

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Sealaska Heritage Institute****Federal Tax ID: 920081844****Project Title:****Project Type: New Construction and Land Acquisition**

Sealaska Heritage Institute - Sealaska Heritage Institute Center

State Funding Requested: \$10,000,000**House District: 3 / B**

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

Sealaska Heritage Institute proposes the construction of an innovative institutional facility contributing to the survival of diversity and richness of civilization and cultures of the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian. The project will be a first-rate institution for the study and education of Native cultures, preservation of historical papers and ethnographic collections, and cultivation of Native arts.

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	\$20,620,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$3,186,000)
FY2012 State Funding Request:	<u>(\$10,000,000)</u>
Project Deficit:	\$7,434,000

*Funding Details:**Other funds secured: Sealaska Corporation, individual and corporate donations**Other funds anticipated/pending: Alaska Native Regional Corporations (\$1m), Nationwide Tribal Support, Sealaska Corporation, Ford Foundation, Murdock Foundation, other corporate support.***Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

The Sealaska Heritage Institute (SHI) funding request will support an increased construction schedule, placing the project out to bid this summer. The SHI Center (a.k.a. Sealaska Archival and Visitors Center) will continue an aggressive public campaign to raise the remaining funds necessary for completion of construction. If this funding request can be achieved, the center will create 11 new, full-time jobs plus 65 direct jobs and 30 indirect jobs with the start of construction and would further result in a savings of \$530,000 from reduced project inflation estimates, stemming from a prolonged fundraising campaign.

The new SHI Center, which is designed to incorporate Northwest Coast art architectural traditions, will be a spectacular facility and together with its programmatic activities will attract visitorship to downtown Juneau. The Center will house programs that are dedicated to the study of Native culture and history and the development of educational curricula and scholarly publications. These materials are widely used throughout Alaska's school systems and universities and contribute to the survival of Native cultures and diversity within Alaska. The Center will highlight Northwest Coast art through its training programs, its exhibition space, a Native Artist in Residence Program and art demonstration on site. These activities will contribute to the perpetuation of quality Native art and aesthetics for which Southeast Alaska is acclaimed as well as providing economic opportunities to artists.

The Center will also provide the necessary and sorely needed space for its significant and growing archives, photographs, film and recordings and ethnographic collections. It will also be designed to meet the professional standards to ensure the safety and care of the collection, while at the same time providing access to the collection. These rich resources have become a valuable working collection that are used by researchers, who serve as SHI Visiting Scholars and Interns or academics and the general public who visit the Institute. They are used by SHI staff to develop educational curricula, materials, educational programmatic activities as well as scholarly publications. Its virtual archives are also available to the public and educators through the SHI websites and blogs.

The new facility will include a simulated clan house in which public lectures can be delivered. The new facility will also have a living culture area where teachers brought in from Juneau and the outlying villages and are trained to utilize the curricula and materials produced by SHI to teach Native culture, history, art and language.

The purpose of the Center is:

- cultivating the study and research of Native history, art, culture and language.
- preserving archival materials documenting Native history and issues, particularly the legacies of ANCSA corporations and making them available for research
- curating and exhibiting priceless ethnographic collections (and notably shamanic objects) that are returned from national museums under the terms of the Native American Protection Act of 1990
- serving as a federally-certified archaeological repository for prehistoric and historic artifacts that are being excavated from archaeological sites in Southeast Alaska
- developing culturally-based educational materials and programs and their integration into the educational system
- supporting the preservation and enhancement of Southeast Alaska Native visual and performing arts, cultures and languages.

The Center will consist of:

- a living history center that provides for ongoing instructional/informational lessons in the various arts
- a climate-controlled archival and ethnographic collections center and a federally-certified archaeological repository
- ground floor space for SHI's ethnographic exhibition and Alaska Native Artists' Market
- a traditional clan house for cultural and educational activities, including lectures, demonstrations, and classes
- sufficient space for researchers, cultural development, educational staff, and general support

By preserving and displaying the collections, the Center will multiply its focus targeting local public education, the visitor market, and in addition providing researchers access to these historical materials in Alaska and around the world. Research findings will provide the context in which policy will be crafted to benefit Alaska Native society in the future. The findings will also guide other states and countries that are assessing the Native corporate model.

With the support of the State of Alaska, Sealaska Heritage Institute is also working with foundations, businesses, private donors, and our federal delegation to secure funding that will bring this magnificent and much needed facility to Juneau. Not only will this be a great centerpiece for downtown, but it will also tie into the City of Juneau's long term facility needs planning process.

Project Timeline:

The project will go to bid in late 2011.

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

Sealaska Heritage Institute

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Name: Rosita Worl
Title: President
Address: One Sealaska Plaza, Suite 301
Juneau, Alaska 99801
Phone Number: 463-4844
Email: rosita.worl@sealaska.com

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? Yes No

For use by Co-chair Staff Only:

10:25 AM 5/27/2011

Sealaska Heritage Institute Center



An innovative institutional model contributing to the survival of diversity and richness of civilization and cultures, which constitute the heritage of humankind.



What is the Sealaska Heritage Institute Center?

The Sealaska Heritage Institute (SHI)—a Native nonprofit serving the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian of Southeast Alaska—is planning construction of a new center that will be the most significant Alaska Native cultural attraction in the state capital. The center will integrate Native values into contemporary life, operating at the intersection of traditional knowledge and science.

What Will the New SHI Center Offer?

As currently envisioned, the center will be a combination of cultural exhibits, archival storage, research facilities, Native art workshops and demonstrations, multipurpose educational facilities, a media center for documenting Native languages and cultures, retail space for authentic Native art, and the institute's administrative offices.

SHI's mission is to perpetuate and enhance the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian cultures. To that end, the institute operates many programs, including:

- Programs that promote Native art and artists through art markets, a retail store, and a Native art website
- Programs that teach Native art forms to aspiring artists
- An archival and ethnographic collections department that collects and preserves materials that document the history, culture, heritage, and language of the Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian
- A Visiting Scholars Program that provides support for researchers studying the history, culture, heritage, and language of the Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian
- An annual, public lecture series featuring academic and traditional scholars (lectures are also posted online)
- A culture program that focuses on key elements of Southeast Alaska Native cultures, including traditional practices, protocols and iconological knowledge, oral traditions, names, songs, performing arts, sacred and historical sites, and repatriation of objects
- Celebration—a major, four-day dance-and-culture festival that draws more than 5,000 people to Juneau every even year to celebrate and Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian cultures
- An education department that develops place-based curricula and conducts teacher training
- Summer language and culture camps for youths
- A publications department that produces books on the history, art, culture, heritage, and language of the Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian

“ It will be a first-rate institution for the study of Native cultures, preservation of historical papers and ethnographic collections, and the cultivation of Native arts ”

– SHI President Rosita Worl



Why is the Center Important?

The new center will allow SHI to expand its programs and to house its growing archival and ethnographic collections in a state-of-the-art, climate-controlled environment. The three-story building will be located in the historic district of downtown Juneau, which welcomes roughly one million cruise ship tourists each year. The center will be open to the general public and tribal members.

Making the Center a Reality

The SHI is moving this project forward, and has hired MRV Architects of Juneau to design the building. Sealaska Corporation purchased the lot for the site and will donate the lot to SHI when we're ready for construction. A fundraising campaign is underway, and while SHI has already received significant funding commitments toward this important project, we can't do this alone.

We ask that the Federal government solidify its recent commitment to honor the UN Declaration on Indigenous Rights by appropriating significant funds to the construction of the Sealaska Heritage Center in FY 2011.



Our Land ~ Our Ancestors Our Strength

- Photos by James H. Barker. Courtesy of AFN



Learn more at www.nativefederation.org

Alaska Federation of Natives
1577 C Street, Suite 300 Anchorage, AK 99501
Email: afninfo@nativefederation.org

MRV ARCHITECTS.

1420 GLACIER AVENUE, JUNEAU, AK 99801 (907) 586-1371

February 5, 2011

Attn: Mr. Lee Kadinger, COO.
Project: Sealaska Heritage Institute Center
Cc: Dr. Rosita Worl

Re: **Revised Conceptual Cost Estimate**

Dear Mr. Kadinger,

This letter generates a revised Conceptual estimate for the cost of the Sealaska Heritage Institute Center. In November cost estimates for you, MRV identified a total project cost for the building at a minimum of \$22,500,000. That reflected a construction cost of \$17,300,00. Other project costs, including contingency, design, furnishings, and exhibits, added 30%, or \$5,200,000 to derive the total project cost of \$22,500,000.

That initial cost was beyond the approved funding cap, so steps were taken to reduce the project scale, while still achieving a quality facility and meeting the long-term goals of Sealaska Heritage Institute. The first step was to reduce the building size where possible. Consequently, the building was reduced in size by roughly 6%. The current size is 29,600 sq.ft., contrasted with our starting design of 31,500 sq.ft.

Second, there has been an attempt to secure funding more rapidly and avoid the significant cost penalty due to inflation on construction pricing. The original estimate of \$22,500,000 made the allowance for inflation of 16 months, from November, 2010, to a presumed construction start date of spring, 2012. The annual rate was pegged at 4.87%.

If funding can be achieved sooner than Spring of 2012, the project can experience substantial savings by reduced inflation. For instance, if the project was bid by August, 2011, six months earlier than projected, roughly \$530,000, would be saved.

The total project costs for the facility, if we assume an August 2011 bid date and the current design size, would be \$20,620,000. As we have discussed, a more formal professional cost estimate will be completed based on over-all Schematic design materials by late February. Please contact me if I can offer any more information.

Sincerely,



Paul Voelckers, President
MRV Architects







Main Entry



Jine It Retail Store Entry



Main Entry, detail



Sealaska Heritage Institute- Cultural Center

RENDERINGS

MRV ARCHITECTS

Central Council
Tlingit and Haida



Indian Tribes of Alaska

Office of the President
320 West Willoughby Avenue • Suite 300
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1726

Senator Dennis Egan
State Capitol Room 510
Juneau, AK 99801

February 8, 2011

Dear Senator Egan,

The Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (CCTHITA) supports the efforts of Sealaska Heritage Institute (SHI) to expand by constructing a facility in downtown Juneau. This project will benefit Juneau and Southeast Alaska in many ways.

This project will impact Juneau's economy significantly, as it is estimated to provide 65 direct well-paying jobs to Juneau's construction industry for approximately two years and an additional 30 induced jobs created over the same period. The total impacts of the project to Juneau over the construction period are estimated at \$26.9 million, including direct, indirect, and induced economic impacts.

The Central Council also supports SHI's decision to build its facility on vacant lot downtown, as the building will provide an authentic Native experience to Juneau's many visitors and to its residents. The building will serve to educate the public about the rich history, traditions, art, and culture of Southeast's first peoples. We also applaud SHI's vision to have the facility serve as a research center and repository for SHI's growing Archives and Collections. This is of great benefit to our tribal members.

Also, the planned ceremonial and presentation space will help SHI to better serve the public's interest in Native programming, which has grown tremendously. In its own facility, SHI will have the space to significantly expand its cultural, language, and arts programming both to its Native constituents and to the general public.

The new facility will also enable SHI to better promote and market Southeast Native Alaskan arts, as it will have space for artist demonstrations and retail displays. The result will be more exposure for Native artists, leading to their sustainability, and a public educated about authentic Native art. SHI's plans also include dedicated spaces for a resident artist to work and teach traditional and contemporary expressions of Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian cultures.

The Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska supports Sealaska Heritage Institute in this endeavor, and highly recommends this project to the Alaska State Legislature.

Sincerely,

Edward K. Thomas, President
Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska

LISA MURKOWSKI
ALASKA

COMMITTEES:
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
RANKING MEMBER
APPROPRIATIONS
HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR,
AND PENSIONS
INDIAN AFFAIRS

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0203
(202) 224-8665
(202) 224-5301 FAX

October 19, 2009

510 L STREET, SUITE 550
ANCHORAGE, AK 99501-1956
(907) 271-3735

101 12TH AVENUE, ROOM 216
FAIRBANKS, AK 99701-6278
(907) 456-0233

805 FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 105
KENAI, AK 99611-9104
(907) 283-5808

4079 TONGASS AVENUE, SUITE 204
KETCHIKAN, AK 99901-5526
(907) 225-6880

851 EAST WESTPOINT DRIVE, SUITE 307
WASILLA, AK 99654-7142
(907) 376-7665

Rosita Worl, Ph.D.
President
Sealaska Heritage Institute
1 Sealaska Plaza, Suite 301
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1245

received By
Sealaska Heritage Institute

NOV 3 7 2009

Dear Dr. Worl: *Rosita*

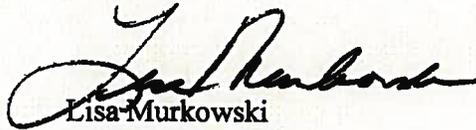
Thank you for taking the time to meet with Megan and sharing your project funding priorities of the Sealaska Heritage Institute.

Your proposals for the Archival and Cultural Center and the ANCSA Research & Curriculum project are vital steps in the right direction to creating a knowledge base of Alaska Native history and culture in the heart of Alaska's capital city.

I appreciate hearing your plans for a Clan Leadership Academy to reduce the rate of suicide, and other social disparities. It is critically important to instill the strength of your culture within young Alaska Native men. I can certainly recognize that knowing one's culture provides a sense of inner strength and a sense of place that would enable young men to overcome any challenge.

I will work with my colleagues in the Alaska Congressional delegation to help fund these important projects. Again, thank you for contacting me.

Sincerely,



Lisa Murkowski
United States Senator

Alaska State Legislature

Juneau Delegation
Senator Dennis Egan
Representative Beth Kerttula
Representative Cathy Muñoz



State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska
99801-1182

July 27, 2009

Ms. Karen Rehfeld, Director
Office of Management & Budget
P.O. Box 110020
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Ms. Rehfeld:

We are writing to ask for support for a project of statewide importance, to be located in Juneau. Sealaska Corporation formed the Sealaska Heritage Institute (SHI) in 1981. Conceived by clan leaders and elders, the nonprofit institute directs a range of educational and cultural programs to perpetuate and enhance Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian cultures. SHI is planning to build a cultural and research center in downtown Juneau that will serve as a physical and virtual research center for the public and visiting scholars.

The center will serve as a repository for SHI's growing archival, historical and ethnographic collections. Currently archaeological objects found on federal lands must be sent to the University of Alaska Fairbanks because of a lack of facilities in Southeast Alaska. The new center will hold these cultural and historic treasures and make them available for the benefit of all. SHI will also conduct research and develop publications on Southeast Alaska Native language, culture and history from time immemorial to the present day.

The center will develop culturally based curricula for elementary and secondary education and culturally based language training for elementary and secondary teachers. It will also serve as a space for visual and performing Native arts and a center for Native artists to produce commissioned art pieces and to train other artists. The center will be an important tourism destination for downtown Juneau and will draw visitors to the central core of the city.

State financial support for this project is consistent with this administration's past backing of appropriations for the Alaska Native Heritage Center in Anchorage and the Morris Thompson Cultural and Visitors' Center in Fairbanks. Thank you for your consideration of our request. If you would like to discuss this important project further, please give us a call.

Sincerely,

Senator Dennis Egan

Rep. Beth Kerttula

Rep. Cathy Muñoz

cc: Dr. Rosita Worl



3100 Channel Drive, Suite 300 • Juneau AK 99801 • (907) 463-3488 • Fax (907) 463-3489
E-mail: iuneauchamber@eci.net • icc@alaska.com • Web site: <http://www.iuneauchamber.com>

Board Members

Bob Martin, Pres.
Goldbelt, Inc.
Chuck Collins, Past Pres.
Key Bank
Ted Quinn, Past Pres.
Capital Office Supplies
Neli MacKinnon
Alaska Laundry
Sharon Burns
ABC Stations
Jeremy Hansen
Hansen Gress
Dick Knapp
Petra Marine
Don Habeger
Juneau Businessman
Carlton Smith
The Carlton Smith Co.
Sheldon Winters
Lessmeier & Winters
Tim McLeod
AEL&P
Nathan McCowan
Sealaska
Karen Hansen
Wings of Alaska
Murray Walsh
Walsh Consulting
Kelly Shattuck
Shattuck & Grummett

Benefactor Members

ACS
Allen Marine
First National Bank of Alaska
Huna Totem
Juneau Empire
GCI Communications
AJ Communications
Wal Mart
Home Depot
Sealaska

Platinum Members

AEL&P
Alaska Litho
Alaska Marine Lines
Alaska Pacific Bank
Alaska USA FCU
Alaskan Brewing Company
Bartlett Regional Hospital
BP Alaska
CBI (Manager's Office)
Capital Office Supply
Coeur Alaska, Inc.
Coogan Construction
Copy Express
Elgee Rehfeld & Mertz
Exxon Mobil
Greens Creek Mining
Goldbelt, Inc.
Shattuck & Grummett
Taku Oil
True North FCU
UAS
Wells Fargo Bank of Alaska
Western Auto Marine
Westmann and Associates

A RESOLUTION OF THE JUNEAU CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN SUPPORT OF CONSTRUCTION OF THE SOUTHEAST ALASKA NATIVE CULTURAL AND VISITORS CENTER IN DOWNTOWN JUNEAU 06-10

WHEREAS, Sealaska Heritage Institute has made significant contributions to Juneau, the Southeast Alaska region, to the State of Alaska and to the nation through its work in promoting the cultural survival of the Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian, and advancing the educational attainment of their youth; and

WHEREAS, Sealaska Heritage Institute is accumulating a significant archival and ethnographic art collection through donations and the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act; and

WHEREAS, Sealaska Heritage Institute has developed art projects and exhibitions for national museums such as the Smithsonian Institution that have brought national attention to Juneau and Southeast Alaska including its biennial Celebrations that bring thousands of visitors to Juneau; and

WHEREAS, Sealaska Heritage Institute has contributed significantly to the economy of Juneau and Southeast Alaska through its direct employment, contracts and by training Native artists and sponsoring Native Arts markets; and

WHEREAS, Sealaska Heritage Institute has developed plans for the construction of the Southeast Alaska Native Cultural and Visitors Center in order to house their archival and ethnographic collections, to provide local community members, visitors, scholars, and Native people the ability to participate in, research, and learn about the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian peoples; and

WHEREAS, the CBJ Mayor, on behalf of the Assembly, many organizations, communities and individuals throughout Southeast Alaska have expressed their support for the construction of the Sealaska Heritage Institute Southeast Alaska Native Cultural and Visitors Center in downtown Juneau; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska Legislature has appropriated \$4 million in its capital budget for the construction of a Southeast Alaska Native Cultural and Visitors Center; and

WHEREAS, the capital budget is now before Governor Parnell; and

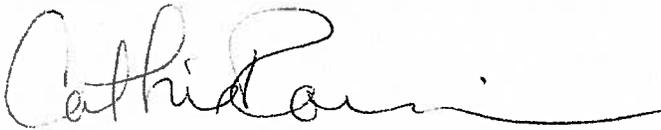
WHEREAS, the Juneau Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors recognizes Sealaska Heritage Institute for their contribution and leadership role in advancing the construction of a Center; and

WHEREAS, and the Juneau Legislative Delegation have been working with Sealaska Heritage Institute for the past three years in its plans to acquire a site and build the center; so

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Juneau Chamber of Commerce hereby endorses the construction of Sealaska Heritage Institute's Southeast Alaska Native Cultural and Visitors Center and urge Governor Parnell and the Alaska Congressional Delegation to support the appropriation for the Center which will create jobs and help beautify our downtown, with the added value of sharing Alaskan cultures not only with our community but with our many visitors as well; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to Juneau Chamber members, members of the Juneau Legislative Delegation, CBJ Assembly, the Governor of Alaska and the Alaska Congressional Delegation.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Juneau Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors
on this date: April 26, 2010

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cathie Roemmich", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Cathie Roemmich, CEO
Juneau Chamber of Commerce
Representing Nearly 400 Business Members



CITY/BOROUGH OF JUNEAU
ALASKA'S CAPITAL CITY

received By
Sealaska Heritage Institute

AUG 03 2009

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Telephone: (907) 586-5240; Facsimile: (907) 586-5385
Mayor@ci.juneau.ak.us

July 27, 2009

Mr. Chris McNeil, President and CEO
Sealaska Corporation
One Sealaska Plaza, Suite 400
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dr. Rosita Worl, President
Sealaska Heritage Institute
One Sealaska Plaza, Suite 301
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Mr. McNeil and Dr. Worl:

I write on behalf of the City and Borough Assembly to express our enthusiastic support for construction of a Southeast Alaska Native Cultural and Research Center in Juneau.

We are mindful that having a central repository for the cultural objects that represent the civilization of Southeast Alaska and a center for scholars to undertake research is of utmost importance to a critical study of the indigenous peoples of the region. We also believe that the center will be an invaluable opportunity for residents and visitors alike to expand their understanding of historic and contemporary Alaska society.

We look forward to working with you in bringing this project to fruition. We understand that you have several options for siting such a facility. It is our fervent wish that we can work together to identify an appropriate location in the heart of downtown Juneau to serve as the site for the Center. In light of the construction of our new transit center and parking garage, we believe that one location in particular commends itself to your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bruce Botelho
Mayor



Alaska Native Brotherhood Grand Camp

Willard Jackson President Alaska Native Brotherhood Grand Camp P.O. Box 5551 Ketchikan, Alaska 99901
(907) 617-3376 wjackson@kictribe.org

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
United States Senate
709 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

February 18, 2010

RE: Letter of Support on the Funding the Sealaska Cultural Collections and Research Center

Dear Senator Murkowski:

The Alaska Native Brotherhood has committed itself to the preservation of Alaskan Native history, art, and culture. It is with great enthusiasm that we are writing to request support for a project of statewide importance.

Both Fairbanks and Anchorage have realized the benefit of a cultural and heritage center that promotes and continues to provide for cultural traditions and values. The Center proposed by Sealaska Heritage Institute will provide a central location in Southeast Alaska for residents and visitors alike to extend and enhance their experience of our history and culture.

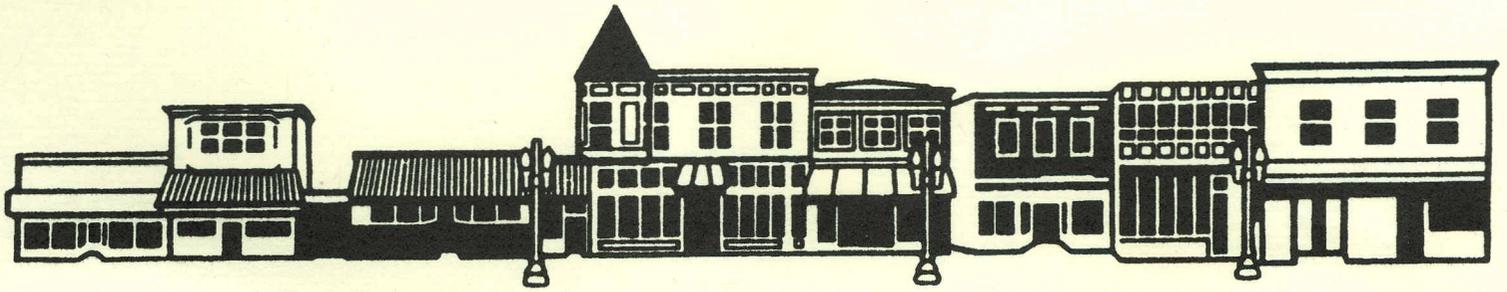
Sealaska Heritage Institute is well-positioned to construct and manage a facility of this kind. ANB recognizes SHI's reputation for developing valuable educational programs and its commitment to archiving and preserving cultural artifacts and documents.

With archeological treasures currently being sent to the University of Alaska Museum in Fairbanks, such a facility would be able to care for these cultural and historic treasures where they belong in Southeast Alaska. Further, a facility in Juneau that meets federal regulations as a repository will enable Sealaska Heritage Institute to accept additional collections from federal agencies and museums.

Alaska Native Brotherhood Grand Camp fully supports this project, and thanks you for your continued support as we strive to preserve our culture for our future generations.

Willard Jackson

Alaska Native Brotherhood
Grand Camp President



DOWNTOWN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 20849 Juneau, Alaska 99802-0849

October 21, 2010

Mr. Richard Harris
Executive Vice President
Sealaska Corporation
One Sealaska Plaza
Juneau, AK 990801

Dear Mr. Harris,

The Downtown Business Association would like to thank you for your work on making the downtown business district a more attractive place. The landscaping that has been done by Sealaska in the former "Pit" is a very welcome improvement, and we appreciate it!

We are also excited by the prospect of the Sealaska Heritage Institute's plans to put a cultural and archival center in that location. Such a center will be magnet for many people, and fits well with our efforts to keep downtown Juneau alive and vibrant.

Thank you!

Larry Spencer, President
Downtown Business Association



Sealaska Heritage Institute

One Sealaska Plaza, Suite 301 • Juneau • Alaska • 99801-1249 • (907) 463-4844
www.sealaskaheritage.org • www.alaskanativeartists.com • Fax (907) 586-9293

April 26, 2010

The Honorable Gov. Sean Parnell
P.O. Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

Dear Governor:

Thank you for thinking about our cultural center. Gunalcheesh. I have served as the Chair of Sealaska Heritage Institute for many years, and for many years we have dreamed of building a cultural center. It would be our crowning achievement.

I donated my papers to the Sealaska Heritage Institute several years ago. My papers included minutes of meeting, letters and even hand written notes about Native peoples many years ago. These are historical papers. These types of collections should go to Native institutions. I think this highly of Sealaska Heritage Institute that I donated my collection to them. I trust that they will take care of it and use it to foster scholarship of our Native cultures in Southeast Alaska.

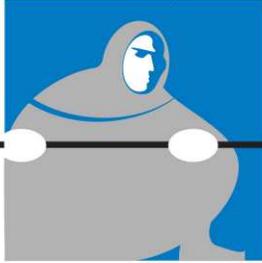
This center that the institute has proposed will be like no other—in the heart of Juneau for the public to use and to educate all the visitors we get here in Juneau about Southeast Native cultures. This center will also be used to teach Native arts. Even today, we are in jeopardy of losing some of our most precious art forms.

I have lived a long time. I will turn 102 this year. I have seen my people struggle and overcome adversity. It would be a dream for me to see this center built in my lifetime—a center dedicated to the preservation of our Native cultures.

Gunalcheesh,

Walter Soboleff, Sr.
Chair
Board of Trustees

EYAK



THE EYAK CORPORATION

THE EYAK CORPORATION
5700 Old Seward Highway, Suite 203
Anchorage, AK 99518

On the hunt . . .

April 26, 2010

Dear Governor Parnell:

Sealaska Heritage Institute has committed itself to the preservation of Southeast Alaskan Native history, art, language, and culture. We are writing to request support for a project of statewide and regional importance – the Southeast Alaska Native Cultural and Visitor Center proposed by Sealaska Heritage Institute, to be built in Alaska's Capital City.

This facility will benefit the region by providing construction jobs for regional workers. Once finished, the Center will provide regional Native artists the advantage of increased exposure to their work, providing more sustainable revenues to themselves and their rural communities.

In addition, programming and displays will be open to the public, promoting Southeast Native culture and creating further demand for works of art and cultural education. We commend SHI for considering education and art studies areas within the proposed Center, which allow Native artists to demonstrate and teach their craft to new generations of Native Alaskans.

Finally, archive space in the current facility does not meet industry standards; the proposed Center, with critically needed climate control and security, will enable SHI to accept additional collections from federal agencies and museums. Sealaska Heritage Institute is committed to archiving and preserving cultural objects and documents, ensuring that these items receive the proper care they deserve.

Both Fairbanks and Anchorage have realized the benefit of a center that promotes and continues to preserve cultural traditions and values. The Southeast Alaska Native Cultural and Visitor Center proposed by Sealaska Heritage Institute will provide a central location in Southeast Alaska for residents and visitors alike to enhance their knowledge and experience of our history and culture. We encourage you to approve this important project.

Office: (907) 334-6971
Fax: (907) 334-6973
Cell: (907) 229-7075
Email: rworl@eyakcorp.com

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rod Worl". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Rod Worl
Chief Executive Officer

cc: Sealaska Heritage Institute

Office: (907) 334-6971
Fax: (907) 334-6973
Cell: (907) 229-7075
Email: rworl@eyakcorp.com



Sealaska Heritage Institute

One Sealaska Plaza, Suite 301 • Juneau • Alaska • 99801-1249 • (907) 463-4844
www.sealaskaheritage.org • www.alaskanativeartists.com • Fax (907) 586-9293

April 24, 2010

Gov. Sean Parnell
P.O. Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

Dear Gov. Parnell:

The Native Artist Committee of Sealaska Heritage Institute requests your support for the proposed Southeast Alaska Native Cultural and Visitor Center.

This facility will benefit Southeast Alaska in many ways, one of which is by employing local workers during construction. However, a greater benefit is that the Center will provide regional Native artists a suitable venue to demonstrate, show, and sell their work. This increased exposure will lead to more sustainable revenues to the artists and their rural communities.

SHI has put much thought into education and art studies areas within the proposed Center, allowing Native artists to teach their craft, and allowing language experts to share their knowledge, to new generations of Native Alaskans. Displays and programming will be open to the public, further promoting Southeast Native culture and arts.

Finally, Sealaska Heritage Institute is committed to archiving and preserving cultural objects and documents, ensuring that these items receive the proper care they deserve. The archive space in the current facility does not meet industry standards; the proposed Center, with critically needed climate control and security, will enable SHI to accept additional collections from federal agencies and museums.



Sealaska Heritage Institute

One Sealaska Plaza, Suite 301 • Juneau • Alaska • 99801-1249 • (907) 463-4844
www.sealaskaheritage.org • www.alaskanativeartists.com • Fax (907) 586-9293

The Southeast Alaska Native Cultural and Visitor Center proposed by SHI will be a centerpiece for downtown Juneau, open to visitors and residents alike to enhance their knowledge and experience of our history and culture. We encourage you to approve this important project.

Thank you,

Native Arts Committee – Sealaska Heritage Institute

Rosita Worl, PhD

Steve Brown

Nathan Jackson

Mick Beasley

Delores Churchill

Nick Galanin

Donald Gregory

Council of Traditional Scholars
Juneau, Alaska

April 24, 2010

Gov. Sean Parnell
P.O. Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

Dear Gov. Parnell:

I am writing to request your support for the proposed Southeast Alaska Native Cultural and Visitor Center, proposed by Sealaska Heritage Institute (SHI). SHI is planning to build the Center in downtown Juneau, and it will serve as physical and virtual research center for the public and visiting scholars.

The Center will serve as a repository for SHI's growing archival, historical and ethnographic collections. The archive space in the current facility is inadequate in many ways and the proposed Center will provide critically needed climate control and security, and will enable SHI to accept additional collections from federal agencies and museums.

This facility will benefit Southeast Alaska in many ways, one of which is by employing local workers during construction. However, a greater benefit is that the Center will provide regional Native artists a suitable venue to demonstrate, show, and sell their work. This increased exposure will lead to more sustainable revenues to the artists and their rural communities.

SHI has put much thought into education and art studies areas within the proposed Center, allowing Native artists to teach their craft, and allowing language experts to share their knowledge, to new generations of Native Alaskans. Displays and programming will be open to the public, further promoting Southeast Native culture and arts.

The Southeast Alaska Native Cultural and Visitor Center proposed by SHI will be a centerpiece for downtown Juneau, open to visitors and residents alike to enhance their knowledge and experience of our history and culture. We encourage you to approve this important project.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Clarence Jackson" followed by a small mark.

Clarence Jackson
Chair – Council of Traditional Scholars

April 26, 2010

Dear Gov. Parnell:

Sealaska Heritage Institute (SHI) has committed itself to the preservation of Southeast Alaskan Native history, art, language, and culture. I am writing you to request support for a project of statewide and regional importance – the Southeast Alaska Native Cultural and Visitor Center proposed by Sealaska Heritage Institute, to be built in Alaska's Capital City.

This facility will benefit the region by providing construction jobs for regional workers. Once finished, the Center will provide regional Native artists the advantage of increased exposure to their work, providing more sustainable revenues to themselves and their rural communities.

In addition, programming and displays will be open to the public, promoting Southeast Native culture and creating further demand for works of art and cultural education. I congratulate SHI for considering education and art studies areas within the proposed Center, which allow Native artists to demonstrate and teach their craft to new generations of Native Alaskans.

Finally, archive and collection storage space in the current facility is not able meet full industry standards and is at capacity; the proposed Center, with critically needed climate control and enhanced security, will enable SHI to accept additional collections from federal and state agencies. Sealaska Heritage Institute is committed to archiving and preserving cultural objects and documents, ensuring that these items receive the proper care they deserve.

I was a producer for Southeast Native Radio on KTOO_FM for about 15 years, and we are in the process of transferring the original tapes of this collection to Sealaska Heritage, as they have the space and expertise to preserve it.

Both Fairbanks and Anchorage have realized the benefit of a center that promotes and continues to preserve cultural traditions and values. The Southeast Alaska Native Cultural and Visitor Center proposed by Sealaska Heritage Institute will provide a central location in Southeast Alaska for residents and visitors alike to enhance their knowledge and experience of our history and culture. I encourage you to approve this important project.

Sincerely,

Kathy Kolkhorst Ruddy

15225 Pt. Louisa Rd.

Juneau AK 99801

Dear Governor

I wish to express my support for the Sealaska Heritage Institute grant to construct a cultural center in downtown Juneau. It is my belief that this construction will aid in building the sharing and caring spirit of the Tlingit people who have contributed so much in all aspects of life - food, shelter, and the arts.

We are so rich with indigenous heritage in this State which must be preserved, enjoyed and perpetuated for all Alaskans to enjoy, as well as the many visitors who climb off those cruise ships during the summer months! While it may not be a tribal house. It would still be a blessing to visit a construction in Juneau where the Tlingit people are finally recognized and appreciated.

Thank you for your consideration.

Irene Rowan