



Ketchikan
INDIAN COMMUNITY

OFFICE OF THE
PRESIDENT

Governor Mike Dunleavy
Office of the Governor
PO Box 110001
Juneau, KA 99811-0001

Jordan Shilling
Office of the Governor
Director Alaska Boards and Commissions
550 W 7th Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99901
907-269-7450

Subject: Letter of Support for Olivia Henaayee Irwin's Nomination to the Alaska Board of Fisheries

Dear Governor Dunleavy,

I am writing to express my strong support for Olivia Henaayee Irwin's nomination to the Alaska Board of Fisheries. As an Iñupiaq and Koyukon Tribal member from Nenana, Olivia brings an invaluable perspective rooted in the subsistence traditions and cultural heritage of Alaska's Indigenous communities.

With generations of knowledge and lived experience in the Yukon River region, Olivia understands the critical importance of protecting Alaska's fisheries—not just for their ecological sustainability, but also for the survival of the communities that depend on them. Her leadership, commitment to traditional ways of life, and firsthand knowledge of fisheries management will provide essential representation on the Board, ensuring that Indigenous voices are included in vital decision-making processes.

Alaska's fisheries are at a turning point, facing significant environmental and management challenges. The Board must reflect the diverse interests of all who rely on these resources. Olivia's expertise, dedication, and cultural insight will offer a much-needed perspective to help balance conservation efforts with the needs of subsistence fishers and rural communities.

I respectfully urge you to appoint Olivia Henaayee Irwin to the Alaska Board of Fisheries. A voice like Olivia's is essential for shaping policies that will sustain Alaska's fisheries for generations to come. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Gloria Ilxileé Stáng Burns, President
Ketchikan Indian Community