Tribe’s Leadership Issues Post-Election Statements with Messages of Unity

While the dust hasn’t quite settled, voters have elected our 45th United States President. Donald J. Trump won the electoral vote, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton won the popular vote, and this particular election has left many of us weary and uncertain. With republicans now holding the power of the House, Senate, and White House, only time will unveil what this will mean and look like for Alaska tribes, Native corporations, and Indian Health Service facilities.

What have we learned from this election? There are still far too many Alaska Natives and American Indians not voting even during a time when we are all united behind Standing Rock. Let this be our call to action moving forward. We need every single tribal citizen to be engaged and participating in the election process. Statewide leadership needs to provide a strategic data driven campaign that can ensure effective mobilization efforts that happen statewide, regionally, and locally to hold our elected officials accountable.

There are many issues and challenges ahead, but it is our responsibility as indigenous people to ensure our voice remains heard and develop collective strategies to achieve this. Continued on page 14
President Peterson Provides Keynote at Tribal Government Symposium

President Richard Peterson was one of three speakers honored to provide a keynote address during the second annual Tribal Government Symposium held November 15-17, 2016 in Fairbanks, Alaska.

Nation building to advance tribal government capacity was the focus of the three-day symposium. For many tribal leaders and representatives, the conference was inspiring. President Peterson’s keynote discussed how to lead in the traditional way through integrating traditional knowledge and culture in modern tribal governance structures.

The Tribal Government Symposium was co-sponsored by the University of Alaska Fairbanks, College of Rural and Community Development, University of Arizona Native Nations Institute, Tanana Chiefs Conference, and Casey Family Programs.

VP Micklin Provides Testimony to United Nations General Assembly

Second Vice President (VP) Will Micklin, along with several other tribal representatives from the World Conference of Indigenous Peoples, recently provided testimony to the United Nations (UN) General Assembly on the need for formal recognition and participation of indigenous governments on the UN. Currently, the UN does not recognize indigenous governments.

“It’s a high priority for indigenous governments to have their elected representatives participate in these venues and add to the record through this enhanced participation,” said 2nd VP Micklin.

The consultation was the first of four called for by the President of the UN General Assembly to exchange views regarding the development of a new status for indigenous governments, including a new UN body to accredit indigenous governing institutions. The UN General Assembly is expected to make a decision on the matter before its current session ends in September 2017.

Video Recorded Testimony:
Video 1: www.youtube.com/watch?v=CtzVBAwDjfs
Video 2: www.youtube.com/watch?v=wWwb97nQp70
Video 3: www.youtube.com/watch?v=y3oU_Zm65rM

“Promoting economic and business development through enterprise and joint ventures.”
Native American Heritage Month Dinner Honors Modern Warriors

In recognition of Native American Heritage Month, Central Council hosted a dinner to honor and celebrate five modern warriors who have gone above and beyond to advocate, protest, and protect our children, language, lands and waters, and traditional harvesting rights. It was a very uplifting evening with over 200 guests attending the dinner and heartfelt words from the honorees. Gunalchéesh, Háw’aa, N’toyaxsn to SouthEast Alaska Regional Health Consortium (SEARHC) and the Alaska Native Brotherhood Camp 2 for contributing towards this year’s event!

**Modern Warriors**

Harold Martin: Warrior for Protecting Our Traditional Harvesting Rights
Mike & Veronica Hoyle: Warriors for Caring for Our Children
Alfie Price: Warrior for Preserving Our Languages
Miciana Hutcherson: Warrior for Protecting Our Sacred Lands & Waters

If you missed the event, you may view it via Livestream at: livestream.com/accounts/507620/warriors.

To view our Flickr gallery, visit: www.flickr.com/photos/ccthita/albums/72157675674217660.
Land Lease Finalized for Tlingit & Haida Cultural Immersion Park

Central Council and the City and Borough of Juneau finalized a 35-year lease agreement for the development of a cultural immersion park on the city-owned property located at 4400 Thane Road. In addition to the land lease, Central Council also secured a sublease on an adjacent property through a private sector business to expand the cultural immersion park’s demonstration area and allow for carvers to work inside throughout the year.

The next step in the project will be to complete a feasibility study on the property. Central Council received an Economic Development Administration (EDA) grant in the amount of $83,901 to complete the study which will determine if the current structure can be renovated and repaired or will need to be entirely replaced.

“This project is a long-term commitment of the Tribe,” said Business & Economic Development Manager Myrna Gardner. “It’s a commitment to commerce and workforce development, job creation, our local economy, and creating opportunities for our people. This project is about lifting our people up and being a good neighbor and member of the community.”

The cultural immersion park will include a building retrofitted with a traditional long house façade that will house a restaurant and gift shop. Tourists will be able to enjoy traditional Native foods while watching Native dance performances. The gift shop will have authentic Native art and souvenirs available for sale. Visitors will also be able to participate in guided tours with interactive demonstrations on the traditional art of basket weaving and carving canoes, paddles, masks, and totem poles. The restaurant will be closed for the winter, but the carving shed will remain open for Native artists to carve and host educational classes. For the full press release, visit: www.ccthita-nsn.gov/info/press.

VP Sanderson Provides Testimony to NPFMC

First VP Rob Sanderson Jr. recently provided testimony during the North Pacific Fishery Management Council’s (NPFMC) December meeting. VP Sanderson has remained vigilant on the issue of reducing bycatch in the Gulf of Alaska. To read the full report on the NPFMC meeting which covers bycatch, recreational quota entity, and electronic monitoring for the observer program, please visit: www.ccthita-nsn.gov/government/council/profiles/rsandersonjr.

The NPFMC is one of eight regional councils established by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976 to manage fisheries in the 200-mile Exclusive Economic Zone. NPFMC primarily manages groundfish in the Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea, and Aleutian Islands, targeting cod, pollock, flatfish, mackerel, sablefish, and rockfish species harvested by trawl, longline, jig, and pot gear. The council also makes allocation decisions for halibut in concert with the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC).
Peer to Peer Visit with Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community

A team of Central Council employees recently participated in a two-day peer to peer exchange with the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community (Salt River) Social Services department. The peer to peer exchange was sponsored by Casey Family Programs under a five year agreement/partnership with Central Council.

Salt River tribe was selected for the peer to peer visit for their comprehensive child welfare program. The 80-person Salt River Social Services department handles all aspects of child welfare (i.e. investigates reports of harm on tribal children, provides intensive in-home services to children and families, place children into foster care, and licenses and manages tribal foster homes). In addition to social services, Salt River provides a multitude of services to their community and the majority of their programs are funded through tribal revenue.

As the Tribal Family & Youth Services department continues to build their child welfare program and partner with Tribal Court on transferring cases from state court to tribal court, the peer exchange provided an amazing opportunity to learn from an all-inclusive program which provides a large number of services to their tribal citizens.

Serving children and families, and the need for collaboration between programs was the important message received and the common thread of all presentations provided during the visit. The Salt River Social Services department has developed close relationships between the local police and fire department, behavioral health staff, schools, tribal court, and many others in order to ensure the safety of all their tribal children.

Testimony Provided to House Fisheries Committee

President Peterson provided testimony on transboundary mining during a House Fisheries Committee’s public hearing on October 12, 2016. The hearing was held just one week after the State of Alaska and Canada signed a Statement of Cooperation to establish a working group to ensure both governments work together to address transboundary mining issues such as water quality, environmental assessments and permitting for mine projects, and reporting on mine discharges, operations and closure.

“This issue for us is really personal, as many of us can track our lineage to these rivers,” explained President Peterson.

Pointing back to the Mount Polley Mine disaster, President Peterson also shared, “We’re terrified that that’s what’s going to happen here. And that we’re going to share their fate. We couldn’t sustain our traditional way of life. We couldn’t sustain our economic way of life, if that happened.”

New Online Recruitment & Employment Application

Central Council’s Human Resources department has transitioned to bambooHR, an online Human Resources Information System. The new system includes a fully-electronic employment application processing system which now makes it easier than ever to apply for positions with Central Council. To apply, visit Central Council’s “Current Job Openings” page, select the position you’re interested in, and follow the steps to submit your application! Central Council offers competitive pay, good employee benefits, and the opportunity to join a great team. If you’re looking for a new employment opportunity, please consider applying!

For more information, please contact Human Resources at humanresources@ccthita-nsn.gov or 907.463.7707.
Listening Session with Trump Native American Coalition Members and Transition Team

Second VP Will Micklin and Fourth VP Jacqueline Pata attended a listening session hosted by the Western Caucus Foundation on December 14th to provide an opportunity for tribal leaders to identify issues important to Alaska Natives and Native Americans for the Trump Administration. Representative Markwayne Mullin, Chair of the Trump Native American Coalition, along with other coalition and transition team members attended the listening session. Representative Mullin facilitated the meeting and is charged with providing the transition team with two to three specific initiatives that can be accomplished within the first 100 days of the Trump Administration.

Tribal leaders were given an opportunity to provide key recommendations which were summarized into five areas:

- Infrastructure
- Education
- Sovereignty
- Over Regulation
- Economic Development

Alaska tribes are encouraged to submit recommendations to the Trump Native American Coalition at one@ptt.gov. To read the report on key recommendations identified by tribal leaders during the listening session, visit: www.ccthita-nsn.gov/government/council/profiles/wmicklin.

Tribe Welcomes Ken Truitt and Justin Facey

Please help Central Council welcome Ken Truitt, new Deputy Chief Operating Officer, and Justin Facey, Tribal Child Support Attorney, to the Tribe!

Ken will work closely with Chief Operating Officer (COO) Corrine Garza to manage tribal assets, facilities, and operations to ensure an efficient and productive work environment for the Tribe through technologies, policy, and program support. He will also serve as the liaison to department managers and Compact tribes. Ken will assume the COO position upon Corrine’s retirement in 2017.

Ken graduated from Arizona State University’s Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law with emphasis in Federal Indian Law and is a member of the Alaska Bar Association. Ken is Raven, L’uknáx.ádi (Coho Salmon) and is a Sealaska and Shee Atika Inc. shareholder. He is married to Charlotte Truitt and together they have four children – Madison, Marissa, Sydney, and Elena.

As the Tribal Child Support Attorney, Justin will provide legal services and representation for the Tribe in paternity and child support cases, including establishing, modifying, and enforcing child support orders.

Justin received his Bachelor’s degree in Journalism from the University of Colorado, and his Juris Doctor from the University of Idaho, where he received the Service with Distinction designation for his work defending indigent clients. Justin’s legal background includes working in trial-level and appellate defense cases. He is originally from Vermont, but has been a longtime resident of Colorado.

To view the full press releases on Ken and Justin, please visit: www.ccthita-nsn.gov/info/press.

Mission Statement

Preserving our sovereignty, enhancing our economic and cultural resources, and promoting self-sufficiency and self-governance for our citizens through collaboration, service, and advocacy.
Introducing “Navigators”

The Tribal Court is pleased to introduce their new “Navigators” program which provides wrap around services to struggling tribal youth and their families.

What is Navigators? Navigators is an early intervention & diversion program administered by Central Council’s Tribal Court. The program offers struggling youth the support of a rich, cross-generational community of peers, elders, cultural mentors, tutors, and medical and agency professionals.

What are the challenges? Among the risk factors researchers have found to increase the chances of youth entering the court systems, three stand out:

• Homelessness/unstable housing
• Living with non-relatives
• Truancy and/or poor academic performance

Navigators seeks to serve Native youth who are experiencing one or more of these life circumstances, who are struggling academically, or any Native youth ages 10-18 who would like to benefit from engaging regularly with an array of cultural, community, and leadership activities.

What academic support does Navigators offer? Students have free access to supportive writing and math tutors who have experience in interpreting assignments for Native learners and assisting students in finding culturally appropriate and meaningful ways to respond to classroom assignments.

What else does the Navigators program do? Navigators provides youth group and individual opportunities to learn and practice life skills focusing on goal setting and achievement, personal accountability, community connection, and leadership. Staff also coordinate with partners in Central Council’s tribal offices, the school district, and other agencies to connect students and their families with other resources.

What kinds of cultural activities does Navigators offer? Students will have the opportunity to work with Elders, Aunts, and Uncles, forming mentorship relationships as they learn about their clan and family histories, how to introduce themselves in their tribal language, and a variety of traditional activities such as weaving, carving, sewing, subsistence living, etc. Activities are youth-centered and taught by community members.

How can I learn more about Navigators? If you are interested in participating or volunteering in the Navigators program, please contact Tina DeAsis-Wright (907.463.7755 or tdeasiswright@ccthita-nsn.gov) or SueAnn Lindoff (907.463.7752 or slindoff@ccthita-nsn.gov) to set up a meeting to talk more about the program.

NLR Receives Additional $198K in BIA Funding

The Native Lands and Resources department has received an additional $198,344 from the Bureau of Indian Affairs to continue water quality studies on transboundary rivers. Central Council initially received funding in July 2015 to compile baseline water quality data on the Taku, Stikine, and Unuk Rivers. The data will assist with watershed management decisions, complement other transboundary studies such as traditional ecological knowledge (TEK), and help establish a future monitoring program that can assess any downstream impacts we may experience from mining development in British Columbia. This project had been prompted by proposed and developing large-scale mining activity in the headwaters and tributaries of the three transboundary rivers.

As of December 2016, Central Council has collected twelve samples on the Stikine River and eight samples on the Taku River. Once at least twelve months of data has been collected, Central Council will compile an official report on the results that will be shared with regulatory agencies and interested public.
Southeast Environmental Conference Held
Submitted By: Native Lands & Resources

Central Council’s Native Lands and Resources (NLR) department hosted the annual Southeast Environmental Conference in Ketchikan, Alaska at the Cape Fox Lodge September 19-23, 2016.

Nearly 100 participants attended this year’s conference which brought together environmental program managers and coordinators from Southeast tribes, federal and state agency staff, and other interest groups from the region to learn about and address common environmental priorities, promote capacity building among Southeast tribal environmental programs, expand networking opportunities, and provide a platform for Southeast tribes to convey local traditional issues or concerns directly to environmental professions.

Topics for the Southeast Environmental Conference were identified based on a needs assessment survey completed by Southeast tribes previous to the conference. This year’s conference focused on and provided in-depth presentations and discussions on transboundary mining, water quality standards, fish consumption rates, State Tribal Response Program (Brownfields), solid waste, and climate change.

The last two days of the conference were reserved for a climate change adaptation planning workshop. This workshop gave participants a more detailed look at the climate change issues that were nominated as priorities from the Southeast Alaska tribes during a training held last year and gave a detailed perspective on how tribes can start their adaptation plan.

Gunalchéesh, Háw’aa to all who participated in this year’s conference.

Take Caution when Harvesting Shellfish

Elevated levels of Paralytic Shellfish toxins have been discovered recently in various communities throughout Southeast Alaska. Central Council wants to take this time to remind tribal citizens to be cautious when harvesting shellfish and make sure to visit the Southeast Alaska Tribal Ocean Research’s (SEATOR) website (www.SEATOR.org) or Facebook page (www.facebook.com/seator.org) for the latest data reports on phytoplankton activities and shellfish toxins.

Central Council’s NLR department along with other partners, otherwise known as the Southeast Alaska Tribal Toxins (SEATT) network, have been monitoring phytoplankton activities throughout Southeast Alaska in an effort to increase communication on findings related to shellfish toxins, harmful algal blooms, and ocean acidification.

The SEATT network was formed in September 2013 to coordinate Southeast Alaskan Tribal responses to the threat of toxic shellfish and harmful algal blooms (HABs). Each SEATT partner monitors phytoplankton activity at one or more local sites, collects and filters water samples to analyze for cellular toxins, records environmental parameters, and collects shellfish for testing for toxins that could cause Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning (PSP).

To learn about harvesting shellfish safely, please watch the Safe Shellfish video: https://vimeo.com/178482635.
President Peterson Addresses British Columbia Assembly of First Nations

President Peterson had the honor to address the British Columbia (BC) Assembly of First Nations (AFN) on October 26, 2016. The BC AFN is a national organization representing First Nations citizens and over 630 First Nation communities in Canada.

President Peterson addressed the BC AFN General Assembly on transboundary mining issues and the need for direct collaboration between our indigenous governments to improve our effectiveness in protecting and preserving our way of life and the resources we depend upon. He also discussed a proposed treaty that would formally announce our intent to work together to address concerns relating to mining activities in the transboundary region and the environmental impacts to the headwaters of the Alsek, Taku, Stikine, and Unuk rivers.

Draft Treaty of Mutual Cooperation with First Nations (MOA):

- Demonstrate to non-tribal governments that Southeast Alaska tribes and BC and Yukon First Nations share a mutual desire to promote the safe operation of mining activities through adoption of best practices.
- Promote the establishment of channelized liability for strict liability of mining operators, a remediation fund from private, commercial operators and sovereign states in the event of accidents.
- Establish measures to prevent accidents.
- Identify environmental quality of the transboundary ecosystem and water sheds, and key indicators for resource status.
- Identify sources and causes of environmental pollution and contaminants.
- Promote acceptance of indigenous ecological knowledge.
- Promote management of environmental resources by indigenous governments.

President Peterson was well received by the BC AFN Grand Chiefs and extended an invitation to them to attend Central Council’s 82nd Annual Tribal Assembly April 19-21, 2017 in Juneau, Alaska.

Land-into-Trust Training Held

On November 1-2, 2016, Central Council hosted a Land-into-Trust training taught by Geoffrey Strommer and Craig Jacobson of Hobbs, Straus, Dean & Walker, LLP at the Elizabeth Peratrovich Hall.

The workshop was attended by Southeast tribes, Native corporations, Alaska Legal Services, City & Borough of Juneau, Tlingit Haida Regional Housing Authority, Federal Highways Administration, and Central Council President, Vice President and staff.

Tribal Operations provided scholarships for tribes in Central Council’s compact to educate them in making a decision on whether to put land into trust.

The workshop provided participants with a background and history on tribal land tenure in Alaska, the pros and cons of putting land into trust, application process, strategies, and community land use planning. On the last day, BIA officials provided brief presentations and answered questions from participants. The BIA is responsible for processing and approving the tribal applications.
Positive Indian Parenting
Submitted By: TFYS

The Tribal Family & Youth Services department is pleased to offer their next round of Positive Indian Parenting classes. This 10-week program is for parents interested in learning the values expressed in traditional Native American child-rearing practices and how to apply them to modern-day parenting.

Classes are held every Wednesday (January 4 – March 8) from 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM in the Andrew Hope Building’s second floor conference room (320 W. Willoughby Avenue, Juneau). All Alaska Native and American Indian parents are welcome to attend. Dinner is provided and door prize drawings will be held on the last day of class!

Schedule

January
4th, 11th, 18th and 25th

February
1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd

March
1st and 8th

Monthly Events

6-7 Executive Council Meeting – Juneau, AK
6-17 Forestry Academy – Prince of Wales Island, AK
8 Juneau Reentry Coalition Alaska Native Workgroup Meeting – Juneau, AK
10-16 NCAI Executive Council Winter Session – Washington, DC
13-16 American Indian Inaugural Celebration – Crystal City, VA
23-26 Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians Winter Convention (atntribes.org) – Centralia, WA
26 Annual Caregivers Conference – Juneau, AK
26 Tribal Court Roundtable – Craig, AK
28 Tribal Court Roundtable – Haines, AK
30 Tribal Court Roundtable – Juneau, AK

For more information, please contact TFYS at 800.344.1432 or 907.463.7360.

Mark Your Calendars

January Events
1 New Year’s Day (Observed January 2 - Offices Closed)
3 Fatherhood Is Sacred® Meeting – Juneau, AK
10 Fatherhood Is Sacred® Meeting – Juneau, AK
14 Client Service Informational Fair – Juneau, AK
17 Fatherhood Is Sacred® Meeting – Juneau, AK
19-22 American Indian Inaugural Celebration – Crystal City, VA
20-26 Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians Winter Convention (atntribes.org) – Centralia, WA
26 Annual Caregivers Conference – Juneau, AK
26 Tribal Court Roundtable – Craig, AK
27 Tribal Court Roundtable – Haines, AK
27 Tribal Court Roundtable – Juneau, AK
19-22 American Indian Inaugural Celebration – Crystal City, VA

February Events
6-7 Executive Council Meeting – Juneau, AK
6-17 Forestry Academy – Prince of Wales Island, AK
8 Juneau Reentry Coalition Alaska Native Workgroup Meeting – Juneau, AK
13-16 NCAI Executive Council Winter Session – Washington, DC
16 Elizabeth Peratrovich Day (Observed Feb. 17th)

March Events
13-16 National Reservation Economic Summit (RES) – Las Vegas, NV
27 Seward’s Day (Offices are closed)

April Events
2-5 NICWA'S 35th Annual Conference – San Diego, CA
12 Juneau Reentry Coalition Alaska Native Workgroup Meeting – Juneau, AK
17-18 Executive Council Meeting
19-21: 82 Annual Tribal Assembly – Juneau, AK

Annual Caregivers Conference

The Tribal Family & Youth Services (TFYS) department is pleased to host the 2017 Annual Caregivers Workshop on Thursday, January 26th. Don’t miss out – this well attended event will offer valuable resources for elders, family members, and caregivers!

When: Thursday, January 26th • 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Where: Juneau T&H Community Council Bldg. • 3235 Hospital Drive

For more information, please contact Elderly Services at 1.800.344.1432 ext. 7131, 907.463.7131, or lcooper@ccthita-nsn.gov.
The Juneau Reentry Coalition Alaska Native Workgroup hosts bimonthly lunchtime meetings in Juneau to address the highly disproportionate representation of Alaska Natives in our prison system and to promote culturally relevant community reentry services.

Please come share your ideas and concerns at their next meeting Wednesday, February 8th. Meetings are held from Noon to 1:00 PM on the 2nd Wednesday every other month in the Andrew Hope Building (320 W. Willoughby Avenue).

The Juneau Reentry Coalition’s new website (juneaureentry.com) offers a comprehensive list of community resources (housing, food banks, education and job training, health, and much more).

For more information, contact Talia Eames at 907.463.7365 or teames@ccthita-nsn.gov.

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### Women’s Support Group

Submitted By: Tribal Family & Youth Services

The TFYS department will be hosting a Women’s Support group every Tuesday beginning January 3, 2017. The 12-week program will use a culturally-based approach to help women learn how to be accountable for their anger, deal with stress, communicate their needs, and listen to the needs of others.

The support group integrates Western therapies with traditional Native American spiritual healing practices and traditional tribal teachings and values. Classes are held every Tuesday (January 3 – March 21) from 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM in the Andrew Hope Building’s second floor conference room (320 W. Willoughby Avenue, Juneau).

**Phase I Topics:**

- The Cultural & Spiritual Components of Healing
- Cycle of Violence & the Stages of Anger
- Physiology of Anger
- Our Parents Ourselves – Purification Ceremony
- Film Related to Anger
- Being with Anger – Anger Styles & Triggers
- Societal Anger – Historical Perspectives
- Anger as a Secondary Emotion
- Communication Skills – Constructive Ways to Work with Anger
- Hurt, Pain, & Sadness
- Forgiveness & Letting Go

**Schedule**

![Calendar for January, February, and March 2017](image)

For more information, please contact TFYS at 800.344.1432, 907.463.7336, or mkatzeek@ccthita-nsn.gov.

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### Juneau Reentry Coalition Alaska Native Workgroup

Submitted By: Second Chance

The Juneau Reentry Coalition Alaska Native Workgroup hosts bimonthly lunchtime meetings in Juneau to address the highly disproportionate representation of Alaska Natives in our prison system and to promote culturally relevant community reentry services.

Please come share your ideas and concerns at their next meeting Wednesday, February 8th. Meetings are held from Noon to 1:00 PM on the 2nd Wednesday every other month in the Andrew Hope Building (320 W. Willoughby Avenue).

For more information, contact Talia Eames at 907.463.7365 or teames@ccthita-nsn.gov.
Central Council’s Tribal Transportation Manager Will Ware was appointed to the tribal seat on the Alaska Community and Public Transportation Advisory Board.

Will joins 12 other members who have been tasked to analyze community and public transportation services in Alaska and make recommendations for improved agency coordination and combining of services to achieve cost savings in the funding and delivery of transportation services. The board will also assess the community and public transportation needs of Alaskans and recommend means for the removal of barriers that prevent coordination of services to meet those needs—the board was established in 2012. To read the full press release, visit: www.ccthita-nsn.gov/info/press.

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**Southeast Alaska Native Veterans Memorial Park Renovations**

Plans are underway to redesign the Southeast Alaska Native Veterans Memorial Park located across from Central Council’s Andrew Hope Building. The Tribal Transportation department has awarded Corvis Design (Corvis), an independent landscape architecture firm, to renovate the memorial park.

While improvements have been made to the Andrew Hope Building parking lot to expand capacity over the last two years, Central Council has committed to preserving the memorial in honor of Southeast Alaska Native Veterans. Although small in size, the memorial has not only become a home each year for our Southeast Alaska Native Veterans’ Memorial & Veterans Day services, it reminds passersby every day of our warriors.

Corvis designed the original memorial (2002) before it was relocated from Sealaska Plaza in 2006. The memorial park currently includes a raven/eagle totem, a marble centerpiece, and six headstones that have the words ‘courage’ and ‘warrior’ scribed on the front in Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian. Part of the renovation will include the installment of a series of plaques with the names of all Southeast Alaska Native veterans.

The firm’s history with the memorial and past experience working with the Southeast Alaska Native Veterans group was a huge factor in awarding the project. Corvis will be working closely with the Southeast Alaska Native Veterans on the redesign.

“Since reconstruction of the Andrew Hope Building parking lot over the last couple of years, Central Council’s executive team has made it a priority to make the memorial something more prominent on our property. We want to make it something our Native Veterans and tribal citizens can be proud of—something that expresses how much honor we give to our people who have served our country,” said Tribal Transportation Manager Will Ware. “Our initial contact with Corvis Design and their excitement regarding the project has given us confidence that they will be successful in meeting our objectives.”

More information on the renovation will be shared as design work and planning get underway.
Tribe Calls On President Obama to Take Immediate Action to Safeguard the Peaceful Water Protectors at Oceti Sakowin Camp

On December 1st, Central Council called on United States President Barack Obama in letter, to take immediate action to stop the violence and civil rights violations being perpetrated by agents of Dakota Access, LLC and law enforcement agencies against peaceful Water Protectors at Oceti Sakowin Camp.

The Oceti Sakowin Camp is a historic gathering of Indigenous Nations, allies, and people from all walks of life standing in solidarity to halt the Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL).

“It’s time for the United States to end its history of abuse and human rights violations against this land’s Indigenous peoples,” said President Richard Peterson. “I call on President Obama to take immediate action to end this escalating violence before someone loses their life. Serious injuries have been suffered by these innocent, peaceful American citizens while exercising their civil rights. The violence must stop now. We must choose to protect our sacred lands and waters over the profits of the oil industry.”

One step Central Council has respectfully suggested the President of the United States take is to federalize the North Dakota National Guard and order the Guard to protect the Water Protectors and permit lawful, peaceful assembly.

The Tribe also seeks accountability for the shocking mistreatment of the Water Protectors and has requested that President Obama order the Department of Justice to investigate, and if warranted, prosecute the private security personnel and all law enforcement officers who are violating laws and committing acts of violence against these peaceful Water Protectors.

Finally, Central Council has asked President Obama to rescind the Army Corps of Engineers’ order to remove the Water Protectors to a “free speech zone” by December 5, 2016. The order would remove the Water Protectors from Corps-managed federal lands, where federal jurisdiction would better protect them, to land under state jurisdiction. Federal law enforcement is needed to protect the protectors from private security and state law enforcement personnel.

“The United States’ First Amendment cannot permit an assault upon the peaceable assembly and free speech on full display at Oceti Sakowin Camp,” said President Peterson. “I ask President Obama, as our Commander in Chief, to protect the exercise of these civil rights.”

President Peterson Participates on Land-into-Trust Panel

President Peterson recently participated on a Land-into-Trust panel held during the Alaska Municipal League’s annual conference in Anchorage, Alaska. The panel was designed to educate participants on land-into-trust and possible impacts to local governments.

President Peterson saw the panel as an opportunity to help demystify some of the concerns surrounding land-into-trust and encourage boroughs/cities to work together with tribes.

Other panelists that participated included: Jahna Lindemuth, State of Alaska’s Attorney General; Don Mitchell, Attorney; Bruce Botellho, former Attorney General & Juneau Mayor; Katherine Eldemar, Director of the Alaska Division of Community and Regional Affairs; and James Debergh, Attorney with the Department of Interior.
The BIA Office of Justice Services’ Tribal Justice Support Directorate has received a one-time appropriation of $10 million from Congress to increase tribal justice support. Tribes in mandatory P.L. 280 states have long shown interest in increasing support and capacity for tribal courts. Alaska tribal governments are unique among indigenous American tribes in that there is a lack of access to federal funding for tribal court development. The final overall plan, which was developed through tribal consultations and visits to several Alaska villages, includes specific funding for Alaska, California, and other mandatory P.L. 280 jurisdictions and will assess needs and consider options for the design, development, and implementation of pilot tribal court systems.

Initially, $1.2 million will be distributed to Alaska village tribes for tribal court support. Apart from funds received through other components of this plan, each Alaska village tribe will receive $5,000 for training, travel, and basic equipment and supplies. A report on how the initial funding was utilized will be compiled and presented to Congress and will be used to determine future years of funding. In order for tribes to be eligible to receive funding for tribal courts in the future, a tribe must have a current court assessment completed through the Office of Justice Services Tribal Court Assessment Program. Although this process is just the beginning, it is a very important component for future funding.

In response to the special appropriation of funding, Central Council’s Judiciary Committee and Tribal Court Judges will be hosting a series of Tribal Court Roundtable discussions in Craig, Hoonah, and Juneau in late January 2017 to provide technical assistance to Southeast Alaska tribes on tribal court development. Topics will cover options for how tribes can secure increased Tribal Court funds beyond this year’s initial BIA funding and will provide community education, court options, funding information, and next steps for developing a justice system plan and implementation. Presentations will also explore various tribal court options including traditional talking circles, intertribal court systems, mediation and alternative dispute resolution courts, Western style adversarial court systems, and how best to share resources.

**Tribal Court Roundtable Schedule**

- **Craig:** January 26th
- **Haines:** January 28th
- **Juneau:** January 30th

For more information, please contact Tribal Court Presiding Judge Debra O’Gara at 800.344.1432, 907.463.7387, or dogara@ccthita-nsn.gov.

With certainty, as a federally recognized tribe representing over 30,000 tribal citizens worldwide, Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska will remain steadfast and determined to uphold the Tribe’s mission regardless of any shift in the political tide.

The Tribe’s Executive Council is committed to working with our Alaska congressional delegation and all federal and state officials to continue to protect, preserve, and advocate for our lands, waters, sovereignty, and the rights of our tribal citizens.

Tlingit and Haida cultures are built on a solid foundation of respect, which also includes respect for differences. We are proud of the legacy our forefathers have built for us in the areas of self-governance, self-determination, and tribal administration, and will continue to move in this direction in a positive and proactive manner. Our people have been here since time immemorial and with each new administration we will continue to affirm our inherent sovereignty—this we know.

To read the messages of unity from the Executive Council, visit: www.ccthita-nsn.gov/info/press.
Job Placement & Training

The Employment & Training department provides training opportunities for tribally enrolled citizens through its Job Placement & Training program. The program serves tribally enrolled citizens in the following communities: Craig, Haines, Juneau, Kasaan, Klawock, Saxman, and Wrangell.

If you are enrolled with Central Council or another federally recognized tribe and are interested in applying for Training Services, please note applications must be received at least 30 days (preferably more) before the start of school. This provides the Training Caseworker time to review and make a determination for training services.

Key components necessary to make the determination for a scholarship award:

- Completed application (pages 1-10), signed and dated on day of submittal. Application must be received at least 30 days before services are needed to allow time to coordinate services with financial institutions, the school’s business departments, landlord vendors, and utility providers. This may take up to 30 days.
- Tribal Enrollment verification and/or Certificate of Indian Blood; High School Diploma or GED (transcripts desired); and assessment/placement tests applicable for training at an accredited school are required.
- Proof of unemployment, under employment or economically disadvantaged; with a need for skill building.
- Proof of application for other funding resources (FAFSA scholarship is supplemental funding).
- Provide a course outline in your choice of training for the certificate or two year Associate degree.
- Interview with Training Caseworker to create service plan upon approval for services.
- Housing (leases), utilities may be provided to assist in developing scholarship award.
- Transportation arrangements may be provided, but must be at least 14 days before school start date to assist the Tribe in locating and purchasing the most reasonable rates for travel.

Important: If a Tribal citizen leaves the servicing community before being approved for services, he/she will be determined ineligible for services. The Tribe will provide notification of denial for training assistance.

New Barista Training Program

Central Council’s Vocational Training & Resource Center is pleased to announce its new Barista training program! Training begins January 9th and is also available via distance education. Each lesson includes video, audio, and/or animation and ends with a quiz to check for retention in preparation for the final certification exam. Students will also be introduced to point of sale (POS) and inventory management and learn soft skills such as customer service, interpersonal and business communications, work discipline, working in teams, and problem solving and critical thinking.

Upon completion of the training program, students will receive a certificate of completion, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation Food Service Card (available only to students who complete the in-person training), and refresher quick tips available via email or smartphone.

Register now at www.vtrc.org/PDF/StudentEnrollment.pdf.

For more information, please contact the Vocational Training & Resource Center at 800.344.1432 or 907.463.7375.
Preserving our sovereignty, enhancing our economic and cultural resources, and promoting self-sufficiency
and self-governance for our citizens through collaboration, service, and advocacy.

SAVE THE DATE

Juneau Client Informational Fair

Mark your calendars! Central Council will be hosting a Client Service Informational Fair on January
14, 2017 in partnership with Tlingit-Haida Regional Housing Authority (THRHA). Join us for light
refreshments, door prizes, and a chance to learn more about tribal programs and services. Don’t forget
to bring a form of identification to receive a new Tribal ID!

**Dates:** January 14, 2017

**Times:** 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

**Location:** Juneau T&H Community Council Building
3235 Hospital Drive
Juneau, AK 99801

For more information on the Juneau Client Service Informational Fair, please contact the Program
Compliance department at 1.800.344.1432, 907.463.7144, or ghawkins@ccthita-nsn.gov.