



CENTRAL COUNCIL  
*Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska*  
Office of the President • Edward K. Thomas Building  
PO Box 25500 • Juneau, Alaska 99802

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## President's Weekly Update 1.7.21

Wáasá iyatee, Gasing.uu dang Giidang! I hope that you've had a good start to the New Year! In an effort to have more open communication, I am committing to sending out weekly updates to highlight just a few areas of Tlingit & Haida's activities. In a normal year, we would have the opportunity to visit and share updates with each other in person. Unfortunately, COVID cases are on the rise again and we must remain vigilant to protect our citizens, families and communities. I look forward to hearing from you and hope you have a restful weekend to recharge and continue the great work you do on behalf of our tribal citizens. Should you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to my office at [deptfob@ccthita-nsn.gov](mailto:deptfob@ccthita-nsn.gov).

### **Tlingit & Haida Delegate Elections**

Coordination of the Tribe's upcoming 2022 Delegate Elections is well underway. The general election of Delegates to the Tribal Assembly is held each even-numbered year and will be held this year on March 17, 2022. Elected Delegates are representatives of their community and are the governing body of Tlingit & Haida while Tribal Assembly is in session. Delegates will serve a two-year term and attend the annual Tribal Assembly (April 20-22, 2022) to legislate for and to govern the Tribe by setting policy priorities and advocating on behalf of our citizens and communities. If you are interested in serving as a Delegate to represent your community and engage in Tlingit & Haida's governance process, please visit our Elections webpage to identify your community's local election official: [www.ccthita-nsn.gov/government/elections/contacts](http://www.ccthita-nsn.gov/government/elections/contacts).

### **Tidal Network – Tlingit & Haida's Broadband Project**

As much of the world went remote for school, work, and social gatherings, it became clear how disadvantaged our villages were in terms of having access to reliable internet. Our students have been unable to participate in their virtual classes, our tribal leaders have been unable to attend important meetings, and our tribal citizens have not been able to have adequate access to telehealth. Lack of internet has a significant impact on the wellbeing of our communities and we're committed to finding the solutions. We recently secured broadband licensure from the Federal Communications Commission. Tlingit & Haida's Tribal Development department has named the broadband enterprise "Tidal Network." We are ramping up work on a pilot project in Wrangell, Alaska as a part of our 2.5 GHz broadband spectrum award. In partnership with Wrangell Cooperative Association, the project will focus on extending fixed wireless internet service to provide last-mile delivery of broadband. We look forward to improving the wellbeing of our tribal citizens. The larger goal is to provide high speed internet to the entire Southeast Alaska region.

### **Language Learning Lunches**

If there is anything that came from the pandemic, it's the ability to better reach our tribal citizens by moving many of our activities to a virtual format. Preservation of our ancestral languages has always

been important to the Tribe and our people have shared how hungry they are to have access to free language learning opportunities. Through the good work of our Cultural Heritage & Education department, we now have Xaad Kíl and Lingít language classes to help our tribal citizens on their language learning journey. The virtual language learning lunches kick off next week and are available to all of our tribal citizens wherever they are and at no cost. Tune in every week using the Zoom links below!

**Lingít Language Class with Paul Marks II:**

**Dates:** January 10-June 1, 2022 (Every Monday, Wednesday & Friday)

**Time:** Noon – 1 PM (AKST)

**Zoom Link:** [www.tinyurl.com/lingitclass](http://www.tinyurl.com/lingitclass)

**Xaad Kíl Language Class with Rob Yates:**

**Dates:** January 10-June 1, 2022 (Every Monday & Wednesday)

**Time:** Noon – 1 PM (AKST)

**Zoom Link:** [www.tinyurl.com/xaadkilclass](http://www.tinyurl.com/xaadkilclass)

