

>Cover page

>mission statement

Unless the context otherwise requires, for the purpose of this Constitution, the term "Young people or Youth" means persons who are 12 to 21 years of age; The Tribal Youth Council shall act as a coalition of Tribal Youths for the betterment of their future and the future of their tribe.

# CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

## Healy Lake Youth Council

### ARTICLE ONE

#### *Name*

The name of this group shall be the Healy Lake Youth Council.

### ARTICLE TWO

#### *Objectives*

The objectives of this group shall be to provide a collective voice and represent the tribal youth in all matters that concern them; to serve as a means of mobilizing and coordinating the actions of youth, other community members and organizations toward positive goals; to promote the development of future tribal leaders; to help solve problems facing tribal youth; to coordinate school and community service projects and provide opportunities for the youth to interact for fun and fellowship.

>add/change to make more culturally focused?

## ARTICLE THREE

### *Members*

#### Section 1:

The group shall have one core membership of three youth members consisting of Healy Lake Tribal Youth between the ages of 12 and 21 that fulfill officially elected officer positions.

Section 2: The Youth Council body shall be comprised of any tribal youth without exclusion, and visiting youths that wish to participate. The Healy Lake Youth Council is based on inclusion and fellowship, thereby exclusion, elitism, and non-involvement of any Youth wishing to participate shall not be tolerated.

#### Section 3:

Each member shall have a right to cast one vote on any matter submitted to a vote of the membership.

#### Section 4:

All Tribal Youth, who follow the Rules and Regulations, are welcome to attend all Youth Council meetings.

## ARTICLE FOUR

### *Officers*

#### Section 1:

The officers of the group shall be a President, Vice President, and Secretary/Treasurer.

#### Section 2:

The President shall be the principal officer of the group and shall supervise and coordinate the affairs of the group. The President will preside at all membership meetings.

### Section 3:

In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall perform the duties of the President.

### Section 4:

The Secretary/Treasurer shall keep minutes of the membership meetings and see that all notices are given in accordance with the bylaws, keep current membership list, and in general, perform all duties related to the office of Secretary/Treasurer. If the Secretary/Treasurer is in need of assistance or guidance, they may request the help with these tasks from the President or Adult Supervisor.

### Section 5:

The President shall have custody and be responsible for the collection and disbursements of all funds of the group. The President will prepare and present a financial report at each meeting. (An adult advisor shall co-sign all deposits, checks, and financial statements.)

### Section 6:

The Vice President shall oversee tasks that the President delegates. The Vice President is responsible for keeping meetings on track and according to the agenda.

### Section 7:

The officers shall be elected by ballot at a time and in a **manner prescribed by the membership** to serve for one year or until removed from office for just cause or until their successors are elected and assume office. The officers' terms shall commence at the close of the meeting at which they are elected.

**\*elaborate on voting convention**

## ARTICLE FIVE

### *Advisors*

#### Section 1:

An Advisory Board will consist of parents, elders, The Healy Lake Traditional Council, other participating adults, and representatives of various agencies serving Youth.

#### Section 2:

The members of the Advisory Board will help facilitate meetings, offer guidance to youth, chaperone functions and activities of the Youth Council, and assist Youth Council members in fulfilling their responsibilities. One (or more) members of the Advisory Board will serve as the primary advisor(s) of the Youth Council.

#### Section 4:

At least one member of the Advisory Board must be present at all Youth Council meetings and functions.

#### Section 5:

Advisors are subject to background checks similar to those of any employees and volunteers who interact with minors and in accordance with the Tanana Chief's Conference guidelines for working with Youth.

Section 6: The primary Advisor for the Advisory Board must be an elected member of the Healy Lake Traditional council.

Section 7: The Youth Council may appoint adults not on serving on the Youth Council by establishing a Youth Council Quorum of two thirds vote in favor of the nominee. **\*must be over 21 to serve on advisory board**

## ARTICLE SIX

### *Meetings*

#### Section 1:

The Youth Council membership shall meet quarterly, or officially 4 times within a year. A notice of time, place and agenda will be provided to all voting members at least one month or 30 days prior to the meeting. These meetings are business meetings and will be conducted as such. Planning and duties for future business and social functions will be delegated during the business meetings.

#### Section 2:

The presence of three voting members of the council shall be required to constitute a quorum necessary to conduct the Youth Council's business.

#### Section 3:

All regular and special meetings of the Youth Council shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order and consist of an agenda to include:

- 1.Meeting called to Order
- 2.Approval of Agenda
- 3.Reading of minutes of previous meeting
- 4.Old business
- 5.New business
- 6.Announcements
- 7.Adjournment

Section 4: Meeting location shall be subject to what serves the majority of the Youth Council best and most fairly. If a Youth wishes to participate and attend it is the interest of the Youth Council, Healy Lake Traditional Council, Advisory Board and participating adults and Elders to assist the Youth in travel and board.

## ARTICLE SEVEN

### *Rules and Regulations*

1. No tolerance for illicit drug, alcohol or tobacco misuse, violence or gang affiliation.
2. If convicted of crime or violation of by-laws you will be suspended for a minimum of three months to one year maximum. Depending on the contravention, the length to be determined by the voting members, with advice from the adult advisors. **\*to be elaborated on in bylaws**
3. Gross misconduct or major crime violations may result in a permanent exclusion from Youth Council participation.
4. A maximum of three unexcused absences will result in removal of office.
5. Academic performance and participation is required to be involved with Youth Council activities and meetings. If a Youth is found in an academic probation or unsatisfactory performance they may be excluded from certain group activities as a consequence or to focus on their academic needs in that time.
6. If disputes arise within the council, they will resolve the issue in an orderly and respectful manner.
7. Breaking these rules may result in removal of office.
8. Youth Council members are community role models and are expected to conduct themselves accordingly.

## ARTICLE EIGHT

### *Affiliation*

The Healy Lake Youth Council also interacts with and respects the goals set forth by the elected members of the Healy Lake Traditional Council.

## ARTICLE NINE

### *Amendment of Bylaws*

These bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the group by a two-thirds vote, providing that the amendment has been submitted in writing at the previous regular meeting.

\*article for organizing events

\*year agenda/schedule