

Kluti-Kaah

July 2025



We are Hiring!!!

- ✓ **Construction Laborer's**
- ✓ **Construction Supervisor**

For more information, contact the NVKK
@ 907-822-5541
or via email: nvkkgov@klutikaah.com

NVKK Office

HOURS OF OPERATION:

Monday – Friday

8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

TRIBAL MEMBER'S FYI

The Native Village of Kluti-Kaah has been fortunate to receive wild game harvests (i.e. moose, etc.) donated from the Ahtna Inc. Upon receiving the donation, the staff then distributes it prioritizing our Elder Tribal Members first, following with single-parent households next, and so forth.

WHO WE ARE...

- ✦ Arnold Lincoln, Honorary Elder
- ✦ Katherine McConkey, President (*Term Exp. 06/2027*)
- ✦ Edward GreyBear, Vice-President (*Term Exp. 06/2026*)
- ✦ Tonilee Jackson, Sec./Treasurer (*Term Exp. 06/2026*)
- ✦ MaryElla Hicks, Council Member (*Term Exp. 06/2026*)
- ✦ Carol Pete, Council Member (*Term Exp. 06/2027*)
- ✦ Lishaw Lincoln, Council Member (*Term Exp. 06/2027*)
- ✦ Elizabeth Hicks, Council Member (*Term Exp. 06/2027*)
- ✦ Faye Ewan, Alt. Council Member (*Term Exp. 06/2026*)

- ✦ Anna Bell-Hand, Tribal Judge
- ✦ Elizabeth GreyBear, Tribal Judge
- ✦ Shirley (Tursy) Smelcer, Tribal Judge

- Willard Hand, Tribal Administrator
- Sarah Devens, Environmental Coordinator/Office Manager
- Stephan Davidson, Roads/Maintenance Coordinator
- RueDeVora Hicks, Administrative Assistant
- Sage Wilson, Tribal Court Clerk
- Sarah White, Victims Advocate
- Wanda Bell, Environmental Assistant
- Wayne Bell II, Custodian

President's Message

Tribal Members,

Tsin'aen for your vote of confidence. My first order of business was to meet with the Tribal Administrator to request Board Packets for Council Member's Orientation. The information we receive will help inform council members of the policies, procedures, grants and funding sources; as well as timelines of projects the Native Village of Kluti-Kaah is responsible for. I will review our strategic plan and ensure Tribal Members are aware of the plan and outcomes.

I attended my first meeting on the tribe's behalf with the Copper River Basin Regional Housing Authority and signed the new plan. The council will meet with Ms. Nutter to develop our housing needs for future use.

May your summer bring all the traditional foods you can possibly use.



TRIBAL ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

The Native Village of Kluti-Kaah (NVKK) Tribal Government currently has six full-time, four part-time permanent employees and seven seasonal on-call laborers. Our administrative staff and consultant team are managing twenty-five grants and programs. Kluti-Kaah staff continuously look for additional funding to complete Kluti-Kaah's existing Economic Plans and enhance our existing projects.

Memorial Hall Remodel is 80% complete and now look toward the stabilization portion of the project.

District BioMass Heat System: the crew has completed the structure and is now working on hooking up the plumbing, from boiler to Community Learning & Resource Shelter (CLRS) and Memorial Hall. The TwinHeat boiler will be supplying renewable energy to the Kluti-Kaah CLRS, Memorial Hall and existing Tribal Justice Facility. Staff will continue looking for phase 2 funding, which will provide BioMass heat to the rest of our Tribal campus facilities.

BIA Reservation Treaty Rights Land Program (RTRL): our projects target Kluti-Kaah SVO and Ahtna Lands within the Copper River Region, specifically addressing dangerous accumulations of forest fuels that pose serious wildfire threats to Tribal and neighboring non-Native communities, critical infrastructure, and our ancestral lands. We submitted the first 2 phases of this 5-year project; and if approved by the Department of Interior, we will hire up to 12 brush crew members and 2 working crew bosses.

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TRIBAL PET ORDINANCE

The Native Village of Kluti-Kaah (NVKK) requires that all pet owners residing within tribal jurisdiction are to keep their animals on their own property. Loose animals are a nuisance and can become dangerous. We would like to ensure the safety of everyone residing in Copper Center. This applies to animals that are loose and destroying public/private/tribal property, digging through dumpsters and becoming violent with people/other animals. If any pet owners aren't in compliance with this ordinance, the following actions will take place.

1st Warning is a Verbal Warning: informing the owner that their animal is loose/dangerous, will be done in person or over the phone.

2nd Warning is a Written Warning: this letter is to inform the pet owners that they are not compliant with the Tribal Ordinance and will include a copy of the ordinance. This will be delivered by mail or hand delivered.

If both written and verbal warnings are ignored, the Tribal Court can issue a fine of \$50 that must be paid within 30 days. If the pet owner is still not in compliance with this ordinance, NVKK may issue an additional fine of the same amount.

If there is any damage to tribal/private/public property there may be an additional grievance fee after the damage is assessed. These fines may be collected in payments that are decided upon between the pet owner and Kluti-Kaah.

If the animal is a constant nuisance and/or danger to the community the council will decide in the best interest of the animal and the safety of the residents of Copper Center. That may include bringing the animal to a nearby shelter, which will be at the owner's expense (including mileage and any fees the shelter has). The animal may also be humanely euthanized by a licensed professional or by an appointed tribal member.

Definitions:

Pets: any domesticated animal.

Dangerous animal: any animal that becomes violent.

Tribal Jurisdiction: As stated in Alaska State Law Section 03.55.070. that Tribal Jurisdiction includes recognized tribal boundaries and an additional 10-mile radius.



IMPORTANT

NVKK is working diligently on updating our Tribal Member Files.

Please contact the NVKK if you need:

- ✓ **Update your file,**
- ✓ **Schedule a time for your Tribal Identification Card.**
- ✓ **Have any questions regarding Tribal Enrollment**

Contact NVKK @ 907-822-5541



PLEASE
BE MINDFUL OF
THE POSTED
SPEED LIMIT
WITHIN OUR
VILLAGE!!!

NOTICE !!!



The NVKK
Learning Center
is **OPEN** for
Tribal Members use

Monday - Friday
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

REOCCURRING EVENTS:

- **Regular Village Council Meetings:**
Every 3rd Tuesday of the Month
- **Cultural Night:**
Every 3rd Thursday of the Month

TRIBAL COURT

The Native Village of Kluti-Kaah Tribal Court has subject matter jurisdiction over a large range of civil and criminal issues including but not limited to:

- ✓ Pet Ordinance Violations
- ✓ Child Custody
- ✓ Guardianships
- ✓ Adoptions
- ✓ Domestic Violence

NVKK Tribal Court staff are not authorized to provide personal legal advice, however, staff members may provide assistance with forms and filing.

If you have any questions, concerns and/or need assistance with forms and filing, please contact NVKK Tribal Court at 907-822-5541.



TA REPORT CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Kluti-Kaah Energy Infrastructure Plan: we are now working with Alliance for Tribal Clean Energy and Deerstone Consulting to complete the 2025 NVKK Energy plan. It aims to support Native American and Alaska Native tribes in their transition to clean energy.

CLRS is nearing total completion and contractors have finished installing the new community watering port and connecting the CLRS to the new filtered well water. It was discovered that the ceramic liner in the hot water tank was damaged and is past warranty. It is believed that the damage to the hot water heater happened during the original shipping to Alaska or during installation and we need to purchase a new hot water heater; the current one is going to continue to rust and we will continue to cause water quality issues.

Tribal Enrollment: *Please call 907-822-5541 to schedule to get your newly designed Tribal Identification card.*

ICWA & Victim Advocacy Grant has a heavy ICWA caseload, which has required considerable attention and work. Staff will begin hosting a series of program planning meetings with the newly established Victim services Advisory Committee. This group will help advise on the new program.

U.S. Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women: we submitted an application that NVKK proposes to establish the Copper River Region's first comprehensive, tribally operated victim services program serving survivors of Domestic Violence. Goals for the NVKK's Victim's Services: establish crisis response, emergency shelter, safety planning, and trauma-informed advocacy serving 15+ survivors (Year 1) expanding to 45+ (Year 3) and strengthening our Tribal Justice services Development Tribal DV Code, protection order system, and law enforcement coordination protocols.

Denali Commission: Our Victim Advocacy Program is currently operating under our 2022 Denali Commission & ARPA funding source. The grant was intended to establish a Victim Advocacy program and help follow-up with the Department of Justice Office of Victim Service grant. We are currently in partnership with a small grant from the Denali Commission to remodel the old clinic trailer to serve as an Advocacy Shelter. It will have two standing alone units; a two-bedroom and a one-bedroom; each with its own kitchen and bathroom.

GAP: Our EPA GAP program has continued to collaborate with regional partners to strengthen the environmental presence in Kluti-Kaah. Through the dedication of Sarah Devens and Sarah Sherwood, CRNA TRP Program, they have secured funding to safely remove the old "pink" Copper Center School.

Tribal Water Project: Staff has been meeting with our Tribal Water project partner Village Safe Water, ANTHC, AK DEC and consultants to find the path to sustainable potable water. We have been awarded a grant DEC to have a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) for a Tribal washeteria (laundromat and well). Staff and consultants are currently reviewing water filters and treatment methods for existing water tables; and our water team is working with DEC contractors and engineers to design a potable water system and washeteria for the Kluti-Kaah community.

Copper River Activity Group: Kluti-Kaah is working to develop a 501C 3 non-profit for Kluti-Kaah's dedicated events and funding opportunities that are only available to non-profits.

Native Village of Kluti-Kaah Recycle Center Dumpsters

WHO IS ALLOWED TO USE IT?

EVERYONE! THE NATIVE VILLAGE OF KLUTI-KAAH HAS OPENED USE OF THE RECYCLE CENTER UP TO ALL COPPER RIVER VALLEY RESIDENTS

WHAT CAN BE RECYCLED?

1. #1 PLASTICS
2. #2 PLASTICS
3. ALUMINUM CANS
4. OFFICE PAPER



NOT SURE WHAT NUMBER YOUR PLASTICS ARE?

LOOK AT THE RECYCLE SIGN USUALLY FOUND AT THE BOTTOM OF THE BOTTLE AS SEEN HERE:



WHAT CAN I DO TO ASSIST IN THE RECYCLING PROCESS?

- REMOVE AND THROW AWAY CAPS FROM PLASTIC BOTTLE CAPS
- ENSURE YOU ARE ONLY DROPPING OFF ALUMINUM CANS, NOT TIN FOOD CANS
- ENSURE ONLY ITEMS LISTED ABOVE ARE IN YOUR RECYCLING.



WHO IS ALLOWED TO USE THEM?

NATIVE VILLAGE OF KLUTI-KAAH TRIBAL MEMBERS AND CRNA BENEFICIARIES. THE DUMPSTERS ARE A RESOURCE PROVIDED BY CRNA, FOR TRIBAL MEMBERS AND BENEFICIARIES ONLY.

WHAT IS NOT ALLOWED?

1. HAZARDOUS WASTE (INCLUDING CANS OF PAINT)
2. ANYTHING TOO BIG FOR THE DUMPSTER TO CLOSE
3. LEAVING ANYTHING NEXT TO THE DUMPSTERS

WHAT CAN I DO TO ASSIST IN THE DUMPING PROCESS?

- BREAK THINGS DOWN SO THEY FIT IN DUMPSTERS
- ENSURE THAT DUMPSTER LIDS CAN CLOSE COMPLETELY
- IF YOU WITNESS ILLEGAL DUMPING NOTIFY STAFF.



Native Village of Kluti-Kaah
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Copper Center, Alaska 99573

104 Old Richardson Highway
Phone: 907-822-5541
Fax: 907-822-5130
Email: nvkkgov@klutikaah.com



NEWS

If you have any news that you would like to share with our Tribal Members on our Tribal Newsletters; such as new a birth, graduation, marriage, etc.

Please email your announcements and/or pictures to
assistant.clerk@klutikaah.com

*If you have any questions and/or suggestions, you may call
907-822-5541.*

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Copper Center, Alaska 99573

