9th Annual AFN Tribal Conference
Wednesday, October 19, 2022
8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

William A. Egan Civic & Convention Center
555 W. 5th Ave.
Anchorage, AK 99501



Celebrating Community

MORNING SESSION

8:30 a.m. **Call to Order**
- Ana Hoffman, Co-Chair, Alaska Federation of Natives

8:35 a.m. **Invocation**
- Tom Tilden, Subsistence Committee Chairman, AFN

8:45 a.m. **COVID-19 Blessing and Cleansing**
- Marie Meade, Elder

9:00 a.m. **Honoring COVID-19 First Responders**
- Linda and Shara Davis, Community Health Aides, Mekoryuk

9:20 a.m. **Typhoon Merbok: Impacts, Responses, and Recommendations**
- Melanie Bahnke, President/CEO, Kawerak, Inc.
- Vivian Korthuis, CEO, Association of Village Council Presidents

10:05 a.m. **BREAK**

10:15 a.m. **Expanding Alaska's Broadband Access**
- Tim Stelzig, Alaska and U.S. Territories Regional Director, National Telecommunications and Information Administration
- Sayuri Rajapakse, Deputy Chief of the Office of Native Affairs and Policy Federal Communications Commission
- Natalie Kovach, Alaska Field Representative, USDA Rural Development
- Thomas Lochner, Director, Alaska Broadband Office

10:45 a.m. **Increasing Rural Grid Resiliency and Other DOE Offerings for Alaska**
- Givey Kochanowski, Senior Advisor, U.S. Department of Energy

11:00 a.m. **A Conversation: Tribes and Native Corporations**
- Richard Peterson, President, Tlingit Haida
- Joe Nelson, Chairman, Sealaska Corporation

11:45 a.m. **LUNCH (On Own)**

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:00 p.m. **Keynote Address**
- Quannah Rose Chasinghorse-Potts, Model and Advocate

1:30 p.m. **Simplifying Federal Compliance and Reporting (*Virtual*)**
- Jennifer Parisien, Senior Policy Advisor, U.S. Department of Treasury

1:50 p.m. **Completing the ACS Survey and Other Census Updates**
- Robert Santos, Director, U.S. Census Bureau
- Roberto Ramirez, Assistant Division Chief, Special Populations
- Jessica Imotichey, Tribal Relations Specialist, UCB

2:10 p.m. **Your Choice, Your Vote: Alaska's New Ranked Choice Voting System**
- Michelle Sparck, Director of Strategic Initiatives, Get Out The Native Vote

2:30 p.m. **BREAK**

2:40 p.m. **Protecting our People: VAWA22**
- Alex Cleghorn, Senior Director Legal and Policy, Alaska Native Justice Center

3:00 p.m. **Navigating These Once-In-A-Generation Infrastructure Opportunities**
- Nicole Borromeo, Executive Vice President and General Counsel, AFN

3:20 p.m. **Interior Department Update**
- Raina Thiele, Senior Advisor to the Secretary for Alaska Affairs & Strategic Priorities, U.S. Department of the Interior

3:40 p.m. **Alaska State Legislature Update**
- Rep. Bryce Edgmon, Chairman, Bush Caucus

4:00 p.m. **Adjournment**
- Joe Nelson, Co-Chair, AFN

