

Every Student Succeeds Act (Essa) Summit

The purpose of the ESSA Summit is to educate each other about key elements of the recently enacted and implemented, federal education law and engage participants in active dialogue about how the federally mandated requirements of the Every Student Succeeds Act can promote and achieve a closer working relationship and collaborative partnership between Alaska's Tribes and the school districts which serve their tribal members.

The ESSA Summit will include

informative speaker and panel presentations and interactive discussion with participants focusing on:

- What the State and local school districts are required to do to comply with the Act.
- What new program and funding options and opportunities are specifically available to Tribes?
- How the new federal law promotes increased engagement between local school districts and their community stakeholders/

partners/Tribes.

- Updates by the State of Alaska and Interior school districts regarding their preliminary planning efforts to provide meaningful consultation with Tribes (as required under the new law).

Come prepared to participate, to voice your opinions, to share your ideas and to learn!

There is no cost to attend. Continental breakfast, snacks and lunch will be provided both days.



ESSA SUMMIT

A SPECIAL MID-YEAR INTERIOR EDUCATION SUMMIT TO DISCUSS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT (ESSA)

JANUARY 26-27, 2017

CHIEF DAVID SALMON TRIBAL HALL • FAIRBANKS, ALASKA

Save the Date

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CHIEF'S REPORT



Dear Tribes and Tribal Members,

I hope everyone had a happy and safe holiday season. Now that the New Year has begun TCC staff is busy preparing for our 2017 Annual Convention in March. This year's convention is exciting because there will be elections for three seats on our Executive Board of Directors: the Upper Tanana Representative, the Yukon Koyukuk Representative, and the TCC Chief/Chairman position. For more information on TCC's election process see page 6-7.

This year's convention theme is "Preserving Our Way of Life". This theme was selected because right now is the time we must stand up to the challenges we face and grab a hold of the opportunities in front of us. A great example of facing challenges and taking advantage of opportunities can be found in education and the enactment of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The ESSA provides tribes with an opportunity to consult with school districts to incorporate Alaska Native languages and culture in the educational system for our children.

TCC has collaborated with the Alaska Department of Education and others to host the first ever ESSA Summit, where participants will have the opportunity to learn more about the ESSA and what it means for our rural schools and communities. The summit is being led by TCC's new Education Program Manager Edward Alexander who I would like to welcome aboard! You can learn more about Ed and the ESSA Summit in this edition of the Council.

This month I will be traveling to Washington D.C. with other Alaska Native and American Indian leaders to participate in NCAI's presidential transition meetings and to attend President-Elect Trump's inauguration. The purpose of this trip is to establish a working relationship with the new cabinet and leadership appointees so that TCC can engage in and be part of the transition planning process. The relationships that we need to build now are essential to TCC's ability to achieve our vision of Healthy, Strong, Unified Tribes.

I look forward to updating you on these meetings in the next newsletter.

Ana Bassee,
Victor Joseph
TCC Chief/Chairman

MISSION STATEMENT

Tanana Chiefs Conference provides a unified voice in advancing sovereign tribal governments through the promotion of physical and mental wellness, education, socioeconomic development, and culture of the Interior Alaska Native people.

VISION

Healthy, Strong, Unified Tribes



TCC EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Donald Honea Sr./Ruby
1st Traditional Chief

Trimble Gilbert/Arctic Village
2nd Traditional Chief

Victor Joseph/ Tanana
Chief/Chairman

Julie Roberts-Hyslop/Tanana
Vice President

Pollock 'PJ' Simon, Jr. /Allakaket
Secretary/Treasurer

William "Chaaiy" Albert/Northway
Upper Tanana

Nick Alexia Sr./Nikolai
Upper Kuskokwim

Nancy James/Fort Yukon
Yukon Flats

Eugene Paul/Holy Cross
Lower Yukon

Frank Thompson/ Evansville
Yukon Tanana

Leo Lolnitz/Koyukuk
Yukon Koyukuk

Peter Demoski/Nulato
Elder Advisor

Isaac Ticknor/Anvik
Youth Advisor

Winter Safety Tips

WINTER IS UPON US AND WITH CHANGING WEATHER COMES HAZARDS

There are safety tips to keep in mind before you venture out in rural Alaska.

- Be Prepared - make sure you have a plan.
- Tell someone where you're going and the route you plan to take.
- Always check weather conditions, try to bring a partner for long travel.
- Slow down and avoid traveling across bodies of water when uncertain of the ice thickness.
- With warmer temperatures it's getting harder to predict the thickness and relative safety over rivers and lakes.
- Finally, don't drive impaired! We want you to get to your destination safely.

To see our Winter Safety PSA from Chief Victor Joseph, be sure to visit our YouTube Page!

HEROIN: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

In recent years, deaths, overdoses and medical costs related to heroin use has increased in Alaska. According to a recent report from the state Division of Public Health, the number of hospitalizations for heroin-related caused nearly doubled in the state from 2008 to 2012.

WHAT IS HEROIN?

Heroin is a highly addictive, illegal drug. Heroin is produced from morphine, a naturally occurring substance that comes from the seedpod of poppy plants. Heroin is abused by injecting, snorting or smoking it, and all three can cause the same level of addiction, as well as serious health problems.

Often times additives are used to dilute it such as sugar, caffeine or other substances. The various additives do not fully dissolve, and when they are injected into the body, can clog the blood vessels that lead to the lungs, kidneys or brain. This itself can lead to infection or destruction of vital organs.

The user buying heroin on the street never knows the actual strength of the drug in that particular packet. Thus, users are constantly at risk of an overdose.

HOW CAN I IDENTIFY IT?

In its purest form, heroin is a fine white powder. But more often, it is found to be rose gray, brown or black in color. The coloring comes from additives, which have been used to dilute it.

IS IT ADDICTIVE?

YES. Heroin enters the brain very quickly, making it particularly addictive. Even a single dose of heroin can start a person on the road to addiction. It's estimated that

almost one-fourth of the people who try heroin become addicted. And over time, heroin users develop a tolerance, meaning that more and more of the drug is needed to achieve the same results.

HOW CAN I TELL SOMEONE IS ABUSING HEROIN?

Heroin users build tolerance to heroin, leading to increases in the frequency and quantity of heroin consumption. With growing tolerance, more definitive physical symptoms of heroin abuse and addiction emerge, including weight loss, runny nose, needle track marks visible on arms, infections or abscesses at injection site, and cuts, bruises or scabs from picking.

IN 2013, 23 PEOPLE IN ALASKA DIED FROM HEROIN OVERDOSE, FOUR TIME THE NUMBER OF OVERDOSE DEATHS IN 2008.

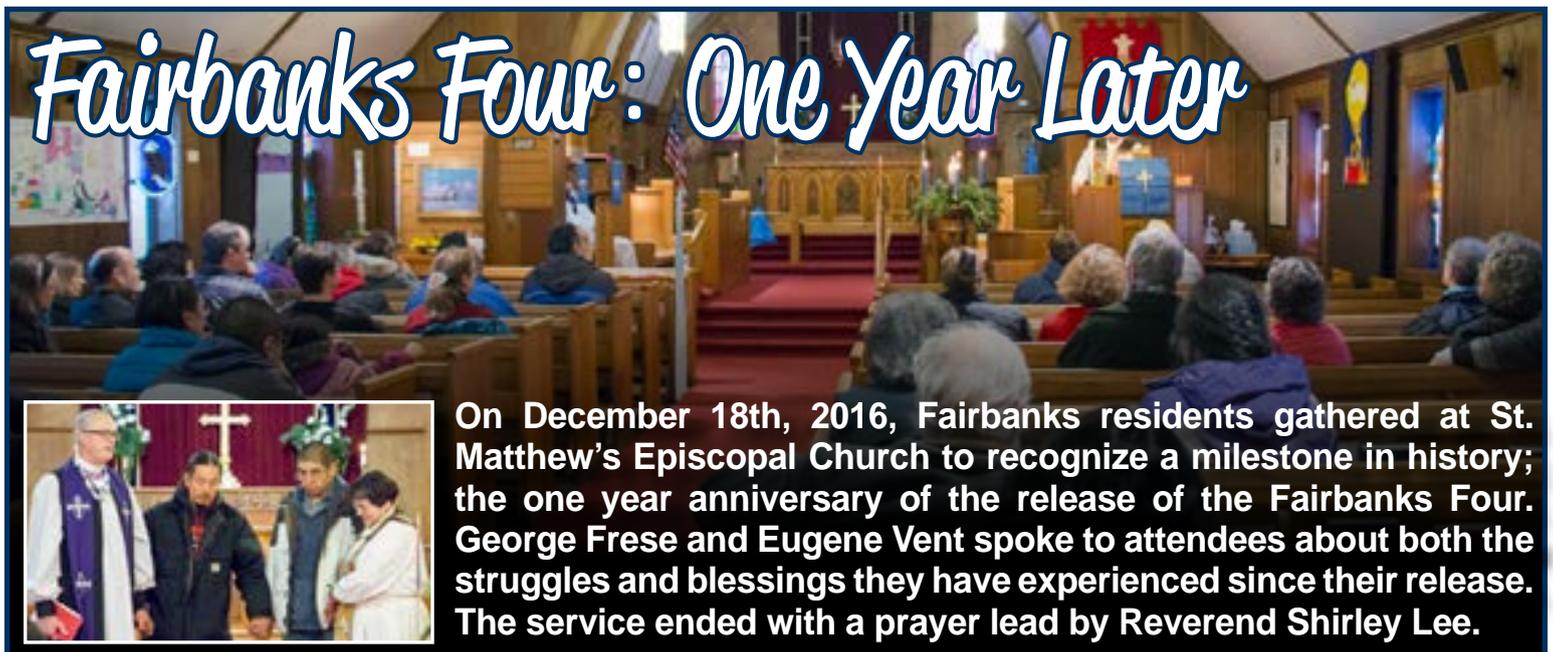
WHAT ARE THE EFFECTS ON ONES HEALTH?

Heroin abuse and dependence produce serious medical side effects, which may directly or indirectly result in death:

- Heart problems, including infection of heart lining and valves
- Infectious diseases spread by shared needles (HIV and hepatitis B and C)
- Chronic pneumonia or other pulmonary diseases
- Blood clots or tissue death resulting from collapsed veins or impurities
- Bacterial infections
- Liver disease
- Arthritis and other rheumatologic problems
- Seizures

Heroin abuse and addiction are extremely serious medical diseases. They require care from chemical dependency specialists experienced in opiate detox and withdrawal.

SOURCES: Foundation for a Drug-Free World; AboveTheInfluence .com; National Institute on Drug Abuse; Department of Health and Social Services



On December 18th, 2016, Fairbanks residents gathered at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church to recognize a milestone in history; the one year anniversary of the release of the Fairbanks Four. George Frese and Eugene Vent spoke to attendees about both the struggles and blessings they have experienced since their release. The service ended with a prayer lead by Reverend Shirley Lee.

April 2016

Reverend Shirley Lee and Father Scott Fisher helped lead the Walk of Remembrance in Fairbanks. This annual event serves as a way to honor all of the victims of unsolved homicides in Fairbanks to ensure that they are never forgotten.

A YEAR IN



February 2016

TCC opens the only Community Health Aide Training Center in Interior Alaska as part of TCC's 2015-2020 Strategic Plan. To date, 24 students have completed the training. TCC hopes to have all students graduate towards becoming practitioners by the end of next year.



March 2016

In 2016, Tanacross completed the construction of its multi-purpose building and opened their new Health Clinic.



March 2016

Floyd Green was selected as TCC's 2016 Keynote Speaker after successfully re-opening the Rampart School after 12 years of closure. As chief of Rampart, Floyd continues to help revive his community.



April 2016

Indigenous leaders from tribal governments participated in the 3rd Annual Yukon River Commission meeting.



July 2016

In 2016, TCC, in coordination with other organizations, participated in the Get Out The Native Vote Initiative in an effort to increase the number of native voters at the polls.



July 2016

In July, Arctic Village hosted its annual Gwich'in Gathering.



August 2016

In August Tanana Chiefs Conference, in partnership with the National Judicial College and the University of Alaska, hosted the 33rd annual Tribal Court Development Conference. The theme this year was "Fairness in Justice."



September 2016

One of the biggest protests took place throughout our native communities during the Standing Rock Protests of the Dakota Access Pipeline. In September, TCC participated in the Golden Heart Plaza protest in support of the pro-



representing over 20
ame together for the
iver Inter-Tribal Fish



May 2016

Two interior elders were awarded honorary degrees from the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Trimble Gilbert of Arctic Village was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree and Elizabeth Fleagle was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Education Degree.



June 2016

The 2016 Annual Denakkanaaga Elders & Youth Conference was held in Hughes with the theme 'Building Strong Native Communities: Treating Each Other with Love and Respect'.



June 2016

In 2016, TCC leadership visited several rural communities including Allakaket (pictured above), Alatna, Ruby, Koyukuk, Huslia, Kaltag, Shageluk and Rampart. The conversation and input during these meetings ensures that TCC's 2015-2020 Strategic Plan remains in alignment with our tribes and tribal leaders.



2016

Topics of conversation
communities was the
to stop the construction
ss Pipeline in North
Alaskans gathered at
a in Fairbanks to show
tests.



September 2016

TCC along with the Fairbanks Native Association hosted the March for Hope Suicide Awareness March and BBQ in Fairbanks. The event was intended to raise awareness and prevent the spread of suicide in our communities.



October 2016

9 months after being release from prison, the Fairbanks Four hosted a welcome potlatch during the week of the Alaska Federation of Natives Annual Convention as a way to thank their supporters statewide.



October 2016

This year, TCC's Executive Director of Tribal Client Services Will Mayo was elected as the new Co-Chair for the Alaska Federation of Natives, taking the place of former co-chair Jerry Isaac of Tanacross.

Election Criteria: 2017 TCC Full Board of Directors Meeting

SUBREGIONAL ADVISORY BOARD ELECTIONS

TCC Executive Board of Directors

Subregional Positions:

Upper Tanana Subregion 3 Year Term 2017-2020
Currently William "Chaaiy" Albert, Northway

Yukon Koyukuk Subregion 3 Year Term 2017-2020
Currently Leo Lolnitz, Koyukuk

Eligibility Criteria:

- Must be a current village director, as authorized by tribal/village resolution. (Article 7, Section 4)
- Must be residents of the State of Alaska and Alaska Native Members of member villages of the corporation. (Article 4, Section 1)
- Employees of the corporation shall not be eligible to serve as Directors or officers of the corporation with exception of the President and temporary or seasonal E-Board Members and Full Board Members. (Article 4, Section 2)

TCC Advisory Boards

The three TCC Advisory Boards make recommendations to the TCC executive board and President. The President has the authority to appoint all individuals to the advisory boards, (Article 7, Section 3), but the President currently allows the subregions to democratically select representatives to each advisory board. All candidates must be Alaska Native.

TCC Regional Health Board

Yukon Flats Subregion.....3 year term (2017-2020)
Currently Christine Rifredi, Fort Yukon

TCC Education Council

Lower Yukon Subregion.....3 year term (2017-2020)
Currently Nathan Elswick, Anvik
 Yukon Tanana Subregion.....3 year term (2017-2020)
Currently Phyllis Erhart, Tanana

Interior Athabaskan Tribal College Board of Trustees

Seat B - Upper Kuskokwim Subregion.....3 year term (2017-2020)
Currently Sharon Gurtler-Strick, McGrath
 Seat C - Upper Tanana Subregion.....3 year term (2017-2020)
Currently Gerald Albert, Northway

FULL BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTIONS

AFN Village Representative

1 SeatOne year term (2017-2018)
Currently Julie Roberts-Hyslop, Tanana

* The AFN Village Representative seat is not affected by the TCC Bylaws; however, we notify villages of AFN candidates who declare their written intent as a candidate, for informational purposes.

IRHA Board of Commissioners

Seat E.....Three year term (2017-2020)
Currently Marvin Deacon, Grayling

* Must be eligible to serve on TCC Board of Directors
 - Employees of TCC or IRHA are not eligible to serve as IRHA Commissioners (Article 7, Section 7)

* The election of the IRHA seat is not affected by the TCC Bylaws pertaining to the declaration of candidacy requirements; however, we notify villages of IRHA candidates who declare their written intent as a candidate for informational purposes.

**TCC PRESIDENT CANDIDATES FORUM
 QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION
 MONDAY AFTERNOON MARCH 13, 2017**

FULL BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTIONS

Officer Positions

TCC Chief/Chairman3 year term (2017-2020)
Currently Victor Joseph, Tanana

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Officers must be members of a member village of the corporation and eligible to be selected as a Director of a member village. (Article 5, Section 1)
- On March 19, 2009, the TCC full board of directors adopted Resolution 2009-30 "Barrier Crimes" directing TCC to come into compliance with federal and state background check requirements. The TCC President will have regular and foreseeable contact with Indian children and is a full time TCC employee and therefore must pass the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act (ICPA) and the State DHHS background checks.
- Potential candidates must turn in a completed and correct background check application to Heather Rogers in human resources by February 10 to guarantee background checks will be completed by February 28. Individuals contemplating running for TCC President should turn in a background check application now to ensure the ability to make corrections to mistakes in the lengthy application. All background check applications will be confidential and only Human Resources will have access to the application and the names of individuals. Those individuals that fail to pass a background check will not be eligible candidates for the TCC President =position.

DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY

Individuals who want to declare themselves a candidate for any of the above seats must submit a written, signed and dated letter of intent between 8:00 AM-February 2, 2017 and 5:00 PM-March 3, 2017 We recommend that you confirm receipt of your letter of intent with the TCC Executive Secretary *prior* to March 3rd. We may not know of the submission of your letter of intent; but we can confirm the receipt of your letter of intent.

Individuals may submit a letter of intent for AFN Village Representative and IRHA Commissioner Seats but they must be nominated from the floor to declare themselves a candidate.

Letter of intent (see example on page 4) must be received by fax, mail or delivered in person no later than 5:00 PM on March 3, 2017 to:

Tanana Chiefs Conference
 ATTN: Norma Dahl, Executive Secretary
 122 First Avenue, Suite 600
 Fairbanks, AK 99701
 1-800-478-6822 ext.3112 FAX # (907) 459-3884

2017 TCC Full Board elections process follows the TCC Elections Rules; the elections rules are posted on the TCC website at www.tananachiefs.org under the 2017 TCC Annual Convention information and is also enclosed with the First and Official Call to Convention mailed to TCC member tribes. A copy of the elections rules can be requested by contacting Natasha Singh, General Counsel, at ext. 3178.

Important Dates for the 2017 TCC Presidential Elections

Submit between now and February 10th:

The last day TCC is able to guarantee a background check will be completed in time for the required 10 day announcement of candidates before the meeting.

February 2nd at 8:00am:

The open period in which a candidate may declare written candidacy begins. Please confirm receipt of your letter of intent.

March 3rd at 5:00pm:

The open period in which a candidate may declare candidacy ends. Candidates must declare their candidacy in writing. TCC must provide a list of eligible candidates to member tribes.

March 13th:

TCC 2017 Presidential Candidates Forum.

March 16th:

TCC Presidential election held at the TCC Full Board of Directors Annual Meeting at the Westmark Hotel in Fairbanks.

Background Checks and the 2017 TCC Presidential Elections

ICPA BACKGROUND CHECK INFORMATION:

The Indian Child Protection Act (ICPA), requires TCC employees to pass a federal background check, and the Alaska Barrier Crimes Act requires TCC employees to pass a state background check.

TCC leadership has made the commitment to both comply with current law and advocate for reasonable changes in background check requirements. As part of compliance, TCC presidential candidates must submit their complete background check application which includes fingerprints by February 10th submitted to Heather Rogers, Human Resources Director. This allows enough time for the check to be complete. Only those candidates that pass the background check will be eligible to continue as official candidates for the March 16, 2017 election. This process was mandated in the 2014 Presidential Election as well.

2017 TCC ELECTIONS: ELECTION RULES

RULE 10. MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED

To be elected to a position, nominees are required to receive a majority vote from the votes cast by the TCC Board. If no nominee receives a majority vote on a ballot, the Election Committee shall conduct a subsequent ballot provided by these Election Rules until a nominee receives a majority vote.

RULE 11. FAILURE TO ACHIEVE MAJORITY

1. In the event of a tie occurring for a Subregional seat, a coin toss will occur to determine the outcome of the election.
2. Ballots where there are four (4) nominees or more. If no nominee receives a majority vote on the first ballot the following rules will apply with the intent to eliminate candidates to achieve a majority:

The Election Committee will eliminate all nominees except for the three (3) nominees receiving the highest number of votes and conduct a subsequent ballot.

If there are three (3) or more candidates that receive the second highest number of votes, all those with the second highest number of votes will

proceed to the next ballot including the candidate with the most votes. The remaining candidates will be eliminated.

If there is a tie for candidates with the third highest vote and there are two (2) or more candidates that receive the first and/or second highest number of votes, only the two (2) or more candidates that receive the highest number of votes will proceed to the next ballot. The rest will be eliminated.

If there are more than three (3) candidates tied for first highest vote, all of those receiving the first highest will proceed to the next ballot. The rest will be eliminated.

If all but one candidate ties for second, the Election Committee will distribute an "elimination ballot" that includes only the nominees who tied for second. The Election Committee will eliminate the one nominee receiving the lowest number of votes on the "elimination ballot" and resume the balloting between all remaining nominees.

3. Ballots where there are three (3) nominees. If no nominee receives a majority vote on a ballot having three (3) nominees, the Election Committee will eliminate the one nominee receiving the lowest number of votes, and conduct a subsequent ballot. If all three (3) nominees tie for the votes cast, the Election Committee shall conduct a subsequent ballot including all nominees. If two nominees tie for the fewest votes cast, the Committee will distribute an "elimination ballot" that includes only the two nominees who tied for the fewest votes cast on the prior ballot. The Election Committee will eliminate the one nominee receiving the lowest number of votes on the "elimination ballot" and resume the balloting between all remaining nominees.
4. Ballots with two (2) nominees. The nominee receiving a majority vote shall be elected. If neither nominee receives a majority vote, the Election Committee will prepare another ballot without elimination of the nominee receiving the fewer votes. This Election Committee will repeat this process as necessary until one nominee receives a majority vote.

**Majority is based on the number of Directors present for the 2017 Full Board of Director's roll call.*

DATE (Must be between 8:00am February 2nd, 2017 and 5:00pm March 3rd, 2017)



I, _____ of _____ declare my intent to run for the Tanana Chiefs Conference
(Name) (Village/Enrolled to)
 position of _____
(Insert seat you intend to run as a candidate for. Example: Chief/President, Subregional Executive Board, TCC Health Board, TCC Education Council or IATC)

Signature _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

Print Name _____

Phone Number _____

Address _____

Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act, 25 USC sec. 3207 provides that each tribal organization that receives funds under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act shall not employ individuals that have committed certain crimes when the position involves regular or foreseeable contact with Indian children. The TCC executive board has reviewed and passed procedures to implement the ICPA background checks and will require all TCC employees to pass ICPA background checks, including the TCC Chief/ President.

Presidential candidates must fill-out the same background check application that TCC employees must fill out which includes fingerprinting. The background check application can be obtained from Heather Rogers, Human Resources Director at ext. 3095 and is due by February 10th because it takes 21 days for the results. Only those individuals that pass the background check will be official candidates for the 2017 TCC Presidential election.

*We recommend that you confirm the receipt of your letter of intent with the TCC Executive Secretary prior to 5:00 P.M. March 3rd, 2017; TCC may not know of your submission of your letter of intent, but we can confirm that it was received.

LETTER OF INTENT

Tanana Chiefs Conference
 ATTN: Norma Dahl, Executive Secretary
 122 First Ave, Suite 600
 Fairbanks, AK 99701 • Fax (907) 459-3884
 1-800-478-6822 ext.3112

The Council Newsletter

122 First Avenue, Suite 600
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Phone: (907) 452-8251 ext. 3570

Fax: (907) 459-3884

communications_dept@tananachiefs.org

www.tananachiefs.org

Letters to the Editor, other written contributions and photo submissions are welcome. However, space is limited and program-oriented news has priority. We reserve the right to edit or reject material. Letters and opinions are not necessarily the opinions of Tanana Chiefs Conference.

Material submitted anonymously will not be printed.



Tanana
Chiefs
Conference

Follow us:



JOIN THE TCC FAMILY APPLY ONLINE

www.tananachiefs.org

Village Vacancies

- Behavioral Health Aide (Galena, Koyukuk, Chalkyitsik, Rampart)
- Behavioral Health Clinician (Galena)
- Clinical Support Staff/Medical Assistant (Tok)
- Elder Nutrition Cook (Nulato, Hughes, Shageluk, Kaltag)
- Home Care Provider (Allakaket)
- Infant/Toddler Teacher (Galena, Nenana)
- Preschool Assistant Teacher (Northway, Fort Yukon)
- Substitute Elder Nutrition Cook (Hughes, Circle, Shageluk)

Region Wide

- Fisheries Technician

Fairbanks Vacancies

- Acupuncturist
- Behavioral Health Assessment Clinician
- CAIHC Case Manager/Care Team Lead
- Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist
- Child Care Coordinator
- Eligibility Specialist
- Facility HVAC Mechanic
- Health IT Manager
- Lead RN
- Mid-level Practitioner (PA or ANP)
- Quality Management Director
- Residential Support Technician
- RN
- Rural Energy Specialist
- Self-Governance Coordinator
- Solid Waste Technician

JOB LISTED WERE OPEN AS OF JANUARY 3, 2017

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

First State Session Begins in Juneau
January 17, 2017

Presidential Inauguration
January 20, 2017

TCC Executive Board Work Session
January 24-25, 2017

Did You Know?

SUGAR IS ADDICTIVE. Sugar releases an opiate-like substance that activates the brain's reward system. The average American consumes 130 pounds of sugar each year. That

equals to about 3,550 pounds in an average lifetime—approaching two tons of sugar.

