



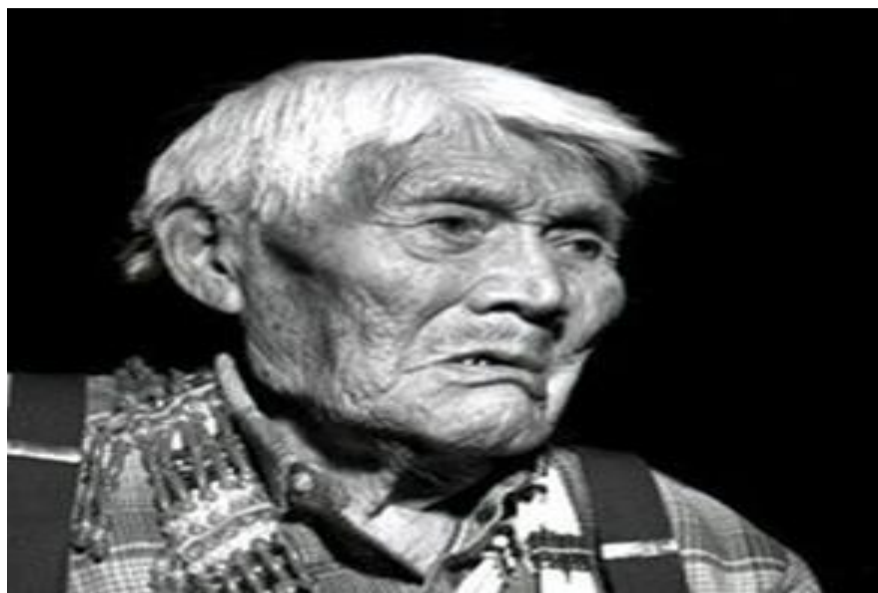
# Northway Community Plan 2021-2026

## CONTENTS

Resolution .....	4
Executive Summary.....	5
Values .....	6
Vision .....	6
Community Goals Summary .....	7
Community Profile.....	8
History and Culture.....	8
Location .....	10
Climate .....	10
Population .....	11
Genders by Age Group, Northway Community Survey 2021 .....	11
Population by Census Years .....	11
Gender by Northway Community Survey, 2021.....	12
Governance.....	12
Village Council.....	12
VPSO/ Law Enforcement .....	13
Corporations .....	13
Village Corporation: Northway Natives, inc.....	13
Regional Corporation: Doyon, Limited.....	13
Regional Non-Profit Corporation: Tanana Chiefs Conference .....	14
Denakkanaaga.....	15
Public Utilities .....	15
Water and Sewer.....	15
Solid Waste.....	16
Communications .....	16
Power/Energy.....	17
Bulk Fuel .....	17
Electric .....	17
Public Facilities.....	18
Village Council Building .....	18

Northway Clinic.....	19
Walter Northway School.....	20
Emergency Services.....	21
Post Office.....	21
Northway Washeteria.....	22
Community Hall.....	22
Campground .....	23
Housing.....	24
Economy.....	24
Local Stores and Businesses.....	24
Composition of Employment.....	25
Transportation.....	26
Land Use and Environment.....	27
Environmental Assessment .....	27
Environmental Concerns .....	27
.....	30
Land Ownership.....	31
Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge .....	31
Food Security.....	32
Community Well-Being.....	32
Community Events .....	32
Churches.....	34
Community Programs.....	34
Additional Educational Opportunities.....	34
Projects Completed 2015-2020.....	36
Community Goals 2021-2026 .....	37
Housing and Infrastructure .....	37
Culture .....	37
Community Wellbeing .....	38
Education.....	38

Youth & Elders .....	39
Appendices .....	40
Land Ownership Map .....	41
Northway Arial Map 1980 .....	41
Community Survey Results .....	43
References .....	45
Contacts .....	46



CHIEF WALTER NORTHWAY



## RESOLUTION



P. O. Box 516 • Northway, Alaska 99764 • (907) 778-2311 • FAX (907) 778-2220

Resolution # 2021-32

**Whereas**, this Northway Community Plan is important to the future growth and development of Northway; and,

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

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

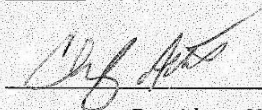
**Whereas**, this plan is intended to coordinate future community development and service delivery; and,

**Whereas**, it is understood that this document was created for public use and will be made publically 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 express in this plan.

Certification: We hereby certify that this resolution was duly passed and approved with 5 in favor,  
0 Opposed

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President, Northway Village Council

11-9-21  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

In March 2019, Tanana Chiefs Conference, Planning and Development (P&D) approached the Northway Tribal Council Tribal Administrator regarding the Community Plan. The Northway Tribal Council, realizing the importance of strengthening and unifying the community, collaborated with P&D program to prepare the Northway Community Plan. Tanana Chiefs Conference P&D created a draft and began compiling data for the plan.

In June 2021, the Northway Village Council received a Community Planning Specialist contract, which allowed them to collaborate with TCC to hire a local resident to gather information for the community plan.

The next step was gathering public input to provide direction for the community's growth and focus. Priority projects are based on public input to create goals and objectives. On July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021, TCC P&D staff traveled to Northway to work on the plan, administer the survey and facilitate the community planning.

The survey was administered to community members, 81 surveys were completed at this time. The P&D staff then facilitated a community-planning meeting at the Community Hall where approximately 40 community members participated. This meeting gave participants a chance to vote on the goal category. Once the goal categories were prioritized, participants then broke out into five groups to develop the set of goals.

By April 2020, most data, information and photos were incorporated into the plan and sent to Northway Tribal Council. The final plan was reviewed and adopted as an official document by the Northway Village Council on November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

A special thanks to Darrell Kaase, Nichol Rallo, Mariah Albert, Barrett Ristoph, and TCC's Climate Change Collaborative (Bruce Ervin and Debra Lynne) for their planning efforts.

## VALUES

Fifty-six Northway residents created a top ten list of reasons of why people have chosen to make Northway their homes.

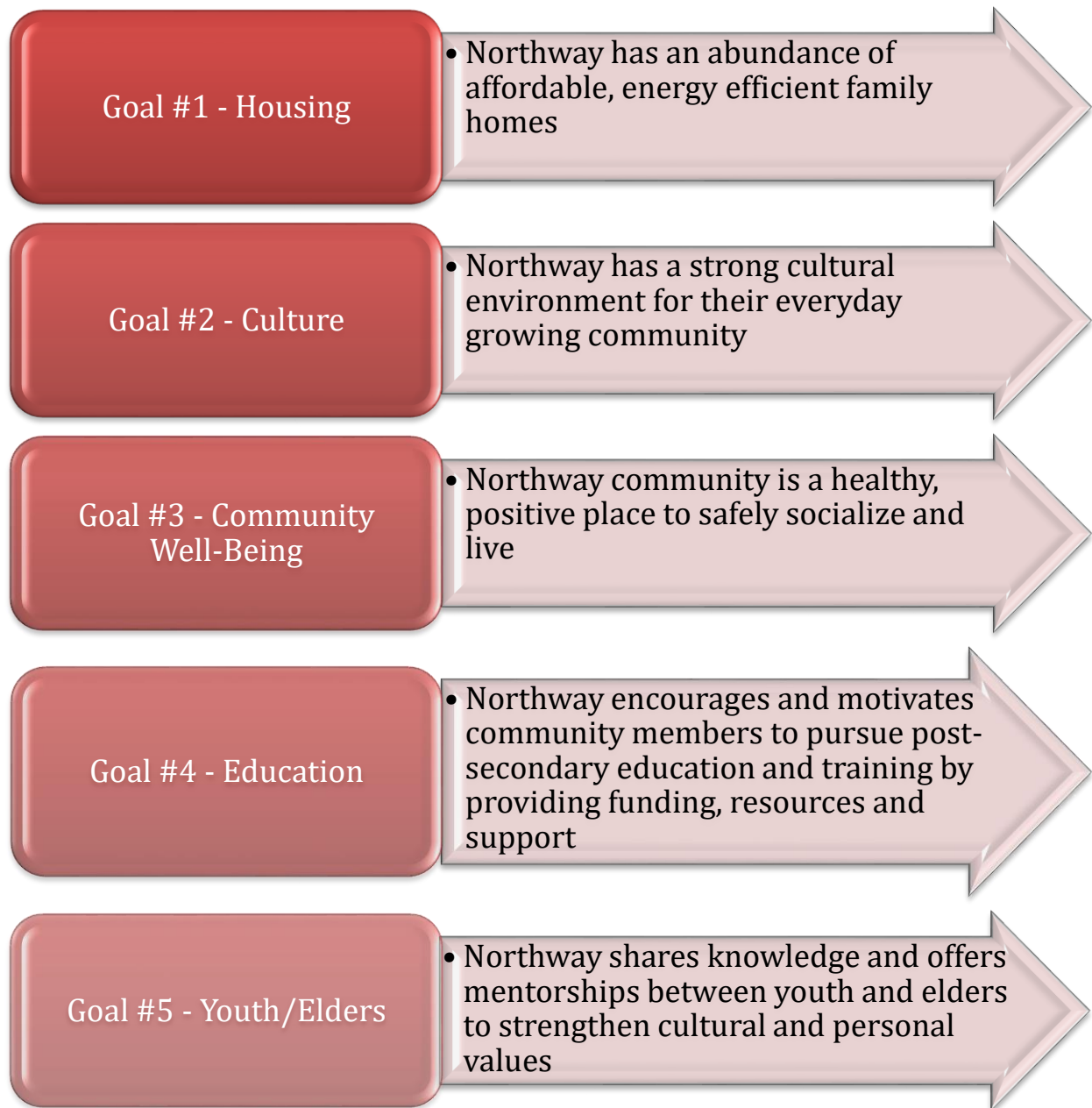
- Honesty
- Picking berries
- Culture & traditions
- Hunting
- Visiting family
- Camping & 10 mile culture camp
- Ancestors/forefathers
- Respect
- Dancing & singing
- Community Connections
- Teamwork & working together
- Crafts
- Sobriety



## VISION

The community of Northway was built upon principles founded by strong and self-reliant people. We are committed to maintaining that heritage by constantly striving to improve our people and our lands. We live by our strong traditions, actively practice our culture and fluently speak the language.

## COMMUNITY GOALS SUMMARY





## COMMUNITY PROFILE

### HISTORY AND CULTURE

The area around Northway was first utilized by the Dene' Athabascans who pursued seasonal subsistence activities in the nearby Chisana, Nabesna and Tanana rivers and creeks. The original name for the settlement was Nabesna, which is located across the river from the current Northway community (Hyslop p12). The current community site was named in 1942, after Chief Walter Northway. Chief Walter Northway was named after Captain Northway, a steamboat captain who traveled into the area in 1908, during the Chisana gold rush (Northway, p36).



NORTHWAY BRIDGE

Until the late 1800's the indigenous people of the Upper Tanana region, Dendeey shyuh iin (Athabaskan) speaking Indians of eastern interior

Alaska, roamed over 500,000 square miles across the northern taiga and tundra in small bands. They followed the seasonal migrations of caribou, waterfowl and fish, gathered berries, and hunted and trapped mammals and game birds. By taking advantage of every opportunity to feed and clothe their families, they became expert in the use of snares, deadfalls, and the construction of miles of caribou fences placed in strategic locations.

Arranged marriages and trade with their Ahtna neighbors to the south brought copper and salmon to this valley. Husbands and wives worked together as a team, and there were many rituals and taboos associated with daily life and the appeasement of spirits. The bands were divided into Gull and Raven clans, descending along mothers' family lines. Rites of passage and mortuary potlatches were the primary cultural celebrations.



CHIEF WALTER & OSCAR,  
ALASKA DIGITAL ARC

During the early years before the area was settled, two storeowners; Herman Kestler and John Hajdukovich; provided goods and trading with local area residents. They would freight their supplies from Dawson, Canada by horse. Chief Sam chose the community site, who had moved from his fish camp following the death of his wife Agnes. T'aaiy Ta', father of Chief Walter Northway, encouraged Chief Sam's relatives to move next to him, and within a few years, built six homes (Northway, p44). Finally in 1946, all of the residents lived in the main town site area (old town site was located across the river)

The first school in the community started in 1939 in the home of Chief Walter Northway, who moved out of his home for a year and lived in a tent so the community would have a place to meet for school. The following year the community pulled together and built a log cabin for the schoolchildren.

In 1940, construction on the airport started in support of World War II war efforts. The construction and ownership of the airport was through the U.S. Department of the Army. The Northway airport was a link in the Northwest Staging Route, a cooperative project between the U.S. and Canada. Chains of air bases through Canada to Fairbanks were used to supply Alaska during World War II. During the construction, brush clearing created jobs for local residents. The construction unsettled the local residents because the site chosen was directly over the Indian cemetery; graves were dug and burnt at the ends of the airfield.

During the height of operations at Northway, hundreds of buildings were built, including aircraft hangars, warehouses, movie theaters, garages, a sawmill, powerhouse, machine shop, and dozens of barracks. Following the end of WWII the airstrip was no longer required and the Army support pulled out. The army transferred ownership and maintenance of the Northway Staging Field to the State of Alaska in 1966 (Northway Staging Field).

During this time, construction of the Alcan Highway had started and the Army created a temporary base in Northway (Northway, p45). In 1941, the first post office was also established.

Today, the Native people of eastern interior Alaska continue to participate in many of the traditions of their ancestors while also integrating western culture and technology into their way of life. Tribal councils address such issues as environmental impacts on native lands,

safe drinking water and sewage disposal, employment, infrastructure development, health care and wellness issues as well as a myriad other concerns. Subsistence continues to be an important and necessary activity for the people. Although much of the culture continues to be passed on through the traditional potlatch celebrations and language mentors. One of the outstanding characteristics of the Athabascans of interior Alaska has been their adaptability. Just as in the distant past, the people continue to enjoy their homeland as they adapt to the challenges of the twenty-first century.

## **LOCATION**

The community of Northway is located off the Alaska Highway (Milepost 1264), on Nine-Mile Northway Road. It is approximately 42 miles from the Canadian border and 50 miles from Tok, Alaska. Latitude 62.9617 Longitude -141.9372.

The area encompassing Northway fall within a broad valley near the headwaters of the Tanana River. Nearby terrain includes the Nutzotin Mountains to the south and the Tanana Hills to the North. The nearby Nabesna and Chisana Rivers flow north from the Nutzotin Mountain and joins with the Tanana River. In addition to the main rivers there are many bodies of water surrounding the community including; Lick Creek, Ladue River, Pickeral Lake, Cheslina River, Mirror Creek, Scottie Creek, Desper Creek, Gardiner Creek, Stuver Creek, Moose Creek, and Mark Creek (Case page 9).

The US Census Department has the community of Northway divided into three separate communities: Northway Junction, Northway Village, and Northway (State of Alaska: Northway). This has caused much of the confusion and inaccuracy surrounding the population and demographics of the community. This plan includes accurate information that reflects the actual numbers for the community as a whole. For the 2020 census, it is now all one area, after assistance and request with the state and federal agencies.



## **CLIMATE**

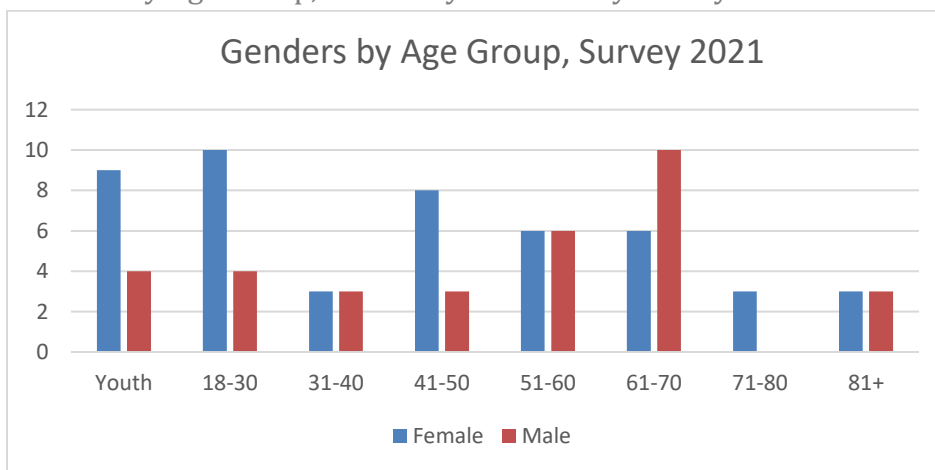
Northway falls within the continental climate zone, characterized by extreme temperature differences. The continental climate zone encompasses most of the central part of the state and experiences extremely cold winters and warm summers.

The average daily temperatures for the summer run around 70°F; and in the winter, -40°F are common. Annual precipitation is 9.75 inches of rain and 36 inches of snowfall. Climate has been changing such that Northway is experiencing longer summers with more days of warm weather, and more extreme weather events.

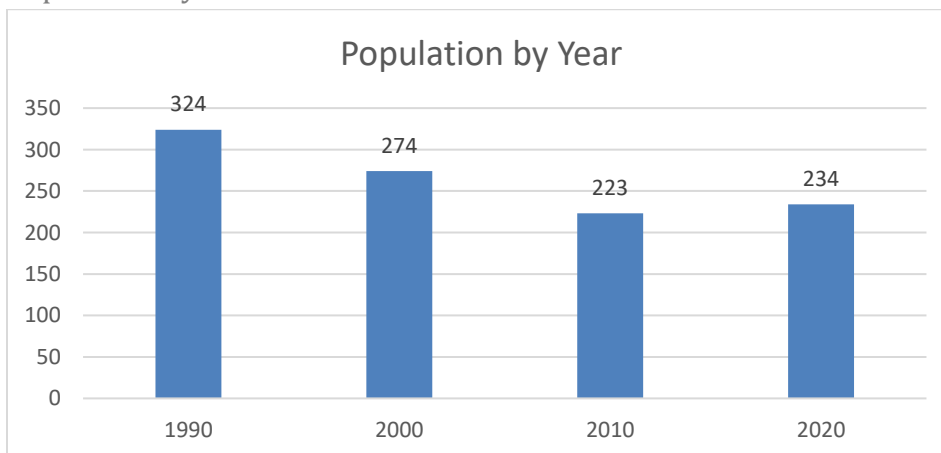
## POPULATION

There are 234 residents in Northway, which is a slight increase from the numbers collected during the 2010 Census. However, the community has seen a noticeable decrease in population over the past decade. Recent numbers of youth in the community indicate that there is a possibility for growth.

Genders by Age Group, Northway Community Survey 2021

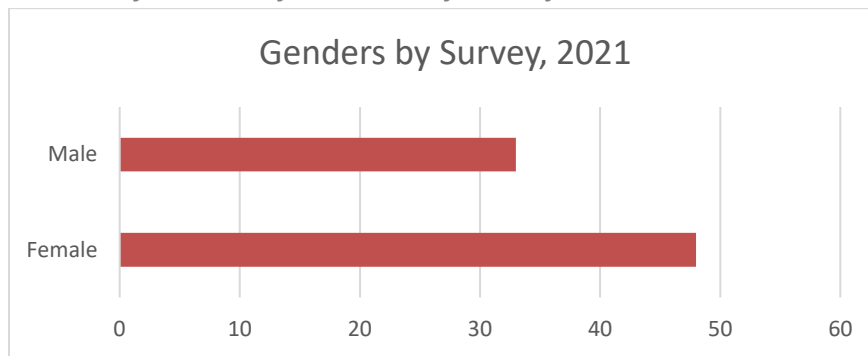


Population by Census Years





## Gender by Northway Community Survey, 2021



## GOVERNANCE

### VILLAGE COUNCIL

The Northway Village Council (NVC) staff includes approximately 10 annual positions and 6 seasonal positions. Seasonal employment includes summer youth workers. The council also jointly supervises the health aides, the community health representative and the behavior health representatives with TCC.

Permanent positions at the Village Council include:

- ICWA worker
- Tribal Administrator
- Bookkeeper
- Social Service worker
- Secretary/ Higher Education
- IGAP Staff
- One Water Sewer Truck Driver



NORTHWAY VILLAGE COUNCIL & COMMUNITY  
HALL

- Washeteria/Maintenance Worker/Water Plant Operator
- Truck Mechanic

The Village Council provides services through its BIA, IGAP, Family Violence Prevention, and ICWA programs. They maintain/operate the fire hall, clinic, washeteria, community hall; landfill and water/sewer haul services. In addition to tribally owned equipment necessary to maintain/operate these facilities, the council also owns a van, used for community potlatches, dance gatherings, and travel to classes/ trainings.

The Village Council is made up of seven members, as of right now, six seats are filled, one vacant, each serving staggered two year terms with annual elections held each April. Voting is open to all eligible enrolled tribal members. Only members who have resided in Northway

for at least the last year are eligible to serve on the council. The Northway village ratified the constitution in 2004.

The tribal court consists of seven members, whom handle cases that they choose to accept. The judges are reconfirmed during every village council annual meeting. Residents cannot be a council member and a judge simultaneously.

Northway Village Council hired 19 youth workers in the 2021 summer. Seven were funded through Tanana Chiefs Conference youth program and NVC funded the rest. Youth projects included preparing and cleaning up for 2021 culture camp, cutting brush around home construction sites, cleaned the ballfield, landfill, litter patrolling the community and roadsides, cleaning up around elders homes, assisting elders around their homes, .

### **VPSO/ LAW ENFORCEMENT**

As of June 2021, the VPSO and COPS positions are vacant. The council has a current MOA with TCC and a job posting is advertised. There is currently no State Trooper stationed in Northway. Due to trooper understaffing, there is a trooper post located in Tok. Northway Village Council will be hiring a public safety officer, for a three-year grant. Northway Village Council received a COPS grant for one Tribal Peace Officer (TPO) position and equipment. The position is currently advertised.

## **CORPORATIONS**

### **VILLAGE CORPORATION: NORTHWAY NATIVES, INC.**

Northway Native, Inc. oversees a total of 115,200 acres surrounding the community (see appendices for land ownership map). The Northway Corporation consists of a nine member board and ten full-time staff members. The elections for the board occur annually and shareholders are eligible to apply each term. The corporation oversees the local store, campground, liquor store, weekly community bingo, and the local bar. In total the corporation staffs approximately eight people. There are 220 + shareholders.

### **REGIONAL CORPORATION: DOYON, LIMITED**

Northway is part of Doyon Limited, the Alaska Native Regional (for profit) Corporation for Interior Alaska established in 1972 under the Alaska Native Claim Settlement Act (ANCSA). Provisions under ANCSA, Doyon is entitled to receive approximately 12.5 million acres across Interior Alaska, making Doyon the largest private landowner in Alaska. Doyon has, to date, received title to nearly 11.5 million acres, mainly around the 34 villages within the TCC region. Headquartered in Fairbanks, the thirteen-member board of directors employs 2,800 individuals with 20,000+ tribally enrolled shareholders (Doyon Company Overview).

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

### **REGIONAL NON-PROFIT CORPORATION: TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE**

Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC), Dena' Nena' Henash "Our Land Speaks," is the regional non-profit corporation for the Interior region of Alaska. Established in 1962, the organization provides services to meet the health and social service needs of tribal members and beneficiaries of the tribal communities in Alaska's interior (About Us: Who We Are).

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: 1. Administration; 2. Health Services; and 3. Tribal Client Services.

Within those core departments, we 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; Contract Health; Registration; Environmental Health; Pharmacy; Medical; Family Medicine; Family Medicine RN; Specialty Clinics; Radiology; Community Health Outreach Program; 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 our region are six sub regions:

- Lower Yukon
- Upper Kuskokwim
- Upper Tanana
- Yukon Flats
- Yukon Koyukuk, and
- Yukon Tanana

Within our six sub regions are 39 villages, for an approximate population of 6,700 plus. We 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 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

## **PUBLIC UTILITIES**

### **WATER AND SEWER**

The Village Council employs a permanent resident to provide water and sewer services to residents. The position hauls water three days a week and provides sewer services twice a week for residents who pay the service fees. Sewer and water hauling services increased, due to COVID-19. Collected waste is disposed into one of the two lagoons located next to the landfill. Two wells located between the water/sewer truck garage and washeteria/clinic building provide a water source.



User fees, tribal monies and Indian Health Service (IHS) fund this program. It is currently operating at a loss but there are no plans to increase user rates due to the low economic status and high elder population in the area. NVC received a Department of Energy (DOE) Grant to do energy saving upgrades to the water/sewer garage, including solar installation on the water/sewer garage. NVC also installed energy efficient garage doors. This helps offset the high cost of operating.

Residents interested in receiving water/sewer services are required to have an alternative source of heat, other than wood, to ensure pipes do not freeze. Residents with services pay monthly service fees. Forty homes who take advantage of this program. The Northway Village Council also provides sewer services for the Walter Northway School and water services for the Department of Transportation facility.

Right now of installing new boilers in the garage funding through water sewer funds through the American Rescue Plan (ARP). Northway Village Council has two new trucks coming, they are ordered, new sewer truck and new water truck, they should be here and operational by the end of the 2021 year and the water/sewer business through the state best practices has a score of 95%.

### **SOLID WASTE**

The Village Council operates solid waste management for the community. The class III landfill is located four miles from the community, next to the airport. The area designated for the landfill was conveyed from corporation to the tribe. It is currently nearing capacity; In 2017, Northway Natives, Inc gave an acre to Northway Village Council for the landfill expansion. The tribe and corporation are working together in identifying possible relocations. The landfill facilities include two burn barrels on site and the tribe operates a weekly trash pick-up system for residents.

Recent landfill upgrades include power installation clearing and fencing of the additional installation of acre gates and can and glass crusher received. NVC received a state grant for a new and efficient burn box. NVC had three loads of backhaul project included cans and white products.



LANDFILL

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Alaska Communication Systems (ACS) provides local telephone service. Long distance is provided by AT&T. 95% of homes have landlines as there is no cell phone coverage in Northway.

Alaska Power and Telephone (AP&T) and Hughes Net provide internet service through an internet tower located near the back of the tribal office. 53% of residents have internet access in their individual homes. For those that do not have private internet, there is a computer available for public use at the village office. AP&T upgraded internet access and speed in the summer of 2019.

## **POWER/ENERGY**

### **BULK FUEL**

Bulk fuel storage for the village facilities are as follows:

- 500 gallons for the washeteria/clinic building
- 10,000 gallons for the water/sewer truck garage
- 500 gallons for the Tribal Council office building
- 1,000 gallons for the fire hall
- 300 gallons for the community hall

Propane is used for cooking in the community hall and the dryers in the washeteria. Primary heat sources for the community buildings are fuel, which is currently \$3.00 per gallon (as of August 2021) if a hundred gallons or more is delivered by Northern Energy (located in Tok). Monthly deliveries occur in summer and bi-monthly during the winter. Resident's use both fuel and wood to heat their homes. Naabia Niign general store sells regular gasoline at \$3.80 and diesel at \$3.50, as of August 2021.

### **ELECTRIC**

Alaska Power and Telephone (AP&T) provides the electricity for the entire community of Northway and surrounding areas. Ninety nine percent of homes have power provided by AP&T, the other one percent uses fuel operated generators. The community has no plans for upgrades to existing electrical systems at this time. As of October 2020, the cost of electricity is 56 cents per kWh (Statistical Report, 2021). Northway is part of the Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) Power Cost Equalization (PCE) program. The program provides Northway residents with a subsidy for the high cost of kWh that is common in rural Alaska. In FY2020, the PCE saved eligible customers an average annual of \$1313, an average \$109/month savings, based on most recent data (Power Cost, n.d.).

Northway Village Council received a Department of Energy Grant to install solar panels on three buildings, washeteria, and community hall in 2019. This offsets high cost of energy.

## PUBLIC FACILITIES

### VILLAGE COUNCIL BUILDING

Northway has a Village Council office building. In 2014, the Village Council received ICDBG funding that allowed for a renovation to the current community hall. The two-story addition houses the new Village Council office, in addition to offering a cultural area. Community members will utilize the cultural area each week for crafts, language and traditional native dance gatherings. In September 2016, moved into completed and new office addition. The renovation included new bathrooms, kitchen, and larger community hall.

In the fall of 2020, Northway Village Council completed building a Safe Home, funded by the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) at Tanana Chiefs Conference. The two bedroom home has a bathroom, kitchen and a living room. OVC funds received built a COPS home, which has one bedroom and an office.

The new Tribal Courthouse is on the NVC property, giving tribal court members a private space to discuss sensitive matters, whereas tribal court was previously held in the main village council building. Funded by Northway Village Council, it was completed in December



2020. It is fully furnished with a table, chairs, toyo heater, and a large monitor with video meeting capabilities. The NVC funded this project with its unrestricted funds.

Northway Village Council built a high tunnel greenhouse through CARES Act and unrestricted funds, completed in spring 2021 with final power installation. For activities, the children in head start grew a variety of vegetables during its first growing season.

### **NORTHWAY CLINIC**

The Northway Village Council owns and operates the Northway Health Clinic. The council provides maintenance and operation funds. The clinic operates with a two person staff, both positions working six hours a day.

As of February 18, 2020, there are two trained health aides in the community. Tanana Chiefs Conference jointly supervises these two positions. If a community member requires additional health services, they are referred to Tok, Fairbanks, or Anchorage. The community health representative, located in the Village Council office building are able to set up additional appointments.



WASHETERIA & HEALTH CLINIC

Currently, the clinic and the washeteria are located in the same building but maintain separate entrances. The Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) built the health facility in 1995. In summer of 2020, projects to level the building new/renovation to stairs and ramps and leveling the sewer lines. Tanana Chiefs Conference helped Northway Village

Council in receiving a Department of Energy grant that allowed the clinic to receive photovoltaic mods on the clinic.

Tanana Chiefs Conference received funding for a separate clinic near the Alaska Highway, near the store and out of the lowland. Construction will start in the summer of 2021. This construction is part of a larger effort to gradually relocate Northway out of the erosion- and flood-prone lowland.



## WALTER NORTHWAY SCHOOL

The Walter Northway School is a part of the Alaska Gateway School District. There has been a steady average of 63 students enrolled in K-12, with four or more faculty members since 2020.

Several teachers live in nearby Tok, making a daily hour commute during the school year. The corporation contracts with the school district to provide the school buses for the community. The school also has a van for travel to activities throughout the state.



WALTER NORTHWAY SCHOOL

The lunch meal program provides, breakfast, lunch and snacks. The school utilizes the state Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP), which provides fresh fruits and vegetables to the schoolchildren during the day.



TEACHER HOUSING

According to the State of Alaska, the school facilities include the main school facility, sewer plant, hockey shed, and garage. Once the hockey program closed, the hockey shed and the outdoor ice rink were demolished. The current building was constructed in 1977 and has not received any upgrades since then. Nortech organization audited the energy efficiency of the building in 2012. There is also a housing duplex, built in 2010, located next to the school that provides additional housing for two

teachers.

The head start program runs during the first part of the day (8:30am-12:30pm). The Alaska Gateway School District and TCC provide funding for two staff employees for the program. As of 2020 there are eight local children ages 3-5, take part in the center base. In summertime, children aged 0-3 receive home visits.

The Northway Gateway after school program (GAP offers activities ranging from homework, games, cooking, etc. depending on individual interests. While offered, approximately twenty

local children that participated in the program daily. In 2014, the school received a PE grant to offer additional extracurricular programs.

### EMERGENCY SERVICES

There is an ambulance vehicle available to the community. The Northway Village Council and Tok EMS partner together to provide the vehicle. Tok EMS services maintain the ambulance and cover the reimbursements for the volunteer EMT II position. The Village Council maintains ownership of the vehicle and houses the vehicle in the Fire Hall.



FIRE HALL

Fire response for the community is limited; there is VFD made up of tribal members and community members, response plan. However, the community does own two fire trucks, and two foam units. As of 2020, they are all in need of maintenance to be operational. The Rural Alaska Community Action, Program (RurAL CAP) provided the community with a code red system in 2008. Designed for rural firefighting, the existing code red trailer is not functional on gravel roads, a majority of the roads in the community are.

### POST OFFICE



POST OFFICE

Post Office facilities operates five days a week, Monday thru Friday, 10:00am-5:00pm. The mail comes daily by truck from Tok. As of 2020, there is only one staff; an additional substitute position is advertised. The Post Office is located two miles from the town site, adjacent from the fire hall and the airport. The United States Postal Service recently did minor cosmetic upgrades to the building.

## **NORTHWAY WASHETERIA**

Public water is available for all residents through the washeteria building, built in 1995. The Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) funded the building. The washeteria has two showers, six washers and six dryers (all coin-operated).



WASHETERIA

Washeteria upgrades occur annually and projects vary from receiving new washers/dryers to large scale remodeling to make the services more efficient for the community. None of the residents have private laundry/dryers in their own homes so all Northway residents utilize the washeteria; the nearest alternative

facilities are located in Tok.

## **COMMUNITY HALL**

The Community Hall houses the elder meal program; it has a full kitchen with two cook stoves, fish frame, freezers, and refrigerators. Elders receive daily meals. It is also used for all potlatches, funeral services, and community gathering, holidays.

A two story addition was added to the Community Hall and was completed September 2016, so the hall is a Community Hall and NVC office building with offices upstairs, conference room, new bathrooms, and full kitchen with pantry, commercial stove, two fridges,



COMMUNITY HALL

two freezers and more. The old part of the hall received renovations, and the kitchen and bathrooms removed, new lighting and heating along with electrical put in.

## CAMPGROUND



NAABIA NIIGN

Naabia Niign manages the local campgrounds. The campgrounds are located on mile marker 1264 of the Alaska Highway. The campground borders the Chisana River. It is open for public use from May through September. Residents and non-residents utilize it during the summer months. In addition to tent sites, the campground is also equipped with fifteen RV ports and restroom facilities.



## **HOUSING**

In February 2020, the Northway Village Council conducted a housing assessment for the community the results were that there are 91 homes in Northway; 58 homes have water and sewer; 36 HUD homes; and 54 built by individuals. 48 homes are framed, 40 are log, and two are trailers.

Of the total number of homes, approximately 84 percent of homes are in good quality and 22 percent are vacant. The number of homes considered in good quality increased following weatherization services in the community. Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) Housing Department weatherized sixteen homes in 2013. In 2012, the Alaska Community Development Corporation (ACDC) weatherized six homes. In 2010, Interior Regional Housing Authority (IRHA) weatherized thirty-one homes.

In the summer of 2014, Alaska Housing Finance Corporation conducted a housing assessment of the Southeast Fairbanks Census Area. Out of the sixteen communities in the region, Northway had the highest concentration of home overcrowding. Over 50 percent of Northway homes have more than one person per room. The report also found that Northway faces the highest housing costs, where 42 percent of incomes go towards home costs. The report also gathered data detailing the rental/ownership statistics and information on the date of construction for the homes. To help alleviate some of the congestion the community had six homes built in 2006 with assistance from IRHA (utilizing Northway Village Council NAHSDA funds).

Northway Village Council has been actively working on a land purchase for future housing developments. NVC has been busy overseeing the construction and management of these projects and the village is excited to see them. Recent projects include:

- Constructing one two bedroom house and another home for a large family through BIA Housing Improvement Program (HIP)
- Building two three-bedroom homes, and two one-bedroom homes
- Planned six new constructions of single-family homes,=
- Recent rehabilitation of a four-bedroom home through an Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) from Interior Regional Housing Authority (IRHA).

## **ECONOMY**

### **LOCAL STORES AND BUSINESSES**

The Northway Corporation oversees the local convenience and liquor store, Naabia Niign. It sells small grocery items, including quick stop fast food, beadwork from local artists, beadwork supplies, and fuel (regular and diesel). The store receives supplies and freight

from shipping trucks along the Alaska Highway. The corporation also owns their own truck, which they use to make trips into Tok or Fairbanks for additional supplies.

Many local men and women make and sell traditional items such as tanned moose hides, birch bark baskets, beadwork, snowshoes, etc. Since it only counts for a small percentage of their income they only sell items locally and occasionally in shops or during special events.

### COMPOSITION OF EMPLOYMENT

There are federal jobs offered through the Post Office and Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The Department of Transportation and Forestry offers state jobs, the school district, and the Village Council office and Corporation store are other employers. The airport repair project and the chip sealing of the 9-mile Northway road were the latest big projects that provided temporary employment, ending in 2010.

There are local beadwork artists in the community; residents make birch bark baskets, specializes in caribou coloring and tufting, tanning and selling moose hides, offer snow removal services, and trapping and selling animal furs. Artists utilize online platforms such as Facebook and Instagram to sell their work.

Below are the active business licenses in Northway:

License#	Business Name	Owner Name	City	Status ↓
947960	NAABIA NIIGN TRANSPORTATION	NAABIA NIIGN, LTD.	NORTHWAY	Active
313340	NAABIA NIIGN, LTD	NAABIA NIIGN, LTD.	NORTHWAY	Active
1004174	BIRCH TREE FARMS	TERESAA ANDERSON	NORTHWAY	Active
1004174	BIRCH TREE FARMS	DUANE A ANDERSON	NORTHWAY	Active
213944	CHISANA VIEW LOUNGE	NAABIA NIIGN, LTD.	NORTHWAY	Active
259796	N.O.R.T.H.W.A.Y., INC.	N.O.R.T.H.W.A.Y., INC.	NORTHWAY	Active
261869	NORTHWAY NATIVES INC	NORTHWAY NATIVES INC	NORTHWAY	Active
166329	HOWARDS SPECIALTIES	JANE FIX	NORTHWAY	Active
166329	HOWARDS SPECIALTIES	HOWARD FIX	NORTHWAY	Active
214034	CHISANA VIEW LIQUOR STORE	NAABIA NIIGN, LTD.	NORTHWAY	Active
2108036	Ti'oh Suu by Green Degree	Kerby's Corporation	Northway	Active
2092958	RIVERSIDE GRILL	Joel Julius Hicks	Northway	Active
2092958	RIVERSIDE GRILL	Jesse Melinda Jordan Hicks	Northway	Active

State of Alaska Department of Commerce

## TRANSPORTATION

Northway is located on the road system. The 9-mile Northway Road connects the Alaska Highway to the Northway airport and town site. Community members travel to Tok (60 road miles) and Fairbanks (270 road miles) frequently. Travel into Anchorage (390 road miles) is less frequent and usually if for the purchase of big-ticket items and major medical needs.

The road connection to the Alaska Highway ensures that residents can receive necessary supplies, easily trucked into the community year around. The Interior Alaska Bus Line provides a shuttle service three times a week for community members traveling from Tok to Fairbanks and Anchorage (Northway pickup is available upon request). 40 Mile Air provides passenger and freight service three times a week between Fairbanks and Tok. The main Northway road is chip sealed but because of the placement through the existing wetlands, it gets rough from water damage. The primary mode of transportation for residents is private vehicles. It is estimated that 90 percent of households own a vehicle.



NORTHWAY VILLAGE COUNCIL VAN

In addition to road transportation, Northway does have an informal boat docking area next to the Alaska Highway Bridge off the Chisana River. Each summer there are at least ten boats docked in the area.

The community has an airstrip, the Northway Staging Field, which is approximately 285 air miles from Anchorage and 240 air miles from Fairbanks. As stated in the history section, the construction of the airport played a role in increasing the amount of infrastructure in the community. The State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (AKDOT & PF) owns the Northway Staging Field.



NORTHWAY AIRSTRIP

In 2015, the Northway Village Council completed their Transportation Safety Plan. It outlined the communities concerns regarding transportation safety, and establishing a plan to protect life and safety of their community members. The plan was funded by the Federal Highway Administration Tribal Transportation Program Safety Planning Grant. The plan will

identify emphasis areas and implementation strategies to improve transportation safety for Northway members. The focus of this Safety Plan will be transportation safety issues and potential improvements on Northway lands. Major community member concerns were road conditions, driver behavior, boating, off-road travel, pedestrians and bicyclists, and other hazards. See appendices to see full chart of community concerns.

As of 2021, the Tribe updated their existing Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). A road inventory completed in May 2014 it identified safety concerns including children walking and biking on narrow roads, no bike paths, a lack of road signs and proper street/communal lighting. In October 2014, Alaska Power and Telephone (AP&T) installed LED lighting in the streets and common public areas. NVC funded LED lights on all of Northway streets and common public areas through AP&T.

## **LAND USE AND ENVIRONMENT**

### **ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

In October 2014, the Northway Village Council partnered with the U.S. Army Garrison Fort Wainwright (USAG FWA), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to conduct a comprehensive environmental contamination of the entire community. The project will lead to a better understanding of what caused the contamination and the findings will help with justifying environmental restoration.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS**

In an environmental review, contaminants of petroleum, benzene and other contaminants are in the soil and groundwater around the airport due to previous military activity at the airport (Richardson, 2010).

Other environmental concerns community members have include:

- The river system broke through the lowland and drastically changed the ecosystem and habitat that support the fish, ducks, cranes, swans
- The river system breakthrough impacted private land
- Invasive plants along the Alaska Highway system is becoming prevalent around Northway
- Invasive plants (trees/shrubs) planted on private lot is growing throughout the community – plant is within close proximity to waterways
- Warmer weather and increased wildland fire activity
- Rivers are higher – making setting fish nets difficult
- Village is settling lower into the lowlands and closer to the rising waterways
- Nabesna River erosion is caving banks near homes
- The townsite is settling or sinking



- Homes along the Northway access road are being impacted due to both rising water levels and sinking ground



---

NORTHWAY EROSION - PHOTO BY BRUCE ERVIN OCTOBER 2021





---

NORTHWAY EROSION - PHOTOS BY BRUCE ERVIN OCTOBER 2021





---

NORTHWAY EROSION - PHOTOS BY BRUCE ERVIN OCTOBER 2021

## LAND OWNERSHIP

Following the Alaska Claims Settlement Act (ANSCA) The Northway Village Corporation, Northway Natives Inc., owns approximately 115,200 acres surrounding Northway. See appendices for a detailed map of land ownership (Doyon Lands).

In 1980, under the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) the Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge was established. The Tetlin Refuge covers 682,604 acres. The mainly wetland Refuge conserves fish and wildlife populations and habitats in their natural diversity, to provide interpretation and environmental education to the public and to provide subsistence-hunting opportunities to rural inhabitants. Being the first refuge that traveler's encounter when driving into Alaska, the Tetlin Refuge is in a strategic location to provide the initial Alaskan experience to visitors.

Northway Natives, Inc. has not finished their 14(c)(3) re-conveyance due to previous military leases in the area. Northway Natives, Inc. cannot move forward with this process until these issues are resolved.

## TETLIN NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Northway is located within the Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge. The boundaries of Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge encompass 932,000 acres; however, some of these acres are owned by the state of Alaska or private citizens, leaving 682,604 acres managed by Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge. The Refuge's 682,604 acres include snowcapped mountains and glacier-fed rivers, forests, and treeless tundra and an abundance of wetlands.

The Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge supports at least 42 species of mammals, including but not limited to:

- |              |                    |                 |
|--------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| • Bats       | • Lynx             | • Porcupine     |
| • Beaver     | • Marten           | • Snowshoe hare |
| • Black Bear | • Mice, Voles and  | • Squirrels     |
| • Brown Bear | Shrews             | • Wolf          |
| • Caribou    | • Mink and Weasels | • Wolverine     |
| • Coyote     | • Moose            |                 |
| • Dall Sheep | • Muskrat          |                 |
| • Fox        | • Otter            |                 |

Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge supports many different species of fish, including grayling, burbot, lake trout, northern pike and whitefish. There are no significant salmon runs in the upper Tanana River drainage, but have had small runs of chum and occasional chinook (king salmon), and coho have been recorded.



The refuge supports over thirty types of birds, over thirteen types of raptor birds, over twenty types of waterfowl use the refuge throughout the year. The Refuge was set aside primarily for its unique waterfowl values. It has one of Alaska's highest densities of nesting waterfowl, and annually produces an estimated 35,000 to 65,000 ducklings. Spectacular migrations of lesser sandhill cranes, tundra and trumpeter swans occur each spring and fall. Up to 200,000 cranes, representing about one half of the world population, migrate through this corridor. The Refuge also provides habitat for an expanding population of trumpeter swans and for the largest concentration of nesting osprey in Alaska. Raptors such as bald eagles are common nesters along the major rivers and shorelines of larger lakes. Peregrine falcons are common once again as new pairs find local cliffs for nesting. Nine species of marsh and waterbirds, and 26 species of shorebirds occur on the refuge (Wildlife and Habitat, n.d.)

## FOOD SECURITY

The Upper Tanana region supports many species of mammals. Residents of the area are surrounded, and take part in subsistence in harvesting and trapping:



- Beaver
- Black Bear
- Brown Bear
- Caribou
- Coyote
- Dall Sheep
- Fox
- Lynx
- Marten
- Mink and Weasels
- Moose
- Muskrat
- Otter
- Porcupine
- Snowshoe hare
- Squirrels
- Wolf
- Wolverine

Northway's staple fish is the whitefish, which is available in the surrounding rivers. Other types of fish are harvested as well.

NORTHWAY CULTURE CAMP  
2021 – PHOTO BY BRUCE ERVIN

## COMMUNITY WELL-BEING

### COMMUNITY EVENTS

The community has an active dance and cultural group, consisting of approximately 50 residents, ages 2-80+. The group meets weekly for cultural night where elders teach the

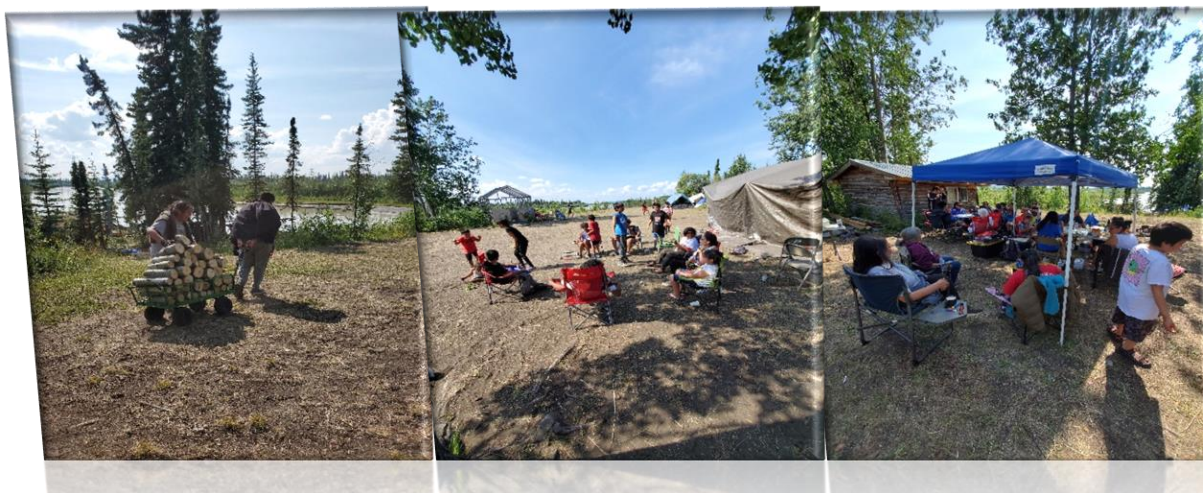
Dena' Athabascan language and dance to youth and their families. The group travels several times a year to different gatherings throughout the state and in Canada. The group members cover their own travel costs with assistance from the Corporation and Council.

Community residents can utilize the playground, two basketball courts, and baseball field. The Village Council used to offer equipment for the residents who were interested in playing baseball, but no longer offers due to items not returned. The Corporation and Village Council sponsor baseball and basketball tournaments throughout the year. Each event attracts teams and several hundred spectators from surrounding areas.

Each month the adult (age 19+), community members have the opportunity to socialize during bingo night. The Northway Corporation holds this smoke-free event in the youth center.

In addition to collaborating for fundraising, the Village Council and corporation collaborate to host an annual cultural camp located at ten-mile camp. The funding for food, activities, and boat gas is from Council and Corporation. The camp is used for years to access to the nearby lakes for whitefish and other subsistence activities. The camp is located on the Chisana River, approximately 30-minute boat ride, next to on a beautiful bluff.

The event runs for a week and during that time participants learn traditional skills including: beading, cooking, mapping, whitefish cutting/smoking, moose hunting/drying, berry picking, boating, fish net checking, talking circles, native dancing, and language classes. The



2021 CULTURE CAMP -PHOTOS BY BRUCE ERVIN

event provides Northway residents an opportunity to gather as a family. 95 people participated in the 2021 culture camp. Many elders and tribal members volunteer to make it successful each year. Culture camp activities included sewing, bird house painting, cutting



fish, native language sessions. Behavioral health staff came and spoke about suicide and prevention around the community.

Any fundraising needs (for burial, medical, travel) are done in by the Corporation through bingo, food sales, and raffles. The Corporation allows families and individuals to use the bingo or Youth Center or Community Hall for these events.

## **CHURCHES**

The Northway Pentecostal Church is the only denomination that offers religious services in



PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

Northway. It is located next to the community hall. They offer with Sunday services, in which 20 to 25 residents attend each week. They also offer a seasonal vacation bible school for community youth, ages 3-17, during summer months. There are approximately 28 children who attend the vacation bible school each year. The vacation bible school is a large event in the community, which attracts visitors from other states.

## **COMMUNITY PROGRAMS**

Upper Tanana Development Corporation runs the daily Elder Meal Program, which is utilized on average by 50 residents daily. They provide transportation for elders (ages 60+) and their spouses to the community hall for a group lunch (with deliveries to those who are unable to attend). They also provide elders with transportation to Tok weekly for meals, shopping and doctors' appointments. Additional elder assistance is provided through personal care attendants, staffed by TCC or various other organizations. NVC with TCC has also been funding in construction trade and EMS classes for additional 10 students.

## **ADDITIONAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

Tribal members interested in attending secondary education institutions are eligible to apply for a scholarship through the Northway Village Council. The Tribe, through its BIA 638 Higher Education funds, provides tuition scholarships to eligible students attending secondary education institutions. On average the Village Council funds eight students scholarships each year. Northway Village Council funded 19 students in 2020, attending both in-state and out-of-state universities. Tribally enrolled students also have the opportunity to apply for job training or assistance through TCC. NVC shares costs with TCC employment and training for additional students.

The University of Alaska Fairbanks, Interior Alaska Campus (IAC) is one of five campuses serving rural Alaskan students through the College of Rural and Community Development

(CRCD). IAC is a unique campus and has integrated cultural knowledge and practices into the current curriculum. IAC provides distance and place-based education to the Tok area, which includes 13 communities: Alcan Border, Boundary, Chicken, Dot Lake, Eagle, Northway, Tanacross, Tok, Tetlin, Chistochina, Delta Junction, Gakona and Mentasta Lake. IAC staff assist with preparing for a University Degree or Certificate Program. The IAC student services staff provide education support including, financial aid, course registration, student advising, UAF admissions, and technical support. The five academic programs offered through IAC are: Associate of Science, Construction Trades Technology, Rural Human Services, Tribal Management, and Wildland Fire Science. IAC has a Tok Center, which employs two residents, the Tok Coordinator and Administrative Assistant.

## PROJECTS COMPLETED 2015-2020

Listed are projects that were completed in pursuant to the Northway Community Plan 2015-2020. The community priorities and goals included more housing, improving cleaning and maintaining lands, improving health services, improving public facilities, promoting Northway's local economy, and holding youth events.

- Renovations, additions, and upgrades to Northway Village Council & Community Hall
  - New offices
  - New conference room
  - New bathrooms
  - Redid kitchen
  - Added pantry
  - New heating system
  - New ceiling
  - New electrical
  - New fans
  - Solar system installed
- Complete renovation of old tribal office building
  - Made into tribal courthouse
  - New roof
- New COPS building
- New safe house
- Current housing projects
- Washeteria/Clinic Building
  - Lifted
  - New entry, porches
  - Work on lagoon
  - Solar energy added
  - New boilers
  - Energy efficient upgrades
- Landfill
  - Expanded by an acre
  - Fenced
  - New burn box
  - Added power
  - New glass and can crusher
  - 3 backhauls of products to recycle
  - Added two conex with roofs for storage
- Baseball field
  - Fenced
- Water Sewer System & Garage Building
  - Garage – new energy efficient doors
  - Solar system installed
  - Garage – new boiler system
- Continuing culture camp
- Built High tunnel garden
- Purchased equipment/transportation
  - Backhoe/loader
  - Skidsteer

- Two new 15-seater vans
- Car crushing & recycling project (IGAP grant) – 647 cars, 8,200 lbs of electronics, 16,200 lbs of copper wire, 90,000 lbs vehicle batteries, and 256,000 lbs of light metal shipped out of the community

## COMMUNITY GOALS 2021-2026

### HOUSING AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Goal: Northway has an abundance of affordable, energy efficient family homes

Objectives:

- Survey land for new homes and ensure that title is cleared
- Protect homes from flooding and erosion and relocate them if necessary
- Purchase land for new homes, focusing efforts on high land (nine miles from the original site) where Northway is gradually relocating
- Develop utility and energy access
- Continue with new construction and rehabilitating homes
  - Rehabilitating four 3-4 bedroom homes
  - Two new construction (3 bedroom) homes
  - Two new construction (1 bedroom) homes
  - Eight new single family homes
- Develop a housing application and selection process
  - Partner with Interior Regional Housing Authority, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Tanana Chiefs Conference and other villages to seek input
- Weatherize and retrofit homes and infrastructure to be more resilient to extreme weather, permafrost thaw, and other aspects of climate change and natural hazards
- Conduct an assessment for an elder assistant living center within 10 years
- Conduct an assessment for a youth center within 10 years

### CULTURE

Goal: Northway has a strong cultural environment for their everyday growing community

Objectives:

- Develop a cultural committee
  - Include volunteers, mentors, culture bearers
- Utilize resources available through current projects with Doyon Foundation (DF), Administration for Native Americans (ANA)
- Revitalize cultural nights and cultural group
- Revitalize, learn and practice:

- Native language (Upper Tanana Athabascan)
- Singing and dancing
- Arts and crafts
- Sobriety
- Hunting and fishing
- Survival
- Meaning of native songs
- Drumming
- How to use traditional knowledge to adapt hunting and other aspects of our lifeway in the fact of climate change
- Seasonal harvesting

## **COMMUNITY WELLBEING**

Goal: Northway community is a healthy, positive place to safely socialize and live

Objectives:

- Revitalize the “Take a Stand” group
- Seek funding for a domestic violence, sexual assault, substance abuse prevention and awareness training and carry out the training
- Recruit laborers to redo the park and basketball court
- Hold an annual health and wellness fair
- Create a community that is:
  - Sober and drug free
  - Positive social network
  - Healthy family environment
  - Inclusive and involved
  - Has a new/renovated basketball court and youth center

## **EDUCATION**

Goal: Northway encourages and motivates community members to pursue post-secondary education and training by providing funding, resources and support

Objectives:

- Increase training opportunities
  - Develop employment training application
- Hold more workshops
  - Resume building, cover letter writing, etc
- Develop mentorships: educational and personal
- Partner with Tanana Chiefs Conference, State of Alaska, University of Alaska Fairbanks Interior Alaska Campus, Doyon Foundation
- Seek and identify tutors
- Hold a higher education and job fair, recruit mentors and guest speakers
- Educate parents on involvement with children



- Expose high school students to UAF and UAA through field trips
  - Gather info on Rural Alaska Honors Institute (RAHI), Alaska Native Science & Engineering Program (ANSEP), and American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES)
  - Find ways to bridge our traditional knowledge with “Western science”

## **YOUTH & ELDERS**

Goal: Northway shares knowledge and offers mentorships between youth and elders to strengthen cultural and personal values

Objectives:

- Seek funding for an elder and youth coordinator that will facilitate knowledge exchange and mentoring between elders and youth and help preserve our language and culture camp
- Develop and host activities

## APPENDICES

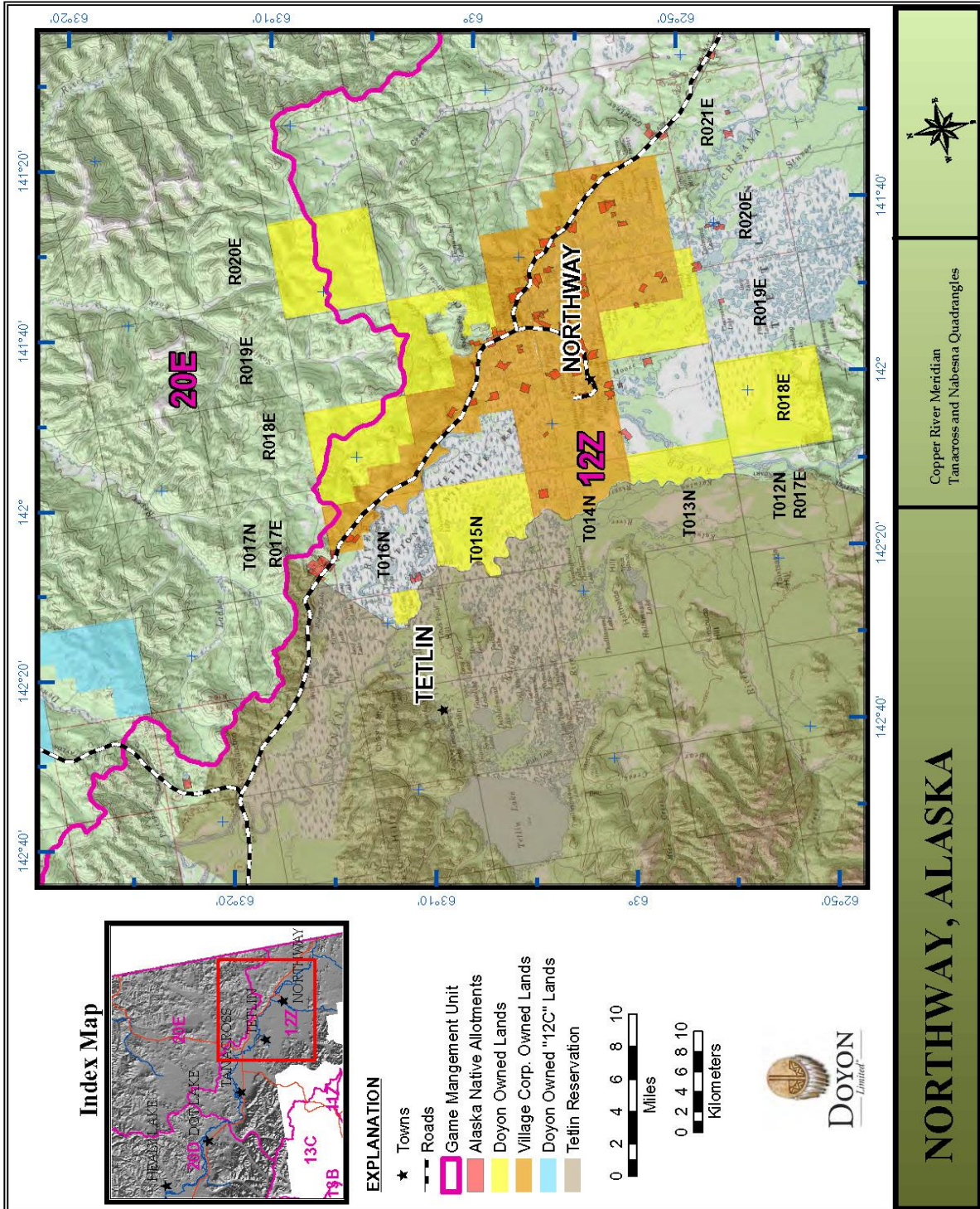
TABLE 1: QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSE DETAIL

		High Priority	Medium Priority	Low Priority	Not an Issue	I Don't Know
<b>Road Conditions</b>	Unsafe, unmaintained roads	18	24	12	8	1
	Intersection Safety	10	6	23	22	1
	Inadequate Lighting	23	12	11	16	0
	Inadequate road signage	16	13	15	19	0
	Road dust	29	5	10	16	2
<b>Driver Behavior</b>	Speeding motorists	36	16	5	3	3
	Driving while intoxicated	43	9	4	3	3
	Running red lights/stop signs	18	9	11	18	7
	Unsafe young drivers	23	18	12	6	4
	Lack of helmet use	40	11	7	3	2
	Lack of use of seatbelts/car seats	34	6	8	7	7
	Distracted driving	21	10	4	22	6
<b>Boating</b>	Lack of life vests	27	14	11	8	2
	Operator inattention	8	12	22	16	5
	Operating boat while intoxicated	16	18	9	13	7
<b>Off-Road Travel</b>	Lack of GPS/SPOT use	14	13	7	16	11
	Lack of trail marking	17	14	8	15	8
	Lack of emergency shelters	25	7	13	11	7
	Traveling in poor weather	19	12	12	16	4
	Lack of vehicle maintenance	15	15	12	15	5
	Failure to leave travel plans with someone	24	12	9	8	9
	Too many passengers on ATV or snow machine	28	13	9	6	5
<b>Pedestrians/Bicyclists</b>	Pedestrian visibility and reflectivity	26	17	7	9	3
	Lack of bike/pedestrian safety education	31	13	5	9	4
	Lack of sidewalks/trails/safe place for walking	39	12	4	7	1
	Children playing in roads	46	8	5	3	1
<b>Other Hazards</b>	Animal Collisions	25	15	14	7	2
	Inadequate evacuation routes	30	16	2	10	4

Northway Transportation Safety Plan, 2015

# LAND OWNERSHIP MAP

NORTHWAY ARIAL MAP 1980







## **COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS**

Northway community residents participated in a survey made by Tanana Chiefs Conference Planning & Development Program in 2021. Answers are below

### **General Questions**

Residents Enjoy Living In Northway Because....

- Culture Traditions
- Living Off The Land
- Family

What Do You Like Least About Living Here?..

- Too Far For Medical
- Not Enough To Do With Kids
- Drugs And Alcohol

### **Infrastructure**

29 Amount Of People Of The Survey Takers Would Like To See A Haul System, Would Be Willing To Pay A Monthly Fee For Services

Residents Have These Concerns About The Landfill, Emergency Response Services,

- Could Open The Landfill Twice A Week
- Lack Of The Recycling Program For The Landfill
- Too Far Away From The Nearest Er Facility
- Hard To Get A Hold Of Anyone.

Residents Rated The Hall's Importance To The Community As...

- High

### **Education**

Community Members Are (Or Aren't ) Interested In Attending Job Training, X Amount Of People Are Willing To Travel For Work Or Training

- 24 Community Member Are Interested In Job Training And 30 Community Members Aren't.
- 29 People Are Willing To Travel For Work Or Training.



## **Housing**

25 Amount Of People Believe Their Homes Are Overcrowded, With Homes With 1-8 Generations That Live Inside, And Believe Their Homes Do (Or Do Not) Meet Their Needs.

Their Primary Concern With Housing Is...

- Need More Homes
- Upgrades On Homes

## **Economy**

37 Amount Of People Are Employed

38 Amount Of People Are Retired

## REFERENCES

ALASKA NATIVE LANGUAGE PRESERVATION & ADVISORY COUNCIL. (n.d.). State of Alaska Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development.

<https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/dcra/AKNativeLanguagePreservationAdvisoryCouncil/Population.aspx>

Chief Walter & Oscar. (n.d.). Alaska Digital Archives.

<https://vilda.alaska.edu/digital/collection/cdmg11/id/6758>

Northway, AK. (n.d.). State of Alaska DCRA Community Database.

<https://dced.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapJournal/index.html?appid=5295e7ee91c14d50bed2fd20caf55b54#>

POWER COST EQUALIZATION PROGRAM STATISTICAL REPORT FY2020. (2021). Alaska Energy Authority.

<http://www.akenergyauthority.org/Portals/0/About/Board%20Meetings/Documents/2020/FY20%20PCE%20Statistical%20Report%20-%20Community%20Version.pdf>

Richardson, J. (2010, June). Lodge, hangar, fuel service to close at Northway Airport. Fairbanks Daily News-Miner.

[https://www.newsminer.com/news/local\\_news/lodge-hangar-fuel-service-to-close-at-northway-airport/article\\_06848ec0-a3b2-52d4-a8e0-24fc0df5d66e.html](https://www.newsminer.com/news/local_news/lodge-hangar-fuel-service-to-close-at-northway-airport/article_06848ec0-a3b2-52d4-a8e0-24fc0df5d66e.html)

Statistical Report of the Power Cost Equalization Program, FY2020. (2021, February). Alaska Energy Authority.

[http://www.akenergyauthority.org/Portals/0/About/Board%20Meetings/Documents/2020/FY20%20PCE%20Statistical%20Report%20%20Columnar%20\[Traditional\]%20Version.pdf](http://www.akenergyauthority.org/Portals/0/About/Board%20Meetings/Documents/2020/FY20%20PCE%20Statistical%20Report%20%20Columnar%20[Traditional]%20Version.pdf)

Tanana Chiefs Conference. (2019). Regional Transportation Strategy.

Wildlife and Habitat - Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge. (n.d.). U.S. Fish and Wildlife.

[https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Tetlin/wildlife\\_and\\_habitat/birds.html](https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Tetlin/wildlife_and_habitat/birds.html)

## CONTACTS

### **Northway Village Council**

PO BOX 516  
Northway, AK 99764  
(907) 778-2311  
Fax (907) 778-2220

### **Northway Clinic**

PO BOX 517  
Northway, AK 99764  
(907) 778-2283  
Fax (907) 778-2231

### **Northway Natives Inc**

Mile 1364 Alaska Hwy  
Northway, AK 99764  
(907) 778-2298  
Fax (907) 778-2234

### **Walter Northway School**

PO BOX 519  
Northway, AK 99764  
(907) 778-2287  
Fax (907) 778-2221

### **U.S Post Office**

(907) 778-2255  
Fax-(907) 778-2286

### **Tanana Chiefs Conference**

122 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
Fairbanks, AK 99701  
(907) 452-8251