Arctic Council Ministerial Concludes
By ICC Alaska Staff

The Arctic Council (Council) wrapped up its 7th Ministerial meeting on May 12th in Greenland. The U.S. delegation was lead by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and included Secretary of Interior Ken Salazar, Alaska's senior Senator Lisa Murkowski, and Alaska Lieutenant Governor Mead Treadwell. This is the first time the U.S. has sent such high level delegation to the gathering underscoring increasing global interest in the Arctic.

Inuit were also well represented, including: Kuupik Kleist, Premier of Greenland, who headed the Danish delegation; and Leona Aglukkaq, Canada's Health Minister, who headed the Canadian delegation. Eva Ariak, Premier of Nunavut, and Floyd Roland, Premier of the Northwest Territories, sat together with Aglukkaq. The Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC) had a seat at the head table with ministers through its permanent participant status. ICC has been active in the work of the Council since its inception in 1996.

On May 11th, ICC launched an Inuit declaration on Arctic resource development. “It is in that declaration that they will find the way forward on how Inuit are prepared to forge partnerships with those coming to our Inuit homeland,” stated Duane Smith, President of ICC Canada. With increased interest in industrial development in the Arctic Ocean as a result of loss of sea ice due to climate change, Inuit felt compelled to state their conditions for development, including oil and gas activities, mining, marine shipping, and commercial fishing. ICC supports sustainable development that provides real benefit to Inuit.

ICC endorsed the formation of a Council oil spill task force that will address prevention, preparedness and response to oil spills in Arctic waters. This initiative, proposed by the U.S. and Sweden, will be a priority during the upcoming two year term of Sweden’s chairmanship of the Council. “We depend on a healthy ecosystem to sustain our culture and well-being … and we depend on the living resources of the sea, and expect the most stringent regulations to be developed and applied,” stated Aqqaluk Lynge, Chairman of ICC, in his address to the ministers.

The ministers decided to create a permanent secretariat in Tromsø, Norway and establish procedures for states and organizations interested in becoming observers to the Council in a move to strengthen the organization. No new observers were accepted at the meeting pending finalization of the new standards for observers. Ministers reiterated the Council is the premier forum for developing policy in the region.

Ministers reviewed the work of the Council’s working groups during the preceding two year term of the Danish chairmanship, signed a binding search and rescue agreement, and pledged to work together closely on transboundary matters. The meeting concluded with the signing of the Nuuk Declaration, which provides direction to the Council’s work for the next two years.

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President's Message
Jim Stotts
Edward, Quyanaqpak!

It’s no exaggeration to say, without the leadership of Edward Itta, ICC Alaska may well have withered and died. During the 2006 ICC General Assembly in Barrow, Edward stood up and convinced the Alaskan delegation to give ICC one more try. ICC is grateful for his strong and unwavering commitment to the idea of ICC, an organization advocating on behalf of Inuit at the international level. Edward ensured the rejuvenation and success of ICC Alaska by providing North Slope Borough financial and administrative support and personal commitment as ICC Alaska President from 2006-2010. ICC Alaska is back on its feet and making a valuable contribution, thanks to Edward. Following words of appreciation from our other three offices:

ICC Greenland President, Carl Chr. Olsen (Puju): “North Slope Borough Mayor Edward Itta took the initiative to elevate Inupiat issues to the international level. He highlighted the issues of human physical and mental health and encouraged ICC to deal with these issues at our 2006 General Assembly in Barrow. The ICC Executive Council took these issues further within the work of ICC and the Arctic Council Sustainable Development Working Group, making the taboos of suicide and drug abuse open debate issues among Arctic rim states. These issues were highlighted through ICC Canada’s Arctic Human Health initiative which was strongly supported by Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami. These issues are now key issues of the Arctic Council as part of an overall human dimension theme which ICC has been fighting to introduce for several years.”

“Edward was also keen to emphasize the issue of resource development and Inuit participation in decision making, including the concept of Inuit ownership of the issue. It has been inspiring to work with Edward and ICC Alaska since Alaska has the longest experience dealing with resource development at different levels. His devotion has been a supporting pillar for capacity building of not only the Inupiat but also throughout the Inuit homeland. We’re thankful for the enormous contribution to Inuit by Edward Itta.”

ICC Chukotka President, Tatiana Achirgina: “Jimmy- I have found the best words for Edward Itta – from all our souls! Tatiana”

ICC Canada President, Duane Smith: “On behalf of the Inuit of Canada and myself especially, meeting and working with Mayor Edward Itta and his wife provided a sense of humility. Edward has a quiet, yet passionate manner of delivering a message which has a way of reaching out and touching each and every one of us and it made you feel like you needed to be a part of that cause and movement, as it was all about family, each and every inuk throughout the circumpolar Arctic.”

“Through Edward’s guidance and leadership, he has reinvigorated the Inuit Circumpolar Council of Alaska. Edward’s foresight has and continues to allow the Inuit of Alaska to be a very strong voice on all matters pertaining to the Arctic to ensure his people, his region, his Inupiat and his Inuit are treated with respect and dignity while being meaningfully involved in activities that benefit the wellbeing of all Inuit.”

Edward, on behalf of ICC Alaska, its membership, and staff, I want to express my best wishes to you and Else as you finish your latest term as Mayor. I’m sure Borough residents will miss you just as much as we will in the offices of ICC Alaska. You are always welcome to drop by anytime and ask the question, “What has ICC done for us lately?” Edward, quyanaqpuk! Q
Inuit Declaration on Resource Development Principles
By ICC Alaska Staff

On May 11th, ICC launched A Circumpolar Inuit Declaration on Resource Development Principles in Inuit Nunaat in Nuuk, Greenland at “Katuaq”, the Greenland culture center. As planned, the press conference was held in advance of the Arctic Council Ministers meeting. The declaration is the result of an Inuit Leaders Summit held this past February in Ottawa, Canada.

The Leaders Summit grew out of a proposal from Greenland Premier Kuupik Kleist for ICC to host a summit on offshore oil and gas development. The Greenland Self Rule government has an extensive ongoing offshore exploration program. “Economic, social and political realities make it imperative that Inuit develop a clear position on resource development, especially on the timely, political and environmentally sensitive matter of offshore” Kleist said. “If Inuit want greater political and economic freedom, then the paramount question we must ask ourselves is, what price are we prepared to pay?”

The declaration sets out the conditions under which Inuit would be supportive of offshore oil and gas development. Inuit are not opposed to development if stringent economic and environmental standards are in place prior to start up. The declaration mentions the Arctic Council “Offshore Oil and Gas Guidelines” as the minimum standard for development. They include precautions such as standby drilling rigs and clean up equipment onsite to address mishaps. One condition called for in the declaration is the creation of an international oil spill liability and compensation regime for contamination. Oil spills in the Arctic marine environment are recognized as the single greatest threat to the Arctic ecosystem.

North Slope Borough Mayor Edward Itta’s eight points are included in the declaration. The eight points are considered to be preconditions for any development in Alaska’s offshore. The strongest condition is the requirement to protect Arctic biodiversity for food security. Healthy Inuit communities with access to clean safe food and uncontaminated air and water are a prerequisite to any development.

Mayor Itta says more and more that Inupiat experiences are shifting from negative to positive; oil development did lead to the Alaska Native Land Claims, which gave Inupiat more political and economic independence. “I only see one way to maintain our economy and subsistence and it is working with them [industry and governments],” he said.

Other topics covered in the declaration include social and environmental assessment processes and mining, particularly uranium mining.

The assessment process is well known in the U.S. and Canada, but is relatively new in Greenland. A robust assessment process that allows meaningful public involvement in development is considered essential to any discussion on development. The declaration addresses this and makes mention of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as the basis for further progress. In particular, the declaration draws attention to indigenous rights to self-determination to set their political, social and cultural development. Resource development should proceed only with the free, prior, and informed consent of Inuit from the affected region.

At the Leaders Summit, the discussion surrounding uranium mining centered on finding a balance between economic development and the environment. This is no easy task and consensus was not reached. In the Canadian territory of Nunavut, both the government and land claims organization Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. are calling for a review of uranium mining policies. In Greenland, opposition to uranium mining has not changed. Greenland Premier Kuupik Kleist offered to host a follow up Leaders Summit to continue the dialogue on resource development. A date has yet to be set.

For the complete text of A Circumpolar Inuit Declaration on Resource Development Principles in Inuit Nunaat please visit our website at www.iccalaska.org .

According to Jim Stotts, President of ICC Alaska, “The prime indicator for a healthy Arctic must be the health and well-being of Arctic peoples. Healthy northern communities with access to clean safe food and uncontaminated air and water are prerequisite to a healthy Arctic. Arctic cultures must be able to thrive as they have for centuries.”

Following the close of the meeting, there was a press conference followed by a live television show sponsored by the British Broadcast Corporation. All delegates were invited to a dinner at “Ilmarmik”, the University of Greenland campus, where they were treated to “A Taste of Greenland”.

For further information on the Ministerial meeting and other Arctic Council initiatives, please visit the Arctic Council website at www.arctic-council.org

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Permanent Participants from Alaska meet with U.S. government officials.
Back row L to R: Gary Harrison, Arctic Athabaskan Council; Cindy Dickson, Arctic Athabaskan Council; Jim Stotts, Inuit Circumpolar Council; Arlene Gunderson, Aleut International Association; Michael Stickman, Arctic Athabaskan Council; Victoria Goffman; Aleut International Association; Julie Gorley, Senior Arctic Official.
Front row. L to R: David Hayes, Deputy Secretary of Interior; Ken Salazar, Secretary of Interior; Hillary Clinton, Secretary of State; Senator Lisa Murkowski; Keri Ann Jones, State Assistant Secretary. Photo courtesy of Cindy Dickson.
Salmon Bycatch Issue Affects Food Security
By ICC Alaska Staff

In June, ICC Alaska President Jim Stotts made a statement to the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) at their meeting in Nome, Alaska. Since ICC seeks full and active partnership in the development of the circumpolar north and is involved with all activities occurring on our lands and waters, the issue of salmon bycatch in the pollock fishery is of great importance.

ICC Alaska is in favor of the hard cap alternative to the bycatch problem. In addition, we believe the 10.7% allocated to CDQ's is too low and would suggest a higher allocation of at least 13%. Jim stated, “Together with a cap on the bycatch of salmon, these actions would show a good faith effort to address the stated goal of reducing adverse impacts to fishery dependent communities and Inuit.” At the meeting, the Council voted to cap the bycatch of salmon to 25,000. This is the first-ever limit set on the allowable number of king salmon caught by pollock trawlers in the Gulf of Alaska. Yet, we believe these actions should be viewed as an interim solution. We further believe the Council needs to adjust to recent U.S. national policy changes that will affect commercial fisheries in U.S. waters.

Last July, the President signed Executive Order 13547 which created the National Ocean Council. The National Ocean Council has stated special interest in the priority areas of the Arctic Ocean. Also, last December, the President announced U.S. support for the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP). In the document that defines the U.S. approach to implementing its support, federal agencies are to ensure that indigenous rights are not compromised, which includes food security. ICC assumes that the Department of Commerce, which has oversight responsibility for the Council, will take a close look at Council activities and regulations to fulfill the U.S. support for UNDRIP.

Clearly, further work is necessary to better manage fish resources to include the needs of Inuit and fishery dependent communities. Jim further commented in his statement, “Inuit depend on these fish for nutritional and cultural survival. Food security is a global concern and a critical concern for Inuit as well. Despite the best efforts of the Council to manage the fishery, Inuit find themselves losing access to these food resources. It’s not an exaggeration to say we are getting starved out. This is not the first time the Council has heard this characterization.”

He then concluded by saying, “Changing national policy should not be viewed as a threat to commercial fishing. It should be viewed as an opportunity to do a better job managing the fishery for sustainable yield while ensuring all users have access to these fish for food. Inuit food security must be protected under any management regime. This principle should be extended to all Fishery Management Councils where indigenous peoples are affected. It’s time for a paradigm shift in how we approach the fishery. It’s time to change our way of thinking.”

A Tribute to Oscar Kawagley
By ICC Alaska staff

Alaska lost one of its most influential teachers and thinkers when Angayuqaq Oscar Kawagley died April 24 of renal cancer. He was 76.

He is best remembered for incorporating Yup’ik concepts with Western education and became a pioneer in the field of indigenous knowledge, not just in Alaska, but throughout the academic world. In 1995, he published a book, “A Yupiaq Worldview: A pathway to ecology and spirit”, where he explained how Western science could benefit from native ways of understanding and vice versa. As a teacher, he stressed giving native and Western knowledge equal weight.

Oscar had a prolific career including: teaching at the elementary, high school and university level; President of Calista Corporation; acting in TV “Northern Exposure”, in film “Salmonberries”, and voice dubbing “Brother Bear”; Director of the Indian Education Project for the Anchorage School District; Supervisor for the Alaska Boarding Home Project; and a long relationship with the Rural Alaska Honors Institute.

He received the “Alaska Governor’s Award for the Humanities” and the “Distinguished Service Award” from the Alaska Federation of Natives.

At ICC, we remember him as a real gentleman, always contributing and teaching his fellow Executive Council Members about the Yup’ik perspective during his stint on the Council from 1980-86. We will miss him.

His ashes will be scattered on the tundra in the Lower Kuskokwim.
In May, the Inuit Circumpolar Council once again participated in the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues at the UN Head Quarters in New York City. This year, the Forum celebrated its tenth session by reviewing its work through the past decade. The Forum also inaugurated the new Forum members, including Dr. Dalee S. Dorough, Inupiaq and former ICC Alaska Director. Dalee has through the years been of invaluable help for the organization’s human rights work for almost three decades.

Dr. Dalee S. Dorough’s membership in the Permanent Forum is both timely and widely appreciated among the international Indigenous community. I thank Dalee for her accomplishments, and congratulate her with her new position. We trust, that the Permanent Forum will be enriched by her expertise in the period to come.

Since its establishment in 2002, the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues has focused on various social and economic issues among the World’s Indigenous Peoples. When participating in the Forum sessions, we continuously see and feel our differences and similarities more clearly. Indigenous Peoples from around the World are united by the common struggles to find the best solutions when developing our lands and territories, with our States, corporations and industries and other forces as partners and opponents. Meeting our fellow Indigenous Peoples at meetings such as the Permanent Forum, helps us share our good and bad practices, to learn from each other and nurture the solidarity between us for a better future for all. I urge all Inuit to take part in these meetings, and to engage in the international Indigenous community. We have a lot to give, and a lot to learn.

In a World where multinational corporations and monetary forces are increasingly invading Indigenous Peoples’ lands and territories, we need strong voices and clear messages to be heard. The Inuit Circumpolar Council has through three decades been one of those strong voices, and we have made our message heard by the Permanent Forum and other international bodies. The ICC Nuuk Declaration adopted at the 11th General Assembly in Nuuk a year ago, calls for us to continue our involvement in these international forums, and we will continue to do so in the years to come.

The Nuuk Declaration also calls for us to focus on the resource development issues in the Arctic. Among other things, we were mandated to urgently facilitate an Inuit Leaders Summit on Resource Development. The Summit was held in Ottawa in February this year, and Inuit Leaders from both Canada, Alaska, Chukotka and Greenland, as well as the ICC Executive Council members and numerous delegates, met to discuss issues that are of great importance to all of us. I am pleased to say, that the Summit resulted in a document which we can proudly say was developed in unity among us, and with our knowledge about our societies and political constituencies as foundation. The Circumpolar Inuit Declaration on Resource Development Principles in Inuit Nunaat is a strong document, which I hope we will all use as a basic guideline in our respective homelands, when we negotiate with our governments and with industries for the best possible solutions for our people.

Even though this year’s Permanent Forum was a review year, many of the agenda items evolved around resource development. I was therefore pleased to see the enormous interest in our newly published document. Our fellow indigenous leaders from around the world applauded our new declaration, and I am confident, that our declaration of principles will inspire other Indigenous Peoples to set their own standards in regards to resource development.

I want to thank my fellow ICC Executive Council members Kirt Ejesiak (Canada) and Tatiana Achirgina (Chukotka), and the ICC Alaska and ICC Canada offices for participating in this years Permanent Forum session. I surely hope, that this important UN forum will continue to have broad Inuit participation in the decades to come.

L to R: Aqqaluk Lynge, ICC Chair; Dalee Dorough, UNPFII Member; Sara Oslvig, ICC Greenland Executive Director; Yvonne Moorehouse, ICC Canada Administrative Assistant; Tatiana Achirgina, ICC Chukotka President; Kelly Eningouvik, ICC Alaska Executive Director; and Kirk Ejesiak, ICC Canada Vice President. Photo courtesy of Tatiana Achirgina.
ICC Efforts to Reduce Contaminants
By Eva Kruemmel

The Nuuk Declaration calls on ICC to “maintain its international, national and regional efforts to reduce the worldwide emissions of contaminants that end up in the Arctic and negatively affect Inuit...” ICC Canada has taken the lead to on this file and recently participated in two related forums to advance the ICC agenda on the Arctic pollution and contaminants.

Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP) Conference
ICC continues its work within the Arctic Council and in particular, the AMAP working group, to reduce contaminants in the Arctic. AMAP’s current objective is “providing reliable and sufficient information on the status of, and threats to, the Arctic environment, and providing scientific advice on actions to be taken in order to support Arctic governments in their efforts to take remedial and preventive actions relating to contaminants,” as stated on AMAP’s website.

The recent AMAP conference, “The Arctic as a Messenger for Global Processes – Climate Change and Pollution,” served several purposes: AMAP is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year, the Sea Water Ice and Permafrost in the Arctic (SWIPA) assessment needed to be released, as well as the non-technical (popular) part of the Mercury assessment.

The conference began with presentations about SWIPA, along with talks about the results of the 2010 AMAP Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) assessment and impacts of pollutants on human health in the Arctic. Later in the conference, AMAP expert group representatives presented results and planned work, including short-lived climate forcers (black carbon), mercury (key findings and recommendations from the Mercury Science Assessment), ocean acidification, oil and gas, and human health.

ICC was well-represented and had a very high visibility at this meeting. Duane Smith, ICC Canada President, Eva Kruemmel, ICC Canada scientist, Parnuna Egede, ICC Greenland Advisor on Environmental Issues, participated. Parnuna Egede provided opening remarks, highlighting how the combination of climate change and contaminant exposure is creating a cumulative effect, posing a challenge to the resilience of Inuit communities. Duane Smith gave a presentation on Inuit perspectives related to global pollution and climate change and co-chaired sessions on Human Livelihood. ICC’s presentations received many positive comments and were widely recognized.

An official conference statement summarizing the current scientific understanding related to climate change and pollution in the Arctic made by AMAP can be found at http://www.amap.no/

United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) Stockholm Convention on POPs, Conference of Parties (COP) 5
Eva Kruemmel, ICC Canada scientist, represented ICC at the recent Stockholm Convention on POPs, COP 5. The Stockholm Convention on POPs is a legally-binding global treaty that regulates the production, use, import, export and disposal of contaminants that have been found to undergo long-range transport, bioaccumulate in the food web, and is persistent and toxic to humans and the environment.

Since Inuit are disproportionately affected by those chemicals with contaminant levels often being higher compared to any other population measured and frequently exceeding health guidelines, ICC has been very actively involved in the negotiations of the treaty and remains active in its implementation since it was adopted in 2001.

New contaminants continue to be added to the annexes of the Convention, which started with 12 chemicals. At COP 4 in 2009, nine new POPs were added. The addition of brominated flame retardants and perfluorinated chemicals in 2009 required additional considerations about how wastes of POPs-containing products should be dealt with, particularly with regards to recycling. The Stockholm Convention’s technical body, the POP Review Committee (POPRC), was therefore tasked to develop recommendations for “New POPs Work Programmes”, which was on the agenda for this meeting of COP 5. Further, after a unanimous vote, the addition of the pesticide endosulfan to Annex A of the Stockholm Convention was recommended by POPRC 6, which was heavily protested by India. The POPRC recommendation was nevertheless put forward to COP 5 for its decision.

Further agenda items included decisions on a compliance mechanism, which has unsuccessfully been discussed by the COP since the Stockholm Convention’s inception, and a framework for the effectiveness evaluation. A detailed meeting report prepared by the International Institute for Sustainable Development can be found online: http://www.iisd.ca/download/pdf/enb15182e.pdf

The main outcome of COP 5 was the successful listing of the pesticide endosulfan to Annex A of the Stockholm Convention with specific crop-pest exemptions. India, which is highly influenced by the partially government-owned chemical industry protested the process at POPRC meetings and COP 4, but ultimately supported the listing of endosulfan at COP 5. It can be assumed that the pressure from civil society, particularly within India, and Indian provinces that have been highly affected by endosulfan spraying and already banned it had a very high influence in changing India’s opposition to the listing. Both India and Uganda listed several crop-pest specific exemptions for endosulfan. The phase-out timeline is six years, and an extension for another five years is possible if agreed to by the COP. The listing originally included the endosulfan metabolite endosulfan sulfate; however, after an intervention by China, the mention of endosulfan sulfite was removed from the body of the text but remains mentioned in a footnote.

ICC continues to work with governments, partner organizations and scientists to impact national and international policy development on contaminants and to stress the importance of a healthy, clean Arctic environment.
Cori Bender will be spending time this summer with the office conducting her Master’s thesis research. Cori is a Canadian anthropology student studying social-cultural anthropology at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. She is from Calgary, Alberta in Western Canada, and after taking part in a student exchange as an undergraduate in 2008, was inspired to return to Alaska to continue her studies with the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF). She completed her BA Honours in 2010 and made the trek north to begin graduate work at UAF.

Cori’s research background includes investigating food security issues in Fairbanks, Alaska and exploring the connections between homelessness and informal recycling (scavenging) in Calgary, Alberta. Her current research interest in indigenous political identity construction and the impact of cross-national influences led her to contact ICC. Cori’s current research is funded by a Canadian-U.S. Fulbright Award, which has made this project possible, along with the support of her academic advisor, Dr. Peter Schweitzer. She is very much looking forward to spending the summer with the office and getting to know everyone who works to make ICC Alaska a thriving organization.

Warren Jones is interning with ICC Alaska this summer as part of the First Alaskans Institute Internship Program. His Yup’ik names are Qugyuggam Aani and Maaraq. His parents are Beatrice Herman (O’Brien) from Hooper Bay and Tommy Herman from Shishmaref. His grandparents are Robert Sr. and Agnes O’Brien and Ben and Esther Herman. Warren has four brothers and two sisters. He has two children with his wife Sacha named Cash (Nanuq) and Rowan (Nengqalrea and Taolun), with whom he plans on learning the Yup’ik language alongside with and raising them to learn and be proud of their rich heritage. He enjoys fishing, hunting and gathering and loves the tundra more than anything.

Warren grew up in Nome and spent some summers in Hooper Bay. He and his family moved to the Matanuska Valley, where he went to high school. Warren joined the Marine Corp in 2002 and was discharged in 2006. He then began attending school at UAA before moving to Washington. Warren attended Shoreline Community College doing a transfer degree to the University of Washington for Political Science. He and his wife moved home to Alaska, and he went back to UAA where he is now finishing his Bachelor’s in Political Science. Warren is interested in anything to do with Natives from all over Alaska. Warren hopes to be able to live in rural Alaska in the future and plans to devote his career to helping Alaska Natives and their interests.

ICC Welcomes Summer Interns
By ICC Alaska Staff

Find ICC Alaska on Facebook & Twitter!

Miss Alaska Teen
Denali Whiting
USA 2011

Denali Quyanna Whiting, Inupiaq from Kotzebue, was crowned 2011 Miss Alaska Teen USA. ICC would like to congratulate her on this great accomplishment. She heads to the Bahamas to compete in the 2011 MISS TEEN USA pageant on Saturday, July 16, 2011.

GOOD LUCK, DENALI!

Photo courtesy of Alaska Pageants, LLC and Cari Leyva

Miss Indian World
Marjorie Tahbone

At the Gathering of Nations in April, Marjorie Linne Tungwenuk Tahbone, or Kunaq, was crowned 2011 Miss Indian World! Marjorie is Inupiaq and Kiowa Indian from Nome. Her parents are Sandra and Carleton Tahbone. Her maternal grandparents are Lillian and the late Linne Rose, and her paternal grandparents are Marjorie and the late George Tahbone, Sr. of Oklahoma.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Photo by Katie O’Connor

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The Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC) is an international non-governmental organization (NGO) representing the Inuit of Alaska, Canada, Greenland, and Chukotka. ICC Alaska, along with other members, strives to strengthen, protect, and develop Inuit rights in the circumpolar region.

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