



## Alaska Conservation Foundation

### ALASKA NATIVE FUND Steering Committee

The Alaska Native Fund is guided by an Alaska Native Steering Committee representing diverse geographic, organizational, and generational perspectives. The Steering Committee created the Fund guidelines, recommends grant funding, and promotes the Fund to funding partners and Alaska Native communities. Members include:

**Orville Huntington, Director of Parks and Wildlife, Tanana Chiefs Conference-Huslia (Athabascan)** (2011-2013) Orville worked for the US Fish and Wildlife Service for fourteen years as a Tribal Biologist. He has worked for the Huslia Tribe and advocated on behalf of Tribes for more than eight years. He has served on the Huslia Tribal Council, Huslia City Council, Koyitl'otsina Ltd. Board of Directors (village corporation BOD), and as Interior Regional Housing Authority BOD, AK Native Science Comm. BOD. He continues to serve on the Alaska Federation of Natives Board of Directors, and the Interior Athabascan Tribal College Board of Trustees as the Chair, the State of Alaska Rural Education Committee, the Koyukuk River Advisory Committee (Fish and Game AC), and on the NSF Office of Polar Programs AC.

**Rachel Naninaaq Edwardson, Owner, Uncivilized Films-Barrow (Inupiat/Norwegian)**. (2011-2014) Rachel is a documentary filmmaker who created Uncivilized Films to tell important stories about Inupiaq and other Alaska Native cultures and history. Some of her films include *The Duck-In*, and most recently *Project Chariot*. In 2009, she received a Sundance Institute Ford Foundation Film Fellowship. Edwardson has taught video production in Inupiat villages through the NSBSD's program Youth Speak. She is the videographer and editor of *Amiginikun: On Sewing Boat Skins*, which won the Best Traditional Culture Film at the Native Voice Film Festival in 2005. She provides technical review of all film-related proposals to the Alaska Native Fund and offers constructive feedback to applicants on their project proposals. Edwardson received a B.A. from Colorado College in Colorado Springs and lives in Barrow, Alaska.

**Max Malavansky, former staff for St. George Traditional Council-St. George Island/Anchorage (Aleut)**. Max was born and raised on St. George in the Aleutian-Pribilof islands. Son of a Mayor, he learned early on about the need to develop a local economy, and he experienced a lot of economic booms and also busts in his region over the past ten years. He worked for the St. George Traditional Council from 2003-2011, during which he established the Kayumixtax Eco-Office, and worked in coalition with many non-Native environmental nonprofits to address conservation and management of marine mammals in the region. Max is excited to be a part of the Alaska Native Fund in its infancy and sees the Fund as an important vehicle for supporting Tribes in establishing policies that protect their natural resources and cultures.

**Alannah Hurley-Dillingham**. (Yup'ik) Alannah was born and raised in the Bristol Bay region. She was raised in Saguyaq (Clarks Point) and (Curyung) Dillingham and is currently working as a grassroots organizer for Trout Unlimited Alaska. She graduated from the University of New Mexico with a B.A. in Native American Studies and minored in Political Science. She has worked extensively in community development and environmental justice. She loves learning and enjoying her Yup'ik culture and is dedicated to helping make self-determination a reality for Alaska's indigenous people.

**Liz Medicine Crow – CEO of First Alaskans Institute-At Large Member of Anchorage/Kake.** (Tlingit & Haida) Liz is the current CEO of First Alaskans Institute Liz received her B.A. from Fort Lewis College and her law degree from Arizona State University College of Law. She served as Director of the Legal Department at Cheyenne River Housing Authority before moving to Anchorage where she worked as the Policy Analyst & Planner for the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, working on behalf of the Alaska Native Health Board before working at First Alaskans Institute. Liz is a Tlingit and Haida from Kake. On her Tlingit side she is Raven Kaach.adi, Fresh Water-marked Sockeye Salmon. On her Haida side she is Eagle Tiits Gitee Nei, Hummingbird.

**Nancy Barnes – Executive Assistant to the CEO of the Huna Totem Corporation-Juneau.** Nancy has worked in the Legislature on both the House and Senate and Office of the Governor for three administrations for a total 26 years. Nancy has extensive experience with ANCSA corporations serving on both regional and local boards. Currently, she is the President of the Eyak Corporation and is on the Board of Trustees for Sealaska Heritage Institute. Nancy is also a board member of the Alaska Federation of Nativfes. She is a drummer and group leader of a multi-cultural Alaska Native dance group in Juneau. She belongs to the Tsimshian and Alutiiq tribes.

### **ACF Staff**

**Michael Barber, Program Officer.** Michael will provide ACF support to the fund primarily through fundraising, but also in working with the Program Coordinator to staff meetings, coordinate grant proposal/review process, and by providing financial/legal considerations in support of the Steering Committee. Michael has worked for and alongside Alaska Native Corporations on rural energy efficiency projects, 8(a) contracting, as well as with non-energy related project development work. He was the Resource Efficiency Manager for the Mayor's Office of Mark Begich, replacing one quarter of Anchorage street lighting to LED sources. He has worked in the Alaska environmental community for 3 years, first as a board member of Alaska Conservation Alliance, then as Integration Manager for the merger of Alaska Center for the Environment, Alaska Conservation Alliance, Alaska Conservation Voters, and Alaska Youth for Environmental Action. His focus is building capacity of community leaders, organizations, and diverse networks to strengthen the environmental movement.

**Loren Peterson, Program Coordinator.** (Yup'ik)Loren will assist the Program Officer and support in various areas. He works to promote the fund, assist in securing foundation support, building relationships with funders and grantees and will be conducting site visits to our grantee communities. Loren has education and work background in tribal governments. He recently served under Senator Donny Olson serving rural communities and was instrumental in the crafting the legislation establishing the Alaska Native Language Preservation and & Advisory Council. He has done also done work at the National Congress of American Indians and with U.S. Senator Ted Stevens in Washington, D.C.