



Tanana
Chiefs
Conference

The Council

Incorporated as Dena' Nena' Henash
Vol. 51 No. 5 • May 2026



Advancing Tribal Justice and Public Safety Across Alaska

The 2026 Alaska Tribal Public Safety Summit was held April 21–22 at Wedgewood Resort. The summit brought together Tribal leaders, public safety professionals, advocates, and partners from across the region to strengthen coordination, share knowledge, and advance community safety grounded in Tribal sovereignty and cultural values.

The summit opened Tuesday morning with a welcome from Chief/Chairman Sharon Hildebrand alongside remarks from Tribal Protection and Safety Director Michael Gho. The

opening session, “Leading with Tradition: Tribal Justice, Safety, and Sovereign Responsibility,” emphasized the essential role of Tribal traditions, inherent authority, and sovereignty in guiding justice systems and protecting communities.

Throughout the day, presentations addressed the unique challenges and opportunities facing public safety in Alaska. Discussions highlighted the importance of coordination between Village Public Safety Officers (VP-SOs) and Tribes, as well as community-driven safety models tailored to

rural and remote regions. A working lunch featured a proclamation supporting victims of crime and promoting Alaska safety, alongside a cultural demonstration of traditional winter hat making, reinforcing how accountability and trust are strengthened when culture is honored in public safety efforts.

Afternoon sessions focused on strengthening regional responses to Missing and Murdered Indigenous People (MMIP), improving coordination across agencies, and ensuring cul-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4.

Congratulations!

Class of 2026

From tiny caps to PhDs, we're celebrating all of our 2026 grads! Send your favorite grad's photo and help us honor their accomplishment in the July edition of *The Council*.

SUBMIT YOUR PHOTOS BY JUNE 12, 2026

<https://www.tananachiefs.org/2026-graduation-photo-submissions/>



SCAN TO
SUBMIT

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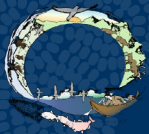


Mission

Tanana Chiefs Conference provides a unified voice in advancing sovereign Tribal governments through the promotion of physical and mental wellness, education, socioeconomic development, and culture of the Interior Alaska Native people.

Vision

Healthy, Strong, Unified Tribes



Tanana
Chiefs
Conference

Executive Board

Trimble Gilbert, Arctic Village
1st Traditional Chief

Andrew Jimmie, Minto
2nd Traditional Chief

Sharon Hildebrand, Nulato
Chief/Chairman

Rhonda Pitka, Beaver
Vice-President

Charlie Wright, Rampart
Secretary/Treasurer

Herbie Demit, Tanacross
Upper Tanana

Claude 'Joe' Petruska, Nikolai
Upper Kuskokwim

Nancy James, Gwichyaa Zhee
Yukon Flats

Ivan Demientieff, Grayling
Lower Yukon

Lori Baker, Minto
Yukon Tanana

Charlie Green, Galena
Yukon Koyukuk

Peter Demoski, Nulato
Elder Advisor

Mackenzie Englishoe, Gwichyaa Zhee
Youth Advisor



Letter from the Chief

Dear Tribes and Tribal Members,

In my first two months as Chief/Chairman, I have been focused on both planning for the future of our organization and spending time with our Tribal leadership and community members to hear directly about your priorities. I am grateful for those conversations and for the opportunity to listen and learn from our people.

While there is much work ahead, I want to share that I am looking forward to a bright future for our organization and for our Tribes. As we move forward, our work will remain rooted in our values and guided by our Tribes.

One of the concerns I have heard consistently is the challenge of travel in and out of our rural communities. Reliable transportation is essential for our people—whether it is for healthcare, family, or daily life. TCC has been proactive in reaching out to our airline partners to share these concerns and begin working toward solutions. This work is ongoing, and we will continue to advocate for improvements.

Last month, I met with local Fairbanks leadership, including the City and Borough Mayors and the Fairbanks Police Department, alongside our partners at Doyon, Limited and Fairbanks Native Association. During these discussions, I brought forward several of TCC's priorities, including coordination around the Sobering Center and Emergency Service Patrol, ongoing conversations about expanding the Chief Andrew Isaac Health Center campus, and the need for safe and affordable housing for our Elders. We appreciate this continued collaboration and the opportunity to ensure our voices are heard.

We also hosted a Public Safety Summit, where I had the opportunity to speak about how critical public safety is to our communities. Our Executive Board has made this a clear priority, and we will continue working with our partners to strengthen safety and support across our villages.

I also recently testified before the Federal Subsistence Board and the Yukon River Panel to speak to the urgency of the salmon crisis. Salmon are not only a food source, they are a relative and a vital part of our way of life. I emphasized the need for stronger coordination across agencies and the importance of Tribal leadership in rebuilding and protecting our salmon for future generations.

On a lighter note, our communities have celebrated the arrival of spring, and I had the opportunity to travel to Arctic Village and experience jigging and the celebration of our first traditional chief Reverend Dr. Trimble Gilbert and wife Mary on their 71st anniversary. The strength of our communities are rooted in our traditional values and it was clear in Arctic Village through their showing of a drug and alcohol-free event for the whole week. I look forward to traveling to each of your communities.

As I continue in this role, my commitment remains the same. I will continue to listen, to be present in our communities, and to carry your voice forward. Together, we will keep moving forward in a good way—carrying forward the values of Ch'eghwtsen' in our work, and taking care of our people with love, compassion, dignity, and respect.



Ana Masee',
Sharon Hildebrand
Chief/Chairman

Tanana Chiefs Conference Announces Victor Joseph as Chief Administrative Officer

Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) is pleased to announce the appointment of Victor Joseph of Tanana as the organization's new Chief Administrative Officer (CAO). Victor brings decades of leadership experience, deep institutional knowledge, and a lifelong commitment to the people and communities of the Interior.

Victor is a longtime leader within TCC and has served our organization and Tribes in numerous key roles throughout his career. His previous positions include 13 years as Old Minto Program Director, seven years as Executive Director of Health Services, and two terms as Chief/Chairman. Through these roles, Victor has demonstrated a strong dedication to improving services, strengthening governance, and advocating for the wellbeing of Tribal members across the region.



During his tenure as Health Director, Victor worked closely with Tribal leaders, staff, and regional partners to strengthen and expand health services throughout the Interior. His leadership supported major initiatives, including the development of the Chief Andrew Isaac Health Center and the construction and improvement of clinics in several communities. These efforts have helped increase access to quality healthcare and ensure services are responsive to the needs of our people.

Victor is widely recognized for his ability to build and sustain strong relationships with Tribal governments, regional partners, and funding agencies. His collaborative approach has played an important role in growing and maintaining critical programs and services that support the health and

wellbeing of Tribal Members and families.

In his new role as Chief Administrative Officer, Victor will oversee Health Services, Tribal Government and Client Services, and Human Resources. His leadership, experience, and understanding of TCC's mission and structure make him a valuable addition to the Executive Management Team at a time of continued growth and opportunity for the organization.

As TCC moves forward together, we remain grounded in Ch'eghwtsen'—to hear one another with love, compassion, dignity, and respect. Victor embodies these values in his leadership and carries them into his work every day. We are confident that his guidance will help further advance TCC's vision of Healthy, Strong, Unified Tribes.

Please join us in welcoming Victor Joseph to his new role as TCC's CAO and in wishing him continued success as he serves our Tribes and communities.

2026 Denakkanaaga Elders and Youth Conference & Annual Meeting Set for June 2-4, 2026

The annual Denakkanaaga Elders and Youth Conference and Annual Meeting will take place on June 2-4 in Gwichyaa Zhee (Fort Yukon). The two-day conference will be held on June 2 and 3, with the Denakkanaaga Annual Meeting occurring on June 4. This year's conference theme is "Up-holding Our Traditional Ways to Move Forward".

"We appreciate the Gwichyaa Zhee (Fort Yukon) Tribal Council agreeing to host our gathering," said Denakkanaaga Executive Director Sharon McConnell. "We hope that all the villages will send a delegate to vote at the annual meeting and participate in the conference that will be addressing important issues for our region."

Three Elder Denakkanaaga board seats are up for election this year, as well as the Denakkanaaga youth representative, and the TCC E-Board Elder Advisor position.

- **Elder Seat B - Yukon-Koyukuk sub-region.** This is a three-year term ending in 2029.

- **Elder Seat D - Yukon Flats sub-region.** This is a three-year term ending in 2029.

- **Elder Seat F - Upper Tanana sub-region.** This is a three-year term ending in 2029.

- **Youth Representative - regionwide.** This is a one-year term expiring in 2027.

- **TCC E-Board Elder Advisor - regionwide.** This is a three-year term expiring in 2029.

Conference and Annual Meeting packets were mailed to Tribal councils in March. They included delegate registration forms, and nomination forms for the Denakkanaaga election. Nomination forms must be received by Denakkanaaga no later than May 8, 2026. Background checks will be conducted on all candidates. For more information on the conference or annual meeting, please contact Denakkanaaga at 907-451-3900 or info@denakkanaaga.org.

For the TCC Elder Advisor position, **Tribal councils shall submit**



a nomination letter for interested individuals to the TCC Executive Secretary at 122 1st Avenue, Ste. 600, Fairbanks, AK 99701, or email chelle.johnson@tananachiefs.org. You may also fax the applications to 1-(907)-459-3884. All applications must be sent no later than May 28, 2026, which is the deadline of seven days before the June 4 Denakkanaaga election. Elder Advisor nominees must be a resident of the state of Alaska and an Alaska Native Tribal member 55 years or older. The Elder Advisor may not be a full-time employee of TCC. The term for the Elder Advisor is three years.

Advancing Tribal Justice and Public Safety Across Alaska

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1.

turally appropriate victim support. Presenters emphasized the importance of integrating Tribal and non-Tribal services, enhancing access to care, and building systems that center survivors. Participants also heard from the Fairbanks District Attorney's Office on practical steps communities can take to support investigations and improve outcomes, including timely reporting and evidence collection.

The second day consisted of breakout sessions that allowed participants to explore key topics in greater depth. Sessions covered civil diversion agreements, drug trafficking trends in rural Alaska, and jurisdictional com-

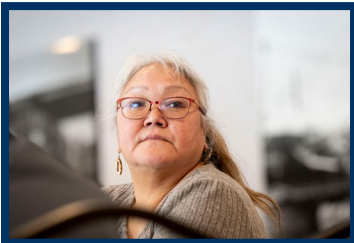
plexities in MMIP response. Additional discussions addressed Special Tribal Criminal Jurisdiction, the impacts of fentanyl and methamphetamine, and the continued role of Tribal sovereignty in shaping justice systems.

Afternoon breakout sessions focused on the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA), the enforcement of Tribal court protective orders, and balancing civil and criminal accountability within Tribal systems. Presenters emphasized due process, the protection of individual rights, and the importance of culturally grounded approaches to justice.

The summit concluded with a ses-

sion on advancing Tribal social justice priorities, followed by a collaborative closing activity. Participants identified concrete actions to strengthen public safety within their communities over the next 6–12 months, shared insights on culturally grounded victim support, and discussed opportunities to strengthen partnerships and close jurisdictional gaps.

The 2026 Alaska Tribal Public Safety Summit reinforced a shared commitment to advancing Tribal justice systems that are rooted in culture, guided by sovereignty, and responsive to the needs of Alaska Native communities.





Circle of Protection: The Public Safety Dispatch

Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons: A Call to Action in Interior Alaska

By David Atteberry, TCC Public Safety Manager

Across Alaska, and especially in our Interior communities, the crisis of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons (MMIP) continues to affect families, villages, and public safety systems in profound ways. While national awareness has grown in recent years, the reality is that many of our communities have been living with this issue for generations. For Tribal members across the Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) region, MMIP is not an abstract topic. It is personal.

Interior Alaska presents unique challenges that can complicate both prevention and response. Our communities are often remote, accessible only by river or air, with limited law enforcement presence and vast areas to cover. When someone goes missing, environmental factors like extreme cold, river conditions, and wildlife can quickly turn a missing person case into a life-threatening emergency. Delays in reporting, communication barriers, and limited resources can further impact outcomes.

Currently, there are 49 individuals who identify as American Indian or Alaska Native missing within the TCC region. These cases date back to 1960, representing decades of unanswered questions and ongoing grief for families and communities. While some cases have grown cold over time, they are not forgotten. TCC Village Public Safety Officers (VPSOs),

Alaska State Troopers, the Department of Public Safety MMIP Unit, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs Missing and Murdered Unit continue to actively review these cases and pursue new leads whenever they arise.

At the same time, strong community ties are one of our greatest strengths. In many villages, people know each other well, and community members are often the first to notice when something is wrong. Families, Tribal councils, and local responders frequently mobilize quickly, organizing searches and sharing information. These efforts are critical and often make a difference in the early hours of a case.

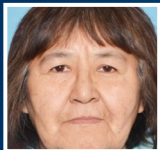
Public awareness and timely reporting remain essential. There is no waiting period to report someone missing. If you believe a person is missing or in danger, report it immediately. Early action can significantly improve the chances of a safe recovery. We encourage anyone with information, no matter how small or insignificant it may seem, to come forward. Even the smallest detail can help move a case forward or provide closure to families who have been waiting for answers for years. Tips can be reported to your local law enforcement officer or submitted through the AK Tips secure app or the Alaska Department of Public Safety's online reporting system at <https://dps.alaska.gov/tips/>. Tips can be submitted anonymously.

Data collection and reporting have historically been inconsistent, which has made it difficult to fully understand the scope of MMIP in Alaska. However, we know that Alaska Native people are disproportionately affected. Improving data accuracy, strengthening communication between agencies, and ensuring that cases are taken seriously from the outset are all important steps toward addressing this issue.

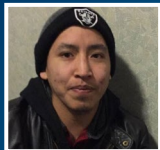
Recent efforts at the state and federal level have focused on increasing coordination, improving training, and supporting Tribal involvement in public safety. In Alaska, VPSOs, Tribal Police Officers (TPOs), and local advocates play a vital role. These individuals often serve as the bridge between communities and larger law enforcement systems, helping ensure that cases are properly documented and investigated while also supporting families through difficult and emotional situations.

MMIP is not just a law enforcement issue. It is a community issue. It requires awareness, collaboration, and a shared commitment to protecting our people. By continuing to support one another, advocating for resources, and honoring those we have lost, we can work toward a safer future for all of our communities in Interior Alaska.

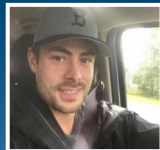
MISSING



Lorraine Ginnis



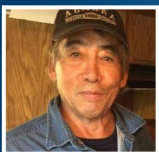
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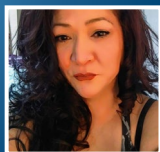
Debbie Nictune



Frank Minano



Craig Albert



Arlette Fabian

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.tanachiefs.org/missing for more information.

TCC GO Celebrates Our Graduates

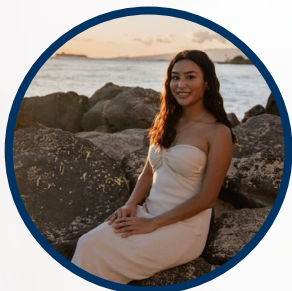
The Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) GO Program is proud to celebrate the accomplishments of our graduating seniors across the region. Throughout their high school journeys, these students have shown dedication, resilience, and a commitment to preparing for their future through education and career exploration. The TCC GO Program congratulates all our seniors this year and wishes them continued success as they take the next steps toward their goals. We are honored to have been part of their journey and look forward to seeing the positive impact they will make in their communities and beyond.



TCC GO Senior Spotlight: Marylene Burgett

Marylene Burgett, a senior from Sidney C. Huntington School in Galena and a member of the Loudon Tribe, says the most valuable part of being involved in TCC GO has been the support she receives to continue succeeding academically. Through the program, Marylene has challenged herself to step outside of her comfort zone and push herself to become a stronger student.

After graduating, Marylene plans to attend the University of Alaska Fairbanks to work toward her goal of becoming an ultrasound technician. She encourages younger students to not be afraid of failure, sharing that trying, learning, and even failing are all part of growing and excelling.



TCC GO Senior Spotlight: Kiara Michel

Kiara Michel, a senior at Nenana City School and a member of the Nulato Tribe, says the encouragement and support she received from TCC GO advisors inspired her to pursue higher education. Through the program, she had the opportunity to take college courses while still in high school, helping her build confidence and prepare for her academic future.

After graduation, Kiara plans to earn her associate degree in medical assisting and work in the field while continuing toward her bachelor's degree. Her long-term goal is to attend PA or medical school and return to serve the TCC region of Alaska. She encourages younger students to take advantage of opportunities offered in their communities, even when it means stepping outside of their comfort zones.

Kiara also shared her appreciation for the support she received through the program, saying she is thankful to the TCC GO program for the opportunity to take college classes in high school and for the encouragement she received along the way. She offered a special thank you to Angela Rutman, Student Support Coordinator, for her guidance, support, and uplifting words during her time in TCC GO.



TCC GO Senior Spotlight: Chaniya Walker

Chaniya Walker, a senior at Galena Interior Learning Academy (GILA) and a member of the Anvik Village Tribe, credits TCC GO with helping her stay on track in school while preparing for her future. The program provided support as she explored scholarships, career goals, and college planning, giving her confidence as she looks ahead to the next chapter.

Chaniya plans to attend the University of Alaska Fairbanks in Fall 2026 to pursue a degree in nursing. She also hopes to earn her CNA certification to begin gaining hands-on experience in the medical field. Her advice to younger students is to stay focused, take advantage of opportunities like TCC GO, and never hesitate to ask questions or reach out for help.



TCC GO Senior Spotlight: Nahshii Alexander

Nahshii, a senior at Fort Yukon School and a member of the Fort Yukon Tribe, says that TCC GO has helped him in several ways, such as assisting with internet reimbursements, giving access to college preparation courses, and providing monthly activities to help cement workforce skills. Nahshii says that the resources TCC GO provided helped make his transition into the workforce and his path to college much easier. Nahshii encourages younger students to “stick with it.” He says, “You might not be motivated now to challenge yourself but trying hard at what’s given to you, you’ll develop toughness that’ll help you later on.”

After graduation, Nahshii plans to earn his bachelor's degree in Media Arts at the University of Montana.

2026 Graduation Dates

ALASKA GATEWAY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Dot Lake School

Grade Levels: Senior Graduation with 8th Grade Promotion
Date: 5/12/26
Time: 6 PM

Mentasta Lake School

Grade Levels: Senior Graduation
Date: 5/16/26
Time: 2 PM

Northway School

Grade Levels: Senior Graduation
Date: 5/16/26
Time: 2 PM

Tetlin School

Grade Levels: Senior Graduation
Date: 5/13/26

Tok School

Grade Levels: Senior Graduation
Date: 5/15/26

GALENA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Galena - Sidney C. Huntington School & Galena Interior Learning Academy

Grade Level(s): Senior Graduation
Date: May 20, 2026
Time: 6 pm

Live Stream Info:

<https://www.gcsdk12.org/live>

Sidney C. Huntington School

Grade Level(s): Kindergarten Promotion
Date: May 15, 2026
Time: 5:30 PM

FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

BEST Homeschool

Venue: Carlson Center
Date: 5/15/2026
Time: 7:00 pm

Career Education Center

Venue: Hering Auditorium
Date: 5/7/2026
Time: 7:00 pm

Effie Kokrine Charter School

Venue: Effie School Gym
Date: 5/8/2026
Time: 7:00 pm

Hutchison High School

Venue: Hering Auditorium
Date: 5/15/2026
Time: 7:00 pm

Lathrop High School

Venue: Carlson Center
Date: 5/11/2026
Time: 7:00 pm

North Pole High School

Venue: Carlson Center
Date: 5/13/2026
Time: 7:00 pm

Northstar College

Venue: Carlson Center
Date: 5/14/2026
Time: 7:00 pm

Star of the North Charter School

Venue: North Pole High School
Date: 5/13/2026
Time: 7:00 pm

West Valley High School

Venue: Carlson Center
Date: 5/12/2026
Time: 7:00 pm

IDITAROD SCHOOL DISTRICT

Anvik School

Grade Levels: Senior Graduation
Date: 5/13/26

Grayling School – No Graduation

Holy Cross School

Grade Levels: Kindergarten, and 8th grade Promotion
Date: 5/13/26

McGrath School

Grade Levels: Senior Graduation with Kindergarten and 8th grade promotions
Date: 5/14/26
Time: 5:30 pm

Nikolai School

Grade Levels: Kindergarten and 8th Grade Promotions
Date: May 14th
Time: 11:00 am

Shageluk School

Grade Levels: Senior Graduation with Kindergarten and 8th grade promotions
Date: 5/9/2026

Takotna School

Grade Levels: Senior Graduation
Date: 5/13/26

NENANA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Nenana School

Grade Level(s): Senior Graduation
Date: May 17th
Time: 1:00 pm

YUKON-KOYUKUK SCHOOL DISTRICT

Allakaket School

Grade Level(s): Senior Graduation with Kindergarten and 8th grade promotions
Date: May 19, 2026
Time: 12:30 pm

Hughes - Johnny Oldman School

Grade Level(s): Kindergarten and 8th grade promotions
Date: May 21, 2026
Time: 11:00 am

Huslia - Jimmy Huntington School

Grade Level(s): Senior Graduation with Kindergarten and 8th grade promotions
Date: May 15, 2026
Time: 6:00 pm

Kaltag School

Grade Level(s): Senior Graduation with Kindergarten and 8th grade promotions
Date: May 18, 2026
Time: 6:00 pm

Koyukuk - Ella B. Verneti School

Grade Level(s): Senior Graduation with Kindergarten and 8th grade promotions
Date: May 20, 2026
Time: 1:00 pm

Minto School

Grade Level(s): Senior Graduation with Kindergarten and 8th grade promotions
Date: May 15, 2026
Time: 4:00 pm

Nulato - Andrew K. Demoski School

Grade Level(s): Senior Graduation with Kindergarten and 8th grade promotions
Date: May 15, 2026
Time: 6:00 pm

Rampart School

Grade Level(s): 8th grade promotion
Date: May 14, 2026
Time: Afternoon

Ruby - Merrelaine A. Kangas School

Grade Level(s): Kindergarten Promotion
Date: May 13, 2026
Time: 6:00 pm
Grade Level(s): Senior Graduation
Date: May 20, 2026
Time: 6:00 pm

Raven Homeschool - Fairbanks Graduation Ceremony

Grade Level(s): Senior Graduation
Date: May 21, 2026
Time: 6:00 pm

Tanana - Maudrey J. Sommer School

Grade Level(s): Senior Graduation with 8th grade promotion
Date: May 21, 2026
Time: 6:00 pm

YUKON FLATS SCHOOL DISTRICT

Arctic Village School

Grade Levels: Kindergarten and 8th Grade Promotions
Date: 5/15/2026
Time: 11:00 am

Beaver School

Grade Levels: Senior Graduation
Date: 5/19/2026
Time: 1:00 pm

Chalkyitsik School

Grade Levels: Senior Graduation
Date: May 19th

Circle – No Graduation

Fort Yukon

Grade Levels: Senior Graduation
Date: 5/15/26
Time: 1:00 pm

Venetie School

Grade Levels: Senior Graduation
Date: 5/15/26

2026 Tribal Court Clerk & Judge Training

On April 20th, Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) Public Safety and Family Services offered a Tribal Court Clerk/Judge Training as part of this year's Annual Public Safety Summit. This experience allowed participants to learn the fundamentals of Tribal Court and to share their personal experiences with this important program.



Remembering Linden Staciokas

Tanana Chiefs Conference honors the life and contributions of Linden Staciokas, who passed away in April 2026.

From 2020 to 2025, Linden shared the stories of our Community Health Aides through her "Community Health Aide Spotlights" in *The Council*. Through her writing, she highlighted the ingenuity, courage, and compassion of those who serve on the front lines of care in our villages. Her work helped bring recognition to the vital role Community Health Aides play in keeping our communities healthy and safe.

Linden's dedication to uplifting these voices was evident in every piece she wrote. She had a gift for capturing the strength and heart of our people, and her contributions will continue to inspire.

We extend our deepest gratitude to Linden for the care and respect she brought to this work. Her legacy lives on in the stories she shared and in the continued service of our Community Health Aides.

Our thoughts are with Linden's family during this time. If you would like to learn more about her incredible life, you can read her obituary here: www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/newsminer/name/linden-staciokas-obituary?id=61270717



Help is always here...

988

24 HOURS A DAY • 7 DAYS A WEEK

Free & confidential support for people in suicidal crisis.

Your story isn't over...

Are You Due for Lung Cancer Screening?

By Audrey Frone, TCC Nurse Practitioner in the Lung Cancer Screening Program

Lung cancer is one of the deadliest cancers and is very common in Alaska Native and American Indian populations.

Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) offers lung cancer screenings through Chief Andrew Isaac Health Center (CAIHC). It is not recommended for all people, but depending on your age and smoking history, you may be a candidate.



though we encourage everyone to reduce or quit smoking cigarettes, you do not have to quit smoking to get this test done); and

- You are aged 50-80 years old; and
- You have a certain smoking history.

What happens during the test?

- The test occurs at the CAIHC radiology department.
- You are taken back to the CT machine. This is the machine that has a large “donut” shape.
- You lay down with your arms above your head, then go through the machine and come back out.
- It’s a quick test that does not require you to lay down for long periods of time.
- No IVs or medications are needed.



These conversations can happen in person or over the phone:

- Talk to your healthcare provider to see if you qualify.
- Call the clinic and ask to talk to the lung cancer screening program. We can ask you a few short questions to see if you qualify.

What are the drawbacks to lung cancer screenings?

- You are exposed to a small amount of radiation with each CT scan. This can put you at risk of developing cancer in the future.
 - The chance of getting cancer from these yearly scans is very low, less than 1%.
 - A “low dose CT” is used for these scans, it has 1/5th the amount of radiation as a normal CT.
- We may find other health issues, which may need further testing or imaging.

Please call CAIHC to talk to the lung cancer screening program or talk to your health care provider with any questions. If you know anyone who may qualify, please tell them about the screening!

What is the purpose of lung cancer screenings?

When we catch lung cancer early, there are more treatment options, and you are more likely to survive.

What is lung cancer screening?

It is a quick and painless yearly CT scan of your lungs to check for changes that may indicate lung cancer.

Who should get it?

TCC follows the American Cancer Society guidelines for lung cancer screenings. This means you may qualify if:

- You are a current or former cigarette smoker at any point in your life (Al-

How do I get one?

It’s important to talk with a health-care provider before ordering the test, so that you can learn the pros and cons of getting the yearly screening.

Alaska High-Water Mark Observations

A publicly available survey for residents to identify high-water marks in their communities after a flood.

The State of Alaska Division of Geological & Geophysical Surveys developed the survey below for community members to submit their own high-water mark observations to assist with emergency management and future planning.

The survey guides users through the process of collecting high-water mark data, submitting photographs, and describing flood and community history.

Questions? Contact:

DGGS Coastal Hazards Program
dnr.dggs.coastal.hazards@alaska.gov

Alaska High-Water Mark Observations

Flooding can happen anywhere in Alaska

Collecting high-water mark data helps communities document flooding to assist with emergency management and future planning. Submitting a reliable record of high-water marks also helps improve the accuracy of flood models and predictions.

The Alaska Division of Geological & Geophysical Surveys (DGGS) developed this tool for community members to help document your own high-water mark observations and help improve flood modeling, planning, and safety throughout Alaska.

For more information about flooding in Alaska, including information on what you can do, please visit <https://www.alaska.gov/dggs>.

THANK YOU!

How To Collect High-Water Marks

High-Water Mark Location*

*Please indicate the physical location of your observation on the map below.

What is a high-water mark?

There is no one correct or wrong answer when collecting high-water mark observations; your safety is always more important.

High-water marks are evidence left behind by floods that indicate the maximum height water reached during the event. High-water marks are only temporary, so identifying and documenting them quickly after an event is very important. For help identifying high-water marks, report the high-water mark location below.

Flooding may have resulted in a variety of different types of high-water marks that can be observed on walls, fences, trees, and other structures. High-water marks should be documented and photographed as soon as possible after the event. High-water marks should be documented and photographed as soon as possible after the event. High-water marks should be documented and photographed as soon as possible after the event.

Scan to take the survey

<https://arcg.is/15T54W2>

Arctic Village Spring Carnival Visit

In April, Chief Hildebrand and other members of TCC's leadership team were invited to visit Arctic Village during their Spring Carnival. This event was a joyous celebration of culture and community. Mahsi' choo to everyone who helped make this event a success!







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



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FIND YOUR PURPOSE

Join Our Team!

New Vacancies

Fairbanks	Village Bookkeeper I
Fairbanks	Facilities Program Support Coordinator
Fairbanks	Nurse Practitioner - Primary Care
Fairbanks	Physician Assistant - Primary Care
Fairbanks	Senior Compliance Specialist
Fairbanks	Empanelment Specialist
Fairbanks	Staff Dentist - Advanced Periodontal Officer
Fairbanks	Dental Assistant Intern
Fairbanks	Dental Assistant I
Fairbanks	Licensed Practical Nurse I
Fairbanks	Tour Guide
Fairbanks	Nurse Practitioner - Float
Fairbanks	Physician Assistant - Float
Fairbanks	Youth Groundskeeper
Fairbanks	Pharmacy Inventory Management Specialist
Fairbanks	Pharmacy Technician III
Fairbanks	Staff Dentist/Staff Dental Officer - Advanced
Fairbanks	Behavioral Health Addictions Case Manager
Galena	Urgent Care RN
Huslia	Tribal Family Youth Specialist
Nenana	Village Public Safety Officer
Nenana	Preschool Assistant Teacher
Rampart	Community Health Aide/Practitioner
Remote	Nursery Technician
Rampart	Tribal Administrator - Onsite Supervisor
Tok	Facilities Technician



Upper Tanana Health Center
TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE



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 APRIL 24, 2026

**NEED TO
TALK?**

Help is just three
digits away.

988

Connects You to Careline,
Alaska's Suicide & Crisis
Lifeline.



Tanana
Chiefs
Conference

UPCOMING EVENTS

**MAY
5**

MMIP Awareness Day

Wear red to honor our missing and murdered relatives.

**MAY
22**

TCC All Staff Meeting

Limited Services Available • 1:00pm - 5:00pm

**MAY
25**

TCC Offices Closed

Memorial Day

**MAY
27-28**

TCC Executive Board Meeting

8:30am - 5:00pm • Fairbanks, AK

**JUN
19**

TCC Offices Closed

Juneteenth

**JUN
19-21**

Emerging Leaders Youth Summit

Fairbanks, AK | Registration required.

www.tananachiefs.org/events/emerging-leaders-youth-summit/