

the council

Dena' Hena' Hénash • Our Land Speaks

Vol. 47, No. 3

A REPORT TO THE MEMBER TRIBES OF TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE

MARCH 2022

Search and Rescue Operations for Missing Tribal Members

Tanana Chiefs Conference Village Public Safety Program has received Authorization from the Department of Public Safety Commissioner James Cockrell to conduct Search and Rescue Operations when it comes to searching for missing Tribal members of the TCC region. The authorization letter states in part:

"In furtherance of strengthening our partnership, it is recognized that additional collaboration with regard to missing persons is beneficial. Therefore, in accordance with AS 18.60.120 and as requested by TCC, I authorize the TCC VPSO Coordinator to appoint, organize, direct, and guide a search and rescue party during active and ongoing search and rescue operations for the purpose of rescuing or retrieving TCC Tribal members or

beneficiaries who are missing."

What does this mean? It means when we have missing Tribal members in the TCC region we will now be able to initiate search and rescue operations with the blessing of the Department of Public Safety! This includes when we have Tribal members who go missing in Fairbanks. The Department of Public Safety Commissioner met with the TCC Public Safety Team, Executive Management team, and staff this past summer with the Public Safety Manager and Tribal Government and Justice Director explaining the road blocks and hoops we had to jump through to help our Tribes search for their loved ones when they go missing in the urban areas of the state. This authorization penned by Commissioner Cockrell is a long

awaited and welcomed event which will benefit all of the Tanana Chiefs Conference Region. This will help us to more easily initiate a search without having to wait for permission from the State VPSO Program office because Commissioner Cockrell has given us the authority to conduct the searches.

A big shout out and kudos to those who worked to get this authorization approved: The Chief Chairman's Office, TCS Executive Director and Staff, Tribal Government and Justice Director, Tribal Development Director, and the Public Safety Manager, thank you all for outlining the obstacles we constantly face when trying to search for our loved ones in the Fairbanks area and for presenting to the Department of Public Safety our Tribes concerns.

2021 TCC Annual Convention and Full Board of Directors Meeting

**INNOVATE.
ADVOCATE.**
Protect Our Way of Life

March 14th-17th, 2022

Due to COVID-19 restrictions and limited spacing at the venue, in-person attendance will be limited. This meeting will be livestreamed to the public, however many portions of the meeting are expected to be held in Executive Session where the public view will be closed.

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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



TCC EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Trimble Gilbert/Arctic Village
1st Traditional Chief

-
2nd Traditional Chief

Brian Ridley/Eagle
President

Charlene Stern/Arctic Village
Vice President

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Eugene Paul/Holy Cross
Lower Yukon

Frank Thompson/Evansville
Yukon Tanana

Norman 'Carl' Burgett/Huslia
Yukon Koyukuk

Peter Demoski/Nulato
Elder Advisor

Alex Hanna/Minto
Youth Advisor

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear Tribes and Tribal Members,

I am excited to announce a new member to TCC's Executive Management Team. Robin Brown was hired on as our new General Counsel, who will oversee the operations of our Legal Division. Robin has a background in Health Law and a history with TCC – having served as our Corporate Compliance Officer from 2014-2019. Robin is a great addition to the company and I am looking forward to rebuilding and strengthening our Legal Division. You can learn more about Robin below my letter.

In February, the Biden Administration acknowledged significant legal defects in the approval of the Amber Road, announcing they will suspend the federal rights-of-way for the project. I appreciate that the federal government recognized the flaws in the previous administration's decisions to permit the road. However, we are still urging the State of Alaska to drop the road proposal altogether. The project represents a fundamental threat to our people and our subsistence way of life.

Last month, the Violence against Women Reauthorization Act (VAWA) 2022 was introduced by Senator Lisa Murkowski and 22 other senators. The reauthorization bill would create Alaska-specific provisions that would empower tribal governments to work in partnership with state and federal authorities to address public safety issues. Congress' commitment to address the epidemic of violence against women and children, with additional provisions to protect Alaska Native/American Indian women and children is both welcome and long overdue. I applaud Senator Murkowski, Congressman Don Young and the Alaska Delegation for advocating for the reauthorization of VAWA.

This month, I am looking forward to our Annual Convention and Full Board of Directors Meeting which is taking place March 14th-17th in Fairbanks. During this meeting, the Full Board will appoint a successor to serve the one year expired portion of the President's Term. While we don't know who the Full Board will choose to appoint, I have faith that they will use their best judgement in appointing someone to successfully carry the organization through this remaining term.

As we enter into Convention, it is important to remember that our strength as a tribal consortium truly comes from unity. Together we are more resilient, our voices are louder and our actions are more powerful. Division among our people only weakens our collective voices. Moving into Convention, let us remember the intent behind our vision of Healthy, Strong, Unified Tribes.

*Mahsi' Choo,
Brian Ridley
President*

Welcome Robin Brown!

TCC's New General Counsel

Robin moved to Alaska at a young age, living in Tanana as a toddler before moving to Fairbanks with her family. After graduating from West Valley High School, Robin went on to receive a Bachelor's Degree in Communications from Washington State University, as well as a Master's Degree in Public Administration and a Law Degree from Seattle University. Robin previously worked at the Alaska Attorney General's Office representing Alaska, at TCC as the Corporate Compliance Officer and most recently at Foundation Health Partners as the Legal Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer. Robin lives in Fairbanks and has two children - one in junior high school and the other is a freshman in college. She enjoys spending time with her family - watching her kids play hockey or baseball and traveling.



Johnson O'Malley (JOM) Program Needs Funding

By Blanche Murphy

For years, Alaskan tribes have been telling the federal government that the Johnson O'Malley Program (JOM) is inadequately funded because JOM is not funding all the children. Currently the funding is based off a count done years ago.

This year the JOM Program is doing a new child count to submit to Congress to say, "Here is the count. Where is the funding?" A few of the Interior tribes are currently receiving JOM funding, but many tribes are missing out on this opportunity. TCC

is working to help all the tribes qualify when the federal government funds the new count and opens up for new programs.

When the JOM Regional director sends TCC the count sheets out this spring, we will be sending them on to every school in the TCC region. They will need to work with the tribe to get an accurate count of all the tribal children. Once the school has the count completed, the tribe will need to certify the list and then TCC will compile the lists and send them to the Regional

director. This step is critical to getting Congress to see the need for additional JOM funding.

When the federal government opens up applications for new JOM Programs, TCC will let the tribes know it is time to apply. There will be assistance so the tribes can complete the paperwork to get the funding the children deserve and need.

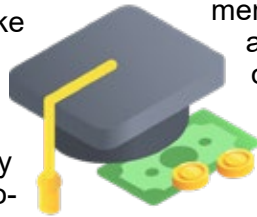
Please keep in contact with your school and ensure the count is done accurately and thoroughly so we can show Congress the need.

TCC Scholarship Deadlines Are Approaching!

Are you considering attending a University program this coming fall?

Is there a vocational or technical credential program you'd like to pursue?

TCC Education provides financial awards to students in college and post-secondary vocational education programs.



Deadline:

April 30: Fall/Academic year deadline

Higher Education (HE) Scholarship Eligibility: Enrolled tribal members residing in the Interior villages of Birch Creek, Circle, Huslia, Minto, Nenana, Takotna and Tetlin, and at-large (Class B) Doyon shareholders. Individuals must be degree-seeking and accepted by an accredited institution with a financial need as determined by the college or institution.

Adult Vocational Training (AVT) Scholarship Eligibility: Any enrolled

tribal member residing in Fairbanks, or a Birch Creek, Circle, Huslia, Minto, Nenana, Takotna, and Tetlin tribal member, enrolled FULL TIME at an accredited university or institution, with a financial need as determined by the accredited institution. Most UAF Community & Technical College (CTC) programs are eligible for AVT funding. Individual classes are not funded.

Documents needed include: official transcripts, copy of diploma (or high school transcript), acceptance letter from HE or AVT institution, enrolled class schedule; proof of current FAFSA, proof of tribal enrollment or verification of Native ancestry, and two letters of recommendation.

Contact TCC Education at Education_Department@tananachiefs.org or call 907-452-8251 ext. 3185 for more information.

Applications are available online: www.tananachiefs.org/services/education/

Sophie Sergie's Vigil

After nearly 30 years, Tanana Chiefs Conference is thankful to hear that justice was finally served in the Sophie Sergie case. TCC partnered with the Alaska Native Women's Resource Center and the Fairbanks Native Association to host a community vigil in memory of Sophie. Our thoughts and prayers are with Sophie's family and friends. We hope that February 10th's verdict helps them in their path towards healing.





TCC Career Explorers:

Laying the foundation for career success—one student at a time

This fall, ten high school juniors and seniors donned virtual reality headsets in a classroom at Effie Kokrine Charter School. While there was plenty of laughter, students weren't playing games. They were participating in virtual career shadowing, experiencing a day in the life of one of several professions, such as nurse or auto mechanic.

The Tanana Chiefs Conference Career Explorers program, a partnership between TCC, Effie Kokrine Charter School, and the University of Alaska Fairbanks College of Business and Security Management, launched in September 2021 with the aim of preparing participants for post-secondary education or vocational training beyond high school. TCC Career Explorer students enrolled in a series of one-credit college-level professional development courses covering skills such as resume writing, time management and interviewing. These courses also offer students hands-on experiences to explore the age-old question, what do I want to do when I grow up?

While the program's emphasis is on preparing for professional or collegiate success, students reported some of the most valuable take-aways were the practical lessons—from personal finance basics and communication—needed to function as an independent adult. "This program helped me tremendously to prepare for the adult world after high school," stated participant Cody Eickholt, a senior at Effie Kokrine.



Career Explorers builds on research about what works well for students, especially in light of the barriers to learning that have emerged during the pandemic. Covid-19 has stretched educators thin and posed increased mental health challenges for students, resulting in documented learning loss. The pandemic-related decrease in access to educational opportunities was particularly bleak for rural students and students of color. These findings were not lost on the team at Effie Kokrine, whose charter includes specifically supporting Alaska Native student success, and TCC, which supports 42 Alaska Native communities in the Interior of Alaska.

Career Explorers students were kept in a cohort, taking classes together. Students in cohort programs tend to report greater academic achievement, less feelings of social isolation and greater individual satisfaction with their learning experience. Students were also matched with a mentor in a career field of interest, with whom they met one-on-one. Technology like virtual reality headsets were used, since some in-person experiences such as job shadowing weren't available during the pandemic.

The program has also adapted to meet student needs. While originally designed as online courses, the professional development courses transitioned into a hybrid format to offer greater opportunities for support and interaction. UAF instructors Amanda Langhorst and Jillian Bjornstad led weekly in-person sessions at Effie Kokrine.

"The most fun part of this program was getting connected with my teachers and meeting new people," Effie Kokrine student Isabelle Jagels commented.

The original Career Explorers cohort will continue through spring 2022. Career Explorers is currently planned to extend for a second year at Effie Kokrine. Future plans for the program include expanding to additional partner schools outside of the Fairbanks

area and incorporating additional content and expertise from other parts of UAF.

"I'm looking forward to working on expanding this program into rural Alaska," stated instructor Jillian Bjornstad. "Coming from a small village, I was in these students' shoes a few years ago and I understand some of the challenges they face. I enjoy working with high schoolers of different backgrounds to help them explore their education and career options, whether it is a four-year degree or vocational training."



Behavioral Health Aide *Spotlight*

Jessica Shaw - Nenana

By Linden Staciokas

This month's profile features Jessica Shaw, a Behavioral Health Aide since October of 2021. She serves Nenana, a town of about 360 people located 55 miles south of Fairbanks, on the Parks Highway.

Where were you born and raised?

I was born in Fairbanks, as were my mom and grandma. We have really deep roots in the Interior, but my family originated in Ninilchik, which is on the Kenai Peninsula.

What led you to this career?

A lot of my previous jobs were not labelled behavioral health but they included a lot of the same activities. I have always worked in people oriented and service delivery jobs. I have a B.A. in Psychology and had a chemical dependency level one certification. I am currently working on finishing my master's degree in rural development. My background in psychology led me to work in child protection services for six years, and Railbelt Mental Health and Addictions Counseling in Nenana for three years. After that I worked for TCC in tribal governance, before transferring into the behavioral health position.

What are your job duties as a behavioral health aide?

I have an array of duties. I do crisis intervention with individuals and sometimes the whole community. I help people access outpatient services. I do individual and group counseling, although mostly by Zoom for now due to Covid. Right now people are especially lonely, in various stages of grief for different reasons.

One thing I did recently was to start a Friday afternoon group I call Craft-

ing Your Life. People show up with various things they are working on, say a knitting project, and they work on it while chatting with other people in the group. They end up sharing knowledge, not just about the crafting project they brought, but about life skills. They pass on knowledge and end up more connected to other people and feel less alone.

What is the greatest joy of the job?

Being there to witness someone at that moment when they realize change is possible. That is a joy.

What is the most frustrating part of the job?

When people are in crisis they need services now, but the system, especially Medicaid, is restrictive and time-consuming to access. And even when you find a way to pay for them, the services are sparse. There are long waiting lists for the programs that do exist. Trying to put things together for someone is far more challenging than I understood before I took this position.

What do you do when you are not working?

I realized very quickly that if you don't take care of yourself, you will run from this job. I try to remember that it is up to the client to do the actual work of change, and that I need to leave it to them. I remind myself that there is more to life than work, so when I leave work, I really leave it. I have a family and I value my time with my husband and child, so I make sure to keep good boundaries. When I want to relax, I knit, read, take baths, do my nails---those little things that make me feel good. I also work on my school-

ing; I enjoy education and sometimes think I will be one of those people still taking classes when I am old!

Is there someone who influenced your decision to become a behavioral health aide that you would like to thank?

A lot of credit has to go to my mom. She drank for a lot of years and as a result of some of her behaviors there was a rift between us. But then she broke the cycle she had been raised with by getting sober. I saw that she had the courage to change and realized that so could I. Watching her is what helped me develop a healthy relationship with my husband and son; because of her I am raising a child who will not be part of that generational cycle of alcohol abuse. Yes, some bad came from my mom, but a lot of good, too.

I also owe a debt of gratitude to TCC. I am really grateful that someone decided to hire me to work in tribal administration and then, after about five years there, they let me transfer into this job. It is an honor to work with tribal members. We serve anyone in the community, but as a tribal member myself, I am especially happy to be working for TCC.

(And the gratitude is mutual, according to Jessica's supervisor Candice Jacobs. Asked if she had anything she wanted to add to this profile of Jessica, Candice said, "Jessica is a relatively new hire who has jumped into the job with both feet, taking on a personal caseload and handling walk-ins pretty much since she was hired. She really has a desire to serve our behavioral health clients and see them succeed. I am so thankful she is a part of our TCC Behavioral Health team!")



March Head Start News

By Kristi Walmsley

The FY22 Head Start school year is going strong! Galena, Huslia, McGrath, Nenana, Northway, Nulato and Tananacross continue to be open for kids to be cared for in person. Other sites are still supporting families with home based care. We're hoping to be able to open more sites to classroom based care soon, depending on staff availability.

Head Start has open enrollment for children birth-4 year olds. Please contact Tanya Yatlin at 907-452-8251 or 800-478-6822 ext. 3469 for more information.

TCC Head Start has teamed up with the Dolly Parton Imagination Library! Every month enrolled children from the ages of birth to 5 will get a free age appropriate book! Reading together is a wonderful way to build a lifelong love for reading with children and promote family time.

Invoices for both our Fall Harvest food boxes, sent to enrolled families in November, and our Ham dinner boxes,

sent to enrolled families and staff in December are in and between those two events Head Start contributed \$9347 back in to village economies by ordering supplies directly from stores when we were able, rather than purchasing in Fairbanks and freighting out to the villages.

With COVID cases on the rise we are no longer able to brush teeth in the classroom, so we're participating in the Brush, Book and Bed program. We continue to send out care packages with tooth brushes, tooth paste and books to enrolled families to help instill good oral hygiene and promote family time.

The Alaska head Start Association Awards of Excellence for 2021 came out in February and our program has two awards attached to it. Brianna Ketzler of Nenana won the award for Early Head Start Teacher of the Year and Keith Charlie of Minto won Head Start Father of the Year!

To further support the mission for

food security and in honor of heart health awareness month, February, Head Start will send out food boxes to enrolled families with oatmeal and toppings to encourage families to start their day with a healthy breakfast.

Head Start has positions open in the following villages: Allakaket, Grayling, Huslia, Minto, Nenana and Northway. The positions available are Lead Preschool Teacher, Preschool Assistant Teacher, Infant/Toddler Teacher, Family Visitor, Early Head Start Cook and Substitute Teacher/Assistant Teacher. We also have an ERSEA position open in Fairbanks. Please visit our website at www.tananachiefs.org/careers to see what's open in your area or call Kristi Walmsley at 907-452-8251 or 800-478-6822, ext. 3015.

Brianna Ketzler
Nenana

Keith Charlie
Minto

105(I)L Lease Program Provides Maintenance to Rural Clinics

In 2021 Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) created the 105(I)L lease program for our village clinics, which provides maintenance services to tribally owned clinics within the TCC region. This lease program authorizes Indian Health Services (IHS) to lease directly with Tribal Organizations such as TCC who have P.L. 93-638 Contracts/Compacts with IHS. We have been working hard on developing a rural maintenance program for the clinics in our rural villages. A Clinic Lease Rural Maintenance Team will be solely dedicated to rural health facilities that participate in the 105L program. Maintenance service will be provided at no cost to the Tribe if they lease their tribally owned clinic to TCC. TCC will also pay the Tribe a yearly rental fee

of \$20,000 that does not have to be used for clinic related funds.

The 105(I) lease funds are based on actual expenses to operate and maintain the facility or based on the fair market rents. Here are some expenses that are covered under this program:

- Capital Improvements
- Operation & Maintenance Expenses
- Utilities (Water/sewer, Electric, heating fuel, insurance, snow removal)
- Maintenance and/or Janitorial Employee Salaries
- Maintenance & Janitorial Supplies
- Waste removal
- Maintenance Services and Repairs (Doors, Windows, Walls, Boiler,

Electrical, Plumbing, Heating/Ventilation)

This is an outstanding opportunity for tribes to save funding on clinic expenses, prevent winter freeze-ups, have costly repairs fixed and generate jobs in their communities. Tribes will also be able to have their clinics ready for inspections for national accreditation under the AAAHC (Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care) standards and keep their buildings in compliance.

If your Tribe would like to participate in the 105(I)L Lease program with TCC, please contact Tanna Carter, 105(I)L Project Manager at 907-452-8251 x3204 or email at tanna.carter@tanachiefs.org.

Garden-Fresh Traditions for Positive Outcomes

Strategic Prevention Framework Partnerships for Success (SPF – PFS)

By Autumn Cantu

Time to continue traditions, or maybe start a new healthy hobby! Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) – Partnership for Success (PFS), The Indigenous Wellness Academy (IWA) and the Youth Wellness Warriors (YWW) would like to help families build new healthy traditions. Our programs would like to encourage families to participate in cultural traditions, consistent communication, and healthy interacting. SPF PFS program's purpose is to help prevent and reduce youth from developing substance misuse with underage drinking and prescription drug misuse. We encourage having more interaction with your family because it can lead to healthy routines and more fulfilled daily lifestyles.

Creating a strategy to help improve your family's wellness doesn't have to be a struggle. SPF PFS would like to offer some small tips. Take one step at a time; this will help your family tran-

sition into your new routine smoothly. Always keep communication open for suggestions. It's important to remember to include our youth in the process. You never know, they may have great ideas! Ask your children what they like and don't like about the new routine.

Here are some family wellness activities suggested from SPF PFS:

- Take the time to teach your children how to start a garden.
- Have a healthy family activity and learn how to preserve those leftover berries in the freezer.
- Ask youth if they know how to avoid or handle peers when they're offered drugs.
- Get active as a family.
- Leaders, take some time to have a healthy conversation with youth.

Participating in all of these activities plays an important role in a child's life because they are protective factors.

What is a protective factor?

It can be a parent, significant individual, grandparent, or even your community that helps create positive life qualities. These individuals can help you learn how to deal with stressful situations and lower the possibility of a negative outcome that might cause an impairment on your mental health.

We hope to inspire and support the healthy changes in your community for the holidays and after. On behalf of The Division of Wellness and Prevention here at Tanana Chiefs Conference, be the change for betterment for your family this winter, and please break trail for a healthy lifestyle alongside your family.



FRANK TURNER HOLY CROSS

Frank Turner learned how to fly an airplane for \$20 an hour. He and his brother bought an airplane to practice flying. They used the airplane to haul groceries to Holy Cross and Shageluk and Frank eventually started to fly passengers.

His first passenger was Luke Demientieff.

Luke wanted to go over to the Iditarod River. On the way there, the airplane's engine quits and winds down. There's no place to land, and Luke says, "Darn!"

Frank replies, "What's wrong Luke?"

Luke says, "I forgot my snowshoes."

To hear Frank's full story,
visit www.tananachiefs.org/legacy-of-our-elders/

TCC's Legacy of our Elders series documents the lives and stories of Elders throughout the TCC region. These videos are available on our website.

UAF Scientists Help Rural Students Do Science With Tiny Drones

By Rod Boyce, University of Alaska Fairbanks Geophysical Institute



The little airborne drone zipped across a lake near the Interior Alaska community of Venetie in late autumn, destined for a patch of white that looked a little less white than the season's first snow blanketing the area.

Students from the small community's John Fredson School watched as the visiting scientists from the Alaska Satellite Facility at the University of Alaska Fairbanks Geophysical Institute guided the craft to its investigatory target for a photo.

"It was a star-shaped crack. What is that? Why is that there?" said Helena Buurman of the Alaska Satellite Facility. "We talked it through, and then we went back and some of the locals came out, and one of them said it was a muskrat pushup that fell through the ice when the temperature warmed and that it must have left this shape."

"The cool part of this," she said of the collapse of the muskrat's vegetation pile, "is that we went from observations to science to scratching our heads over the science to needing the local knowledge to complete that story."

The little drone also had a larger tar-

get: Getting kids interested in science.

The visit by Buurman and colleagues from the Alaska Satellite Facility and the Fresh Eyes on Ice program is the first of many planned in several rural Alaska communities. The idea piggybacks on the Fresh Eyes on Ice program, led by the UAF International Arctic Research Center and the Water and Environmental Research Center at the UAF Institute of Northern Engineering.

Fresh Eyes on Ice provided participating communities with a single, more substantial drone to use in gathering data about local ice conditions.

Buurman saw Fresh Eyes on Ice as an opportunity to take an existing NASA grant, which in the past had funded one of UAF's Alaska Summer Research Academy courses, in a different direction. Instead of having rural students come to UAF to attend the academy course, she proposed taking the science to the students and melding drone flight training with the needs of the Fresh Eyes on Ice program.

"NASA is interested in serving underrepresented communities and is interested in getting kids into STEM," Buurman said. STEM refers to education centered on science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

So she, some colleagues from Fresh Eyes on Ice and a bundle of small ready-to-assemble drone kits headed

to Venetie, a community 150 miles north of Fairbanks on the Teedriinjik River (formerly Chandalar). Like many rural Alaska communities, Venetie is disconnected from the state's road system.

The idea had the full support of John Fredson School Principal Terri Mynatt, who also teaches at the K-12 school.

The school now has Fly Fridays during which students fly the drones they assembled. There's also a crew that goes out each week to fly a mission that consists of photographing the Teedriinjik River from views north, east, south and west.

They also go to Venetie Lake, called Big Lake by local residents.

"At Big Lake, each pilot takes the drone to different heights and distances, takes pictures in all four directions, then lands on the landing pad," Mynatt said. "We also take notes of the temperature and time of day. Each student has a flight log, and every student in the flight crew does the role of pilot and observer."

The program has had a big impact.

"This experience has taken our students to a new level of self-confidence and academic success and given them a deeper understanding of scientific research," Mynatt

said. "We had a parent evening so the students could share their experiences and do flight demonstrations for their families."



Header Photo: Students at John Fredson School assembled several of these drone kits. Photo by Terri Mynatt

First Photo: A student at John Fredson School in Venetie, Alaska, works with one of the drone kits provided by the Alaska Satellite Facility through a NASA grant. Photo by Terri Mynatt

Second Photo: Dana Brown, an ecologist at the UAF International Arctic Research Center, teaches students in Venetie, Alaska, how to make ground-based observations of river ice using NASA's Venetie

TCC Now Offering Child Care Assistance Coverage for Subsistence Activities!



Do you live in a village or a rural community? Are you engaged in subsistence activities such as hunting, fishing, berry picking, gardening, food preservation or wood cutting? Chances are that you are engaged in some type of subsistence activities throughout the year. Did you know that if you have children under the age of 13 we can pay a family relative to provide child care for them while you are doing these activities? That's right, if a family relative is willing to be an approved child care provider we can pay! Our rural/village child care providers also get paid an additional 50% supplement amount. Usually a grandparent or a close relative are already providing care for your children while you are doing subsistence activities so why not have them get paid.

Benefits of becoming a Relative Provider:

- Make great money
- Be your own boss
- Be self-sufficient
- Make a living without having to leave your home
- Potential tax benefits and write-offs (you can deduct expenses such as internet, fuel, food and cleaning supplies)
- Spending your days surrounded by smiles, tons of hugs and unconditional love

If you would like further information please contact us at 907-452-8251 ext. 3365 or email us at childcare@tananachiefs.org.

G R A N D P A R E N T S X Y L S F H O M E
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Find the following hidden words:

ADDITIONAL MONEY
APPLICATION
AUNT
CAREGIVER
CHILDCARE
CHILDREN
CUDDLETIME
CULTURE
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
FAMILY
FISHING
FOOD PRESERVATION
FUN
GARDENING
GRANDPARENTS
HAPPY
HEART
HOME
HUGS
HUNTING
LOVE
PICKING BERRIES
RELATIVE
SELF EMPLOYED
SMILES
STORYTELLING
SUMMER SUBSISTENCE
TEACH
TRADITIONS
TOGETHER
UNCLE
WINTER SUBSISTENCE
WOODCUTTING
50% SUPPLEMENT RATE

AGENDA AT-A-GLANCE

2022 Annual Convention & Full Board of Director Meeting

MONDAY

MARCH 14, 2022

8:15 am

CALL TO ORDER - ANNUAL DELEGATES MEETING

Invocation

8:25 am

Presentation of Colors

8:40 am

Remembering Late Traditional Chief
Don Honea Sr.

9:00 am

Welcome New First Traditional Chief

9:10 am

Welcome Address

9:30 am

In Memoriam

9:40 am

Committee Assignments

9:45 am

BREAK

10:00 am

Welcome Address

Doyon, Limited

Fairbanks Native Association

Interior Regional Housing Authority

10:45 am

Welcome Address

City of Fairbanks

Fairbanks North Star Borough

City of North Pole

11:15 am

Elders & Youth Address

12:00 pm

WORKING LUNCH

1:00 pm

Congressional Delegation

1:45 pm

Introduction of Theme and Keynote
Speaker

2:45 pm

Alaskans for Better Elections

3:00 pm

BREAK

3:15 pm

Candidate Speeches

5:00 pm

RECESS

TUESDAY

MARCH 15, 2022

8:15 am

RECONVENE

Invocation

Innovations in our Communities

9:30 am

Growing our own workforce

Utilizing Employment and Training for
infrastructure projects

10:30 am

BREAK

10:45 am

Building resilient communities

12:00 pm

**HONORING LUNCH
BREAK**

Patti Hyslop Sobriety Award

TCC Employee of the Year

1:15 pm

Health Services Overview

2:00 pm

Cancer Panel

3:15 pm

BREAK

3:30 pm

Water/Sewer Update

4:45 pm

ADJOURN

WEDNESDAY

MARCH 16, 2022

8:15 am

**CALL TO ORDER -
ANNUAL FULL BOARD
OF DIRECTORS**

Invocation

8:30 am

Credentials Committee Report

8:35 am

Roll Call and Establishment of
Quorum

Adoption of Agenda

Adoption of Delegates & Full Board
of Directors Meeting Minutes

EXECUTIVE SESSION AT ANY
POINT IN TIME IF REQUIRED

8:45 am

TCC President's Report

Question & Answer

10:00 am

BREAK

10:15 am

Resolutions Committee Report

Consideration of Resolutions

12:00 pm

WORKING LUNCH

1:00 pm

Consideration of Resolutions
Continued

3:00 pm

BREAK

3:15 pm

Reconvene

Consideration of Resolutions
Continued

5:00 pm

RECESS

THURSDAY

MARCH 17, 2022

8:15 am

Reconvene

Invocation - TBA

8:25 am

TCC Finance Report

Question & Answer

9:45 am

BREAK – Drumming & Dancing

10:00 am

Reconvene

Election Committee Report

*Elections to begin at conclusion of
Finance Report

12:00 pm

WORKING LUNCH

1:15 pm

Reconvene

Elections

5:00 pm

ADJOURN

**MEETINGS ARE
CLOSED TO
THE PUBLIC**

In order to ensure the health
and safety of our delegates
and staff, this meeting is
CLOSED to the public.

WATCH ONLINE:
www.tananachiefs.org/live



Notice of Annual Meeting

Friday, March 11, 2022 • 3-7 p.m.
Chief David Salmon Tribal Hall

2022 Board Candidates

Jessica Black
 Glenn "Manny" Carlo
 Roxanne Frank
 Jolene Malamute
 Andrea Nield

Safety
 This will be a walk through event,
 with social distancing.
 Masks will be required,
 and available at the door.

For more information, contact
 Shaylene Dublin,
 at 907-452-1648, ext. 6235,
 or visit our website,
www.fairbanksnative.org

FAIRBANKS NATIVE ASSOCIATION

Annual Meeting of Shareholders

Friday, March 18, 2022 8 a.m. AKDT
 Westmark Fairbanks Hotel • PARTICIPATE ONLINE www.doyon.com

Reflecting on our past
 REFINING OUR PATH FORWARD

Doyon Limited

ePROXY PRIZE DEADLINE
Fri., Feb. 18, 2022 5 p.m. AKST
 Doyon is featuring new eProxy prizes this year to encourage shareholders to vote early and vote online!

EARLY BIRD DEADLINE
Fri., Feb. 18, 2022 5 p.m. AKST
 Return your proxy or eProxy by the early bird deadline to be entered to win cash prizes!

PROXY DEADLINE
Tues., Mar. 15, 2022 5 p.m. AKDT

VOTE ONLINE
eproxy.doyon.com

QUESTIONS?
 907-459-2000
www.doyon.com

2022 TCC Full Board of Directors Meeting Elections

SUBREGIONAL ADVISORY BOARD ELECTIONS

TCC EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Subregional Positions:

Yukon Flats Subregion3 Year Term (2022-2025)
 Currently Nancy James, Ft. Yukon
 Yukon Tanana Subregion3 Year Term (2022-2025)
 Currently Frank Thompson, Evansville

TCC ADVISORY BOARDS

The three TCC Advisory Boards make recommendations to the TCC Executive Board and President. The Regional Health board is selected by each respective subregion. (Article 7, Section 2). The President has the authority to appoint all individuals to the other advisory boards, (Article 7, Section 3), but the most recent process has been for the subregions to democratically select representatives to each advisory board. All candidates must be Alaska Native.

TCC Regional Health Advisory Board

Upper Tanana Subregion.....3 year term (2022-2025)
 Currently Sylvia Pitka, Northway
 Upper Kuskokwim Subregion3 year term (2022-2025)
 Currently Agnes Tony, Nikolai

TCC Education Council

Upper Kuskokwim Subregion.....3 year term (2022-2025)
 Currently Alice Dale, McGrath
 Upper Tanana Subregion.....3 year term (2022-2025)
 Currently Diane Titus, Tanacross

Interior Athabascan Tribal College Board of Trustees

Yukon Tanana Subregion.....3 year term (2022-2025)
 Currently VACANT
 Yukon Flats Subregion.....3 year term (2022-2025)
 Currently VACANT
 Lower Yukon Subregion.....3 year term (2021-2024)
 Currently Margie Walker, *expired 2021

FULL BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTIONS

AFN Village Representative

1 SeatOne year term (2022-2023)
 Currently Julie Roberts-Hyslop, Tanana

IRHA Board of Commissioners

Seat C3 year term (2022-2025)
 Currently Speedy Sam, Huslia

Seat D3 year term (2022-2025)
 Currently Leah Woods, Fairbanks/Rampart

* Must be eligible to serve on TCC Board of Directors

- Employees of TCC or IRHA are not eligible to serve as IRHA Commissioners (Article 7, Section 7)

FULL BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTIONS

Officer Positions

Vice President.....3 year term (2022-2025)
 Currently Charlene Stern, Arctic Village

President/Chairman Position

Per Article V, Sec. 3 of [TCC's Bylaws](#), "the Board of Directors shall by majority vote of the quorum present appoint a successor to serve the unexpired term of the officer removed." The Board made a temporary appointment of Brian Ridley as Acting President until the March convention, at which point the Board must appoint a successor to serve the one year unexpired portion of the President's term. This appointment process differs from an election process in several important ways—notably, there will be no campaigning or speeches, and there will not be a ballot with all the interested candidates' names.

For more information, please visit:

www.tananachiefs.org/2022-annual-convention

The Council Newsletter

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communications_dept@tananachiefs.org

www.tananachiefs.org

Letters to the Editor, other written contributions and photo submissions are welcome. However, space is limited and program-oriented news has priority. We reserve the right to edit or reject material. Letters and opinions are not necessarily the opinions of Tanana Chiefs Conference. Material submitted anonymously will not be printed.



Tanana
Chiefs
Conference



COVID-19 Relief Programs for Holy Cross

In response to the ongoing public health emergency, the Holy Cross Tribe is offering the following COVID-19 Relief Programs to their Tribal Members:

Disaster and Emergency Household Assistance Program
Vaccine Incentive Program

Contact Holy Cross Tribe for more information:
(907) 476-7124 or email holycrosstribe@gmail.com



The Dangers of VAPING

Vaping doubles daily risk of heart attacks.

Acrolein – contributes to heart disease.

Use of commercial cigarettes with electronic cigarettes increases risk of heart attacks by 5 times.



Village Vacancies

- **Alatna:** Community Health Aide/Practitioner, Rural Trauma Navigator, Tribal Administrator-Onsite Supervisor, Tribal Workforce Development Specialist
- **Allakaket:** Community Health Aide/Practitioner, Community Health Representative, Family Visitor, Home Care Provider
- **Anaktuvuk Pass:** Behavioral Health Aide
- **Anvik:** Home Care Provider, Rural Trauma Navigator, Substitute Elder Nutrition Cook, Village Public Safety Officer
- **Arctic Village:** Home Care Provider, Substitute Elder Nutrition Cook, Tribal Administrator-Onsite Supervisor, Village Public Safety Officer
- **Chalkyitsik:** Behavioral Health Aide, Community Health Aide/Practitioner, Tribal Family Youth Specialist, Village Public Safety Officer
- **Circle:** Community Health Aide/Practitioner, Rural Trauma Navigator, Substitute Elder Nutrition Cook, Tribal Family Youth Specialist
- **Dot Lake:** Behavioral Health Aide, Community Health Aide/Practitioner
- **Eagle:** Community Health Aide/Practitioner, Home Care Provider, Rural Trauma Navigator
- **Evansville:** Community Health Aide/Practitioner, Elder Nutrition Cook
- **Fort Yukon:** Home Care Provider, Rural Trauma Navigator
- **Galena:** Behavioral Health Clinical Associate-Galena, Behavioral Health Clinician, Clinical Support Staff/Medical Assistant, Nurse Practitioner - Primary Care, Physician Assistant - Primary Care, Galena, Service Desk Technician
- **Grayling:** Family Visitor, Tribal Workforce Development Specialist, Village Public Safety Officer
- **Healy Lake:** Community Health Aide/Practitioner, Rural Trauma Navigator, Tribal Workforce Development Specialist, Village Public Safety Officer
- **Holy Cross:** Home Care Provider, Substitute Elder Nutrition Cook
- **Hughes:** Community Health Aide/Practitioner
- **Huslia:** Community Health Aide/Practitioner, Family Visitor, Preschool Lead Teacher, Tribal Workforce Development Specialist, Tribal Workforce Development Specialist
- **Kaltag:** Community Health Aide/Practitioner, Tribal Administrator-Onsite Supervisor, Tribal Family Youth Specialist, Tribal Workforce Development Specialist
- **Koyukuk:** Tribal Office Administrative Assistant
- **McGrath:** Elder Nutrition Cook., Rural Trauma Navigator, Substitute Elder Nutrition Cook, Tribal Workforce Development Specialist, Village Public Safety Officer
- **Minto:** Behavioral Health Aide, Community Health Aide/Practitioner, Family Visitor, Rural Trauma Navigator
- **Nenana:** Infant/Toddler Teacher, Preschool Assistant Teacher, Rural Safe Home Attendant, Tribal Family Youth Specialist
- **Nikolai:** Tribal Administrator-Onsite Supervisor
- **Northway:** Community Health Aide/Practitioner, Rural Safe Home Attendant, Substitute Teacher/Assistant Teacher, Village Public Safety Officer
- **Nulato:** Rural Safe Home Attendant, Village Public Safety Officer
- **Old Minto:** Camp Counselor I, Traditional Counselor II
- **Rampart:** Behavioral Health Aide, Community Health Aide/Practitioner, Elder Nutrition Cook., Rural Trauma Navigator, Substitute Elder Nutrition Cook
- **Ruby:** Behavioral Health Aide, Community Health Aide/Practitioner
- **Stevens Village:** Community Health Aide/Practitioner
- **Tacotna:** Rural Trauma Navigator
- **Tanacross:** Community Health Aide/Practitioner
- **Tetlin:** Behavioral Health Aide, Community Health Aide/Practitioner, Village Public Safety Officer
- **Tok:** Assistant Crew Boss, Behavioral Health Clinical Associate-Tok, Certified Medical Assistant, Clinical Support Staff/Medical Assistant, Coordinator/Instructor Mid Level Practitioner, Family Directed Respite Provider, Physician Assistant-Upper Tanana Health Center, RN Case Manager, Security Officer, Tribal Family Youth Specialist, Urgent Care RN Advanced, UTHC Environmental Services Technician I, UTHC Team Lead, Village Public Safety Officer-Regional Rover, Wildland Fire Crew Boss
- **Venetie:** Tribal Administrator-Onsite Supervisor, Village Public Safety Officer

Find Your Purpose
Join our Team at Tanana Chiefs Conference
www.tananachiefs.org/careers

JOB LISTED WERE OPEN AS OF FEBRUARY 16, 2022