

# UNDERSTANDING CULTURE WORKSHOP SERIES

## Workshops about Alaska's cultural diversity.

Designed for adult individuals, businesses, organizations, agencies and other groups.

Alaska is home to a variety of cultures, languages and ways of life. Increased knowledge of cultural differences allows workshop participants to better serve their clients and employees while helping promote harmony among Alaska's citizens.

Each workshop is presented at the Center by Alaska Natives from different areas of the state who are chosen for their expertise and their varied perspectives, professions, and personal histories. All workshops involve participants in active learning. Class activities may include, but are not limited to: games, interviews, role play, personal reflection, video presentations, dramatic performances, tours and lectures.



### ◉ LEVEL 1: Cultural Awareness Workshop (CAW)

The first stage in learning to work in other cultures is to become aware that there are real differences that affect the way business must be conducted. Everyone on the job may dress in suits and ties or bunny boots and Carhartts®, but that does not mean they have the same underlying assumptions about proper behavior and values.

In this workshop, participants begin to learn about themselves and the cultural perspectives. Native tradition-bearers explain how they learned to adapt to the dominant culture while helping workshop participants learn to adapt to Native ways. All participants receive a packet with useful information about the state and its indigenous people. Specific agenda items may be tailored to the client's needs.

### ◉ LEVEL 2: Cultural Understanding Experience (CUE)

Becoming aware of cultural differences is a necessary first step, but many clients want to move to a deeper level of knowledge and understanding of the experiences and cultures of Alaska Natives. The Cultural Understanding Experience is designed for those who have completed a Level 1 workshop and are looking for more in-depth information.

At CUE workshops, we provide more detailed information about both the history and the cultures of Alaska Natives. We take an unblinking look at the world today through Native eyes, and consider ways that participants can become partners in the task of improving that world. We ask participants to practice some of the skills they were exposed to during the Level 1 workshops. Specific agenda items are tailored to the client's needs.



## WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

- ◉ Culture: What is it? What is my culture?
- ◉ What are Alaska Native cultures?
- ◉ How history affects cross-cultural relationships in Alaska today.
- ◉ How history is made, recorded, and remembered in different cultural settings.
- ◉ Important events and dates in Alaska Native history.
- ◉ How etiquette and politeness are defined and applied in various cultural settings.
- ◉ Knowing when you've made a cultural gaffe and how to repair it.
- ◉ How traditional Native values are relevant to life today.
- ◉ Recognizing and learning to work with different communication styles.
- ◉ Understanding business in rural Alaska: working and communicating with village leaders and residents.
- ◉ Defining regional and village Native corporations and IRA Councils.
- ◉ When and why the state government makes decisions vs. the federal government.
- ◉ What it means when someone says subsistence is not just getting food, but "a way of life".
- ◉ The Alaska Native perspective on subsistence.

## FEES

### TWO-DAY WORKSHOP - LEVEL 1 (CAW)

Offered twice:

Tuesday - Wednesday, October 27 - 28, 2009

Tuesday - Wednesday, February 9 - 10, 2010

8:30 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.

A break is provided. Lunch is not included.

\$300/person for businesses

\$225/person for non-profit organizations

Limited to 35 participants.

### TWO-DAY WORKSHOP - LEVEL 2 (CUE)

Scheduled in consultation with the client.

\$300/person for businesses

\$225/person for non-profit organizations

### ONE-DAY WORKSHOP

Designed in consultation with the client.

\$175/person for businesses

\$125/person for non-profit organizations

### 2 TO 4-HOUR WORKSHOP

Designed in consultation with the client.

\$100/person

### OFF-SITE WORKSHOP

Workshops may be scheduled at a location of the client's choice. Cost depends on the length of the workshop, number of speakers and location.

## HOW TO REGISTER

To schedule a workshop, do one of the following:

Call ANHC (907) 330-8000 with:

- Choice of 2-day workshop dates (Oct. '09 or Feb. '10)
- Names of participants
- Credit card payment information

Call the Center's Cultural Program Manager at (907) 330-8025 to discuss:

- Your group's needs
- Potential dates and locations
- Payment information
- Level 2 (CUE) Workshop