



## Tribal Unity Gathering

By Amber Vaska  
TCS Executive Assistant

Alaska Tribal Unity (ATU) held their 3rd Annual Gathering in Anchorage on November 26, 2018. There was 161 in attendance, which includes representatives from 52 tribes and 13 organizations. The theme was, "Opportunities All Around: Advancing the Tribal Agenda." ATU's purpose is to develop a unified voice for all tribes in Alaska and advocate on issues that affect Alaska tribes. Throughout the meeting, tribal leaders went to the mic to voice their opinions, making it an active forum.

Chairman Richard Peterson, President of Tlingit & Haida, called the meeting to order and Executive Director Will Mayo gave opening comments. Governor Bill Walker spoke, noting the effort of working

towards collaboration and unity with tribes during his tenure. Videos from the congressional delegation highlighted their commitment to tribes, working together and taking action.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Region Director Eugene Peltola Jr. reported out. Chief Joseph questioned how Alaska's Tribal Interior Budget Council (TIBC) representatives are elected and how are our priorities brought forward.

The Alaska TIBC member reported on the importance of tribal priorities and the Alaska TIBC group. A legal panel spoke on DOI Reorganization, Alaska IRA, Lands into Trust and the Mashpee Tribe Decision.

The meeting moved to focus on national priorities that included legal

updates on a number of national cases that affect Alaska tribes. The Census presented on a letter sent out to tribes regarding Participant Statistical Areas Program. A Transportation panel discussed the opportunities of the new congressional transportation bill, partnership opportunities with 202(a) (9) and being proactive in addressing Alaska tribal infrastructure.

The gathering then caucused to elect members of the ATU Executive Committee and discussed resolutions. The tribal leaders passed 13 resolutions and referred one resolution to the Executive Committee. The resolutions will be used to guide advocacy efforts throughout the year, representing the tribal leaders in attendance at the ATU gathering.

Continued on page 11.

## 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 8th, 2019.**

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

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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*

Jerry Isaac/Tanacross  
*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*

Jolie Murray/Beaver  
*Youth Advisor*

## CHIEF'S REPORT

Dear Tribes and Tribal Members,



Happy New Year! As we begin another year, I want to share with you some exciting new initiatives TCC is launching to improve our services and business practices. The full Board of Directors authorized these five initiatives during TCC's special Full Board of Director's meeting in November 2018.

- Ch'eghwtsen'— Our late Traditional Chief Peter John spoke about the importance of Ch'eghwtsen', which means "true love" in the Lower Tanana dialect. TCC will adopt and embrace the spirit of Ch'eghwtsen' throughout our organization.

- Adopt the following guiding principle throughout our organization: "Accessible and trusted world-class services provided with unconditional love, compassion, dignity and respect. "HEAR ME"

- Malcolm Baldrige Framework—The Malcolm Baldrige Framework provides a set of criteria to promote excellence. TCC will use this framework to assess the implementation of our new initiatives and to continuously improve the quality of our services and our business practices.

Once these three initiative are incorporated throughout our organization, our business practices and quality of services will greatly improve and come from a place of love, compassion, and understanding.

- Clinic Construction—The Full Board of Directors also authorized construction of the Upper Tanana sub-regional clinic located in Tok and expansion of the Chief Andrew Isaac Health Center expansion, which will significantly improve health care services for all of our tribal members.

- In addition, the Full Board of Directors also authorized two additional initiatives. These will remain confidential and will be shared at a later date.

We are excited to implement these new initiatives and will continue to keep you informed about our progress.

In other news, TCC staff is busy preparing for our 2019 annual convention in March. This year's convention is particularly important because TCC will hold elections for four seats on the Executive Board of Directors: Vice President, Yukon Flats Representative, Yukon Tanana Representative, and Youth Advisor. For more information on TCC's election process, see pages 14 and 15.

I would like to congratulate all those who were elected to federal, state, and local offices in November. I look forward to creating a positive working relationship with Governor Mike Dunleavy and his administration. Positive relationships with our elected officials are essential to achieving TCC's vision of Healthy, Strong, Unified Tribes.

Although Ballot Measure 1 did not pass, we will continue to strive and advocate for clean and protected salmon habitats. It is important that we continue these efforts and keep voting for our voices to be heard. Change takes time, and we will get there.

I am looking forward to another successful year here at TCC as we work toward our vision of Healthy, Strong, Unified Tribes.

Ana Bassee,  
Victor Joseph  
Chief/Chairman



2019

## GENERAL ELECTION OFFICIAL RESULTS

**US Representative**  
Don Young, REP

**House District 6**  
David Talerico, REP

**House District 23**  
Chris Tuck, DEM

**House District 40**  
John Lincoln, DEM

**Governor/Lt. Governor**  
Dunleavy/Meyer, REP

**House District 7**  
Co Sullivan-Leonard, REP

**House District 24**  
Charles Kopp

**Ballot Measure No. 1**  
No

**Senate District A**  
Scott Kawasaki, DEM

**House District 8**  
Mark Neuman, REP

**House District 25**  
Josh Revak, REP

**Sup Court JD1 Carey**  
Yes

**Senate District C**  
Click Bishop, REP

**House District 9**  
George Rauscher, REP

**House District 26**  
Laddie Shaw, REP

**Sup Court JD3 Corey**  
No

**Senate District E**  
Michael Shower, REP

**House District 10**  
David Eastman, REP

**House District 27**  
Lance Pruitt, REP

**Sup Court JD3 Morse**  
Yes

**Senate District G**  
Lora Reinbold, REP

**House District 11**  
DeLena Johnson, REP

**House District 28**  
Jennifer Johnston, REP

**Sup Court JD3 Walker Jr.**  
Yes

**Senate District I**  
Elvi Gray-Jackson, DEM

**House District 12**  
Cathy Tiltlon, REP

**House District 29**  
Benjamin Carpenter, REP

**Sup Court JD3 Wolverton**  
Yes

**Senate District K**  
Mia Costello, REP

**House District 13**  
Nancy Dahlstrom, REP

**House District 30**  
Gary Knopp, REP

**Sup Court JD4 Lyle**  
Yes

**Senate District M**  
Chris Birch, REP

**House District 14**  
Kelly Merrick, REP

**House District 31**  
Sarah Vance, REP

**Sup Court JD4 McConahy**  
Yes

**Senate District O**  
Peter Micciche, REP

**House District 15**  
Gabrielle LeDoux, REP

**House District 32**  
Louise Stutes, REP

**Sup Court JD1 Miller**  
Yes

**Senate District Q**  
Jesse Kiehl, DEM

**House District 16**  
Ivy Spohnholz, DEM

**House District 33**  
Sara Hannan, DEM

**Sup Court JD1 Swanson**  
Yes

**Senate District S**  
Lyman Hoffman, DEM

**House District 17**  
Andrew Josephson, DEM

**House District 34**  
Andrea Story, DEM

**Sup Court JD3 Chung**  
Yes

**House District 1**  
Barton LeBon, REP

**House District 18**  
Harriet Drummond, DEM

**House District 35**  
Jona Kreiss-Tomkins, DEM

**Sup Court JD3 Clark**  
Yes

**House District 2**  
Steve Thompson, REP

**House District 19**  
Geran Tarr, DEM

**House District 36**  
Daniel Ortiz, NA

**Sup Court JD3 Estelle**  
Yes

**House District 3**  
Tammie Wilson, REP

**House District 20**  
Williams Fields, DEM

**House District 37**  
Bryce Edgmon, DEM

**Sup Court JD3 Illsley**  
Yes

**House District 4**  
Grier Hopkins, DEM

**House District 21**  
Matt Claman, DEM

**House District 38**  
Tiffany Zulkosky, DEM

**Sup Court JD3 Wolfe**  
Yes

**House District 5**  
Adam Wool, DEM

**House District 22**  
Sara Rasmussen

**House District 39**  
Neal Foster, DEM

**Sup Court JD4 Seekins**  
Yes



# HUSLIA

## Culture & Wellness Camp

Huslia's Culture and Wellness Camp was held August 13-17, a 3 mile boat ride downriver from the village, along the Koyukuk River. Land has been dedicated for the Culture Camp and this years the youth named the camp: "Soo-al ls'i nokkunhodaadineegh". There were 94 participants ranging from 2 years old to Elders from the Huslia and Fairbanks.

Attendees participated in wellness activities such as: bullying, suicide prevention, healthy relationships, making good choices, understanding their history and safety. Trooper Robert Nunley did a safety presentation to the camp.

The camp's cultural focus was on native signing, language, storytelling, berry picking and hunting. A special permit allowed them to get a moose, and the youth were part of the hunt, skinning and butchering of the moose. Everyone went home with some meat and jerky!

The importance of sled dogs in their community and part of their school program, Elder Wilson Sam showed the youth how to make dog tow lines, an unique activity. The youth also learned about traditional survival skills.

These camps help in giving our youth a strong foundation as they move forward in their lives and help

to strengthen their self-identity.

Tribes throughout the region continue to host Culture and Wellness Camps funded through Tanana Chiefs Conference and the Administration for Native Americans. As we enter the final year of the grant- 12 more camps will be hosted; two in each subregion; with the hope that locals will continue with camps. Through these camps, the participants spend time with their local Elders and learn about their families, culture, history, language, and learning to survive without electronics for a few days!

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)







## 2019 TCC Culture & Wellness Camps:

### YUKON TANANA

- Nenana - TBD
- Rampart - TBD

### LOWER YUKON

- Shageluk - TBD
- Anvik - TBD

### YUKON KOYUKUK

- Koyukuk - TBD
- Galena/Louden - TBD

### YUKON FLATS

- TBD
- TBD

### UPPER KUSKOKWIM

- McGrath - TBD
- TBD

### UPPER TANANA

- TBD
- TBD



# Sourdough Cinnamon Rolls

By Heidi Rader  
Tribes Extension Project Director and Educator

## Dough

In a large glass bowl, sift together:  
3 1/4 cups flour (I adjust the amount of flour as needed to make sure the dough is very wet at this stage)

1/3 cup sugar  
1 teaspoon salt  
Make a well in the center.

In another bowl, beat:

2 eggs  
2 cups of sourdough sponge  
1/2 cup melted butter  
1/2 cup scalded, then cooled milk  
Pour into well of dry ingredients and mix. Let rise till double in bulk.

Turn out onto floured surface and add more flour if needed. Then roll it out to a 1/2 inch thick rectangle.

## Cinnamon Filling

1/2 cup softened butter.  
1/2 cup brown sugar  
1-2 tablespoon cinnamon  
1/2 teaspoon ginger

Combine the filling ingredients so that it is a spreadable consistency. Spread it with a knife on the rolled out dough. Now roll up the long side of the rectangle. Gently cut into 3/4 inch slices with a serrated knife. Place slices on greased baking pan, cut side down. You can either let the cinnamon rolls rise at room temperature until they double in bulk, or you can refrigerate them overnight and remove them at least an hour before baking them. This is an excellent thing to do sometime on

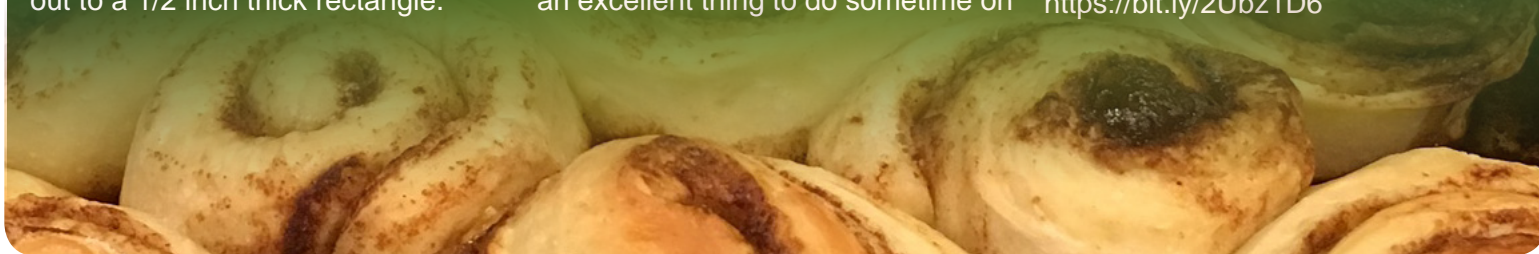
Christmas Eve so they are ready to go Christmas morning. Bake at 350 degrees for 20-25 minutes.

## Glaze

1 cup powdered sugar  
4 ounces cream cheese, softened  
4 tablespoons butter  
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract (optional)

Mix together all the glaze ingredients and spread on the cinnamon rolls after they have cooled slightly.

You can find more sourdough recipes in "Alaska Magazine's Cabin Cookbook". UAF CES also has an excellent publication on the topic: <https://bit.ly/2Ubz1D6>



## JOSEPH MAILLELE, GRAYLING

This month's Legacy elder is Joseph Maillele of Grayling, who was featured in Volume Two of Legacy of our Elders series.

Maillele was born in 1941 in the small Interior village of Holikachuk. Just days after he was born, his mother died of apparent complications from the birth. Maillele recalls that as a child, his father cast him aside after the death of his mother. He believes her death was what led his father to send him, as an infant, to a foster family in Holikachuk. They lived just down the street from his family and took him as their own.

At the age of 18, with an 8th grade education, Maillele began to work and build a life for himself. Around that time, the village of Holikachuk started to flood and have major issues with breakup in the springtime. In 1963, residents decided to pack their belongings on handcrafted rafts and move to the Yukon from Holikachuk, ending up in the small community of Grayling. "The whole village got together to build rafts and cut logs," he recalls. "I helped to build three rafts, [...] one hundred and fifty logs each."

After the move to Grayling, he married and began to have children. Maillele's struggles with his father continued to bother him. But it was something that came to shape the relationship he had with his own son: "I wanted it to be different."

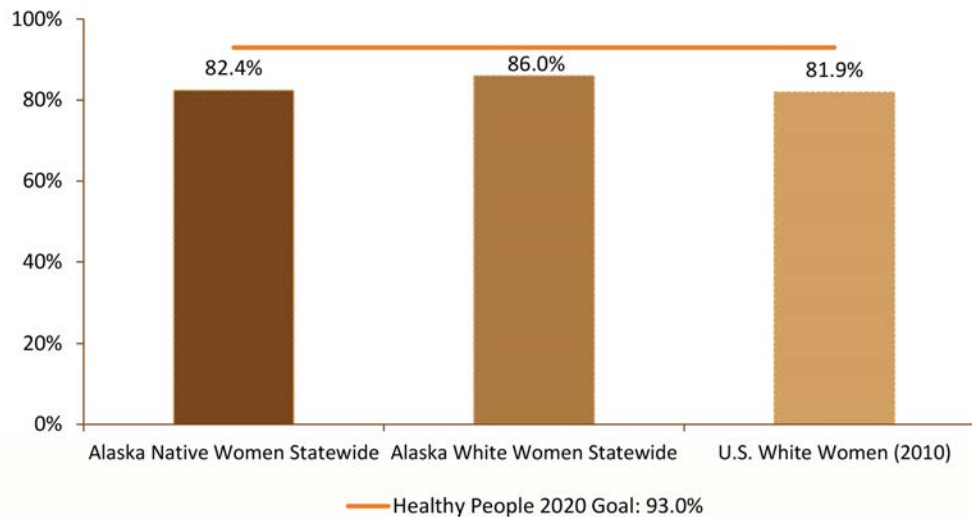
Maillele struggled with the notion that he never fully finished his education, and education is something he wants younger generations to be thankful for. "Further your education," he tells us. "Try to get higher educated because in this day and time you need it." He continues, "Where I came from, I envy them. I didn't get to go to high school, [...] That hurts me deep inside."

To hear Joseph'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.

# January is National CERVICAL CANCER Month

January is dedicated to shedding light on Cervical Cancer. All of us here at Tanana Chiefs Conference want to provide you with educational materials that could **save your life**. Cervical cancer screening includes females aged 21-65 years of age who reported at least one Pap smear within the last three years. The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force recommends screening for cervical cancer in women age 21 to 65 years with a Pap smear every 3 years. Screening can detect early abnormal changes in the tissues of the cervix so that they can be treated **before they become cancerous**.



## Cervical Cancer Screening, Women (21-65), 2006-2014

During 2006-2014, 82.4% of Alaska Native women (21-65 years) reported having had a pap smear in the past 3 years, slightly lower than the percentage of Alaska White women (86%).

Estimated cervical cancer screening rates varied by tribal health region, ranging from 64.6% to 86.9%.

### Objective:

Increase the proportion of women ages 21-65 years of age who received a Pap test within preceding three years to **93%**

## HOW TO KEEP YOUR CERVIX CANCER-FREE

AGE  
9-12

**HPV vaccine:**  
Age 9-12

AGE  
21

**Get your first Pap  
test at 21 and get  
one every 3 years**

AGE  
26

AGE  
30

AGE  
64

**Get a Pap test every 3  
years, or simultaneous Pap  
and HPV test every 5 years**

## Alaska Summer Research Academy

The Alaska Summer Research Academy (ASRA) offers engaging and in-depth experiences in science and engineering throughout the year. During the summer of 2019, ASRA will offer a 2-week summer academy from July 8 - July 19. There will be separate offerings for middle school students and high school students.

*Note, this is a day-only academy (no housing will be provided).*

**Applications will open on Friday February 1, 2019.**

**Apply online at <https://www.uaf.edu/asra/index.xml>**

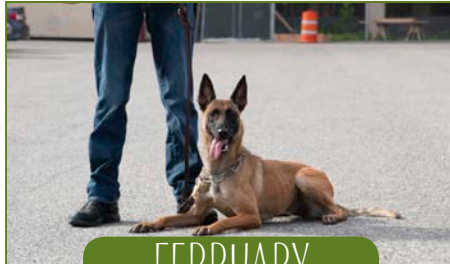


# A YEAR IN REVIEW



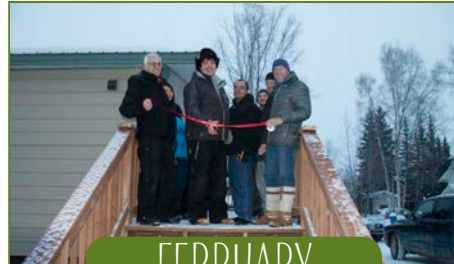
## JANUARY

TCC announced the opening of the Patient Travel program.



## FEBRUARY

TCC partnered with Kelly Field's initiative Interior Villages Against Meth.



## FEBRUARY

Tanana Tribe, TCC, and Cold Climate Housing Research Center (CCHR) held a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the successful partnership building two duplexes in Tanana.



## MARCH

The Executive Board approves \$1.5 million distribution of Federally Recognized for a total of \$1.5 million.



## JUNE

Alaska Native Health board hosted a meeting with Indian Health Services (IHS) and various Alaska Native leaders through the state to discuss healthcare issues important to Alaska.



## JUNE

Alaska's Attorney General Jahna Lindemuth confirmed that Village Public Safety Officers (VPSO) can now enforce tribal laws.



## JUNE

The Community Health Aide Program held a Ceremony celebrating six rural health care staff for completing all four levels of the Community Health Aide Program.



## JULY

Chief/Chairman TCC leaders tribal leaders community meeting a better understanding needs and community.



## AUGUST

TCC's annual Education Summit was held in August. The theme was "Native Language Revitalization in Action."



## SEPTEMBER

TCC was awarded the 2017 David G. Stone Employer of the Year award by Doug Tansy, with the Alaska Workforce Investment Board (AWIB).



## SEPTEMBER

TCC hosted the Department of Health and Human Services Secretary's Tribal Advisory Committee (STAC).



## OCTOBER

Gov. Bill Walker of Health and Social Services Valerie Davidson of Transportation Facilities, Rural Tribal Chiefs and Galena.



# WEAR IT ALASKA!



RCH

Executive Board  
\$100k Tribal  
to TCCs 37  
Recognized Tribes,  
\$3.7 million.



MARCH

The Community Health Aide Program held a Ceremony celebrating four rural health care staff for completing all four levels of the Community Health Aide Program.



MAY

Since partnering with Interior Villages Against Meth, we worked with the Alaska State Troopers to purchase a Belgian Malinois dual purpose dog, named Naja.



MAY

Arctic Village held their first Government-to-Government Consultation that focused on the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and the impacts that opening it up to oil and gas production will have.



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ship met with  
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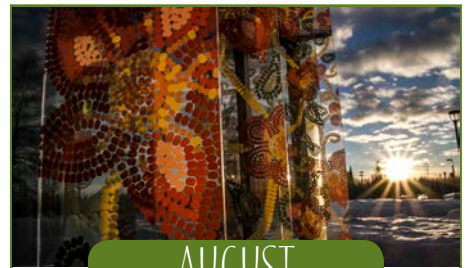
JULY

Chief/Chairman and others visited Shageluk, Grayling, Anvik, Holy Cross, and McGrath to hear from tribal members.



AUGUST

The community of Circle celebrated the opening of the new Alice Carroll Health Center.



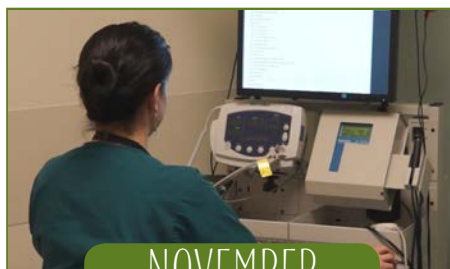
AUGUST

TCC Behavioral Health earns Three-Year CARF Accreditation for the second time.



BER

, Commissioner  
Social Services,  
on, and Director  
ation & Public  
an Anderson,  
and TCC staff to  
ena.



NOVEMBER

The Community Health Aide Program celebrates 50 years!



DECEMBER

Director of the Office of Head Start in Washington, D.C. visited Hughes and Tanana.



DECEMBER

The Executive Board approves \$50k Tribal distribution for a total of \$1.85 million and the annual fund balance distribution of \$28,673 to TCCs 37 Federally Recognized Tribes

## \$100K Tribal Distribution Report

In January 2018, the Executive Board authorized a distribution of \$100,000 to TCC's 37 Federally Recognized Tribes for a total of \$3.7 million. Tribes had the opportunity to apply for the \$100,000 to utilize for improvement projects within their community to strengthen tribal operations. Tribes had to report back to TCC confirming how the funds were used along with the number of jobs created, debts paid down, projects completed, etc.

The Council will highlight one village each month and how they used their \$100,000.

### *Hughes*

Due to housing shortage, Hughes created a self-help for housing. Materials for shell houses are provided, logs not included.

**Amount of the funds spent:** \$91,183.50

**Number of people employed:** 7

**Number of tribal members assisted:** 3 families

Suicide Prevention is up to everyone in our community



## COMMUNITY SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING

### *Question, Persuade, Refer*

Learn from a certified prevention trainer, using the "Question, Persuade, Refer" method, to recognize a crisis, and warning that someone may be contemplating suicide.

QPR is a gatekeeper training intervention that teaches lay and professional gatekeepers to recognize and respond positively to someone exhibiting suicide warning signs and behaviors. Specifically this is an approach that intends to teach community members to recognize early warning signs, questions their meaning to determine suicide intent or desire, preside the person to accept or seek help, and refer the person to appropriate resources and services. This training lasts 1-2 hours, and is available to all community members age 18 and older.

For more information and resources on suicide prevention please contact:

**TCC Wellness Project Staff**

(907) 452-8251 or [prevention@tananachiefs.org](mailto:prevention@tananachiefs.org)





# Tribal Unity Gathering *Continued*



# Tribal Unity Gathering *Resolutions*

During the Tribal Unity Gathering on November 26th, tribal leaders passed thirteen resolutions and referred one resolution to the Executive Committee. Passed resolutions are used to guide advocacy efforts throughout the year.

2018-01	RECOGNIZE SPEAKER OF THE ALASKA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, BRYCE EDGMON	Passed
2018-02	RECOGNIZE SENATOR JOHN COGHILL	Passed
2018-03	RECOGNIZE REPRESENTATIVE SCOTT KAWASAKI	Passed
2018-04	RECOGNIZE CONGRESSMAN DON YOUNG'S INCLUSION OF SUBSISTENCE INTERESTS IN THE MAGNUSON STEVENS REAUTHORIZATION	Passed
2018-05	RECOGNIZE SENATOR DAN SULLIVAN'S SUPPORT OF THE ALASKA NATIVE VETERANS LAND ALLOTMENT EQUITY ACT	Passed
2018-06	RECOGNIZE SENATOR LISA MURKOWSKI'S WORK IN ALASKA NATIVE TRIBAL COURTS	Passed
2018-07	ENHANCE PUBLIC SAFETY IN ALASKA NATIVE VILLAGES	Passed
2018-08	OPPOSING EFFORTS TO REMOVE THE SECRETARY'S LEGAL AUTHORITY TO TAKE LAND INTO TRUST IN ALASKA	Passed
2018-09	MAINTAIN THE FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE FISHING PROTECTIONS IN RURAL ALASKA	Passed
2018-10	FUND THE SMALL AND NEEDY TRIBES	Passed
2018-11	INCREASE HOUSING IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FUNDING	Passed
2018-12	TRIBALTRANSPORTATION PROGRAM	Referred
2018-13	RESTORE BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION FOR ALASKA	Passed
2018-14	SUPPORTING TRIBES TO APPOINT THEIR REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE TO TIBC	Passed

## Why is smoking bad?

Nicotine is a vasoconstrictor—reduces blood circulation. Carbon Monoxide displaces oxygen in blood. Impairs oxygen release from hemoglobin to tissue. It increased CVD events & death by reduced oxygen-carrying capacity of blood and blood vessel disease.

**Smoking and Diabetes:** Smoking with Diabetes forces the pancreas to work harder to produce insulin. Tobacco decreases healthy cholesterol (HDL).

*Meet Bill Busse*, former Tips from Former Smokers ad participant passed away earlier this month. He had already endured kidney failure, \*blindness in one eye\* and a leg amputation because of poor circulation. These were all complications from his diabetes made much worse by his cigarette smoking.

Bill's Videos: <http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/campaign/tips/resources/videos/bill-videos.html>

**Smoking and your teeth:** Tobacco use leads to 41,000 cases of oral cancers—8,000 deaths/year, in USA. Halitosis, enamel erosion, gingival recession, tooth loss, gingivitis, leukoplakia, and erythroplakia.

*Meet Felicity* - developed gum disease—a danger for all smokers—and lost all her teeth by age 50. In one surgery, 23 teeth were removed. It took a month for her mouth to heal. This means she can only eat soft foods now.

Felicity grew up in New York and started smoking at age 12. She smoked for 33 years but didn't realize that cigarettes added to her dental problems. In her 30s and 40s, she already had bleeding gums and loose teeth. By the time Felicity quit smoking, it was too late to save her teeth.

Felicity's Video's: <http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/campaign/tips/resources/videos/felicity-videos.html>

[cdc.gov/tobacco/campaign/tips/resources/videos/felicity-videos.html](http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/campaign/tips/resources/videos/felicity-videos.html)

**Smoking and your eyes:** See above \*Bill Busse\*.

**Smoking and Cancer:** Nicotine promotes tumor growth in small cell lung cancer, colon cancer, and gastric cancer. Nicotine induces resistance to chemotherapy. 85-90% of nicotine is metabolized in the liver.

*Meet Rose* - Rose developed lung cancer from smoking cigarettes. She's had chemotherapy, surgery, radiation, and a surprisingly painful tube in her chest. Doctors were able to remove the part of Rose's lung with cancer, but problems kept her in the hospital for a month with a chest tube. Finally, the chest tube came out—with a sharp, jabbing pain. Rose started smoking at age 13, leading up to smoking two packs a day. The addiction nearly caused her to lose a foot because of clogged blood vessels. Then caused lung cancer when she was 58 years old. Rose needed a second surgery after cancer spread to her brain.

Rose's Videos: <http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/campaign/tips/resources/videos/rose-videos.html>

**Smoking and Pregnancy:** 86% of SIDS deaths are linked to smoking mothers. CO causes fetal hypoxia, retards fetal growth, reduces fetal brain weight. Concentration of nicotine in breast milk is 2.5x higher than mother's serum. Nicotine is worse than cocaine because of permanent cell loss and effect is permanent, instead of short-lived. Fetus gets more nicotine than mother, through cord blood.

*Meet Amanda* - Amanda started smoking in fifth grade, and by age 13, she smoked every day. While in college, newly engaged—and still smoking a pack a day—Amanda learned she was pregnant. She soon

By Frank Yaska  
Tobacco Prevention Policy Specialist

learned that smoking only made things worse. Her baby was born 2 months early, which is a danger for all pregnant women who smoke. The tiny baby girl spent weeks in a hospital incubator. "I couldn't hold her much in those first weeks. It's time I'll never get back. Smoking took that from me."

Amanda's Videos: <http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/campaign/tips/resources/videos/amanda-videos.html>

**Smoking when you're not:** 2HS is directly linked to disease and premature deaths in nonsmokers. This leads to SIDS, lung and ear problems, and asthma to children, adults, and even pets.

*Meet Nathan* - Nathan, a Native American and member of the Oglala Sioux tribe, never smoked cigarettes. For 11 years, he worked at a casino that allowed smoking. Secondhand smoke contains dangerous chemicals. The exposure to secondhand smoke caused him to develop allergies and serious infections that triggered asthma attacks, eventually causing permanent lung damage called bronchiectasis. "The casino was filled with smoke from so many people smoking," he said. Breathing in other people's smoke on a daily basis made his health so bad that he had to leave that job.

Nathan used to be active and athletic. He served in the Marines. He loved to participate in tribal dances. After getting sick, dancing just a few steps wore him out. Nathan hoped that sharing his story would help others understand how dangerous exposure to secondhand smoke really is. Nathan's lung damage led to his death on October 17, 2013. He was 54.

Nathan's Video's: <http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/campaign/tips/resources/videos/nathan-videos.html>

## CORRECTIONS IN 2019 TCC CALENDAR

January 2019

TCC will be CLOSED **January 21st** for Martin Luther King Jr Day.

December 2019

TCC will be CLOSED **December 24th and 25th** for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

December 31st is on Tuesday.





# Special Full Board of Directors Meeting

As you know, on November 15th TCC hosted a Special Full Board of Directors Meeting, which was closed to the public. During this meeting, our tribal leaders were presented with several important decisions to make. Here are some of the decisions that were made that day.

**Motion 1**, Baldrige Framework, Ch'eghwtsen', Guiding Principle  
TCC has heard the concerns and directives from board members and patients, identifying the need to progressively improve and consistently provide services in a compassionate and patient centered way throughout the entire region.

In an effort to move forward with this directive, TCC's Full Board of Directors has approved 3 proposals;

1. Moving Forward with the Baldrige Framework such

will guide the journey to further improve services across the many services and locations of our organization.

2. Embrace the spirit of Ch'eghwtsen' (the True Love in Lower Tanana) throughout the organization

3. Adopt the guiding principle "Accessible and trusted world-class services provided with unconditional love, compassion, dignity and respect."

More information on this will be made to employees soon.

**Motion 2**, Re-affirm Previous Full Board Resolution A motion was passed by the Full Board of Directors, to reaffirm and implement a plan to take action on a previous Full Board resolution directive that will be disclosed once the need for confidentiality has ended.

**Motion 3**, Upper Tanana Multipurpose Facility and Chief Andrew Isaac Health Clinic Expansion The Full Board authorized TCC to obtain a bond and construct 1) the Upper Tanana Region multipurpose clinic facility in Tok, and 2) the Chief Andrew Isaac Health clinic expansion in Fairbanks.

**Motion 4**, Confidential Transactions

A motion was passed directing confidential transactions that will be disclosed once market competition ends.

**Motion 5**, ANILCA Amendment  
Lastly, the Full Board unanimously passed a motion to respectfully request Congress, to immediately enact an appropriate amendment to ANILCA that removes any possible doubt as to the legal basis for the Katie John subsistence fishing rule.

## Thank you Governor Bill Walker!





# Election Criteria: 2019 TCC Full Board of Directors Meeting

## SUBREGIONAL ADVISORY BOARD ELECTIONS

### TCC Executive Board of Directors

#### Subregional Positions:

Yukon Flats Subregion ..... 3 Year Term 2019-2022  
Currently Nancy James, Fort Yukon

Yukon Tanana Subregion ..... 3 Year Term 2019-2022  
Currently Frank Thompson, Evansville

#### 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

Upper Tanana Subregion.....3 year term (2019-2022)  
Currently Nathaniel Gene, Tetlin

Upper Kuskokwim Subregion .....3 year term (2019-2022)  
Currently Tamara Roberts, Nikolai

### TCC Education Council

Upper Kuskokwim Subregion.....3 year term (2019-2022)  
Currently VACANT

Upper Tanana Subregion.....3 year term (2019-2022)  
Currently Daisy Northway, Tok

### Interior Athabaskan Tribal College Board of Trustees

Yukon Tanana Subregion.....3 year term (2019-2022)  
Currently Vera Weiser, Minto

Yukon Flats Subregion.....3 year term 2019-2022)  
Currently Donna Thomas, Fort Yukon

## FULL BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTIONS

### AFN Village Representative

1 Seat .....One year term (2019-2020)  
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 C.....Three year term (2019-2022)  
Currently Speedy Sam, Huslia

Seat D.....Three year term (2019-2022)  
Currently Pat McCarty, Ruby

\* 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 DIRECTIONS ELECTIONS

### Officer Positions

TCC Vice President .....3 year term (2019-2022)  
Currently Julie Roberts-Hyslop, Tanana

### 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 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 8 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-January 31, 2019 and 5:00 PM-March 1, 2019. We recommend that you confirm receipt of your letter of intent with the TCC Executive Secretary prior to March 1st. 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 1, 2019 to:

Tanana Chiefs Conference  
ATTN: Norma Dahl, Executive Secretary  
122 First Avenue, Suite 600  
Fairbanks, AK 99701

1-800-478-6822 ext.3118 FAX # (907) 459-3884

2019 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 2019 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.

### Important Dates for the 2019 TCC Elections

#### Submit between now and February 8th:

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.

#### January 31st at 8:00am:

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

#### March 1st 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 14th:

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 8th 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 14, 2019 election. This process was mandated in the 2014 Presidential Election as well.

## 2019 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 2019 Full Board of Director's roll call.

DATE (Must be between 8 a.m. Jan. 31, 2019 and 5 p.m. March 1, 2019).

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

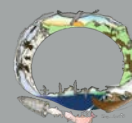
Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act, 25 USC sec. 3207 provides that each tribal organization that receives funds under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act shall not employ individuals that have committed certain crimes when the position involves regular or 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 8, 2019 to allow for processing before the election. Only those candidates that pass the background check will be official candidates for the 2019 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 1, 2019.

## LETTER OF INTENT

Tanana Chiefs Conference  
ATTN: Norma Dahl, Executive Secretary  
122 First Ave, Suite 600  
Fairbanks, AK 99701 | Fax (907) 459-3884



Tanana  
Chiefs  
Confere

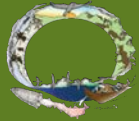
# THE COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

122 First Avenue, Suite 600  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

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Fax: (907) 459-3884  
communications\_dept@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.



Tanana  
Chiefs  
Conference

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## JOIN THE TCC FAMILY

[WWW.TANANACHIEFS.ORG](http://WWW.TANANACHIEFS.ORG)

### Village Vacancies

- Behavioral Health Aide (Chalkyitsik, Rampart)
- Community Health Aide/Practitioner (Circle)

### Fairbanks Vacancies

- Behavioral Health Assessment Clinician
- Behavioral Health Clinician
- Behavioral Health Clinician-Tok
- Clinical Supervisor: Outpatient Services
- Community Health Practitioner-CHAP Instructor
- Healthy Transitions Project Director
- Itinerant Behavioral Health Clinician
- Paul Williams House Residential Care Coordinator
- Physician - Primary Care
- Recruiter
- RN Case Manager

### Region- Wide Vacancies

- Itinerant Clinician - SOC
- Squad Boss
- Wild Land Firefighter Type II Crew Member

JOB LISTED WERE OPEN AS OF December 7th, 2018

## UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

TCC Closed  
January 1st, 2019 • New Year's Day

TCC Closed  
January 21st, 2019 • Martin Luther King Day

TCC Closed  
February 19th, 2019 • President's Day

## New to TCC Fitness Center

**POUND<sup>®</sup>**

ROCKOUT. WORKOUT.

Schedule coming soon!

