



Tanana
Chiefs
Conference

The Council

Incorporated as Dena' Nena' Henash
Vol. 49 No. 1 • Jan 2024



White House Tribal Nations Summit

Interior Alaska made a significant mark at the 3rd Annual White House Tribal Nations Summit, hosted by the Biden administration, which emphasized the region's commitment to advancing Tribal interests on the national stage.

Chief Nancy James of Gwichyaa Zhee contributed to the discussions by participating in a panel titled 'Protecting Tribal Homelands in the Era of Climate Change.' Her insights shed light on the pressing environmental concerns affecting our communities, highlighting the region's proactive stance in addressing the impact of cli-

mate change.

Additionally, Chief Brian Ridley had the privilege of standing alongside President Biden during a historic moment. President Biden signed an executive order aimed at expanding Tribal self-determination across the 574 federally recognized Tribes, a move intended to facilitate Native Americans' access to federal funding and grant greater autonomy in its utilization.

Chief Ridley expressed his gratitude, stating, "It is a profound honor to stand alongside President Biden and represent Interior Alaska at the White

House Tribal Nations Summit. This executive order holds the promise of a brighter future for our Tribal communities. I hope it will pave the way for easier access to funds, enabling us to address the unique needs of our people and build a stronger, more sustainable future."

The executive order represents a significant stride toward empowering Tribal communities and streamlining their access to federal resources. Chief Ridley's sentiment underscores the responsibility that comes with representing Interior Alaska on a national

Continued on page 3

Happy
New Year!

From your friends at Tanana Chiefs Conference



IN THIS ISSUE...

PAGE 4: A Year in Review

PAGE 6: TCC Leadership Development

PAGE 8: Winter Safety Travel Tips

PAGE 9: New Solar PV in Manley

PAGE 10: Election Criteria for the 2024
TCC Convention



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



Tanana
Chiefs
Conference

Executive Board

Trimble Gilbert, Arctic Village
1st Traditional Chief

Andrew Jimmie, Minto
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, Gwichyaa Zhee
Yukon Flats

Eugene Paul, Holy Cross
Lower Yukon

Lori Baker, Minto
Yukon Tanana

Charlie Green, Galena
Yukon Koyukuk

Peter Demoski, Nulato
Elder Advisor

Alex Hanna, Minto
Youth Advisor



Letter from the Chief/Chairman

Dear Tribes and Tribal Members,

I hope this letter finds you well and that you had a Merry Christmas and a joyous New Year surrounded by friends, family, and loved ones. The holiday season is a special time that allows us to take a break, slow down, and appreciate the moments that truly matter in our lives.

As we step into the New Year, I want to extend my warmest wishes to each and every one of you. May 2024 bring you prosperity, good health, and continued strength in preserving our unique way of life.

Here at Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC), we have hit the ground running in preparation for the 2024 TCC Annual Convention and Full Board of Directors Meeting, scheduled to take place from March 11 to 14 in Fairbanks. It is an event that holds great significance for our community, providing us with an opportunity to come together, share ideas, and shape the path forward for our Tribes.

Our team is diligently working on assembling an agenda that reflects the priorities of our Tribes. We are reaching out to speakers and organizing presentations that will contribute to the collective dialogue. As the event approaches, we will be sharing more information and details, so please stay tuned for updates.

Looking back on the past year, TCC has been actively engaged on the front lines in the fight to protect our salmon. This is a cause that resonates deeply with our communities, and as we enter the New Year, our commitment to safeguarding this vital resource remains unwavering.

In 2024, there will be numerous opportunities for all of you to provide testimony and make your voices heard. Important meetings, including the North Pacific Fishery Management Meetings, Board of Fish and others, will serve as platforms for us to share our stories and advocate for the protection of our way of life. Your participation and dedication to these efforts is crucial, and I look forward to seeing you all there. We will be sure to release more information about these meetings as dates become available.

At the request of our Tribes, TCC will be hosting a Behavioral Health Summit in February to discuss mental health and substance use issues within our region and explore proactive measures to provide support. This summit aims to bring together experts, community leaders, and stakeholders to engage in meaningful conversations about the challenges our community faces and to collectively develop strategies for improvement. More detailed information about this meeting will be made available at a later date. We look forward to your participation in this crucial dialogue on enhancing behavioral health within our community.

In closing, let us approach this New Year with renewed vigor, unity, and determination. Together, we can continue to build a future that honors our traditions and preserves the rich heritage of our Tribes. I am grateful for the strength and resilience of our community, and I am confident that by working together, we can overcome any challenges that come our way.

Mahsi' Choo,
Brian Ridley
Chief/Chairman



2024 TCC Calendars Now Available!

Send your mailing address to
Communications_Dept@tananachiefs.org
to get your copy!

White House Tribal Nations Summit

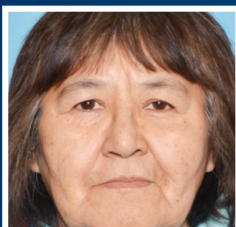
Continued from first page

stage, emphasizing the positive impact this executive order could have on the region.

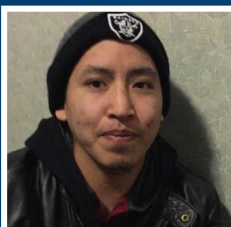
As we celebrate the achievements of our Interior Alaska leaders at the summit, we look forward to witnessing the tangible benefits this executive order will bring to our Tribal communities. Together, we remain committed to advocating for the well-being, sovereignty, and prosperity of our people.



MISSING



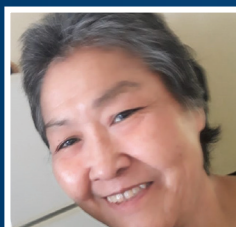
Lorraine Ginnis



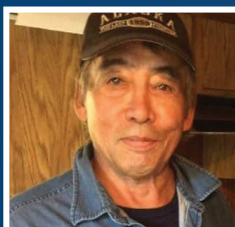
Willis Derendoff



Doren Sanford



Debbie Nictune



Frank Minano

SUBMIT TIPS ANONYMOUSLY:

Text AKTIPS followed by your tip to 84711
or visit

<https://dps.alaska.gov/ast/tips>



Call the Alaska State Troopers at 907-451-5100, Fairbanks Police Department at 907-450-6500 or TCC Public Safety at 907-452-8251 ext.3269. Visit www.tananachiefs.org/missing for more information.

A Year In Review



FEBRUARY 2023

In February, Alaska Native Subsistence Users throughout the State walked out of the Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF) Meeting after the Board failed their statutory obligation to prioritize subsistence harvest by voting not to adopt Proposal 140. "The Board's actions this week will not deter TCC or our Tribes from continuing to do everything we can to ensure the protection of our salmon and our way of life," said Chief Ridley.



MARCH 2023

On March 16th, the TCC Full Board of Directors elected Brian Ridley to serve as Chief Chairman of Tanana Chiefs Conference after he served for one year as Interim President. "I just want to thank all of you," said Chief Ridley, "It's really humbling to be in this position." Chief/Chairman Ridley will serve in this position through 2026.



MARCH 2023

Quannah Chasinghorse - long known for her activism, and more recently known as one of the world's most famous supermodels - delivered the keynote address at 2023's TCC Annual Convention and Full Board of Directors Meeting. She called for Indigenous people to occupy spaces with pride, even in the presence of fear. "We are our ancestors' wildest dream," she shared, "Don't be afraid to occupy these spaces. This is our land."



MAY 2023

On May 23rd, TCC hosted its first ever Food Security Summit. The goal of the summit was to work towards identifying and improving access to healthy foods in rural Alaska. The summit included panels on traditional ways of gathering and land stewardship as well as informational sessions on raising ducks and quail; birch tapping and syrups; hydroponic and container gardening; cooking traditional foods, and a demonstration of pickling salmon.



JULY 2023

TCC's Annual Partners' Boat Trip brought together TCC Leadership with representatives from the Department of Fish and Game, Alaska Native Helath Consortium, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, as well as legislators and commissioners from the State. This team traveled between Shageluk, Grayling, Anvik and Holy Cross to bridge the gap between decision-making processes and the realities faced in rural communities.



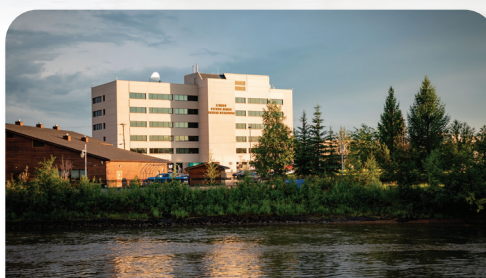
SEPTEMBER 2023

In September, the TCC region mourned the loss of respected elder, Alaska Native advocate, and TCC's first President, Alfred "Al" Ketzler Sr. of Nenana. "Al Ketzler's advocacy efforts laid the foundation and established the principles of integrity, determination, and humility—values that form the essence of TCC's present-day mission, vision, and advocacy endeavors," expressed Chief/Chairman of TCC, Brian Ridley.



APRIL 2023

The AVCP and TCC filed a lawsuit against the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) in U.S. District Court in Alaska. The lawsuit alleges that when NMFS recently adopted groundfish catch limits for 2023-2024, the agency unlawfully relied on outdated environmental studies and failed to consider monumental ecosystem-wide changes that have occurred in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands ecosystems over the last two decades.



APRIL 2023

Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC), Fairbanks Native Association (FNA) and the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) hosted listening sessions where Alaska Natives/American Indians could share their stories surrounding the issue of Missing and Murdered Indigenous People (MMIP). The input received during these sessions will be utilized to develop a Tribal Community Response Plan, which will serve as a roadmap on the best way to respond to MMIP cases in the future.



MAY 2023

In May, TCC expanded Housing First, our innovative supportive housing program that provides housing to those in need regardless of a person's substance use problems. The expansion increased the number of living facilities from 39 rooms to 76!



SEPTEMBER 2023

TCC received \$35 million to install affordable high-speed broadband in three communities: Venetie, Chalkyitsik and Circle. USDA Rural Development Deputy Under Secretary Farah Ahmad shared that access to broadband is one of President Biden's main priorities: "We're making sure that people in rural communities across Alaska have access to high-speed internet so they can connect with their loved ones and tap into economic opportunities."



NOVEMBER 2023

In November, TCC hosted a Special Full Board of Directors Meeting in Fairbanks. The agenda included updates on TCC's Patient Travel & Housing Improvement Plan, the pros & cons of a fish hatchery, a presentation on food sovereignty and traditional foods, and a panel on substance use treatment programs and services available. The board voted unanimously to allow TCC to purchase a hotel to alleviate some of the patient housing crisis.



NOVEMBER 2023

Chief Brian Ridley was elected to serve as the Alaska Area Vice-President for NCIA alongside Tlingit & Haida Vice President Clinton Cook who was elected as alternate. In their new roles, they will serve a two-year term on NCIA's Executive Committee, which is charged with advancing the mission of NCIA to protect and advance tribal sovereignty by representing the issues and priorities of tribal nations throughout the country.

Community Health Aide *Spotlight*

Jordyn James - Dot Lake

By Linden Stackiokas

You might not think of being a health aide as the a family business, but it is for Jordyn James of Dot Lake. Her grandmother, Hazel, and her mother, Sera, were both health aides, so from her earliest years, Jordyn became familiar with the meanings of many medical terms. She also witnessed both the privileges and the difficulties of helping people during some of the most vulnerable times in their lives. When she had the opportunity to become a health aide in Dot Lake, it seemed like a natural fit.

Working in Dot Lake was like going home. As Jordyn says, "I was born and mostly raised in Fairbanks, but my family originated in Dot Lake, and I was eager to return there." The village of Dot Lake is a 155-mile drive from Fairbanks, and is accessible directly off of the highway. In January of 2020, she entered the TCC health aide training program. Throughout the pandemic, Jordyn powered through multiple health aide trainings and emergency medical service courses. Today, Jordyn is a CHA-3 and EMT-1, feels deserving of recognition.

Although she was prepared for the medical aspects of the job, both from the examples her mother and grand-

mother set as well as from the rigorous TCC training program, there were still surprises awaiting Jordyn when she took over the Dot Lake clinic. "I was surprised by all the other things you have to do, in addition to seeing patients during regular hours and being on-call when the clinic is closed. Keeping up with the volume of emails, making sure supplies are well stocked and in good order, coordinating travel, consulting with doctors in Fairbanks, and learning the various updates to clinic policies and standards of care."

The health aide position is strenuous at times, but also rewarding. "I feel so fortunate for the support and trust I receive from my community. I receive support from the volunteer EMS team in situations where I wouldn't be able to adequately respond on my own. My cousin, and former health aide, Chance Shank is one of those volunteers who I am thankful for. I think having a connection with the residents of the community is important so people can feel free to ask for my help. They know I will do my best to help them. If I don't know an answer, I have access

to a health care team who I meet with regularly that will help me solve it."

When not at work, Jordyn's time is devoted to her family. She and her husband are raising four children, ages eight months to 13, so the chores "are never ending. And we like doing things together. In the summer we spend a lot of time outdoors. When the weather is bad, we go to the open gym at the school, cook together, watch movies, and make forts. We also like to read. I just really like to be home with the kids...One of the hardest things about this job is when I must travel for work and leave them at home in Dot Lake."

When asked if there was anyone besides her mother and grandmother that Jordyn wanted to thank for helping her succeed in her career, she said, "I would like to give special thanks to my former CI's, Angela Starr and Stephannie Christian. They supported me in the beginning of my career throughout the pandemic. I am thankful for getting the opportunity to work with them."



TCC Leadership Development Cohort 1 Kick-Off

By Tiffany B. Simmons, Chief Learning and Development Officer

We are excited to announce that TCC hosted the first Leadership Development Cohort on December 12-14. Participants from the villages of Healy Lake, Nulato, Hughes, and Ruby and from programs across TCC participated in the first Cohort. Participants created individualized leadership goals and plans. They also developed skills to address issues faced in our villages and programs. These efforts are the first steps they are taking towards building community change. We hope that the work this cohort does will positively impact our Tribal members' lives and communities.

Participants shared many positive reflections on this experience:



• "This is a dream come true for me" -Rev. Dr. Anna Frank, Cohort 1 Participant

• "When I started this leadership program, I was like a jar with a lid on so tight it couldn't open - and now, the lid opened" -Cohort 1 participant

• I love my job, I am excited about my job. However, I have never been *this* excited about my job and the future" -Cohort 1 participant

We look forward for the TCC Leadership Cohort 1 graduation June 17, 2023. Keep an eye out for an announcement about registration for Cohort 2 in the summer of 2024.



January Head Start Update

By Kristi Walmsley

In December, Head Start provided a ham to all enrolled families and staff for their Christmas dinners. Winter breaks are a busy time for both families and staff. We hope that this takes one more thing off of their to-do lists while supporting them in a time when accessibility and costs may be prohibitive.

We have a new Family Visitor in Tok! If you have a child younger than the age of 3 who you'd like to enroll for home visits, please contact Waverly Neal at 907-452-8251 or 800-478-6822 ext. 3998.

There are still spots available in the classrooms! If you have a child under the age of 4 who you'd like to enroll, please contact Waverly Neal at 907-452-8251 or 800-478-6822 ext. 3998 for more information.

Dolly Parton Imagination Library

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 to promote family time. If you do not have a local Head Start educator, please contact Waverly Neal at 907-452-8251 or 800-478-6822 ext. 3998 for ways to sign up.



The Northway classroom using their "attenta scopes"



Fred, DeAndre and Rosalie playing at Huslia's family night

Head Start Is Hiring!

Family Visitor:

Allakaket, Grayling, Holy Cross, & Huslia

Preschool Assistant Teacher:

Northway & Tok

Infant/Toddler Teacher:

Nenana

Substitute Teacher:

Nenana, Nulato, & Tok

Preschool Lead Teacher:

Nulato

Education Coordinator:

Fairbanks

Assistant Manager:

Fairbanks

Do You Have Your Alaska Real ID Card?

The deadline to get your REAL ID is May 7, 2025.

After this date, you will be required to show your REAL ID when flying anywhere within the United States and when entering federal buildings. For more information on REAL ID, visit www.dhs.gov/real-id



TCC's News & Updates Are Waiting in Your Inbox!

To ring in the new year, we're combining the content you love from *The Council* with the pressing news updates you look for from TCC's social media accounts and sending them straight to your email inbox. By signing up today, you can find out about pressing advocacy opportunities, read stories about the amazing work being done to support our people, and get real time news from the TCC region. When you sign up, you can also let us know whether you'd like to continue receiving physical copies of *The Council* or if you'd rather go digital only.

We're thankful for all of our committed readers and contributors over the years, and we look forward to taking *The Council* into the future with our new digital newsletter.



Scan the QR Code to sign up today or visit <https://www.tananachiefs.org/the-council-signup/>

Questions? Concerns?

Email: Communications_Dept@tanachiefs.org
Call: 907-452-8251 ext. 3424



Winter Safety Travel Tips

Winter is in full swing and this means below zero temperatures and snow storms are upon us creating hazardous traveling conditions. Before you venture out this winter, make sure that you dress and prepare appropriately so you are ready to meet any weather conditions you may run into. Here are some safety guidelines that everyone should review in case of an emergency:



- **Be prepared.** If traveling by snow machine, make sure that it is in good condition with enough fuel to get you where you need to go and back.
- **Tell a Friend.** Tell someone where you are going, what route you plan to take, and when you plan to return.
- **Check the weather forecast.** You must be prepared for any extreme weather that comes your way.
- **Bring a friend if traveling long distances.** Traveling is safer when done in pairs.

The most dangerous situations occur when a person is injured and alone. If you must travel alone, tell someone. If traveling long distances, be sure to check in at nearby communities and villages.

- **Avoid traveling across bodies of water when uncertain of ice thickness or water currents.**

Temperature, snow cover, currents, and springs can affect the thickness and relative safety of ice. Ice is seldom the same thickness over a single body of water; it can be 2 ft. thick in one place and 1 in. thick a few yards away. Check the ice at least every 150 ft. Drowning is the leading cause of snow machine deaths in Alaska.

- **Slow down.** Speed is a contributing factor in nearly all fatal snow machine accidents. Drivers should proceed at a pace that will allow ample reaction time for any situation. Drive at moderate speeds, and drive defensively, especially after sunset.

- **Dress for the weather.** Wearing the correct coat is necessary when traveling. It is best to wear a warm, water-proof coat. Dress in layers – be sure to include a base layer, which includes long underwear; a middle layer, which could be a fleece or puffy jacket; and an outer layer, which could be another jacket. Don't forget hat, gloves, and an extra pair of socks.
- **Pack for Survival by bringing:**
 - A knife, axe, or saw
 - A flashlight, flares, or a strobe
 - Waterproof matches
 - High-Energy food or bars
 - Electrical/Duct Tape
 - An extra key
 - Radio/Cell Phone
 - GPS
 - Thermal Blanket
 - First-Aid Kit
- **Don't drink and drive!** Drinking impairs your judgment and increases the risk of getting into an accident and getting lost.

24-25 TCC GO FAFSA Event Win \$50!



Complete These Simple Steps to Win:

1. Complete your 24-25 FAFSA Application
2. Take a screenshot of the FAFSA Confirmation Page
3. Email the screenshot to: tccgo@tananachiefs.org

Drawings will take place weekly in the month of January 2024!

This giveaway is open to both high school and college students. Two weekly winners of \$50 will be selected at random. The giveaway is intended for anyone living in the TCC Region who completes the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form to apply for financial aid for college.

TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE
TCC GO
GUIDANCE. EXPLORATION. OPPORTUNITIES.

Commissioning of Solar PV & Battery System in Manley Hot Springs

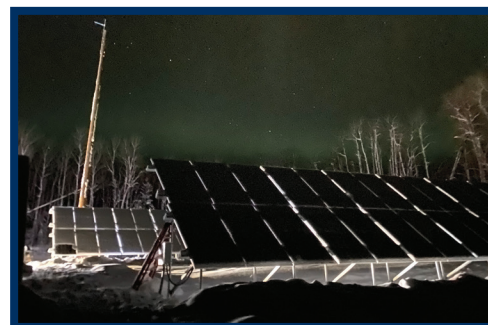
By Edward Dellamary, Rural Energy Specialist

In the chilly month of December, the commissioning of a cutting-edge solar photovoltaic array with a capacity of 207.9 kW DC and a robust Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) boasting 289 kWh took place in the picturesque town of Manley Hot Springs, Alaska.

This initiative marks a significant stride towards sustainable energy solutions in a region known for its harsh winter conditions. The solar array, designed to harness the abundant daylight even in the darkest winter months, is poised to contribute substantially to the local power grid. The accompanying Battery Energy Storage System not only enhances the overall reliability of the energy infrastructure but also ensures a continuous power supply, mitigating the challenges posed by Alaska's unique climate. This forward-looking project not only symbolizes a commitment to environmental responsibility but also addresses the practical needs of the community, fostering resilience and energy independence in the heart of

the Last Frontier.

This commissioning in Manley Hot Springs, not only exemplifies a commitment to environmental sustainability but also aligns with the principles of Tribal Energy Sovereignty. By harnessing the power of the sun and deploying a robust Battery Energy Storage System, the project empowers the local community to exercise greater control over their energy resources, promoting self-sufficiency and autonomy. Moreover, the integration of the Battery System contributes significantly to energy resilience, ensuring a more reliable and stable power supply, especially during the challenging winter months. This initiative further emphasizes the importance of lessening reliance on imported fossil fuels, reducing the environmental impact, and fostering a more sustainable and locally-driven energy future for the residents of Manley Hot Springs.



Head Into the New Year with Hope.

As we head into the New Year, let's remember to care for ourselves and one another. If you or someone you know is struggling, help is just a message or call away. Call or text 988 to be connected with free, confidential support.

988
24 HOURS A DAY -
7 DAYS A WEEK

Election Criteria 2024 TCC Annual Convention

SUBREGIONAL ADVISORY BOARD ELECTIONS

Executive Board of Directors

Subregional Positions:

Upper Kuskowim Subregion 3 Year Term (2024-2027)
Currently Claude 'Joe' Petruska, Nikolai
Lower Yukon Subregion 3 Year Term (2024-2027)
Currently Eugene Paul, Holy Cross

Eligibility Criteria:

- Must be a current village director, as authorized by tribal/village resolution. (Article 7, Section 4)
- Must be residents of the State of Alaska and Alaska Native Members of member villages of the corporation. (Article 4, Section 1)
- Full Time employees of the corporation shall not be eligible to serve as Directors or officers of the corporation with exception of the President. E-Board Members may serve as temporary or seasonal TCC employees. (Article 4, Section 2)
- Must successfully pass an ICPA and Alaska Barrier Crimes Act Background check. (See also Executive Board Policy 50-5003).
- Compliance with the TCC Board of Directors' Drug and Alcohol Free Policy #50-5001 applies to all TCC Executive and Health Board of Directors, with the exception of the Chief/Chair of the Board who is an employee who follows the employee policy. To be eligible as a candidate, individuals must pass the background check the week before their election

Advisory Boards

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

Youth Advisor to the Executive Board

Full Board of Directors to Ratify election of Youth Advisor to Executive Board by Emerging Leaders

Currently Alex Hanna, Minto

Eligibility Criteria:

- Must be a resident of the State of Alaska, and an Alaska Native Tribal member between the ages of 18 and 21, when the term begins.
- The Youth Advisor must not be a full-time employee of TCC.
- On an election year, Tribal councils shall nominate a youth for the position of Youth Advisor by submitting a letter of nomination to the TCC Executive Coordinator during the 30-day period described in Article Four, Section 12. The nominees shall be presented to the TCC Emerging Leaders, and the Emerging Leaders will elect the Youth Advisor. (Article Seven/Section 4)

Regional Health Advisory Board

Yukon Tanana Subregion..... 3 year term (2024-2027)
Currently Andrew Jimmie, Minto
Yukon Koyukuk Subregion..... 3 year term (2024-2027)
Currently Martha Demoski, Nulato

Education Council

Yukon Flats Subregion..... 3 year term (2024-2027)
Currently Nadine Carroll, Gwichyaa Zhee (Fort Yukon)
Yukon Koyukuk Subregion..... 3 year term (2024-2027)
Currently Gertie Sam, Huslia
Lower Yukon Subregion..... 3 year term (2024-2027)
Currently Alfred Demientieff, Holy Cross

Interior Athabascan Tribal College Board of Trustees

Yukon Koyukuk Subregion..... 3 year term (2024-2027)
Currently Jenny Pelkola, Loudon (Galena)
Lower Yukon Subregion..... 3 year term (2024-2027)
Currently Bradley Painter, Grayling

FULL BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTIONS

Officer Positions

Secretary/Treasurer.....3 year term (2024-2027)
Currently Robert "Charlie" Wright, Rampart

Eligibility Criteria:

- Officers must be Alaska Native members of a member village of the corporation and eligible to be selected as a Director of a member village. (Article 5, Section 1)
- Must successfully pass the ICPA and (DHSS) Alaska Barrier Crimes Act Background check. (See also Executive Board Policy 50-5003). Executive and Health board candidates must turn in a completed and correct background check application to Heather Rogers in Human Resources by February 13th to guarantee background checks will be completed by March 2nd. Individuals contemplating running for a board position should turn in a background check application immediately to ensure the ability to make corrections to mistakes in the lengthy application. All background check applications will be confidential and only Human Resources will have access to the application and the names of individuals. Those individuals that do not submit complete paperwork or fail to pass a background check will not be eligible candidates for the TCC President/Chairman, Executive Board or Health Board positions.
- Compliance with the TCC Board of Directors' Drug and Alcohol Free Policy #50-5001 applies to all TCC Executive and Health Advisory Board of Directors. All candidates must take and pass a drug test prior to their respective spring 2023 Subregional Advisory Board Meeting, according to this policy in order to serve their term if elected.

AFN Village Representative

The AFN Village Representative election is currently under review.

IRHA Board of Commissioners

Seat A3 year term (2024-2027)
Currently Vacant
Seat B3 year term (2024-2027)
Currently Marvin Deacon, Grayling

Eligibility Criteria:

- * Must be eligible to serve on TCC Board of Directors
- Employees of TCC or IRHA are not eligible to serve as IRHA Commissioners (Article 7, Section 7)

Important Dates and Deadlines

February 12th - Background Check Deadline

The last day TCC is able to guarantee a background check will be completed in time for the required 10 day announcement of candidates before the meeting.

February 1st - Declaration of Candidacy Opens

February 1st at 8:00am the open period in which a candidate may declare written candidacy begins. Please confirm receipt of your letter of intent.

March 1st at 5:00pm - Candidacy Window Closes

The open period in which a candidate may declare candidacy ends. Candidates must declare their candidacy in writing. TCC must provide a list of eligible candidates to member tribes.

March 14th - Elections

TCC elections held at the TCC Full Board of Directors Annual Meeting at the Westmark Hotel in Fairbanks.

2024 TCC Elections

ICPA BACKGROUND CHECK INFORMATION:

The Indian Child Protection Act (ICPA), requires TCC Executive and Health Board of Directors to pass a federal ICPA background check, and the Alaska Barrier Crimes Act background check.

The TCC Executive Board has made the commitment to both comply with current laws, Board policies and advocate for reasonable changes in background check requirements. As part of compliance, TCC Executive Board and Health Board candidates must submit their complete background check application which includes fingerprints by February 12th submitted to Heather Rogers, Human Resources Director. This allows enough time for the check to be complete. Only those candidates that pass the background check will be eligible to continue as official candidates for the respective elections.

2024 TCC ELECTIONS: ELECTION RULES

RULE 10. MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED

To be elected to a position, nominees are required to receive a majority vote from the votes cast by the TCC Board of Delegates. If no nominee receives a majority vote on a ballot, the Election Committee shall conduct a subsequent ballot provided by these Election Rules until a nominee receives a majority vote.

RULE 11. FAILURE TO ACHIEVE MAJORITY

1. In the event of a tie occurring for a Subregional seat after the third ballot, a coin toss will occur to determine the outcome of the election.
2. Ballots where there are four (4) nominees or more. If no nominee receives a majority vote on the first ballot the following rules will apply with the intent to eliminate candidates to achieve a majority: The Election Committee will eliminate all nominees except for the three (3) nominees receiving the highest number of votes and conduct a subsequent ballot.

If there are three (3) or more candidates that receive the second highest number of votes, all those with the second highest number of votes will proceed to the next ballot including the candidate

with the most votes. The remaining candidates will be eliminated. If there is a tie for candidates with the third highest vote and there are two (2) or more candidates that receive the first and/or second highest number of votes, only the two (2) or more candidates that receive the highest number of votes will proceed to the next ballot. The rest will be eliminated.

If there are more than three (3) candidates tied for first highest vote, all of those receiving the first highest will proceed to the next ballot. The rest will be eliminated.

If all but one candidate ties for second, the Election Committee will distribute an "elimination ballot" that includes only the nominees who tied for second. The Election Committee will eliminate the one nominee receiving the lowest number of votes on the "elimination ballot" and resume the balloting between all remaining nominees.

3. Ballots where there are three (3) nominees. If no nominee receives a majority vote on a ballot having three (3) nominees, the Election Committee will eliminate the one nominee receiving the lowest number of votes, and conduct a subsequent ballot. If all three (3) nominees tie for the votes cast, the Election Committee shall conduct a subsequent ballot including all nominees. If two nominees tie for the fewest votes cast, the Committee will distribute an "elimination ballot" that includes only the two nominees who tied for the fewest votes cast on the prior ballot. The Election Committee will eliminate the one nominee receiving the lowest number of votes on the "elimination ballot" and resume the balloting between all remaining nominees.
4. Ballots with two (2) nominees. The nominee receiving a majority vote shall be elected. If neither nominee receives a majority vote, the Election Committee will prepare another ballot without elimination of the nominee receiving the fewer votes. This Election Committee will repeat this process as necessary until one nominee receives a majority vote.

** Majority is based on the number of Directors present for the 2024 Full Board of Director's roll call.

Full Board Resolutions

All resolutions must be received by fax, email, mail or in-person by 5:00pm Monday, February 26, 2024 to be considered for review at Convention. If you choose to mail in your proposed resolution, call 1-800-478-6822 ext.3275 to notify Legal so that you do not miss the deadline.

RESOLUTION SPONSORS Resolutions may be submitted by Member Tribes and Organizations; TCC Executive Board; TCC Regional Health Advisory Board; Subregional Advisory Boards; Denakkanaaga' and Youth Delegates.

Fax or email, then mail proposed resolutions and information sheets to:

TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE
ATTENTION: Keith Ruben, Legal Department
122 FIRST AVENUE, SUITE 600
FAIRBANKS, AK 99701
FAX: (907) 459-3953

Email: keith.rueben@tananachiefs.org

REMINDER: PLEASE WORD RESOLUTIONS AS TCC
RESOLUTIONS AND NOT TRIBAL RESOLUTIONS

Declaration of Candidacy

Individuals who want to declare themselves a candidate for any of the seats must submit a written, signed and dated letter of intent between 8:00 AM February 1, 2024 and 5:00 PM March 1, 2024.

Letters of intent must be received by fax, mail or delivered in person no later than 5:00 PM on March 1, 2024 to:

Tanana Chiefs Conference
ATTN: Chelle Johnson, Executive Coordinator
122 First Avenue, Suite 600
Fairbanks, AK 99701
1-800-478-6822 ext.3044 FAX # (907) 459-3884

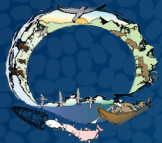
2024 TCC Full Board elections process follows the TCC Elections Rules; the elections rules are posted on the TCC website at www.tananachiefs.org under the 2024 TCC Annual Convention information and is also enclosed with the First and Official Call to Convention mailed to TCC member tribes. A copy of the elections rules can be requested by contacting Robin Brown, General Counsel at robin.brown@tananachiefs.org



Download the resolution
form on our website.



Download the letter
of intent form on our
website.



Tanana
Chiefs
Conference

The Council Newsletter

(907) 452-8251 ext. 3424
communications_dept@tananachiefs.org
www.tananachiefs.org

Communications Division
122 First Avenue, Suite 600
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701



Sign-Up to receive
our E-Newsletter!
Get important
updates straight
to your inbox.



FIND YOUR PURPOSE

Join Our Team!

New Vacancies

Huslia	Tribal Workforce Development Specialist
Fairbanks	Behavioral Health Administrative Assistant
Fairbanks	Accounts Payable Technician
Fairbanks	CT Technologist/Radiographer
Fairbanks	Enrollment Representative
Ruby	Community Health Aide/Practitioner
Huslia	Community Health Aide/Practitioner
Fairbanks	Administrative Assistant II -Self-Governance
Fairbanks	RN Diabetes Care and Education Specialist
Fairbanks	RN Diabetes Care and Education Specialist - Advanced
Fairbanks	Education Coordinator
Fairbanks	Head Start Assistant Manager
Fairbanks	Physician - Internal Medicine
Fairbanks	Pharmacy Technician IV
Fairbanks	Urgent Care RN Advanced



Apply Online or Learn About Our Benefits!

Visit our website at www.tananachiefs.org/careers to see a full list of open positions and learn more about the benefits available through Tanana Chiefs Conference.

JOBS LISTED WERE OPEN AS OF DECEMBER 19, 2023

Do You Have Medicaid?

Don't Miss This Letter!



Medicaid Renewal Letters



Medicaid renewal has started the annual renewal process, and the Division of Public Assistance will be reaching out to households to verify information to renew medicaid coverage.

Questions?

Contact Alternate Resources at
907-451-6682 ext. 3100

UPCOMING EVENTS

**JAN
1**

TCC Offices Closed
New Year's Day

**JAN
15**

TCC Offices Closed
Martin Luther King Day

**JAN
17-18**

Granting Writing Workshop: CTAS
University/Davis Building (2175 University Ave S)
Fairbanks, AK

**JAN
24-25**

TCC Executive Board Meeting
More information can be found online

**FEB
19**

TCC Offices Closed
Presidents' Day