

# the council

Vol. 43, No. 2

A REPORT TO THE MEMBER TRIBES OF TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE

February 2018

## An update from the *Emerging* Leaders



*Not pictured: Tristan Madros and Isaac Ticknor*

During the 2017 Annual Convention, Beaver Village sponsored Resolution 2017-62, Support Leadership Development in the TCC Region, which was passed by the Full Board of Directors. Since then TCC was awarded a grant towards supporting Youth Leadership through DHHS – Administration for Native Americans, and had been awarded and received the Native

Youth Initiative for Leadership, Empowerment, and Development (I-LEAD) grant.

The I-LEAD grant brings in \$300,000/year for three years, to support the infrastructure of creating, recruiting, and mentoring a region-wide Emerging Leaders Youth Council.

### **TCC EMERGING LEADERS UPDATE**

The Founding members of the

Emerging Leaders Youth Council met for a two day kick-off meeting January 8-9, 2018 in Fairbanks. During this meeting the Founders created bylaws, recruitment process for Youth Delegates, and election guidelines.

**See page 6 for more.**

## AthenaHealth Launch Date

Mark your calendars for February 21st! We will be transitioning to AthenaHealth's new electronic health record system.

### **During this time:**

- Come in 30 minutes before your appointment
- Check in with Registration first
- Bring ID, Insurance cards, and current medications

**Learn more about AthenaHealth on page 4.**



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## MISSION STATEMENT

Tanana Chiefs Conference provides a unified voice in advancing sovereign tribal governments through the promotion of physical and mental wellness, education, socioeconomic development, and culture of the Interior Alaska Native people.

## VISION

Healthy, Strong, Unified Tribes



**Tanana  
Chiefs  
Conference**

## TCC EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Donald Honea Sr./Ruby  
*1st Traditional Chief*

Trimble Gilbert/Arctic Village  
*2nd Traditional Chief*

Victor Joseph/ Tanana  
*Chief/Chairman*

Julie Roberts-Hyslop/Tanana  
*Vice President*

Pollock 'PJ' Simon, Jr. /Allakaket  
*Secretary/Treasurer*

William "Chaaiy" Albert/Northway  
*Upper Tanana*

Nick Alexia Sr./Nikolai  
*Upper Kuskokwim*

Nancy James/Fort Yukon  
*Yukon Flats*

Eugene Paul/Holy Cross  
*Lower Yukon*

Frank Thompson/ Evansville  
*Yukon Tanana*

Norman 'Carl' Burgett/ Huslia  
*Yukon Koyukuk*

Peter Demoski/Nulato  
*Elder Advisor*

Isaac Ticknor/Anvik  
*Youth Advisor*

## CHIEF'S REPORT

Dear Tribes and Tribal Members,



As we start off the New Year, TCC staff continues to prepare for our annual Convention next month! This year our focus is on the future of our tribes and how TCC can continue to strive towards our mission.

Public safety and reducing drugs in our communities has been a priority for both TCC and our tribes. To address this issue and bring needed change, I have been meeting with our governor, Senator Murkowski, state legislators, and various state commissioners. Our team at TCC and tribal leadership throughout our state has raised concerns regarding the lack of law enforcement in our communities and the need to increase public safety.

Recently, AFN and tribal leadership at the Governors Tribal Advisory Council passed resolutions supporting the introduction of the Alaska Tribal Public Safety Bill by Senator Murkowski. If passed, this bill would allow tribes to have jurisdiction in and around our tribal communities similar to that of city police that work with State Troopers. I will keep you updated on the bill's progress and please be ready to support when the time comes.

Next, I want to introduce a new and exciting project that TCC is collaborating on to reduce drugs going into our communities. Tribal member, Kelly Fields started raising funds to purchase a K9 dog that specializes in drug detection. The goal for the K9 dog is to work with law enforcement to reduce transportation of drugs into our communities. Many of our tribes and tribal members have donated to this project and to date Kelly has raised \$34,000. Great Job Kelly!

In addition, I'm proud to announce that TCC's executive board authorized \$184,000 to support this initiative and the State Troopers are joining us! TCC has set up an account where 100% of the donation will be used to support this project. If you would like to donate please see page 1 for more detail.

I also have great financial news for our tribes. For the fourth year in a row and due to positive earnings from TCC's financial investments, we are able to distribute \$19,480 to each of our 37 federally recognized tribes. Also, our Executive Board authorized \$3.7 million (\$100,000 to each federally recognized tribe) to assist tribes in strengthening tribal operations. Tribes will soon be able to apply for these funds for improvement projects in their communities. More information on the application process will be provided soon.

In the coming months I will be attending many important meetings including the Secretary of HSS Tribal Advisory Council, Alaska Native Health Board Mega Meeting, National IHS Budget Formulation Workgroup, and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Sitting on these bodies allows me to bring a collective, unified voice on Alaska Native health issues to our state and national leadership.

As always, TCC will continue striving towards its vision of Healthy, Strong, Unified Tribes.

*Ana Bassee,  
Victor Joseph  
Chief/Chairman*



# THE DANGERS OF BINGE DRINKING

## What is Binge Drinking?

Binge drinking is the most common pattern of excessive alcohol use in the United States. The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism defines binge drinking as a pattern of drinking that brings a person's blood alcohol concentration (BAC) to 0.08 grams percent or above. This typically happens when men consume 5 or more drinks, and when women consume 4 or more drinks, in about 2 hours.

## National Surveys Indicate:

One in six U.S. adults binge drinks about four times a month, consuming about eight drinks per binge.

- While binge drinking is more common among young adults aged 18–34 years, binge drinkers aged 65 years and older report binge drinking more often—an average of five to six times a month.
- Binge drinking is more common among those with household incomes of \$75,000 or more than among those with lower incomes.
- Approximately 92% of U.S. adults who drink excessively report binge drinking in the past 30 days.
- Although college students commonly binge drink, 70% of

binge drinking episodes involve adults age 26 years and older.

- The prevalence of binge drinking among men is twice the prevalence among women.
- Binge drinkers are 14 times more likely to report alcohol-impaired driving than non-binge I think all you can do is make a report if she threatens. Remember, we can't force her to do anything. Drinkers.
- About 90% of the alcohol consumed by youth under the age of 21 in the United States is in the form of binge drinks.

More than half of the alcohol consumed by adults in the United States is in the form of binge drinks.

Binge drinking is associated with many health problems, including—

Unintentional injuries (e.g., car crashes, falls, burns, drowning)

Intentional injuries (e.g., firearm injuries, sexual assault, domestic violence)

- Alcohol poisoning
- Sexually transmitted diseases
- Unintended pregnancy
- Children born with Fetal

Alcohol Spectrum Disorders(<https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/fasd/index.html>)

- High blood pressure, stroke, and other cardiovascular diseases
- Liver disease
- Neurological damage
- Sexual dysfunction, and
- Poor control of diabetes.

## Are you struggling with binge drinking, problem drinking or alcoholism?

Did you know that there is not a waitlist to go to inpatient treatment at TCC? Are you living in one of TCC's communities and would like to participate in outpatient treatment? For more information, please contact: 907-452 – 8251 extension 3800 or 1-800-478-4741.

Alcohol has had decades of negative effects on our people since it was first introduced by the gold miners. Upon the direction of 2nd Traditional Chief Trimble Gilbert, the TCC Executive Board and Health Boards have made it a final priority to increase the physical health and overall wellness throughout our region and among our people.

We encourage you to take the information shared and sit down 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.

For more information, please contact Frank Yaska at (907) 452-8251 ext. 3547

## ANWR & Tax Reform

By Marna Sanford

Government Relations Coordinator

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act passed both houses of Congress on December 20th and went into effect on the first of the new year. The implications of this legislation are likely to be felt far and wide. While it is true that most middle income families will pay less taxes for the next ten years, the biggest winners under the new law are corporations. Big business can expect to pay \$1.3 trillion dollars less over ten years and small business gets a \$425 billion dollar break. The problem that Tanana Chiefs Conference expects to see as a result is a ballooning federal debt. There are various mechanisms or budget caps written into law that attempt to keep federal debt below a certain amount. Tax cuts are not free money, they have to be financed by lower spending. With less money in the federal coffers, domestic programs – such as Indian Health Service, TANF, Education and Training, Child Nutrition, to name a few – will not survive untouched. The federal budget for the current year is still undecided and Tanana Chiefs Conference remains vigilant to ensure the numbers proposed by Congress, while lean, remain intact. The fiscal climate going forward, however, will be a challenge.

## Congratulations Stevens Village

Congratulations to Stevens Village for winning \$500 in Everts fuel for their tribal office for participating in the 2018 TCC annual convention survey for convention topics!

We greatly appreciate your time and efforts to help us develop the March 2018 TCC convention agenda to address the topics that are most important to our tribes.

The top Priorities from our villages from the survey are:

Housing & Water/Sewer  
Alcohol/Drugs/Tobacco & Energy  
Education

VPSO Efforts-Issues & Land issues  
Employment & Training

Language & Tribal Government

# AthenaHealth

- ✓ Better Communication
- ✓ Better Patient Care
- ✓ Easier Access to Health Information

## What is AthenaHealth?

AthenaHealth is an Electronic Health Record system that will allow patients to have easier access to their health information, more ways to communicate with their care team, and better care coordination with our partners, such as the Alaska Native Medical Center and the Fairbanks Memorial Hospital.

## Expert Patient Engagement Services

Through automated messaging, live operators, and a convenient patient portal, the AthenaHealth patient service helps engage patients in their care. With our new health record, our patients will receive:

- **Automated reminders:**
  - Patients can receive automated reminders for appointments, and preventive care and follow up care through email, text or phone.
  - Choose to be alerted when test results are in the patient portal.
- **Live operator service:** AthenaHealth live operators act as an addition to the TCC team, accessing the same information as the staff, so they can help cancel or reschedule appointments, pay bills, leave messages for their care teams and more – all after hours.
- **Online patient access:** Patients will be able to engage in their care using the new portal to review their health history, sign forms, and more. The portal is mobile accessible, giving patients 24/7 access anytime, anywhere from any device.



## Introducing Citra Health

Tanana Chiefs Conference has implemented a new after-hours answering service. As of August 29th, Citrahealth began providing expert medical advice and messaging services to TCC patients. The goal of this change is to provide the region with consistent access to after-hours care. As always, we strive to provide high quality care for our patients.

Having an after-hours answering service and nurse triage provided

by one company will provide TCC patients with improved service by having a quicker call back time by the triage nurse, with the added ability to be immediately transferred to a nurse if necessary. Patients needing to call after hours will call the normal after hours number,



1-800-478-6682, and the calls will be received by Citrahealth solutions. This same after-hours number can be used to access TCC Behavioral Health after-hours. We are excited to be able to offer this service to our clients and look forward to our new partnership with Citrahealth!

Chief Andrew Isaac Health Center After-Hours Number  
1-800-478-6682

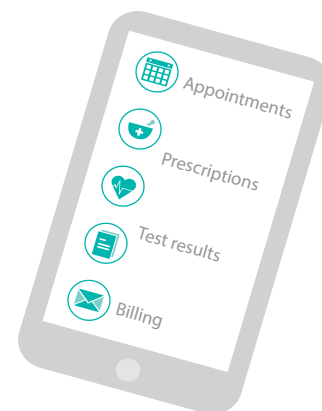
# Patient Portal

An effective patient portal is the centerpiece of any comprehensive patient engagement strategy. It's where patients can easily exchange messages with providers, access information, request and cancel appointments, and more.

The patient portal is available via desktop, tablet and mobile devices, bringing patients greater convenience and more opportunities to stay connected.

With the 24/7 Online Patient Portal, patients will be able to:

- Conveniently request and view appointments
- Request prescription refills
- View test results and health information
- Communicate privately with your provider
- Complete and print health forms



## Access Personal Health Information

The AthenaHealth patient portal allows patients convenient access to important health information, 24/7.

- Lab and other test results can be sent to patients securely
- Care summaries are conveniently available for patients' review
- Current and previous medications are listed for easy access
- Immunization history is available to patients anytime they need it
- View kids immunizations for school requirements



## Secure Messaging

The HIPAA compliant way to open lines of communication and engage patients in their care

- Patients can send their provider or care team questions or messages securely
- Patient messages will be sent to appropriate staff – scheduling, billing, providers and more – based on the patient need
- Request medication refill requests without the hassle of a phone call
- Care teams will be able to follow up on care plans through the patient portal to drive better health outcomes



## Symptom Checker

The patient portal encourages patients to take control of their health with free online tools and educational resources

- Patients will be encouraged to take an active role in their health through online articles and educational materials within the portal
- Patients receive treatment guidance using our online medical symptom checker

## Athena Communication App

FEBRUARY 21ST



# Five-Year Strategic Plan

TCC has developed a five-year Strategic Plan, which will guide the work of the organization through 2015-2020. Each year TCC will determine the highest priorities and specific initiatives for that year. TCC management reports annually to the Board of Directors at the Annual Convention regarding progress made on implementing the plan.

The strategic plan goals and objectings are Strong Leadership, Communications, and Advocacy; Financial Management; Facilities; Information Technology; Staffing;

Partnerships; Quality; Business Operations; Services Delivery; and Engaged, Self-Reliant, and Satisfied Customers.

Our Senior Management meets monthly to give updates for each initiate.

You can view the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan, the 2015, and the 2016-2017 Progress Highlights on our website at [www.tananachiefs.org](http://www.tananachiefs.org). Be sure to get a copy of 2017-2018 Progress Highlights in March at the Annual Convention!



## An Update from the Emerging Leaders *continued from page one*

The Emerging Leaders will consist of a 12 member council. At this time, there are seven founders and they will be recruiting five additional members to join their Council.

The Founders of the Emerging Leaders Youth Council have been advocating for youth around the Region to be heard. Chief/Chairman Victor Joseph heard them loud and clear and fully supports this initiative. The youth didn't want to be 'just' heard at annual convention, they wanted to be heard year-round. Having this Youth Council will allow leadership and development to grow amongst the youth. To gain a clear understanding of youth perspective of Wellness and Prevention, the impact of Higher Education, the importance of Workforce Development, and to start learning the process of Tribal Government, to name a few. In addition, all Tribes will be supported to have a youth representative on their respective Tribal Councils', to attend sub-regional meetings, and to engage in the process of leadership development.

### **What is the difference between a Youth Delegate and an Emerging Leader?**

Each group are made up of 12 TCC Tribal members who reside within the service area and who represent their village and sub-region. Ideally, there are two from each of the six sub-regions, to represent their peers. If there are no applicants from the sub-region then the recruitment is open to all and a selection is determined.

Youth Delegates are TCC Tribal members who reside within the TCC

region and are between the ages of 14-17. Youth Delegates are delegates' who are either first time participants, or repeated delegates' who are still in high school. Each delegates have the opportunity to learn about the TCC youth related events, grow their public speaking skills, participate in meetings, and are mentored by the Emerging Leaders, TCC staff, and Elders.

Emerging Leaders are TCC Tribal members who reside within the TCC region and are between the ages of 18-21. The Emerging Leaders are the youth council members. Each will mentor a Youth Delegate to engage in leadership development, engage in public speaking, expectations of attending meetings, and to ask questions. The Emerging Leaders will also be involved with different TCC programs, committees, and voicing their perspective as a youth.

### **An Update from the Vice Chair of the Emerging Leaders, Jasmine Olson:**

In March of 2017 RESOLUTION 62 "Emerging Leaders Youth Advisory Council" was passed by the Full Board of Directors, in support of leadership development in the Tanana Chiefs Conference region (TCC). The Council is founded by Calen Sunnyboy of Nenana (Member), Devon Deaton of Beaver (Member), Jasmine Olson of Kaltag (Vice Chair), Jolie Murray of Beaver (Secretary), Julia Fisher-Salmon of Beaver (Treasurer), Tristan Madros of Kaltag (Member), and Isaac Ticknor of Anvik (Chair). The Emerging Leaders Youth Advisory Council seeks to improve leadership

skills in young adults, while working to improve the lives of our youth through providing opportunities, mentorship, training, and volunteer work.

On behalf of the TCC Emerging Leaders, we would like your input on who your tribe would like to represent your subregion on the Emerging Leaders Youth Advisory Council. The candidate must be a young adult between the ages of 18-21. The candidate also must be enrolled in a tribe within the TCC Region. The qualities of an Emerging Leader consist of, leadership experience, wants to make a difference in their region, is punctual and professional, respectful, hardworking, and is willing to be an active participant in every step of the process.

The Emerging Leaders Youth Advisory Council seeks to represent every subregion in the TCC region. On the Council we have 5 vacant seats. We hope to have candidates from the Upper Kuskokwim and the Upper Tanana Regions as well as the Lower Yukon Region. Our goal is to ensure equal representation, therefore two candidates from each subregion will be selected by the Youth Advisory Council. All nominations must include a "Letter of Intent" and must be submitted by the deadline February 7th, 2018.

The Emerging Leaders would like to thank everyone who is interested in applying for a seat on the Youth Advisory Council, and the tribal members who nominate potential candidates.

Send nominations to Jolie Murray • Secretary, Emerging Leader • [jolie.murray.2018@outlook.com](mailto:jolie.murray.2018@outlook.com)



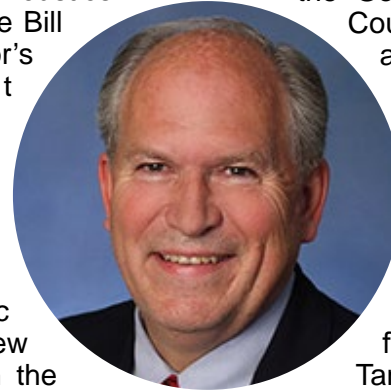
# What is happening in the State?

By Marna Sanford  
Government Relations Coordinator

The Governor released his budget on Friday, December 15, 2017. Included in the Governor's proposed budget were a number of proposed "fixes" to Alaska's fiscal situation. We have an oil and gas credit payback bond plan, a 3-yr wage tax to offset a 3-yr infrastructure stimulus deferred maintenance bill, and a government budget accountability bill. The Governor's proposed budget assumes use of approximately \$2 Billion from the Permanent Fund Earnings Reserve Account, which would be the equivalent to the legislative restructuring proposed by Senate Bill 26 (to cover 83 percent of the budget deficit and pay a \$1,216

dividend), and a motor fuels tax. In an attempt to answer the complaints from the many Alaskans that testified during the most recent special session that was concentrated on fixing the Criminal Justice Reform bill, Senate Bill 91, the Governor's budget included a bump in spending to both the Department of Public Safety - two new troopers - and the Department of Law - new prosecutor positions." of Public Safety - two new troopers (none in the Interior) - and the Department of Law - a bunch of new prosecutors positions (also none for the Interior specifically). Despite these increases, the funding for the VPSO program is

holding steady from last year which could be seen as a win given the opposition and scrutiny it received from the House Minority. President Victor Joseph and Sgt. Jody Potts attended the Governor's Tribal Advisory Council on December 20th and focused on public safety and VPSO funding discrepancies for rural Alaska. Overall, including the Mental Health and Capital Budget's, the Governor's proposed budget is a 1% reduction from last year's final. Tanana Chiefs Conference will be strictly monitoring any cuts to rural services, health and social services, education and public safety.



## ORTHOPEDIC REFERRALS UPDATE

- Orthopedic Referral Tab will be removed from EHR – referrals are not needed, if you need an appointment call Central Scheduling at x1053 to schedule
- There will be two Orthopedic Providers
  - o Catalano – Monday through Thursday
  - o Deblauw – Tuesday through Friday
- CHAP and Physical Therapy – if physical therapy is needed, schedule an appointment with an Ortho provider at x1053
- Orthopedics does not see any back or neck problems. Patients will need to be seen by their Primary Care Provider and get a referral to ANMC neuro department.



## 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](http://www.fairbanksnative.org)  
(907) 452-1648  
[info@fairbanksnative.org](mailto:info@fairbanksnative.org)





# Nulato Culture & Wellness Camp

The Nulato Culture and Wellness Camp was held December 9-11, 2017. The camp took place at the Andrew K. Demoski School in Nulato, Alaska. There were 85 participants that attended varying from children as young as 3 years old to Elders from Nulato, Kaltag, Koyukuk, Galena, Huslia, and Fairbanks. The Nulato camp's cultural focus was on Native language, song and dance, cultural and Elder stories, crafts and sewing, and making fish ice cream. The Wellness portion of the Nulato camp included Athabascan values, making good choices, bullying, substance abuse, and

peer pressure.

These camps help in giving our youth a strong foundation as they move forward in their lives and help to strengthen their self-identity. Susan Paskvan states "When you have something like that, it gives you a strong sense of identity. They're able to know who they are and where they come from. So through the language and the culture, it just increases that."

After the community dance performance by the kids, Elder Pauline Peter said "I feel like I don't

have to worry about the younger generation after seeing that and it makes me feel good."

Tribes throughout the region continue to host Culture and Wellness Camps funded through Tanana Chiefs Conference and the Administration for Native Americans. Two camps will be hosted in each subregion for the next four years. Through these camps, the participants spend time with local Elders and learn about their culture, history, and language.



For more information on upcoming camps, visit our website at [www.tananachiefs.org/culture-and-wellness-camps](http://www.tananachiefs.org/culture-and-wellness-camps)



*"Take that time to sit down with an Elder and learn those things because they will not always be there... Use the knowledge they learned here during this week when they go home."*

Tristan Madros





## 2018 TCC Culture & Wellness Camps:

### YUKON TANANA

- TBD
- TBD

### YUKON FLATS

- Chalkyitsik - July 9th-13th
- Venetie - Date TBD

### LOWER YUKON

- TBD
- TBD

### UPPER KUSKOKWIM

- Nikolai - March 19th-23rd
- TBD

### YUKON KOYUKUK

- TBD
- TBD

### UPPER TANANA

- Northway - Date TBD
- Tetlin - June 9th-13th



## Interior Villages Against *Meth* Initiative

Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) is proud to partner with Kelly Field's initiative Interior Villages Against Meth. Kelly Fields is a tribal member from Fort Yukon who is passionate about bringing this initiative to our villages. The initiative aims to bring more K9 drug detection dogs to interior police agencies, in an effort to combat the drug epidemic in Alaska.

We are partnering with local law enforcement agencies such as Fairbanks Airport Police, Alaska State Troopers and Village Public Safety Officers to help combat drug trafficking and bootlegging in our villages. This initiative has received numerous donations and support from the Council of Athabascan Tribal Governments; Tozitna, Limited; Gwichyaa Zhee Gwich'in Tribal Government; Venetie; Rampart; Chalkyitsik; Huslia; Ruby and numerous individuals through the Go Fund me account.

### DONATE TO THE CAUSE:

TCC has established a donation

account for those who would like to support the initiative, since the GoFundMe page has been deactivated. Donations made at TCC will go 100% to the K9 project, and no administrative costs will be held at TCC.

TCC is proud to stand with Kelly Fields and commends her on taking an active role in finding a solution to drug trafficking in our villages.

### HOW TO DONATE:

- Visit our website at [www.tananachiefs.org](http://www.tananachiefs.org), scroll to the bottom of the homepage and select the 'donate' button. This will give you options on where to direct your donation. Select 'Airport K-9 Project' and hit the 'donate' button again.

OR

- Mail or drop off donations to:  
Tanana Chiefs Conference  
ATTN: Airport K-9 Donation  
122 First Ave Ste 600  
Fairbanks, AK 99701



## HOWARD LUKE, NENANA

This month's Legacy elder is Howard Luke of Nenana, who was featured in Volume Two of Legacy of our Elders series.

Howard was born in 1923 near Linder Lake downriver from Nenana. Luke was raised by his mother and grandmother after his father passed away when he was very young. "She could do everything," Luke says about his mother, "she taught me everything I know."

When Luke was young, like many traditional families, he depended on the use of his dog team for transportation. Luke's mother would help feed and water the dogs while he took care of training them on how to run together. "One of my friends (Kerry Fagen) was a trapper" Luke says, "One day he said let's race!" And that's all it took. Luke began to race dogs for fun.

Luke's mothers taught him the importance of their subsistence lifestyle, sharing stories and native language. "We can't do away with our native tongue," he says "that is going against nature."

Luke credits many of his lessons and life accomplishments to long nights of storytelling from his mother. Luke hopes to provide similiar support to other young people and adults through his camp, "Gaalee'ya Spirit Camp," especially by encouraging those who visit to never give up on what you want to do, and to most importantly always finish what you started.

As of today, hundreds have gone to "Gaalee'ya Spirit Camp," adults and children alike. "I want to pass my wisdom to this younger kids" Luke says. He has done just that.

To hear Howard's full story, visit [www.tananachiefs.org](http://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](http://www.tananachiefs.org)

Funding for Legacy Project made possible by TCC & The National Park Service.



# Tanana Opens Two New *Duplexes*

Tanana Tribe, Tanana Chiefs Conference, and Cold Climate Housing Research Center (CCHR) held a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the successful partnership building two duplexes in Tanana. The duplex will provide housing for 4 low-to-moderate income families in Tanana. CCHR expects each unit to burn approximately 150 gallons of fuel depending on the family. Each duplex has a 2-bedroom and a 3-bedroom unit and is equipped with a stackable washer and dryer, all kitchen appliances including a dishwasher, an arctic entry and deck. The project employed 12 local hires, including a local foreman. We would like to thank Tanana for the partnership and congratulate them on the opening of their new rentals!



## FEBRUARY IS AMERICAN HEART DISEASE MONTH

### *Did you know?*

Heart disease is the leading cause of death for men and women in the United States?

Every year, 1 in 4 deaths are caused by heart disease.

### *How can you make a difference?*

1. Encourage family and friends to make small changes, like using spices to season their food instead of salt.
2. Motivate teachers and administrators to make physical activity a part of the school day. This can help students start good habits early.
3. Ask doctors and nurses to be leaders in their communities by speaking out about ways to prevent heart disease.

**WEAR RED ON FEBRUARY 2ND, 2018  
TO HELP SPREAD AWARENESS**

## Assisting with Preparing a LAST WILL & TESTAMENT

Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) clients who are Doyon shareholders with Native Allotments are encouraged to complete a last will & testament with the assistance of attorneys.

### Dates & Location

Westmark Fairbanks Hotel & Conference Center - 813 Noble St

Monday, March 12, 2018 9am - 3pm

Tuesday, March 13, 2018 9am - 3pm

During Tanana Chiefs Conference Annual Convention

### Call to schedule an appointment with TCC

Real Estate Services by February 23, 2018

Clara Mayo (907) 452-8251 ext. 3238

Eileen Grant (907) 452-8251 ext.

### You will need to bring the following information:

Full name, date of birth(s) of heirs, list of property (Native Allotments, town sites, etc.), and village/regional corporation stock.

# Resolution Deadline

TCC's Annual Convention resolution process has been improved to provide for more tribal notice and dialogue.

**Resolutions will be due on February 16th, 2018**

Please submit resolutions to Keith Rueben, [Keith.Rueben@tananachiefs.org](mailto:Keith.Rueben@tananachiefs.org).

If you'd like assistance in writing resolutions  
please contact the relevant department:

**Health:** [terri.cadzow@tananachiefs.org](mailto:terri.cadzow@tananachiefs.org), ext 3141

**Tribal Client Services:** [Amber.Vaska@tananachiefs.org](mailto:Amber.Vaska@tananachiefs.org), ext 3110

**Administration/other:** [joyce.roberts@tananachiefs.org](mailto:joyce.roberts@tananachiefs.org), ext 3178

We look forward to an awesome convention.

## Addressing Elder Dementia

### What is dementia?

Dementia is a chronic or persistent disorder in which the mental processes are affected. This is typically caused by brain injury, disease, or aging and can result in memory issues, personality changes, and an impaired ability to reason.

Although Dementia is not a specific disease in itself, it is a group of symptoms that can seriously affect ones mental abilities.

### What are the symptoms of Dementia?

Though the symptoms may vary from person to person, there are some common signs. These include memory loss, difficulty communicating or finding words when speaking, and problems with disorientation. There are also associated psychological changes including personality changes, paranoia, or inability to reason.

### How can I distinguish the difference of memory loss vs dementia symptoms?

It is common with age for body and brain functions to slow and to have changes in memory functions as well. Although typically these problems are

noticeable they are not severe enough to interfere with normal, everyday life. Should someone develop an issue with the onset of dementia it usually involve a mental decline severe enough to disrupt daily life and core brain functions.

### When should I see a doctor?

It is important to monitor any symptoms you may experience. Though dementia is most common with age, there are also some treatable underlying conditions that could cause it and could be treated when seen by a physician. Because there are many causes it is important to find out the disease responsible for the symptoms. Tanana Chiefs Conference has experienced medical staff at Chief Andrew Isaac Health Center that can help you to distinguish what these symptoms may mean.

### Risk Factors

There are different risk factors when dealing with dementia to include age and family history. If you have a family history of dementia you could be at a higher risk of developing the condition. There are also outside 'risk factors' that can add to the probability of having dementia. These include heavy

alcohol use, smoking, obesity, blood pressure issues, high cholesterol, and more.

### What you can do to prepare for an appointment

When preparing to see the doctor you should begin to write down all of your symptoms and questions. That way you make sure to get those concerns addressed. It is also important to make sure to list (or bring in) all of your medications. Finally, write down key personal information, if needed with the help of a family-member or care-giver.

### Tanana Chiefs Conference can help

Tanana Chiefs Conference has trained professionals who can help you or your family deal with the onset of dementia. Whether it be preventative or post-diagnosis we are here to help.

Sources: National Alzheimer's Association; WebMD; Tanana Chiefs Conference

Make an appointment with your provider at Chief Andrew Isaac Health Center at (907) 451-6682



# Hunting Fishing Gathering Task Force *Upcoming Meetings*

The Hunting Fishing Gathering Task Force advocates to protect Alaska Native hunting and fishing rights central to our traditional way of life and wellbeing.

## OBJECTIVES:

- Speak and act with a unified voice.
- Protect Alaska Native hunting and fishing rights including the harvesting and sharing of fish, game, and other resources.
- Ensure Alaska Native management of traditional lands and resources.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS:

### Board of Fish

Board of Fish Regular Meeting  
March 6th-9th 2018  
Anchorage, AK

Board of Fish Proposal Deadline  
Arctic Yukon Kuskokwim Fisheries  
April 10th, 2018

AC Meetings & Coordination  
April-December 2018

### Board of Game

Board of Game Regular Meeting & Workshop  
February 14th - 16th, 2018  
Dillingham, AK

AC Meetings & Coordination  
April - December 2018

Board of Game Proposal Deadline  
Interior, Arctic, & Western Regions  
May 1st, 2019

### Federal Subsistence Board

Western Interior Regional Advisory Council  
February 20th - 21st, 2018  
Anchorage, AK

Eastern Interior Regional Advisory Council  
February 28th - March 1st, 2018  
Fairbanks

Federal Subsistence Board Proposal Deadline  
Spring 2018

Federal Subsistence Board Regular  
Meeting & Workshop  
April 2018  
Anchorage

## TCC WELCOMES NEW PATIENT EXPERIENCE MANAGER

TCC is happy to welcome our new Patient Experience Manager, Kymberley Miller! Kym will be working with the Chief Andrew Isaac Health Center Patient Navigators to ensure that patient's receiving care at our facility are having a positive patient experience. Patients who have comments, concerns, suggestions, or who need assistance navigating through their health care delivery system can request to speak to Kym. Kym will be happy to assist in your healthcare journey.

"There are very few acts of kindness greater than helping a person who is in need. I get to do this every day, the feeling is indescribable."

-Kym Miller



*Welcome to the TCC family Kym!*

# Election Criteria: 2018 TCC Full Board of Directors Meeting

## 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).
- Compliance with the TCC Board of Directors' Drug and Alcohol Free Policy #50-5001 applies to all TCC Executive and Health Board of Directors, with the exception of the Chief/Chair of the Board who is an employee who follows the employee policy. Those elected must pass a drug test according to this policy in order to serve their term.

### TCC Advisory Boards

The three TCC Advisory Boards make recommendations to the TCC Executive Board and President. The President has the authority to appoint all individuals to the advisory boards, (Article 7, Section 3), but the President currently allows the subregions to democratically select representatives to each advisory board. All candidates must be Alaska Native.

### TCC Regional Health Board

- 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 Education Council

- 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 Athabaskan 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

## 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.

## FULL BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTIONS

### Officer Positions

TCC Secretary/Treasurer .....3 year term (2018-2021)

Currently PJ Simon, Allakaket

### 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. All 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 between 8:00 AM-February 1, 2018 and 5:00 PM-March 2, 2018. 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

2018 TCC Full Board elections process follows the TCC Elections Rules; the elections rules are posted on the TCC website at [www.tananachiefs.org](http://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

## Important Dates for the 2018 TCC Elections

### Submit between now and February 10th:

The last day TCC is able to guarantee a background check will be completed in time for the required 10 day announcement of candidates before the meeting.

### February 1st at 8:00am:

The open period in which a candidate may declare written candidacy begins. Please confirm receipt of your letter of intent.

### 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.



# 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.

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  
(Name) (Village/Enrolled to)

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.

Nominees 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 P.M. March 2, 2018.

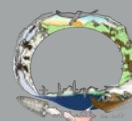
## LETTER OF INTENT

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



Tanana  
Chiefs  
Confere

# The Council Newsletter

122 First Avenue, Suite 600  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Phone: (907) 452-8251 ext. 3450  
Fax: (907) 459-3884  
thecouncil@tananachiefs.org

[www.tananachiefs.org](http://www.tananachiefs.org)

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.



Tanana  
Chiefs  
Conference

Follow us:     

## JOIN THE TCC FAMILY

**APPLY ONLINE**

[www.tananachiefs.org](http://www.tananachiefs.org)

### Village Vacancies

- Administrative Assistant (Shageluk)
- Community Health Aide/Practitioner (Dot Lake)
- Elder Nutrition Cook (Ruby, Venetie)
- Family Visitor (Holy Cross, Allakaket)
- Infant/Toddler Teacher (Galena)
- Mid-level Practitioner (PA or NP) (Tok)
- Substitute Elder Nutrition Cook (Chalkyitsik, Shageluk, McGrath, Rampart, Ruby, Nulato, Kaltag, Venetie)
- Tribal Administrator (Rampart, Takotna, Venetie)
- Tribal Family Youth Specialist (Alatna, Koyukuk)
- Village Public Safety Officer (Nulato, Grayling, Fort Yukon, Ruby, Tanana, Circle, Venetie)

### Fairbanks Vacancies

- Developmental Disabilities Coordinator
- Family Advocate
- Help Desk Supervisor
- Help Desk Technician
- Lab Director
- Medical Laboratory Scientist
- Medical Laboratory Technician
- Pharmacy Technician II
- Physician - Primary Care
- Rural Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Coordinator
- Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor Tech I

### Region- Wide Vacancies

- Fisheries Technician

JOB LISTED WERE OPEN AS OF January 12th, 2018

## UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

Grant Writing Workshop  
February 6-8 • Morris Thompson Cultural & Visitor Center • Fairbanks, AK

TCC Closed  
February 19 • President's Day

Yukon Koyukuk Intertribal Court Training  
February 20-22 • Westmark • Fairbanks, AK

TCC Annual Convention  
March 12-15 • Westmark • Fairbanks, AK

TCC Closed  
March 16 • Traditional Chief's Day

## DOYON ANNUAL MEETING

DOYON ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

E PROXY VOTING IS NOW OPEN  
[HTTPS://EPROXY.DOYON.COM](https://eproxy.doyon.com)

EARLY BIRD DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 16, 2018 BY 5 P.M.  
PROXY DEADLINE IS MARCH 14, 2018 BY 5 P.M.



**DOYON**  
Limited

**ANNUAL MEETING**  
FRIDAY, MARCH 16, 2018  
DOORS OPEN 8 A.M.  
FAIRBANKS WESTMARK HOTEL  
813 NOBLE STREET

[www.doyon.com](http://www.doyon.com)