



Traditional Tribal Council  
PO Box 69  
Port Lions, Alaska 99550  
[www.portlionstribes.net](http://www.portlionstribes.net)

#### Office Hours

Monday–Friday  
8:30 am–12 pm  
1 pm–3:30 pm  
Phone: 907-454-2234  
Fax: 907-454-2434

#### Tribal Council

Nancy Nelson, President | Lester Lukin, Vice President | LaToya Hartley, Secretary/Treasurer  
Marjorie Begona, Council Member | Susan Boskofskey, Council Member | Donald Kewan, Jr., Council Member | Raymond May, Council Member

## CALENDAR & EVENTS

- Jun 27 Afognak Youth Charity Golf Tournament
- Jul 4 Annual 4th of July Celebration
- Jul 5 Office Closed
- Jul 13 Afognak Family Picnic (old village)
- Jul 23 60-day Annual Meeting Notice to Membership
- Aug 10 Regular PLTTC Meeting
- Aug 12 Nominating Petitions Due
- Aug 16 Certification of Candidates
- Aug 22 30-day Annual Meeting Notice to Membership



June 2019



**Mission Statement:** To foster cultural pride, self-determination, cultural traditions, and socioeconomic wellbeing for our tribal Members and community.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Cama'i Tribal Members,

Summer has arrived! How quickly 2018 went! I hope everyone had a prosperous winter and happy holiday season.

Doc and Deb Kennedy graciously donated the Tribe, the former Wilderness Beach Lodge and

adjacent house, a generous donation that has the potential to be so beneficial to our community. We are currently in the process of developing a plan for our facility. We are working closely with the Tribal Administrator to ensure we provide meaningful and sustainable contributions to our Port Lions community. It is with great sadness that we share Doc Kennedy has passed away. The Council and staff extend our deepest condolences to the Kennedy family. Port Lions has left a lasting impression on the Kennedys, Deb plans to continue her annual visits. Please remember to thank her for their donation!

Our tribal office is currently undergoing facility renovations. As you may recall, in September 2018, NVPL received \$169,000 from the BIA Unmet Needs Funds for tribal building renovations and upgrades. Four of our offices, the preschool, and our ANC leased office space have been completed. To not disrupt the current Youth Activities schedule we have temporarily moved Youth Programs to the Lodge. Once renovations have been completed our Youth Programs will be brought back up to the Tribal Building.

The Tribe continues to work towards getting high speed internet to the Community, thank you to Council Member

Lester Lukin for all his hard work with this project, we hope it will happen soon, but with our community being so small it is difficult to get businesses interested in offering such a service.

We have signed a short time contract with the Foraker Group to oversee our Finance Department. The Foraker Group provides financial and accounting functions for nonprofits and tribes across Alaska. Our relationship operates within a shared environment allowing for us to staying within a decision-making role. Having several other tribal clients the Foraker Group understands the specific needs facing our tribe. The services they will provide are: budget assistance, internal control, check processing, reporting, month-end reconciliation and closing, financial statement preparation and analysis, and audit preparation. This partnership has provided great learning opportunities for both staff and council. A special thank you to Native Village of Afognak's Melissa Borton, Lynda Lorensen, and Nina Gronn for assisting us with our transition to the Foraker Group!

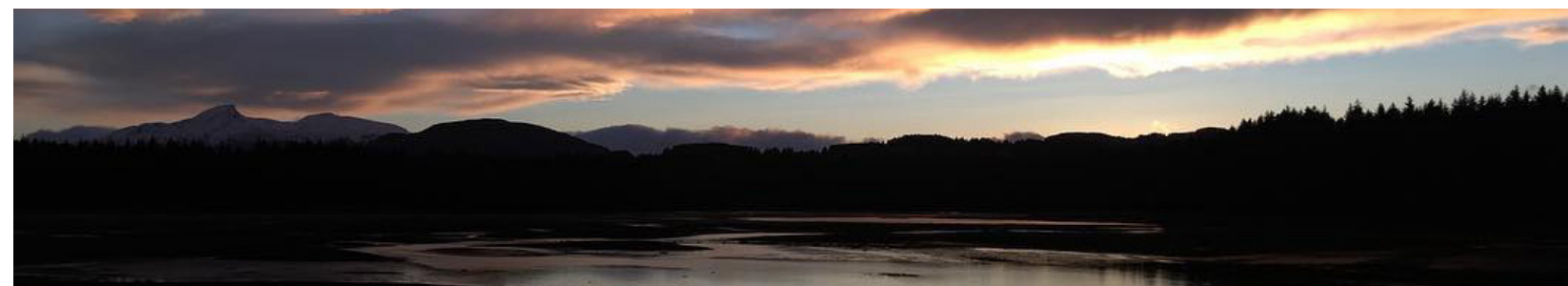
Included within this newsletter you will find our draft strategic plan. Each year your Council meets to review the previous year's plan and adjust our Tribe's strategy by laying out achievable goals that will create positive impacts on our Tribal Membership. Identifying these strategies allows for us to set priority levels for current and projected projects for the year. We would like Members to have the opportunity to review the full draft plan and provide us with input. For those who were unable to join us for the strategic planning draft review luncheon on May 20th we will be accepting comments until close of business on July 12th. Your feedback is valued greatly! Wishing you a beautiful summer filled with sunshine, salmon, and berries!



## MORE WAYS TO CONNECT TO YOUR TRIBE!

To learn more about our programs visit our website!  
[www.portlionstribes.net](http://www.portlionstribes.net)

To keep up to date with events give our Facebook page "Native Village of Port Lions" a like!



June 2019



Grants

First Nations Native Youth & Culture Fund

This grant is designed to enhance culture and language awareness, and promote youth empowerment, leadership and community building. Currently, thousands of tribal youth have been and are being served through those innovative efforts, which ranged from culture camps and language nests, to business classes and financial education workshops, to agriculture and other food-based activities. NVPL has applied for this grant and is awaiting award announcement.

Institute of Museum & Library Services Grant

The mission of IMPLS is to inspire libraries and museums to advance innovation, lifelong learning, and cultural and civic engagement. NVPL has applied for this grant and is awaiting award announcement.

Staff

Administration

Tribal Administrator, Yvonne Mullan  
Administrative Assistant, Amanda Holden  
Finance/Bookkeeping, The Foraker Group

Family Services

Tribal Family Services Coordinator, Willie Nelson  
Family Services Assistant, Kareasa McElwain  
Tribal Court Clerk, Loreen Bircher  
Senior Meal Cook, Lisa Squartsoff  
Alternate Senior Meal Cook, Vacant

Environmental

Environmental Specialist, Michael Holden  
Environmental Assistant, Brianna Wise  
Agriculture Technician I, Marvin Bartleson, Jr.  
Agriculture Trainee, Joseph Kewan

Transportation

Transportation Coordinator/Operator, Alvin Mullan  
Transportation Assistant/Operator, Lester Lukin, Sr.  
On-Call Operator, Kyle Crow  
On-Call Transportation Laborer, Lukas Serjeant

Maintenance/Janitorial

Maintenance/Janitorial Lead, Jay Kaiser  
On-Call Janitorial, vacant



Welcome Willie Nelson!



Willie Nelson joins the staff as the new Tribal Family Services Coordinator. He is the son of Tribal Member Harry “Fuzzy” & Kathy Nelson. Willie previously worked at the City of Port Lions in the Public Works Department, he has volunteered many hours as assistant Coach for the Kodiak Island Emerging Small Schools sports teams, and was a Teacher’s Aide at the Port Lions School. Willie enjoys the outdoors with his two dogs and enjoys playing music and singing. Welcome Willie!

Job Opportunities

Tribal Bookkeeper

The part-time Tribal Bookkeeper will be responsible for processing accounts payable & receivable, maintaining financial files, bank reconciliations, preparing budgets, attending and reporting at PLTTC regular Council meetings, and working directly with the Foraker Group and Finance Committee. The Tribal Bookkeeper is also responsible for assisting the Foraker Group in monthly financial reports to grant agencies and the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The Tribal Bookkeeper must have strong organizational skills, communication skills, computer proficiency, and experience in Financial Software (*Quickbooks*). Individual must be able to efficiently multi-task, work well with the public and the ability to work independently.

For a complete job description or to apply please visit our Careers Page on our NVPL website. Applications are also available at our Tribal Office. Completed applications can be forwarded to the Tribal Administrator.

Alternate Senior Meal Cook

In the absence of our regular Senior Meal Cook, this position is responsible for providing regular nutritious meals through a congregate or home-delivered meal setting for eligible senior citizens residing or visiting our village. This is an on-call part-time position.

Upcoming Events!

Community activity planning is in full swing! Be on the look out for notices about our upcoming Community Events! Submit your ideas and feedback for family activities by emailing: [familyservices@portlionstribe.org](mailto:familyservices@portlionstribe.org).

Member Services / Enrollment

What does it mean to be a Member of Tribe? Considering enrolling your descendant? Interested in connecting with your heritage? Contact: [familyservices@portlionstribe.org](mailto:familyservices@portlionstribe.org) or call 907-454-2234 with your enrollment questions.

Lunch Bucket Closed

Due to low participation the Lunch Bucket program has been suspended. Administrative Staff is evaluating other potential opportunities for our local Members.

Open Gym	Youth Center
Tues. & Thurs. 6pm–7:30pm (0-4 <sup>th</sup> grade) 7:30pm – 9pm (5 <sup>th</sup> grade +)	Wed. & Fri. 6pm–7:30pm (0-4 <sup>th</sup> grade) 7:30pm – 9pm (5 <sup>th</sup> grade +)



Welcome Kareasa McElwain!

Since joining NVPL as the Family Services Assistant, Kareasa McElwain has hosted a series of fun and engaging activities ranging from themed craft nights, family movie nights, and open gym. Kareasa’s creative party planning and event hosting expertise have

been a great addition to the Family Services Department. In addition to her Youth Services duties, Kareasa also operates the Tribal Library, a place to use the internet, study, read, or check out a book or movie.

Title VI Elder Meals

This program provides meal delivery or pickups three days per week (Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) for Elders 55 and older living in Port Lions. Pick up time and deliveries begin at: 3:30 PM. Non-Elders may purchase a meal for \$12 (*dependent on food availability*). Orders must be received before 10 AM. Qualifying Elders will take priority.



Welcome Lisa Squartsoff!

Lisa Squartsoff joined the NVPL staff as the new Senior Meal Cook. The Title VI Senor Meal program provides Elders access to a balanced meal, which is critical to health, functioning, and quality of life. Taking great pride in her work, Lisa carefully selects her menu each week. Lisa

brings years of culinary expertise to our program. We are excited to see the new variety of meals she provides. Lisa is more than happy to meet with any Member. Please come by and say hello to her in the kitchen!



# ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE

Our FY 2020-2021 work plan has been submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). We are waiting approval on our two-year plan and budget. New additions this year include: ocean acidification testing/data collecting and natural disaster preparedness. During the last quarter the Environmental Department attended several trainings and conferences throughout the State:

- Alaska Forum on the Environment: improves relationships between govt. agencies, organizations, tribes, and the public through education and teamwork.
- Alaska Tribal Conference on Environmental Management: Tribes, non-profits, and State and Federal agencies discuss solutions on the environmental concerns facing Alaska.
- Ocean Acidification Workshop: provides education on the processes and consequences of ocean acidification.

## Solid Waste Management

Our team continues to work closely with Stephanie Mason, Environmental Coordinator, Kodiak Area Native Association, to improve our Solid Waste Management. Stephanie's expertise has provided valuable educational insight and training opportunities for our solid waste system in Port Lions. As a friendly reminder, when dumping solid waste or scrap metal, please dispose these materials in the marked staging areas in the landfill.

## Recycling Program

Currently our recyclable delivery to Threshold (Kodiak) is on hold due to the delayed M/V Tustumena sailing. Reservations have been set each month to transport collected recyclables. We recently completed structural repairs/upgrades for the steel recycle shed. Through funds received from the Rasmussen Tier 1 grant we will connect power and install a used oil burner to heat the shed. These upgrades will allow for us to utilize the plastic shredder and baler.

## Salmon Incubation Project



This innovative, science-based program allows schools to raise salmon from the egg to the fry stage in classroom incubators. Students learn about the life cycle and biology of Pacific salmon species, their habitat requirements, and ways

to protect Alaska's valuable wild salmon stocks for future generations. Unfortunately, due to equipment failure the salmon eggs hatched in our community did not survive to fry stage. The program is expected to start again this fall.

# TRANSPORTATION UPDATE



Frontier Safety & Supply has been contracted to develop a safety plan for our community. The development of this plan assists in directing and sourcing appropriate funding opportunities to address our immediate priority list. As part of this plan our local Membership in Port Lions completed a transportation survey. The results of this survey were critical in identifying our immediate transportation concerns. Survey results in order of priority were identified as:

- 77% - Road damage/unmaintained roads
- 60% - Icy roads in winter months
- 53% - Dusty roads in summer months
- 45% - Boat launch, dock, or harbor safety issues
- 44% - Impaired driving

A recent mechanical issue on the water truck has caused a delay in the application of dust palliative. Our team is currently troubleshooting and will apply calcium chloride as soon as repairs have been completed. As defined by our department priority list, routine seasonal maintenance of our rental equipment has been placed on hold until road maintenance has been addressed. We appreciate Membership's patience and understanding as our Transportation Department is limited on staff and maintains a large priority list. We are actively maintaining a running list of equipment rental work. We have contracted with Dehart Construction for D1 gravel which will be used for road maintenance and for Member purchase. Supply of D1 is limited. Please contact Alvin Mullan at: 907-454-2234, to be added to the gravel purchase list. Please note all work will be performed on a first-come first-served basis.



# AGRICULTURE UPDATE

Egg production decreased during winter however we now see a gradual rise with our temperature change. Our flock produces approximately 20-30 eggs daily. Marvin and Joseph incubated two batches of chicks, successfully doubling our flock! 4 of the 50 chicks were roosters. Incubation of our third batch with the Port Lions School occurred this spring. Our partnership allowed for students to learn hands-on biological concepts, data collection, measurement, and analysis field work.

Our seed shack and garage have been upgraded, increasing our overall efficiency. The team completed improvements to Hoop House #1: soil heating cables were installed, row covers were set up, and soil monitoring thermometers were installed. Similar upgrades are now being made to Hoop House #2

Robbie Townsend-Vennel, Ocean Side Farms, and NVPL established a solid two-year business plan that included: expanding to outdoor growing area, increasing our poultry laying flock, improvement of advertisement and marketing,



and increasing partnerships. Post grant, our objective remains building a self-sustaining locally-owned business for our Tribe. We will continue to seek grant funding for technical assistance and expansion to ensure success of the Port Lions Farm.

We recognize and embrace all the challenges that have come along with this business endeavor and our staff continues to make progress in ensuring the continuation of this valuable project. We would like to thank Robbie Townsend-Vennel for the technical assistance she provides through the USDA 2501 grant, Afognak Native Corporation for their donation of \$31,011.00 to supplement our Agriculture budget in the areas of personnel, supplies, and overhead costs and Kodiak Area Native Association for their contribution through providing Employment Training Support Services which provide additional staffing.

# MEMBERSHIP CORNER

## Camren Malukai Bendicto



Camren Malukai Bendicto was born to Anaehoomalu Bendicto and Member Charlea Kewan on November 25, 2018 at 5:24pm. Camren weighed 7 lbs 7 oz and was 19 3/4 inches long. Proud grandparents are Maluhia Bendicto and Theresa Sioloa Bendicto of Mokuakeawe, HI and Dorinda and Member Arnold Kewan of Port Lions. Welcome to the world, Camren!

## Caroline Raelynn Knagin

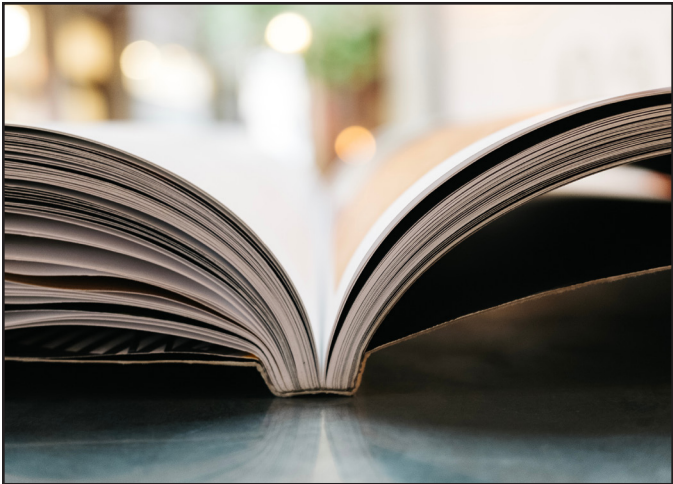


Caroline Raelynn Knagin was born on January 25, 2019 at 9:20am Caroline weighed 8lbs. 14oz. 21.5" long. A happy healthy baby girl! Her parents are Rodney Knagin, Member and Rebecca Fish. Caroline's grandparents are: Susan and David Boskofsky, Members, and Pennie and Frank Fish. Welcome Caroline!



Priority Areas	2019-2020 Goals	Objectives
Economic Development	1. Cover existing costs for the: a. Tribe b. Farm c. Lodge	A. Review Tribe’s financial needs B. Monitor Farm productivity i. Are we meeting community need (e.g., food security)? ii. Are we generating additional profit? C. Review costs & current program funds to pay for Lodge
	2. Sustain and grow support for Tribal Staff	A. Complete childcare renovation and provide for Tribal staff
	3. Research options to grow Tribal revenue	A. Council to visit Lodge B. Review proposals for Lodge use (e.g., Rentals, Be&B, Restaurant, Cultural Center, Processing Center, Office Space)
Technology	4. Establish high-speed internet	A. Pilot Microcom system for Tribe and Lodge
	5. Strengthen Tribe’s technology	A. Upgrade Tribe’s network, computer, hardware, and software i. Complete list of hardware needs ii. Develop hardware retention & upgrade plan
Transportation	6. Improve Tribal Roads	A. Improve road safety by increasing guardrails and signs
	7. Coordinate with the City of Port Lions to increase transportation resources	A. Negotiate transportation MOU with City (e.g., Tribal priorities listed in Transportation request to Borough, training coordination)
Education	8. Improve learning options for student	A. Recruit three people to serve on educators’ committee to advocate and make learning recommendations ii. Head Start potential iii. Future Leaders Summit iv. Charter School v. Micro-School F. Review options to teach Alutiiq language in PL School
	8. Prevent & Prepare for School Closure	A. Host foster family & foreign exchange recruitment
Other	9. Strengthen Intergenerational Links/Increase Tribal Member Outreach	A. Advertise volunteer opportunities B. Issue a community challenge to increase participation in Tribal activities

Priority Areas	Long-Term Goals	Objectives
Social Services	Create more space for Tribal and community activities	A. Build a Multi-Use Community Center (e.g, gym, Alutiiq language classroom, childcare, business, etc.)
Environmental Preservation	Foster a safe & healthy environment for Members	A. Decrease Ocean Acidification B. Support Emergency Preparedness
Economic Development	Increase Tribal revenue	1. Secure a Kelp Permit 2. Cultivate & Sell Devil’s Club
Education	Increase learning opportunities	A. Establish a Charter School



Rhea Mae Knagin Scholarship

The Rhea Mae Knagin Scholarship is designed to recognized and provide financial support to any student who demonstrates exceptional scholastic ability in higher education. There are three awards given each year: One (1) \$1,000.00 award to the highest total score and two (2) \$500.00 awards receiving the second and third highest scored applications. Applicants must be a high school graduate or GED equivalent and enrolled Member of the Native Village of Port Lions with a gpa of 2.5 or higher. Applicants must be enrolled in an accredited university or vocational school within the state of Alaska. Previous award recipients may reapply. Applicants must apply online through Koniag Education Foundation - [www.koniageducationfoudation.org](http://www.koniageducationfoudation.org).

KANA Education Scholarships

Higher Education and Vocational Scholarships are awarded specifically for the purpose of assisting students to attend accredited vocational and academic institutions.

Two types of scholarships are available:

**Tribal Scholarship:**  
Assisting Members of the tribes of Akhiok, Kaguyak, and Port Lions to attend accredited colleges, universities or vocational and professional training centers.

**General Scholarship**  
Assisting Alaska Native or American Indians living in the Kodiak region to attend accredited colleges, universities, or vocational and professional training centers in Alaska.

For more information contact Thomas Pogson: 907-486-1356 or email: [thomas.pogson@kodiakhealthcare.org](mailto:thomas.pogson@kodiakhealthcare.org).

Youth Scholarship Opportunities!

Do you have an elementary, middle or high school aged child who wishes to participate in activities that promote educational growth or scholastic leadership? Consider applying for one of three youth scholarships!

Youth Enhancement Program

NVPL scholarship to help empower youth through educational or extra-curricular activities. Contact the NVPL office to inquire about eligibility requirements.

Youth Enhancement Program - ANC

This program is administered through Afognak Native Corporation and is only available for voting ANC Shareholders. Examples of typically funded activities are athletic, scholastic, cultural, leadership trainings, camps or other events that help students reach his or her goals. Shareholders may receive up to \$750 per calendar year. For more information about ANC’s YEP program please call ANC Shareholder Services: 907-222-9500.

Richard Frost Youth Scholarship Program

The Richard Frost Youth Scholarship Program provides young voting Shareholders and registered Descendants, from age three through high school, with financial support for a range of activities and events. The program is designed to be flexible and can support anything from tee-ball registration to airfare to an Alutiiq culture camp. Students may receive up to \$750. For more information please contact Koniag, Inc. Shareholder Services: 800-658-3818.

