



CENTRAL COUNCIL  
TLINGIT & HAIDA INDIAN TRIBES OF ALASKA  
AND  
SEALASKA CORPORATION



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 10, 2011

**Southeast Economic Development Summit  
takes place May 12 and 13, 2011**

Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (CCTHITA) and Sealaska Corporation are co-hosting a region-wide ***Southeast Economic Development Summit***. This event is being held in Juneau at the Alaska Native Brotherhood Hall on May 12 and 13, 2011. The summit will focus on issues relating to economic development, resources and collaboration opportunities.

To promote business and economic development in our region, the summit will provide prospects for business innovation and community empowerment, bring together information about federal and state resources and present important networking opportunities. "It is essential to collaborate and expand economic partnerships to develop solutions for the success of our communities," said CCTHITA President Edward K. Thomas. "The strength of our people has always been the ability to collaborate and take action towards our own destiny."

"The great recession, current global economic issues and decreased funding from federal budgets continue to negatively affect our Southeast economy," said Sealaska President and CEO Chris E. McNeil Jr. "Add to that significant energy costs and it is a perfect storm of activity contributing to declining populations in Southeast Alaska. It is vital our community and business leaders come together now to secure a strong future for our region."

Southeast community planners, tribal leaders, ANCSA corporations, business and economic development entities are encouraged to attend. The summit will present an excellent opportunity for elected officials, government representatives and other leaders to work together for economic development solutions for Southeast Alaska.

To see the current agenda and other summit information, please see the link at the Central Council website ([www.ccthita.org](http://www.ccthita.org)).

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