretary/Treasurer, Subregional Executive Board, TCC Health Board, TCC Education Council or /ATC)

Signature ____________ City, State, Zip Code ____________

Print Name ______________________ Phone Number ______________________

Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act, 25 USC sec. 3207 provides that each tribal organization that receives funds under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act shall not employ individuals that have committed certain crimes when the position involves regular or foreseeable contact with Indian children. The TCC Executive Board has reviewed and passed procedures to implement the ICPA background checks and the Board requires all Executive Board of Directors, Health Board of Directors and TCC employees to pass ICPA background checks and the Alaska Barrier Crime Act, when applicable.

Nominations must fill out a background check application. The background check application can be obtained from Heather Rogers, Human Resources Director at ext. 3095, and is due by February 1, 2018 to allow for processing before the election. Only those candidates that pass the background check will be official candidates for the 2018 Full Board of Directors’ elections.

TCC recommends that you confirm the receipt of your Letter of Intent with the TCC Executive Secretary prior to 5:00 PM, March 2, 2018.
Letters to the Editor, other written contributions and photo submissions are welcome. However, space is limited and program-oriented news has priority. We reserve the right to edit or reject material. Letters and opinions are not necessarily the opinions of Tanana Chiefs Conference. Material submitted anonymously will not be printed.

Village Vacancies
- Community Health Aide/Practitioner (Dot Lake, Circle, Healy Lake, Chalkyitsik)
- Elder Nutrition Cook (Chalkyitsik, Allakaket)
- Family Visitor (Allakaket)
- Infant/Toddler Teacher (Galena)
- Mid-level Practitioner (PA or NP) (Tok)
- Squad Boss (Tok)
- Substitute Elder Nutrition Cook (Arctic Village, Huslia, Allakaket)
- Tribal Family Youth Specialist (Koyukuk, McGrath, Healy Lake)
- Tribal Workforce Development Specialist (McGrath)
- Village Public Safety Officer (McGrath, Fort Yukon, Venetie, Tanana, Grayling, Ruby, Nulato, Circle)
- Wild Land Firefighter Type II Crew Member (Tok)

Fairbanks Vacancies
- Brownfield Technician
- Coordinator/Instructor Mid-Level Practitioner
- Itinerant Behavioral Health Clinician
- Rural Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Coordinator

Region- Wide Vacancies

Upcoming Meetings/Events

TCC Annual Convention
March 12th-15th - Westmark Hotel

TCC Closed
March 16th - Traditional Chief’s Day

Firefighter Refresher Training & Pack Test
March 26th-27th - Holy Cross, AK

Firefighter Refresher Training & Pack Test
March 28th-31st - Grayling, AK

After one month smokefree, coughing, congestion, fatigue and shortness of breath decrease.