

## **SUPPORT FOR INTERIOR TRIBAL BROADBAND TELECOM COOPERATIVE**

**WHEREAS,** Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) is an Alaska Native tribal health and social services consortium established by the Interior Alaska tribes and tribal communities, to provide 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; and

**WHEREAS,** Alaska ranked 49th out of all 50 states in broadband adoption, network quality and economic structure according to the 2012 State Broadband Index developed by Tech net, an advocacy group comprised of innovators and technology leaders; and

**WHEREAS,** There is a need for strategic planning within the Interior to facilitate the build-out of high speed internet to communities within the TCC/Doyon area; and

**WHEREAS,** There are tremendous federal resources available to pay for the cost of infrastructure to our villages, and the pooling of various grants and other funding sources—both public and private—could be used to build out broadband infrastructure reaching all native villages in the TCC region to substantially aide in education and economic development; and

**WHEREAS,** TCC and Doyon, Limited see the need to seek federal and state dollars for broadband infrastructure, which should be prioritized to go where infrastructure is non-existent or lacking within Alaska until those gaps are closed; and

**WHEREAS,** TCC recognizes that to be successful in creation of infrastructure the last mile and middle mile focus to connect communities is necessary to anchor institutions to each other, enabling them to share applications, infrastructure, and other resources.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Tanana Chiefs Conference Full Board of Directors directs staff to work with Doyon, Limited to develop a Tribal Utility Cooperative to focus on middle mile and last mile Telecom build out with the goal of improving internet access for our underserved tribal communities.

## **CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that this resolution was duly passed by the Tanana Chiefs Conference Full Board of Directors on March 16, 2022 at Fairbanks, Alaska and a quorum was duly established.



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**Charlie Wright**  
**Secretary/Treasurer**

**Submitted by: Native Village of Eagle**