

HUDOTL'EEKKAAKK'E COMMUNITY PLAN 2019



PREPARED BY TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE COMMUNITY
PLANNING PROGRAM IN COOPERATION WITH THE HUGHES
VILLAGE COUNCIL, CITY COUNCIL AND THE COMMUNITY
MEMBERS OF HUGHES.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2019 the Hughes Village Council partnered with Tanana Chiefs Conference to update the expired 2014 Hughes Community Plan. The Hughes community meeting took place December 10th where the Tribal Council and community members identified a vision statement, values, and prioritized goals. The final Hughes Community Plan was adopted by the Hughes Village Council on April 13, 2020 as an official living document.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The 2019 Hughes Community Plan was a joint effort between the Hughes Village Council, Tanana Chiefs Conference, and many community members who participated in the community meeting, feedback survey and answered many questions when called upon.

A special acknowledgment to Kylee Beatus, the Community Planning Specialist who played a key role in researching, compiling data, preparing and updating the final community planning document.

Lastly, thank you to the Tribal Administrator and Tribal Council staff, Chief Wilmer Beetus, Nicholas Cleveland and Kyle Beetus; Tanana Chiefs Conference, Planning and Development staff, LaVerne Huntington, Jolene Malamute, and April Mowery; City Administrator, Thelma Nicholia.

HUGHES VILLAGE COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Hughes Village Council
Hudot'eeekkaakk'e Tribe
P.O. Box 45029
Hughes, AK 99745

Resolution NO. 20-05

Resolution for Adopting the Community Plan

Whereas, this community plan is important to the future growth and development of the Community of Hughes; and,

Whereas, this plan was created through a public process which captured the values and goals of our community; and,

Whereas, this plan is a tool that helps us manage change in our community; and,

Whereas, this plan is intended to coordinate future community development and service delivery; and,

Whereas, this plan was created for public use and will be made publicly available; and,

Whereas, we ask all public, private, and non-profit entities serving our community to recognize and use this plan; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the parties of this resolution agree to work together to pursue the values, goals, and vision expressed in the plan.

Hughes Village Council Certification

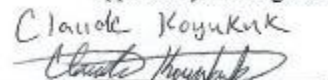
We hereby certify that this resolution was duly passed and approved ____ in favor, ____ opposed by the Hughes Village Council on ____ of April, 2020.



First Chief


Secretary

Hughes City Council Certification

We hereby certify that this resolution was duly passed and approved ____ in favor, ____ opposed by the Hughes City Council on ____ of April, 2020.


Vice-Mayor


Secretary

Phone (907) 889-2239

Fax (907) 889-2252

COMMUNITY VISION

We are a community who value all community members, especially our children and elders. Hughes is in a state of wellbeing where people are living healthy, subsistence lifestyles and the native language and culture are a part of everyday life. We approach our work with openness and the intention to build a community that is designed by its members to be a safe and joyful place. We are continuously seeking a higher quality of life and growth within and around the community.

COMMUNITY VALUES



Figure 1 Values from Community Members

COMMUNITY PLANNING UPDATE

In December 2019, the Hughes Village Council, the Hughes City Council, and the Tanana Chiefs Conference, Planning and Development Program staff jointly organized a community planning meeting.

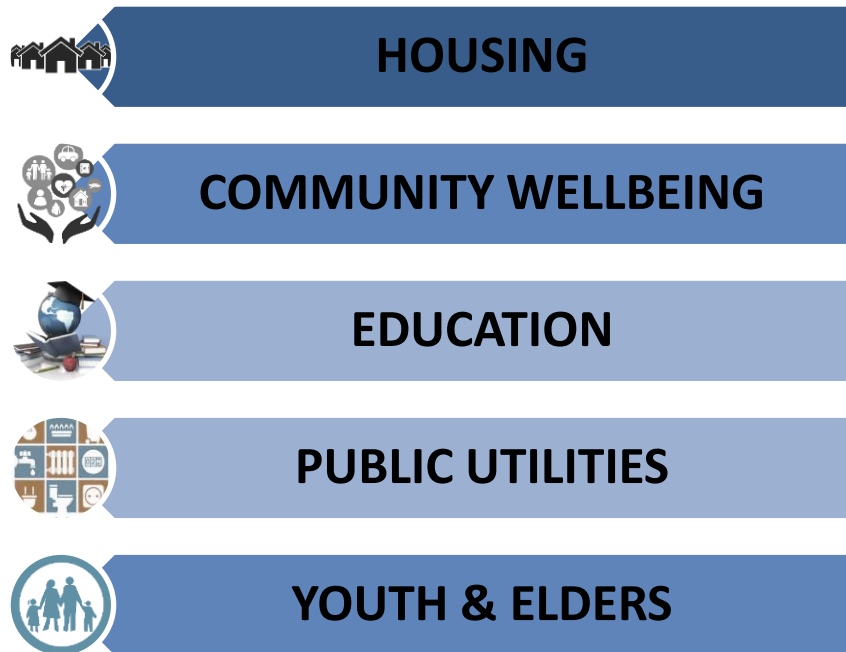
During the community planning meeting the participants updated a vision statement and identified important values that would guide them through the rest of the process. Throughout the course of the planning meeting, participants talked about what values and characteristics of their community are important to them, as well as what efforts are needed to assist Hughes into the healthy, safe, and productive community envisioned.



Figure 2 Community Meeting Notice

Approximately forty community members were present and participated in the meeting. The tribal, city and school representatives and individuals gave significant input in prioritizing goals, and brainstorming objectives, and action items for the next five years. Additionally, a survey was administered to the community, giving members an opportunity to contribute feedback.

GOALS SUMMARY



The top five goal categories, prioritized during the December community meeting.

COMMUNITY PLANNING MEETING PICTURES

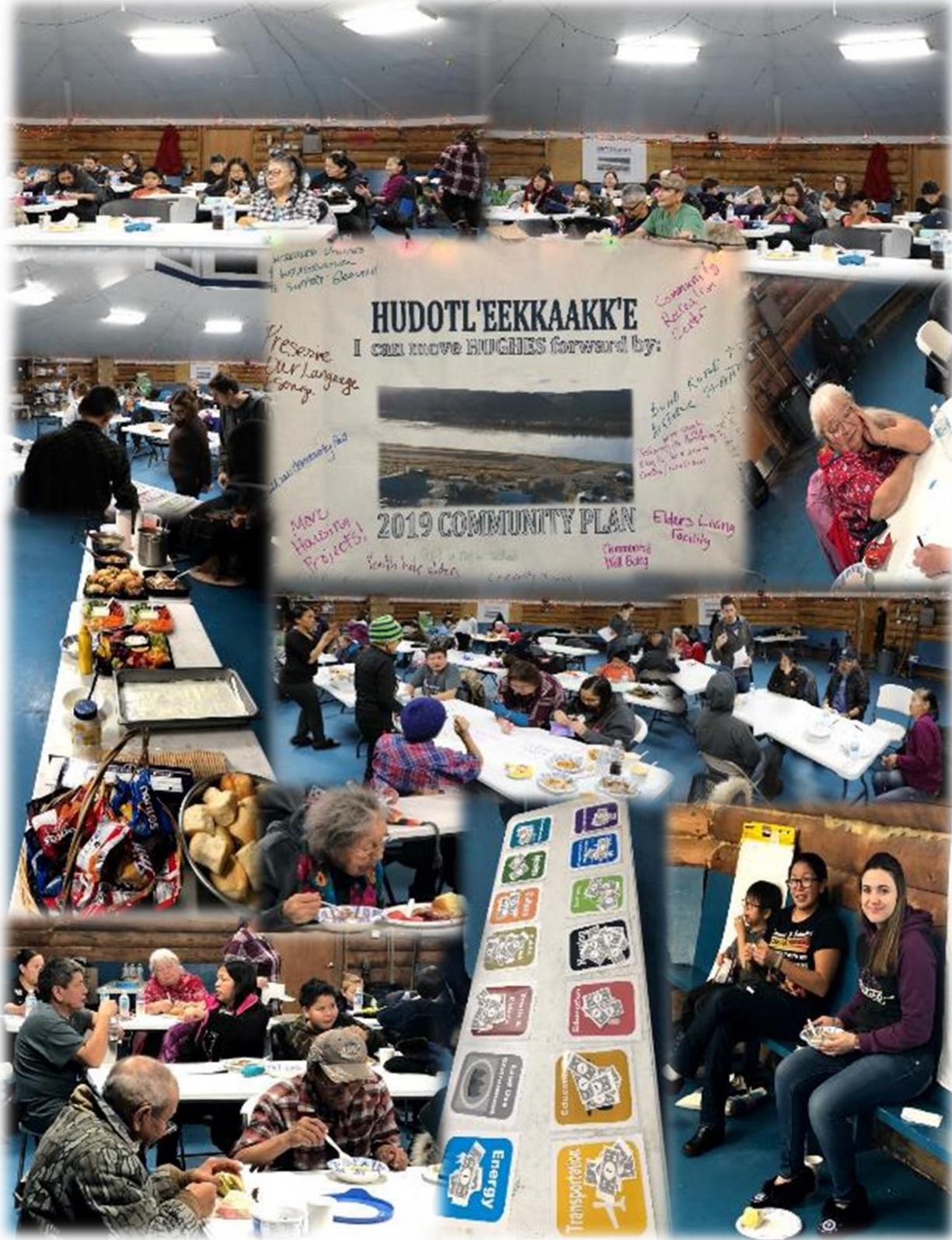


Figure 3 Community Meeting December 2019

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT TIMELINE

LIST OF PROJECTS COMPLETED 2013 - 2019

- **2014** - Construction of a new HUD home.
- **2015** - 40,000-gallon water tank built.
- **2015** - Biomass to heat the city and washeteria building was completed.
- **2016** - Construction of two new Interior Regional Housing Authority homes.
- **2016** - City Office building raised with handicap ramp and bigger deck.
- **2017** - Tribal office building remodel.
- **2017** - Three phase conversion, electrical distribution system.
- **2018** - Solar panel field constructed.
- **2018** - Community shop moved and renovated.
- **2019** - Logs for 3 new homes milled and ready; housing materials arrived by spring barge.
- **2019** - Additional foundation for an 80,000 gallon capacity bulk fuel storage.

SUMMARY OF PROJECTS COMPLETED 2010 - 2013

Hughes Village Council completed a full community plan review. This review included a community meeting held in April 2013 where Hughes residents had a chance to share what they were glad to have seen happen the past three years, and what they would like to see happen in the next five years. By far, the installation of city water and sewer to the majority of homes was highlighted as the most significant change felt over the past three years.

1. In conjunction with appropriate agencies and funders, the community starts a Head Start program and investigates the potential of housing it at the school as part of a preschool program.

Status: Since the updates in 2010, Hughes created the Head Start Program.

2. Hook up the health clinic to water plant.

Status: This has been completed since the 2010 update.

3. Finish construction of Moose Loop for new housing construction.

Status: Complete; new roads were constructed and thirteen gravel pads for single-family homes.

4. When new landfill is completed and operational, old dump is closed according to Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation regulations.

Status: Complete; old landfill has been completely closed out.

5. Residential use of burn barrels is discontinued.
 - a. Community education program is designed and launched on the hazards of residential burn barrel use.
 - b. Ordinances banning residential burning are drafted and adopted by Hughes Village and City Council's

Status: Complete; burn barrels are no longer in use and waste is properly disposed of.

6. Assist residents living in older homes without plumbing to dig new, sanitary outhouse holes that do not impact groundwater tables.

Status: Obsolete with the sanitation upgrades, only five homes remain to receive water and sewer, which are slated to receive scattered site water and sewer in 2014.

7. Investigate potential of developing a tribal court to hear child custody and other related cases, potentially joining with other neighboring villages to establish one.

Status: Complete; Hughes hears tribal court custody cases and utilizes tribal court judges from surrounding villages.

8. With technical assistance from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) and other organizations and agencies, as needed - submit a tribal grant application to the US Environmental Protection Agency for community inventory and subsequent risk assessment for hazardous waste and other pollutants, such as underground leakage, fuel storage tanks, or buried drums.

Status: Through EPA funding, four contaminated sites were identified throughout the community of Hughes, two of which have since been cleaned up. Two remaining contaminated sites need to be cleaned up.

PAST PROJECTS 2006 - 2010

- **2006** - Construction of new teacher housing.
- **2006** - VHF radios for residents.
- **2009** - Construction of a new clinic building.
 - Construction of an outdoor basketball court.
 - Permanent Spirit Camp.
 - Sewing, arts, and crafts being held regularly.
- **2010** - New landfill.

COMMUNITY PROFILE

HISTORY & CULTURE

The Koyukon Athabascan name for Hughes is Hudotl'eekkaakk'e which means “mouth of the Hut'odleetna” (mountain creek). Traditional subsistence lifestyles are highly valued by Hughes residents who work diligently to preserve their unique cultural heritage. Traditional ways of life continue – potlatches and sled dog races attract visitors from surrounding villages.



Figure 4 Indian Camp near Hughes - UAF Archives

The Koyukon Athabascan village of Hughes was founded in its permanent location about 100 years ago after Alfred Isaac discovered gold nearby resulting in the name Indian Mountain and Indian River (Johnny Oldman School, n.d.). It is built upon a low-lying gravel bar about one mile deep by three miles long on the east bank of the Koyukuk River. Situated in a beautiful river valley in an area of forests and low mountains. Hughes is a place that is rich in the natural resources of clean water, salmon, whitefish, moose, waterfowl and other small game animals and furbearers. The country has provided well for the Koyukon Athabascan people for many, many centuries, and the people of Hughes closely follow their traditions of respect for the animals and land that provide sustenance for them.

Although the modern Native village was not settled until the early 1900's when the place was used as a boat landing by non-native prospectors looking for gold, it was used for centuries as a gathering and trading place by Koyukon Athabascan's and Kobuk, Selawik, and Nunamiut Inupiat from the northern regions. Hughes was used as a supply port for the Indian River gold mines. When mining activity declined in 1915, the natives stayed at the location. A post office was later established in 1942 and a school was started in Johnny Oldman's home in 1952. Additional infrastructure was built over the following years – an airstrip in the 1950s, a school in 1956, a clinic in 1968 and local roads in 1974.

Hughes tribal members are most closely related to the Alatna, Allakaket and Huslia tribes, although there are many tribal members with ties to other Alaska Native tribes in Alaska and other American Indian Groups. These close relationships create a web of support and community throughout Interior Alaska that stretches up and down the major rivers – the Yukon, Koyukuk and Tanana – and overcomes the sense of physical separation that arises from the large geographic distances that separate villages.

LOCATION

Hughes is located along the east bank of the Koyukuk River next to a bluff about 210 air miles northwest of Fairbanks, 57 river miles southeast of Allakaket, 65 air miles northeast of Huslia and approximately 35 air miles south of the Arctic Circle. Like most interior Alaska villages there is no road access to the village, so the principle method of transportation to and from the village is by air taxi. When the river is ice-free, inter-village travel is accessible by boat. In the winter, trails link Hughes with the neighboring villages of Alatna, Allakaket, Evansville, and Huslia.



Figure 6 Aerial View Courtesy of Thelma Nicholia 2012



Figure 6 Aerial View Summer Time

CLIMATE

The climate is typical for a sub-arctic, continental location. Winters are very cold with an average of 42.4 inches of snowfall per year (Hughes, Alaska Climate, n.d.). Average winter temperatures are -10 to -20°F with extended periods of -40°F and colder; this is common in the coldest months of January and February. Freeze-up of the river begins in late September, with sufficient ice thickness by early November to allow river travel by snow machine and dog team. Spring break-up of the river usually occurs by mid-May and is ice-free for nearly four months. Average rainfall is 11.6 inches. Summers are fairly hot, with an average temperature of 70°F. Daytime highs in the 80's and low 90's is not uncommon. This hot weather combined with the long days of summer with nearly 23 hours of daylight provides excellent conditions for growing cool weather crops.

Local efforts, both presently by residents in the community garden, and in the past, by missionaries and teachers, produce good yield of cabbages, potatoes, lettuce, and other vegetables to augment the very expensive fruits and vegetables brought in by air.



Figure 7 Elder Henry Beatus' Home 1/23/2018

ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS

Traditionally nomadic, the village of Hughes settled in its present location on the Koyukuk River about one hundred years ago. Originally founded as a supply port for the inland Indian River goldfields, local Koyukon Athabascans stayed on at the site after mining activity in the area ceased. While the wide gravel bar served well as a riverboat landing, it was a poor location for permanent habitation, since it frequently floods as a result of heavy rains or ice jams from spring breakup. In late August, 1994, a major flood destroyed 22 of the 29 occupied homes in Hughes, and residents had to be airlifted to safety. In the spring of 2006, a downstream ice jam caused

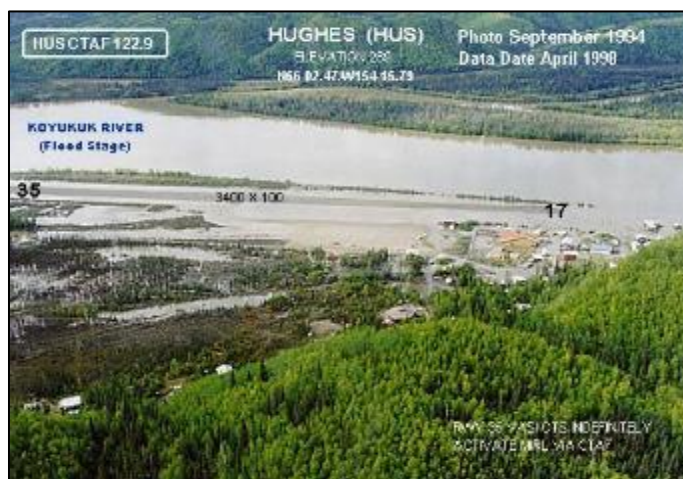


Figure 8 Flood 1994 - Most of Town Underwater

severe flooding in most of Hughes. Although residents did not have to be evacuated this time, the floodwaters damaged the school, several homes, the store, the air strip, and caused diesel fuel and sewage spills. Following the flooding caused by the 2006 ice jam the community placed

a high priority on relocating the community on the bluffs behind the current site. The threat of frequent flooding was reconfirmed during the spring break up of 2013. While the homes and community facilities that have been built away from the river in recent years were not impacted, older homes located in close proximity to the river were flooded. About a foot of water also flooded the school building during the spring of 2013 flood.

The prospective site for relocation was surveyed and assessments for construction suitability was completed. There were also cost estimates for road construction to the new site. The cost of new road construction was infinitively high, this combined with findings of prevalent permafrost persuaded City, Tribe and community members to discontinue the relocation project of Hughes to bluffs located behind the current town site. Rather than relocating the village on the bluffs behind the current village site, the Tribal and City councils have instituted a plan to construct all new housing that is further away from the river and on higher ground. All new buildings are being constructed on gravel pads that will raise them even further from the possible threat of flooding. Flooding still remains a concern. The Tribal Council and City authorize public interest announcements in the spring reminding residents to shut off fuel valves and to move personal belongings to higher ground during the spring break up of the Koyukuk River.



Figure 9 Hughes Waterfront View, Courtesy of Koyukuk River Tribal Tours

CENSUS REGION

Hughes is located in the Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area that has a population estimate of 5,327 as of July 1st, 2018 encompassing 145,504.79 square miles of land. (U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts: Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area, Alaska, n.d.)

POPULATION

According to the State of Alaska Division of Community and Regional Affairs (DCRA) community database and Census population counts, the population of Hughes from 1920-2019 is featured in Figure 9. From 1880-1910 and 1930 there was no count according to the Census population count. The 2019 population count was completed by Hughes Community Planning Specialist.

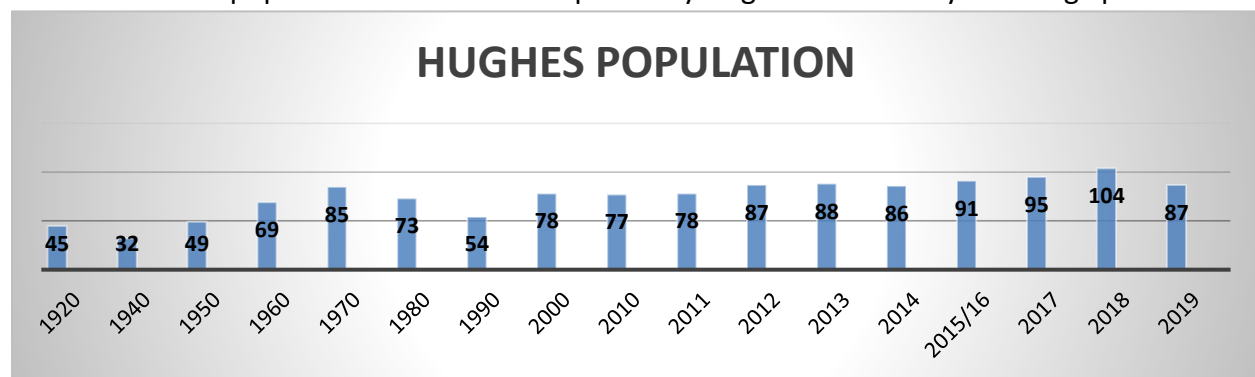


Figure 10 Hughes Population over the Years

POPULATION BY RACE IN 2019

RACE	PERCENT OF POPULATION
American Indian or AK Native	93.11%
Asian	0%
Black or African American	0%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0%
White	6.89%
Other Race	0%
Two or More Races	0%

POPULATION BY GENDER IN 2019

GENDER	PERCENT OF POPULATION
Male	52.87%
Female	47.12%

LAND STATUS AND OWNERSHIP

The land directly around Hughes is K'oyit'ots'ina Ltd. owned, the ANCSA village corporation. There are 25-square mile lots of land scattered around Hughes that are Doyon Ltd. owned, the ANCSA regional corporation. BLM and the State of Alaska land covers the rest of the area.

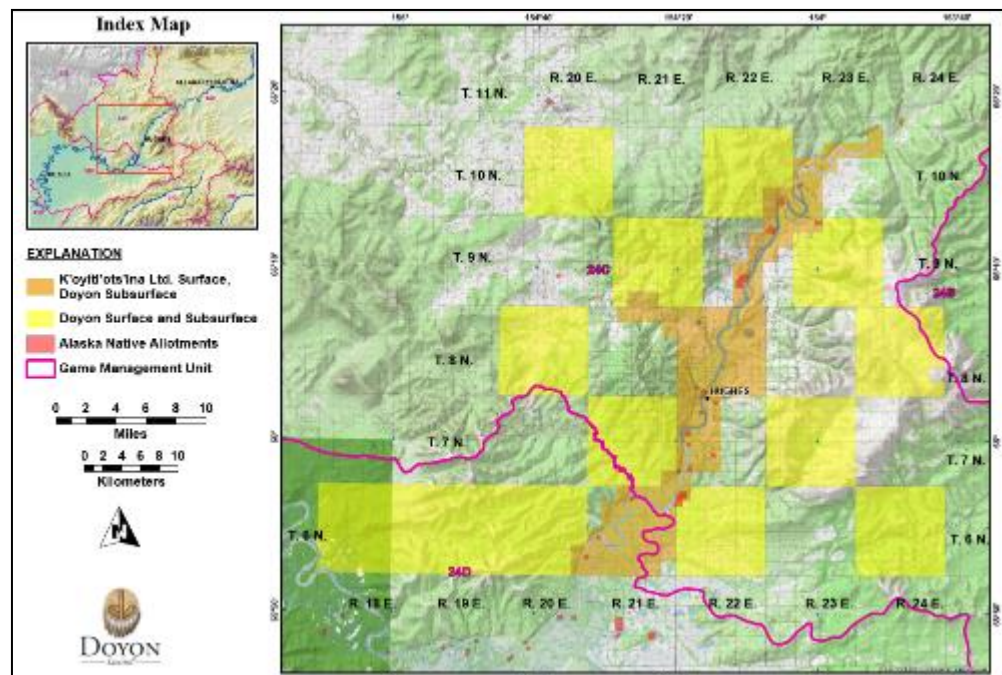


Figure 11 Land Ownership - Doyon Limited

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Having a safe, clean environment is important to residents in Hughes. Surface water was tested in 2006-2007 in four sites around Hughes including the old tank farm site for the school, the footprint from the former generator building, the abandoned generator building, and the former fuel dispenser.

Two sites were cleaned up, including the foot-print of the former generator building and the abandoned generator site in 2012. The remediation of the two other tested sites still needs to be completed. The Hughes Indian Environment General Assistance Program (IGAP) Coordinator is currently seeking funding from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for the site cleanup of two additional sites.

Regular testing of the main water well is completed by the Tanana Chiefs Conference Office of Environmental Health (OEH).

GOVERNANCE & PUBLIC SAFETY

The Hughes Village Council and Hughes City Council meet regularly and collaborate on many plans and projects. Several community members are on both councils. The City Office and Tribal Office are right next to each other with the Post Office located in the downstairs of the City Office. This close collaboration has allowed the community to make tremendous progress towards community priorities. Village and City Council cooperation is also aided by regularly seeking input from community members on priorities and keeping the community informed through regular community gatherings and events, radio announcements, community calendars, and the Hughes Newsletter that is completed every other month.

HUGHES VILLAGE COUNCIL

Hughes Village is a federally recognized tribe. The affairs of the village are governed by the Hughes Village Council, which meets monthly. The Hughes Village Council is composed of a first chief, second chief, secretary and four additional council members. Council member elections are held the first Tuesday of October every year; term lengths are three years, with staggered terms. First Chief, Second Chief and Secretary are elected annually by the council members. Only tribal members who have lived in Hughes for six months prior to elections may vote in the council elections. The Village Council employs up to seven staff, including an Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) specialist, an itinerant village health aide, and a tribal administrator. The latter two positions are dually supervised by the Village Council and Tanana Chiefs Conference.

Hughes has a tribal constitution and is in the process of updating its ordinances. The sale of alcohol is banned in the village; limited importation or possession is allowed. Updates to tribal codes and ordinances are a current priority. The village has a tribal court to hear child custody and other related cases. However, because of the small population, the tribal court calls on tribal court judges from the surrounding villages of Alatna, Allakaket, and Huslia if necessary.

HUGHES CITY COUNCIL

In 1973, Hughes was incorporated as a second-class city by the State of Alaska (DCRA Community Database, n.d.). The Hughes City Council has seven members, some of whom may also serve on the village council. City council seats are filled in the same manner as the traditional council; annual elections for open seats of a three-year duration, with city council officers elected annually by the council members. To vote in the city council elections, a person does not have to be tribally enrolled in Hughes, but they have to have been a resident in Hughes for at least 30 days prior to the election. The City of Hughes is the utility operator employing several utility operators and maintenance workers that operate and maintain the city generators, water plant, landfill and biomass.

In addition to the two councils, there is also a village corporation, which was formed under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA). K'oyitl'ots'ina, Limited (K-Corp for short) also includes the communities of Alatna, Allakaket and Huslia. Both the city and K-Corp own land in and around Hughes.

K-Corp, the City and the Tribe engage in various operations to keep the town functioning, with the tribe providing most of the local, social and public services to community members. Hughes is a member of Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC), a regional Native non-profit organization that is a consortium of 40 Interior Alaska Athabascan tribes.

PUBLIC SAFETY

A continued priority is having a Village Public Safety Officer (VPSO) that resides in the village. One of the barriers to achieving this priority is no place to house the officer should a position be filled in the community. Recently the Hughes Village Council has been awarded grant money to help achieve this goal.

The City operates a Code Red building in the case of a fire emergency. They also periodically offer firefighting trainings for community members who would be called on to respond in the case of an emergency.

The Tribal Council does own a home that was used as a safe house in the past. It is currently being occupied by a family due to the housing shortage in Hughes. In situations where a safe house is needed the TFYS volunteer will work with the individual to find a place where they feel safe.

Public safety precautions also include maintaining winter shelters and trail marking between Hughes and the communities of Huslia, Allakaket, and Alatna. There is a trail shelter between Hughes and Allakaket. With winter storms, subzero temperatures, and only a few hours of daylight trail markings and emergency shelters can make the difference in life or death situations that are unfortunately not entirely uncommon in remote corners of Alaska.

CORPORATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS

DOYON, LIMITED

Hughes is a part of Doyon Limited, the Alaska Native Regional Corporation for Interior Alaska, incorporated in 1972 under the 1971 Alaska Native Claim Settlement Act (ANCSA). From provisions under ANCSA, Doyon is entitled to receive approximately 12.5 million acres of land across Interior Alaska, making Doyon the largest private landowner in Alaska. Management of Doyon's land focuses on the protection of traditional shareholder uses and responsible economic development or natural resources. The corporation currently employs more than 800 persons worldwide and over 550 employees in Alaska.



DOYON VISION:

Leader in All We Do

DOYON MISSION:

To continually enhance our position as a financially strong Native corporation in order to promote the economic and social well-being of our shareholders and future shareholders, to strengthen our Native way of life, and to protect and enhance our land and resources.

DOYON VALUES:

- Financially responsible
- Socially and culturally responsible Alaska Native people
- Pride and respect in Native ownership
- Commitment to the long-term sustainability
- Honesty and integrity
- Commitment to excellence
- Respect for employees
- Commitment to employee safety and sound environmental practices

TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE

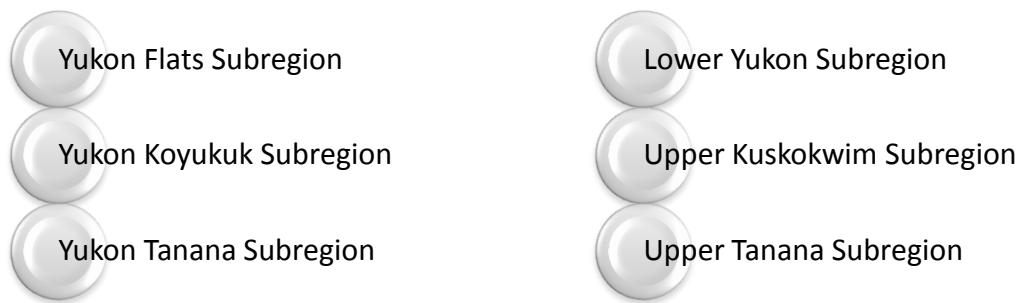
Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) was officially formed in 1962 and incorporated under Alaska State Law in 1971. TCC, organized as Dena' Nena' Henash or "Our Land Speaks;" is an Alaska Native nonprofit corporation, charged with advancing Tribal self-determination and enhancing regional native unity. TCC 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.



TCC provides services while balancing traditional Athabascan and Alaska Native values with modern demands. TCC's objectives are to provide health, social, and economic services to the native people and villages of interior Alaska, known as the TCC region, using federal, state, and local resources. TCC is comprised of three core departments: Administration, Health Services, and Tribal Client Services.

Within those core departments, TCC offer services in the following categories: Tribal Development; Self Governance; Housing; Public Safety Officer; Natural Resources; Client Development; Elder Nutrition; Employment and Training; Child Development; Child Protection; Head Start; Staff Development; Vocational Rehabilitation; Work Assistance Program and ASAP; Dental; Quality Management; Laboratory; Purchase & Referred Care; Registration; Environmental Health; Pharmacy; Medical; Family Medicine; Family Medicine RN; Specialty Clinics; Radiology; Home Care Provider; Behavioral Health; Old Minto Family Recovery Camp; Psychiatry; SBIRT; Paul Williams House; Community Health Aide Program; Patient Hostel; Eye Clinic; Housing First; Wellness and Prevention; and Willow House.

The Tanana Chiefs Conference region covers an area of 235,000 square miles in Interior Alaska, which is equal to about 37 percent of the entire state, and just slightly smaller than the state of Texas. Within the TCC region are six sub regions and within the six sub regions are 40 villages, for an approximate population of 6,700. TCC also serve clients in the Fairbanks area.



DENAKKANAAGA

Denakkanaaga, meaning “Our People Speak” in Denaakk’e (Koyukon Athabascan), is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization which serves as the voice for the Interior Native Elders in the Doyon and Tanana Chiefs Conference region. Denakkanaaga acts on behalf of the Elders, working to ensure their concerns are addressed regarding topics such as Native cultures, traditions, languages, subsistence and social issues. As the population, over the age of 65, grows within Interior Alaska, Denakkanaaga works with other organizations to maximize efforts to advocate for Native Elders.



Denakkanaaga Core Values/Commitments:

- United Voice: Keep Native voice stronger together for positive action
- Continue traditions, art, cultural values, language, and subsistence life
- Unity among Native organizations and people

Denakkanaaga Core Programs:

- Peer support for each other (elder to elder)
- Support/mentor the next generation
- Cultural programs
- Regional voice on issues/concerns

INTERIOR REGIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY

Interior Regional Housing Authority (IRHA), a non-profit organization, is the Tribally Designated Housing Entity (TDHE) for Hughes Tribal Council. Formed in 1974, IRHA implements the Indian Housing Plans to improve and expand affordable housing. By designating IRHA as a TDHE, Tribes choose to use IRHA for building the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (NAHASDA) construction projects. IRHA offers professional services such as, grant writing, environmental reviews, project managers, project site control, payroll, accounts payable, financial reporting, procurement, material inventory/shipment, homebuyer counseling and collections.



Mission Statement:

To provide housing opportunities and support self-sufficiency through housing.

Vision Statement:

Thriving families with quality affordable housing.

Values:

- Innovation
- Respect
- Honesty
- Accountability

K'OYITL'OTS'INA, LIMITED

K'oyitl'ots'ina, Limited is the village corporation that represents four distinct villages: Alatna, Allakaket, Hughes, and Huslia. The name K'oyitl'ots'ina was proposed by Esther McCarty and it means "Villages along the Koyukuk River" in Koyukon Athabascan. It is governed by a nine-member board of directors, elected from and by the corporation's approximate 800 shareholders. K'oyitl'ots'ina, Limited secures about 345,600 acres of land.



K'oyitl'ots'ina, Limited is made of the merging of four villages, each village is represented by two seats, and the ninth is at-large, and can be held by any shareholder. Two of the nine directors must have their principle place of residence in one of the respective villages of Alatna, Allakaket, Hughes and Huslia.

K'oyitl'ots'ina, Limited provides shareholders with the opportunity to apply for a scholarship twice annually.

K'OYITL'OTS'INA MISSION:

K'OYITL'OTS'INA, LIMITED is dedicated to maintaining Native Ownership of Land and improving the quality of life of Shareholders through maintaining a profitable corporation, providing services to all its villages, and promoting economic development of its villages.

K'OYITL'OTS'INA, LIMITED is dedicated to economic enterprise that will be of greatest benefit to all Shareholders through dividends and Shareholder employment.

K'OYITL'OTS'INA, LIMITED is dedicated to improving the standard of living of Shareholders through maximizing dividends generated by corporation earnings.

K'OYITL'OTS'INA, LIMITED is dedicated securing and protecting the assets of the corporation from erosion by inflation and the exploitation of corporation lands.

K'OYITL'OTS'INA, LIMITED is dedicated to improving the opportunities of Shareholders by the creation of jobs, promotion of education, care for the elderly and payment of dividends through the earnings of Corporation assets.

K'OYITL'OTS'INA, LIMITED is dedicated to the distribution of the assets received under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to the Shareholders. It will only retain such funds as are necessary to ensure the reasonable use of Corporation lands until they can be used for the economic benefit of all Shareholders.

Board of Director Members from Hughes:

- Seat F, Esther McCarty – Resides in Ruby
- Seat C, Lorraine David – Resides in Fairbanks

INFRASTRUCTURE

TRIBAL OFFICE

Originally the tribal office and city office employees both worked in the City building. The tribal office was built in 1993 and after the flood of 1994 work was done for it to be usable again. In



Figure 12 Tribal Office - Complete Renovation

2017, the tribal building underwent a complete interior renovation to include: two bathrooms, a full kitchen downstairs, an upstairs kitchenette, a bedroom for rent, four offices, a storage area, and plenty of room downstairs for more desks and meeting space. There are tentative plans to raise the building up onto a gravel pad to avoid damage in case of future flooding.

CITY OFFICE



Figure 13 Hughes City Building & Post Office

The City Office building was built in the late seventies or early eighties. This is where the Post Office is located. In 2016, there was a gravel pad constructed for the building, it was raised up on posts, with the addition of a handicap ramp and bigger porch.

POST OFFICE

The original Post office was established in 1942 in the James Store. Next, it was moved into Henry & Sophie Beatus' house by the river, then to the old freezer house next door, later into Ella & Lester Sam's house, and finally it settled into the City Building when it was built. The Hughes Post Office is located on Front Street on the first floor of the City building, the hours of operation are Mon-Fri, 10:00am-12:00pm and 01:00pm-05:00pm.

JOHNNY OLDMAN SCHOOL

The school was built in 1981 and named after Johnny Oldman, who was a supporter of educating the youth. The school serves students from kindergarten through grade 12 and more recently offers pre-kindergarten, when there is need. On average there are about 14-16 students per year in the school, with two teachers.



Figure 14 Johnny Oldman School

With Hughes' small population keeping enrollment numbers above the 10-student minimum requirement is an ongoing concern. According to current projections of student enrollment over the next four years, 2020-2023, the student population is on a steady rise. So much so, that the district has added a detached, temporary classroom to avoid being cramped for space.

Were the school to close, as a result of insufficient enrollment numbers, young children would have to be home schooled, with older ones (high school) leaving the village to attend one of three in-state boarding schools, or relocating to Fairbanks to live with relatives and attend school there.

The school gym and library are used by the community. Community members have long sought support from the Yukon-Koyukuk School District to construct a new facility due to its location in close proximity to the river. The school is built on pier and beams, so it flooded badly in spring of 2006. Community residents spent several weeks mopping out the flood waters from spring break-up in 2013. In 2019, water had to be pumped out from beneath the floor due to high waters from spring break up. (White, 2019)

Hughes pursued establishing a Head Start Program since 2006. In August of 2012 a part-time program staff member was hired. During the 2012-2013 there were 11 children enrolled in the



Figure 15 Detached Temporary Classroom.

head start program. The Head Start staff member has a rotating schedule where she visits each of the children in the program once a week. Activities during home visits range depending on the age of the child but might include reading books, doing puzzles, music time, etc. Once a week there is group socialization where all of the young children in Head Start have play time at the school gym.

HEALTH CLINIC

Hughes constructed a new clinic in the summer of 2009. The new facility greatly improved patient care with the additional exam room and space to house necessary medical equipment. The new facility also improved security of patient records and the clinic pharmacy. As of 2019 the clinic building does need upgrades. The upgrades are in the planning process.

The health clinic is operated by Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC), which receives and distributes Indian Health Service (IHS) funds through their federal contract. Currently there is one full-time



Figure 16 Hughes Health Clinic

health aide in the village. The village health aides provide basic health care such as immunizations, prenatal care, diagnosis and treatment for routine health complaints, such as colds, flu, sore throats, etc. There is also capacity at the clinic for the health aide to receive remote assistance from doctors and registered nurses at Chief Andrew Isaac Clinic in Fairbanks.

Residents that need more specific medical care must go to Fairbanks for treatment, including vision and dental care. Emergency cases must be airlifted to Fairbanks Memorial Hospital by one of the aviation emergency medical response teams operated by private carrier. An itinerant PA on contract with TCC is currently able to spend one week a month in Hughes through a grant, with these regular visits less travel to Fairbanks is required for patient care.

WASHETERIA

The washeteria is a city-owned facility that provides drinking water fill-ups, showers and laundry facilities to residents. Originally built in 1988, the washeteria was renovated in 2002, when two building heaters with baseboard heating, one water heater and four commercial washing machines were added. Improvements were also made to doors and windows. Upgrades are currently needed to the washeteria.



Figure 17 Hughes Washeteria

COMMUNITY/TRIBAL HALL

The Hughes Community Hall is built in the octagon fashion that is common in the Koyukon region. It has a large wood stove and toyostove for heating, but no indoor plumbing or kitchen facilities. It is used for village events such as funeral visitations, memorial potlatches, community meetings, covered dishes and dances. Expressed in the feedback surveys was the need to build a new hall with water & sewer.



Figure 18 Hughes Community Hall

CHURCH

There is one church in Hughes, St. Paul's Episcopal; the church was named by the late Susie Williams, who was a member of the Episcopal Diocese of Alaska, St. Anna Society. The church was built in 1994, and fortunately survived the September flood intact.

There is no resident priest in the village, and currently only one lay reader. A visiting priest comes to the village about every three months, and there are weekly services depending on the village lay reader's availability. Church members would like to build an addition to the church and add a parish hall, move the building and build a higher gravel pad to avoid flooding and renovate the church.



Figure 19 St. Paul's Episcopal Church

COMMUNITY UTILITIES

WATER & SEWER

Significant upgrades to the water and sewer system have occurred in Hughes over the years. Almost a decade ago the only facilities that had access to piped water and sewer were the school, tribal and city office buildings, health clinic, and teacher apartments.

The Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) completed phase I and II of the Hughes Sanitation Improvement Project which included site selection for a new sewage lagoon, design of a new water source, water distribution system, and construction of water distribution for ten homes. Phase III is the remaining phase of the Hughes Sanitation Improvement Project which included upgrades to the washeteria including the installation of a 40,000-gallon water tank and site cleanup within the area of installation where old fuel lines had been located. A total of 27 homes in Hughes now have water and sewer.



Figure 20 Water Tank 40,000-gallons

The washeteria is no longer the primary source of potable drinking water, and while outhouses still are present behind many homes, they do not get much use any more. One of the remaining priorities not included in the phased Sanitation Project was the design and construction of a new water plant. This is still a priority for the community of Hughes.

ELECTRICITY AND POWER



Figure 21 Power Plant Building

A community-wide electrical system was built in 2005, and all homes have electricity. In the beginning there were a few street lights that illuminated the main core of the village – where the school, clinic and tribal offices are located. Now there are street lights in all the housing areas as well. Electricity is generated by diesel generators, and the utility, Hughes Power & Light, is owned and operated by the city; a power cost equalization subsidy is received by the utility.

There are currently 4 generators at the power plant. As result of community members voicing their concerns of the heavy electric load – a three-phase system replaced the older one phase system in 2017.

In the fall of 2018 Alaska Native Renewable Industries completed the 1st phase of the 120-kW solar project in Hughes installing 380 solar panels. In 2019, electrical work was done and plans to do battery storage installation are all that is needed to get this project up and running. This will be a 120-kilowatt (kW) solar



Figure 22 Hughes Solar Panel Field

photovoltaic (PV) system that will cut diesel use and costs, and plans to advance the village's renewable energy goal of 50% by 2025. As of 2019, Hughes goes through more than 40,000 gallons of diesel annually for electricity generation which is flown in by Korean War-era planes. (Petersen, 2019)

BULK FUEL STORAGE

There are two bulk-fuel storage facilities one for Hughes Power & Light, with a capacity of 22,000 gallons, the other for the school, with a 28,000-gallon capacity. Owned by the city, there is a 10,000-gallon tank for gas and a 12,000-gallon tank for diesel. Due to the Koyukuk River being shallow, barge deliveries are impossible, thus most fuel is brought in by air. The existing bulk fuel storage facility is not adequate for the current usage and often runs out before a new fuel shipment comes in. In 2019 as a result, grant funding was obtained for more bulk-fuel storage. The gravel pad has been constructed for the new tanks; once set up is complete, Hughes will have 10,000 gallons more storage for gas and 70,000 gallons more for diesel.

SOLID WASTE

The old landfill has been completely closed out. Periodic monitoring of the old landfill site is ongoing, as disturbances can hinder re-vegetation.

The practice of using burn barrels ceased with a City of Hughes ordinance which banned the use. The installation of nine large trash bins were distributed throughout the community. Residents dispose their trash in the bins which is then transported to the landfill by the landfill operator.

The City charges \$20 a month for trash hauling. Much of the trash is then incinerated in a burner unit by the landfill operator. Plans are in the works to build another burner unit for trash burning at the landfill in the summer of 2020.

During spring break up there is often a community cleanup day. The area around the landfill site also gets cleaned up from stray plastic bags that have spread from winds from the previous winter.

A recycling program funded through Alaskans for Litter Prevention and Recycling (ALPAR) is managed by the Hughes IGAP. The program expanded in 2012 at the school to include recycling of candy wrappers, chip bags, and plastic wrappers. The recycling program already includes the collection of cans. Updates to the Hughes Solid Waste Management Plan were completed in 2004 by the CRW Engineering Group in Anchorage Alaska.



Figure 23 Old Trash Bin vs. New Trash Bin Style

BIOMASS

Hughes worked on a biomass project in cooperation with Interior Regional Housing Authority, Tanana Chiefs Conference, Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, and Alaska Energy Authority which included the installation of two wood boilers that heat the washeteria and the City building. Construction began in 2014 and the biomass was operational by 2015.



Figure 24 Hughes Biomass - Heats the Washeteria & City Buildings

COMMUNICATION

TELEPHONE

Due to location and what these companies offer, Alaska Communications Systems (ACS) is the home phone provider, offering local in town calls only; AT&T is the home phone provider that offers long distance plans for Hughes.

RADIO

Years ago an antenna on the bluff provided AM channels. Now there is an antenna on top of the city building, so residents can access Kiyu, which is the community radio for Interior Alaska. Hughes receives it on the FM 97.1 channel.

INTERNET PROVIDERS

HughesNet and DRS are two internet providers that work at our location and are currently being used.



Figure 25 Hughes, Alaska Location on Map

HOUSING

Hughes has a total of 44 housing units, of which 33 are currently occupied. The most recent new home was constructed in 2016. A total of 16 homes have been constructed since 1997. The Tribal Council continues to seek funding for the construction of new homes in Hughes. One of the major accomplishments of the past ten years has been the installation of plumbing to all but five homes in Hughes, two have elected not to install. To date, the all homes that sought plumbing, received the scattered sites water and sewer installation in 2014.

Seventeen (17) homes were weatherized by the TCC Weatherization Program in 2013. Weatherization assistance includes a variety of measures that range from upgrading windows and doors to more energy efficient designs, installing of insulation, and installation of a heating unit.

A new subdivision was completed in 2012, including the new roads named Blueberry Lane and Moose Loop. A total of 13 new gravel pads were built as well. There are currently no plans for these sites to receive water and sewer, the intention is to add lines when the homes are built. Almost all of the residences rely on wood stoves as their primary heat source (61%) with about 38% of the households using oil stoves. The data according to the U.S. Census will be updated after the 2020 Census enumeration is complete.



Figure 26 Hughes' Main Neighborhood

TRANSPORTATION

Hughes is not road accessible. Primary transportation for residents and visitors is by air taxi. The primary operator is Wright Air Service stationed in Fairbanks. The current cost of a round trip to Fairbanks is \$380. All fuel, store supplies, mail, and other equipment and replacement parts (for boats, snow machines, ATVs, etc.) are flown in, as are all building supplies not manufactured locally (i.e. everything except for building logs). The cost of freight is \$0.88/lb.

The gravel, lighted air strip is 3,400 feet long by 100 feet wide and is maintained and owned by the State of Alaska. The spring break-up in 2013 undid recent resurfacing improvements to the airstrip after being completely submerged by floodwaters and improvements were made to raise the airstrip in 2015.

There are many local trails around the village that community members use for trapping, wood cutting, mushing, hunting and other activities. In addition to the local trails there are two winter trails linking Hughes with Allakaket and Alatna upriver, and Huslia downriver. In the summer, people travel to and from villages on the river by skiff.

The roads and trails in and around Hughes have been cataloged using a global positioning system unit, and entered into the Tribe's Tribal Transportation Program (TTP). The most recent updates to the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) were completed in 2013. New road constructions to the landfill and sewage lagoon were completed in the summer of 2009. A new residential subdivision has recently been completed which included the construction of Moose Loop and Blueberry Lane. One of the remaining transportation priorities in Hughes is the construction of Sunny Lane which will open up additional access for subsistence activities.



Figure 27 Hughes residents help with airplane offloading & loading

ECONOMY

EMPLOYMENT

Most of the year-around employment in the village is through either the Tribal Council or the City. The school, clinic, post office, offer a few additional employment opportunities. Some residents work during the summer on construction projects, fighting wildfires for the Bureau of Land Management, and others trap, sell firewood or work as artisans selling their bead work, fur crafts, snowshoes and sleds. Some residents work outside of the village.

For Hughes, the most important community resources are their natural resources of clean water, berries, waterfowl, moose, small game, fur bearers, salmon, and whitefish. Village activities are still very much governed by the seasons: spring waterfowl hunts, summer fishing and berry picking, fall moose hunting, and winter trapping.

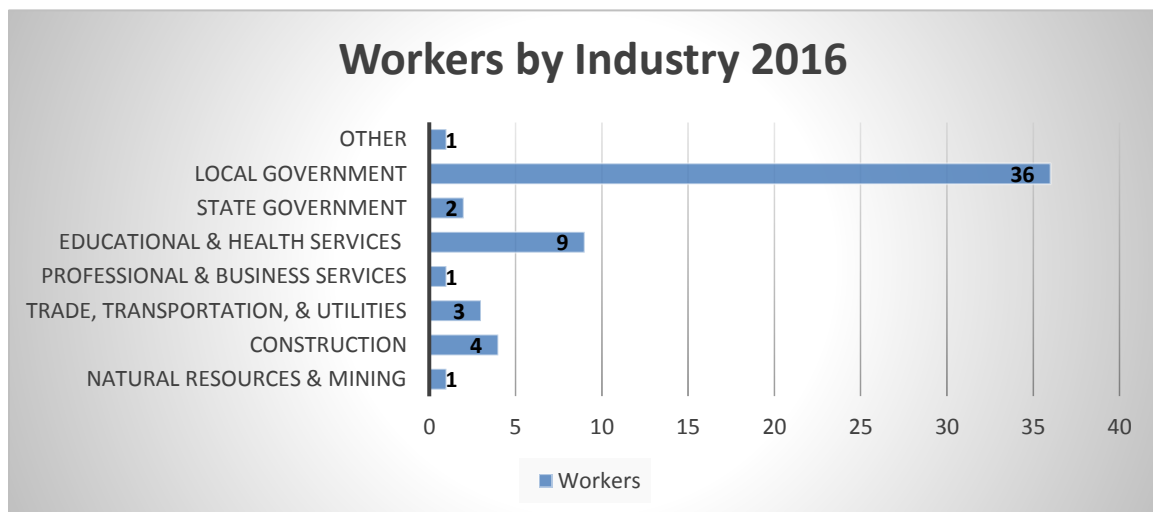


Figure 29 Alaska Live Labor Statistics 2016

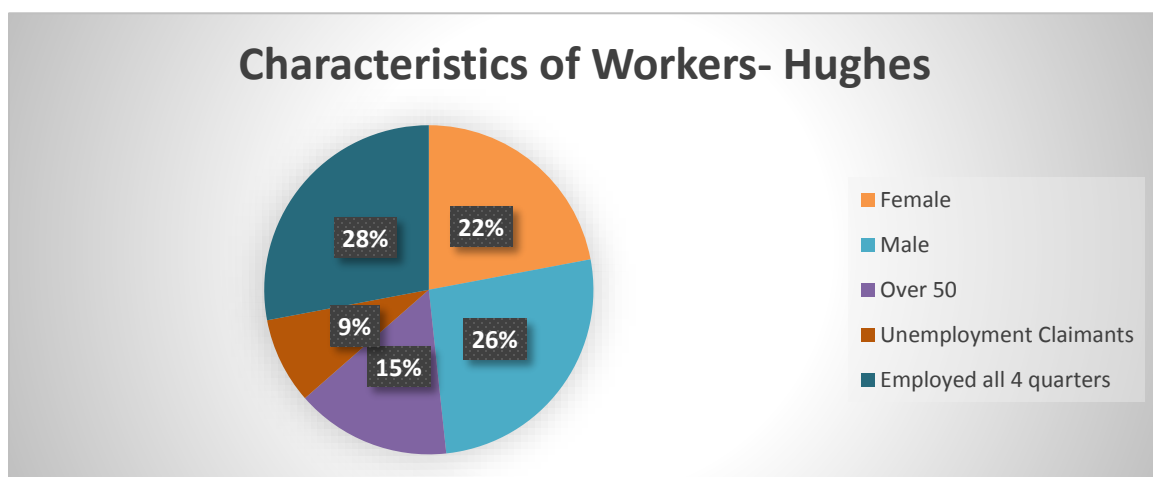


Figure 28 Workers Characteristics 2016 - Hughes

INCOME

According to the State of Alaska, Live Labor Statistics, in 2016 the total wages for all 57 people employed in Hughes totaled \$820,437. Worker characteristics include: 19 workers in the private sector, 36 workers in the local government, and 2 workers in the state government.

In the past 12 months (In 2018 Inflation-adjusted dollars) for Hughes, AK	Estimate	Margin of Error
Median Household Income	\$32,917	\$7,756 +/-
Median Family Income	\$32,500	\$15,502 +/-

According to the: American Community Survey; **2018**: ACS 5-Year Estimates (Census - Table Results, n.d.)

EMPLOYMENT BARRIERS

The community feedback survey collected information from participants regarding the employment barriers, such as: a small labor pool, lack of consistent trainings available, health issues, not enough trainings, and the lack of variety in jobs available. Participants also shared a list of training opportunities they would like to see in Hughes.

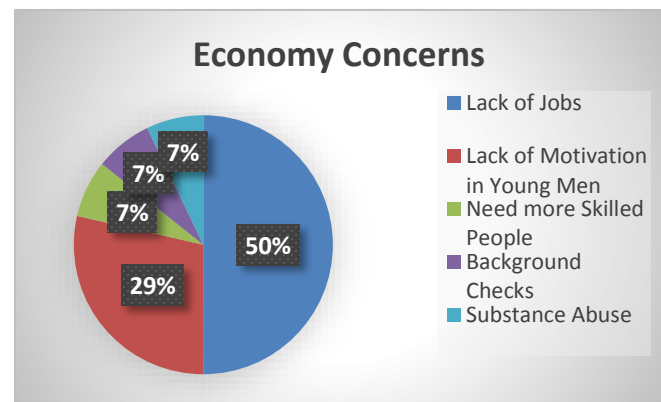


Figure 30 Economic Concerns based off Survey 2019

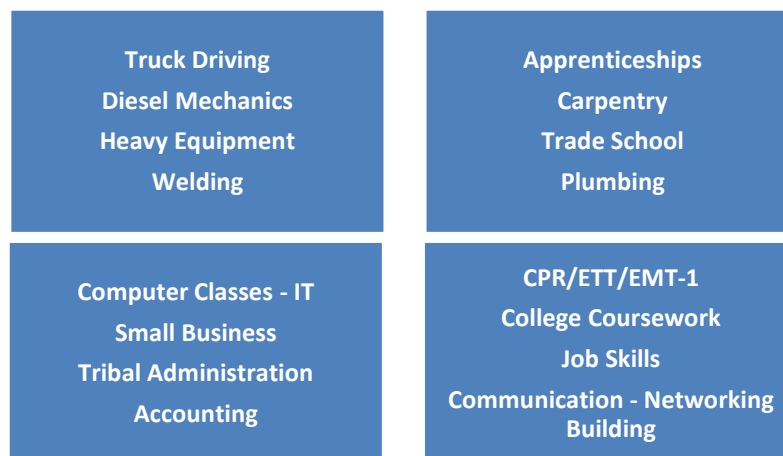


Figure 31 List of Training Expressed by Residents

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

RECREATION

DOG MUSHING

While the snow machine has replaced dog team as the primary winter transport, it still remains an important activity to Hughes and the surrounding communities. Hugh Bifelt still runs a kennel in Hughes. In the past, Hughes would host the Koyukuk River Championship Sled Dog race every three years with Huslia and Allakaket hosting in alternate years. Now Hughes hosts an annual springtime dog race, to compete with out of town teams, and a kid's dog race.



Figure 32 Hughes Dog Races

In 2005, Hughes sponsored Hugh Bifelt to compete in the Open North American Championships (ONAC) – a prestigious and competitive sprint sled dog race. Held in Fairbanks over three days of



Figure 33 Hugh Bifelt's Kennel - A CHILL Dog Mushing Program for Youth

sprints, Bifelt competed with 12 dogs and came in 11th overall. This was a remarkable feat for a village racer, due to the high costs of travel, entry fees, and other financial outlays that a race of this size and stature requires in order to compete. However, as a result of the Hughes community and others coming together to offer support and encouragement, Bifelt was able to achieve his goal of racing in the ONAC.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

SUBSISTENCE

In keeping with Koyukon Athabascan traditions, Hughes community members rely heavily on subsistence activities. The river and lands around the community continue to provide sustenance for people as it has done in the past; people still follow the seasonal cycles.

In spring, the first arrival of waterfowl on inland lakes and ponds is eagerly awaited, as people celebrate the end of a long, cold winter with fresh ducks and geese. The spring hunt is vitally important to Koyukon Athabascan people, since it brings to a close a time of eating dwindling winter stores.

Summers are spent in fish camps, as people set nets to catch the runs of King and chum salmon; smoke houses are busy throughout the fish-runs as people cut and smoke fish strips – which are much sought after by urban natives and non-natives alike. Late summer is spent picking blueberries, low bush (lingonberries) and high bush cranberries, and salmon berries (cloudberries).

Fall is the time when the men go moose hunting. Dry meat is made and set aside for the coming winter months. In winter, many residents trap for beaver, marten, and other fur bearers, even with the decline in the fur market which brings lower prices.

Many residents maintain their own gardens; several people have their own box gardens. About 8 box gardens were built in 2011, about 8 more box gardens were built in 2013. There are a few people who still use the community greenhouse. In the past, the Hughes Village Council has been able to hire an agriculture specialist who helps with maintaining community gardens through the summer youth employment program.

TRADITIONAL ARTS AND EVENTS

Community members are skilled in traditional arts as well. Women do the intricate bead work that Athabascan tribes are famous for, making fur trimmed and beaded gloves, slippers, dancing boots, and many other beaded objects, such as sun catchers, earrings, and picture frames. They are accomplished in skin sewing, making hats, mittens, slippers and parkas. Fur hats, mittens and ruffs are especially preferred over other synthetic materials because of their exceptional warmth and superb ability to shed ice and frost. Men flense, stretch and tan hides, like those of the beaver they trap, build snow shoes and dog sleds.



Figure 34 Beaded Moose Coin Purse & Hair Barrette by Madeline Williams

Community events, such as covered dishes, bring people together, especially during the long, dark winter nights. The community holds traditional memorial potlatches for each family member who has passed on; these potlatches are held only once for each person who is deceased. The potlatches are scheduled sporadically or when family members are prepared to host the event.

CULTURE CAMPS

Every year, there are two culture camps for community youth and their families. These events are alcohol and drug free. The summer camp, hosted by the tribe, is usually held in July. The fall camp in September, is sponsored by the Johnny Oldman School and emphasizes preserving the Koyukon Athabascan language.

Youth attending the camps, keep journals recording their activities and tracking the things they learned. Elders and other knowledgeable people, including people from outside the village, teach and demonstrate a variety of skills and crafts ranging from traditional to modern.

One year participants can learn to make traditional tools for tanning hides, how to make birch bark baskets and sew skin. Another year, they can learn about gun safety, practice target shooting and how to set fishnets. There are demonstrations on traditional food preparation, such as how to cut moose for dry meat and how to cut, and dry and can fish.



Figure 35 Lakes near Hughes Provide Good Habitat for Moose

GOALS



HOUSING

The residents in the village of Hughes have safe, healthy, and energy efficient homes.



COMMUNITY WELLBEING

Hughes is a supportive, thriving community with strong leaders and families who promote wellness and healthy living activities.



EDUCATION

Hughes is a community that meets the learning expectations of its people by providing a strong foundation of education and training opportunities.



PUBLIC UTILITIES

Hughes has well maintained public infrastructure and facilities to support the growing community.



YOUTH & ELDERS

In Hughes there is a healthy mentorship between the elders and youth, focusing on instilling values and responsibilities.

HOUSING

Goal #1: The residents in the village of Hughes have safe, healthy, and energy efficient homes.

Objective 1: Hughes has identified housing issues and solutions as a basis for future housing and policy decisions to secure financing for housing programs and projects.

Action Items:

- Create and administer a housing needs assessment in the community to identify how many homes are needed and what type of work is needed to sustain the current homes.
- Assess local resources and materials to build new homes such as logs, materials, foam panels, powerlines, water and sewer infrastructure, and heavy equipment.
- Obtain site control and environmental reviews of vacant lots for housing projects.
- Research and consult about HUD's Title VI or HUD Section 184 as an additional source of financing for affordable housing activities.

Objective 2: Hughes supports the new construction of five (5) homes by 2024.

Action Items:

- Secure funding to purchase material to finish housing projects; and to accommodate current and future housing needs.
- Encourage potential homeowners to prepare by review housing applications and gathering documentation and take the required homebuyer course before applying.
- Apply for Indian Community Block Grant (ICDBG) for new construction projects; AHFC Teacher, Health, and Public Safety Professionals (THHP) for VPSO housing.
- Work with Interior Regional Housing Authority, Tanana Chiefs Conference, BIA- Housing Improvement Program (HIP), USDA, Cold Climate Housing Research Center when applicable, and other agencies to plan and secure funding to construct homes.

Objective 3: Hughes offers the Elderly with housing assistance programs suitable to their needs.

Action Items:

- Provide adequate and affordable housing needs for the elderly population.
- Research and access the development and feasibility of an elder assisted living facility including sustainability and operating costs.
- Seek support and partnership from K'oyitl'ots'ina, Doyon Limited, Tanana Chiefs Conference, Denakkanaaga, and Interior Regional Housing Authority.

COMMUNITY WELLBEING

Goal #2: Hughes is a supportive, thriving community with strong leaders and families who promote wellness and healthy living activities.

Objective 1: Empower residents in Hughes to actively pursue mental and physical health activities, as well as pursue educational accomplishments.

Action Items:

- Work with TCC Behavioral Health to support a Behavioral Health Aide position in Hughes.
- Collaborate with TCC Wellness & Prevention to offer addiction and substance abuse informative workshops and incorporate sober living skills.
- Seek grant funding to service a culturally appropriate program that implements social development to promote community wellness while eliminating community issues; such as the Administration for Native Americans, Social & Economic Development Strategies (SEDS) grant available in the spring.
- Plan a community wellness/cultural event and apply to the Doyon Daaga' Award.
- Create a wellness team of volunteers that organizes community events and activities; such as wellness walks, annual culture camps, Elder Day, winter camping, and women-girl and men- boy gatherings.

Objective 2: Develop a schedule of extended wellness activities that residents can develop upon through awareness and healing.

Action Items:

- Create a calendar of activities based on community input, to include mental and behavioral health, education and support.
 - Classes residents emphasized were: wellness and prevention support, anger management, grief group therapy, alcohol classes for families, healing circles, men and women luncheons, parenting classes, domestic violence awareness, leadership group activities, and trauma support group.
 - Offer incentives for participation in classes leading to health & wellness.
- The Hughes Village Council and the Hughes City Council will continue publishing and updating a quarterly calendar of events and compiling a community newsletter.

EDUCATION

Goal #3: Hughes is a community that meets the learning expectations of its people by providing a strong foundation of education and training opportunities.

Objective 1: Continue to maintain and support educational resources for all residents.

Action Items:

- Create a position available to guide prospective students interested in pursuing postsecondary education.
- Support residents in identifying and enrolling in training opportunities.
- Partner with Alaska Works Partnership, Rural Apprenticeship Outreach program to promote construction education and training.
- Better advertise education assistance programs and scholarships for vocational training, certificate programs, and higher education.
- Promote the Doyon Roustabout training and Doyon Leadership Training when available.
- Invite UAF Interior Aleutians Campus (IAC), Student Service Coordinator to Hughes to provide education support to this area including, financial aid, course registration, student advising, UAF admissions, and technical support.
- Provide computer use for residents interested in online classes and training.
- Incorporate more sports activities for students and residents to enjoy.
- Encourage more community involvement with school projects and activities.

Objective 2: The community maintains the student body count and provides a comprehensive education experience for students and families.

Action Items:

- Invite prospective families with school age children to relocate to Hughes.
- Create incentives, such as housing and jobs opportunities for incoming families.
- Encourage the renovations and repairs of possible rentals for families and teachers.
- Create a list of vacant homes and complete an assessment/inspection of each unit.
- Promote the creation of more jobs and fill current vacancies.

PUBLIC UTILITIES AND FACILITIES

Goal #4: Hughes has well maintained public infrastructure and facilities to support the growing community.

Objective 1: Provide the community members of Hughes with essential infrastructure and equipment.

Action Items:

- Begin planning for the design and location of a multipurpose facility.
- Secure funding through HUD ICDBG for the construction of a new multipurpose facility to include: an elder-youth center, cultural center, training and meeting area, a library, and physical fitness room.
- Create a plan to raise the school up in elevation, above the flood zone.
- Communicate and collaborate with Hughes Tribal Transportation, FAA and DOT about the VOR (VHF Omni-Directional Radio System) to improve flight safety and navigation into Hughes airport strip.

Objective 2: Provide water/sewer systems for residents in need and apply to all new homes.

Action Items:

- Work in partnership with Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC), scattered sites program for well and septic system for new homes.
- Collaborate with Interior Regional Housing Authority to seek additional funding for the infrastructure of indoor plumbing projects.
- Seek funding to purchase a new community water reservoir system.
- Assess the current residential outhouses and correct any sanitation issues or deficiencies.

Additional Actions Items:

- Create a schedule detailing the recommended maintenance of existing facilities.
- Reach out to the Department of Transportation about the installation of a VOR.

YOUTH & ELDERS

Goal #5: In Hughes there is a healthy mentorship between the elders and youth, focusing on instilling values and responsibilities.

Objective 1: Promote an Elder/Youth Mentor Program in Hughes.

Action Items:

- Seek elders and encourage youth to participate in the Elder/Youth Mentor Program.
- Partner with Rural Cap and Hughes School to promote the program.
- Assist Elders with the application process of the Rural CAP Elder Mentor Program.
- Create and administer a survey for elders to understand the values, skills, and knowledge to be offered.
- Elders and youth participate in annual Denakkanaaga, AFN, and TCC Convention.

Objective 2: The elders and youth in Hughes engage, share skills, and traditional values.

Action Items:

- Designate a space to accommodate Elders and youth monthly gatherings.
- Create a parent/guardian consent form and list of interested youth.
- Assign volunteer leads/chaperones to assist with activities.
- Create a list of events for elders and youth
 - Example: Native singing and dancing, history of potlach, storytelling, create book of stories told by elders, building snowshoes, sled building, trapping and snaring, tanning skins, wood gathering, ice fishing and seining, and traditional cooking classes and food preservation.
- Apply to TCC Cultural Workshops to host an annual event for Elder/Youth workshop.

Objective 3: Hughes has a place for Elders and Youth to foster cultural and educational activities.

Action Items:

- Seek funding for youth programs, specifically a youth center.

APPENDICES

Community	21. <u>Brandon Beatus</u>	_____
Meeting 12/10/19	22. <u>Kynon Saunders</u>	_____
Sign in sheet:	23. <u>Zaydra Saunders</u>	_____
1. <u>ARNOLD Koyukuk</u>	24. <u>Madeline Williams</u>	_____
2. <u>Nicholas Cleveland</u>	H B	_____
3. <u>Jenny Williams</u>	_____	_____
4. <u>Sigwien Cleveland</u>	25. <u>Rita Koyukuk</u>	_____
5. <u>CLARENCE OLAMAN</u>	26. <u>Gerald Oldman</u>	_____
6. <u>Mariah Bifelt</u>	27. <u>Wilmer Beatus</u>	_____
7. <u>ASON BERGMAN</u>	28. <u>Margaret Williams</u>	_____
8. <u>ANDREW BEAUMY</u>	29. <u>Monica Williams</u>	_____
9. <u>KRISTINA BEAUMY</u>	30. <u>OWEN BEAUMY</u>	_____
10. <u>Maggie Ambrose</u>	31. <u>ETHAN BEAUMY</u>	_____
11. <u>Gabrielle Ambrose</u>	32. <u>Roberta Beatus</u>	_____
12. <u>Payton Bifelt</u>	33. <u>Arlon B. Beatus</u>	_____
13. <u>Kasen Bifelt</u>	34. <u>Jean Ann Linn</u>	_____
14. <u>Kailani Moore-Bergman</u>	35. <u>Almisa Beatus</u>	_____
15. <u>Hugh Bifelt</u>	36. <u>Tiffany Ambrose</u>	_____
16. <u>James Walker</u>	_____	_____
17. <u>Thelma Nicholas</u>	_____	_____
18. <u>Janet Bifelt</u>	_____	_____
19. <u>Kylee SR Beatus</u>	_____	_____
20. <u>Heather Beatus</u>	_____	_____

Figure 36 Sign in Sheet - Community Meeting December 2019

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SURVEY ANALYSIS

The majority of survey takers enjoy the placidity and traditional way of life in Hughes. They would like to see more adequate housing, a recreational center and a bigger school and gym for the future. The concern for keeping the community clean, i.e. litter/junk free, cleaning old contamination sites, and water quality were mentioned the most as well.

Most people are satisfied with our health services, but believe that we need more mental health outreach. Walking groups and hiking trails were popular answers for improving physical health of community members. Even though most responded that they feel safe in their community, having a V.P.S.O. in town would make more people feel safer.

According to the survey responses the subsistence way of life and traditional skills such as sewing are very important. Popular activities that we should have for the youth were: fishing, sports, safety classes, snow-shoeing, trapping/snaring, camps like survival or woodcutting, and Denaakk'e singing/language.

Although these ideas may sound overwhelming, they are reachable due to the large percentage of community members that participated in the community planning meeting, completed the surveys, and showing interest in their community's future wellbeing.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Hughes Tribal Office

PO Box 45029
Hughes, AK 99745
Phone: (907) 889-2239
Fax: (907) 889-2252

City of Hughes

PO Box 45010
Hughes, AK 99745
Phone: (907) 889-2206
Fax: (907) 889-2252

Johnny Oldman School

PO Box 30
Hughes, AK 99745
Phone: (907) 889-2204

Hughes Health Clinic

PO Box 49
Hughes, AK 99745
Phone: (907) 889-2211
Fax: (907) 459-3986

K'oyitl'ots'ina Limited

1603 College Road, Suite 2
Fairbanks, AK 99709
Phone: (907) 452-8119
Fax: (907) 452-8148

