



Symposium 2026



Strategic Alignment. Disciplined Action: Moving Ahead with Purpose

Anchorage Marriott Downtown

April 18, 2026 | 10:00 AM

Day One - Tuesday, April 21, 2026

- **Morning Session**

Grand Pacific Ball Room

8:00 AM **Breakfast & Networking**

9:00 AM **Opening Prayer**

9:10 AM **Welcome** - Teresa Jacobsson, Chair, ATAA | Curtis McQueen, Executive Director, ANVCA

9:20 AM **Philanthropy in Alaska**

Gretchen Guess, CEO, Rasmuson Foundation; Daniel Delfino, Director of Planning/Program Dev., Alaska Housing Finance Corporation; Megan Cacciola, VP of Programs/Grants, Alaska Community Foundation; Dr. Mary Wilson, CEO, Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority

10:00 AM **Tribes + Village Corporations: Distinct Roles, Shared Responsibility**

Teresa Jacobsson, Curtis McQueen

10:20 AM **ANVCA Update: Accomplishments and Challenges for Alaska Native Village Corporations**

Nathan McCowan, Chair

10:30 AM **Strategic 638 Contracting: Economic Tools for Alaska Native Tribes**

Sarah Lawson, Associate; Alex Casey, Of Counsel, Schwabe

11:00 AM **Alaska Gasline Panel: Progress Made and Next Steps**

John D. Sims, President, Enstar Natural Gas; Frank Richards, President, Alaska Gasline Development Corporation; Ella Ede, Community Affairs and Workforce Development Lead, Glenfarne Alaska LNG, LLC

12:00 PM **Lunch - Provided**

Alaska Resource & Tribal Infrastructure Coordination (ARTIC) Project

Sarah Lukin, Alaska Federation of Natives



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Day One - Tuesday, April 21, 2026

• Afternoon Session

	Track One: Corporations	Track Two: Tribes	<u>Room</u>
1:00 PM	Building Trauma-Informed Systems: Understanding the Process and Implication Dr. Angelia Trujillo, UAA Alaska Comprehensive Forensic Training Academy		Anchorage
	Tribal Accounting: Processes and Procedures to Ensure Internal Controls Karen Hartke, VP of Finance, Alchemy Tribal Services; Bikky Shrestha, Assurance Partner, BDO; Vernon Bennett, President, Native Village of Nuiqsut		Fairbanks
	Reducing Uncertainty and Protecting Growth: Insurance, Employee Benefits, and Surety Solutions for Alaska Native Corporations - IMA Corporation Ross Goble, Account Executive; Chris Loudon, Account Executive; Matt Thon, Broker; Ashley Hartshorn, Regional Vice-President		Juneau
2:15 PM	Tribal Justice and Jurisdiction Alex Cleghorn, Partner, Landye, Bennett, Blumstein		Anchorage
	Program Cost Controls: Allowability/Preventing Misallocation and Indirect Cost Allocation Karen Hartke, VP of Finance, Alchemy Tribal Services; Sheila Harris, Owner, Reliable Consulting and Accounting; Christian Diamond, Grants Officer, Denali Commission; Phillip Toney, Natural Resource Manager, Native Village of Nuiqsut		Fairbanks
	Current issues in Environmental Insurance: New Risks, Claims, Trends and "Nuclear" Verdicts! - Alera Group Max Hanley, Regional Director, Washington and Alaska		Juneau
3:30 PM	Break		
3:45 PM	Tribal Corporations: From Partnerships to Pitfalls Sarah Lawson, Shareholder; Molly Gunther, Associate; Sam Schimmel, Associate, Schwabe		Anchorage
	Building the Future of Tribal Education in Alaska Mischa Jackson, Tribal Education Liaison, CCTHITA; Quinton Roman Nose, Executive Director, Tribal Education Department National Assembly; Sonya Skan, Education & Training Director, Ketchikan Indian Community; Mark Roseberry, Ed. Director/Administrator ICAS/Qargi Academy		Fairbanks
	Alaska Permanent Capital Management: Aligning Strategy and Capital Brandi Niclai, CIO, APCM; Michael Fredricks, President, Salt		Juneau



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Day Two - Wednesday, April 22, 2026

- **Morning Session**

Grand Pacific Ball Room

8:00 AM **Breakfast & Networking**

9:00 AM **Morning Announcements and Updates** - Teresa Jacobsson

9:05 AM **Alaska Federation of Natives Updates** - Benjamin Mallott, President

9:15 AM **Tribal Administrator of the Year Award** - ATAA Board of Directors

9:25 AM **8(a) Program: Today's Headwinds**

Shauna Hegna, CEO, Koniag; McHugh Pierre, President/CEO, Goldbelt, Inc.; Christopher Slottee, Partner, Schwabe; Polly Watson, Vice-President of Operations, BBNC; Kristina Woolston, CEO, Old Harbor Native Corporation

10:15 AM **Fraud: Impact, Trust, and Response Across Tribal and Village Corporation Operations**

Rebecca Patterson, Partner, Sonosky, et al; Elaine Kroll, Executive Vice-President, FNBA; Karen Hartke; VP of Finance, Alchemy Tribal Services/JWIG; David Harrison, Chair, Chickaloon Moose Creek Native Association; BDO

11:00 AM **Updates from EPA Region 10**

Emma Pokon, Regional Administrator

11:30 AM **Alaska's Economy in Motion: Funding Shifts, Real Impacts, and What to Watch**

Brett Watson, Ph.D., Assoc. Professor of Applied & Natural Resource Economics, UAA ISER

12:15 PM **Lunch** - Provided



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Day Two - Wednesday, April 22, 2026

- Afternoon Session

Track One: Corporations	Track Two: Tribes	<u>Room</u>
1:00 PM	Federal Program Updates from HUD ONAP, BIA and EPA Tami Fordham, Director, EPA Alaska Region; BIA, HUD ONAP	Anchorage
	SSBCI Program Viola Smith, Lending Program Assistant Director, AK Small Business Development Center	Fairbanks
	Meet and Greet: Connect with Village Corporations, Tribes, and Vendors	Juneau
2:15 PM	Enrollment: How Numbers Impact Funding and Issuing TSA-Compliant Tribal ID Cards Native Village of Eyak	Anchorage
	Capacity with Discipline: Aligning Program Growth with Long-Term Tribal Stability Vernon Bennett, President, Native Village of Nuiqsut; Phillip Tony, Natural Resources Director, Native Village of Nuiqsut; Karen Hartke, VP of Finance, Alchemy Tribal Services	Fairbanks
	ANCSA Contaminated Lands Working Group Curtis McQueen, Executive Director, ANVCA; Lisa Griswold, Program Director, Contaminated Lands Support Program, ANTHC; Tami Fordham, Director, EPA Alaska Region; Lauren Boldrick, Program Manager, EPA Alaska Region; Mahri Lowinger, Sr. Project Manager, EPA Region 10; Shonda Oderkirk, Program Specialist, SPAR/ANCSA Contaminated Lands Program, ADEC	Juneau
3:15 PM	Break	
3:30 PM	From Oversight to Partnership: Strengthening Council/Administrator Relationships & The Fiduciary Trust Responsibility ATAA	Anchorage
	Navigating Fee-to-Trust Regulations: Understanding the Process and Implications Sarah Lawson, Shareholder; Anna Nolan, Associate, Schwabe	Fairbanks
	Strengthening Governance: Authority Matrix and Financial Controls for Village Corporations Cameron Poindexter, CEO, Choggiung, Ltd; Brendyn Shiflea, CFO; Curtis McQueen, Executive Director, ANVCA	Juneau



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Day Three - Thursday, April 23, 2026

- **Morning Session**

Grand Pacific Ball Room

8:00 AM **Breakfast & Networking**

9:00 AM **Morning Announcements and Updates** - Curtis McQueen

9:05 AM **Alaska Congressional Delegation: Chiefs of Staff and Representatives**

Larry Burton, Chief of Staff, Office of Senator Sullivan; Karina Waller, State Director, Office of Senator Murkowski; Garrett Boyle, Chief of Staff, Office of Senator Murkowski (online); Michael Horanburg (online), Chief of Staff, Office of Congressman Nick Begich; Anber Ebarb, Staff Director, U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs

9:30 AM **14 (c) (3) ANCSA Lands Legislation Passes, Next Steps**

Gregg Renkes, Sr. VP, Government Relations, Chenega; Chris Grundman, Program Manager, State of Alaska DCRA; Delenora Grey, ANCSA 14(c) Specialist, Bureau of Land Management

10:15 AM **7i7j Revenue Sharing Panel: What's in our Future Pipeline?**

Walter Featherly, General Counsel, Calista; Alba Brice, Director of Business Development, Calista; Curt Chaberlain, Assistant General Counsel, Calista; Stefan Rearden, President, Calista Brice; Gregg Renkes, Sr. VP, Government Relations, Chenega

11:15 AM **Donlin Gold Panel: Progress Updates and Planning for the Future**

Todd Dahlman, General Manager; Wendy Lindskoog, External Affairs Manager, Donlin Gold

12:00 PM **Lunch - Provided**



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Day Three - Thursday, April 23, 2026

- Afternoon Session

Track One: Corporations

Track Two: Tribes

Room

1:00 PM	Gubernatorial Panel Co-Facilitated by Teresa Jacobsson and Curtis McQueen	Anchorage
2:15 PM	ATAA Business Meeting and Board Elections ANVCA Business Meeting and Board Elections	Fairbanks Juneau
4:00 PM	Closing Session and Grand Prize Drawings	Grand Pacific Ball Room