



Alaska Native Values in Modern Governance: A Gathering

We Are One

Our Organizing Committee:



Teresa Jacobsson, Gwich'in | Yup'ik is the founder of JW Industries Group and Alchemy Tribal Services. She has held multiple executive positions for several ANCSA corporations, tribes and tribal entities and has served as director of The Eva Foundation and is the founder and president of the Alaska Tribal Administrators Association and the Alaska Women's Leadership Forum. She currently serves as Board Secretary for Bean's Café. Teresa volunteers her time to mentor women in business and those recovering from trauma. She is the daughter of the late Desa Jacobsson.



Greta L. Goto, Yup'ik, is vice-chairman of the Bristol Bay Native Corporation. She grew up in Dillingham, Alaska. She graduated from Georgetown University with a degree in foreign service, and from University of Alaska Anchorage with a master's in business administration. Greta recently attained the certified director designation from the National Association of Corporate Directors. Greta's professional experience includes non-profit and business management, research and project development, strategic planning, board, and committee service. She currently works for the Alaska Center for Climate Action and Policy exploring workforce development as a strategic component of climate mitigation and adaptation capacity building.



Sharon Chilux Guenther Lind, Ph.D. is an Assistant Professor of Management at UAA's College of Business and Public Policy. Lind was born and raised in Kenai, Alaska and is a descendant of both Attu and Atka on the Aleutian Islands. Today Lind serves on the board of directors of the Aleut Corporation and the Atxam Corporation. She also teaches in the Alaska Native Business Management program, teaching the next generation of leaders about ANCSA and the Alaska Native Corporation.



Joseph Kaaxúxgu Nelson, J.D., is the Chairman of Sealaska Corporation. Joe is a Brown Bear (*Teikweidi*) from Yakutat. He is also a *Kváashke'I Kwáan yádi*. His Tlingit name is *Kaaxúxgu*. Joe grew up commercial fishing and subsistence living in Yakutat. After graduating from Yakutat High School, Joe completed a bachelor's degree in Political Science and a Master's degree in American Indian Studies from UCLA. He also has a juris doctorate from Loyola Law School. Understanding indigenous values, Joe continually advocates for younger voices in the boardroom and throughout Sealaska, knowing that decisions made today will impact generations yet to come.



Tiel Smith, MBA, is the Chief Executive Officer of the Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc., (RurAL CAP), a private, statewide, nonprofit organization with a mission to empower low-income Alaskans with respect for our unique values and cultures. Smith has 20 years of management and strategic leadership experience. Originally from Dillingham, Smith is an Aleut shareholder of BBNC and Choggiung Limited. He holds a BS from Utah State University and MBA from Alaska Pacific University. He has served on multiple boards, is active in the community, and is currently vice-president of his area's commercial fishing association.



Maria Shaa Tláa Williams, Ph.D. received her M.A. and PhD from UCLA. The title of her dissertation is *Alaska Native Music: The Spirit of Survival*. She has been teaching at the University of Alaska Anchorage since 2011 in the department of Alaska Native Studies. Her publications include *The Alaska Native Reader: History, Culture & Politics* (2009); a documentary film on Athabascan Basket maker Daisy Stridzatz Demientieff (*A Beautiful Journey* 2009). Research interests include Alaska Native history, the impact of colonialism and cultural revitalization.