



We Stand With the Landless of Southeast

Date: _____

It has been 48 years since the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) was passed. It has been proven there's no apparent reason the communities of Ketchikan, Wrangell, Petersburg, Haines and Tenakee Springs were left out. Together they are home to 4,400 Alaska Native Landless shareholders. This means they are a Scalaska shareholder but do not have an associated village corporation, like Goldbelt for Juneau, or Shee Atika for Sitka.

Southeast Alaska Landless Corporation has re-branded the campaign to appeal to a national audience. The Alaskan Natives Without Land campaign is crafting a fifth bill for Alaska's delegation to support. It will be different than previous efforts in that it contains specifics — and maps that are now being released as Alaska Natives Without Land takes its message from community to community. The bill envisions 115,200 acres to be divided evenly between the five landless Alaska Native communities.

This summer and this fall volunteers and campaign coordinators have held meetings in Haines, Wrangell, Petersburg, Tenakee, Ketchikan, Seattle and Anchorage to update the landless shareholders, educate the public and rally support. Alaska Natives Without Land have had amazing turnout and inspired great conversation.

Throughout this winter there will be community meetings in Juneau, Ketchikan, Wrangell, Petersburg, Haines, and Tenakee Springs. During these meetings prospective volunteers will learn how they can join the cause and make sure Congress hears our voice once this bill is introduced.

Modern Alaska Native corporations work to establish sustainable new economic opportunities that benefit the entire community. New funding for programs and public events will stimulate the local economy and diversify the existing flows of money. Business development programs will allow community members to achieve business success not thought possible and will instill a sense of community flowing both to and from the corporation.

Alaskan Natives Without Land is encouraging local businesses to sign on and support this cause due to its effect on human rights in Southeast as well as the economic impact Native corporations have proven to be in Southeast. Alaska Native corporations are one of the largest economic drivers of the state. The five communities of Southeast Alaska have been without Urban Corporations for 48 years and missed opportunities to kickstart their economies.

We can't do this without your support! When our landless communities are landless no longer, you will know how important your help was! Gunalchécsh!

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