February 17, 2014

SEATTLE DELEGATE NOMINEES

Seattle Tlingit & Haida Central Council delegate nominees were invited to respond to two questions for this newsletter. Participation was voluntary. Names are listed in the order they will appear on the ballot. Ballot order was determined by a random drawing.

Question 1: **What goal or issue will you focus on during your two-year term and how will you evaluate your success?**

Question 2: **How will you support the Seattle Tlingit and Haida Community Council between Tribal Assemblies?** Please be specific

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**Rene M. Tillman**

1. My first goal is to increase the number of correct addresses for our Seattle Council by working together. Our members should be aware that the proposal in Alaska to decrease our Central Council delegates from 30 to 18 is based on the good numbers. There are 1,727 incorrect addresses of the 4,404 registered members. We'll need to work with our Registrar to develop and implement strategies to increase and maintain correct addresses.

2. I will work for more diversified and stable financial support for our programs and activities. Fundraising is an ongoing issue for the Chapter. We develop programs and activities in response to our council members’ approval. These have been offered at little or no cost to participants. Generally, funding has been from grant proposals, fund raisers and donations. I will continue to work with Ways and Means and our fundraisers on this issue.

**Frank O. Willimans, Jr.**

1. I will continue to promote and or encourage chapter to let people know we are Tlingit & Haida with every right and privilege as those who live in Alaska.

2. Offer to share what I know and learn what I can from others.

**Keith E. Thomas, Jr.**

1. During a two year term I will enjoy being involved in the Tlingit and Haida community and learning from others. As a delegate I would expect feedback from peers and people in the community on how I am doing and constructive ideas on what could be better.

2. As a new delegate I will learn about the different opportunities available for me. Being a psychology student I have an interest in
helping people, especially the wellness of our youth, mental health and substance abuse issues.

**Jania Garcia**
1. My goals are to prepare for new leadership and to work toward achieving our vision of, “A sense of place where we celebrate and honor Southeast Alaska Native Cultures, where children thrive and gain a sense of pride in being Native, where we heal and reach our true potential as a village and a sovereign people.” One measure of success will be the election of someone new to the position of president.
2. I’ll continue to support the community council by serving on committees, attending meetings and events, contributing to fund raisers and advocating for Alaska Native representation on local governmental boards and committees.

**Cher Ketah**
1. During the two-year term I will work on making sure that I listen to community members and bring their concerns to our monthly meetings. I believe a tribal delegate needs to be present, so that the work that is completed at assembly can benefit our tribal member’s everywhere.
2. I will attend meetings and listen to community member’s concerns and needs. I believe as an elected delegate, it’s our privilege to serve, and advocate for our tribal peoples. At tribal assembly we work to make sure our Seattle community tribal member’s are not forgotten, and support the village communities have the needed support, and after assembly we work to implement our tribal affairs to our community in Seattle.

**Lowell K. Halverson**
1. As 6th VP of the tribe's Executive Council I know first hand the challenges the tribe faces locally and nationally... especially now, during a time of economic crisis where needs of the people far exceed the resources available.
2. My hope is to uplift our tribal citizens every way I can. I put on my lawyer hat to advise and protect them when they get into trouble. I pose challenges to the Executive Council and the Administration to ensure they make the best decisions for everyone. I growl like a bear when our trust fund is threatened. I worry about the future of our children all the time.

**Jacob (Jay) Cabuag**
1. One goal I have is to move CCTHITA forward towards generating financial foundations that will support relying less on government funding and state grants. This will create the option for less deductions from the Tribes Trust Fund. As a delegate, through appropriate CCTHITA channels, I can request reports on actions of the Executive Council committee created 4 years ago for this purpose and help bring this issue to the head of the agenda.
2. Between Tribal Assemblies as a delegate attend all Seattle Community Council meetings, not just a delegate that only attends the an-
Annual Tribal Assembly - representing Seattle T&H member issues at Tribal Assembly requires knowing firsthand the concerns our members bring to us as delegates. Be an active participant in committees. Promote interest in younger members to become a delegate (Very Important). Help keep our community council moving forward with the changing times and economic necessities.

David Leask
1. I have dedicated service to Tlingit Haida Central Council which includes 38 years as a delegate (1973-2011), five years on the Executive Council, longtime chair of the Enrollment Committee, and 13 years as Tribal Assembly Parliamentarian. My goal is to continue to be of service to our communities and our culture.
2. I would like to help in a review and up-date of the constitution. There are a few sections that should be brought up to date. The Rules of Election can be more concise, it is too cumbersome.

Joey C. Ketah
1. During my two-year term, I will focus on building the Washington Chapter community council outreach to our tribal members to identify how we can advocate for our community tribal members. I am willing to work collaboratively with other tribal communities and organizations so we can bring any support and resources to our Tlingit and Haida Washington community.
2. My goal is to see how the Seattle Chapter can address our community needs and continue to carry on all of the hard work from Tribal Assembly. As at-large Tlingit and Haida tribal members we need to find a way to celebrate our culture in Washington with bridging our contemporary needs.

Daphyne Albee (Cabuag)
My focus is the Seattle Community Council-WA Chapter Scholarship for our tribal community. The pursuit of education continues to strengthen our community and helps to reach a goal of equal opportunity and nondiscrimination. We can evaluate our success by the growing number of students applying for the scholarship and our Graduates! Fundraising is a yearlong event. Please keep the SCC-WA Chapter Scholarship in mind when you donate, our nonprofit status makes your donation tax deductible!

LaVerne A. Wise
1. The next two years promise to be exciting for our community. I would like to focus on outreach to our community by attending as many activities by other groups, clans and corporations as possible to contact our citizens to complete our Tlingit & Haida enrollment numbers. My success will be shown by the reduction the ‘bad address’ list.
2. As always I attend all meetings and activities sponsored by Seattle Tlingit & Haida. As long as I’m employed Tlingit & Haida Chapter will have a place to call home.
Pamela Y. Dalton-Stearns
1. My primary goal is to strengthen our tribal government so it works for us, our families and future generations. Over the last two years I made it my mission to focus the Judiciary Committee’s attention on civil rights and domestic violence. Our Tribe’s strong voice was a key factor in the passage of VAWA. I will continue to fight for the civil rights, dignity, and fair treatment of our tribal members in Washington and Alaska.
2. We are blessed to have a strong tribal community in Seattle and I will continue to advocate for our families by serving as both a member of the Communications Team and the Civil Rights Committee. I will also work hard for our community by fundraising, by helping with local employment opportunities, and by raising our profile in the City, County and State.

Iris Friday
I am the granddaughter of Katherine and David Friday, Sr. and the daughter of Marilyn Tevlin from Kake, Alaska.
1. • Coordinate a Youth Summit that highlights summer opportunities to expand youth education, internships, and access to summer camps.
   • Youth Summit will include a focus on Real Foods & Cooking Skills that incorporate healthy purchasing habits, an introduction to food labeling and an opportunity to learn cooking skills.
2. • Actively engage and participate in regular meetings; assist with planning sessions for regularly scheduled events; build capacity of organization to pursue diverse funding sources.

Fred Lauth
1. My name is Fred Lauth Sr., my Tlingit name is Steeyun. My goal is to maintain the good financial health and well being for the Tlingit and Haida people.
2. I will continue to support the Seattle Tlingit and Haida as much as I can by supporting our many activities. Háw’aaas

Marian K. Lauth
1. My name is Marian Lauth I am married to Fred Lauth. If elected to T&H tribal assembly I plan to participate on the culture heritage committee. I have been on the women’s caucus during elections for many years.
2. I will support our Seattle community by attending our monthly meetings and if needed I will cook for our events.

Cecilia E. Tavoliero
My name is Cecilia Tavoliero. I was born in Kake and went to school in Petersburg, Alaska. I am a Tlingit Raven. I have been living here in the Seattle area for four years and working in our electrical contracting business, Red Cedar Electrical Construction, LLC. I am an experienced delegate of Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indians of Alaska having served as a delegate from Anchorage. I am enjoying the activities we do with tribal citizens in this area and get-
ting to know many who live here. My experience as an Alaska Native Sisterhood Grand Officer & Executive Committee member has taught me that serving is very important to me and my community. I would like to continue serving our community in the capacity of delegate and I humbly ask for your vote.

**Bear G. Alexander**

1. I would be proud to be a delegate for Tlingit and Haida, it has been my honor to serve as tribal delegate for the last few years. The main goal is to help craft a new fundraising plan to help our chapter grow. I evaluate our success by the increased activities we produce every year.
2. I enjoy working and helping to plan our various events for the Seattle Community. Between the Tribal assemblies, I help out with all the committees with our activities and I chair the finance committee. I look forward to helping the WA chapter grow with continuing outreach into the community and with the other tribal organizations.

**Jessica (Laxhaakudao) S. Dominy**

It's been my honor to serve you for the last 4.5 terms as a delegate to our Tlingit & Haida Central Council. In my terms I've strove to have our young T&H members voices heard. If I earn your vote this term, I look to bring even more young voices into the conversation. I also continue to learn how to bring our Haida & Tlingit languages back into our tribal government. Gunałchéesh! Háw’aa!

**Constance (Connie) A. Simpson**

1. The goal I will focus on is to get to know more local T&H members at any function given by any Native group, that I attend. I may evaluate by how many new people I have been able to have a conversation with.
2. For many of the older delegates, the contribution they have made to the Washington Chapter has been significant. Our Traditional Native Communities honor the elderly. They do not be-little them because they are not as Active as they used to be. White man’s way is to publically embarrass and be-little in order to elevate themselves. Let's remember our roots, and teachings of our people.

**Morgan O. Howard**

1. What role do we play as urban Indians in the perpetuation of that which has the most meaning to us – our values, culture and way of life? It’s imperative we define ourselves as a group so we engage in work which makes us relevant today and in the future. Large goals are achieved incrementally and can be difficult to measure. We must strive for significant change and avoid the pitfall of measuring activity.
2. I support CCTHITA because of an obligation to my grandparents, children and ancestors. I serve the Seattle community because you don’t stop being Tlingit or Haida because you live outside of Alaska. My work includes serving on two Native enterprise business boards and operating two businesses that serve primarily ANCs and Tribes. For more information about who I am please visit
Catherine N. Edwards
1. Specializing in advocacy and management, employed by CCTHITA for 25 years in Economic Development, ICWA, Education, TANF/477. Urban Natives are Indian Country. It’s time to exercise our strength by embracing the fact that we span 3 states. Time to create a new box and bring economic opportunity to Southeast Alaska allowing Natives to remain in Alaska instead of being forced to migrate. Evaluation of my success will be done by you the voting membership.
2. I will continue to be present at monthly meetings. I will continue to work on our Facebook page and social media strategy.

Cindy L. Williams-Pederson
1. If elected for delegate my goal will be to involve tribal members in cultural activities. We need to provide more workshops and training to pass on the cultural traditions of our relatives. The success of this goal can be measured by how many workshops we have.
2. I will help to raise funds, plan and facilitate workshops. As delegate I will continue to serve by embracing and uniting each other to respect our tribal family values.

Carla J. Tobin-Jones
1. I am a descendant of the Kogwantan (Eagle/Wolf moiety) from Kook-hit Taan (the Box House of Sitka). I will listen and learn from experienced delegates and elders, share technology and work experience skills to enhance council efforts. Provide detailed reporting, written and verbal form as directed. My experience as a former Microsoft Alumni is offered to enhance and be a resource for Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska.
2. Attend meetings in Seattle and Alaska regularly. My first cousin Judge Douglas Luna and my mother’s sister Corinne Leach would be proud. These formal members were strong influences in my life. Participate with the annual picnic and work on food committee. I am not afraid of work and learning, living by respecting elders is how Matilda Peters-Monzon instilled in me. I am excited with the potential of becoming a delegate.
Karen J. Elliott (Lauth)
1. My Tlingit name is Sa’xoon; my English name is Karen Lauth Elliott. My goal is to participate on the education and culture committee. I will support any issues that affects our Seattle community and other communities.
2. I will continue to serve for Seattle T&H youth committee and to develop a program for our Tlingit and Haida youth.

Richard W. Summers
1. Most of my efforts will be youth centric. My day job is Education Specialist/Youth Services Coordinator for the Seattle Indian Health Board so I believe this is where I could serve best. Along with involving myself in more local Alaska Native youth programs, I’d like to build a fund accessible to Tlingit/Haida families in need of assistance with school supplies, field trip money and after school activity costs. Success evaluated through Excel tracking documents.
2. I’ll support the Seattle Tlingit-Haida Community Council between tribal assemblies by making myself available for meetings and help with activities as they arise. I know WA members don’t have access to many services offered to members in AK so I would love to help out with fundraising events and planning/supporting the culture fair. Advocating for Native people is something I’m passionate about, if elected a delegate this is an opportunity I’ll run with.

Sam Hanlon
1. I would like to approve the budget and hold programs to the budget compliance. Success would not draw down on the Trust.
2. I would like to advocate membership to increase the number of new members. I have been a delegate and a local consult for THWA for 20+ years. I am also currently on the Central Councils Audit Committee, appointed by the President of the Central Council. Formerly I was appointed to the Finance Committee by the President of the Central Council. I appreciate your continued support.

ALSO RUNNING:  Top row clockwise left to right: Kara E. Peele-Mayer, Joyce M. Alexander, Jack Strong, Jim W. Price, Janet Peele, Mary E. Ebona-Miller, Carolyn S. Heersema, Johanna (Jo) M. Cabuag, Frank O. Williams III