

## TCC Full Board Appoints New Leadership



On March 17th, the Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) Full Board of Directors appointed a new Chief/Chairman for the organization – Brian Ridley of Eagle.

Chief Ridley had been serving as Interim President for the organization after being temporarily appointed in December. Prior to that Chief Ridley served as Chief Finance Officer of TCC from 2008-2021.

"I want you to know that I work for

all of you not just some of you," said Chief Ridley after being appointed, "I really care for this organization and all of our people."

In addition to the Chief/Chairman appointment, elections were held for several seats on TCC's Executive Board. Sharon Hildebrand of Nulato was elected as the new Vice-President, Lori Baker of Minto was elected as the new Yukon Tanana Subregional Representative and Nancy James of

Fort Yukon was re-elected as the Yukon Flats Subregional Representative.

TCC would like to recognize and honor outgoing board members Dr. Charlene Stern, former Vice-President, and Chief Frank Thompson, former Yukon Tanana Subregional representative, for their leadership and years of service to the organization and the people of the TCC region.

## Trimble Gilbert Honored as **First Traditional Chief**

On March 14th, 2022, Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) officially recognized Trimble Gilbert of Arctic Village as the new First Traditional Chief of the TCC region. Chief Gilbert previously served as Second Traditional Chief of TCC and inherited his new position after the passing of First Traditional Chief Don Honea Sr. in September of 2021. A Second Traditional Chief will be elected by the Denakkanaaga Board of Directors at their Annual Meeting later this year.

The Traditional Chief is a life-long role that serves as an ambassador of traditional knowledge and the Athabascan culture. TCC has only had five other traditional chiefs; Chief Don Honea Sr. of Ruby, Chief David Salmon of Chalkyitsik, Chief Franklin Madros Sr. of Kaltag, Chief Peter John of Minto and Chief Andrew Isaac of Dot Lake.



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## Mission

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

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2nd Traditional Chief

Brian Ridley/Eagle  
Chief/Chairman

Sharon Hildebrand/Nulato  
Vice President

Charlie Wright/Rampart  
Secretary/Treasurer

Herbie Demit/Tanacross  
Upper Tanana

Claude 'Joe' Petruska/Nikolai  
Upper Kuskokwim

Nancy James/Fort Yukon  
Yukon Flats

Eugene Paul/Holy Cross  
Lower Yukon

Lori Baker/Minto  
Yukon Tanana

Norman 'Carl' Burgett/ Huslia  
Yukon Koyukuk

Peter Demoski/Nulato  
Elder Advisor

Alex Hanna/Minto  
Youth Advisor

## Chief's Report

Dear Tribes and Tribal Members,

First of all, I would like to say that I am incredibly humbled that our Full Board of Directors chose to appoint me as Chief/Chairman. I am honored to be leading an organization that I have dedicated thirteen years of service to.

Moving forward, I commit to leading from a place that honors our traditional and cultural values of honesty, fairness, respect and unity. I am prepared to carry TCC through the coming year and lay the groundwork for a positive path forward.

This year's Annual Convention and Full Board of Directors meeting theme was 'Innovate. Advocate. Protect Our Way of Life', which recognizes the way our Tribes and employees have used innovation and advocacy on all levels and systems to continue protecting our way of life for our Tribes and tribal members. The theme provided the opportunity for our tribal leaders, delegates and community partners to discuss the challenges and successes in our region.

During this year's Convention several Tribal leaders spoke about the importance of unity and the strength that we carry as a collective voice. I want to echo that sentiment by reminding everyone about the vision of our organization and what we strive to achieve - Healthy, Strong, Unified Tribes. The history of how our organization came to be is rooted in unity. In 1915, Tribal Chiefs from throughout our region came together to protect our indigenous rights. Today we continue that tradition annually at our Convention. Our success as an organization was established through the ability to set differences aside and come together to work towards the greater good of the Alaska Native people.

I wanted to take a moment to recognize our outgoing board members Dr.Charlene Stern, former Vice-President, and Chief Frank Thompson, former Yukon Tanana Subregional representative, for their leadership and years of service to the organization and the people of the TCC region.

I would also like to recognize our newly elected board members. Lori Baker of Minto was elected as the new Yukon Tanana Subregional Representative, Nancy James of Fort Yukon was re-elected as the Yukon Flats Subregional Representative and Sharon Hildebrand of Nulato was elected as Vice-President.

I would like to thank everyone who made this year's Convention a successful and informative event.

*Mahsi Choo',*  
**Brian Ridley**  
Chief/Chairman

## 45th Annual National Indian Timber Symposium

Tanana Chiefs Conference and the Intertribal Timber Council is hosting the 45th Annual National Indian Timber Symposium. The scheduled workshops, presentations, and field tours are relevant to the forestry and land management challenges faced by tribes across the country, as well as our tribes here in Alaska.



**May 15th-19th, 2022**  
**Wedgewood Resort**  
**Fairbanks, AK**

**Register Early!** Max attendee limit is 200 people due to space limitations at the hotel. Onsite registration will not be available. Online registration closes May 11, 2022.

**Learn more and Register online at:** <https://www.eventsquid.com/event.cfm?id=15815>



## New Wellness and Prevention Division Director Ashley Powe

Ashley Powe is Unangan and a tribal member of the Agdaagux Tribe of King Cove. Ashley became a part of the Tanana Chiefs Conference team in 2015 working for the Behavioral Health Division. Ashley has built a fulfilling career with Tanana Chiefs Conference by growing within the organization. Ashley has served as a Behavioral Health Administrative Assistant, Outpatient Behavioral Health Case Manager, Behavioral Health Consultant, Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Case Manager, Subregional Prevention Coordinator, Wellness Project Coordinator, and most recently as the Wellness and Prevention Special Projects Director/



Acting Wellness and Prevention Director. Ashley has an educational background in Aviation Maintenance, Human Services, Addictions Counseling, and Psychology. When Ashley is not working she enjoys spending quality time with her family, living a subsistence lifestyle, gardening, and advocating for food security.

We are excited to have her taking on this latest responsibility for Tanana Chiefs Conference and know she will be instrumental in helping to lead the Wellness & Prevention Team as it transitions to become a more integrated part of Clinical Services.



## President Biden Signs Violence Against Women Act

Last month, President Joe Biden signed the reauthorization of the Violence against Women Act (VAWA). The reauthorization includes Alaska-specific provisions that will empower tribal governments to prosecute non-Native perpetrators of violence in their villages.

"The renewal of VAWA is a huge win for Alaska Native Tribes. This historic piece of legislation includes important tribal provisions that will empower tribes to actively curb domestic violence in their villages," says TCC Chief/Chairman Brian Ridley, "This is a critical step in the protection of Alaska Native women and children, as they experience higher rates of violence than any other race and many villages do not have a public safety presence. It also creates a pathway forward for Tribes, the State and Federal governments to come together and create a collaborative holistic response to public safety issues in rural Alaska for the first time."

Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) strongly supports the reauthorization of the Violence against Women Act (VAWA) 2022. TCC and its member Tribes have submitted testimony and consultation comments in support of VAWA Reauthorization since its expiration in late 2018.

"Alaska Native communities, particularly women and children, experience higher rates of violence than any other race. This bill creates a pathway for tribes, federal and state partners to change these heartbreaking numbers," says Brittany Madros, TCC Tribal Government and Justice Division Director.

## Isabelle John Celebrates 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday

On March 15th, 2022 Isabelle John of Tanacross celebrated her 100th birthday. Isabelle came to TCC's 2022 Annual Convention and Full Board of Directors Meeting where the Full Board of Directors sang her happy birthday. Additionally, TCC's Vice-President Charlene Stern presented Isabelle with a parka.

TCC is honored that Isabelle is one of the elders that participated in the Legacy of Our Elders series, where she shared her life story.

You can watch Isabelle's story on the TCC website at:

[www.tananachiefs.org/legacy-of-our-elders](http://www.tananachiefs.org/legacy-of-our-elders)



## POEM: Spring Camp Lake

A gaggle of giggling geese,  
Gathered among the greens,  
Pairs of swans, with a loud song,  
Muskrats are mischief, all night long,  
Moose is our mission,  
So we sit and quietly listen,  
At Spring Camp Lake,  
Where we take,  
Food for our means.

*Submitted by Nekoya Jovaughn Wiehl, age 14.  
Written with assistance from her mother, Mary Ann Wiehl*

# Tanana Chiefs Conference 2022 Election Results

## Executive Board of Directors



**Chief/Chairman**  
Brian Ridley, Eagle  
*Term: 2022-2023*



**Vice-President**  
Sharon Hildebrand, Nulato  
*Term: 2022-2025*



**Yukon Flats Representative**  
Nancy James, Fort Yukon  
*Term: 2022-2025*



**Yukon Tanana Representative**  
Lori Baker, Minto  
*Term: 2022-2025*

## Health Advisory Board



**Upper Tanana Representative**  
Sylvia Pitka, Northway  
*Term: 2022-2025*



**Upper Kuskokwim Representative**  
Agnes Tony, Nikolai  
*Term: 2022-2025*

## IRHA Board of Commissioners



**Seat D**  
Kimberly Carlo, Fort Yukon  
*Term: 2022-2025*



**Seat C**  
Speedy Sam, Huslia  
*Term: 2022-2025*

## Alaska Federation of Natives



**AFN Village Representative**  
Julie Roberts-Hyslop, Tanana  
*Term: 2022-2023*

## Employee Award Winners

### Ricky Ragsdale - Fairbanks Employee of the Year



Micky Ragsdale is TCC's 2022 Fairbanks Based Employee of the Year. He has been fantastic through this pandemic. He constantly impresses by being available during off hours and being patient with all the questions that come his way about COVID exposure, quarantines and vaccines. His willingness to work with employees to keep them safe, happy and at work does not go unnoticed.

He has given out his cell number and has received calls as early as 6:30AM from symptomatic employees needing help and he answers the call. He contacted another employee at 8AM on a Saturday to give them a courtesy update on testing (even though the testing wasn't complete) because he knew they were worried about their child and wanted to provide reassurance and comfort.

He not only has helped ensure the safety of TCC employees, but also their families. This was a huge load to carry and he did it along with the rest of the employee health team with dignity and grace. He is empathetic and assuring and a true example of Ch'eghwtsen.

### Jennal Burgett - Rural Employee of the Year



Jennal Burgett is TCC's 2022 Rural Employee of the Year. She was thrown right into the fire from a Certified Medical Assistant role into a senior administrative position in the remote village of Galena. Galena is a "hard to fill" designated clinic due to the harsh climate and remote location. The local clinic lost its main physician for a period of time as well as other providers which jeopardized the clinic's ability to continue functioning in its pivotal role of caring for the local community. This includes approximately 500 people, including students from across Alaska attending the Galena Interior Learning Academy and elder residents of the Yukon Koyukuk Elder Assisted Living Facility.

Jennal quickly assumed the burden taking on tasks from several roles including coordinating all of the clinic's operations, from building maintenance and custodial services to supervising medical staff. She rose to the challenge beautifully and donned many hats as she conducted site visits, arranged for locum providers, took part in planning meetings and successfully steered the clinic to safety. She enabled providers to refocus on wellness visits and disease prevention which were critically needed. She was the eyes and ears for TCC to keep this clinic running during very difficult times.



## Meet TCC's New Vice-President

Sharon Hildebrand was elected as Vice-President of Tanana Chiefs Conference on March 17th, 2022 by the TCC Full Board of Directors. She will serve a three-year term from 2022-2025.

Sharon is Koyukon Athabascan and a tribal member of the Nulato Village. She was raised by her grandparents Ellen and Aloysius Peters who taught her to live traditionally while growing up in Nulato. She is the daughter of the late Freda Schrock of Loudon and the late Jay Schrock of Tanana.

Her grandmother is the late Florence Grant of Tanana.

Sharon has a Bachelor's in Alaska Native Studies with a concentration in Alaska Native law, government and politics from the University of Alaska Fairbanks. She also has a Master's degree in public administration from the University of Alaska Southeast. She serves on the Fairbanks Native Association Board of Directors, on the TCC Full Board of Directors as an alternate delegate for the Yukon Tanana Subregion and on

her village corporation board - Gana-A'Yoo, Limited. She currently serves as the Village Outreach Liaison for Doyon, Limited.

In her free time, Sharon enjoys spending time with her husband Vern and sons outdoors, boating, watching hockey and being out on the land.

She has many years of experience working with Tribal governments and non-profit organizations. She believes in TCC's mission of Healthy, Strong, Unified Tribes and working towards a better tomorrow for future generations.



## Richard (Chalyee Éesh) Peterson TCC 2022 Keynote Speaker

TCC's 2022 Keynote Speaker was Richard (Chalyee Éesh) Peterson. He is Tlingit from the Kaagwaantaan clan. He is a lifelong Alaska who grew up in Kasaan and currently serves as President of the Central Council of the Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Tlingit & Haida).

"Singularity –we are like a stick- and you can break a stick. Collectively - when we take all of these sticks that are us and we put them together into

a bundle - they can't be broken," said President Peterson, "I ask all of you in roles of leadership – let's be the sticks that pull each other together and build a bundle. Let's be unbreakable. Let's stand together and let's build a better tomorrow for our children, their children, and the future ancestors we all want to be."

TCC would like to say Mahsi Choo' to President Peterson for sharing his words with our region.

Watch the Full Keynote Speech at [www.tananachiefs.org/convention-2022-videos/](http://www.tananachiefs.org/convention-2022-videos/)





## 2022 Convention Week Photos







## Thank you for your **Service to Our Tribes**

Tanana Chiefs Conference would like to recognize Charlene Stern of Arctic Village, former Vice-President, and Frank Thompson of Evansville, former Yukon Tanana representative, for their years of service on the TCC Executive Board of Directors. We appreciate your leadership and guidance to Tanana Chiefs Conference and our Tribes.





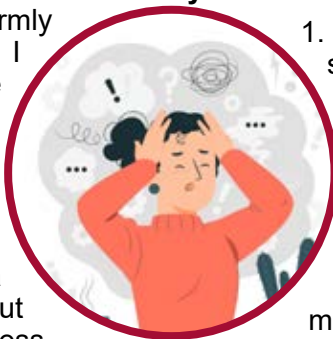
# The Beauty of Stress

Stress is not a word that brings many people warm and fuzzy feelings of happiness, peace, and comfort. In fact, for most of us, stress isn't an experience we warmly welcome in our lives. I can't recall the last time I heard someone say they enjoyed being charged by a bull moose, celebrated paying their rising fuel bills, or showed excitement for an algebra test. Stress is not fun, but as little as we enjoy stress, it's actually an important part of growing as a human being in this world. Stressful situations teach us how to manage our time, how to be resilient, how to learn from our mistakes, how to survive, and when we can endure, stress will bring many rewards.

I remember many stressful times in my life, but few compare to the time I spent teaching my teenage son to drive. Between his chronic lead foot, his need to hit every pothole we passed, and his inability to keep his eyes on the road (especially with the occasional teenage girl on the side of the road), being a driving instructor was STRESSFUL. There were times when my very life was on the line, but by enduring the stress and focusing on the end result, something beautiful happened—my son learned to drive!

The good news is that stress is something that we can learn to manage, manipulate, and ultimately

work for the betterment of ourselves. **Here are a few tips to help you successfully manage stress in your life:**



1. Understand what stress looks like in your life: Learning what causes you stress, how your body responds to stress, and what helps calm you is important in recognizing and responding in a timely manner to stress before it becomes overwhelming and debilitating.
2. Take care of yourself: A healthy mind, body, and spirit is key to handling and overcoming stress in our lives. Regular exercise, eating healthy, enjoying hobbies, getting plenty of sleep, and even drinking water are a few of many ways we can strengthen ourselves.
3. Keep focused on the rewards: Stress is often a small part of a bigger plan. Think about why stress is in your life and how it is ultimately helping you grow. Focus on the end result.
4. Ask for help: Stress is often a heavy burden to carry. Reaching out to a friend, family member, pastor, counselor, teacher, etc. who can lighten your load is an important and healthy way to reduce stress and be victorious through stressful times. You are not alone!

5. Change your environment: Look for ways to take breaks from your stressful situation. Take a break. Go for a walk. Watch a movie. Play a game with friends. Go for a boat ride. Allow yourself time away so you can refresh and restore--this gives you the energy to face the stress with full strength.

6. Learn relaxation techniques: Learn to calm your body, mind, and spirit. Control your breathing, pray, meditate, go for a walk, listen to calming music, and/or relax your muscles. Relaxing will counteract the body's survival response to stress and help you handle stress in a clear and calm manner.

7. Give yourself plenty of grace: The skills to successfully manage stress are not something we are naturally born with, it is a skill we learn to develop—and it takes time and practice. Remember, we are all a work in progress.

Diamonds are one of the world's most beautiful stones, but what we often forget is that every diamond was once coal subjected to thousands of years of stress and pressure. It was by experiencing stress that each diamond was created. We too are being shaped by life's challenges and difficult events and its experiencing and managing stress in a healthy manner that helps transform and bring out the innate beauty in each of us.

## April is Alcohol Awareness Month

Part of Alcohol Awareness Month is Alcohol-Free Weekend, which is taking place this year from April 1 – 3, 2022.

We encourage participants to abstain from Alcohol for those three days. As you abstain, you will be able to self-assess how you feel without drinking alcohol during the weekend. If you find it was difficult to abstain from Alcohol we encourage you to get help.

This will be an excellent time to start a conversation with teens about the impact of how alcohol abuse can effect an individual's life.

So give Alcohol Free Weekend a try for yourself and find about how you feel without waking up with a hangover and able to enjoy family and friends. Show a youth in your community that you don't need alcohol to have fun. Have a great Weekend!

TCC • Old Minto Recovery Camp Toll Free (800) 478-4741 or (907) 452-8251 ext. 3800

Behavioral Health: Toll Free (800) 478-7822 or 907-459-3800 ext. 3800



## Spring Flood Planning - Are you ready?

Breakup is just around the corner, and with all the snow we have this year there is an increased chance of flooding. Spring flood preparation can begin now to save you time and worry later and protect your family during a flood. Tanana Chiefs Conference offers these tips to help you get ready for possible flooding:

### A MONTH BEFORE BREAKUP:

- Find the high points around your property and other parts of the village where you can move items above flood level if needed.
- Make a list of any equipment (generators, snow machines, and chainsaws) that will need to be moved to higher ground during a flood.
- Locate any fuel storage that will need to be secured during a flood.
- Start putting together an emergency kit of items needed if you must leave your home.
- Ask your Tribal or City Administrator about the community flood preparations. This may include

a local area to evacuate to, designated people to observe the river level and alert the community.

### TWO WEEKS BEFORE BREAKUP:

- Finish putting together your emergency kit. Remember food, water and medications!
- Remind others to plan for potential flooding, and help if needed.
- Track down available emergency response equipment in the village (boats, flotation devices, and maintenance and rescue tools).
- Get essential facilities (clinic, water treatment plant, electric utility, records storage with the City and/or Tribe, etc.) ready for possible flooding.
- Help identify "at risk" residents of the community. These are the people that need to be evacuated before flooding for medical reasons.
- Identify elders or other people that may need assistance during a flood and help to make sure they are prepared. Remember their medications.

### WHEN A FLOOD WARNING HAS BEEN ISSUED:

- Flood proof the essential facilities and other public buildings.
- Secure fuel tanks, small fuel containers and barrels to keep them from floating away.
- Move all vehicles and equipment to higher ground.
- Move all dry goods and canned food items above the high water level in your home.
- Mattresses and other items that could be damaged by water should be moved above the high water level in your home.
- If a shelter has been identified, move your needed items to this location.

This groundwork can go a long way in avoiding damage and decreasing stress during breakup flooding. OEH is ready to support TCC villages with their environmental health concerns before and after flooding. Contact us for more information.

## Scholarship Deadline - It's not too late!

TCC Education provides financial awards to students in college and post-secondary vocational education programs. **The deadline for the Fall/Academic year is April 30th!**

**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](mailto:Education.Department@tananachiefs.org) or call 907-452-8251 ext. 3185 for more information.

**Applications are available online:** [www.tananachiefs.org/services/education/](http://www.tananachiefs.org/services/education/)



## VPSO Spotlight Todd Malamute

My name is George T. Malamute, I prefer to be called Todd, and my parents are Mabelle Oliver of Oklahoma and the late George Malamute of Koyukuk. I grew up in a variety of places while my dad was in the military, with Galena being the primary place I lived in, which is also where I graduated High School. I attended Tanana Valley Community College in 2008, receiving their police academy certification upon graduation. I worked for Alyeska and Pogo mine as an armed security guard after receiving my certification. While at Pogo mine I participated in Search and Rescues, Community Policing, and I also worked as an Emergency Trauma Technician. The Pogo job gave me the experience that I could use as a VPSO to better serve our communities. I am married to Sarah Malamute of Huslia who works for CAIHC as a Registered Nurse, we have one son. I look forward to serving the communities of the TCC Region.



## Spring Cleaning and Fresh Fit Traditions

Spring is here! It's time for parents and youth to start planting some healthy roots this spring. 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 transition 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:

- Leaders, encourage healthy behaviors with youth in your community!
- Have story time, and listen to your children's stories.
- Teach your children the importance of communication, and talk with them at an early age about the importance of making healthy decisions.

- Get active as a family, and go start prepping your garden!

Participating in all of these activities play 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 (TCC), be the change for betterment for your family this winter, and please break trail for a healthy lifestyle alongside your family.

## April Head Start News

The FY22 Head Start school year is going strong! 8 center based classrooms are 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.

Head Start Staff is busy planning for the upcoming FY23 school year. Community Assessments went out to all of TCC's village locations last month and we'll be using the information returned to us to decide

where we can best serve your communities. A drawing will be held April 4<sup>th</sup> for a community prize for those communities that have returned their Community Assessment.

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. Please contact **Tanya Yatlin at 907-452-8251 or 800-478-6822 ext. 3469** for ways to sign up.

Classrooms have been sent 9 pod Aerogardens to start preparing for the summer gardening program. Sites were sent the unit as well as

two types of pods to grow: tomatoes and lettuce. These pods 6-8 weeks for full growth. Our Head Start kiddos get to watch and care for their gardens while learning a lot with STEM activities.

Head Start has positions open in in the following villages: Allakaket, Grayling, Huslia, Minto, Nenana, Northway and Nulato. The positions available are Lead Preschool Teacher, Preschool Assistant Teacher, Infant/Toddler Teacher, Family Visitor and Substitute Teacher/Assistant Teacher. We also have an ERSEA position open in Fairbanks. Please visit our website at [www.tananachiefs.org/careers](http://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**.

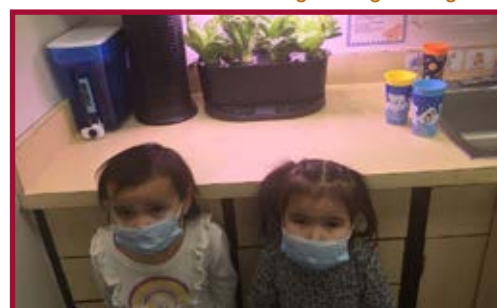
Northway Aerogarden growing tomatoes.



Physics in Northway!



Tanacross has lettuce growing strong.





# April 29<sup>th</sup> George Attla Jr. Day

"You're trying to beat time and then eventually time catches up with you. You can try your best; you may beat the competitors but you can't beat time."

-George Attla Jr.-  
In Attla's Tracks

If there was a word to describe the late George Attla Jr. it would be 'champion.' He was known across Alaska as just that; a champion of Dog mushing, of the traditional lifestyle, and for Native Alaskans.

Born in 1933 at a fish camp just below Koyukuk on the Yukon River, George was raised in a subsistence lifestyle- fishing and hunting off of the land with his family. By the 1950s George had already become a legendary open-class sprint dog racer. His name was known and respected throughout the world. Known as the "Huslia Hustler" Attla Jr. won countless races and was even inducted into the first Alaska Sports Hall of Fame and

later named the Best Musher of the 20th Century.

Governor Steve Cowper proclaimed April 29, 1988 as "George Attla Day" and Tanana Chiefs Conference felt it was important to also recognize his multiple accomplishments and name April 29th as "George Attla Day". Submitted by the Beaver Village Council in 2015, the Full Board of Directors passed resolution 2015-01 to honor him on that day. On April 29th, all TCC calendars now read "George Attla Day" and it will remain a time to honor a true Alaskan champion.

## TCC Staff Appointed to Governor's People First Initiative Councils

In February, Governor Mike Dunleavy announced the appointment of Alaskans to various People First Initiative Councils that included two TCC employees; Brittany Madros, Tribal Government and Justice Division Director, was appointed to the Governor's Council on Human and Sex Trafficking, and Darrel Hildebrand, Public Safety Manager, was appointed to the Governor's Council on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons.

The People First Initiative focuses on five intersecting public safety concerns: Domestic violence and sexual assault, human and sex trafficking, Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons, foster care, and homelessness.



**Darrel Hildebrand**  
Governor's Council on  
Missing and Murdered  
Indigenous Persons



**Brittany Madros**  
Governor's Council  
on Human and Sex  
Trafficking

*Congratulations!*



# The Council Newsletter

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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



## FLOOD PREPAREDNESS TIP

### Make an Emergency Kit

Having an Emergency Kit is an essential step in preparing your household for flooding! Here are some of the things we recommend including in your kit:



- First aid kit
- Water
- Food (non-perishables)
- Batteries
- Waterproof matches
- Flashlight
- Extra clothes
- Emergency poncho
- Whistle

Learn more about Flood Preparedness at:

<https://www.tananachiefs.org/flood-preparedness/>

APRIL IS NATIONAL  
**CHILD ABUSE  
PREVENTION  
MONTH**

Participate by wearing blue  
every Friday in April!

**Find Your Purpose**  
Join our Team at Tanana Chiefs Conference  
[www.tananachiefs.org/careers](http://www.tananachiefs.org/careers)

### Village Vacancies

- Alatna: Community Health Aide/Practitioner, Tribal Administrator-Onsite Supervisor, Tribal Workforce Development Specialist, Rural Trauma Navigator
- Allakaket: Family Visitor, Community Health Aide/Practitioner, Community Health Representative, Home Care Provider, Home Care Provider
- Anaktuvuk Pass: Behavioral Health Aide
- Anvik: Substitute Elder Nutrition Cook, Rural Trauma Navigator, Home Care Provider, Village Public Safety Officer
- Arctic Village: Home Care Provider, Substitute Elder Nutrition Cook, Tribal Administrator-Onsite Supervisor, Village Public Safety Officer
- Chalkyitsik: Village Public Safety Officer, Tribal Family Youth Specialist, Community Health Aide/Practitioner, Behavioral Health Aide
- Circle: Community Health Aide/Practitioner, Tribal Family Youth Specialist, Substitute Elder Nutrition Cook, Rural Trauma Navigator
- 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: Nurse Practitioner - Primary Care, Physician Assistant - Primary Care, Galena, RN, Behavioral Health Clinical Associate-Galena, Behavioral Health Clinician, Behavioral Health Clinical Associate-Galena, Clinical Support Staff/Medical Assistant, Clinical Support Staff/Medical Assistant
- Grayling: Village Public Safety Officer, Family Visitor, Tribal Workforce Development Specialist, Preschool Assistant Teacher, Preschool Lead Teacher
- Healy Lake: Community Health Aide/Practitioner, Rural Trauma Navigator, Tribal Workforce Development Specialist, 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, Preschool Lead Teacher, Family Visitor, Substitute Teacher/Assistant Teacher, Tribal Workforce Development Specialist
- Kaltag: Community Health Aide/Practitioner, Tribal Family Youth Specialist, Tribal Administrator-Onsite Supervisor, 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, Rural Trauma Navigator, Family Visitor
- Nenana: Preschool Assistant Teacher, Infant/Toddler Teacher, Substitute Teacher/Assistant Teacher, Tribal Family Youth Specialist, Rural Safe Home Attendant
- Nikolai: Tribal Administrator-Onsite Supervisor
- Northway: Community Health Aide/Practitioner, Behavioral Health Aide, Village Public Safety Officer, Rural Safe Home Attendant, Substitute Teacher/Assistant Teacher
- Nulato: Substitute Teacher/Assistant Teacher, Rural Safe Home Attendant, Village Public Safety Officer
- Old Minto: Camp Counselor I, OMFRC Counselor I
- Rampart: Community Health Aide/Practitioner, Behavioral Health Aide, Elder Nutrition Cook, Substitute Elder Nutrition Cook, Rural Trauma Navigator
- 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: UTHC Team Lead, Security Officer, Assistant Crew Boss, Wild Land Firefighter Type II Crew Member, Squad Boss, Wildland Fire Crew Boss, Coordinator/Instructor Mid Level Practitioner, Behavioral Health Clinical Associate-Tok, Village Public Safety Officer-Regional Rover, Physician Assistant-Upper Tanana Health Center, Nurse Practitioner - Upper Tanana Health Center, Urgent Care RN Advanced, Family Directed Respite Provider, Certified Medical Assistant, Clinical Support Staff/Medical Assistant x2, Facilities Technician
- Venetie: Tribal Administrator-Onsite Supervisor, Village Public Safety Officer

### Region Wide Vacancies

- Service Desk Technician, Community Health Aide/Practitioner - Itinerant, Lead Family Contact Coordinator - SOC, SOC Cultural Contracts Coordinator, Behavioral Health Clinical Associate II

JOB LISTED WERE OPEN AS OF MARCH 24, 2022