



FAIRBANKS NATIVE ASSOCIATION



Notice of Annual Meeting

Friday March 8, 2019 • 6 pm at the Chief David Salmon Tribal Hall

Dear Membership,

Our 2019 Annual Meeting will be held at 6:00 pm on Friday, March 8th at the Chief David Salmon Tribal Hall. The Annual Meeting is a time for us to give you our 2018 report, provide you with the opportunity to meet our program staff, and answer your questions. After last year's success, we see value in continuing to hold a consumer panel and we have invited individuals who use our services to share their experiences. Our board election is also conducted at our Annual Meeting. We have three open seats and received four candidate applications from Darcy Peter, Glenn Carlo, Jessica Black and Andrea Durny.



You will notice included on this year's ballot is a proposed change to FNA's Articles of Incorporation. In 2018 our Board of Directors began looking to change FNA membership eligibility from a minimum of one quarter blood to a direct descendent. We recognize this change as inclusive and will create a positive impact to our membership by including our fellow members who have waited to participate in voting, pageants, or running for the FNA board.

I encourage you to attend the Annual Meeting this year to learn about the amazing work we are doing here at FNA and to vote for your local leadership. Your participation is important and valued.

I look forward to seeing you this March.

Steve Ginnis, Executive Director

All 2019 candidates have met the following requirements:



- 1/4 Alaska Native or American Indian
- Eighteen (18) years of age or older
- A resident of at least 30 days in the Fairbanks North Star Borough
- Not an employee of FNA
- Submitted a completed application by February 4, 2019 to FNA Administration

Fairbanks Native Association is providing candidate information to our membership so that you have an opportunity to learn about the 2019 FNA Board Candidates and make an informed decision on March 8.

To Vote in the FNA Elections you must be:
At least 1/4 Alaska Native or American Indian
Eighteen (18) years of age or older
A resident of at least 30 days in the Fairbanks North Star Borough

2019 Board Candidate	Employment	Finance & Budgeting Experience	Grant Regulations Experience	Strategic Planning Experience
 <p data-bbox="56 516 212 573">Darcy Peter, Beaver</p> <p data-bbox="56 984 245 1010">Photo: Chris Linder</p>	<p data-bbox="302 153 467 306">Office of Environmental Health, Tanana Chiefs Conference</p>	<p data-bbox="513 153 789 333">I am a bit unfamiliar with finance and budgeting for organizations, but am exceptional at personal budgeting</p>	<p data-bbox="854 153 1190 600">Good. Every work and research experience I have had the opportunity to be part of in the past three years since earning my BS has been funded by grants. Therefore, I am very aware of grant requirements, and the responsibilities that come with fulfilling both community and grant needs. I understand that it can be tricky to do both at times, however with a determined and creative mind, it certainly is possible.</p>	<p data-bbox="1206 153 1563 438">Excellent. Planning is one of my passions, and it is something I practice in every aspect of life, whether it be for work, pleasure, education, any of the boards I serve on, or scientific research. I believe that proper planning allows full utilization of funds, time, resources, and energy.</p>
 <p data-bbox="56 1419 253 1535">Jessica Black, Gwichyaa Zhee Tribal Government</p>	<p data-bbox="302 1056 480 1119">University of Alaska Fairbanks</p>	<p data-bbox="513 1056 837 1545">I have acquired finance and budgeting experience both through my experience on the FNA board, as well as my service on the Tanana Chiefs Health Board. These experiences, in addition to managing several, large research grants at UAF which require detailed budgets and more than a basic level of understanding of finances has grounded me in this expertise.</p>	<p data-bbox="854 1056 1190 1734">Grant Regulations: As mentioned above, I am involved as both a Co-PI and Co-lead on several large university grants, where I have to both follow grant regulations, but also understand them and be mindful of them when my research teams and I are applying for the funding. So I have learned how to effectively read and understand regulations as they are listed out in the grant guidelines and ensure I am following through throughout the life of the grant.</p>	<p data-bbox="1206 1056 1563 1854">I have been involved in several strategic planning sessions through my service on the FNA board, but also in the university setting. Currently, I am part of a university-wide initiative called the Troth Yeddha' Initiative, where fundraising, awareness building and implementation of an Indigenous Studies Center and Park are being undertaken. It is a huge initiative and has required many years of planning, as well as building on the legacy of elders and mentors who initiated the process. I feel proficient in strategic planning and have also led some strategic planning sessions myself, working with tribes and specific programs within nonprofits.</p>

Program Planning & Evaluation Experience	Skills & Qualifications	Board Experience	Why are you interested in running for the board?
<p>Excellent. I am constantly searching for avenues that maximize program goals and outreach. Planning and careful program evaluation are just two ways to do this, and do it well; it keeps everybody on track, and accountable. Planning hugely increases distribution of results and needs, while evaluation confirms that the plans are following through.</p>	<p>I am currently serving on three boards at the moment, as both a scientist and Alaska Native woman. I just want to serve, and serve respectfully, which I believe I do. I grew up hunting, fishing, and trapping with my uncles in Beaver, Alaska which taught me to truly acknowledge and respect the relationship between people and the land. This is what influenced me to earn my BS in Environmental Biology with a minor in Psychology. Since graduation, I've returned home and dove head-first into serving my Alaska Native people. It is my life's goal to help grow and protect our Alaska Native traditional subsistence way of life. I believe the best way to serve my people is to remain close to Beaver to continue to hunt, fish, and trap, while also obtaining a higher education degree. I will be attending the University of Alaska Fairbanks starting this summer (2019) to earn my PhD.</p>	<p>Yukon River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, commissioner; Native American Fish & Wildlife Society, board member; North Pacific Fisheries Management Council, (tentative) Advisory Panel member.</p>	<p>I just want to serve shalak najj (our people), and I believe that I can do so by serving as a board member at FNA. I always prioritize shalak najj while at meetings and making decisions, and am creative at creating opportunities to do so. I thoroughly enjoy serving shalak najj and our community. I believe I have a lot to offer to FNA. If elected as a board member, I will certainly do my very best to prioritize everyone's voices and that my actions and words serve our elders and community members.</p>
<p>I have had extensive experience, both in my current position as an Assistant Professor at UAF and in past jobs and consulting engagements helped me to garner experience and proficiency in program planning and evaluation. As part of my consulting with the Council of Athabascan Tribal Governments (CATG) I had the opportunity to work with a couple of evaluators, including a colleague who got her PhD in Indigenous Evaluation and I learned so much from that experience, that I carry into my own work today.</p>	<p>First of all, I am a good listener and I have a lot of love for my Alaska Native and Fairbanks community/people, so I work diligently and hard for the best interests of our FNA consumers. I also believe my experience at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, as an Assistant Professor, as well as my extensive experience in community service makes me an asset to the board. I also have worked extensively with tribes and have a strong believe in self-determination and governance. Lastly, I got my Bachelors, Masters and Ph.D in Social Work, concentrating my dissertation on the intersection of governance and well-being, so I have a strong mental health background.</p>	<p>I currently serve on the National Association of Rural Mental Health Board of Directors, the Pathways for Prevention Board, and the Tanana Chiefs Health Conference Health Board. All of these experiences, to date, have collectively made me a better and more effective board member. In the past I have also served on the Doyon Foundation Scholarship Review Committee.</p>	<p>I have served on the board for three years and have learned a lot and have felt good about my contributions. I felt like this first term was all about listening and learning and representing those we [as FNA Board Members] represent in the best way possible. I am excited to become more vocal and more strategic in my service to FNA members, so that we can best represent your interests and needs. I also feel my experience as an educator, researcher and culture and language learner make me a great candidate, because I love to learn and love to connect with others. I am easily approachable, a great listener and love my people.</p>

2019 Board Candidate	Employment	Finance & Budgeting Experience	Grant Regulations Experience	Strategic Planning Experience
 <p>Glenn Carlo, Rampart & Nulato</p>	<p>Title VI Director, Denakkanaaga Inc.</p>	<p>Many years on Rampart, Fairbanks Native Association and National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (N4A) boards finance committee</p>	<p>Running and applying every three years for Title VI program</p>	<p>Done this with Tanana Chiefs Conference, Denakkanaaga and Fairbanks Native Association</p>
 <p>Andrea Durny, Nulato</p>	<p>Coordinator of Student Support & Testing Services, Yukon-Koyukuk School District</p>	<p>As the program manager it is my responsibility to ensure that the goals of all grant programs I oversee are being met, and to ensure funding is spent in a timely manner, as intended.</p>	<p>Ensure all budgetary processes are being followed according to grant regulations.</p>	<p>I served on the strategic planning committee for YKSD, meeting quarterly. The strategic plan outlines the goals of the district and was approved by the school board. Once adopted the plan is implemented district wide.</p>

Proposed on the election ballot will be a Yes or No change to FNA’s Articles of Incorporation

FNA is recommending the following amended language to our Articles of Incorporation to expand FNA’s Membership to those who are direct descendants of Alaska Natives or American Indians.

At last years annual meeting a comment was given that our 1/4 requirement excluded individuals who fall short of the requirement, but are able to trace their lineage to some of their oldest ancestors. This opened up discussion for our Board of Directors to begin researching an amendment to our membership eligibility in both our Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws.

A change to FNA’s Articles of Incorporation will require a two thirds vote by membership at the Annual Meeting.

Below is the current language:

ARTICLE VII

Membership: Those persons eligible for full membership in the Corporation shall be descendants of the American Indian and Eskimo of North America.

- (a) Native Members—must be 1/4 or more Indian, Eskimo, Aleut, or American Indian and shall be over eighteen (18) years of age.
- (b) Associate Members—as set forth in the by-laws.

Program Planning & Evaluation Experience	Skills & Qualifications	Board Experience	Why are you interested in running for the board?
Title VI experience on FNA Planning & Development committee	Working with Elders	N4A, Baan O Yeel Kon Corporation	To make Fairbanks a better place for our people, create programs for the youth and Elders to be proud of our culture— a good life.
We work with a 3rd party evaluator to assess the goals if the goals of the program are being met, and to ensure that program activities are being conducted. Meetings are held quarterly and revisions to the program are made as needed.	Strong community engagement background. Thirteen years of successful program implementation through grants and other funding.	Served three years as secretary on FNA board. Also, on the Learning Point Alaska Board.	It has been a great privilege to serve as secretary of FNA board the past 3 years. Together we have achieved a lot for the betterment of our stakeholders and I would like to continue to serve others.

Below is the proposed language change:

ARTICLE VII MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. CLASSES OF MEMBERS: Those persons eligible for full membership in FNA shall be:

- (a) Native Members – Native members shall be a direct descendant of an individual who is Athabascan, Inupiaq, Yup'ik, Unangan, Tlingit, Haida, Tsimshian, Cup'ik, Sugpiaq, Eyak and/or Alaska Native/American Indian and is eighteen (18) years of age or older. Native members shall have voting rights.
- (b) Associate or Honorary Members – Associate or Honorary members may be selected by the Board of Directors and shall not be entitled to vote.

Section 2. PROOF OF NATIVE DECENT AND ELIGIBILITY FOR MEMBERSHIP: Those persons eligible for full membership in FNA pursuant to Article 1, Section 1(a) shall provide the following documentation as proof of their native heritage:

- (a) A certificate issued by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) certifying native blood; or*
- (b) A letter from a qualifying tribe as identified in Article 1, Section 1(a) certifying membership in that Tribe.*

Those Associate or Honorary Members selected by the Board of Directors pursuant to Article 1, Section 1(b) have no voting rights and shall be exempt from proof of eligibility.

Section 3. as amended and restated shall fully recite the provision previously numbered as Article 1, Section 2:

FNA JOM Youth Basketball Tournament

March 11-13, 2019
Tanana Middle School



During Spring Break in 1999, the first FNA JOM Alaska Native Youth Basketball Tournament was held. Initially, Linda Woods and Freda Williams, program directors of JOM and Community Services, recognized a need for an activity which would not cost students to participate. Since our students love basketball, a tournament was designed to give all Native students an opportunity to play. This tournament has continued to give Native students from grade 3 - 12, regardless of skill level, an event designed for them.

For the first few years, the tournament was designed for students in the Fairbanks schools. In later years, participation was expanded to students outside the Fairbanks area. Each year on average almost two

hundred interior youth participate in our tournament. JOM Cultural Specialist Irene Nicholia-Todd shared a story about teaching many first time youth how to dribble and shoot the basketball, one of whom went on to play college basketball. This tournament is a time that sparks fun, joy and creates memories for it's participants and volunteers.

We owe the success of this event to our volunteers and sponsors who assist in their donation of time or money. If you are able, please consider volunteering for one of the many positions available: coach, assistant coach, time keeper, score keeper, entrance attendant or concessionaire.



If you are interested in volunteering your time during the three day tournament, please contact JOM staff at 452-1648 extension 6403.

You can find tournament information on our website, www.fairbanksnative.org.



Miss FNA—18-24 years of age

FNA Princess— 13-17 years of age

FNA Baby— 6-24 months



Contestants should meet eligibility requirements of 1/4 Alaska Native/ American Indian and a Fairbanks resident (30 days minimum). Miss FNA contestants see application for full eligibility requirements.

Moose soup, anyone? FNA's 56th Annual Potlatch & Pageant is Saturday, March 16, 5 p.m. at Chief David Salmon Tribal Hall.

Enjoy traditional native foods like moose soup, baked salmon, pilot bread, labrador tea, and blueberry desserts. We suggest arriving on time to get your seat before the hall fills up.

After the potlatch, stay and watch us crown 2019's Miss FNA, FNA Princess and FNA Baby. Every contestant receives a prize! We know you all work very hard on your regalia. Applications can be found on our website under News and Events. Return them by March 8th to Shaylene Dublin at sdublin@fairbanksnative.org.



FNA Behavioral Health

A CLOSER LOOK AT YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT SERVICES



As Alaska consistently reports one of the highest rates of suicide in the nation. In 2010, Alaskans ages 15-24 had the highest suicide rate (46/100,000) of any age group. This rate was significantly higher for Alaska Native females (50.3) and Alaska Native males (142). In 2014, in order to address this overwhelming need, FNA and TCC implemented Saving our Youth and Young Adults (SAYA), a “Healthy Transitions” SAMHSA funded project that provides services for youth and young adults with mental disorders, including suicide and/or co-occurring substance abuse and mental health disorders for youth age 16-25.

Visions is one of five grants making up the Youth and Young Adult Services (YYAS) Division at FNA. It is a partnership between FNA and Tanana Chiefs Conference, with FNA as the lead agency. The purpose of Visions is to develop and implement a tribal-wide youth suicide prevention and early intervention strategy for the region. Visions has been instrumental in enhancing the YYAS scope related to addressing suicide; by providing prevention and early intervention services for ages 10-25 throughout this region (increasing the age range and service area covered by the SAYA project). Visions is also working towards the incorporation of a Zero Suicide approach, per the 2012 National Strategy. Additionally, Visions has added new prevention and intervention strategies/services including two new evidence-based practices to the service continuum. Funding began in October of 2015. The Project is scheduled to receive SAMHSA funding thru September 2020.

The Synergy Native Connections Project is under the umbrella of one of two divisions in FNA’s Behavioral Health Department, Youth

and Young Adult Services (YYAS) and Adult Services. During fiscal year 2018 YYAS consisted of five individual projects, four funded by SAMHSA and one by Indian Health Service. The Behavioral Health Department is overseen by an honored Native Elder, Perry Ahsogeak. All YYAS projects are part of our tribal community’s three-pronged approach to addressing the behavioral health needs of Alaska Native and American Indian youth and young adults. These consist of:

Interagency Transition Council - The leadership group tasked with infrastructure development and systems change, filling service gaps, and streamlining the service system to support behavioral health services for Alaska Native youth and young adults.

Youth Councils - The voice of youth throughout the service continuum from planning to implementation to ongoing operations. There are two youth councils, one focused on young adults and one on youth and family members. A member of each council serves on the ITC providing youth/young adult input to that council.

Service Providers – Behavioral Health service providers Fairbanks Native Association and our tribal partner and regional health corporation Tanana Chiefs Conference.

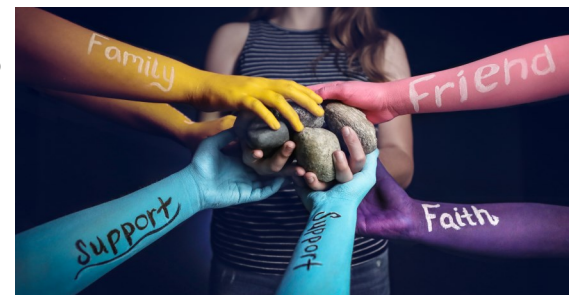
The Synergy project purpose is to prevent and reduce suicidal behavior and substance abuse, reduce the impact of trauma, and promote mental health among Alaska Native youth/young adults up to age 24. Synergy’s overarching goal to bring all projects together into one coordinated whole. The now integrated projects are functioning as a whole towards creating overall health and well-being for youth and young adults.

Together through the efforts of the YYAS Department and its individual grant projects, the community now has a full continuum of YYAS behavioral health care services including prevention, intervention and treatment services, with Synergy focused on the prevention component serving youth and young adults and is in the process of refining the infrastructure to support these services. It is significant to note that when FNA initially planned to meet the behavioral health needs of its youth and young adults it had only one project serving this population, a residential treatment center. It now offers a complete continuum of care in just four short years. Through Synergy we are now in the process of developing a *synergistic* department in which the whole is greater than the sum of the individual projects.

If you or someone you know is struggling with any of the following: depression, family problems, school failure, substance abuse, peer pressure, suicide, parental alcohol abuse, friends that drink or take drugs, foster care, homelessness, anxiety, or death of family members or friends—FNA Youth and Young Adult Services is here to help.

Stop by Youth and Young Adult Services
615 Bidwell Ave., Suite 103
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Or call them today at (907) 452-6251





3830 South Cushman St.
 Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
 (907) 452-1648

Visit our website at:
www.fairbanksnative.org

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JOIN OUR TEAM

Apply online by going to our website,
www.fairbanksnative.org/employment/job-opportunities/

Or with your smart phone camera,
 scan our QR code



Congratulations to our amazing team members

FNA Employee of the Month

September 2018	October 2018	November 2018
Siobhan Lynch Behavioral Health Services	Jennifer Ellison Early Childhood Development	Mark Dorland Administration

FNA Annual Awards

Teamwork	Community	Leadership	Service
Eric Fitzgerald Administration	Irene Nicholia-Todd Johnson O'Malley	Alice Murphy Administration	Rebecca Buckles SOAP