

Introduced by: Mayor
Date: 02/15/11
Action: Adopted
Vote: 9 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
RESOLUTION 2011-009**

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING KENAITZE INDIAN TRIBE'S JOINT VENTURE
WITH INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION
OF THE DENA'INA HEALTH AND WELLNESS CLINIC**

- WHEREAS,** Kenaitze Indian Tribe has a long history of providing needed services within the Kenai Peninsula borough community and has been recognized as an important partner in providing for the well-being of the Alaska Native and American Indian residents; and
- WHEREAS,** Kenaitze Indian Tribe's health and dental clinics are located in a commercial strip mall, which the Tribe has been leasing for the past 20 years; and
- WHEREAS,** the number of patients using all Tribal services increased by 57 percent from 2001 to 2009 and the clinic size is 65 percent below the level recommended by Indian Health Service; and
- WHEREAS,** lacking a new facility, Kenaitze Indian Tribe's ability to provide primary care services in the central Kenai Peninsula will be compromised severely; and
- WHEREAS,** Kenaitze Indian Tribe and the Indian Health Service are planning a joint venture project to build and operate a new state of the art facility in Kenai to provide integrated medical, dental and behavioral health services to over 3,000 Alaska Native and American Indian people, 51 percent of whom are low and moderate income; and
- WHEREAS,** the Dena'ina Health and Wellness Clinic is one of only three projects nationwide selected by the Indian Health Service for the Joint Venture Construction Program in FY 2011; and
- WHEREAS,** under the joint venture, Kenaitze Indian Tribe will design, construct and equip the new facility and, in exchange, the Indian Health Service will provide funding for the operation and maintenance of the facility over a period of 20 years; and
- WHEREAS,** the Dena'ina Health and Wellness Clinic's anticipated economic impact includes bringing more than \$200 million in federal funding to the community over the next 20 years, new jobs through the hiring of local contractors and construction personnel, and the employment of full-time health care professional staff;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:

SECTION 1. That the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly supports Kenaitze Indian Tribe's plan to build and operate the Dena'ina Health and Wellness Clinic in the historic old town district of Kenai, Alaska.


SECTION 2. That this resolution takes effect immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 15TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2011.

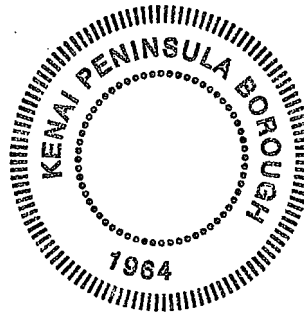


Gary Knopp, Assembly President

ATTEST:



Johni Blankenship, Borough Clerk



Yes: Haggerty, Johnson, McClure, Murphy, Pierce, Smalley, Smith, Tauriainen, Knopp
No: None
Absent: None