



CENTRAL COUNCIL
Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska
Office of the President | Communications
9097 Glacier Highway, Juneau, Alaska 99801
communications@ccthita-nsn.gov | www.ccthita-nsn.gov

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SEITC Seats Rob Sanderson Jr. as Chairman



Rob Sanderson Jr.

Juneau, AK (May 11, 2018) – Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Tlingit & Haida) is pleased to announce 4th Vice President Rob Sanderson Jr. has been seated as Chairman of the Southeast Alaska Indigenous Transboundary Commission (SEITC).

SEITC is a consortium of 15 federally recognized tribes in Southeast Alaska whose mission is to create a unified voice for Indigenous peoples who are facing impacts from industrialization occurring in our region. Established in March of 2014 as the United Tribal Transboundary Mining Work Group, SEITC seeks to protect ancestral tribal lands and waters in the Southeast Alaska, Bristol Bay, British Columbia and Yukon Territory regions. SEITC derives its authority from tribal governments in the following communities: Craig, Douglas, Hydaburg, Juneau, Kake, Kasaan, Ketchikan, Klawock, Klukwan, Metlakatla, Petersburg, Saxman, Sitka, Wrangell and Yakutat.

“The Tribe congratulates VP Sanderson on his appointment to Chairman of SEITC,” said President Richard (*Chalyee Éesh*) Peterson. “We are grateful for his continued work protecting our sacred ancestral lands and environment. Rob has been a long-time advocate of environmental issues, raising awareness of the transboundary mining threats that exist in Southeast Alaska. With his experience, I believe we can accomplish the Tribe’s long-term commitment to support the sustained wellbeing of our land and culture and succeed in creating a vibrant, healthy future for our people.”

Chairman Sanderson is Haida of the Eagle moiety, Stuts Clan. His Haida name is *Gu’usuwaa*. He has served as a Tlingit & Haida Delegate since 2000 and is currently serving his 6th term on the Executive Council. Sanderson is a strong leader on important Alaska Native issues such as fisheries, subsistence (our way of life) and transboundary mining. He represents the Tribe on the Indigenous People’s Council for Marine Mammals (IPCoMM), United States Forest Service (USFS) Alaska Tribal Leaders Committee and the Alaska Native Harbor Seal Commission to name a few. He also participates on the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council and is a member of the Alaska Native Brotherhood Camp 14.

“I look forward to working closely with the Commission’s Vice Chair Jennifer Hanlon, the Executive Committee and member tribes to bring transparency moving forward,” said Chairman Sanderson. “We are working hard to solidify ties with British Columbia and the Yukon Territory to ensure environmental security and stability for our traditional waterways.”

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Media Contact:

Office of the President

Miciana Hutcherson, Communications Specialist

Phone: 907.463.7369 | Email: communications@ccthita-nsn.gov