



CENTRAL COUNCIL
Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Central Council 74th Annual Tribal Assembly Adjourns

The Central Council Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Central Council) held its 74th Annual Tribal Assembly April 15-18, 2009 at the Alaska Native Brotherhood Hall in Juneau, Alaska. 117 delegates from Southeast Alaska, San Francisco, Seattle, and Anchorage joined President William E. Martin, President Emeritus Edward K. Thomas, Tribal Host Dr. Walter A. Soboleff Sr. and Tribal Hostess Dr. Delores E. Churchill to conduct tribal business.



2009 Tribal Host & Hostess
Dr. Walter A. Soboleff Sr. and Dr. Delores E. Churchill

Central Council is the governing body for over 26,000 tribal citizens, most of whom live in Southeast, Alaska. The Council, which has a government-to-government relationship with the United States, manages programs in energy, roads and transportation, economic development, employment and training, children and family services, and Native lands and resources, among others.

During the Assembly, management provided program reports, the delegation elected Charlene Wolfe of Craig as Tribal Judge, and Marian Lauth of Seattle as Delegate/Citizen of the Year. There were 49 resolutions submitted addressing issues such as government-to-government relations, child welfare, energy solutions, and subsistence rights.

Some of the Assembly's highlights included: speeches from Tribal Host and Hostess, outgoing Youth Representative Ralph Wolfe, representatives from the University of Alaska Southeast Wooncheen student club, and Senator Albert Kookesh, who provided the keynote during the Welcome Dinner; a presentation from the Southeast Alaska Native Veterans offered appreciation to Juneau Mayor Botelho for working with the veterans on the renaming of Whittier Street to Warrior Street, in addition the veterans presented medals to mothers of soldiers to

acknowledge them—for in their hearts they went through the same stresses as their sons; First Alaskans Institute and the Alaska Native Policy Center provided an open discussion focusing on the impact statehood has had and continues to have on Alaska Natives.

“This Assembly initiated a lot of lively discussion and proved to be very productive. The Tribe will continue to focus on finding energy solutions, advocating on behalf of child welfare issues, expanding roads, rebuilding our trust fund, and working cooperatively with Sealaska to increase our economic activity and bring enhanced employment opportunities to Southeast Alaska,” said President Martin.

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