

March 31, 2026

The Honorable Loki Tobin, Chair
The Honorable Gary Stevens, Vice Chair
The Honorable Jesse Bjorkman
The Honorable Jesse Kiehl
The Honorable Robert Yundt
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Senator Tobin, Senator Stevens, Senator Bjorkman, Senator Kiehl, and Senator Yundt:

On behalf of, Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC), I am writing to express our deepest appreciation for the enduring partnership we have shared with the Alaska Native Language Center (ANLC) and to share our immense satisfaction with the work we have accomplished together.

For decades, our collaborative efforts alongside ANLC have played a vital role in the documentation, preservation, teaching, and advancement of Alaska Native languages. Together, we have ensured that this work transcends academic boundaries, deeply impacting the cultural identity, knowledge systems, and well-being of the tribes and communities we serve. We are incredibly proud of the intergenerational connections and cultural strength this partnership has fostered.

We are particularly pleased with the tangible results of our shared mission. TCC has a long-standing and multifaceted partnership with the University of Alaska Fairbanks that spans language preservation, education, workforce development, food security, and community capacity building. Our collaboration with the ANLC has included coordinated workshops for Alaska Native language teachers focused on Indigenous language teaching methods, as well as direct financial support through our ANE Language Grant to advance digitization of language materials and strengthen long-term access to language resources.

We deeply value the relationship we have built with ANLC and the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

Thank you for your continued leadership, your belief in collaborative community efforts, and your dedication to the vital work being done at the ANLC.

Sincerely,



Sharon Hildebrand
Chief/Chairman