

HUDOTL'EEKKAAK'E

COMMUNITY PLAN 2025-2030



This community Plan was made in conjunction
with:

Tanana Chiefs
Conference
Planning and
Development

Community
Planning
Program

Hughes
Village
Council

Hughes City
Council

Community
Members of
Hughes

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2024 the Hughes Village Council partnered with Tanana Chiefs Conference Planning and Development department to update the Hughes Community Plan aligning and updating the goals to better serve the community. A Community Planning meeting was held in Hughes on May 15th, 2024, to get the input of the Tribal Council and Community Members. The final Hughes Community Plan was adopted by the Hughes Village Council on June 18th, 2025, as an official living document.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The 2024-2029 Hughes Community Plan was a joint effort between the Hughes Tribal Council, Hughes City Council, Tanana Chiefs Conference, and the Community Members who participated in the Community Planning Meeting and the completed feedback survey.

Tanana Chiefs Conference Community Planning Coordinator Millena Jordan was able to compile all input to update the Community Plan for the Village of Hughes.

Many thanks and acknowledgements to the participants who provided input during the Community Meeting.

HUGHES VILLAGE COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Hughes Village

Resolution # 2025-08 Adopting Community Plan

Whereas, this Community Plan is important to the future growth and development of Hughes Village; 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,

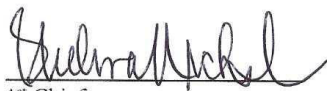
Whereas, it is understood that this document was created for public use and will be made publically available and,

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 considered and passed and approved ___ in favor,
___ opposed by the following parties:


1st Chief

6/18/25
Date


Secretary/Treasurer

6/18/25
Date

COMMUNITY VISION

We are a community who values all community members, especially our children and elders. Hughes is in a state of wellbeing where people are living healthy, subsistence lifestyles and the native language and culture are a part of everyday life. We approach our work with openness and the intention of building a community that is designed by its members to be a safe and joyful place. We are continuously seeking a higher quality of life and growth within and around the community.

COMMUNITY VALUES



COMMUNITY PLANNING UPDATE

In 2024, a joint effort between the Hughes Village Council, the Hughes City Council, and Tanana Chiefs Conference Planning and Development Programs' Community Planning Coordinator Millena Jordan organized a Community Planning Meeting to be held in Hughes on May 9th, 2024.

During the Community Planning Meeting, participants talked about what values and characteristics of their community are important to them, as well as what efforts are needed to assist Hughes into the healthy, safe, and productive community envisioned.

The tribal, city and school representatives as well as community members gave important input in prioritizing goals, brainstorming objectives, and action items for the next five years. Additionally, a survey was administered to the community, giving members an opportunity to contribute feedback.

GOALS SUMMARY

The top five goal categories, prioritized during the May Community Planning Meeting:



COMMUNITY WELLBEING



EDUCATION



SUBSTANCE



HOUSING



PUBLIC UTILITIES / PUBLIC FACILITIES

PROJECT COMPLETION TIMELINE

LIST OF PROJECTS COMPLETED 2019 - 2024

- A Village Public Safety Building was constructed which has a jail and office for VPSO.
- 11 new houses completed in Moose loop and Sunny Lane project Shinning Lake subdivision VPSO & safe house and 2 new homes by the river (4 buildings)
- \$1 Million of HUD federal monies were allocated to Hughes, Huslia, and Allakaket for rehabilitation of houses. Advocated by Senator Murkowski, the Koyukuk River Housing Project was funded.
- Raven Ridge (10 homes in plans of completion) Needs surveyor housing pads are being laid wetlands permit awaiting survey.
- Planned a community wellness/cultural event and apply to the Doyon Daaga' Award.
- Designed and built a multipurpose facility which provides: an elder-youth center, cultural center, training and meeting area, and a fully functional commercial kitchen. The community named this building the Esther Ambrose McCarty Community Hall

LIST OF PROJECTS COMPLETED 2013 - 2019

- **2019** - Additional foundation for an 80,000-gallon capacity bulk fuel storage.
- **2019** - Logs for 3 new homes milled and ready; housing materials arrived by spring barge.
- **2018** - Community shop moved and renovated.
- **2018** - Solar panel field constructed.
- **2017** - Three phase conversion, electrical distribution system
- **2017** - Tribal office building remodel.
- **2016** - City Office building raised with handicap ramp and bigger deck.
- **2016** - Construction of two new Interior Regional Housing Authority homes.
- **2015** - Biomass to heat the city and washeteria building was completed.
- **2015** - 40,000-gallon water tank built.
- **2014** - Construction of a new HUD home.

SUMMARY OF PROJECTS COMPLETED 2010 – 2013

Hughes was able to complete these projects between 2010 - 2013.

- Created the Head Start Program
- Connected the Health Clinic to the Water Plant
- New roads and 13 Gravel Pads for single family homes were completed to create Moose Loop
- A new Landfill was completed, and the old Landfill was closed according to Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation regulations.
- Residential Burn barrels were banned by the Hughes Village and City Council, proper education on the hazards of burn barrels was taught and waste started getting properly disposed of
- Upgraded almost every home in Hughes has running water and plumbing, 5 homes were not able to be completed but plans to receive scattered site water and sewer with completion in 2014.
- Coordinated with surrounding villages to create a tribal court to hear child custody and other related cases.
- Through EPA funding Hughes was able to identify four contaminated sites that were identified, two of which have since been cleaned up.

PAST PROJECTS 2006 - 2010

- **2010** – New landfill.
- **2009** - Construction of a new clinic building.
 - Construction of an outdoor basketball court.
 - Permanent Spirit Camp.
 - Sewing, arts, and crafts being held regularly.
- **2006** - VHF radios for residents.
- **2006** - Construction of new teacher housing.

COMMUNITY PROFILE

HISTORY & CULTURE



Figure 2 Indian Camp near Hughes - UAF Archives

The Koyukon Athabascan name for Hughes is Hudotl'eekkaakk'e which means “mouth of the Hut’odleetna” (Mountain Creek). Traditional Subsistence lifestyles are highly valued by Hughes residents who work diligently to preserve their unique cultural heritage. Traditional ways of life continue – potlatches and sled dog races attract visitors from surrounding villages.

Roy (Frederick) Hughes prospected an area two miles upstream in 1884. But, according to the U.S. Geological Survey, the community was named in 1910 after New York Governor Charles Hughes. It served as a riverboat landing and supply port for the Indian River gold fields until 1915 when the local mining industry declined. The Koyukon Athabascan village of Hughes was founded in its permanent location about 100 years ago after Alfred Isaac discovered gold nearby resulting in the name Indian Mountain and Indian River (Johnny Oldman School, n.d.). It is built upon a low-lying gravel bar about one mile deep by three miles long on the east bank of the Koyukuk River. Situated in a beautiful river valley in an area of forests and low mountains. Hughes is a place that is rich in the natural resources of clean water, salmon, whitefish, moose, waterfowl, and other small game animals and furbearers. The country has provided well for the Koyukon Athabascan people for many, many centuries, and the people of Hughes closely follow their traditions of respect for the animals and land that provide sustenance for them.

Although the modern Native village was not settled until the early 1900’s when the place was used as a boat landing by non-native prospectors looking for gold, it was used for centuries as a gathering and trading place by Koyukon Athabascan's and Kobuk, Selawik, and Nunamiut Inupiat from the northern regions. Hughes was used as a supply port for the Indian River gold

mines. When mining activity declined in 1915, the natives stayed at the location. A post office was later established in 1942, and a school was started in Johnny Oldman's home in 1952. Additional infrastructure was built over the following years – an airstrip in the 1950s, a school in 1956, a clinic in 1968 and local roads in 1974.

Hughes tribal members are most closely related to the Alatna, Allakaket and Huslia tribes, although there are many tribal members with ties to other Alaska Native tribes in Alaska and other American Indian Groups. These close relationships create a web of support and community throughout Interior Alaska that stretches up and down the major rivers – the Yukon, Koyukuk, and Tanana – and overcomes the sense of physical separation that arises from the large geographic distances that separate villages.

LOCATION

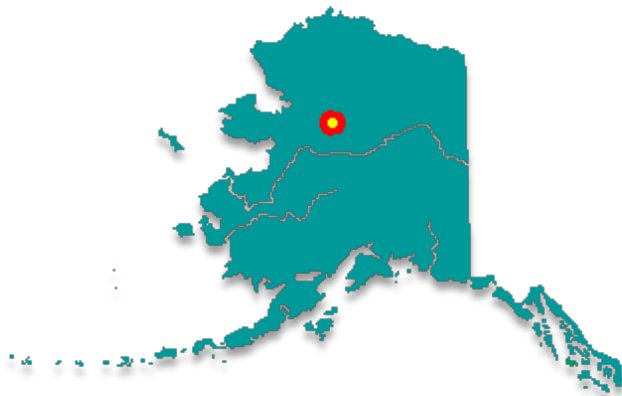


Figure 3 Hughes located on Alaskan map.

Hughes is located along the east bank of the Koyukuk River next to a bluff about 210 air miles northwest of Fairbanks, 57 river miles southeast of Allakaket, 65 air miles northeast of Huslia and approximately 35 air miles south of the Arctic Circle. Like most interior Alaska villages there is no road access to the village, so the principal method of

transportation to and from the village is by air taxi. When the river is ice-free, inter-village travel is accessible by boat. In the winter, trails link Hughes with the neighboring villages of Alatna, Allakaket, Evansville, and Huslia.

CLIMATE

The climate is typical of a sub-arctic, continental location. Winters are very cold with an average of 42.4 inches of snowfall per year (Hughes, Alaska Climate, n.d.). Average winter temperatures are -10 to -20°F with extended periods of -40°F and colder; this is common in the coldest months of January and February. Freeze-up of the river begins in late September, with sufficient ice thickness by early November to allow river travel by snow



Figure 4 Garden on the bank of the Koyukuk River



Figure 5 Elder Henry Beatus' Home
1/23/2018.

machine and dog team. The spring break-up of the river usually occurs by mid-May and is ice-free for four months. Average rainfall is 11.6 inches. Summers are hot, with an average temperature of 70°F. Daytime highs in the 80's and low 90's are not uncommon. This hot weather combined with the long days of summer with 23 hours of daylight provides excellent conditions for growing cool weather crops. Local efforts, both presently by residents in the community garden, and in the past, by missionaries and teachers, produce good yield of cabbages, potatoes, lettuce, and other vegetables to augment the extremely expensive fruits and vegetables brought in by air.

ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS

Traditionally nomadic, the village of Hughes settled in its present location on the Koyukuk River about one hundred years ago. Originally founded as a supply port for the inland Indian River goldfields, local Koyukon Athabascans stayed on at the site after mining activity in the area ceased. While the wide gravel bar served well as a riverboat landing, it was a poor location for permanent habitation since it frequently floods as a result of heavy rains or ice jams from spring



Figure 6 Flood 1994 - Most of Hughes Underwater

breakup. In late August 1994, a major flood destroyed 22 of the 29 occupied homes in Hughes, and residents had to be airlifted to safety. In the spring of 2006, a downstream ice jam caused severe flooding in most of Hughes. Although residents did not have to be evacuated this time, the floodwaters damaged the school, several homes, the store, the air strip, and caused diesel fuel and sewage spills. Following the flooding caused by the 2006 ice jam the community placed a high priority on relocating the community on the bluffs behind the current site. The threat of frequent flooding was reconfirmed during the spring break up of 2013. While the homes and community facilities that have been built away from the river in recent years were not impacted, older homes located near the river were flooded. About a foot of water also flooded the school building during the spring of 2013 flood.

The prospective site for relocation was surveyed and assessments for construction suitability were completed. There were also cost estimates for road construction to the new site. The cost of new road construction was infinitively high, this combined with findings of prevalent permafrost persuaded City, Tribe and community members to discontinue the relocation project of Hughes to bluffs located behind the current town site. Rather than relocating the village on the bluffs behind the current village site, the Tribal and City councils have instituted a plan to construct all



Figure 7 Hughes Waterfront View, Courtesy of Koyukuk River Tribal Tours

new housing that is further away from the river and on higher ground. All new buildings are being constructed on gravel pads that will raise them even further from the possible threat of flooding. Flooding remains a concern. The Tribal Council and City authorize public interest announcements in the spring reminding residents to shut off fuel valves and to move personal belongings to higher ground during the spring break up of the Koyukuk River.

CENSUS REGION

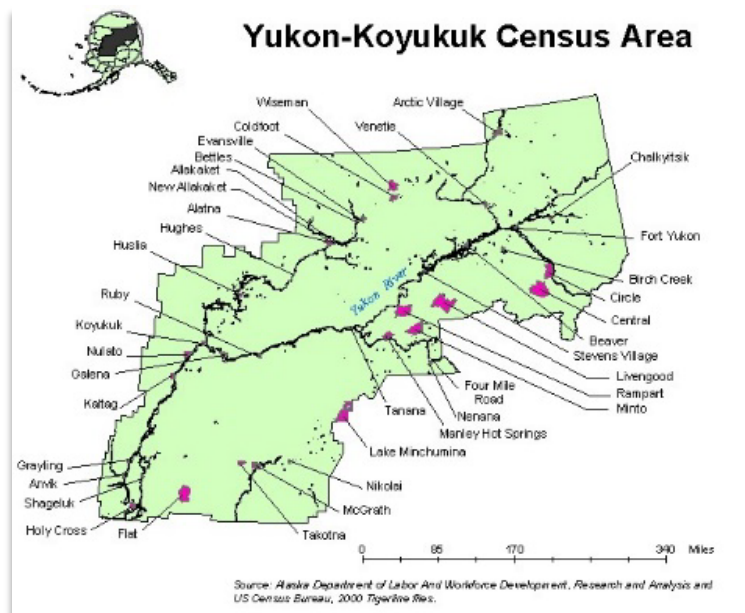


Figure 8 Alaska Labor Census Map PD-USGov-DOL

Hughes is in the Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area that has a population estimate of 5,343 out of the 39 census designated areas as of 2022 encompassing 145,575.6 square miles of land. Making it the largest County in Alaska by total area. (2022 American Community Survey 5- Year Estimates, n.d.)

POPULATION

According to the State of Alaska Division of Community and Regional Affairs (DCRA) community database and Census population counts, the population of Hughes from 1920-2019 is featured in Figure 9. From 1880-1910 and 1930 there was no count according to the Census population count. Hughes Community Planning Specialist completed the 2019 population count.

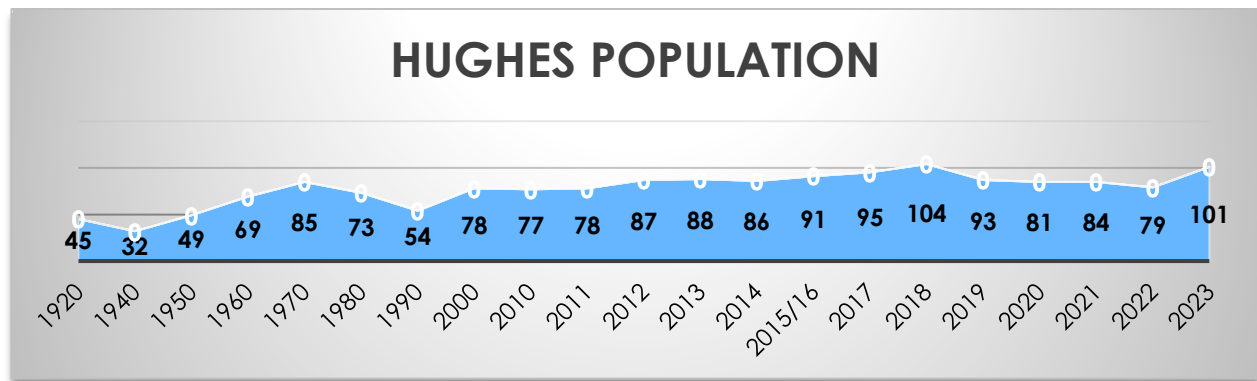


Figure 9 Hughes Population over the Years

POPULATION BY RACE 2018-2022

RACE	PERCENT OF POPULATION
American Indian or AK Native	89.41%
Asian	0%
Black or African American	0%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0%
White	5.88%
Other Race	4.70%
Two or More Races	0%

POPULATION BY GENDER 2018-2022

GENDER	PERCENT OF POPULATION
Male	52.9%
Female	47.1%

LAND STATUS AND OWNERSHIP

The land directly around Hughes is K'oyitl'ots'ina Ltd. owned, the ANCSA village corporation. There are 25-square mile lots of land scattered around Hughes that are Doyon Ltd. owned, the ANCSA regional corporation. BLM and the State of Alaska land cover the rest of the area.

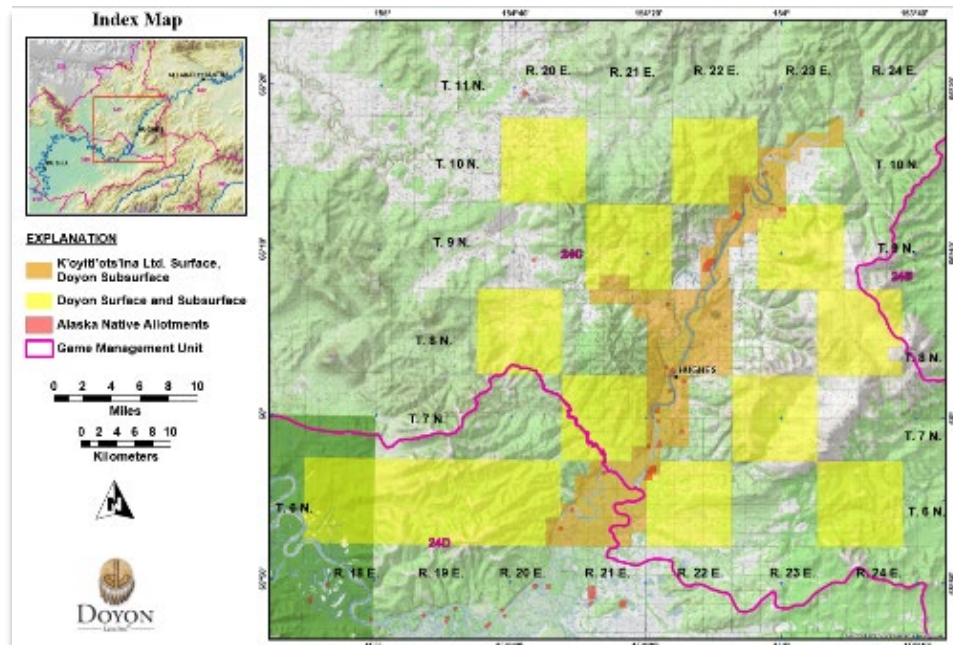


Figure 10 Land Ownership - Doyon Limited

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Having a safe, clean environment is important to residents in Hughes. Surface water was assessed in 2006-2007 in four sites around Hughes including the old tank farm site for the school, the footprint from the former generator building, the abandoned generator building, and the former fuel dispenser.

Two sites were cleaned up, including the footprint of the former generator building and the abandoned generator site in 2012. The remediation of the two other tested sites has been evaluated. The Hughes Indian Environment General Assistance Program (IGAP) Coordinator is currently seeking funding from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for the site cleanup of two sites.

Regular testing of the main water well is completed by the Tanana Chiefs Conference Office of Environmental Health (OEH).

GOVERNANCE & PUBLIC SAFETY

The Hughes Village Council and Hughes City Council meet regularly and collaborate on many plans and projects. Several community members are on both councils. The City Office and Tribal Office are right next to each other with the Post Office located in the downstairs of the City Office. This close collaboration has allowed the community to make tremendous progress towards community priorities. Village and City Council cooperation is also aided by regularly seeking input from community members on priorities and keeping the community informed through regular community gatherings and events, radio announcements, community calendars, and the Hughes Newsletter that is completed every other month.

HUGHES VILLAGE COUNCIL

Hughes Village is a federally recognized tribe. The affairs of the village are governed by the Hughes Village Council, which meets monthly. The Hughes Village Council was incorporated in 1973 and is composed of a first chief, second chief, secretary and four additional council members. Council member elections are held on the first Tuesday of October every year; term lengths are three years, with staggered terms. The council members elect the first Chief, Second Chief and Secretary annually. Only tribal members who have lived in Hughes for six months prior to elections may vote in the council elections. The Village Council employs up to seven staff, including an Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) specialist, an itinerant village health aide, and a tribal administrator. The Village Council and Tanana Chiefs Conference dually supervise the latter two positions.

Hughes has a tribal constitution and is in the process of updating its ordinances. The sale of alcohol is banned in the village; limited importation or possession is allowed. Updates to tribal codes and ordinances are a current priority. The village has a tribal court to hear child custody and other related cases. However, because of the small population, the tribal court calls on tribal court judges from the surrounding villages of Alatna, Allakaket, and Huslia if necessary.

HUGHES CITY COUNCIL

In 1973, Hughes was incorporated as a second-class city by the State of Alaska (DCRA Community Database, n.d.). The Hughes City Council has seven members, some of whom may also serve on the village council. City council seats are filled in the same manner as the traditional council; annual elections for open seats for a three-year duration, with city council officers elected annually by the council members. To vote in the city council elections, a person does not have to be tribally enrolled in Hughes, but they must have been a resident in Hughes for at least 30 days prior to the election. The City of Hughes is the utility operator employing several utility operators and maintenance workers that operate and maintain the city generators, water plant, landfill, and biomass.

In addition to the two councils, there is also a village corporation, which was formed under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA). K'oyitl'ots'ina, Limited (K-Corp for short) also includes the communities of Alatna, Allakaket and Huslia. Both the city and K-Corp own land in and around Hughes.

K-Corp, the city and the Tribe engage in various operations to keep the town functioning, with the tribe providing most of the local, social, and public services to community members. Hughes is a member of Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC), a regional Native non-profit organization that is a consortium of 39 Interior Alaskan Athabascan tribes.

PUBLIC SAFETY



Figure 11 TCC VPSO Program

A continued priority is having a Village Public Safety Officer (VPSO) that resides in the village. A building complete with living quarters and a jail has been constructed in the summer of 2024. (\$93,000 awarded so far) Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) Rural professional house Teacher/VPSO

The city operates a Code Red building in case of a fire emergency. They also periodically offer

firefighting trainings for community members who would be called on to respond in the case of an emergency.

The Tribal Council does own a home that was once used as a safe house in the past. The safe house is being planned to be converted into a shop for the community, in need of all new interior construction work (awaiting on reports for funding from the Department of Justice). In situations where a safe house is needed the TFYS volunteer will collaborate with the individual to find a place where they feel safe.

Public safety precautions also include maintaining winter shelters and trail marking between Hughes and the communities of Huslia, Allakaket, and Alatna. There is a trail shelter between Hughes and Allakaket. With winter storms, subzero temperatures, and only a few hours of daylight, trail markings and emergency shelters can make the difference between life-or-death situations that are unfortunately entirely too common in remote corners of Alaska.

In 2006 Hughes purchased VHF radios for each household as well to help provide a necessary tool to assist in emergencies.

CORPORATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS

DOYON, LIMITED



Figure 12 Doyon, LTD Logo

Hughes is a part of Doyon Limited, the Alaska Native Regional Corporation for Interior Alaska, incorporated in 1972 under the 1971 Alaska Native Claim Settlement Act (ANCSA). From provisions under ANCSA, Doyon is entitled to receive approximately 12.5 million acres of land across Interior Alaska, making Doyon the largest private landowner in Alaska. Management of Doyon's land focuses on the protection of traditional shareholder uses and responsible

economic development or natural resources. The corporation currently employs more than 800 persons worldwide and over 550 employees in Alaska.

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

TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE

Tanana Chiefs Conference was officially formed in 1962 and incorporated under Alaska State Law in 1971. We are organized as Dena' Nena' Henash or "Our Land Speaks;" an Alaska Native nonprofit corporation, charged with advancing Tribal self-determination and enhancing regional Native unity. TCC 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.

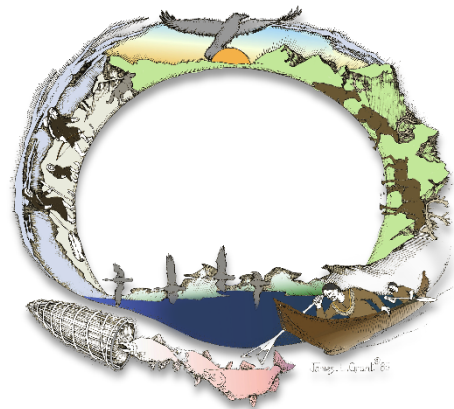
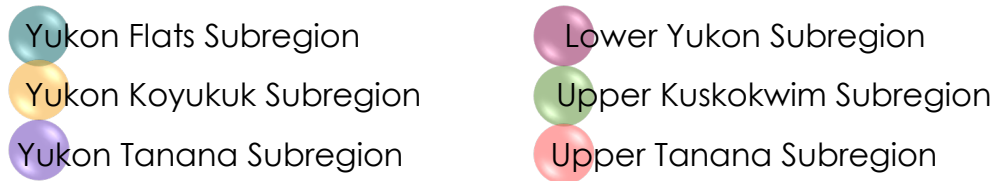


Figure 13 Tanana Chiefs Conference Logo

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 and Tribal Government 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; Bertha Moses 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 there are six subregions:



Within our six subregions are 39 villages, for an approximate population of 6700. We also serve clients in the Fairbanks area.

DENAKKANAAGA



Figure 14 Denakkanaaga Logo

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 the age of 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

INTERIOR REGIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY

Interior Regional Housing Authority (IRHA), a non-profit organization, is the Tribally Designated Housing Entity (TDHE) for Hughes Tribal Council. Formed in 1974, IRHA implements the Indian Housing Plans to improve and expand affordable housing. By designating IRHA as a TDHE, Tribes choose to use IRHA for building the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (NAHASDA) construction projects. IRHA offers professional services such as grant writing, environmental reviews, project managers, project site control, payroll, accounts payable, financial reporting, procurement, material inventory/shipment, homebuyer counseling and collections.



Figure 15 Interior Regional Housing Authority Logo

Mission Statement:

To provide housing opportunities and support self-sufficiency through housing.

Vision Statement:

Thriving families with quality affordable housing.

Values:

- Innovation
- Respect
- Honesty
- Accountability

K'OYITL'OTS'INA, LIMITED



Figure 16 K'Oyitl'ots'ina Logo

K'oyitl'ots'ina, Limited is the village corporation that represents four distinct villages: Alatna, Allakaket, Hughes, and Huslia. The name K'oyitl'ots'ina was proposed by Esther McCarty, and it means “Villages along the Koyukuk River” in Koyukon Athabascan. It is governed by a nine-member board of directors, elected from and by the corporation's approximate 800 shareholders. K'oyitl'ots'ina, Limited secures about 345,600 acres of land.

K'oyitl'ots'ina, Limited is made of the merging of four villages, each village is represented by two seats, and the ninth is at large, and can be held by any shareholder. Two of the nine directors must have their principal place of residence in one of the respective villages of Alatna, Allakaket, Hughes and Huslia.

K'oyitl'ots'ina, Limited provides shareholders with the opportunity to apply for a scholarship twice annually.

K'OYITL'OTS'INA MISSION:

K'OYITL'OTS'INA, LIMITED is dedicated to maintaining Native Ownership of Land and improving the quality of life of Shareholders through maintaining a profitable corporation, providing services to all its villages, and promoting economic development of its villages.

K'OYITL'OTS'INA, LIMITED, is dedicated to economic enterprise that will be of greatest benefit to all Shareholders through dividends and Shareholder employment.

K'OYITL'OTS'INA, LIMITED is dedicated to improving the standard of living of Shareholders through maximizing dividends generated by corporation earnings.

K'OYITL'OTS'INA, LIMITED is dedicated securing and protecting the assets of the corporation from erosion by inflation and the exploitation of corporation lands.

K'OYITL'OTS'INA, LIMITED, is dedicated to improving the opportunities of Shareholders by the creation of jobs, promotion of education, care for the elderly and payment of dividends through the earnings of Corporation assets.

K'OYITL'OTS'INA, LIMITED is dedicated to the distribution of the assets received under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to the Shareholders. It will only retain such funds as are necessary to ensure the reasonable use of Corporation lands until they can be used for the economic benefit of all Shareholders.

Board of Director Members from Hughes:

- Seat F, Tanya Kaquatosh – Resides in Fairbanks

INFRASTRUCTURE

TRIBAL OFFICE

Originally the tribal office and city office employees both worked in the city building. The tribal office was built in 1993. In 1994 there was a flood that required renovation work to be done for it to be useful again. In 2017, the tribal building underwent complete interior renovation to include: two bathrooms, a full kitchen downstairs, an upstairs kitchenette, a bedroom for rent, four offices, a storage area, and plenty of room downstairs for more desks and meeting space. The council is currently seeking funding to raise the gravel pad to ensure the building is safe from future flooding. (FEMA awaiting funding)

There was also interest in constructing a new Tribal Building for the community. Doing so would provide the Village this space to convert into a wellness center which was also expressed as a great need for the community.



Figure 17 Tribal Office - Complete Renovation

CITY OFFICE

The City Office building was built in the late seventies or early eighties. This is where the Post Office is located as well. In 2016, there was a gravel pad constructed for the building, it was raised up on posts, with the addition of a handicap ramp and larger porch. There was also interest in constructing a new building at the Community Planning Meeting 2024



Figure 18 Hughes City Building & Post Office

on Front Street on the first floor of the city building, the hours of operation are Mon-Fri, 10:00am-12:00pm and 01:00pm-05:00pm.

There was also expressed interest in a new building for the Post Office in the Community Meeting 2024

POST OFFICE

The original Post office was established in 1942 at the James Store. Next, it was moved into Henry & Sophie Beatus' house by the river, then to the old freezer house next door, later into Ella & Lester Sam's house, and finally it settled into the City Building when it was built in the late seventies or early eighties. The Hughes Post Office is located

JOHNNY OLDMAN SCHOOL

The school was built in 1981 and named after Johnny Oldman, who was a supporter of educating the youth. The school serves students from kindergarten through grade 12 and more recently offers pre-kindergarten, when there is need. On average there are about 20-25 students per year in the school, with two teachers.



Figure 19 Johnny Oldman School

With Hughes' small population keeping enrollment numbers above the 10-student minimum requirement is an ongoing concern. According to current projections of student enrollment over the next four years, 2020-2023, the student population is on a steady rise. So much so that the district has added two detached, temporary classrooms to avoid being cramped for space.

Were the school to close, because of insufficient enrollment numbers, young children would have to be home schooled, with older ones (high school) leaving the village to attend one of three in-state boarding schools or relocating to Fairbanks to live with relatives and attend school there.

The community uses the school gym and library. Community members have long sought support from the Yukon-Koyukuk School District to construct a new facility due to its location near the river. The school is built on pier and beams, so it flooded badly in spring of 2006. Community residents spent several weeks mopping out the flood waters from spring break-up in 2013. In 2019, water had to be pumped out from beneath the floor due to high waters from spring break up. (White, 2019)



Figure 20 Detached Temporary Classroom.

Hughes pursued establishing a Head Start Program since 2006. In August of 2012, a part-time program staff member was hired. During 2012-2013 there were 11 children enrolled in the head start program. The Head Start staff member has a rotating schedule where she visits each of the children in the program once a week. Activities during home visits range depending on the age of the child but might include

reading books, doing puzzles, music time, etc. Once a week there is group socialization where all the young children at Head Start have playing time at the school gym.

HEALTH CLINIC

Hughes constructed a new clinic in the summer of 2009. The new facility improved patient care with the additional exam room and space to house necessary medical equipment. The new facility also improved security of patient records and the clinic pharmacy. As of 2019 the clinic building does need upgrades. The upgrades are in the planning process.



Figure 21 Marilyn E. Koyukuk Evans Health Center

health complaints, such as colds, flu, sore throats, etc. There is also capacity at the clinic for the health aide to receive remote assistance from doctors and registered nurses at Chief Andrew Isaac Clinic in Fairbanks.

The health clinic is operated by Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC), which receives and distributes Indian Health Service (IHS) funds through their federal contract. Currently there is one full-time health aid in the village. The village health aides provide basic health care such as immunizations, prenatal care, diagnosis, and treatment for routine

Residents that need more specific medical care must go to Fairbanks for treatment, including vision and dental care. Emergency cases must be airlifted to Fairbanks Memorial Hospital by one of the aviation emergency medical response teams operated by private carrier. An itinerant PA on contract with TCC is currently able to spend one week a month in Hughes through a grant, with these regular visits less travel to Fairbanks is required for patient care.

WASHETERIA



Figure 22 Hughes Washeteria

The washeteria is a city-owned facility that provides drinking water fill-ups, showers, and laundry facilities to residents. Originally built in 1988, the washeteria was renovated in 2002, two building heaters with baseboard heating, one water heater and four commercial washing machines were added. Improvements were also made to doors and windows.

Modern upgrades are needed to make the Washeteria more efficient till funding is secured to construct a new Washeteria for the Village

COMMUNITY/TRIBAL HALL

In 2023 construction on the beautiful new Hughes Traditional Elder and Youth Facility was completed and was dedicated to the Late Esther McCarty. The building is equipped with running water and sewer, a fully functional commercial kitchen, and plentiful space for activities.



Figure 23 Hughes Traditional Elder and Youth Facility

The building is in the common Koyukon region Octagon fashion.

There is a wood stove and a toyo stove for heating the building. It is used for village events such as funeral visitations, memorial potlatches, community meetings, covered dishes and dances, etc.

CHURCH

There is one church in Hughes, St. Paul's Episcopal; the church was named by the late Susie Williams, who was a member of the Episcopal Diocese of Alaska, St. Anna Society. The church was built in 1994 and fortunately survived the September flood intact.



Figure 24 St. Paul's Episcopal Church

There is no resident priest in the village, and currently only one lay reader. A visiting priest comes to the village about every three months, and there are weekly services depending on the village lay reader's availability. Church members would like to build an addition to the church and add a parish hall, move the building, and build a higher gravel pad to avoid flooding and renovate the church.

COMMUNITY UTILITIES

WATER & SEWER

Significant upgrades to the water and sewer system have occurred in Hughes over the years. Almost a decade ago the only facilities that had access to piped water and sewer were the school, tribal and city office buildings, health clinic, and teacher apartments.



Figure 25 Water Tank 40,000-gallons.

The Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) completed phase I and II of the Hughes Sanitation Improvement Project which included site selection for a new sewage lagoon, design of a new water source, water distribution system, and construction of water distribution for ten homes. Phase III is the remaining phase of the Hughes Sanitation Improvement Project which included upgrades to the washeteria including the installation of a 40,000-gallon water tank and site

cleanup within the area of installation where old fuel lines had been located. A total of 39 homes in Hughes now have water and sewer, and 13 have well & septic.

The washeteria is no longer the primary source of potable drinking water, and while outhouses still are present behind many homes, they do not get much use anymore. One of the remaining priorities not included in the phased Sanitation Project was the design and construction of a new water plant and Washeteria. This is still a priority for the community of Hughes.

ELECTRICITY AND POWER

A community-wide electrical system was built in 2005, and all homes have electricity. In the beginning there were a few streetlights that illuminated the main core of the village – where the school, clinic and tribal offices are located. Now there are streetlights in all the housing areas as well. Electricity is generated by diesel generators, and the utility, Hughes Power & Light, is owned and operated by the city; a power cost equalization subsidy is received by the utility.



Figure 26 Power Plant Building



Figure 27 The Solar Panels completed in 2019.

There are currently 4 generators at the power plant. As result of community members voicing their concerns of the heavy electric load – a three-phase system replaced the older one phase system in 2017.

In the fall of 2018 Alaska Native Renewable Industries completed the 1st phase of the 120-kW solar project in Hughes installing 380 solar panels. In

2019, electrical work was done and plans to do battery storage installation are all that is needed to get this project up and running. This will be a 120-kilowatt (kW) solar photovoltaic (PV)

system that will cut diesel use and costs and plans to advance the village's renewable energy goal of 50% by 2025. As of 2019, Hughes goes through more than 40,000 gallons of diesel annually for electricity generation which is flown in by Korean War-era planes. (Petersen, 2019)

BULK FUEL STORAGE



Figure 29 Bulk Fuel Storage

There are two bulk-fuel storage facilities, one for Hughes Power & Light, with a capacity of 22,000 gallons, the other for the school, with a 28,000-gallon capacity. Owned by the city, there is a 10,000-gallon tank for gas and a 12,000-gallon tank for diesel. In 2018, a local barge company Ruby Marine started delivering to Hughes at

almost half the cost of air freight. After some time, Ruby Marine stated that the community would need to buy bulk fuel for the company to continue its service, which prompted the community to seek funds to house the fuel that would be bought and maintain the luxuries of cheaper prices the barge brought. A rate of \$.55/LB rather than \$1/LB in airfare bringing the average cost of a gallon down by \$1.

In 2019 grant funding was obtained for more bulk-fuel storage and a gravel pad was constructed for the new tanks.

In 2020 construction was finalized on the brand new 80,000-gallon bulk Tank Farm (10,000 gallons/gas, 70,000



Figure 28 New 80,000-gallon Farm Tanks

gallons/diesel) forged between the partnership of the city of Hughes and TCC Energy Program.

The city of Hughes received an \$817k Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) award

from the state of Alaska Department of Community and Regional Affairs passed through from the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

SOLID WASTE

The old landfill has been completely closed out. Periodic monitoring of the old landfill site is ongoing, as disturbances can hinder re-vegetation.

The practice of using burn barrels ceased with a City of Hughes ordinance which banned the use. The installation of nine large trash bins was distributed throughout the community. Residents dispose of their trash in the bins which are then transported to the landfill by the landfill operator.

The city charges \$20 a month for trash hauling. Much of the trash is then incinerated in a burner unit by the landfill operator. Plans are in the works to build another burner unit for trash burning at the landfill in the summer of 2020.

During spring break up there is often a community cleanup day. The area around the landfill site also gets cleaned up from stray plastic bags that have spread from winds since the previous winter.

A recycling program funded through Alaskans for Litter Prevention and Recycling (ALPAR) is managed by Hughes IGAP. The program expanded in 2012 at the school to include recycling candy wrappers, chip bags, and plastic wrappers. The recycling program already includes the collection of cans. Updates to the Hughes Solid Waste Management Plan were completed in 2004 by the CRW Engineering Group in Anchorage Alaska.



Figure 30 Old Trash Bin vs. New Trash Bin Style

BIOMASS



Figure 31 Hughes Biomass - Heats the Washeteria & City Buildings and the biomass was operational by 2015.

Hughes worked on a biomass project in cooperation with Interior Regional Housing Authority, Tanana Chiefs Conference, Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, and Alaska Energy Authority which included the installation of two wood boilers that heat the washeteria and the City building. Construction began in 2014,

COMMUNICATION

TELEPHONE

Due to location and what these companies offer, Alaska Communications Systems (ACS) is the home phone provider, offering local in town calls only; AT&T is the home phone provider that offers long distance plans for Hughes.

RADIO



Years ago, an antenna on the bluff provided AM channels. Now there is an antenna on top of the city building, so residents can access KIYU, which is the community radio for Interior Alaska. Hughes receives it on FM 97.1 channel.

INTERNET PROVIDERS

HughesNet and DRS are two internet providers that work at our location and are currently being used. Starlink launched their service for Alaska in November of 2022, covering only a sparse portion of Alaska. Only a brief time later coverage for the entirety of Alaska was launched.

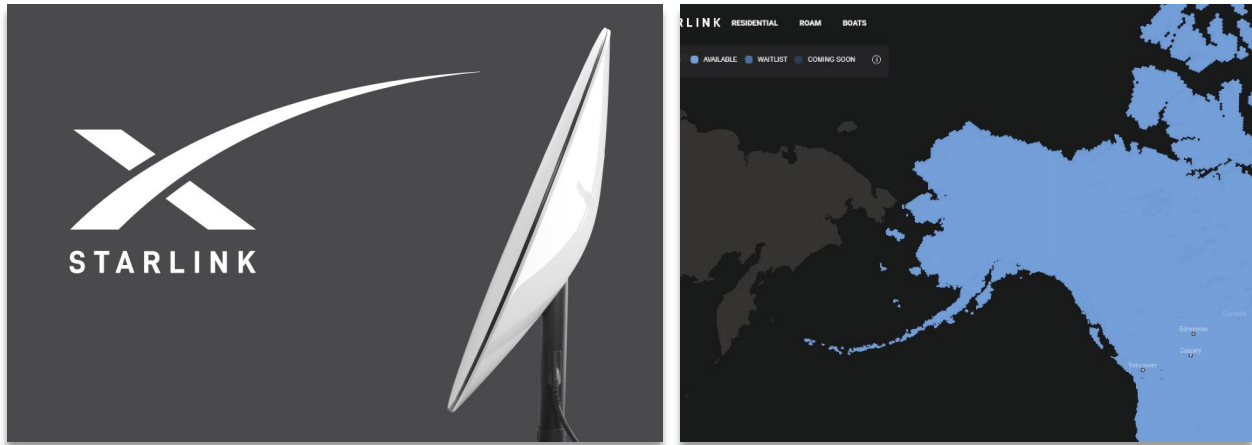


Figure 32 Starlink logo and Coverage.

HOUSING

Hughes has a total of 47 housing units, of which 42 are currently being occupied. The Tribal Council continues to seek funding for the construction of new homes in Hughes. One of the major accomplishments of the past ten years has been the installation of plumbing to all but five homes in Hughes, two have elected not to install. To date, all homes that sought plumbing received the scattered sites water and sewer installation in 2021. In 2024 \$1 million dollars from HUD federal monies were awarded to be split between Hughes, Huslia, and Allakaket. Labeled the Koyukuk River Housing Project advocated by Senator Murkowski in Juneau.

A subdivision was completed in 2012, including the new roads named Blueberry Lane and Moose Loop. A total of 13 new gravel pads were built as well.

8 Houses were constructed in 2021. 3 Homes were constructed in 2024.

The Sunny Lane project (Shinning Lake subdivision) was completed and now provides a VPSO building & safe house along with 2 new homes by the river in 2024 (4 buildings)

Raven Ridge (10 homes planned once completed) is only in need of surveying housing pads on wetlands.

Seventeen (17) homes were weatherized by the TCC Weatherization Program in 2013.

Weatherization assistance includes a variety of measures that range from upgrading windows and doors to more energy efficient designs, installing of insulation, and installation of a heating unit.

Majority of the residents rely on oil stoves as their primary heat source with only a small percentage of the households using wood stoves.



Figure 33 Hughes' Main Neighborhood

TRANSPORTATION

Since Hughes is not road accessible, the primary transportation for residents and visitors is by air taxi. The primary operator is Wright Air Service stationed in Fairbanks. All fuel, store supplies, mail, replacement parts (for boats, snow machines, ATVs, etc.), and other equipment flown in from Fairbanks 202 air miles away, as all building supplies are not manufactured locally (i.e., everything except for building logs).

The gravel, lighted air strip is 3,400 feet long by 100 feet wide. The airstrip is maintained and owned by the State of Alaska. The spring break-up in 2013 ended recent resurfacing improvements to the airstrip after being completely submerged by floodwaters. Improvements were made to raise the airstrip in 2015.

Airlines	One - way	Round Trip
Wrights	\$190	\$380

Freight Type	0-2 LBS	3-10 LBS	11-39 LBS	39+ LBS	Outsized
\$Total/LB	\$20 (Flat Rate)	\$25 (Flat Rate)	\$35 (Flat Rate)	\$0.88	\$1.59

There are many local trails around the village that community members use for trapping, wood cutting, mushing, hunting, and other activities. In addition to the local trails there are two winter trails linking Hughes with Allakaket and Alatna upriver, and Huslia downriver. In the summer, people travel to and from villages on the river by skiff.

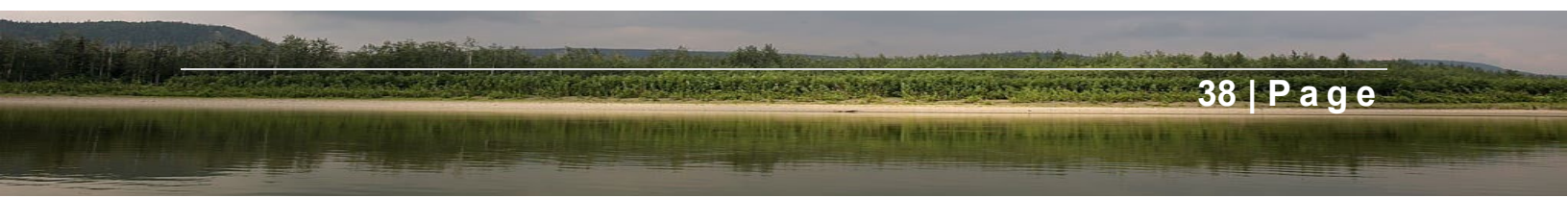
The roads and trails in and around Hughes have been cataloged using a global positioning system unit and entered the Tribe's Tribal Transportation Program (TTP). The most recent updates to the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) were completed in 2013. New road constructions to the landfill and sewage lagoon were completed in the summer of 2009. A new residential subdivision has recently been completed which includes the construction of Moose Loop and Blueberry Lane. One of the transportation accomplishments in Hughes is the construction of Sunny Lane which will open additional access for subsistence activities and access to the cemetery.



Figure 35 Hughes residents help with airplane offloading & loading.



Figure 35 Sunset in Hughes



ECONOMY

EMPLOYMENT

Most of the year-around employment in the village is through either the Tribal Council or the City. The school, clinic, and post office offer a few additional employment opportunities. Some residents work during the summer on construction projects, fighting wildfires for the Bureau of Land Management, and others trap, sell firewood or work as artisans selling their bead work, fur crafts, snowshoes, and sleds. Some residents work outside of the village.

For Hughes, the most important community resources are their natural resources of clean water, berries, waterfowl, moose, small game, fur bearers, salmon, and whitefish. Village activities are still very much governed by the seasons: spring waterfowl hunts, summer fishing and berry picking, fall moose hunting, and winter trapping. Hughes is considered a “distressed community,” according to the Denali Commission (2023). The distressed status is determined by



Figure 36 Hughes Sawmill

comparing average income of a community or CDP to full-time minimum wage earnings, the percentage of the population earning greater than full-time minimum wage earnings and a measure of the percentage of the population engaged in year-round wage and salary employment (2023 Distressed Communities,

2023). 30% or more of the residents earn less than \$21,507, the state’s annual minimum wage for 2023.

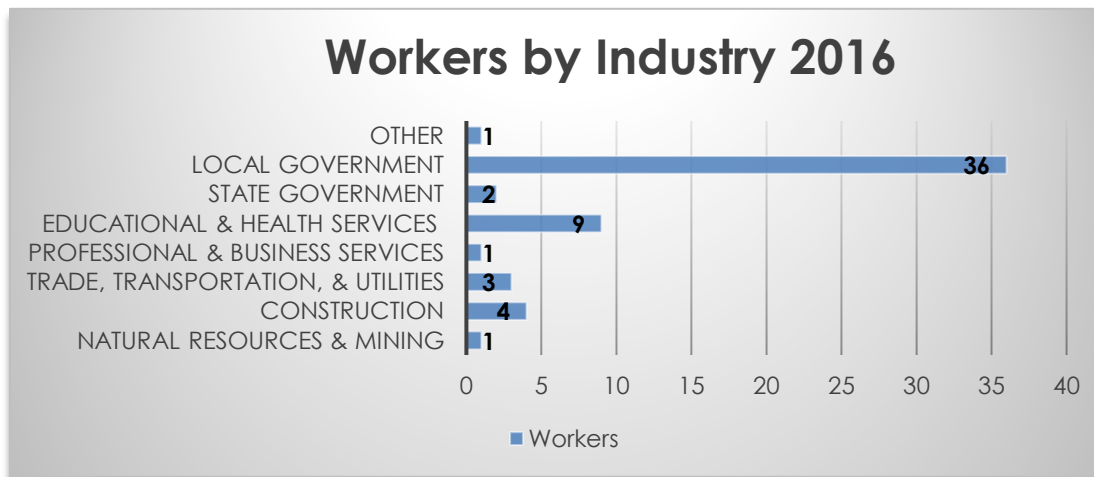


Figure 37 Alaska Live Labor Statistics 2016

INCOME

According to the State of Alaska Live Labor Statistics, in 2016 the total wages for all 57 people employed in Hughes totaled \$820,437. Worker characteristics include: 19 workers in the private sector, 36 workers in the local government, and 2 workers in the state government.

Hughes, AK Income (2017-2021)	Estimate	Margin of Error
Median Household Income	\$21,250	+/- 13,663
Median Family Income	\$41,250	+/- 27,374

According to the: American Community Survey; **2021**: ACS 5-Year Estimates (Census - Table Results, n.d.)

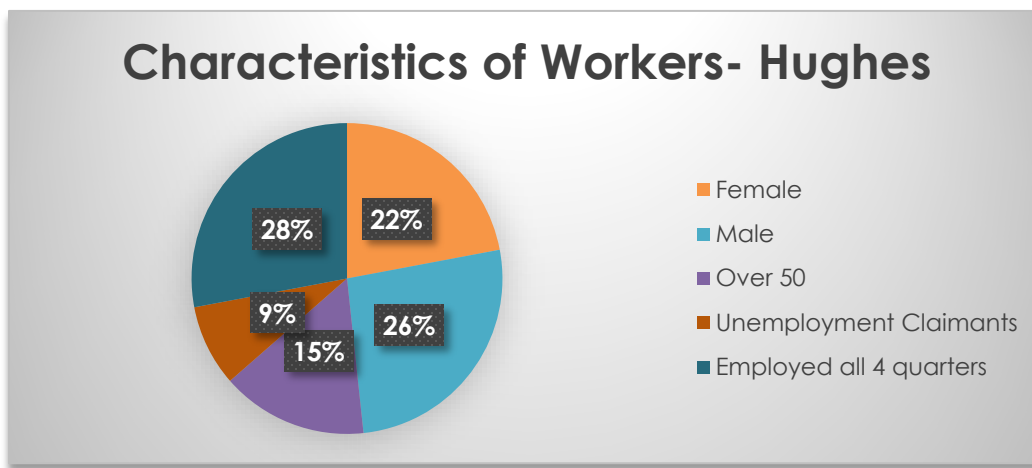


Figure 38 Workers Characteristics 2016 - Hughes

EMPLOYMENT BARRIERS

The community feedback survey collected information from participants regarding the employment barriers, such as: a small labor pool, lack of consistent trainings available, health issues, not enough trainings, and the *lack* of variety in jobs available.

Participants also shared a list of training opportunities they would

like to see in Hughes. Hughes is considered a “distressed community,” according to the Denali Commission (2023). The distressed status is determined by comparing average income of a community or CDP to full-time minimum wage earnings, the percentage of the population earning greater than full-time minimum wage earnings and a measure of the percentage of the population engaged in year-round wage and salary employment (2023 Distressed Communities, 2023). 30% or more of the residents earn less than \$21,507, the state’s annual minimum wage for 2023. (Denali Commission, 2023)

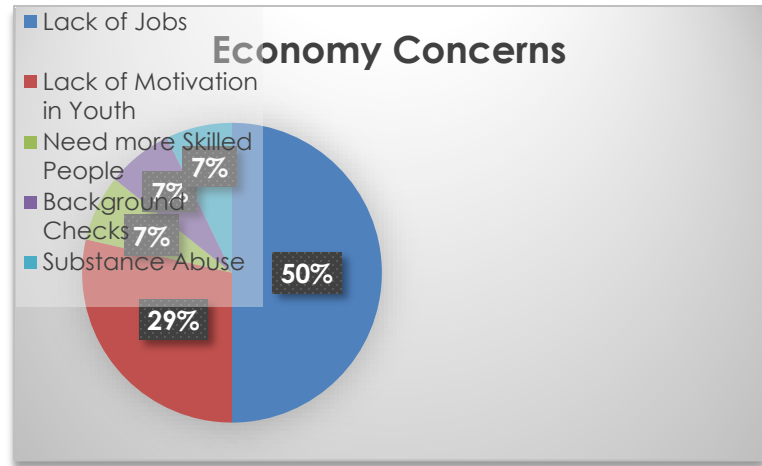


Figure 40 Economic Concerns based off Survey 2019

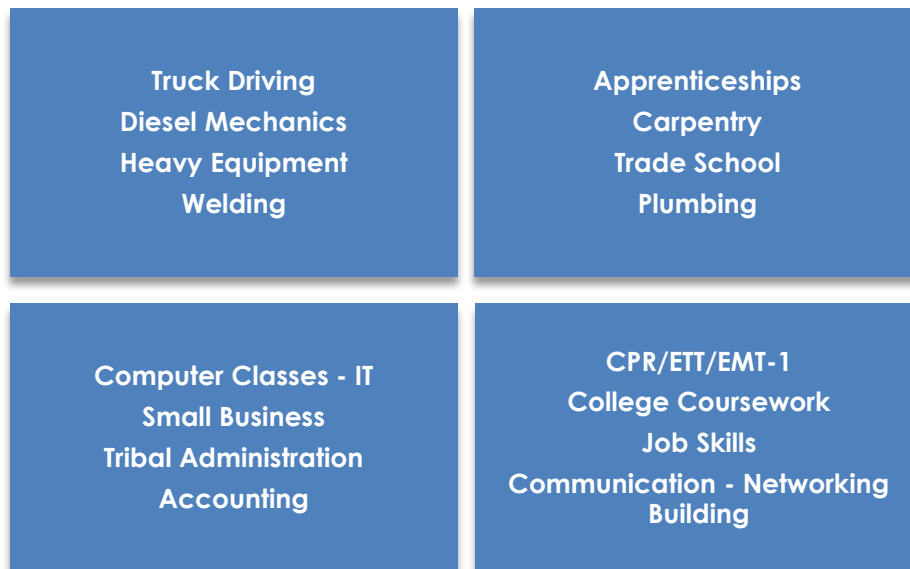


Figure 39 List of Training interests expressed by Residents.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

RECREATION

DOG MUSHING

While the snow machine has replaced the dog team as the primary winter transport, it remains an important activity to Hughes and the surrounding communities. Hugh Bifelt still runs a kennel in Hughes. In the past, Hughes hosted the Koyukuk River Championship Sled Dog race every three years with Huslia and Allakaket hosting in alternate years. Now Hughes hosts an annual springtime dog race, to compete with out-of-town teams, and a kid's dog race.



Figure 41 Hughes Dog Races

In 2005, Hughes sponsored Hugh Bifelt to compete in the Open North American Championships (ONAC) – a prestigious and competitive sprint sled dog race. Held in Fairbanks over three days of sprints, Bifelt competed with 12 dogs and came in 11th overall. This was a remarkable feat for



Figure 42 Hugh Bifelt's Kennel - A CHILL Dog Mushing Program for Youth

a village racer, due to the excessive costs of travel, entry fees, and other financial outlays that a race of this size and stature requires to compete. However, because of the Hughes community and others coming together to offer support and encouragement, Bifelt was able to achieve his goal of racing in the ONAC.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

SUBSISTENCE

In keeping with Koyukon Athabascan traditions, Hughes community members rely heavily on subsistence activities. The river and lands around the community continue to provide sustenance for people as it has done in the past; people still follow the seasonal cycles.

In spring, the first arrival of waterfowl on inland lakes and ponds is eagerly awaited, as people celebrate the end of a long, frigid winter with fresh ducks and geese. The spring hunt is vitally important to Koyukon Athabascan people since it ends a time of eating dwindling winter stores.

Summers are spent in fish camps, as people set nets to catch the runs of King and chum salmon; smoke houses are busy throughout the fish-runs as people cut and smoke fish strips – which are much sought after by urban natives and non-natives alike. Late summer is spent picking blueberries, low bush (lingonberries) and high bush cranberries, and salmon berries (cloudberries).

Fall is the time when the men go moose hunting. Dry meat is made and set aside for the coming winter months. In winter, many residents trap for beaver, marten, and other fur bearers, even with the decline in the fur market which brings lower prices.

Many residents maintain their own gardens; several



Figure 43 Garden by the Koyukon

people have their own box gardens. About 8 box gardens were built in 2011, about 8 more box gardens were built in 2013. There are a few people who still use the community greenhouse. In

the past, the Hughes Village Council has been able to hire an agriculture specialist who helps with maintaining community gardens through the summer youth employment program.

TRADITIONAL ARTS AND EVENTS

Community members are skilled in traditional arts as well. Women do the intricate bead work that Athabascan tribes are famous for, making fur trimmed and beaded gloves, slippers, dancing boots, and many other beaded objects, such as sun catchers, earrings, and picture frames. They are accomplished in skin sewing, making hats, mittens, slippers, and parkas. Fur hats, mittens and ruffs are especially preferred over other synthetic materials because of their exceptional warmth and superb ability to shed ice and frost. Men flense, stretch and tan hides, like those of the beaver they trap, build snowshoes and dog sleds.



Figure 44 Beaded Moose Coin Purse & Hair Barrette by Madeline Williams

Community events, such as covered dishes, bring people together, especially during the long, dark winter nights. The community holds traditional memorial potlatches for each family member who has passed on; these potlatches are held only once for each person who is deceased. The potlatches are scheduled sporadically or when family members are prepared to host the event.

CULTURE CAMPS

Every year, there are two culture camps for community youth and their families. These events are alcohol and drug free. The summer camp, hosted by the tribe, is usually held in July. The fall camp in September is sponsored by the Johnny Oldman School and emphasizes preserving the Koyukon Athabascan language.

Youth attending the camps, keep journals recording their activities and tracking the things they learned. Elders and other knowledgeable people, including people from outside the village, teach and demonstrate a variety of skills and crafts ranging from traditional to modern.

One-year participants can learn to make traditional tools for tanning hides, how to make birch bark baskets and sew skin. Another year, they can learn about gun safety, practice target shooting and how to set fishnets. There are demonstrations on traditional food preparation, such as how to cut moose for dry meat and how to cut, and dry and can fish.



Figure 45 Lakes near Hughes Provide Good Habitat for Moose

GOALS



COMMUNITY WELLBEING

Hughes is a supportive, thriving community with strong leaders and families who promote wellness and healthy living activities.



EDUCATION

Hughes is a community that meets the learning expectations of its people by providing a strong foundation of education and training opportunities.



SUBSISTENCE

Hughes strives to provide a safe and healthy traditional lifestyle through proper safety education and passing on generational subsistence knowledge.



HOUSING

The residents in the village of Hughes shall have safe, healthy, and energy efficient homes.



PUBLIC UTILITIES / PUBLIC FACILITIES

Hughes has well maintained public infrastructure and facilities to support the growing community.

COMMUNITY WELLBEING

❖ **Goal #1:** Hughes strives to be a supportive, thriving community with strong leaders and families who promote wellness and healthy living activities.

- **Objective 1:** With the goal of helping elders and youth, promote mentorship by re-establishing a Dance Group that involves parents to strengthen the sense of community within the Village.

- **Action Items:**

- ◆ Work closely with TCC Behavioral Health to better support Behavioral Health in Hughes and seek a Behavioral Health Aide to be able to provide consistent and frequent services.
- ◆ Collaborate with TCC Wellness & Prevention to offer addiction and substance abuse informative workshops and incorporate healthy sober living skills.
- ◆ Seek grant funding to service a culturally appropriate program that implements social development to promote community wellness while eliminating community issues, such as the Administration for Native Americans, Social & Economic Development Strategies (SEDS) grant available in the spring.
- ◆ Seek funding to support a traveling dance group with instructors.
- ◆ Plan a community wellness/cultural event and apply to the Doyon Daaga' Award and TCC Culture Camp award.
- ◆ Create a wellness team of volunteers that organizes community events and activities, such as wellness walks, annual culture camps/Spirit camps, Elders Day, winter camping, and women/girl and men/boy gatherings/ talking circles, Game nights, Beading, Wood cutting class, etc.

➤ **Objective 2:** Teach life saving measures to anyone willing to better the collective knowledge of the community and state of wellbeing. I.E EMT Training / First Aid / CPR called Wellness Warriors.

- **Action Items:**

- Create a calendar of activities based on community input, to include mental and behavioral health, education, and support.

- ◆ Classes residents emphasized were wellness and prevention support, anger management, grief group therapy, alcohol and tobacco awareness for families and youth, healing circles, men and women luncheons, parenting classes, domestic violence awareness, leadership group activities, and trauma support group.
- Offer incentives for participation in classes leading to health & wellness.
- Encourage an active Church group.
- The Hughes Village Council and the Hughes City Council will continue publishing and updating a quarterly calendar of events and compiling a community newsletter.
- Have the Tribal Courts issue warnings in times of need.

EDUCATION

- ❖ **Goal #2:** Hughes is a community that meets the learning expectations of its people by providing a solid foundation of education and training opportunities.
 - **Objective 1:** Continue providing an avenue to higher education for all residents.
 - **Action Items:**
 - Reach out to UAF Interior Aleutians Campus (IAC) to see if they would be able to set up an effortless way for students to enroll and have support in school if wanting to pursue higher education. Ask for a Service Coordinator to travel to Hughes and provide education support to this area including financial aid, course registration, student advising, UAF admissions, and technical support.
 - Provide computer use for residents interested in online classes and training.
 - Seek funding to provide a space for a Community Library with a Computer Lab and Library
 - ◆ Contact NDN girls bookclub (a 501(c)3) at <https://ndngirlsbookclub.org/> to reach out and ask for their free Indigenous literature care packages.
 - Contact RAHI for any graduating or High School students that are interested in higher education.
 - Contact admissions at UAF to see if there is a resolute counselor for the Yukon Koyukuk region that can help explain different avenues people can take.

- Support residents in identifying and enrolling in training opportunities. Providing direct learning to teach an appreciation of space and teach the trades.
 - Seek partnership between Alaska Works Partnership, Rural Apprenticeship Outreach program to promote construction education and training in trade.
 - Better advertise education assistance programs and scholarships for vocational training, certificate programs, and higher education.
 - Promote the Doyon Roustabout training and Doyon Leadership Training when available.
 - Seek funding for a sawmill and equipment training for those interested
 - Incorporate more sports activities for students and residents to enjoy.
 - Encourage more community involvement with school projects and activities.
- **Objective 2:** The community strives to maintain the student body count and provides a comprehensive education experience for students and families.
- **Action Items:**
 - Invite prospective families with school children to relocate to Hughes.
 - Create incentives, such as housing and jobs opportunities for incoming families.
 - Encourage the renovations and repairs of rentals for families and teachers.
 - Create a list of vacant homes and complete an assessment/inspection of each unit.
 - Promote the creation of more jobs and fill current vacancies.

SUBSISTENCE

- ❖ **Goal #3:** For Hughes to preserve the historical knowledge that has been passed down from generation to generation.
- **Objective 1:** Emphasizing the importance of safety and sustaining knowledge.
- **Action Items:**
 - Seek funding for a vehicle for residents to utilize for community events and subsistence preservation.
 - Seek funding from Doyon, K'oyitl'ots'ina and other such entities to buy essential tools for classes sought after by the community.
 - Apply for Rural Cap grant to help fund classes wanted from the community.

- **Objective 2:** Utilize the knowledge bearers in the community and the surrounding areas to teach the younger generations and all who want to learn essential information.

▪ **Action Items:**

- Initiate classes such as Gun safety classes, Sawmill safety and operations, Boat safety, Wilderness safety, Processing game classes, Tanning moose, Beaver trapping, Berry picking in groups using the subsistence vehicle.

HOUSING

- ❖ **Goal #4:** The residents in the village of Hughes have safe, healthy, and energy efficient homes.

- **Objective 1:** Hughes has identified housing issues and solutions as a basis for future housing and policy decisions to secure financing for housing programs and projects.

▪ **Action Items:**

- Distribute the housing needs assessment in the community to help re-identify how many homes are needed and what type of work is needed to sustain the current homes. Doing so would also inform people of housing needs for families wanting to relocate to Hughes.
- The catalogue of local resources and materials available to build new homes such as logs, materials, foam panels, power lines, water and sewer infrastructure, and heavy equipment.
- Obtain site control and environmental reviews of vacant lots for future housing projects.
- Research and consult about HUD's Title VI or HUD Section 184 as an additional source of financing for affordable housing activities.

- **Objective 2:** Hughes strives to build as many houses as possible to accommodate the populace.

▪ **Action Items:**

- Secure funding to purchase material to finish current housing projects. From the Rasmuson Foundation.

- Encourage potential homeowners to prepare by reviewing housing applications, gathering documentation, and taking a required homebuyer course before applying.
 - Apply for Indian Community Block Grant (ICDBG) for new construction projects, the AHFC Teacher housing and Health accommodations.
 - Work with Interior Regional Housing Authority, Tanana Chiefs Conference Housing program, BIA- Housing Improvement Program (HIP), USDA, Cold Climate Housing Research Center when applicable, and other agencies to plan and secure funding to construct or rehabilitate homes.
 - Apply to the Rasmuson Foundation to finish the new subdivision pads, surveys, and finish construction.
- **Objective 3:** Hughes strives to become a self-sufficient entity that would be sustainable.
- **Action Items:**
 - Look into what grants are available to fund a sawmill for the community.
 - Making their own housing logs would significantly reduce prices for the community while also providing income for a worker.
 - Seek support and partnership from K'oyitl'ots'ina, Doyon Limited, Tanana Chiefs Conference, and Interior Regional Housing Authority.

PUBLIC UTILITIES AND FACILITIES

- ❖ **Goal #5:** Hughes has well maintained public infrastructure and facilities to support the growing community.
- **Objective 1:** Provide the community members of Hughes with essential infrastructure and equipment.
- **Action Items:**
 - Seek funding for a newer bigger Tribal Office.
 - Seek funding for new bigger City Office.
 - Seek funding for a standalone Post Office.
 - Seek funding for a new Church.
 - Seek possibility of building a new School with a full court gym and Library.

- Seek funding for new teacher housing.
 - Seek funding to relocate the landfill with a recycling center.
 - Seek funding for heavy equipment necessary for upkeep of the community, and a shop to house the equipment.
 - Maintain, upkeep current generators, and utilize East & West solar panels.
- **Objective 2:** Provide water/sewer systems for residents in need and apply to all new homes.
- **Action Items:**
- Seek the possibility of a new water plant/ Wastewater treatment the last was constructed in 1988.
 - Upgrade current water / sewer lines and make plans to route water into new subdivisions.
 - Seek funding for a newer sewer truck.
 - Fund a Water/Sewer manager position and make a directory of all local workers that help keep everything operational. Also make an Alaskan directory with all the necessary contacts to keep operations running.

❖ **Additional Actions Items:**

- To succeed in the upkeep and maintenance of all new buildings the village council will diligently seek out workers to relocate to Hughes and build the workforce.

Hughes Community Planning Meeting 5/16/2024

Sign-in Sheet 15

Name	Title	Survey Completed?
Kristina Bellamy	JOS Principal	Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>
Gwen Bellamy	Student	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ethan Bellamy	Student	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Andrew Bellamy	Secondary Teacher - JOS	Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>
Tr'Shona Hayes	Special Education Teacher	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>
Jessie David	Substitute Teacher	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>
Almira Beatus	Tribal Council member	Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>
Peggy Patterson	Tribal member	Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>
ELLA SAM	Mayor	Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>
Daphne Williams	Minerant Health Aide	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>
Mariah Moses-Bergman	2nd chief, city council member	Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>
Aaron Moses-Bergman		Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Kailani Moses-Bergman	Student	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Kasen Bifelt	Student	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Monica Williams		Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>
Angela Ambrose	Hvillage Council member	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>
Zaxi		Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>
Morrison Beatus		Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>
Ramsey David		Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>
Kitty Jascyn	Bonnie Yvonne C.	



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Hughes Community Planning Meeting 5/16/2024

Sign-in Sheet 15

Name	Title	Survey Completed?
Harold Davidson		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>
Achie-Ray Beatus		<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>
CYNTHIA BEATUS	IGAP - EC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>
Robert Cleveland	Dishwasher Clean up	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>
Kylee S.R. Beatus	PEK Teacher / Laborer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>
Michael Simon	Kitchen Helper	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>
Ground War	Book	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>
Jannya Williams	City/Utility Clerk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>
Shelma Kachel	First Chief, City Administrator	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>
plenty Pearson	Student	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>
Rayton Biffell	Student	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>
Kyron Saunders	Student	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>
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		<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>



Tanana
Chiefs
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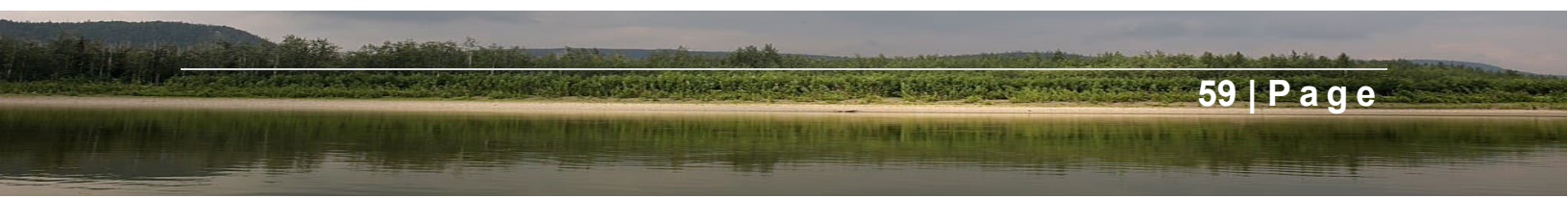
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SURVEY ANALYSIS

Many survey takers enjoy the placidity and traditional way of life in Hughes. They would like to see more adequate housing, a recreational center and a bigger school and gym in the future. The concern for keeping the community clean, i.e., litter/junk free, old cleaning contamination sites, and water quality were mentioned the most as well.

Most people are satisfied with our health services but believe that we need more mental health outreach. Walking groups and hiking trails were popular answers for improving physical health of community members. Even though most responded that they feel safe in their community, having a V.P.S.O. in town would make more people feel safer.

According to the survey responses, the subsistence way of life and traditional skills such as sewing are especially important. Popular activities that we should have for the youth were: fishing, sports, as well as safety classes, snowshoeing, trapping/snaring, camps like survival or woodcutting, and Denaakk'e singing/language.

Although these ideas may sound overwhelming, they are reachable due to the significant percentage of community members that participated in the community planning meeting, completed the surveys, and showing interest in their community's future wellbeing.

Hughes Community Feedback Survey 2024

This survey will help document the needs of the community in the community plan.

ALL INFORMATION WILL BE CONFIDENTIAL AND YOUR ANSWERS WILL REMAIN ANONYMOUS

Return Completed survey to: Hughes Council Office or bring to the Community Planning Meeting on May 15th, 2024 at the Hughes Elders and Youth Center.

Name: _____

Basic Demographics:

Age: ☐ Youth ☐ 18-30 ☐ 31-40 ☐ 41-50 ☐ 51-60 ☐ 61-70 ☐ 71-80 ☐ 81-90 ☐ 91+

Gender: ☐ M ☐ F Veteran? ☐ Y ☐ N

Goal Questions

What do you enjoy most about living in your community?

What are the biggest issues and challenges facing your community?

What goals would like to see happen in your community in the next 5 years?

Housing

Do you feel that the housing is a priority and needs to be addressed? (1 is not a priority, 5 is a high priority)

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

Please describe why you selected this rating:

What types of housing do you think should be built to meet the needs?

☐ Rental ☐ Elder ☐ Single-family ☐ Temporary/Seasonal ☐ Other: _____

Hughes Community Feedback Survey 2024

What are your primary concerns regarding the home you are living in?

- ☐ Overcrowded ☐ High Energy cost ☐ No Water/Sewer
☐ Rehabilitation ☐ Weatherization ☐ Lack of Space
☐ Lack of Storage ☐ Other: _____

Infrastructure

What are the main infrastructure needs in the community?

Please rate each facility on their overall condition: (1 being poor condition, 5 being good condition)

- | | | | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| • Clinic | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| • Tribal Building | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| • Other: _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |

Transportation

What are the main transportation issues in the community?

- ☐ Fuel Prices ☐ Freight Costs ☐ Poor road maintenance ☐ Airfare/Flights
☐ Road safety ☐ Drunk drivers ☐ Dust Control ☐ Other: _____

What transportation needs would you like addressed for the community?

Culture/Tradition

What culture activities are most important for the community?

Do you participate in cultural and traditions? If so, which activities?

Health and Wellness

What are the main Health and Wellness issues in the community?

Hughes Community Feedback Survey 2024

What healthy activities would you like to see occurring in the community?

Public Safety/Enforcement Questions

What are the main Public Safety/Enforcement issues in the community?

Do you feel safe in our community? ☐ Y ☐ N ☐ Sometimes ☐ Most of the time

What would help you to make you feel safer?

Do you feel that the Public Safety support is adequate? ☐ Y ☐ N ☐ Sometimes

Economy

What are the main economy challenges in the community?

Where do you spend more money? ☐ Local Store ☐ In the city ☐ Shopping Online ☐ Other _____

What can be done to create stable jobs in the community?

What sort of business opportunities would you be willing to support in the community?

What education and training would prepare you for the workforce?

Education & Youth Questions:

What are the main education & youth issues in the community?

What are some suggestions for activities that we can do for youth throughout the year?

Hughes Community Feedback Survey 2024

What ideas do you have about educating youth? Cultural, language, family and parent support?

Public Utilities:

What are the main public utilities issues in the community?

What other public utilities are needed?

Land and Environment

What are the main land and environment issues in the community?

What idea(s) do you have to help address the issue?

Additional Comments:

Submit with name to be entered into the drawing at Community Meeting.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Hughes Tribal Office

PO Box 45029

Hughes, AK 99745

Phone: (907) 889-2239

Fax: (907) 889-2252

Email(s): ella.sam@tananachiefs.org;

eileen.jackson@tananachiefs.org

City of Hughes

PO Box 45010

Hughes, AK 99745

Phone: (907) 889-2206

Fax: (907) 889-2252

Email: tnicholia@gmail.com

Johnny Oldman School

PO Box 30

Hughes, AK 99745

Phone: (907)889-2204

Hughes Health Clinic

PO Box 49

Hughes, AK 99745

Phone: (907) 889-2211

Fax: (907) 459-3986

K'oyitl'ots'ina Limited

1603 College Road, Suite 2

Fairbanks, AK 99709

Phone: (907)452-8119

Fax: (907) 452-8148

Website: www.koyitlotsina.com

Email(s): info@kcorp.alaska.com

Tanana Chiefs Conference

122 1st Ave, Suite 600 Fairbanks, AK 99701

Phone: (907) 452-8251

Fax: (907) 459-3851

Website: <http://www.tananachiefs.org>