



Monthly President's Report

September 2013

Dear AFN Co-Chairs, Board Members & Membership,

As our staff, volunteers and board members wrap up all of the final details for this month's annual Convention, we're all very much looking forward to seeing you in Fairbanks. Convention is the culmination of our year's work - an incredible opportunity to share, strategize and plan for the year ahead. This year, we'll enjoy an array of new opportunities to learn and interact.

As always, we thank the Convention Committee for their tireless work on what promises to be a great 2013 Convention.

You'll find our near-final draft agenda included with this report. Please read on to learn more about the array of workshops that will be available to our delegates during Convention in Fairbanks.

Resolutions will be considered and acted upon in the afternoon of Saturday, October 26.

Delegate Registration Schedule

Thursday, October 24
7:30-11:00 AM
2:00-4:30 PM

Friday, October 25
8:00-11:00 AM

Delegate Registration will take place at:

The Carlson Center
2010 2nd Avenue
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
nativefederation.org



CONTENTS

Convention	2
Advocacy	6
Opportunities	7
Regional Spotlight	8

UPCOMING

2013 TRIBAL CONFERENCE
October 23, 2013
Fairbanks, AK

2013 AFN CONVENTION
October 24-26, 2013
Fairbanks, AK

PRESIDENT'S AWARDS

October 26 | 2:20pm
Carlson Center

BANQUET

October 26 | 6:30pm-10pm
Carlson Center

WHITE HOUSE TRIBAL
NATIONS CONFERENCE
November 13, 2013
Washington, DC

Monthly President's Report



Convention 2013!

QUYANA ALASKA | Thursday and Friday October 24-25, 7 pm-11 pm

Quyana Alaska I – Thursday

Fairbanks Native Assn. JOM Potlatch Dancers
Suurimmaanitchuat
Ahtna Heritage Dancers
Nanwalek Sugpiaq Dancers
Tanana Traditional Dancers
Chevak Kinguliaret Yurartait
Neets'aii Gwich'in Dancers

Quyana Alaska II – Friday

Akula Elitnaurvik
Kuugmuit
Di'haii Gwich'in Dancers
Stebbins Dance Group
Woosh.ji.een
Tikigak Traditional Dancers
Tanacross Traditional Dancers



Ticket \$10, available at the Carlson Center box office during AFN.

2013 ALASKA NATIVE CUSTOMARY ART SHOW

SHOW HOURS

8:00am-6:00pm on Thursday, October 24th
8:00am-6:00pm on Friday, October 25th
8:00am-3:00pm on Saturday, October 26th

Artists Registration will take place at:

THE CARLSON CENTER
2010 2nd Avenue
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701



Monthly President's Report



2013 Convention Workshops

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT WORKSHOP

A pre-convention meeting to develop a strategy that will lead to better protection for Alaska Native Women. The meeting will feature an overview of the Violence Against Women Act, its impact in Alaska in light of the scope of the problem in our state, and an update on the Alaska Safe Families and Villages Act of 2013. There will be a presentation from the Justice Department's Office of Violence Against Women on the proposed Tribal Governments Program Formula Funding. The meeting is being co-sponsored by AFN, NCAI, the Tanana Chiefs Conference and the National Indigenous Women's Resource Center and is open to the public.

When: Tuesday, October 22 from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, David Salmon Tribal Hall, 111 Clay Street

ALASKA NATIVE LAW SECTION ANNUAL CLE: Case Law Updates and Discussion of Thorny ANCSA Land Issues

Join the Alaska Native Law Section in Fairbanks for their annual half-day CLE. Speakers will cover recent court decisions affecting Alaska Natives, problems associated with the ANCSA conveyance of contaminated land, and legal issues associated with subsistence and ANCSA lands. If you are going to the AFN Convention in Fairbanks this year, come a day early and get some CLE credits!

Wednesday, October 23 from 12:30 pm – 4:00 pm, Westmark Hotel, Fairbanks

AFFORDABLE CARE ACT SEMINAR

This seminar will sort fact from fiction: the top things you need to know about the Affordable Care Act. Seminar will cover the new insurance Marketplace, tax credits, the individual mandate and review of additional protections offered to health care consumers.

When: Thursday, October 24 from 10:00am-11:30am, Foraker Room, Carlson Center

Monthly President's Report



Thank You 2013 Convention Sponsors!

DENALI

ExxonMobil
GCI

KATMAI

Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute
Alyeska Pipeline Service Company
Chugach Alaska Corporation
NANA Regional Corporation
Red Dog Mine-Teck Alaska
Shell Exploration & Production
Company
Tanana Chiefs Conference
Wells Fargo

SUSITNA

Alaska Airlines
Alaska Energy Authority
Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium
Anglo American US (Pebble)
Arctic Slope Regional Corporation
AT&T
Bristol Bay Native Corporation
BP
ConocoPhillips
Cook Inlet Region, Inc.
Donlin Gold
Flint Hills Resources
KeyBank Foundation
Mission 100
Office of Indian Energy
Pebble Ltd. Partnership
Statoil
Ukpeagvik Inupiat Corporation
Sam's Club®

TAKU

Allen Marine, Inc.
Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority
Bristol Bay Native Association
Bering Straits Native Corporation
Chenega Corporation
Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce
Wallace Insurance/Premera

KOBUK

Afognak Native Corporation
Central Council of the Tlingit & Haida Indian
Tribes of Alaska
Kenai Peninsula College
KPMG
Lynden
BDO, USA LLP
Southwest Alaska Vocational & Educational
Center
The Eyak Corporation
The Tatitlek Corporation
Fairbanks Convention and Visitors Bureau
Fairbanks Memorial Hospital/Denali Center
MAC Federal Credit Union
Seekins Ford Lincoln
TDL Staffing

FRIENDS OF AFN

Construction Machinery Industrial, LLC
Linc Energy
Nabors Drilling USA, LP
Northrim Bank
Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 375
The Aleut Corporation
Teamsters Local 959
Donny Robinette, M.D.
Grace Berg Schaible

Monthly President's Report



Advocating for Our People

NEW COUNCIL FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF ALASKA NATIVES (CAAN)

In early September, we formally announced the creation of the Council for the Advancement of Alaska Natives (CAAN), replacing AFN's existing HRC. The council's mission is to advance opportunities for Alaska Native peoples.

CAAN will be comprised of leaders from the regional tribal consortia and Alaska Native non-profits including First Alaskans, ANTHC, the Alaska Native Justice Center, RuralCa, the Association of AK Native Housing Authorities and the Alaska Native Health Board. Kawerak President Melanie Bahnke and Tanana Chiefs Conference President Jerry Isaac will serve as the council's Co-Chairs.

Learn more from the PDF press release that accompanies this report.

ANILCA SUBSISTENCE HEARING

On September 19th, the United States Congress held its first oversight hearing in nearly 20 years on the Alaska National Interest Lands Act (ANILCA) and critically important subsistence food security priorities for Alaska Natives. The hearing in the U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resource Committee was the first major hearing to examine wildlife management authority within the State of Alaska under the ANILCA and the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA).

AFN Subsistence Committee Chairwoman Dr. Rosita Worl and Robert Anderson, a Professor at the University of Washington School of Law, testified on behalf of AFN. Other witnesses included AFN Board members Jerry Issac and Ana Hoffman, as well as Anthony Christenson, mayor of Hyaburg.

Our representatives reviewed the history and policy decisions that led to the adoption of Title VIII of ANILCA, and how Title VIII no longer fulfills Congress' intent to protect Alaska Natives hunting and fishing way of life. We urged the Committee to include two demonstration projects in any legislation that moves during this Congress to allow the Native community to show the value and efficiency of co-management in the context of the Yukon River fisheries and on Native-owned lands in the Ahtna region, paving the way for a statewide solution to the current system of dual management.

An archive of the hearing webcast is available on the U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resource Committee website (<http://www.energy.senate.gov/public/>). A PDF summary of witness testimony provided by the North Star Group is included with this report.

Monthly President's Report



Opportunities

NCAI PARTNERSHIP FOR TRIBAL GOVERNANCE INITIATIVE

NCAI has funds available to make investments in tribal governance projects as a part of their Partnership for Tribal Governance Initiative (PTG). NCAI plans to make 10-12 investments in tribal projects, ranging from \$30,000-\$50,000.

The PTG focuses efforts on four strategic areas identified by tribal leaders as critical to their success:

- Government Reform
- Leadership Development
- Citizen Engagement
- Public and Media Education

If your tribe is interested in applying for funds from NCAI, please submit a letter of interest that includes the information detailed in the PDF that accompanies this report by October 23, 2013.



2013 WHITE HOUSE TRIBAL NATIONS CONFERENCE

[EXCERPT FROM WHITE HOUSE PRESS RELEASE DISTRIBUTED ON SEPT. 27, 2013]

On Wednesday, November 13, President Obama will host the White House Tribal Nations Conference at the Department of the Interior. The conference will provide leaders from the 566 federally recognized tribes the opportunity to interact directly with the President and members of the White House Council on Native American Affairs. Each federally recognized tribe will be invited to send one representative to the conference. This will be the fifth White House Tribal Nations Conference for the Obama Administration, and continues to build upon the President's commitment to strengthen the government-to-government relationship with Indian Country and to improve the lives of Native Americans. Additional details about the conference will be released at a later date.

Monthly President's Report



SPOTLIGHT ON INNOVATION

SEALASKA HERITAGE INSTITUTE'S WALTER SOBOLEFF CENTER

The Walter Soboleff Center will fill a need for more public education and insight into traditional Native cultures. Our Center will allow Alaska Natives to share their heritage, culture and arts with the general public to promote a cross-cultural understanding. The new Center will be built in downtown Juneau, Alaska, just steps away from the capitol building, cruise ship docks and museums.

The Center will feature space for art demonstrations and exhibits, retail sales, and venues for ceremonies and presentations. It will also house a research facility, climate-controlled collections storage and work areas.

The Center will provide a richer, more context-filled experience, including a living history center with distance learning technology about the rich language and culture of Southeast Alaska.

SHI undertook a capital campaign to raise funds for the project, which is supported by donations from the Alaska Native Education Program, ArtPlace, City and Borough of Juneau, Cruise Industry Charitable Foundation, Juneau Lions Club, M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust, Rasmuson Foundation, Sealaska, State of Alaska, Walter Soboleff Trust and numerous individuals and businesses.

Learn more at <http://www.sealaskaheritagecenter.com>.

GOT INNOVATION?

Does your region have an innovative practice to share?
Please let us know!

Send us an email at afninfo@nativefederation.org with "Innovation Spotlight" in the subject line!

Our Remaining Native Language Speakers



These are approximate figures of Alaska Native Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian speakers.

We are working to revitalize our languages. In Southeast Alaska, there are language programs in Yakutat, Klukwan, Juneau, Hoonah, Sitka, Wrangell, Kake, Ketchikan, Metlakatla and Craig.



Monthly President's Report



Thank You

AFN's annual Convention is a yearly manifestation of our unity. It is our chance to confront the most difficult challenges that our people face and to build out our strategies for taking advantages of our greatest opportunities.

I look forward to learning from and with all of you at this year's event, and to executing on our people's priorities in the year to come.

See you in Fairbanks!

Sincerely,

Julie Kitka



Alaska Federation of Natives

1577 C Street, Suite 300 | Anchorage, Alaska | 99501 | 907.274.3611 | afninfo@nativefederation.org

