



Community Engagement Update

Week of April 22, 2020

As a statewide Native nonprofit, our FAI team is very connected to our home communities, regions, and our statewide Native family. During one of our weekly virtual team meetings, we share community engagement updates on various happenings in our communities to help guide our work. In an effort to share our knowledge harvest - recognizing this is not a comprehensive overview of all current Alaska Native news - here are some of the updates that were shared:

Community Updates - 4/22/2020:

Many of our communities are preparing for flooding in the midst of COVID-19 preparations

NWS predicts earlier breakup dates, elevated ice jam flood risks:

<https://www.ktuu.com/content/news/NWS-forecasts-earlier-breakup-dates-high-ice-jam-flood-risks-across-much-of-Alaska-569647591.html>

Bethel: <https://www.kyuk.org/post/city-bethel-prepares-flood-evacuations-amid-covid-19-pandemic?fbclid=IwAR3ScA6lXl3lGWOo6coflbyjvWlIzdDZCDVXV-oWRNKQxXBfDyolciOcvBs>

Aniak: <https://www.alaskapublic.org/2020/04/09/aniak-is-preparing-for-2-possible-disasters-at-once-covid-19-and-flooding/>

Fairbanks: <https://www.webcenter11.com/content/news/Late-snow-followed-by-warm-temperatures-569747801.html>

Many of our regions (and Canada family) have come up with creative ways to keep us connected through the physical distancing necessary to keep our people and communities safe

2020 North Slope Wide Jamboree – Coming Together Strengthening Our Communities”:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/263480371720930/>

Kawerak Weekly Strengthening Families contests:

<https://www.facebook.com/203159750079677/photos/a.223555234706795/989748304754147/?type=3&theater>

Sealaska Heritage Institute announces they will host Virtual Celebration this year from June 10-13, is currently seeking photo and video applications for the Toddler Review, Fashion Show, and Juried Art Show: <https://www.sealaskaheritage.org/node/1213>

Fort McPherson Peel River is hosting ongoing Jamboree and Online Events:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/616865049167892/?ref=gs&ref=gs&dti=679396709532240&hc_location=group

If you have any questions, updates or suggestions, please send them to info@firstalaskans.org. Quyanaqpak!

Our people and organizations all over the state are making virtual space for cultural sharing, storytelling, connectedness and learning

Native Peoples Action “Native Wellness Hour” series: <https://npacommunityfund.org/native-wellness-series/?fbclid=IwAR1UeWcTjldd5cUFRPEfs3erqKiwbpYC7xJa2DXd0C9YMfgyrmaLFTKsAg>

RurAL CAP “Feel Good” webinars:

https://www.resourcebasket.org/?fbclid=IwAR1P1RygMDwTa_eCktoQZMUjofypH7MEaLBMztGpsa1ASP VgShcl3fyzxOY

Alaska Native Virtual Gathering place for statewide virtual sharing of song and dance from our Native peoples: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/AlaskaNativeGatheringPlace>

Bi-Weekly Webinar Series about Alaska’s Just Transition, hosted by multiple Native organizations and partners:

<https://www.justtransitionak.org/webinar/?fbclid=IwAR0H32r0WxwL1HpmH4dCf4jDVRAYH9UswsQhX5tAcndoJ72TgPZwjZfGkpl>

Kawerak hosted a Regional Call-In Prayer on April 17th with four elders and three pastors via teleconference:

<https://www.facebook.com/203159750079677/photos/a.223555234706795/990389344690043/?type=3&theater>

Other Community Happenings

Native Movement is working to get essential items out to womxn that may have been missed – they developed a survey to identify needs:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdPZZwyqkhqobK0KtTOHdlutFWyS3YacBZAP282URs25_Si8w/viewform?fbclid=IwAR2hDCN84EtyNStiaBX9OObAKEXMkwrUdU2Up3ux2EAeGSX_N6YuR6Nmas

City of Juneau started a joke hotline, staffed by volunteers: https://www.adn.com/alaska-news/2020/04/21/the-city-of-juneau-started-a-joke-hotline-to-cheer-you-up/?fbclid=IwAR3DHD0TL48X2DIDHh_zRQDB7H2JkkRx_uEFKMSIVI18VAoUOmMoJyVG3Ys

Of the 56 member tribes of AVCP, 55 applied for CARES Act funding:

http://www.avcp.org/2020/04/17/press-release-majority-of-avcp-member-tribes-on-track-to-submit-information-for-coronavirus-relief-fund-payments-through-the-u-s-department-of-treasury-portal/?fbclid=IwAR3qPT7MvzR3fc4Zdi53MWXaWqSZevWdWKMg9mtKut_JUxj4pkQbWZOF8XA

Calista commits to consulting with region’s Tribes to determine how best to use any potential Tribal Relief funding: https://www.calistacorp.com/news/calista-corporation-cooperating-with-department-of-treasury-to-provide-data-and-assisting-yk-delta-tribes-to-ensure-none-left-out/?fbclid=IwAR3N0B-IQQY7KdQS5Bqh7QBh66_EfEJnYecOa4IAh6_XVeHw1COSqAlOlvw

Sealaska’s press release on Tribal and community support with Tribal Relief Funding:

<https://www.sealaska.com/community/sealaska-statement-on-the-cares-act/>

If you have any questions, updates or suggestions, please send them to info@firstalaskans.org. Quyanapqak!

KYUK Won 13 Alaska Press Club Journalism awards: <https://www.kyuk.org/post/kyuk-wins-13-alaska-press-club-journalism-awards?fbclid=IwAR0IijJuOJYvo07gBPRMqjwY3KJxe9gpRxxhQ84OIQg8fINBLxHlcCtia6A>

First Alaskans Magazine won two Alaska Press Club awards: <https://www.facebook.com/FirstAlaskansMagazine/photos/a.509112745892776/1825741390896565/?type=3&theater>

Kawerak has launched a Knowledge Sovereignty page on their website “to advance, through various means, the knowledge and research sovereignty of indigenous people, the indigenization of knowledge and research, and the promotion of positive relationships between indigenous communities and research” with links to publications, tools, resources, and articles of interest:

<https://kawerak.org/natural-resources/knowledge-sovereignty/>

Anchorage community members mobilize donations for Elders and other Alaska Native families in need around Anchorage: <https://www.facebook.com/anchoragenativecommunity/>

Kawerak is paying for internet service for foster families through COVID-19: <https://kawerak.org/kawerak-pays-internet-service-for-foster-families-through-covid-19/>

Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation passed a \$100,000 Community Benefit Share Distribution: <https://www.nsedc.com/nsedc-board-passes-special-100000-community-benefit-share-distribution/?fbclid=IwAR1iID1cAL-1sVsekwW3K3UR-AODNkSrGysiVxaA7cbU7RtqLINQjrCxzTg>

Norton Sound Health Corporation and Kawerak shared important Subsistence Safety Tips: <https://www.facebook.com/NortonSoundHealthCorporation/photos/a.202512143530537/913127309135680/?type=3&theater>

Norton Sound Health Corporation Weekly COVID-19 Situation Report (4/21): <https://myemail.constantcontact.com/NSHC-Situation-Report-Update-April-21.html?soid=1123965954037&aid=eY7B-1ETuC4&fbclid=IwAR1WE0ONYCy-sf4AoF-jAlKcjHZ9a73o88bOrWmBSpUiPdbhKqwlwLjKwgA>

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