



CENTRAL COUNCIL  
*Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska*  
Office of the President • Edward K. Thomas Building  
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CENTRAL COUNCIL OF TLINGIT & HAIDA INDIAN TRIBES OF ALASKA  
Eighty-Ninth Annual Tribal Assembly  
April 17-19, 2024  
Juneau, Alaska

Resolution TA 24-12

Title: Prioritization of the Fentanyl Crisis

By: Ketchikan Tlingit & Haida Community Council

WHEREAS, the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Tlingit & Haida) is a federally recognized tribe with more than 37,000 citizens; and

WHEREAS, every life is sacred and drug and alcohol addiction is related to historical and intergenerational trauma such that those afflicted by addiction deserve our love, compassion, and care, and not our judgement; and

WHEREAS, the use of fentanyl, other opiates, amphetamines, and other deadly drugs continue to spread throughout our Nation and surrounding communities, and we are seeing a significant increase in overdoses and overdose fatalities; and

WHEREAS, Tlingit & Haida believes wholeheartedly that every tribal citizens life matters and we must pull together all resources to address this massive threat to the health, safety, and general welfare of our community; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this declaration is to provide Tlingit & Haida with new and immediate avenues to enhance capabilities, coordination, and collaboration across tribal, local, state, and federal agencies, and bring together state agencies, local law enforcement, national Native American organizations, and internal and external partners to pursue and achieve solutions that promote public health and safety in our Tlingit & Haida communities; and

WHEREAS, this declaration will allow the Tlingit & Haida the flexibility to respond to difficult circumstances, including reallocating funds and accelerating procurement practices for certain supplies; and

WHEREAS, the current drug epidemic we are experiencing requires an all-hands-on-deck approach to reduce overdoses and overdose fatalities; and

WHEREAS, Tlingit & Haida will coordinate internally with its programs to create an updated strategy to address the fentanyl and other drug addiction crises;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Eighty-Ninth Tribal Assembly of the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska delegation convened April 17-19, 2024 hereby declares it will be Tlingit & Haida's highest priority to address the fentanyl crisis and other deadly drugs and identify barriers, such as long-term treatment, and gaps that hinder our ability to provide our people with top-of-the-line culturally competent wrap-around services and make policy and code changes where needed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Tlingit & Haida will hold these agencies, including transportation systems like airlines and ferries, and border patrols like those that will address private vessels crossing our borders, and law enforcement, accountable for helping fix the problem.

ADOPTED this 19<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2024, by the Eighty-Ninth Tribal Assembly of the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska.

**CERTIFY**



President Richard J. Peterson

**ATTEST**



Tribal Secretary Jacqueline L. Pata