

First Alaskans Institute

Asirqamek Apruciluta Asisqamek Aprut'iluta



October 11-14, 2020

Reimagined and culturally-enriched virtual environment

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2020 Statewide Elders & Youth Council

ALEUTIAN CHAIN & PRIBILOFS

Youth: **Britteny Lestenkof & Charlotte Rotherford**
Elders: **Patricia Lekanoff Gregory & Moses Dirks**

NORTHWEST ARCTIC

Youth: **Brennen Johnson & Chad Horner**
Elders: **Elsie Sampson & Virginia Commack**

BRISTOL BAY

Youth: **Robin Savo, Shania Johnson & Mar-Zaray Milo**
Elders: **Esther Thompson, Anna May Kasak & Harry Wassily, Sr.**

NORTON SOUND

Youth: **Harold Stall Brown & Alicyn Bahnke**
Elders: **BettyAnn Hoogendorn & Rita Buck**

AHTNA

Youth: **Holli Nollner**
Elders: **Fred John, Jr. & Christopher Gene.**

PRINCE WILLIAMS SOUND

Youth: **Dasia Gall & Emily Collins**
Elders: **Pete Kompkoff, Jr. & Paul Kompkoff, Jr.**

INTERIOR

Youth: **Nanieezh Peter & Julia Shewfelt**
Elders: **Charlie Titus, Jr. & Ernest D. Erick**

SOUTHCENTRAL

Youth: **Danielle Mills, Anya Tyrrell & Ryan Esteban**
Elders: **Sharon Isaak & Bobbi/Roberta Oskolkoff**

KODIAK ISLAND

Youth: **Mason Mullan & McKayla Peterson**
Elders: **Rita Stevens & Mitch Simeonoff**

SOUTHEAST

Youth: **Monique Clevenger & Jacob Fisher**
Elders: **Leona Santiago & Laveren John**

NORTH SLOPE

Youth: **Richard Gordon & Kaylie Oktolik**
Elders: **Martha Stackhouse & David Maasak Leavitt, Jr.**

YK DELTA

Youth: **Isis Ivie & Kylee Fratis**
Elders: **Jimmy P. Stevens, Sr. & Herman B. Hootch**

See page 16 for Regional Breakout Sessions and for info on serving on our
2021 Statewide Elders & Youth Council!

WELCOME TO THE 2020 ELDERS & YOUTH CONFERENCE



2019 Elders & Youth
Conference participants

As Alaska Native peoples, we are the first and forever stewards of Alaska and our peoples are the conduits for this special relationship. Over 10,000+ years of ancestral knowledge is embedded and entrusted into the living generations to pass on to the future. Paramount to this is staying alive so to ensure the safety of our people we will host our 37th Annual Statewide Elders & Youth Conference virtually. Our theme, “Asirqamek Apruciluta” (Sugt’stun, Chugach), “Asisqamek Aprut’liluta” (Alutiiq) assures us that we are moving in the right direction – physically in our real world today and symbolically in life. Its translation into English is “We Are Making a Good Path.” Our ancestral responsibilities through Elders & Youth, our keynotes and conferences guides, will help us do this together.

Elders & Youth provides a special opportunity to live and love who we are as Alaska Native peoples, build strong relationships with one another, identify and advance solutions for the challenges and opportunities facing our communities, explore our creative worlds, and contribute to the greater community through the transference of knowledge between our generations.

Alaska always has been, and always will be, a Native place. We are honored to uplift our shared responsibility for carrying on and growing our strong traditions for all Ancestors to come.

“We Are Making a Good Path” and we are doing it together. Qu yanaakcak/Qu yanaasinaq for joining us in this reimagined and culturally-enriched virtual environment.

Willie Iggiagruk Hensley
(Iñupiaq)
Board Chair



Elizabeth La quen náay
Medicine Crow (Haida/Tlingit)
President/CEO



Karla Gatgyedm Hana’ax Booth
(Ts’msyen)
Indigenous Leadership Continuum Director



First Alaskans Institute utilizes a diversity of people and organizations to deliver this unique conference. Inclusion may not mean endorsement of the presenters or organizations they may be engaged with. Rather, they are offered to engage the wisdom, knowledge, world view, and consciousness of our amazing participants. We thank all who work alongside of us to create this content and experience for our participants.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Elder • Dr. Rev. Traditional Chief Trimble Gilbert (Gwich'in)

Dr. Rev. Traditional Chief Trimble Gilbert (Gwich'in) will be joined by his beloved wife, Mary. They are from Vashrajj K'oo (Arctic Village). He is a Tribal Leader, an Episcopal priest, a Native knowledge and culture bearer, and Gwich'in teacher. He is the Second Traditional Chief and spiritual leader for Tanana Chiefs Conference and the 52 Athabaskan Tribes that they serve. He serves as an Elder Advisor for the Alaska Federation of Natives and the Doyon annual shareholders meeting. He was awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Alaska Fairbanks, where he often serves as an Elder and mentor in classes bridging Western knowledge taught in the classroom with our lives in rural communities. Trimble is also a well-known fiddle player.



Photo by Crystal Dzehgak Frank

Youth • Kiley Kanat's Burton (Eyak/Aleut/Iñupiaq/Koyukon)

Kiley Kanat's Burton (Eyak/Aleut/Iñupiaq/Koyukon) is 15 years old, and her Eyak name, Kanat's, means little wolverine. She currently lives in Cordova. Her parents are James Burton and Diana Riedel. She attends Cordova Jr./Sr. High School and hopes to work in the science field as a surgeon or a marine biologist. She enjoys hunting, commercial fishing, skin sewing, sports, and fashion. Kanat's appreciates her culture, way of life, and traditions that have been carried on through the generations. She looks up to her mom, aunt Raven Cunningham, and grandma Monica Riedel because of the cultural knowledge they have shared with her.



Photo by Diana Riedel

STATEWIDE BROADCAST

October 11-14

Those who are not able to join us as a registered participant may join us on the statewide broadcast on **Sunday, October 11 at 1-5 pm, Monday, October 12 at 8 am-6 pm, Tuesday, October 13 at 8 am-5 pm** and **Wednesday, October 14 at 8 am-4 pm** on GCI Channel 1, HD 907, ARCS, 360 North, and on our website at www.firstalaskans.org, FAI Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/FirstAlaskansInstitute> & FAI YouTube Channel at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9xZPC025QmkkNmHQq_cOpw.

Men's, Women's & LGBTQAI2S+ House

We utilize Men's House, Women's House and LGBTQAI2S+ House to honor our peoples' rites of passage - for connecting, healing, and learning. Please join the house you feel most comfortable in.

CONFERENCE GUIDES

Dustin Unignax Newman (Unanga̋/Deg Hit'an)

Unignax lives in Anchorage and has family roots in the communities of King Cove and Anvik. His maternal grandparents are the late Rudy Demoski and Agnes Beaver and paternal grandparents are the late Robert Newman and Clara Smith. He is a kayak builder, storyteller and dancer with the Anchorage Unanga̋ Dancers. Unignax currently serves as the Youth Services Coordinator at the Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association.



Photo by The Aleut Corporation and Yuit Comms

Andrea Ts'aak Ka Juu Cook (Haida)

Ts'aak Ka Juu is from Hydaburg where she grew up berry picking and salmon fishing. She is a graduate of Mt. Edgecumbe High School and attending the University of Alaska Southeast where she is working toward a degree in Northwest Coast Art. She comes from a long line of carvers and hopes to become a carver one day. Ts'aak Ka Juu is a dance group member of Xaadaas Diigwii of Juneau. Most recently, she was a First Alaskans Institute intern placed at the Sitka Conservation Society.



Photo by Klas Stolpe, Daily Sitka Sentinel

CONFERENCE LOGO

The artwork for our 2020 logo designed by Hanna Sholl (Sugpiaq) of Kodiak! She says, "We stand in a circle to show that we are unified on the right path. This path that our Ancestors placed our Elders on who have gifted us the wisdom and knowledge to know this is where we need to be."



NATIVES GOT TALENT

Natives Got Talent will take place throughout the conference. Interested in showing your talents and performing? It must be a family-friendly performance.

Contact us to sign up and find out more info at Uyuruciaq@firstalaskans.org. Participation is not guaranteed.



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11 • AGENDA

- 1:00 Welcome to Warming of the Hands, Blessing, FAI Introductions
- Gatgyedm Hana'ax (Tsimshian) and Ayyu Qassataq (Iñupiaq)
- 1:20 Agreements & Attendify Overview
- Ayyu & 'Wáahlaal Gíidaak (Haida/Tlingit/Ahtna Athabascan)
- 1:40 Coffeetime with Elders & Healers
- Hosts: Ayyu & 'Wáahlaal Gíidaak
- Doug Modig (Tsimshian) & Amy Modig (Deg Hit'an), Healers
- Delores Churchill (Haida), Elder, from Haida Gwaii and Ketchikan
- Harold Esmailka (Koyukon), Elder, from Ruby and Fairbanks
- Kegulluk Earl Polk, Healer & Storyteller
- 4:30 Preparing for the Conference
- Silugngataanit'sqaq (Sugpiaq) & Uyuruciaq (Yup'ik)
- 4:45 Closing Message
- Gatgyedm Hana'ax and Ayyu

Please note, schedule is subject to change.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12 • AGENDA

- 7:45 Dawn Prayers on Zoom, Haandei I Jin "Give Me Your Hand"
- George Holly (Deg Xit'an), Jackie Tagaban (Tlingit), Heather Walker (Deg Xit'an), Laurie Cropley (Tlingit), Sonia Vent (Koyukon), Zeif Parish (Tlingit) & Leighanne Gubatayao (Tsimshian)
- 8:00 Statewide broadcast begins on GCI Channels 1 & 907, 360 North, ARCS and online webcast at FAI Homepage at www.firstalaskans.org, FAI Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/FirstAlaskansInstitute> & FAI YouTube Channel at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9xZPC025QmkkNmHQq_cOpw
- 8:30 Welcome to Elders & Youth
Introduction of Conference Guides
Land Acknowledgement
- Dustin Unignax Newman (Unangaâ/Deg Hit'an)
- Andrea Ts'aak Ka Juu Cook (Haida)
- 8:45 Blessing & National Anthem
- Sally Ash (Sugpiaq)
- Christianna Edwards (Tlingit/Haida)
- 8:50 Welcome from First Alaskans Institute & Conference Overview
- La quen náay Medicine Crow (Tlingit, Haida), President/CEO
- Willie Iggiagruk Hensley (Iñupiaq), Board Chair
- Recognition of Indigenous Peoples Day – La quen náay
- Attendify & Zoom Overview – Gatgyedm Hana'ax
- Agreements – Łot'oydaatIno (Koyukon), Qunmiġu (Iñupiaq) & Sassuuk (Yup'ik)
- Theme Presentation – Gatgyedm Hana'ax & Ayyu
- Conference Goals & Overview – Gatgyedm Hana'ax & Sassuuk
- 9:40 Our Indigenous Sports & Games Demonstration
- Kyle Worl (Lingít/Deg Hitan/Yup'ik) & Team Juneau NYO Youth Leaders: Orion Denny (Lingít), Shane Paul (Lingít/Iñupiaq), Matthew Quinto (Lingít) & Kuduat Shorty (Lingít)
- 10:00 **Elder Keynote - Dr. Rev. Trimble Gilbert (Gwich'in)**
- 10:30 Dialogue with 2020 FAI Elders & Youth Council Members
- 11:00 Natives Got Talent
- 11:10 Being Good Relatives to Our Family with FASD
- Lisa Wade (Nay'dini'aa Na' Kayax Ahtna Dene) & Ayla Agnew (Nay'dini'aa Na' Kayax Ahtna Dene)



MONDAY, OCTOBER 12 • AGENDA

- 11:20 Yakutat Surf Camp: Building Leadership Skills Through a Connection with the Ocean
- Ralph Wolfe (Tlingit)
- 11:40 Natives Got Talent
- 12:00 Lunch & Learn (Stay here for Option 1, go directly to the zoom link for the other option)
- *Option 1:* The Forgotten Slavery of Our People, Qannik Glenn (Iñupiaq), Howdice Brown III (Iñupiaq), Marie Acemah & Sven Haakanson, Jr. (Sugpiaq)
- *Option 2:* Planning My Best Alaskan Life, Rebecca Van Wyck
- 1:00 Seal Harvesting Visualization
- Adrienne Aakaluk Blatchford (Iñupiaq)
- 1:20 Living & Loving Our Cultures Language Sessions – Go directly to the Zoom Link for the workshop you want. See pages 9-10.
- 3:20 Move to next workshop
- 3:30 Community Engagement Workshop – Go directly to the Zoom Link for the workshop you want. See pages 11-12.
- 5:00 Chin'an: A Night of Cultural Performance Video Celebration
- 6:00 Agide dixu ("That's good" said when done speaking in Dogidinh)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13 • AGENDA

- 7:45 Dawn Prayers on Zoom, Haandei I Jin "Give Me Your Hand"
- George Holly, Jackie Tagaban, Heather Walker, Laurie Cropley, Sonia Vent, Zeif Parish & Leighanne Gubatayao
- 8:00 Statewide broadcast begins on GCI Channels 1 & 907, 360 North, ARCS and online webcast at FAI Homepage at www.firstalaskans.org, FAI Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/FirstAlaskansInstitute> & FAI YouTube Channel at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9xZPC025QmkkNmHQq_cOpw
- 8:30 Welcome Back to Elders & Youth
- 8:40 Attendify & Zoom Overview
- 8:55 Re-setting Agreements, Nunjasuk (Iñupiaq) & Silugngataanit'ssqaq
- 9:10 Natives Got Talent
- 9:25 **Youth Keynote - Kiley Burton (Eyak/ Aleut/ Iñupiaq/ Koyukon)**
- 9:45 Dialogue with 2020 Elders & Youth Council Members
- 10:10 Tribal Higher Education: A Good Path Forward
- Cordelia Kellie (Iñupiaq) & Dr. Pearl Brower (Iñupiaq)
- 10:25 Regional Breakouts: Explore questions and elect 2021 Statewide Elders & Youth Council. Go directly to the Zoom Link for the breakout you want.
- 12:00 Lunch & Learn (Stay here for Option 1, go directly to the zoom link for the other options)
- *Option 1:* CensUSvote: Census and Get Out the Native Vote – Hosted by Łot'oydaatIno, Qunmigu, 'Wáahlaal Gíidaak, Donna Bach (Yup'ik) – US Census Bureau, Cook Inlet Tribal Council & Native Peoples Action
- *Option 2:* Furthering Your Education Throughout Alaska Campuses – Dannielle Carlson (Aleut/Unangan), Kolene James (Tlingit/Tsimshian), Erika Quade, Toni Riley & Johanna Belleque
- *Option 3:* Support Indigenous Education: Share Thoughts about the Student Tribal Leadership Commission – Joel Isaak (Dena'ina/Kenaitze), Commissioner of Education, Dr. Micheal Johnson & Assistant Commissioner of Education, Niki Tshibaka
- 1:00 Natives Got Talent
- 1:20 Living & Loving Our Cultures Workshops – Go directly to the Zoom Link for the workshop you want. See pages 13-14.
- 3:20 Move to next workshop session
- 3:30 Community Engagement Workshops – Go directly to the Zoom Link for the workshop you want. See pages 15-16.
- 5:00 Tavra (said when done speaking in Iñupiaq)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14 • AGENDA

- 7:45 Dawn Prayers on Zoom, Haandei I Jin “Give Me Your Hand”
- George Holly (Deg Xit'an), Jackie Tagaban (Tlingit), Heather Walker (Deg Xit'an), Laurie Cropley (Tlingit), Sonia Vent (Koyukon), Zeif Parish (Tlingit) & Leighanne Gubatayao (Tsimshian)
- 8:00 Statewide broadcast begins on GCI Channels 1 & 907, 360 North, ARCS and online webcast at FAI Homepage at www.firstalaskans.org, FAI Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/FirstAlaskansInstitute> & FAI YouTube Channel at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9xZPC025QmkkNmHQq_cOpw
- 8:30 Welcome Back to Elders & Youth
- 8:40 Re-setting Agreements, Tass'aq (Yup'ik) & Uyuruciaq
- 8:50 Indigenous Tattooing
- Holly Nordlum (Iñupiaq) & Sarah Whalen-Lunn (Iñupiaq)
- 9:10 Unite to Protect Our Traditional Hunting & Fishing Practices
- Ben Stevens (Koyukon), Brooke Woods (Koyukon) & Bruce Ervin (Upper Tanana Dene)
- 9:25 My Vote My Voice
- Kendra Kloster (Tlingit), Kelsey Wallace (Yup'ik) & Rochelle Adams (Gwich'in)
- 9:35 Men's House, Women's House, and LGBTQA2S+ Houses –
Go directly to the Zoom Link for the House you feel most comfortable in
- 12:00 Lunch & Learn (Stay here for Option 1, go directly to the zoom link for the other options)
- *Option 1:* Dialogue with Young Entrepreneurs hosted by La quen náay with guests – Sydney Johnson (Tsimshian/Tlingit), Jade Wren (Iñupiaq), Brandon Ware (Tlingit), & Delaney Theil (Yup'ik/Dena'ina)
- *Option 2:* Youth 4 Change: Decolonizing Education in Alaska – Ruth Dan (Central Yup'ik) & current students
- *Option 3:* Honoring & Supporting Elders' Brain Health, Jordan P. Lewis (Unangax) & Jocelyn McGee
- 1:00 Resolutions
- 'Wáahlaal Gíidaak & Ayyu
Closing Ceremony
- Review of Our Time Together, Qunmigu & Gatgyedm Hana'ax
- Announcement of 2021 Statewide Elders & Youth Council, Sassuuk
- Grand Door Prize Drawing – Alaska Airline Ticket, Silugngataanit'sqaq & Tass'aq
- Draw 2021 Theme Language, Gatgyedm Hana'ax
- 2:00 Tua (“That’s it,” said when done speaking in Yugtun)
- 2:00 Living & Loving Our Cultures Workshops Continued – for selected workshops only
- Mini Cottonwood Mask Carving, Sven Haakanson, Jr. (Sugpiaq)
- Cedar Basket Weaving, Della Cheney (Haida/Tlingit)
- Canvas Rifle Bag Sewing, Charlie Pardue (Gwich'in)
- Salmon Skin Pouch Sewing & Alutiiq/Yup'ik Embroidery, June Pardue (Alutiiq/Iñupiaq)

Quyanaakcak/Quyanaasinaq for joining us!
See you at the 2021 Statewide Elders & Youth Conference!

Asirqamek Apruciluta, Asisqamek Aprut'liluta

Theme

Our theme is “Asirqamek Apruciluta” (Sugt'stun, Chugach), “Asisqamek Aprut'liluta” (Alutiiq). We thank our language leaders, Candace Branson and Sperry Ash, for helping us arrive at this profound theme grown from the guidance of our Statewide Elders & Youth Council, of seeing the path we are part of and believing in ourselves.

#EY2020 #AsirqamekApruciluta #AsisqamekAprutliluta #WeAreMakingaGoodPath

LIVING & LOVING OUR CULTURES LANGUAGE • SESSIONS

Monday, October 12 • 1:20 to 3:20 pm

#1: Cama'i! Come Learn Sugt'stun!

Presenters: Rhoda Ataaka Moonin (Sugpiaq), Brandon Picuuq Moonin (Sugpiaq), Shyla Teglnunaliq Krukoff (Sugpiaq), Samuel Ataaka Swenning (Sugpiaq) & Ephimia Apamia Moonin-Wilson (Sugpiaq). Chugachmiut Heritage Preservation Department - Sugt'stun Language and Culture

Description: Let's learn Sugt'stun together in a variety of ways. We will stay engaged with our language through practicing children's lessons, playing games, and answering questions. We will also hear stories from our Elders and more.

#2: Learning Unangam Tunuu During a Pandemic

Presenters: Darling Anderson (Unangaġ), Cultural Heritage Coordinator, Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association & Nikkita Shellikoff (Unangaġ)

Description: We can still learn Unangam Tunuu while we keep each other safe! Practice our language with online lessons and learn how learning/teaching techniques have changed during the Covid-19 pandemic.

#3: Our Athabascan Languages Path: Going Virtual

Presenter: Allan Hayton (Gwich'in), Language Revitalization Program Director, Doyon Foundation, Bertina Titus (Benhti Kokhut'ana Kenaga' - Lower Tanana), Shyanne Beatty (Hän) & Elizabeth Keating (Holikachuk)

Description: Engage in online language lessons and games to learn Benhti Kenaga', Dinjii Zhuh K'yaa, Hän and Holikachuk. Participants will be split into the separate dialects for more focused learning. We will also become familiar with the free Doyon Languages Online project and tools to continue learning beyond the conference.

#4: Dena'ina Language

Presenter: Joel Isaak (Dena'ina)

Description: Learning how to introduce yourself in our own Native languages is empowering. This virtual Dena'ina language circle will be a space to practice our introductions, talk about Dena'ina language resources and give tips and tricks for language learning. We will work on learning a Dena'ina song together that helps with pronunciation. Dena'ina is the language of the only coast Athabascan peoples and the language of the peoples in and around Anchorage and Cook Inlet.

#4: Ahtna Language Practice

Presenter: Michon Johnson (Ahtna)

Description: Explore basic Ahtna language lessons and connect with other learners.

#5: Intro to Gwich'in Language

Presenter: Rochelle Adams (Gwich'in), Kenneth Frank (Gwich'in) & Caroline Tritt-Frank (Gwich'in)

Description: Our languages are a part of the foundation of who we are and is the direction that we need to go in order to heal and fulfill our true selves. This workshop will be an intro to Gwich'in language learning. We will begin with a historical background review, language overview and sounds within the language. Participants will also learn traditional introductions and other useful phrases to start them on their language journey!

#6: Denaakk'e Language Learning with Online Resources

Presenter: Susan Paskvan (Koyukon), Denaakk'e Online Resources, Yukon-Koyukuk School District

Description: Participants will go on a path of research, self-discovery, and play while learning Denaakk'e (Koyukon Athabascan). Make connections with other learners, play games and try online resources together that include Doyon Languages Online, YouTube, Mukurtu, and videoconference through Google Meet.

LIVING & LOVING OUR CULTURES LANGUAGE • SESSIONS

Monday, October 12 • 1:20 to 3:20 pm

#7: Having Fun with Our Yugtun Language

Presenter: Atkiq Snyder (Yup'ik) & Freda Dan (Yup'ik), Organizer, Yup'ik Spelling Bee for Beginners

Description: For the first half of this workshop we will practice Yugtun introductions and reflect on language learning and revitalization. For the second half we will play a word game. The presenter will explain the meaning and pronunciation for a set of Yugtun words, suffices, or endings and the way they may be used in a sentence. A question related to the words, suffixes, or endings will also be given. Then teams will be given a set amount of time to confer with each other for the correct pronunciation and response, the presenter will randomly choose an individual in each team to share the response: 1 point will be awarded for pronunciation and 2 points for correct response.

#8: Explore the Cup'ik & Cup'ig Languages

Presenter: TBA

Description: There are distinct dialects in Hooper Bay-Chevak (Cup'ik) and on Nunivak Island (Cup'ig). Learn the differences, practice the basics and meet others that are interested in learning.

#9: Kingikmiuragaqtuat – Meet those that study the Kingikmiut (Wales) Dialect

Presenters: Richard Atuk (Iñupiaq), Debbie Atuk (Iñupiaq) & Jessica Saniguq Ullrich (Iñupiaq). Language Group: Kingikmiuragaqtuat-Those that study the Kingikmiut Dialect

Description: Learn how one group has come together to learn our Iñupiaq language then go through language lessons for Kingikmiut and other dialects. Explore how language is an important link to cultural heritage and is a way to move in the right direction.

#10: Di ayawaa na lip algyagm na ga waam! Our language is hollering our names!

Presenters: Marcella Se'iga Liimii Asicksik (Tsimshian/Haida) & Lydia Liimiim Haywaas Foster (Tsimshian) & Alfie Sigoop Price (Tsimshian/Haida)

Description: Join us in this safe space to learn Sm'algyax by practicing simple questions with responses. Also learn about the journeys of the Juneau and Nigyoooks Sm'algyax groups. Di ayawaa na lip algyagm na ga waam! Our language is hollering our names! 'Nii na algyagm gwa'a. This is our language. 'Wii hoysgit adad gatgyet. It's very beautiful and strong. ALgandi luk'ooln. You're not alone. K'oomtga goodm aam da txa'niis 'nuusm. We wish good for you all. Algyax, 'waatgit a goot. Speak from the heart. K'uul gagoodm. We are one heart. Hamwaan! Hamwaan! Keep it up! Keep working! Translated by a Hailey Wesley a Sm'algyax learner in Lax Kwallams, British Columbia, Canada.

#11: Beginning Lingít Yoo X'atángi

Presenter: Anna Nelaatoh Clock (Koyukon/Eyak) & Herb Kaax Ts'een Sheakley (Tlingit)

Description: Explore the language of the Tlingit people whose territory extends throughout Southeast Alaska and into Canada.

#12: Practice Xaat Kíl

Presenter: Joe Hillaire (Haida)

Description: Enjoy practicing Xaat Kíl, the language of the Haida people, while connecting with others.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT • WORKSHOPS

Monday, October 12 • 3:30 to 5:00 pm

#1: Sharing our Salmon Traditions

Presenters: Brooke Woods (Koyukon), Jonathan Samuelson (Yup'ik/Dené), Janessa Esquible-Hassan (Ojibwe), Charlie Wright (Koyukon), Carrie Stevens, Jessica Black (Gwich'in), Rachel Donkersloot, Courtney Carothers & Danielle Ringer, Yukon River Inter Tribal Fish Commission & University of Alaska Fairbanks

Description: We will uplift a shared love, tradition, and relationship with salmon by Alaska Native peoples and build unity for Alaska Native governance in fisheries. Presenters will share how they are connected to salmon and the foundations of tribal governance. Then we will share salmon stories and create a vision for Alaska Native governance of fisheries moving forward.

#2: Untangling Colonization, What is Decolonization?

Presenter: Jody Potts-Han (Gwich'in), Native Movement

Description: A decolonizing practice requires recognition of the history of colonization and its current manifestations. This workshop takes a look at US Federal Indian Policy that has been carried out in the lower 48 states, its expansion into Alaska and the implications on Alaska Native peoples and policy. During this workshop, participants will discuss a wide spectrum of decolonizing strategies; from various personal, institutional, and systemic pathways forward.

#3: Our Potlatch Traditions: Exploring What We Know & Online Education Resources

Presenter: Melissa Shaginoff (Ahtna /Paiute), Smithsonian Arctic Studies Center – Alaska

Description: During this workshop we'll explore the traditions of potlatching through an activity. Participants will take a virtual guided tour of a distance learning unit about Athabascan Potlatch Values and learn about the various online educational resources made by Alaska Native Elders, scholars, artists and culture bearers in collaboration with the Smithsonian Arctic Studies Center.

#4: Weaving & Sewing Our World: Sharing Our Knowledge Through Writing

Presenters: Della Cheney (Haida/Tlingit) & Amelia Topkok (Iñupiaq)

Description: Sharing the stories of our ways of life is an important way for our people to pass on knowledge and traditions. The current education system and available materials on our Alaska Native peoples and history does not adequately provide information for our children and people to feel comfortable in knowing and sharing our history and stories. In this workshop, we want participants to be inspired to write your own stories by hearing about the process that Della took to capture and write her stories of being a Southeast Alaska weaver and the process that Amelia took to learn and write about skin sewing traditions from Shishmaref.

#5: Qanruyutet: Wise Words and Yup'ik Teachings

Presenters: Mark John (Yup'ik), Rachel Nicholai (Yup'ik), Emily Brockman (Yup'ik), & Ashley Johnson (Yup'ik), Calista Education and Culture, Inc.

Description: Together we will explore Qanruyutet values that seek to decode and normalize our Yup'ik culture today. In this session, we will also brainstorm how to normalize the practice of, "I talk to you because I love you," to our younger generations as a way to protect our families and communities.

#6: Pillars of a Strong Business

Presenters: Alana Peterson (Tlingit), Spruce Root

Description: Come engage in activities and explore how Indigenous values can show up in operating a business. Learn about tools and resources available for starting a new business, along with the main pillars of a strong business which include: Financial Management, Leadership, Sales/Marketing, and Product/Service. We will also discuss the entrepreneur mindset and how our own thoughts are often the thing that's holding us back. If you've ever thought about starting your own business, this is the workshop for you!

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT • WORKSHOPS

Monday, October 12 • 3:30 to 5:00 pm

#7: Protecting Our Ways of Life: Creating Resolutions, Advocacy, & Civic Engagement

Presenters: 'Wáahlaal Gíídaak Blake (Haida/Tlingit/Ahtna) & La quen náay Medicine Crow (Haida/Tlingit), First Alaskans Institute

Description: Learn about resolutions as advocacy tools and the importance of civic engagement. Create resolutions with the guidance of fellow Elders and youth. Learn how to use your resolution to advocate for our Native peoples. Completed, timely-submitted, and approved resolutions will be voted on by the conference attendees. Please see the [Resolution Statement](#) for further guidance and resolution criteria.

#8: Google Tools & Resume Tips for Your Job Search

Presenters: Penny Gage (Tlingit); Ben Fate Velaise (Koyukon), Google Indian Country Digital Trainer

Description: Our vision: that Native people are the most talented in the workforce. Learn from two Alaska Native Google trainers - one who is a Google employee - about free Google tools for job seekers, including tips on how to create a stellar resume and build a professional network. You'll learn how to discover and keep track of job opportunities and enhance your job search experience using Google Search and how to utilize the collaborative tools of G Suite. Feel free to have a current copy of your resume handy (if you have one) and bring your questions!

#9: Choosing Hope in Creating a Sustainable World

Presenters: Jacqueline Shirley (Yup'ik) & Joe Sarcone, Environmental Public Health Program, Alaska Pacific University

Description: For Alaska Native people we know sustainability is born of hope, the hope that we can exist in a better world now and into the future. Come participate in a virtual roundtable discussion about how we each maintain hope. Share your story of staying positive through all of life's challenges.



Photo from the
2019 Elders & Youth
Conference taken by
Sven Haakanson, Jr.
(Sugpiaq)



LIVING & LOVING OUR CULTURES • WORKSHOPS

Tuesday, October 13 • 1:20 to 3:20 pm

#1: Mini Cottonwood Mask Carving (must be able to participate Oct. 13 & 14)

Presenter: Sven Haakanson, Jr. (Alutiiq/Sugpiaq)

Description: Must be at least 14 years old and need an adult around. A kit will be mailed to you that includes a carving knife and piece of cottonwood. If you do not have a kit, you are welcome to attend the workshop, and learn through observation.

#2: Cedar Basket Weaving (must be able to participate Oct. 13 & 14)

Presenter: Della Cheney (Haida/Tlingit)

Description: A cedar kit will be mailed to you; you'll need to provide a bowl of water. If you do not have a kit, you are welcome to attend the workshop, and learn through observation.



#3: Canvas Rifle Bag Sewing (must be able to participate Oct. 13 & 14)

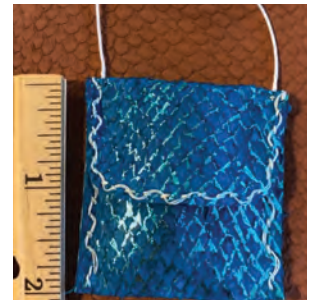
Presenter: Charlie Pardue (Gwich'in)

Description: A kit will be mailed to you; you must provide scissors. If you do not have a kit, you are welcome to attend the workshop, and learn through observation.

#4: Salmon Skin Pouch Sewing with Alutiiq/Yup'ik Embroidery (must be able to participate Oct. 13 & 14)

Presenter: June Pardue (Alutiiq/Iñupiaq)

Description: A kit will be mailed to you; you must provide scissors. If you do not have a kit, you are welcome to attend the workshop, and learn through observation.



#5: Cedar Bracelet Making

Presenter: Debbie McLavey (Haida) & RoMay Edenshaw (Haida)

Description: A kit will be mailed to you; you must provide a bowl of water. If you do not have a kit, you are welcome to attend the workshop, and learn through observation.

#6: Painting Our Ways of Life

Presenter: Sylvia Lange (Tlingit, Aleut)

Description: A kit will be mailed to you; you must provide a cup of water, plate and paper towel or napkin. If you do not have a kit, you are welcome to attend the workshop, and learn through observation.

#7: Covid 19 Mask Sewing

Presenter: Mellisa Johnson (Iñupiaq)

Description: A kit will be mailed to you; you must provide scissors. If you do not have a kit, you are welcome to attend the workshop, and learn through observation.

#8: Traditional Healing Discussion w/ Salve Making Demo

Presenters: Yaari Walker (St. Lawrence Island Yupik), Tatiana Ticknor (Tlingit, Dena'ina, Deg Xinag) & Angela Michaud (Tlingit)

Description: Explore how our Ancestors used traditional medicines to heal themselves and what is available to us today.

LIVING & LOVING OUR CULTURES • WORKSHOPS

Tuesday, October 13 • 1:20 to 3:20 pm

#9: Yup'ik String Figures

Presenter: David Nicolai (Yup'ik)

Description: See demonstrations and try out the stories for yourself. You must provide a 4-foot string.

#10: Fish Cutting Demonstration and Recipes

Presenters: Melanie Brown (Iñupiaq, Yup'ik, Unangan) & Gayla Hoseth (Yup'ik)

Description: Honor the salmon by using all of its parts. Learn techniques to cut fish and to cook it.



#11: The Future of Our Indigenous Sports: Alaska Native Games Demonstration & Discussion

Presenters: Kyle Worl (Lingít, Deg Hitan Athabaskan, Yup'ik) & Team Juneau NYO Youth Leaders: Orion Denny (Lingít), Shane Paul (Lingít, Iñupiaq), Matthew Quinto (Lingít) & Kuduat Shorty (Lingít)

Description: Watch a demonstration and try doing a few Alaska Native games and learn about why they were created. Participants will also discuss the future of these sports.

#12: Tour an Ice Cellar, Visit with a Whaling Captain and Celebrate by Learning a Dance

Presenters: Cordelia Kellie (Iñupiaq), Katie Roseberry (Iñupiaq), Pearl Brower (Iñupiaq), and Janelle Everett

Description: Think about whales and baleen now and into the future. Tour an ice cellar in Utqiagvik and then meet a Whaling Captain. Finish by learning an Iñupiaq song and dance to celebrate our time together.

#14: Talking Circle on Identity

Presenters: Ilarion "Larry" Mercurieff (Unangan) & Tiera Uqilaq Schroeder (Yupiaq)

Description: Listen and share in a talking circle that encourages you to know who you are and who you are becoming.

#15: Listening Session: What Should We Do to Strengthen Our Native Languages? (2 sessions offered)

Presenters: Isiik April Counciller (Alutiiq), Annette Evans Smith (Athabaskan/Yup'ik/Alutiiq), Yaayuk Bernadette Alvanna-Stimpfle (Inupiaq), Walkie Charles (Yup'ik), X'unei Lance Twitchell (Tlingit/Haida/Yup'ik/Sami) & Roy Mitchell

Description: Participants are invited to share their perspectives on how best to promote the continued survival of Alaska's Native languages by providing testimony to the Alaska Native Language Preservation & Advocacy Council, for inclusion in the 2022 Report to the Governor and Legislature. Participants can respond to the following questions: 1) What things are going well for our languages today? 2) What things are still going on that discourage the use of our languages today? 3) What more is needed to promote the health and expanded use of our languages into the future?

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT • WORKSHOPS

Tuesday, October 13 • 3:30 to 5:00 pm

#1: Always Indigenous Media! Be Your Own Spokesperson

Presenters: Ruth Miller (Dena'ina) & Naawéiyaa Tagaban (Tlingit/Cherokee), Native Movement

Description: Everyone has a story to tell, especially our young leaders and our valued Elders. This workshop will provide an outlet to mobilize action through storytelling and empowerment projects. Explore the basics of media and video creation, narrative strategies, and how to frame a compelling story. Participants will leave feeling empowered to raise their voices on frontline issues such as our cultural rights, climate justice, and community governance with enriched skill sets to effectively launch their voices. Always Indigenous Media is a grassroots media project supported by Native Movement and led by the collective members of Defend the Sacred AK, that believes in uplifting the voices of those who are on the front lines, whose communities are fighting for Indigenous rights and sovereignty— for the land, and for our peoples.

#2: Electronic Music Production

Presenters: Nelo'et'aanh aka Daveon Parton (Koyukon) & Torin Jacobs aka RiverFlowz (Iñupiaq/Yupiaq)

Description: This workshop is an introduction to electronic music production using a computer and music production software. Learn about what Nelo'et'aanh and RiverFlowz know about music, how far they got with it, and what others can do if interested. Hear tracks that are affiliated with music videos, podcasts, and other video content. Participants will generate ideas to be put into a track to create a song. Share your Native phrases or vocals to incorporate into the track as well. Let's inspire each other and grow our interest and skills in electronic music production.

#3: Decolonizing Gender: Two Spirit People in Traditional Stories

Presenters: Ruth Dan (Central Yup'ik), Native Movement

Description: Colonialism has obstructed a good path for LGBTQ+ and two spirit people in our Indigenous communities. Two spirit and LGBTQ+ Elders and youth have been an integral part of our communities since time immemorial, and creating a healthy system of gender and sexuality where all people cis or trans, gay or straight, two spirit or not have a role and where everyone respects each other and lives in balance is crucial to Asirqamek Apruciluta moving forward. We will explore the traditional St. Lawrence Island Yupik story, "The Strange Man and His Whale", told and translated into English by Grace Slwooko (Gambell) published in Sivuqam Ungipaghaatangi II / St. Lawrence Island Legends II (1979). The story tells of a person who is of a "third gender" and how their gender is valued and cared for. After listening to the story, we will discuss how our communities and cultures celebrate LGBTQ+ and 2S people and how participants see their own genders in terms of their culture.

#4: Listening Session: What Should We Do to Strengthen Our Native Languages? (Offered twice on 10/12)

Presenters: Isiik April Counciller (Alutiiq), Annette Evans Smith (Athabaskan/Yup'ik/Alutiiq), Yaayuk Bernadette Alvanna-Stimpfle (Iñupiaq), Walkie Charles (Yup'ik), X'unei Lance Twitchell (Tlingit/Haida/Yup'ik/Sami) & Roy Mitchell, Alaska Native Language Preservation & Advisory Council

Description: Participants are invited to share their perspectives on how best to promote the continued survival of Alaska's Native languages by providing testimony to the Alaska Native Language Preservation & Advocacy Council, for inclusion in the 2022 Report to the Governor and Legislature. Participants can respond to the following questions: 1) What things are going well for our languages today?; 2) What things are still going on that discourage the use of our languages today?; and 3) What more is needed to promote the health and expanded use of our languages into the future?

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT • WORKSHOPS

Tuesday, October 13 • 3:30 to 5:00 pm

#5: Grow Your Awareness of Trafficking in Alaska

Presenters: Heather Hagelberger & Josie Heyano (Deg Xinag), Covenant House Alaska

Description: In this workshop, participants will learn about the human trafficking epidemic in Alaska, the signs to look for if someone is being trafficked, and how to support someone that has been trafficked. Also hear how Covenant House Alaska has been making strides to better meet the needs of the youth who have been victimized, and how through culturally diverse and rurally inclusive mentorship programs, we hope to end the experience of human trafficking of our youth.

#6: Mindful Advocacy and Understanding Your Social Influence

Presenters: Denali Whiting (Iñupiaq) & Cana Itchuaqiyag (Iñupiaq), Caleb Scholars Program

Description: Wellness and identity are crucial to success in life and education. In this workshop, participants will take part in an activity called “Experience Mapping” which will bring attention to the aspects that make up your social power, and how you can use this power as a student, community member, leader and advocate. We will further explore where we come from, what resources we have, privilege and motivation, and how we can use our power to support others. You’ll also learn about the Caleb Scholars Program that encourages students to bring their whole selves to their studies and to be creative and intentional about carrying on the traditions of our Ancestors in their advocacy.

#7: Money 101 - Trivia Contest

Presenters: Flora Teo, Junior Achievement of Alaska, Inc.

Description: Did you know Alaska is 1 of 4 states that does not teach financial literacy, leaving Alaskans at a disadvantage. We all need an understanding of how better to manage our money. In this workshop we will play a financial literacy game to gain skills and the highest score will win a prize! You’ll also be connected to free online lessons to further explore budgeting, credit scores, saving, investing, career planning, insurance, and more.

REGIONAL BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Tuesday, October 13, 2020 from 10:25am – 12:00pm

<u>Region</u>
Ahtna
Aleutian Chain & Pribilofs
Bristol Bay
Interior
Kodiak Island
North Slope
Northwest Arctic
Norton Sound
Prince William Sound
Southcentral
Southeast
Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta

Interested in representing your region on the 2021 Statewide Elders & Youth Council?

The Statewide Elders & Youth Council representatives are chosen by your region in the breakout sessions on Tuesday, October 12 at 10:25 am! Be ready to share your story. If chosen, your responsibilities include participating in monthly meetings, gathering feedback from your region, generating conference ideas, and sharing your leadership skills and abilities.

We thank each region for understanding our venue challenges. For more information call 907.677.1700 or e-mail leadership@firstalaskans.org.

9th Annual Chin'an: A Night of Cultural Celebration – 2015-2019

Monday, October 12 at 5 - 6 pm

**Emcee: Dustin Unignax Newman
(Unanga̋/Deg Hit'an)**



Featuring

Alaska Native Cultural Charter School – 2017

Kisagvigmiut Traditional Dancers – 2017

Kodiak Alutiiq Dancers – 2015 & 2016

Lepquinm Gumilgit Gagoadim – 2017

Brennan Firth & Friends – Fiddlers from Arctic Village – 2016

Ahtna Heritage Dancers – 2017

Yup'ik Rainbow Dancers – 2018

Ida'ina Dance Group – 2015

Ciuliam'ta Traditional Drummers & Dancers – 2017

Imamsuat – 2018

Iñu-Yupiaq – 2019

Woosh.ji.een Dance Group – 2015

Di'haii Gwich'in Dancers – 2019

Qikiktagruk Northern Lights Dancers – 2019

For Our Ancestors Dance Group – 2019

Anchorage Unangax Dance Group – 2015

Dene Intertribal Dance Group – 2016

Waikato-Tainui – 2017

Watch on GCI Channels 1 & 907, 360 North, ARCS and online webcast at FAI Homepage at www.firstalaskans.org, FAI Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/FirstAlaskansInstitute> & FAI YouTube Channel at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9xZPC025QmkkNmHQq_cOpw

#EY2020 #AsirgamekApruciluta #AsisgamekAprutliluta #WeAreMakingaGoodPath #Chinan

SPONSORSHIP ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Nt'oyaxsn, Gunalchéesh, Háw'aa, Qağaasskung, Quayana, Enaa Baasee', Quayanaqpak, Quayanaasinaq!
Thank you very much to our 2020 Elders & Youth Conference sponsors!

Elder Level – \$20,000 + above



Mentor Level – \$5,000 – \$9,999



Teacher Level – \$2,500 – \$4,999

Alaska Children's Trust
Chugach Alaska Corporation,
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Youth Level – \$250 – \$2,499

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Special Thanks

Quyanaa to The CIRI Foundation - Journey To What Matters and the Alaska Native Heritage Center for supporting our Living & Loving Our Cultures Workshops.

A.S.K. FOR A BETTER ALASKA

**Slowing the suicide rate in Alaska could be as simple
as talking to someone you care about.**

Ask them if they're thinking of ending their life

Share that you care about them


Keept them company or connect them with someone they trust

Since 2017, the GCI Suicide Prevention Fund has given nearly half a million dollars to Alaska organizations and nonprofits in an effort to help prevent suicide and promote healthy communities. For more information about suicide prevention resources and initiatives visit [GCI.com/Gives](https://www.gci.com/Gives).

CARELINE ALASKA

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Alyeska pipeline

- SCHOLARSHIPS -

- INTERNSHIPS -

- CAREER OPPORTUNITIES -

First Alaskans Institute



At FAI we know we are responsible for carrying more than 10,000 years of ancestral knowledge into the future with rigor, humor, resilience, vigilance, and love.

Our vision:
Progress for the *next* 10,000 years...

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