Tribe’s Property Management Department Transferred to KIRA Services

Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska’s (Tlingit & Haida) Property Management department has been moved under KIRA Services, a subsidiary of the Tribe’s for-profit corporation, Tlingit Haida Tribal Business Corporation (THTBC). The move was made effective in late January and includes seven Property Management positions that currently maintain the Tribe’s four office buildings and oversee facility rentals.

KIRA was acquired by THTBC in June 2016 and is an accomplished and profitable facilities maintenance and Base Operations Services (BOS) contractor for the federal government that has had project sites across the United States and overseas. KIRA has completed over $1 billion in facilities maintenance contracts, managed thousands of employees and maintains a robust supplier database of specialty subcontractors.

“This move was very strategic and will allow our tribal business corporation to leverage more profit at no additional cost to the Tribe,” said President Richard Peterson. “This is a win-win for us all.”

Bob Hamilton, General Manager of KIRA Services, is overseeing the transition. Mr. Hamilton has over 30 years of business management experience at the executive level for a number of companies; his initial duties include customer relations and business development.

“I’m very pleased to have been chosen to work more directly with my Tribe here in Juneau,” said Mr. Hamilton. “By transferring Tlingit & Haida’s successful Property Management department under KIRA Services, we can continue to provide top quality service to the Tribe plus expand our customer base. By doing so, we can generate additional revenues, provide more employment opportunities for our tribal citizens and increase our opportunities for bidding on government contracts.”
Second Spring King Salmon Derby Cancelled

Tlingit & Haida’s Annual Spring King Salmon Derby has been cancelled for the second consecutive year as Southeast Alaska’s king salmon stocks continue to struggle. The derby closure notice follows the Board of Fisheries announcement of an “action plan” that will close the Juneau area from spring king salmon sport fishing from April 15-June 14, 2018.

“Although the Spring King Salmon Derby has been a great community event in Juneau and a source of funds for our Alumni Scholarship program, we cannot overlook that our king salmon are in trouble,” said President Richard Peterson. “Cancelling the derby to reduce interception is necessary and we are in full support of all efforts to help our struggling king salmon make their way back to their spawning grounds.”

Tlingit & Haida has coordinated the Annual Spring King Salmon Derby for the last two decades which has helped raise nearly $500,000 in Alumni scholarships. Read the full press release: http://conta.cc/2FN61ND.

Donate to the Alumni Scholarship:

www.paypal.me/CentralCouncil

OR

https://cash.me/$centralcouncil

Donovan Brown A CDL Training Success Story

Donovan Brown

Tlingit & Haida Certified Driver’s License (CDL) Class A training program is truly making a difference in the lives of our tribal citizens! Take tribal citizen Donovan Brown (X’ayee) for example… he recently completed the CDL Class A training course at the Tribe’s Vocational Training & Resource Center (VTRC).

Upon completion of his training, Donovan relocated to Las Vegas, Nevada where he was hired by Swift Transportation. After fulfilling 200 hours of required supervised driving, he was issued his own truck. In the time since he began working with the company, he has made deliveries in 40 cities and traveled through 30 states ranging from California to Pennsylvania and back.

Donovan’s family has been there to support and encourage him along his educational and professional journey. His grandfather, Patrick Culp, has been tracking Donovan’s travels on a map and shared, “Imagine the learning curve Donovan has faced in the past six weeks alone… before this, he had driven only in Juneau, but he did not allow that to limit him.”

Donovan encourages others to pursue this life changing line of work which has expanded his horizons and allowed him to live his dream. Donovan is a member of the Chookaneidi clan and the son of Tlingit & Haida employee Angel Brown of Juneau and Robert D. Brown Jr. of Seattle.

For information on Tlingit & Haida’s next CDL Class A training course, contact the Vocational Training & Resource Center at 800.344.1432 ext. 7375, 907.463.7375 or vtrc@ccthita-nsn.gov.
Public Comment Period for 2016-2020 CEDS Update

Tlingit & Haida’s Business & Economic Development department has recently updated its component of the 2016-2020 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) plan for Southeast Alaska and is requesting input from tribal citizens for a 30-day public comment period.

The purpose of CEDS is to initiate and sustain a local planning and implementation process by which jobs are created, more stable and diversified economies are fostered, and living conditions are improved.

The CEDS is a mechanism for coordinating economic development activities and is a valuable tool for bringing focus to the planning and development efforts of these unique and diverse communities throughout the region.

To read the full press release, visit: http://conta.cc/2GoWIRz.

Submit Comments:
Business & Economic Development
320 W. Willoughby Ave., Ste. 300
Juneau AK 99801
depctbed@ccthita-nsn.gov

SOUTHEAST ALASKA TRIBAL COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

To Comment, Contact:
Business & Economic Development
320 W. Willoughby Ave., Ste. 300
Juneau AK 99801
depctbed@ccthita-nsn.gov

Tlingit & Haida is pleased to announce Amber Frommherz has been promoted to Head Start Director. Amber first joined Tlingit & Haida in 2014 as a co-Lead Teacher for Head Start, which is a free federal program that provides comprehensive early childhood education to eligible children ages 3-5 and their families. As the Head Start Director, Amber’s main duties are to ensure the program meets all performance standards, review and improve service delivery in partnership with Head Start’s Parent Policy Council, complete all grant reporting requirements, and oversee the supervision of all Head Start employees.

Amber holds a Bachelor’s degree in American Studies – North American Indigenous Studies and a Master’s degree in Educational Studies from Tufts University. She is also a Veteran and served six years in the United States Navy stationed on the USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD-6) with Commander Amphibious Group Three and Navy Recruiting Command – Phoenix.

Amber is originally from Page, Arizona and is Diné (Navajo). She is of the Kinyaa’áanii (Towering House People), born for Tłíziłání (Many Goats) clan. Her maternal grandpa is of the Tłádiłchiilí (Red Bottom People) and her paternal grandpa is of the Táchii’nii (Red-Running-Into-The-Water) clan. Amber is married to Trevor Frommherz, mother to three daughters (Kira, Nanibaa’, and Shandiin), a student and an amateur runner.

To read the full press release, visit: http://conta.cc/2GoWIRz.
The Employment & Training (E&T) department along with several other Tlingit & Haida programs and services participated in the 7th Annual Juneau Project Homeless Connect event held at the Juneau Arts & Cultural Center in Juneau on January 24, 2018. Each year, E&T looks forward to sharing information on their programs and services with tribal citizens who are experiencing or are at risk of experiencing homelessness and for the opportunity to network with other community resources.

During this year’s event, the E&T department distributed 120 sleeping bags and care packages filled with socks, hats, gloves, toothpaste, shampoo, and hand and foot warmers. E&T also distributed three large totes filled with hoodies and t-shirts gathered and sent over by the Organized Village of Kasaan. Many of the individuals who attended the event were appreciative of all items received.

Other local agencies and supporters provided haircuts and assistance with housing, Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend (PFD) registration, legal matters, voter registration, birth certificates, veteran support and much more.

After the event wrapped up, President Richard Peterson joined E&T Manager Grace Hawkins and her family to distribute thermal tents to the homeless in downtown Juneau. The group started at the Glory Hole and worked their way through the downtown area to help those who were in need of shelter from the cold.

The E&T department’s next plan is to sponsor a meal at the Glory Hole and they will be holding a fundraiser during Tribal Assembly to raise money to cover the cost of the food to prepare the meal.

Working Together to Address and End Homelessness

Tlingit & Haida is a proud member of the Juneau Coalition on Housing & Homelessness (JCHH), formerly the Juneau Homeless Coalition, a partnership of local agencies and non-governmental organizations. The JCHH serves Juneau’s most vulnerable residents—the homeless and those most affected by limited and high cost housing. These organizations participate in the Continuum of Care by providing emergency, transitional and supportive services to clients and are working together to develop housing solutions.
Chief Justice Appointed to Co-Chair NCAI’s VAW Task Force

Tlingit & Haida is pleased to announce tribal citizen and Chief Justice Michelle Demmert has been appointed as co-chair of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) Violence Against Women (VAW) Task Force.

Michelle joins NCAI Secretary Juana Majel-Dixon in co-chairing the task force which was established in 2003. Despite federal trust obligations, violence against American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) women has reached epidemic proportions and greatly exceeds that of any other population of women in the United States. The focus of the task force is to support congressional restoration of tribal authority to prosecute non-Indians who commit domestic violence and related crimes on tribal lands. It also supports national legislation and policy that contains tribal specific provisions that would provide tribes with the resources needed to prosecute violent crimes committed against indigenous women and to adequately serve Native victims, as well as enhance tribal sovereignty.

“The Tribe congratulates Chief Justice Demmert on her appointment and is grateful for her continued work to protect our indigenous women,” said President Richard Peterson. “She has long been a proponent of tribal courts and integral in building the capacity of tribes to address domestic violence in Southeast Alaska.”

“I am honored to be a part of this grassroots movement which has been instrumental in advancing real legislative progress to improve protections to American Indian and Alaska Native women and raise awareness of the disproportionality of violence against our Native women,” said Michelle. “Women are murdered at 10 times the national rate in Alaska. This has to be addressed. I believe we, as Native people, can lead the way for change through advocacy and education.”

Michelle was elected as Tlingit & Haida’s Tribal Court Chief Justice in 2016. She graduated from the University of Washington with a degree in Psychology and a Juris Doctorate. She is a licensed attorney and has served as a Tribal Court Judge for the Northwest Intertribal Court System and Reservation Attorney for the Tulalip Tribe in Washington State. She is the daughter of Sharon and the late Lawrence Demmert Sr. of Klawock, Alaska. Her Tlingit name is Jaagal Aat and she is Chi’ak’ (Eagle) from the Kaax’ooos.hittaan (Man’s Foot) clan and the child of the Taakw.aaneidi.

In Loving Memory of Ernest “Judge” Hillman Jr.

Juneau Delegate Ernest “Judge” Walter Hillman, Jr. left to fish the waters of his homeland, Glacier Bay, on February 23, 2018 surrounded by his loving family.

Ernie was a long-time Delegate and served several years on the Judiciary Committee where he also served as the Chairman. He is the father of Tlingit & Haida employee Valerie Hillman and former Hoonah Delegate Veronica “Ree” Dalton. In honor of Ernie, Tlingit & Haida’s flags were flown at half-mast for a week. A memorial service was held on March 13, 2018 at the Elizabeth Peratrovich Hall in Juneau, AK.

Ernie was Chookaneidi from the Glacier House, Child of the L’uknaxh.adì, and grandchild of the Deisheetaan. His Tlingit names were Khaalgheich, Chaas’ Koogu Eesh, Chook’ank and Khaaseiltseen.
Executive Council Issues Support for Tribal Court Judge to Fill Juneau Superior Court Vacant Seat

Tlingit & Haida’s Executive Council officially issued their support for tribal citizen Debra O’Gara to be considered for a vacant seat on the Juneau Superior Court. O’Gara was one of 10 applicants who put their name forward following an official solicitation issued by the Alaska Judicial Council.

O’Gara currently serves as Tlingit & Haida’s Tribal Court Presiding Judge and previously served as the Tribe’s Chief Justice and Magistrate. She has over 25 years of experience practicing law as a prosecutor, staff attorney, private practitioner and mediator. Her areas of expertise are in Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA), child support, domestic violence, criminal law, tribal sovereignty, fishing and hunting rights, and jurisdictional issues. She worked on ICWA cases for over 15 years and also participated in the federal, state and tribal taskforce that began in 1996 to provide information to all tribes on the Welfare Reform Act, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), and child support.

“I’m happy to see someone of Judge O’Gara’s caliber and with her diverse background put themselves forward,” said President Richard Peterson. “Her experience will help bring balance to the bench and ensure the courts are more representative of the people who stand before them.”

The application closing date for the Juneau Superior Court seat vacancy was February 2, 2018 and applicant interviews are tentatively scheduled for May 14-18, 2018. Interviews typically follow a bar poll where attorneys from around the State are invited to rate the applicants and offer their opinions about their suitability for the judicial vacancy. A public hearing with candidates will also be scheduled before the Alaska Judicial Council selects the names of individuals to recommend to the Governor. The Governor then has 45 days to select the judge from that pool.

O’Gara earned a Bachelor’s degree in Political Science from the University of Washington, a Juris Doctor from the University of Oregon and a Master’s degree in Public Administration from the University of Alaska Southeast. Her Tlingit name is Djik Sook and she is from the Teey Hit Tuan clan.

“I firmly believe my life and career experiences have prepared me to lay one more stone in the bridge between tribal justice and the State court system that will help to increase access, mutual respect, and much needed collaboration for all citizens of this region,” said O’Gara.

---

Tlingit & Haida Head Start

Now Enrolling

Submitted By: Head Start

Tlingit & Haida Head Start is now enrolling preschoolers for the 2018-2019 school year. All children ages 3-5 years old, or turning 3 years old by September 1, 2018, are eligible to apply.

Head Start is a free pre-school program that provides learning experiences for children and their families four days a week. All low-income households are eligible.

Application Requirements:

- Income Verification
- Current Immunizations
- Tuberculosis (TB) Screening Results
- Physical & Dental Exams

For an application or more information, contact:

Tlingit & Haida Head Start
In Juneau: 907.463.7127
Toll Free: 800.344.1432
Direct: 907.463.7127
Fax: 877.389.7796

Supporting children, families and communities.
Tlingit & Haida’s Natural Resource Specialist Kenneth Weitzel co-moderated and was a plenary presenter at the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians’ (ATNI) Tribal/First Nations Climate Summit held December 13-14, 2017 at the Tulalip Resort Casino in Marysville, WA.

During the “Plans and Actions to Support Resiliency” portion of the summit, Kenneth gave a presentation on his work creating a “Tlingit & Haida Template for Climate Change Adaptation Planning in Southeast Alaska.” His presentation focused on the unique climate change and geomorphology aspects found in Southeast Alaska and the creation of the Climate Change Adaptation Plan template to be used by Southeast Alaska tribes.

Being able to share the work that he’s accomplished on climate change and having the opportunity to learn about the work of so many others has helped make the job of creating a Climate Change Adaptation Plan template closer to a reality. “It was incredibly inspiring to hear of all of the other work being conducted by so many environmental professionals and climate change warriors,” reported Kenneth.

For more information on Tlingit & Haida's Climate Change Adaptation Plan template, please contact Kenneth at 907.463.7189 or kweitzel@ccthita-nsn.gov.

We Have Always Been Here and Always Will Be

Kenneth also shared information on climate change and Tlingit & Haida’s Climate Change Adaptation Plan template during an interview by Gideon Nachman of The Climate Quaker blog. The interview can be found online at: http://theclimatequaker.blogspot.co.uk/2018/02/we-have-always-been-here-and-always.html.

Lingít Language Toddler Time

Tlingit & Haida’s Cultural Heritage & Education department is pleased to host Lingít Language Toddler Time every Thursday from 11AM to Noon at the Vocational Training & Resource Center (VTRC).

These free weekly language-learning sessions are open to the public and provide children and family members with a great opportunity to learn the Lingít language while engaging in play.

When: Every Thursday (11AM–Noon)
Where: VTRC • Haa Yítx’i Room
        3239 Hospital Drive • Juneau AK

Please join us!

For more information, contact Mary Folletti at mfolletti@ccthita-nsn.gov or 907.463.7303.
Constitutional Committee Releases Proposed Amendments to Tribe’s Governing Documents

Tlingit & Haida’s upcoming 83rd Annual Tribal Assembly was declared a Constitutional Convention by Delegates last year and will take up remaining proposed amendments to the Tribe’s governing documents that were not acted on last year due to time limitations. As charged by the Tribal Assembly, a special Constitutional Committee was formed to review the 2017 proposed amendments to the Tribe’s Constitution, Standing Rules of Order, Rules of Election, and Statute Title One. The proposed amendments are intended to improve tribal governance and efficiency in assembly procedures. During the review of all proposed amendments, the committee also provided additional amendments that respond to necessary technical and grammatical corrections.

“I am thankful for the work of the Constitutional Committee,” said President Richard Peterson. “Our governance is vital to and the foundation upon which we protect and exercise our inherent sovereignty. Like any other foundational document, our governing documents should hold true to the Tribe’s founding principles while still having the fluidity to evolve and adapt to the needs and times of our citizens.”

Second Vice President (VP) Will Micklin is chair of the Constitutional Committee which delivered their proposed amendments to Delegates in written form on January 17th, 90 days prior to Tribal Assembly.

“Now that the committee has fully reviewed all proposed amendments from last year and has drafted their recommendations, we will focus our work on providing outreach to our citizens and their Delegates to explain the meaning, intent and effect of the proposed amendments in the days leading up to the 2018 Tribal Assembly,” said VP Micklin.

All proposed amendments can be found on Tlingit & Haida’s website at www.ccthita-nsn.gov/government/assembly/events/constitutiodocsets.html.

President’s Award Recipients Announced

Congratulations to the 2018 President’s Award recipients! These awards recognize just a handful of those who contribute greatly to our Tlingit and Haida people and culture. Award recipients will be recognized during the Tribal Assembly President’s Award Banquet & Language Fundraiser on Thursday, April 19, 2018.

**President’s Lifetime Achievement Award**
Dr. Gilbert Truitt (Sitka)

**President’s Everyday Hero Awards**
Culture Bearer: DonnaRae James (San Francisco)
Emerging Leader: Eva Rowan (Klawock)
Hold Each Other Up: Barbara Franks (Anchorage)
Inspiring Educator: Ronnie Fairbanks (Craig)
Language Warrior: Ben Young (Ketchikan)
Tribal Ally: Nancy Barnes (Juneau)
Youth Mentor: Barbara Dude (Juneau)
Mark Your Calendars

**April Events**
15-18: NICWA’s 36th Annual Protecting Our Children Conference – Anchorage, AK
16-17: Executive Council Meeting – Juneau, AK
18-20: 83rd Annual Tribal Assembly – Juneau, AK
  19: President’s Award Banquet & Language Fundraiser – Juneau, AK
  20: Violence Against Women Awareness Candlelight Vigil, March and Movie Viewing – Juneau, AK
25-26: 8th Annual Prince of Wales Mining Symposium – Craig, AK

**May Events**
1-31: Foster Care Appreciation Month
28: Southeast Alaska Native Veteran’s Memorial Day Ceremony – Juneau, AK
28: Memorial Day (Offices Closed)

**June Events**
3-6: NCAI Mid Year Conference – Kansas City, MO
4-5: Tribal Enrollment Committee – Juneau, AK
6-9: 2018 Celebration – Juneau, AK
19: Tlingit & Haida Day (Offices Closed)
21-22: Summer Youth Conference – Juneau, AK

---

**Save-the-Date**

83rd Annual Tribal Assembly

**April 18-20, 2018**
Elizabeth Peratrovich Hall
Juneau, Alaska

**Theme:**
*Indigenous Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow*

Tribal Host: Fred Hamilton Sr. (Craig, AK)
Tribal Hostess: Bertha Karras (Sitka, AK)

For questions regarding Tribal Assembly, contact:
Heather Gatti (907.463.7103 or hgatti@ccthita-nsn.gov) or
Helene Bennett (907.463.7306 or hbennett@ccthita-nsn.gov)

---

**Emerging Leader Application Period Open**

Tlingit & Haida is accepting applications for the 2018-2019 Emerging Leader position and encourages all Tlingit & Haida Community Councils to nominate a young leader from their community!

The Emerging Leader position on the Executive Council, formerly known as the Youth Representative position, was established in 1999 to provide young tribal adults between the age of 18 to 26 with opportunities to acquire important knowledge about Tlingit & Haida, its governing and organizational structure, and valuable hands-on leadership experience.

The election of Tlingit & Haida’s Emerging Leader occurs annually during Tribal Assembly.

To qualify, an applicant must:

- Be Tribally Enrolled with Tlingit & Haida
- Be 18 to 26 Years of Age
- Submit a Completed Application

The deadline to submit completed applications, supporting documents, and all required letters of recommendation is April 13, 2018.

To view our past youth leaders, visit: www.ccthita-nsn.gov/government/council/youth/
Government to Government Workshop Held

Several of Tlingit & Haida’s Vice Presidents (VP) traveled to Sitka in January to attend the Alaska Board of Fisheries meeting to support Sitka Tribe of Alaska (STA) and the proposals they submitted to the board. First VP Rob Sanderson Jr., Third VP Ralph Wolfe and Fifth VP Marvin Adams all provided public testimony in favor of STA’s proposal on the protection of the sac roe herring fishery.

STA Proposal 99 did not pass. The proposal sought a more conservative management approach to the sac roe herring fishery and requests the Board of Fisheries to cap the harvest rate at 10% (Current rate of harvest in Sitka is based on a formula with a sliding scale between 12 and 20%).

STA Proposal 106 did pass and will close off more water near Sitka to commercial fishing and expand the zone which subsistence users can gather herring.

At the end of the meeting, First VP Sanderson committed Tlingit & Haida’s continued support for the protection of herring and STA expressed their appreciation for Tlingit & Haida’s Executive Council and staff that were present at the Board of Fisheries meeting. STA will be looking at options beyond the Board of Fisheries for the protection of the sac roe herring fishery.

Tlingit & Haida hosted a two-day Government to Government Workshop February 8–9, 2018 at the Tribe’s Vocational Training & Resource Center in Juneau, Alaska. Raina Thiele of Thiele Strategies, LLC and Kristi Williams with Hobbs, Straus, Dean & Walker facilitated the workshop by drawing upon their extensive knowledge from working at the highest level of government. The facilitators shared their perspective on the ins and outs of federal and state government decision-making and discussed best strategies on how to craft a targeted advocacy plan that can address local, state or federal government issues, and have maximum impact on policymakers.

Twenty one (21) participants attended the workshop including several Tlingit & Haida managers and representatives from four Compact tribes. The workshop received strong positive feedback from participants with interest in hosting similar workshops in other Southeast communities.

2018 Delegate Elections

The 2018 Delegate Election process has been completed. Elected Delegates from each community will serve a two-year term, attend the annual Tribal Assembly (April 18–20, 2018), and participate in the election of Tlingit & Haida’s President, Vice Presidents, Emerging Leader and Judge.

To view the list of elected Delegates by community, please visit www.ccthita-nsn.gov/government/delegates/list.

Congratulations to Our Newly Elected Delegates!
Tlingit & Haida’s Employment & Training (E&T) department hosted a Power Conference February 26-27, 2018 on Prince of Wales Island. The two-day conference provided participants with the opportunity to increase their employability skills with topics covering interviewing techniques, resume writing, how to promote yourself and much more.

President Richard Peterson welcomed participants to the conference; other invited guests included Motivational Speaker Damen Bell-Holter, Sealaska President/CEO Anthony Mallott and Sealaska VP General Counsel and Corporate Secretary Jaelleen Kookesh who shared their insight on the importance of tribal values, structure and responsibility to becoming successful in the workforce.

Participants received current tips and information on:
- Completing an Application
- Developing a Professional Resume
- Interviewing Skills & Strategies
- Communicating in the Workplace

Twenty participants from Prince of Wales Island and outlying areas attended the event. Each received a certificate of completion.

E&T is planning the next workshop for the summer Youth Employment Services (YES) program, for all eligible youth throughout Southeast Alaska. The workshop is tentatively scheduled in Juneau, the second week of June, and will focus on teaching employability and life skills.

The Power Conference is funded by Tlingit & Haida’s 477 Division which focuses on providing employment, training, and related services to eligible Alaska Natives and/or American Indians within Tlingit & Haida’s service area. For more information on Tlingit & Haida’s services, please visit: www.ccthita-nsn.gov.
Elders Valentine’s Day Dance

Submitted By: Tribal Family & Youth Services

The Tribal Family & Youth Services department’s Elderly Services program danced like it was 1960 to celebrate Valentine’s Day. The group traded their resistance bands and chair exercises for twisting, twirling, and jitterbugging to hits from the 50’s and 60’s. Golden oldies like Chubby Checker’s “The Twist,” Bill Haley & His Comets’ “Rock around the Clock,” and The Isley Brothers’ “Shout!” got toes tapping, hands clapping and faces smiling. The tunes also featured everyone’s favorite slow dance songs and hearts melted all over again to the swooning voices of Frank Sinatra’s “The Way You Look Tonight” and Elvis Presley’s “Can’t Help Falling in Love.”

The theme for the dance was “Dance in the Name of Love” and the festive mood was set at the Juneau Tlingit & Haida Community Council’s building with red streamers, heart tablecloths, balloon arches and a Valentine’s Day themed photo booth. Each Elder in attendance spiced up their outfit for the dance with a hand-made cedar bark heart-shaped pin donated by Nancy Douglas.

One concern for the event was finding enough dance partners for all of the lovely ladies. While there are over 50 Elders regularly attending program activities, there are only a handful of men. Luckily, Governor Bill Walker, Lieutenant Governor Byron Mallott, and State Representative Justin Parish love to boogie down and made a surprise appearance. Governor Walker requested a slow song to show off his twirling and Lt. Governor Mallott thrilled everyone with his fancy footwork.

The Elders were still beaming with joy a day later and some shared that the dance made them feel young again and wished they could have a dance every week. The event even made the front page of the Juneau Empire! Both the Juneau Empire and the Office of the Governor produced short videos of the dance.

If you are a tribal citizen Elder, 60 years or older, don’t forget to join our weekly fitness group, Litseeni Ku.oo, a free wellness class that promotes staying active. The class meets every Thursday from 11 AM to 1 PM at the Juneau Tlingit & Haida Community Council building and provides participants with physical activities and a nutritious lunch. Gunalchéesh, Háw’aa to our participating Elders – we look forward to seeing you!
Congratulations Tina DeAsis-Wright and Kayla Tripp

Congratulations to Tlingit & Haida employees Tina DeAsis-Wright and Kayla Tripp who were recently honored with awards.

Tina was recognized as a “Resilience Hero” during the Lighting the Way to Resilience Conference luncheon on March 16, 2018 in Juneau. The conference and luncheon were hosted by the Juneau Suicide Prevention Coalition and Southeast Alaska Association for the Education of Young Children.

Tina serves as Juvenile Justice Coordinator for Tlingit & Haida’s Navigators program, a prevention & early intervention program that offers struggling youth the support of a cross-generational community of peers, elders, other cultural mentors, tutors and agency professionals. Tina’s commitment to helping youth is not only seen in her work but throughout the community as a Steering Committee member of the Raising Our Children with Kindness (ROCK) Juneau, and her participation in the Juneau Violence Prevention Coalition, Juneau Opioid Workgroup and Trauma Sensitive Schools.

Kayla was awarded Early Childhood Educator of the Year 2018 by the Association for the Education of Young Children Southeast Alaska during the annual Southeast Early Childhood Conference luncheon on March 16, 2018.

Kayla has been teaching with the Head Start program since September 2013. She currently serves as the lead teacher in the Taashukaa I classroom serving 20 children and supervising two teacher assistants.

Her love for teaching is evident in the beautiful classroom environment she has created, on the faces of the children who are participating in story time, free-choice and/or other wonderful adventures she has planned for the day, and as she attends meetings with families either as an advocate, coordinator or listener based on the families’ wish.

Congratulations Tina and Kayla!

AmazonSmile & Fred Meyer Community Rewards

There are two easy ways to support the Tribe—AmazonSmile and the Fred Meyer Community Rewards program! Your shopping will help raise funds for the following programs:

- **Alumni Scholarship Assistance:** Provides annual supplementary scholarships to tribal citizens attending a college or university in the pursuit of an education degree.
- **Elderly Emergency Assistance:** Provides emergency financial assistance to tribal citizens 65 years of age and older who have urgent needs due to disastrous events such as fire, death and illness.
- **Language:** Supports the Tribe’s effort to revitalize the Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian languages.
- **Head Start:** Promotes school readiness of children ages 3-5 from low-income families by enhancing cognitive, social & emotional development.

AmazonSmile is a simple way to support the Tribe every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at AmazonSmile, you’ll find the exact same low prices, vast selection, and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, but AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of your purchase price. Start your shopping today at www.smile.amazon.com/ch/92-0036505!

Every year Fred Meyer donates $2.5 million to local schools, community organizations, and non-profits. Just link your rewards card to Tlingit & Haida’s non-profit number (91386) and use it when you shop at Fred Meyer.
Snap Shots from 2018 Forums

2018 Native Issues Forums

Every year Tlingit & Haida hosts Native Issues Forums during the legislative session to provide opportunities for tribal citizens to hear legislative updates and participate in discussions on a wide range of topics important to our Native community. Thank you to our guest speakers and co-sponsor Sealaska Corporation!

Topics at this Year’s Forums

- Jan. 18 Panel Discussion on Public Safety
- Feb. 1 Panel Discussion on Compacting Child Welfare Services
- Feb. 15 Roundtable Discussion on Compacting Education
- Mar. 1 Mid-Session Legislative Update from Rep. Justin Parish
- Mar. 15 State of Alaska Update from Lt. Governor Byron Mallott
- Mar. 29 Roundtable Discussion on Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation

Did you miss one of our Native Issues Forums?
Watch online at www.livestream.com/accounts/507620.

Elizabeth Peratrovich Day

Tlingit & Haida was proud to co-sponsor a celebration in honor of Elizabeth Peratrovich Day at the University of Alaska Southeast’s Egan Library. The event was coordinated by the Alaska Native Sisterhood Camp 70 and included a keynote from tribal citizen Joaqlin Estus on civil rights leaders in Alaska and guest artist Apayo Moore who created “We Can Do It” depicting Elizabeth Peratrovich as Rosie the Riveter.

Thank you to all co-sponsors who made this day a success!
Tlingit & Haida has formed an Addiction Action Committee to increase capacity to address and help reduce opioid and other substance addictions in Tlingit & Haida’s communities. The committee will focus its efforts on expanding resources and access to addiction prevention, treatment and recovery strategies and will develop cultural solutions that address public safety and related drug court issues that stem from addiction. In addition to examining existing data on the issues associated with substance addiction, the committee will develop a monitoring system that evaluates the progress made in combating these addictions.

According to the Alaska Opioid Policy Task Force’s 2017 report, the rate of heroin poisoning resulting in hospital admissions doubled from 2008-2012, the number of heroin associated deaths more than tripled in Alaska from 2008-2013 and the rate of heroin-associated deaths in Alaska was 42% higher than the United States overall in 2012.

“Addiction has an extremely negative impact on our people and now with the ever increasing opioid crisis, we are seeing even more hurt and devastation,” said President Richard Peterson. “It’s time that we come together and work towards meaningful solutions. We need to build collaborative relationships with municipal, state and federal governments, as well as with medical providers and other institutions. This is no longer their problem – it’s our problem collectively and it is collectively that we will solve this issue. It is with this in mind that I’ve decided the time is right to form a committee made up of all of our communities. I am thankful to our chosen Delegates to serve on this committee and especially to our committee chair Jackie Pata for stepping up to address addiction head on.”

The committee is comprised of the following Tlingit & Haida Delegates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Delegate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jackie Pata (Chair)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tasha Hotch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maxine Thompson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judy Helgesen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Hart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Starbard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Lang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Jack Sr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delbert Kadake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paula Peterson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holly Burns-Churchill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eva Rowan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathan Lopez</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Jay Silva</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Candace Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catherine Edwards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rachel Moreno</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luella Knapp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cynthia Petersen</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is the committee’s belief that with strong resilient tribal citizens, addictions like the opioid epidemic can be successfully combated and healthy environments for our current and future generations can thrive.

“Addictions plague our communities and shift in type based upon supply and demand like the current opioid crisis in Alaska,” said Addiction Action Committee Chair Jackie Pata. “What we do know is that it takes local action to create lasting solutions and environments for our tribal citizens to thrive. The Addiction Action Committee is a team of community leaders committed to understanding the issues, seeking partners and resources and ensuring there are local strategies for success.”

For more information on the Addiction Action Committee, contact:

Heather Gatti
Office of the President
9097 Glacier Highway, Juneau AK 99801

Toll Free: 1.800.344.1432 ext. 7103 | Direct: 907.463.7103
hgatti@ccthita-nsn.gov
Summer Youth Employment Services

The 477 Employment & Training department will soon be recruiting youth to participate in the summer Youth Employment Services (YES) program. The YES program will run June 1st through August 31st. Employment positions are available in Southeast Alaska communities. If you are looking for job training and meet eligibility requirements, please consider joining the YES program.

Eligibility Requirements:
- Student Age 14-21 or Non-Student Age 16-24
- Economically Disadvantaged
- Resident of Southeast Alaska
- Tribally Enrolled Alaska Native or American Indian

Required Documentation:
- Completed YES Application
- Proof of Tribal Enrollment (Original)
- State Issued Identification Card
- Social Security Card or US Passport (Original - copy not accepted)
- Proof of Southeast Residency
- Proof of Family Income for Past 30 Days
- Proof of Registration with the Selective Service for Males 18-21 Years of Age
- Parent/Guardian Signature for Required for Minor Applicants

For more information on the YES program, contact Veronica Hoyle at 1.800.344.1432 ext. 7176, 907.463.7176 or vhoyle@ccthita-nsn.gov.