



CENTRAL COUNCIL  
*Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska*  
Office of the President • Edward K. Thomas Building  
9097 Glacier Highway • Juneau, Alaska 99801

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CENTRAL COUNCIL OF TLINGIT & HAIDA INDIAN TRIBES OF ALASKA  
Eighty-Eighth Annual Tribal Assembly  
April 19-21, 2023  
Juneau, Alaska

Resolution TA 23-21

Title: Support for the Unrecognized Southeast Alaska Native Communities

By: Seattle Tlingit & Haida Community Council

WHEREAS, the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Tlingit & Haida) is a federally recognized tribe with more than 35,000 citizens; and

WHEREAS, in 1971, the United States Congress enacted the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) to recognize and settle aboriginal claims of Alaska Natives to their traditional homelands by authorizing the establishment of Alaska Native Corporations to receive and manage lands and funds awarded in settlement of the claims of Alaska Natives; and

WHEREAS, ANCSA was passed to provide for a fair and just settlement of all claims by Alaska Natives and was to be accomplished rapidly, with certainty, in conformity, with the real economic needs of and social needs of Alaska Natives; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Native communities of Haines, Ketchikan, Petersburg, Tenakee and Wrangell (known as Landless communities of Southeast Alaska) were not listed as communities eligible to form village or urban corporations under ANCSA despite the fact that these communities comprised greater than 20% of the shareholders of Sealaska; and

WHEREAS, the reason for this exclusion is not explained in the statutory or report language of ANCSA, and an appeal of this exclusion was not authorized in ANCSA; and

WHEREAS, a Congressional report commissioned in 1993 to examine the reasons why the five communities were denied ANCSA eligibility indicates that the communities do not differ significantly from the southeast communities that were allowed ANCSA eligibility; and

WHEREAS, these five Landless communities have sought full eligibility for ANCSA benefits for over five decades;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Eighty-Eighth Tribal Assembly of the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska delegation convened April 19, 2023, hereby agrees that the Landless communities should be eligible to form Alaska Native Corporations and to receive land selection rights and compensation under ANCSA, and

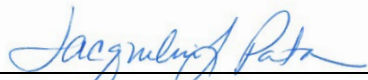
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tlingit & Haida President shall send letters in support of the bills that emerge to the Alaska, Washington and California delegations in Washington D.C.

ADOPTED this 19<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2023, by the Eighty-Eighth Tribal Assembly of the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska.

**CERTIFY**

  
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President Richard J. Peterson

**ATTEST**

  
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Tribal Secretary Jacqueline L. Pata