

Sun'aq Tribe of Kodiak

April 2022 Newsletter



Sun'aq Tribe of Kodiak Celebrates 21 Years of Federal Recognition!

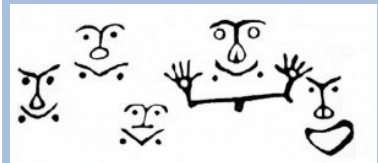
The Sun'aq Tribe of Kodiak recently celebrated 21 years of federal recognition on December 29, 2000! The Tribe was officially reaffirmed as a federally recognized tribe by the Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs, thereby becoming eligible to receive services from the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs and to have a government-to-government relationship with the U.S. Government.

Since being recognized by the federal Government, the Sun'aq Tribe of Kodiak has been able to negotiate directly with the federal government to push for its sovereignty and receive resources such as funding. It was important to gain Federal Recognition so that our Tribe could begin building capacity and exercise our tribes sovereign right to govern our citizens.

Over the past 20 years the Sun'aq Tribe of Kodiak has been able to build a strong foundation of programs and services available to our Tribal Citizens. These services include scholarships and programs that are provided to Alaska Native and American Indians, along with working to secure our subsistence rights.

Inside this issue

Sun'aq Tribal Leadership	2
Employment & Training Services	3-5
Natural Resources Department	6-7



Sun'aq Tribe of Kodiak's Tribal Leadership



Sun'aq Tribe of Kodiak Mission Statement

The Sun'aq Tribe of Kodiak's mission and member services seek to address current Tribal issues while creating wholesome opportunities for Tribal health and growth. The STK takes pride in assisting Tribal Members in achieving their personal and professional goals.

We are dedicated to rebuilding our traditional, political, and cultural institutions and practices.

Our Tribe strives to build and support Sun'aq Tribal unity, cultural identity, and life ways.



Emily Jean Capjohn
Chairman



Carla Schauff
Vice Chairman



Tommy Johnson Jr.
Secretary/Treasurer



Alexandria Troxell
Council Member



Candace Branson
Council Member



Hanna Sholl
Council Member



Vacant Council
Member Seat

Employment, Training & Services

Kodiak Alutiiq Language Master Apprenticeship Program

The 477 department has exciting news, we have a language house! Sun’aq tribe will be renting **1113 E. Rezanof Drive** on the main road right down the hill from the Kodiak Middle School. We have also hired two Kodiak Alutiiq Language Master Apprentices, Hanna Scholl and Saidie Coyle, who started on March 1st, 2022 and complete a sixteen month apprenticeship. We are excited to introduce our new apprentice’s in the next newsletter!

The language house is part of our new Administration of Native American three-year language preservation and revitalization grant. This house will be the main hub for apprentices to work and learn in. In the future, when it is safe to do so, we will be having an open house and family game night. We hope to be hosting events, game nights monthly, language hikes, clubs, hunts and more. The language house will be an inclusive house we hope everyone in the language community can find use of. If you have interest in hosting or housing a language related activity, please reach out to Hailey Thompson at haileyt@sunaq.org.



Lynda Loresnson
Program Services Director



Stevi Frets
Employment & Training
Manager



Janelle Barton
Student Services Case

Employment, Training & Services Continued

WELCOME - Atagua!

The Sun'aq Tribe would like to congratulate & welcome our



Beverly Moreno
ANA Project
Coordinator



two new Kodiak Alutiiq language master apprentices!

Agasuuq - My name is Hanna Sholl; my Alutiiq name is Agasuuq. I was born in Kodiak, Alaska, to Sophie Frets (Hansen) and Bruce Burns. My maternal grandparents were Walter and Edna Hansen. 2011 is when my Alutiiq language journey began, starting first with a drive to learn the words to the Alutiiq songs and how to pronounce them. Between 2012 and 2021 I took college classes necessary to obtain my Occupational Endorsement in Alutiiq language. In 2017 I was fortunate to attend the Language nest with my two youngest children. Through that program, we were able to attend language activities as a family and participate in different methods of learning. I am excited for this opportunity and excited to see what the future holds for the Alutiiq language movement. Quyanaa!

Taqu - Cama'i Gui Taqu Sadie Coyle. Sun'ami Suullrianga Sun'ami Etaartua Cali. Cama'i hello my name is Taqu Sadie Coyle; I was born and raised in Kodiak, Alaska. The start of my language journey was when I first joined the Kodiak Alutiiq Dancers in 2010, that led me into taking the High School language classes and gradually finishing the Language classes offered by the Kodiak Community College. As well after graduating High School I was able to be a part of the Alutiit'stun Niuwawik (Alutiiq Language Nest) just before COVID-19 happened. I am super excited to start this new journey to gain my fluency Language level and to be able to share with our community and Alutiiq Sugpiaq Nation. Quyanasinaq, Taqu Sadie Coyle



Employment, Training & Services Continued

Sun'aq Tribe Scholarship opportunities

Liitukut Scholarship

This scholarship is available to Sun'aq Tribal members seeking a 2-4 year degree who can demonstrate financial need and are enrolled with at least 6 credit hours at an accredited college or university. Liitukut Scholarship applicants are required to apply for all other scholarship options available to them. The 2022-2023 Liitukut scholarship application deadline is June 30, 2022.

Job Placement & Training (JPT) Scholarship

JPT scholarships are available to unemployed or underemployed Alaska Native Americans living in or around the city of Kodiak who are seeking a license or certificate from a vocational school to improve their employment prospects. Applicants need to demonstrate financial need and are required to apply for all other scholarship options available to them. The JPT scholarship application deadline is 30 days prior to the start date of the desired training.

Johnson O'Malley (JOM) Youth Scholarship

JOM scholarships are available to Alaska Native and Native American youth age 3-18 living in or around the city of Kodiak. The JOM program provides opportunities for youth to seek activities supplemental to regular school programs to maintain educational and life skills standards which encourage successful outcomes for youth. JOM scholarships can be used to pay up to half of the costs and fees for things like youth activity registration fees and supplies, tutoring, music lessons, etc.

Keep an eye out for information on our JOM program spring break youth events! We will be hosting activities for multiple age groups of JOM enrolled youth over the week of March 14-18. We will advertise these events on our Sun'aq Tribe Facebook page.

For more information on scholarships offered by the Sun'aq Tribe or the JOM Youth program, reach out to Janelle Barton at scholarships@sunaq.org or 907-206-6424.



Alyssa Madrid
Cultural Programs Director



Sadie Coyle
Alutiiq Language Assistant
Teacher



Hailey Thompson
ANA Grant Manager

Natural Resources Department

Subsistence survey will start in February

The Alaska Department of Fish & Game, the Sun’aq Tribe of Kodiak and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge will conduct a Kodiak Harvest Subsistence Survey. Their findings will be used by the Alaska Board of Fish and the Board of Game the state’s regulatory authorities for Alaska fish and wildlife to create regulations and management policies for subsistence harvesting, according to Jackie Keating. She is one of the principal investigators for this survey, and a subsistence research specialist at the Department of Fish & Game.

“These surveys are very important because of the need to quantify use of subsistence resources in Kodiak, so we can inform and educate policy makers about the critical customary and traditional links we have with our natural resources,” said Matthew Van Daele, the head biologist of the Sun’aq Tribe of Kodiak and the other principal investigator of the survey.

There are a lot of concerns over the state of subsistence harvesting in Kodiak, according to Van Daele. In Women’s Bay, eelgrass beds have been decimated and the low return of sockeye salmon to the Buskin last summer was concerning, Van Daele said.

In addition to collecting data points, the survey is also a time for the ADF&G to hear about the concerns that locals have, Keating said.

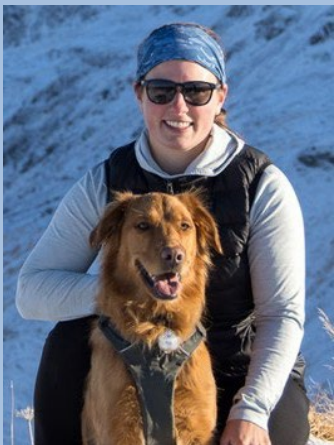
This survey is long overdue. Ideally, subsistence surveys should be done every 10 to 15 years, Keating said. There have been smaller surveys done on the island in the past two decades. Port Lions was surveyed in 2003, there was a salmon survey in 2012, and a comprehensive harvest survey in Old Harbor, Larsen Bay and Akhiok in 2019. However, there has not been a survey of the road system since 1993, according to Keating.



Matthew Van Daele
Tribal Biologist



Daniel Smith
Tribal Youth Intern



Kelly Krueger
Alaska Migratory
Bird
Co-Management
Council
Kodiak Facilitator/
Biologist

Natural Resources Department Continued

The Department of Fish & Game and the Sun'aq Tribe of Kodiak submitted a proposal for funding for this survey back in 2019, which was accepted. When the Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program gave them the funding for the survey, it was for the year 2020, but it had to be held off because of the pandemic, according to Van Daele.

The survey will be done by surveying randomly selected households in the area. All the data submitted is anonymous and participation in the survey is completely voluntary. Ideally, the survey will collect data from 250 households in the area.

One of the challenges of conducting this survey is getting people to take it, according to Keating. People who are not subsistence harvesters are sometimes hesitant to respond, even though their input is needed, according to Keating. There is also a not-insignificant number of people who do not know what the survey is, let alone why it is important, she said.

Research assistants will be contacting houses in person for the survey in February to March of this year. After that, the data collected will be analyzed and open to community review at the start of 2023. Ideally, the survey will be completed later that year, Keating said.

For anyone interested in applying to work as a paid research assistant for the survey or learning more about subsistence fishing opportunities in Kodiak, there will be a meet and greet from 6:30-8 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 18 on the Abercrombie side of the Bayside Fire Hall outside.

