



**2008 ELDERS/YOUTH ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 08 – 01**

**TITLE: RAISING AWARENESS OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE IN
ALASKA**

**WHEREAS: Alaska has the highest rate of child sexual abuse in the nation;
and**

WHEREAS: Parents need to acknowledge that child abuse happens; and

**WHEREAS: Parents need to talk to their children about keeping their
bodies safe and that it is ok to tell;**

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates to the 2008 Elders
and Youth Annual Convention of the First Alaskans Institute that we, as Alaska
Natives, pledge to raise our awareness of and work to reduce child sexual abuse in
our villages, regions, state, education systems, and school districts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that as the indigenous people of Alaska, we
shall come together to end the vicious cycle of child sexual abuse – focusing on
education and prevention.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in order for these goals to be achieved,
funding sources need to be made available.

**SUBMITTED BY: Vanessa Tahbone on behalf of Monica Chase, Kawerak Child
Advocacy Center**

APPROVED BY: 2008 Elders and Youth Delegates DATE: October 21st, 2008

First Alaskans Institute

2008 ELDERS/YOUTH ANNUAL CONVENTION RESOLUTION 08 – 02

TITLE: CREATE SUPPORT GROUPS FOR TEENAGERS WHO HAVE FAMILY MEMBERS WITH DRUG AND ALCOHOL ADDICTIONS

WHEREAS: Alaska Native /American Indians are a targeted minority of the alcohol distributors; and

WHEREAS: Alaska Native /American Indians have unacceptably high rates of drug and alcohol abuse; and

WHEREAS: Due to these high rates of abuse, teenagers with addicted family members are more likely to experiment with drugs and alcohol from these “learned behaviors;” and

WHEREAS: As a result of home life exposure, Alaska Native/American Indian teenagers face the day to day harmful effects of drug and alcohol addictions that other teenagers are not exposed to; and

WHEREAS: Teenagers need a safe and nurturing atmosphere to share and learn coping mechanisms to deal with the constant struggles of living and dealing with family member addictions;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates to the 2008 Elders and Youth Annual Convention of the First Alaskans Institute to support the creation of culturally appropriate support groups for and with teenagers of families that deal with drug and alcohol addictions; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Native youth should also support this through making healthy smart choices for themselves; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Native Organizations of Alaska collaborate with one another to gather resources from federal, state, and other organizations for funding to administer these support groups to Alaska Native/American Indian teenagers across the state of Alaska.

SUBMITTED BY: Sun’aq Tribe of Kodiak “Together As One Youth Group”

PPROVED BY: 2008 Elder and Youth Delegates

DATE: October 21st, 2008



2008 ELDERS/YOUTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

RESOLUTION 08-03

TITLE: HONORING ALASKA NATIVE CENTENARIANS AS LIVING LEGENDS DURING ELDER & YOUTH AND AFN ANNUAL CONVENTIONS

WHEREAS: In October 2008 at the 25th Anniversary Elders & Youth Conference a discussion was held about the importance and precious nature of Elders who have lived to be 100 years old, such as Hannah Solomon and Walter Soboleff who each turn 100 this year; and

WHEREAS: Our Alaska Native Elders who celebrate their 100th birthday are Living Treasures; and

WHEREAS: It is important to acknowledge each and everyone who has made and met this impressive benchmark in their lives, the lives of their families, and their communities; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates to the 2008 Elder and Youth Annual Convention of the First Alaskans Institute that from now on, AFN and First Alaskans shall acknowledge and honor these Living Legends, these centenarians, at each of their respective annual conventions, and that each individual region shall be responsible for forwarding the names of their centenarians no later than one month before said annual conventions so these honored Living Legends can be properly acknowledged.

SUBMITTED BY: Resolutions Workshop Participants

APPROVED BY: 2008 Elder and Youth Delegates

DATE: October 21st, 2008

First Alaskans Institute

2008 ELDERS/YOUTH ANNUAL CONVENTION RESOLUTION 08 – 04

TITLE: UNITE ELDERS AND YOUTH WITH AFN LEADERSHIP

WHEREAS: The Elders and Youth have been attending AFN for the past twenty-five years; and

WHEREAS: Some or many of these years the Elders and Youth met separately; and

WHEREAS: Resolutions from the Elders (War on Alcohol and Drugs) and Youth (Veterans receive 160 acre allotment) result in local and Congressional actions; and

WHEREAS: The Elders and Youth are allowed only Monday and Tuesday to convene, which most feel is not enough time to fully attend to issues of major importance; and

WHEREAS, for several years the Elders and Youth have asked for more time and allowed space to meet on Wednesdays; and

WHEREAS: Elders and Youth return to their villages on Wednesday are thereby excluded from the main convention Thursday, Friday and Saturday; and

WHEREAS: From the inception of AFN all delegates have consistently recognized the wisdom of the Elders and the potential of our youth to fully interact with AFN leaders who mentor and role model future leadership; and

WHEREAS: The Elders and Youth request the use of space and time to meet on Wednesdays and for Marketplace Alaska to make accommodations to honor this legitimate request; and

WHEREAS: The Elders and Youth request to be active participants in the main convention Thursday, Friday, and Saturday to speak to issues and resolutions offered from their three day convention; and

WHEREAS: After twenty-five years of Elders and Youth meetings, they request to be truly united in attendance at AFN;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates of the 2008 Elders and Youth Annual Convention of the First Alaskans Institute that the AFN voting delegation instruct the AFN Board to take the necessary steps to truly unite the Elders and Youth with the main AFN delegation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the AFN Board take the necessary steps to include Wednesday as a day for Elders and Youth to fully discuss proposed resolution to the many issues (health, education, subsistence hunting and fishing, etc.) facing us from yesterday, today and tomorrow; AND

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that after twenty-five years AFN step up to and keep their promise to recognize the needs of Elders and Youth.

SUBMITTED: AFN Elders and Youth Council 2008

APPROVED BY: 2008 Elder and Youth Delegates

DATE: October 21st, 2008

First Alaskans Institute

2008 ELDERS/YOUTH ANNUAL CONVENTION RESOLUTION 08 – 05

TITLE: SUPPORT OF AFN RURAL AND URBAN YOUTH TO ATTEND CONVENTION

WHEREAS: Over the years a number of youth have been forced to move from their villages due to schools closing and into urban communities and schools; and

WHEREAS: Many of these youth feel separation anxiety, loss of identity, and culture shock; and

WHEREAS: Many of these youth do not adapt well to urban schools; and

WHEREAS: Many of these youth feel homesick and left out of the community nurturing and love that exist in their home communities; and

WHEREAS: Many of these youth are no longer able to participate in subsistence activities of hunting and fishing with their parents, grandparents, siblings, and friends; and

WHEREAS: The full week of AFN meetings provide the opportunity for youth to meet their friends and relatives; and

WHEREAS: AFN allows them the opportunities to hear and act on current issues facing rural and urban youth; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates of the 2008 Elders and Youth Annual Convention of the First Alaskans Institute that the AFN delegation vote to support and encourage rural and urban youth to attend AFN gatherings and meetings; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the AFN Board instruct urban schools to allow attendance of rural and urban youth to AFN without being penalized “absent” which impacts their eligibility requirements to stay in school; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the school districts give credit to urban youth who attend AFN, credit can be given for “History”, “Political Science”, “Economics”, “Sociology”, “Anthropology”, “Art”, “Dancing, Singing, Arts and Crafts”; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED the Elders and Youth Councils fully support this resolution and request their resolution to be brought to the full convention for support and appropriate action.

SUBMITTED: AFN Elders and Youth Council 2008

APPROVED BY: 2008 Elder and Youth Delegates DATE: October 21st, 2008