

# The Counting Cord

## Nitnuqeyishi



March–April 2015

KENAITZE INDIAN TRIBE NEWSLETTER

## Meeting focuses on Kenaitze Constitution

### More work and elections ahead

Members of the Kenaitze Indian Tribe offered their input and feedback on proposed revisions to the tribe's constitution during a quarterly meeting held on March 14 in the Dena'ina Wellness Center.

About 30 tribal members attended.

The proposed revisions – which were drafted by the Constitution Review Committee and reviewed and edited by the Tribal Council in February – address areas of the current constitution that do not align with current government-to-government processes and clarify roles and responsibilities for tribal operations.

In 21 pages, the proposed revisions



The Executive Council takes comments concerning revisions to the constitution on March 14.

sions reference many areas, including the tribe's name, its geographic territory, how meetings and elections are administered, the rights of

tribal members, and more.

A proposal to change the tribe's official name drew significant attention.

The proposed revision calls for the tribe's name to be switched from "Kenaitze Indian Tribe" to

See **MEETING**, p. 7

## Tyotka's comes down to go up

Progress continues on the project to bring a new Tyotka's Elders Center to Old Town Kenai.

Demolition of the original structure is underway along Mission Avenue and the site will be cleared and back-filled by April 28. A construction contractor is expected to be hired in mid-May.

Construction will begin immediately after the contractor is selected, and the project timeline calls for occupancy by the end of the year.

Renderings of the 6,500-square-foot building show a covered entryway surrounded by wood beams, an open deck on the backside and front windows facing south toward Cook Inlet.

Drawings of the interior include a large community gathering space, lounge with a stone fireplace, crafts area and kitchen. The inside also

See **TYOTKA'S**, p. 7



A participant in a candlelight vigil to remember victims of sexual assault shields her tiny flame from the wind outside Tyotka's Elder Center in Old Town Kenai on April 9.

## Vigil honors sexual assault victims

A toothpick alone is easy to snap. A bundle of toothpicks is not.

That's how Sasha Lindgren compared the strength of a lone victim of domestic violence to a group of victims who come together and receive support from people willing to help.

"There is a place within this

bundle for every person, an opportunity to assist as you are able," said Lindgren, Director of Tribal Government and Affairs. "We share the responsibility."

About 25 people turned out to honor victims of sexual assault at a candlelight vigil April 9 at the Tyotka's Elders Center.

The event was hosted by the

tribe's Social Services Department – Na'ini – meaning "strength, courage, sobriety and humility."

Lindgren emphasized the need for community strength in addressing domestic violence and sexual assault, saying it's important to offer education and

See **VIGIL**, p. 7



## NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Yaghalí du?

I hope this finds you happy, healthy and looking forward to the summer months.

It's an exciting time for the tribe!

At the May 1 opening of the Net, we will have a chance to enjoy food, stories, song and dance while honoring the culture and traditions of our people across Yaghanen, the good land.

It is always a great event, and the more who join our celebration, the better.

This is also a very busy time for the tribe's program and service operations.

This month, I met with each of our divisions to answer questions and update employees on our strategic plan, which guides us in addressing the needs of the tribe, and prioritizes the work for staff to complete for the calendar year.

We had great discussion, and I walked away knowing our traditional value of "henu" – willingness to work, cooperation and helpfulness – is alive and well, with many staff members interested in participating in the work it will take to accomplish our goals for the year.

The strategic plan is divided into six areas. In addition to addressing tribal and community needs, it supports and reflects our vision, values and mission: to assure Kahtnuht'ana Dena'ina thrive forever.

Here is a summary of the projects we will be working on as we move forward this year:

### Drug and Alcohol Program

This three-year project led by Dr. John Molina, Director of Health Systems, addresses the growing epidemic of substance abuse in our community, which is tragic.

This year, we will evaluate our current program needs and gather community data to help us better understand the issue, and we will look at how we can make a difference.

We will learn from culturally-based best practices in our own programs and also look to other programs for evaluation and consideration as we prepare to respond to the urgent need for resources in our community.

### Elders Facility

Housing and Facilities Director Rusty Swan is leading this project, calling for the demolition of the existing Elders facility and construction of a new Tyotka's Elder Center in Old Town Kenai.

Work is well underway, with design input from staff, Elders served at the facility and members of the Elders Commission.

We hope to have the new building constructed and occupied by the end of the year. The initiative ensures our Elders will be comfortable for years to come and supports an important traditional value, "nadesnaga," respect for our Elders.

### Data Analytics

Another multiyear effort, this project explores how we can use data to guide our decisions and shape our programs and services.

Under the leadership of Information Technology Director Kyle Ferguson, the project paves the way for the tribe to take a data-driven approach when evaluating programs, setting priorities and making decisions that inform our funding partners, staff, tribal members and Council to ensure good stewardship of the tribe's resources.

### Core Concepts

Near and dear to my heart, this project adapts a program called "Core Concepts" into the tribe's employee-training model, utilizing Dena'ina language and culture.

Core Concepts takes a relationship-based approach to how we work with each other and the people we serve. It uses skills-based training in understanding, trust and support to strengthen relationships. As we move through this year, we have acknowledged we need to take the time to maintain and sustain what we have accomplished, and work to ensure we are in good relationship with each other to better prepare for the future.

Human Resources Director Lori Cheezem is leading this multiyear effort in partnership with Sasha Lindgren, Director of Tribal and Government Affairs.



### Facilities Master Plan

We have added many new staff members with the opening of the Dena'ina Wellness Center and continue to expand in other areas, making this a time of continued growth.

While we recognize growth brings extraordinary opportunities, we also recognize it brings extraordinary responsibility.

We must plan ahead and be intentional and diligent with our resources to ensure our tribal members, families and staff members are comfortable and well, now and into the future.

This initiative maps out a facilities plan to address future expansion of existing programs, the rollout of new programs and anticipated growth in tribal membership, all based on our community needs assessment. Rusty Swan is leading this effort.

### Integration of Services

This initiative, led by Human Services Director Analisa Selden, will help us integrate our tribal operations to better serve you.

The Dena'ina Wellness Center utilizes this concept under its wellness-based model of care, and we want to expand it into other areas.

By integrating all our services, we can improve customer service, make it easier for you to utilize services and more effectively meet your needs.

We can be confident our strategic plan will benefit the tribe as we move forward. Strategic planning has been intentional and has received the support of our Council and tribal members over the past seven years. It has helped and guided us through tremendous growth and change.

An amazing example of how we have all pulled together around a common effort is the construction of the Dena'ina Wellness Center.

Tribal planning and continuous consideration of the opportunities that exist guides us in our commitment to our mission: to assure that Kahtnuht'ana Dena'ina thrive forever.

Chiqinik for taking the time to read this and please get in touch with me if you have questions or comments. I always enjoy hearing from you!

— Jaylene Peterson-Nyren  
Executive Director, Kenaitze Indian Tribe

## K'beq summer hours announced

The tribe's interpretive site will be open from June 1 through August 30, Thursdays through Sundays, from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

Tours and parking associated with tours are free but there is a charge for day use parking for those who choose to come and leave their vehicle for the day. This keeps K'beq from becoming free overflow parking for the Russian River campground.

## Open house planned for new Tribal Courthouse

Please join our judges at an open house for the new Tribal Court on Monday, May 18, from 9 a.m. to noon. The new court is on Overland Avenue, near the back of the Dena'ina Wellness Center.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer judge, contact Chief Judge Kim Sweet at 907-335-7216 for more information.

## Join the Relay for Life team

Amber Delago, Exercise Physiologist at the Dena'ina Wellness Center, will be organizing the Kenaitze Indian Tribe's Relay for Life team.

The event will be May 29 – May 30 at Soldotna Sports Center from 6:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. Relay for Life gives communities the opportunity to celebrate the lives of people who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost, and fight back against the disease.

A full list of Relay events and link to sign up on the Internet will be published on the Kenaitze Indian Tribe's Facebook page and available from Amber Delago at adelago@kenaitze.org.

## Moving soon? Please keep in touch

Please keep your contact information current so you don't miss important mailings from the tribe.

Send updates to:

Kenaitze Indian Tribe  
Attn: Elsie Maillelle  
P.O. Box 988  
Kenai, AK 99611

emaillelle@kenaitze.org  
907-335-7202

## From the editor's desk

The Counting Cord is a publication for members of the Kenaitze Indian Tribe and its customers.

Find more information on the tribe's website at kenaitze.org and like us on Facebook at facebook.com/kenaitze.

For story suggestions or questions about content, contact editor M. Scott Moon at 907-335-7237 or by email at smoon@kenaitze.org.



## NOTE FROM THE COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON

Hello,

It was good seeing some of you at the quarterly tribal meeting last month. Your Council wants to hear from you and we want you to know what we are working on.

We have always listened as you have told us what you need. We have worked for a long time to develop and grow services and tribal programs for you.

We are lifting our people up as we work toward our mission to ensure Kahtnuht'ana Dena'ina thrive forever. The wellness center and now the new Elders facility construction are prime examples of that. We are doing good work.

Still, we see issues and obstacles that face us as we try to take care of our people.

One problem we have been working hard on is how decisions that affect our people are made around tables in Juneau, in Washington D.C. and elsewhere. So we are working hard to be present at numerous meetings in order to take our proper place at those tables.



Your tribal leaders are now helping to make decisions that affect the Kenaitze Indian Tribe and all Alaska Native people.

At the national level, we are working government-to-government with the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of the Interior, the BIA and the Indian Health Service, as well as others.

We are making a difference here at home, too. In Alaska, all three branches of our state government are hearing what your Council has to say and they have been responding to our concerns.

We will continue our hard work to change regulations, and strengthen government-to-government relationships and to continue to act within our sovereignty.

Thank you for your support. I hope to see you at the Net on May 1st!

— Rosalie A. Tepp  
Tribal Chairperson, Kenaitze Indian Tribe



Processed salmon sits on the cutting board at the waterfront fishery in this file photo.

## Net opening set for May 1

The stage is set for the Net to be set.

Food, games, music and dance will highlight the tribe's opening of the Net celebration Friday, May 1.

An opening ceremony is scheduled for 4:30 p.m. followed by a potluck dinner and entertainment at 5 p.m.

Entrees and beverages will be provided for the potluck, but please bring an appetizer, salad or dessert.

In addition to song and dance, activities will include a scavenger hunt for children and a tug-of-war competition for adults and children. Those planning to attend are encouraged to form teams of five.

In fact, the fishery crew, which includes seasonal employees George Showalter, Micah Johnson, Matthew Schadle and Norma Wolfe, challenges any team to tug-of-war – but fore-

warns foes to bring their best because Sasha Lindgren plans to stand in as anchor.

The Net preserves the traditional culture and values of the Kahtnuht'ana Dena'ina – who have fished area waters since time immemorial.

The tribe has operated the Net for 26 years,

bringing together generations of tribal members.

Please remember alcohol, drugs and dogs are prohibited, in accordance with tribal policies. The Net is located at the public beach-access point on Cannery Road off Kalifornsky Beach Road in Kenai.

For additional information, contact Elsie Maillelle at 907-335-7202 or at emaillelle@kenaitze.org

## TRIBAL COUNCIL

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At left, youngsters scramble for eggs on the playground at Mountain View Elementary School during the annual Easter party. Below, Alexander Vaudrin dodges a bubble from one of the bubble kits that were given to children.



# ‘Eggs-hausting and eggs-citing’ Easter party a hopping good time

In the shadow of monkey bars, something furry snuck onto the playground at Mountain View Elementary School.

Although it vanished before any children emerged – hopping deep into the woods, perhaps – the mysterious visitor dropped clues about its identity: heaps of plastic eggs.

“Whoaaaa!”  
“Look at them all!”  
“Awesome!”

More than 120 children enjoyed lunch, prizes and – thanks to a visit from the Easter Bunny – a hunt for candy-filled eggs at the tribe’s Easter celebration on a sunny afternoon April 4 in Kenai.

The event, which the tribe has hosted for more than 10 years, included everything you’d expect from a good Easter party – food, goodie bags (plastic buckets, actually), door prizes, the egg hunt and camaraderie between family members.

Numerous departments across the tribe helped put on the celebration, as did a host of community partners.

“We want it to have a family feel,” said Maggie Jones, a tribal employee who works in the Elders department and helped plan the event. “It’s kind of like going to a birthday party, where friends and family get together, with party-favors and fun activities.”

The afternoon began with children, pre-kindergarten up to fifth grade, receiving goodie buckets filled with bubble bottles and chalk as they entered the school gymnasium, where shiny bicycles and other prizes lined the wall.

Returning participants and newcomers alike filled the room.

One first-timer, tribal Elder Bernadine Atchison, brought four grandchildren – all between the ages of 3 and 5 – and said it was a nice way to start the weekend.

“The kids have been sick all week, so this is a good break from the house,” Atchison said.

After a hot-dog lunch, winning tickets for the bikes and other toys – including firetrucks, remote-control cars and more – were randomly drawn from buckets.

One by one, winners marched to the front to collect their prizes.

The bikes and matching helmets were donated by the Salamatof Native Association and Coca Cola.

Kaarlo Wik, Chairman of the Board for Salamatof and a longtime contributor to the event, said

it’s rewarding to participate in a celebration that embraces children and takes on a family feel.

He described fond memories of attending “Kid-dy Day” at Bishop Creek in Nikiski, a festivity he always looked forward to as a youngster.

“This reminds me of that,” Wik said. “It’s pretty cool to see the kids’ faces light up when they see these bikes.”

After lunch and the giveaways, the children took to the playground and surrounding fields full of eggs.

Three groups dashed to designated areas based on age, scooping up as many oval treats as their little hands would allow.

The goodies were strewn in all directions – atop play equipment, below play equipment, even inside play equipment.

All the eggs quickly landed in baskets, and when the dash ended, participants examined – and tasted – their hauls.

William Vauldren, 10, a fourth-grader at Kaleidoscope School of Arts and Sciences, described the hunt between bites of chocolate.

“Exhausting and excit-

ing,” he said.

And Kaleidoscope fifth-grader Denali Bernard, 11, didn’t hesitate when asked about her favorite part of the experience.

“Having fun and getting to do this with friends,” she said.

Nile Nash, meanwhile, had a different perspective.

Nash, 11, took in the scene as an onlooker because he is in sixth grade – one grade beyond the limit to participate in the prize drawings and egg hunt.

He turned out to support his younger cousins.

“My favorite part of coming out today was just seeing all the younger kids happy,” said Nash, who attends Kenai Middle School.



Adrian Davis tries on the cool helmet that came with the bike he won at the party.



Children hold their Easter egg baskets after the hunt. This year’s party took place on a sunny, warm day.



# Off the wall

When tribal Elder Rita Smagge was asked what the Kenaitze Indian Tribe's education system should be based on, she didn't hesitate to answer: "It's time to take our traditional values off the wall and start living them," she said.

Smagge's reference to the traditional values posters hanging on the walls across tribal operations is the inspiration for this space, "Off the Wall."

Off the Wall will celebrate people putting the tribe's traditional values into use, taking them "off the wall" and using them in their daily lives.

As told by Alisa Garrigues:

I learned of the passing of Charlotte Korpinen in the CIRI newsletter. My heart and thoughts are with her family in their time of loss.

Charlotte, her daughter, Nina, and her mom, Pauline, were the first persons I met when I arrived in Kenai in 1974. (I had come to Alaska

to learn of my family's roots).

I took my first banya at their house. Charlotte was the one who taught my dad how to smoke fish. Twenty years

later, my dad taught me.

Remembering Charlotte reminded me of how important it is to share what we know. Charlotte practiced "Daggeyi" (hard work with others

and cooperation) and "Henu" (willingness to work and cooperation).

We should never do anything alone, but rather, have a young person along to watch, learn, practice, try and to

talk to.

Charlotte's knowledge and kindness will live on in the lives of those she touched. Let's follow her example.

If you would like to nominate someone for consideration in Off the Wall, please send a submission describing which traditional value(s) they took "off the wall" to editor M. Scott Moon at [smoon@kenaitze.org](mailto:smoon@kenaitze.org).

Most fifth-graders don't write essays during vacation – much less during vacation to Hawaii.

Most recent high-school grads don't complete archeology internships – much less in Australia.

Then again, Taylor Huett and Raven Willoya-Williams aren't like most students.

Huett, a participant in the tribe's Yaghanen program, and Willoya-Williams, a tribal member and employee, recently earned Outstanding Student of the Year awards given out by Kenai Peninsula Masonic Lodges.

They will officially accept their awards at an upcoming banquet.

"It feels good," Huett said.

Added Willoya-Williams: "I am really happy about it."

Huett, who attends Mountain View Elementary School, is a member of Yaghanen's Jabila'ina Dance Group and a three-year competitor in the Native Youth Olympics.

The 10-year-old was awarded thanks in part to an essay she penned on a family getaway to the island of Kauai, Hawaii.

Her essay focused on being re-

sponsible and kind, faith and community involvement.

"I have many ideas for community service I might do when I grow up.

Some things I might do for my community are donating money, clothes and toys," Huett wrote. "I may also volunteer at my church, different events and at the food bank. Those are some community service ideas I have."

Willoya-Williams learned in March she had won – something she said came as a surprise.

An administrative assistant at the tribe's administration building, Willoya-Williams recently finished her credits at Kenai Alternative High School and will complete an archeology internship in Australia in October.

The internship will include photo-journaling, removing graffiti and researching marine animals.

Willoya-Williams also plans to participate in an archeology camp offered by the tribe this summer, and will attend a sea-kayaking camp hosted by the National Outdoor Leadership School.

How will she balance it all – and what is her advice to other students? "Stay focused," she said. "Have fun, but be responsible."



Huett



Willoya-Williams

## Bequsilna 'those who are gone'

The following tribal members have passed away since the Annual General Membership meeting last fall.

This space will be dedicated to remembering our bequsilna, those who are gone.

Please submit death notices to Elsie Mailllele at [emaillele@kenaitze.org](mailto:emaillele@kenaitze.org) or by phone at 907-335-7202.

**Gerry Allan Lindgren**  
9/14/1968 – 10/5/2014

**Victoria Ann Miller Cameron**  
2/14/1951 – 11/24/2014

**Cody Mack Jr.**  
7/21/1971 – 11/24/2014

**Antanett Matea Johnson Bryan**  
12/27/1942 – 2/23/2015

**Larry Sanders**  
12/23/1939 – 2/28/2015

**Eugene Juliussen Sr.**  
6/20/1944 – 3/20/2015

## Camps announced

Children interested in learning about the environment will have at least two opportunities this summer.

On July 3 and 4, kids can make traditional fish-pit replicas out of snow cones and learn about landscape changes in the discovery lab at the Alaska Islands and Ocean Visitor Center in Homer.

Participants will learn about fish pits in a fun, relaxing environment, and there is no charge to attend.

On July 7 to 11, the Environmental Program will host its annual Janteh Science Camp.

Open to students in sixth grade and up, campers will participate in hikes, observations and experiments while learning about traditional Alaska Native outdoor practices. There also will be special days dedicated to students in first through fifth grades.

For additional information, contact Brenda Trefon at 907-398-7933.

Yaghanen Youth Program has also announced their summer camp schedule. Contact the Yaghanen staff at 907-335-7290 for information about the following camps:

- June 8-12 Susten with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for grades 9-12
- July 13-17 Junior Fish Camp for grades 6-8
- July 27-31 Senior Fish Camp for grades 9-12
- August 10-14 Susten with U.S. Forest Service for grades 9-12

## School year winding down

Preschoolers at the Early Childhood Center are on the cusp of finishing the school year.

Students will wrap up the year by learning social skills – including "asking" and "agreeing to share" – while continuing to hone their academic and cultural knowledge.

In March, students learned about "community helpers," and April's curriculum included learning about the environment, including an Earth Day celebration.

A Transition Night Dinner will provide families of kindergarten-bound students a chance to meet area teachers and principals.

Additionally, teachers and aides will complete their second home visit the last week of April to follow up on Family Partnership Agreements and share an End of the Year Summary of each child's progress.

May 15 is the last day for children in both the preschool and the after-school programs. The day will conclude with a field trip to the beach.

### Books for a Bike

In the 100 Books for a Bike program, many students have already read more than 100 books at their reading level. Any child who reads

100 books at their reading level receives a new bike in May.

Although ambitious, teachers believe the program motivates students to "keep their eyes on the prize." Students also continue to participate in weekly yoga and dancing and drumming lessons.

### Summer Camp

As a continuation of the Alaska Native Education program, there will be an all-day summer camp June 1 through July 10, with a preschool classroom, a kindergarten/first-grade classroom and a second-grade/third-grade classroom. Planned activities for summer include gardening and dog-walking, plus weekly themes.

### Enrollment for 2015-16

The center is currently accepting applications for next school year. To be eligible, children – Native or non-native – must be 3 or 4 years old by Sept. 1, 2015.

This no-fee program operates 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Monday to Thursday. For additional information or to schedule a school tour, please call the main line at 907-335-7260 or Sasha Fallon, community partnership coordinator, at 907-335-7259.



**TYOTKA'S**, from p. 1

will feature office space and a conference room.

The Elders Commission and Tyotka's staff has been working with Kenaitze-owned Kahtnuht'ana Development Corporation and its operating subsidiary Kahtnu, LLC to get the building designed and built. It will be located on the same grounds as the original.

Stan Mishin, Executive Director of Kahtnu, LLC, said the focus now is hiring out the work.

"Once we get the contractor selected, I think everything will come together," Mishin said.

A natural gas leak forced the closure of the original 5,000-square-foot center last spring and a subsequent structural report revealed a slew of expensive repairs to make.

Elder services are currently being hosted at the Fort Kenay building across from the Holy Assumption of the Virgin Mary Russian Orthodox Church in Old Town Kenai.

Project updates will continue as construction progresses.



At top, a crew from S&R Enterprises prepares to bring down the existing Tyotka's building. Above, Stan Mishin looks at interior materials samples. Below, artist renderings depict the completed structure. A covered entrance is one of the features.



**MEETING**, from p. 1  
"Kenaitze Nation."

Another name – "Kahtnuht'ana Dena'ina" – was brought forward and received strong support.

Those backing Kenaitze Nation stated that it has taken more than 40 years for people across the community and beyond to recognize the Kenaitze name, and changing it now would undermine that effort.

Kahtnuht'ana Dena'ina supporters stated that it is important to recognize the tribe's own history and tradition, which they believe Kahtnuht'ana Dena'ina accomplishes.

All comments made during the four-hour meeting were recorded by a stenographer and will be forwarded for review to the Constitution Review Committee, which will send further recommendations to the Tribal Council.

Two additional steps will be made before any proposed revisions are adopted.

The first is to remove the Secretary of the Interior from the tribe's election process, as this is no longer a federal legal requirement for tribes to amend their constitution.

Currently, the tribe's constitution says that the Secretary of the Interior is required to conduct elections to amend the constitution. It also says that the Secretary of the Interior must approve amendments before they can be effective.

In January, the Tribal Council submitted a request to Secretary of the Interior, Sally Jewell, to remove that section of the tribe's constitution.

The Secretary has yet to respond, but if the request is granted, the tribe will call an election for tribal members to vote on that one amendment.

If tribal members approve the amendment, it will allow another election to be held to vote on the proposed revisions discussed with tribal members on March 14.

Updates on the constitution revision process will be provided on the tribe's website – [www.kenaitze.org](http://www.kenaitze.org) – as well as through the mail and in future newsletters.

**VIGIL**, from p. 1

encouragement not only to possible victims, but also to possible perpetrators.

After Lindgren's remarks, attendees lit candles outside and held a moment of silence for those affected.

Made available by Na'ini were materials offering information and support about sexual assault and domestic violence.

"It is hard sometimes for people to come and ask for help," said Lindsey Anasogak, Social Services Specialist.

"We want them to come in and look for help if they need it."



# The Big Picture



Eva Elias, Decader Bird and other children scramble for eggs during the annual Easter party on April 4. See story on Page 4.

## Our Mission

To assure Kahtnuht’ana Dena’ina thrive forever.

## Our Values

These are the beliefs and principles that define our people and will assure our future as a tribe:

**Family:** Honoring and sustaining health and happiness of family as a first responsibility

**Stewardship:** Respectful use of land, resources and all creations

**Spiritual Beliefs:** Acknowledging the existence of a higher power and respecting spiritual beliefs

**Education:** Passing down cultural knowledge and traditions and supporting formal education

## Our Vision

By 2025, the Kahtnuht’ana Dena’ina have enhanced and strengthened the prosperity, health and culture of their people and tribe by:

- working toward united effort with Native organizations and other governments that impact our people.
- developing and implementing a tribal education system.
- living our traditional values and practices.
- empowering our sovereignty.
- continuing to demonstrate resiliency.
- striving for excellence in all of our programs.
- elevating the wellness of our people.
- using our talents and resources to ensure we are able to take care of ourselves and share with others.

## Addresses and phone numbers

**Administration Building**  
150 N. Willow St., Kenai, AK 99611  
907-335-7200  
907-335-7239 fax

**Early Childhood Center**  
130 N. Willow St., Kenai, AK 99611  
907-335-7260

**Tyotkas Elders Center**  
1000 Mission Ave., Kenai, AK 99611  
907-335-7280

**Yaghanen Youth Programs**  
35105 K-B Dr., Soldotna, AK 99669  
907-335-7290

**Environmental Program**  
35105 K-B Dr., Soldotna, AK 99669  
907-335-7287

**Dena’ina Wellness Center**  
508 Upland St., Kenai, AK 99611  
907-335-7500

**Na’ini Social Services**  
150 N. Willow St., Kenai, AK 99611  
907-335-7600

**Tribal Court**  
150 N. Willow St., Kenai, AK 99611  
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**On the Web:** [kenaitze.org](http://kenaitze.org)

**On Facebook:** [facebook.com/kenaitze](https://facebook.com/kenaitze)



PRESORTED STANDARD  
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