

NATIVE VILLAGE OF EKLUTNA

March 24, 2014

To: National Congress of American Indian Tribes

Greetings from Alaska!

Eklutna, Native Village, is preparing to host our bi-annual Dena-ina Potlatch/Powwow, June 7-8, 2014. We will start at 11:00 am each day. This year we are extremely pleased to be welcoming you, the delegates of National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) and we will be honoring each of you at this event.

As you know, the 2014 NCAI mid-year conference will be in Anchorage, Alaska at the Dena-ina Center from June 9th to 11th, 2014. Traditionally, NCAI has "culture night," we have, however, asked the local planning committee to include our Potlatch/Pow-wow to the list of NCAI activities and events. We hope to welcome all of you to our traditional lands just before you get down to business.

Should you desire to be part of this historic event, consider coming to Anchorage on Saturday before the conference start, get a good nights' sleep, wake and be ready for pick up by 8:00 am Sunday to board a sightseeing tour train, leaving at 9:15-9:30 am to Eklutna Village Pot-latch/Pow-wow grounds, just on the outskirts of Anchorage. This culture event features dance and drum performances by Athabascan, Aleut, Tlingit/Haida, Inupiat, and Yupik Nations, as well as big drums, such as Sleeping Lady. There will also be vendors, children's activities, and our traditional Potlatch "dinner" at 2:00 PM. We hereby formally invite you, your tribal chief(s) and/or president, your tribal council members, and your family to attend. We'd be truly honored if your tribe would consider becoming a financial sponsor, or maybe you have a gift of traditional food or can fund travel for a dance and drum group. Your name; company name and address will appear in the agenda brochure at the event, as well as on signage displayed at the entrance. Sponsorship will be displayed as follows: Gold Sponsorship over \$10,000.00; Silver over \$5,000.00; and Platinum over \$1,000.00.

Our planning Committee also seeks volunteers to assist us with many different tasks. Please email our event planning committee chair Ms. Melissa Charmley at "Charmr1977@yahoo.com" or our Tribal Administrator Ms. Marlene Johnson at <u>administrator@eklutna-nsn.gov</u> for more information.

We are excited about hosting this historic event for our community; and we look forward to hearing from you.

This gathering normally brings friends, family and the general public together in a healthy drug & alcohol free celebration. This year our theme is "Roadmap to Unity" for all of our nation's tribes. We would love for you to be a part of this. Please RSVP for this activity when signing up for the conference.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely NATIVE VILLAGE OF EKLUTNA /s/ Lee Stephan, President Traditional Tribal Council