



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

CENTRAL COUNCIL OF TLINGIT & HAIDA INDIAN TRIBES OF ALASKA
Eighty-Fifth Annual Tribal Assembly
October 1, 2020
Juneau, Alaska

Resolution TA 20-18

Title: Support for the Landless Communities

By: Seattle Tlingit & Haida Community Council

WHEREAS, Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Tlingit & Haida) is a federally recognized tribe with more than 32,000 citizens; and

WHEREAS, Tlingit & Haida exercises its power to address land and resource allocation issues and uses in the Tongass National Forest; and

WHEREAS, in 1971 the United States Congress enacted the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) to recognize and settle the 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 the indigenous people of Alaska and was to be accomplished rapidly, with certainty, in conformity with the real economic and social needs of Alaska Natives; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Native communities of Haines, Ketchikan, Petersburg, Tenakee and Wrangell (known as the 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 Alaska communities that were allowed ANCSA eligibility; and

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

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Eighty-Fifth Tribal Assembly of Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska delegation convened on October 1, 2020, 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 Tlingit & Haida shall send letters of support to the Alaska congressional delegation.

ADOPTED this 1st day of October 2020, by the Eighty-Fifth Tribal Assembly of Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska.

CERTIFY



President Richard J. Peterson

ATTEST



Tribal Secretary Ralph Wolfe