

DRUM

Inupiaq: QILAUN

Siberian Yupik: SAGUYA

Central Yupik: CAUYAQ

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 12-18

Institute of the North – Week of the Arctic • Anchorage, Alaska • <http://www.institutenorth.org/programs/arctic-advocacy-infrastructure/week-of-the-arctic1/>

August 13-14

Executive Council Meeting, • Kotzebue, Alaska •

August 20-21

Subsistence Regional Advisory Council • Barrow Alaska •

August 21-22

Subsistence Regional Advisory Council • Kiana, Alaska •

September 5-6

Task Force on Circumpolar Business Forum • Reykjavik, Iceland • <http://www.arctic-council.org>

September 10-12

Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF) • Yellowknife, Canada • <http://www.caff.is/>

September 9-13

7th International Workshop on Ice Drilling Technology • Madison, Wisconsin • http://icedrill.org/7th-international-workshop-on-ice-drilling-technology/7_ws_idt_2ndcirc.pdf

September 18-19

Exchange for Local Observations and Knowledge of the Arctic (ELOKA) • Boulder, Colorado • <https://eloka-arctic.org/>

September 24-26

Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment (PAME) • Rostov-on-Don, Russia • <http://www.pame.is/>

October 2-4

Task Force on Circumpolar Business Forum • St. Petersburg, Russia • <http://www.arctic-council.org>

October 21-23

Senior Arctic Officials • Whitehorse, Canada • <http://www.arctic-council.org/index.php/en/>



Marie Greene presenting the Arctic Caucus statement regarding the Alta Conference action plan. By her side is Saami Council delegate, Aili Keskitalo. Photo by Kirt Ejesiak.

Alaskan Inuit Prepare for World Conference on Indigenous Peoples

By ICC Alaska Staff

ICC and Saami Council together as the Arctic delegation joined other indigenous delegates at the Indigenous Peoples Global Preparatory Conference in Alta, Norway (Alta Conference) in June. The purpose of the Alta conference was to prepare indigenous peoples input and participation in the 2014 World Conference on Indigenous Peoples (World Conference).

The World Conference will be a high level meeting of the UN General Assembly. The main objective of the World Conference is to share perspectives and best practices on the realization of the rights of indigenous peoples and to pursue the objectives of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. More information on the World Conference can be found online: <http://social.un.org/index/IndigenousPeoples/WorldConference.aspx>

Funding was secured for the Arctic delegation and ICC Alaska was represented by leaders from our four regions. Representatives were selected by regional member organizations. Kathy Ahgeak, North Slope, Percy Ballot, Northwest Arctic, Roy Ashenfelter, Bering Straits and Vivian Korthius, Southwest, were appointed to attend. There was a lot of interest in the conference and additional Alaskan Inuit, including Marie Greene, NANA Regional Corporation, Margaret Opie and John Hopson, Jr., North Slope Borough and, Nathan Kotch, Maniilaq Association, attended as delegates or observers funded by member organizations.

Prior to the Alta conference, ICC and Saami Council leadership met in an Arctic preparatory meeting in Nuuk, Greenland in October 2012. The meeting resulted in the Arctic Declaration on the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples 2014, which can be found on our website: www.iccalaska.org. The Arctic Declaration, which represents the perspectives, concerns and wishes of Inuit and Saami at the World Conference, was presented at the Alta Conference and negotiated and merged with declarations from the other six regions representing the world's indigenous peoples. The Alta Conference outcome document will be presented at the World Conference. It can be found on our website.

continued on page 7



ICC ALASKA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ICC Executive Council

Jim Stotts, President

Vera Metcalf, Vice President

North Slope Region

Charlotte Brower
(North Slope Borough)

George Olemaun
(Inupiat Community of the Arctic Slope)

Richard Glenn
(Arctic Slope Regional Corporation)

Northwest Arctic Region

Marie Greene
(NANA Regional Corporation)

Percy Ballot
(Maniilaq Association)

Hendy Ballot
(Northwest Arctic Borough)

Willie Goodwin Jr.
(Elder Representative)

Bering Straits Region

Denise Michels
(Kawerak, Incorporated)

Roy Ashenfelter
(Bering Straits Native Corporation)

Kelsi Ivanoff
(Youth Representative)

Southwest Region

Vivian Korthuis
(Association of Village Council Presidents)



President's Message

James Stotts

A new wave of colonialism on the way...

Every so often it's important to remind ourselves to be cautious about our relationships with organizations that might use us; organizations claiming to be our friends while advancing their own vision of what the Arctic should become. Of course everyone is entitled to their opinion, but it's healthy to be skeptical about

motives and goals. It's prudent to remember – actions speak louder than words.

Greenpeace hosted the Kiruna Indigenous Peoples Conference just days before the start of the recent Arctic Council Ministerial meeting in Sweden. With Arctic indigenous people, including Inuit, they called for a moratorium on Arctic resource development to protect the environment. Their declaration does not represent the views of prominent Inuit organizations. Inuit have legitimate concerns about Arctic resource development; but we need to approach these concerns from our own perspective, not someone else's.


Inuit are involved in resource development through their governments and land-claims organizations. In fact Inuit are resource owners. We fought hard to secure our rights to these resources and obtain the right to govern ourselves. I don't think we want to give it all away to others. Inuit have taken a sustainable approach to resource development. Moratoriums and sanctuaries that would lock up our homeland goes against what we have been striving to obtain for our people. If there are to be moratoriums or sanctuaries they must be on our terms.

Terry Audla, President of the Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, Canada's national Inuit organization, stated it perfectly, "We collectively reject Greenpeace's questionable use of the indigenous voice as a front for its own campaign."

Duane Smith, President of ICC Canada stated: "Inuit leaders across the circumpolar Arctic created and signed off on a comprehensive Circumpolar Inuit Declaration on Resource Development Principles two years ago, an Inuit vision we continue to promote to this day." He continued, "We are the stewards of our own Arctic homeland, we are the negotiators of what takes place in our own back yards, and we will weigh and determine the cost-benefit of development for ourselves as a people. We certainly have no need or appetite to invite environmentalist groups to come to the Arctic and do the work under their logos and on our behalf."

Closer to home in Alaska, Greenpeace was recently scolded by Amos Philemonoff, Sr, President of the Aleut Community of St. Paul, stating, "In the future we would appreciate you not sending a resolution insinuating our membership's position on any particular issue...Greenpeace does not represent the People of St. Paul, nor do we share the same views as your organization...In the future we ask that if you do not have the consent of the Tribal Council, you do not mention our Tribe or it's government, in any way shape or form."

Aleut leader, Agafon Krukoff Jr. stated, "It is through the "friends of animals" efforts of extremist organizations like Greenpeace that the Pribilof people struggled in the past to maintain a decent livelihood. Those animal loving extremist organizations came close to destroying our communities in the process."

We will make decisions for ourselves; we know what's best for ourselves. History proves paternalism does not work; history proves colonialism has a negative influence on indigenous peoples. This paternalistic approach by some, like Greenpeace, well intentioned or not, must be cautiously considered by Inuit before inviting them in. Inuit must not succumb to this new wave of colonialism. 

Kiruna Ministerial

By ICC Alaska Staff



Permanent Participants meet with Arctic Council Chair Leona Aglukkaq. L to R: Bill Erasmus (Arctic Athabaskan Council); Rodion Sulyandziga (RAIPON); Michael Stickman (Arctic Athabaskan Council); Jim Stotts (ICC); Jim Gamble (Aleut International Association); Leona Aglukkaq (Arctic Council Chair); Gunn-Britt Retter (Saami Council); Aqqaluk Lynge (ICC); Joe Linklater (Gwichen Council International); Asa Larsson Blind (Saami Council) Photo by Unknown.

The Arctic Council Ministerial Meeting was held in Kiruna, Sweden on May 15. All eight Arctic states and six Permanent Participant organizations were represented. At the meeting Sweden turned over the chairmanship to Canada completing the first round of eight successive chairmanships. In celebration of this historic event the Ministers issued a forward looking document entitled Vision for the Arctic. The meeting was covered extensively by international media.

The day before the meeting there were presentations and seminars on different topics and projects by the Council working groups on a variety of topics, such as, Biodiversity Conservation in a Changing Arctic; Assessing Arctic Pollution and Climate Change; A Sustainable Development of the Arctic Region; Environmental Emergencies in the Arctic - Prevention, Preparedness and Response; Reducing Contaminants in

the Arctic; Challenges and Opportunities to the Marine Environment; Short-lived Climate Pollutants in the Arctic; New Assessments of Arctic Biodiversity and Ocean Acidification; Assessing Resilience in the Arctic; and Challenges in the Arctic – A Gender Perspective.

On the eve of the Ministerial, representatives from Aleut International Association (AIA), Arctic Athabaskan Council (AAC), and ICC met with U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry and Senator Lisa Murkowski to discuss mutual concerns and issues.

That same evening news came out that Greenland would not be attending the meeting. Greenland's Premier, Aleqa Hammond, demanded the Greenland government should be afforded the same status as the Arctic states rather than as a part of Denmark. Under Council rules and terms of reference this is not possible. So Greenland boycotted the meeting. Since then Greenland still has not attended any Council functions. This development is disconcerting to ICC.

Sweden reported on efforts to improve economic and social conditions including: discussions leading to the establishment of a Task Force to create a Circumpolar Business Forum; noting that the binding Search and Rescue Agreement had come into force; deciding to report on how to increase awareness of traditional ways of life of Arctic indigenous peoples by 2015; and incorporating traditional knowledge into all Council products.

On climate change Sweden reported: on work with the United Nations to conclude a global protocol; on efforts through the Montreal Protocol to phase out hydrofluorocarbons which contribute to warming; establishing a Task Force to reduce black carbon and methane emissions; and continuing the work of the Arctic Resilience Report and the Adaptation Actions for a Changing Arctic initiatives.

On protecting the Arctic environment they reported: on the negotiation of the Agreement on Cooperation on Marine Oil Pollution Preparedness and Response; on the creation of a Task

continued on page 7



Arctic Council Ministers in Kiruna. L to R: Sergey Lavrov (Russia), Erkki Tuomioja (Finland), John Kerry (U.S.A.), Leonna Aglukkaq (Canada), Carl Bildt (Sweden), Villay Sovndal (Denmark), Espen Barth Eide (Norway), Hermann Ingolfsson (Iceland). Photo by Parnuna Egede.

U.S. Unveils New Arctic Strategy

By ICC Alaska Staff

The White House unveiled the new U.S. National Strategy for the Arctic Region just five days before the recent Arctic Council Ministerial meeting. The new strategy was mentioned prominently during Secretary of State John Kerry's statement to the Arctic Council Ministers.

The strategy is built on three lines of effort:

1) Advance U.S. Security Interests: to enable U.S. vessels and aircraft to operate over the region, support commerce, achieve greater awareness of activities, and develop infrastructure and capabilities. Security in the Arctic covers a broad spectrum, from supporting commercial and scientific research operations to national defense.

2) Pursue Responsible Arctic Region Stewardship: to protect the environment, conserve resources, and establish a management framework; chart the Arctic; and use science and traditional knowledge to better understand the Arctic.

3) Strengthen International Cooperation: to work through bilateral and multilateral bodies, including the Arctic Council, to advance collective interests, promote shared prosperity, protect the environment, and enhance regional security. The U.S. will work towards ratification of the UN Law of the Sea Convention.

The strategy will employ four guiding principles:

1) Safeguard Peace and Security: to maintain the region as an area free of conflict, acting together with allies and partners. Support international principles of freedom of navigation and over flight, lawful commerce, and peaceful resolutions of disputes.

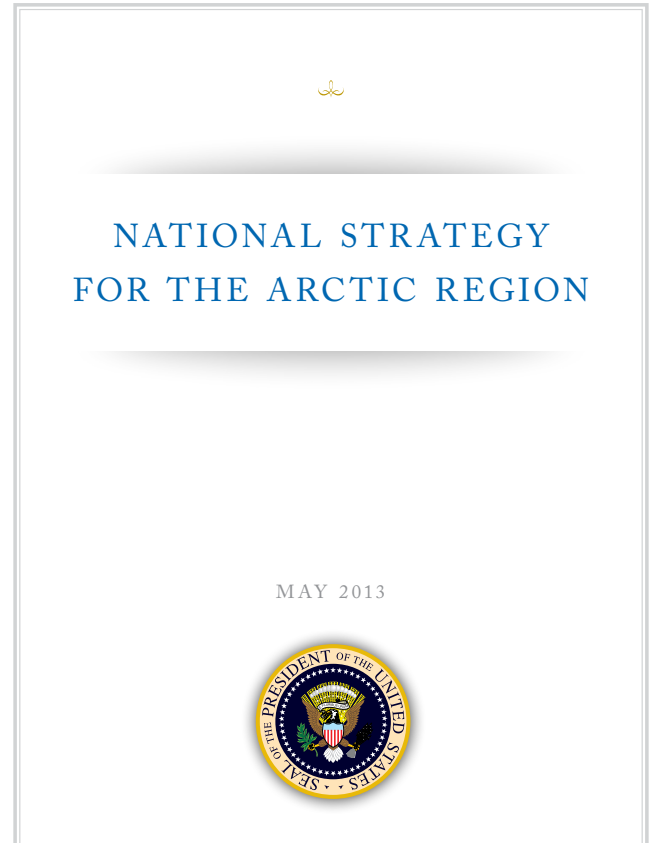
2) Make Decisions Using the Best Available Information: across all lines of effort decisions will be based on current science and traditional knowledge.

3) Pursue Innovative Arrangements: to foster partnerships with the State of Alaska, Arctic states, international partners and the private sector to efficiently develop, resource, and manage capabilities to better advance priorities during these austere fiscal times.

4) Consult and Coordinate with Alaska Natives: to consult with Alaska Natives, recognizing tribal governments' unique legal relationship with the U.S. to provide meaningful and timely opportunity to inform Federal policy affecting Alaskan Native communities.

On June 14th federal representatives held a scoping meeting in Anchorage, Alaska to roll out the strategy. Attendance

was greater than expected and extra room had to be added. After a brief description of the strategy the audience had an opportunity to provide feedback and ideas. Senator Mark Begich called for support for an Arctic Ambassador while Senator Murkowski stated the State of Alaska desired to be engaged throughout the process.



Many Alaska Native organizations attended and encouraged the delegation to: hold similar meetings in Arctic hub communities; increase communications between Russia and the U.S.; keep food security in mind; and the need to maintain a balance between Alaska Native daily life and economic development.

The delegation noted that they had hopes of beginning implementation by this fall and the meeting made them aware of the need to hear from more people before rushing forward. Q

Check Out Our Website
www.iccalaska.org
"DRUM" is now online!



Find us on
Facebook
and Twitter!





Chair's Message

Aqqaluk Lynge

ICC: Consultative status with the United Nations for 30 years...

ICC is one of 2,608 international organizations enjoying special consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). ICC was officially accredited in 1983 as a Category II member. Today Inuit are among the 2,608 civil society

organizations that have gained the special right to have a seat in many of the UN special agencies.

We are recognized as a Non Governmental Organization (NGO). But in contemporary UN-speak most indigenous peoples organizations with membership at the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) are now categorized as Indigenous Peoples Organizations (IPO's). This is to distinguish ourselves from organizations calling themselves NGO's, because IPO's are democratic organizations with constituents and clear mandates.

One year after we acquired our status I went to the UN European headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland to meet with representatives of the worlds indigenous peoples. In those years the High Commissioner for Human Rights arranged special meetings of the Working Group on Indigenous Peoples. I have never really abandoned my first reaction meeting so many different nationalities and indigenous colleagues; an instant feeling of belonging.

Indigenous peoples are spiritually connected to each other. Many of you know that feeling, when traveling to Alaska, you walk to your next gate in the Seattle airport and meet other Alaskans. It's a feeling of relief; meeting others like yourself in the middle of a sea of strangers.


Inuit belong to the sea of the indigenous world. ICC has since become an important player in the global indigenous movement.

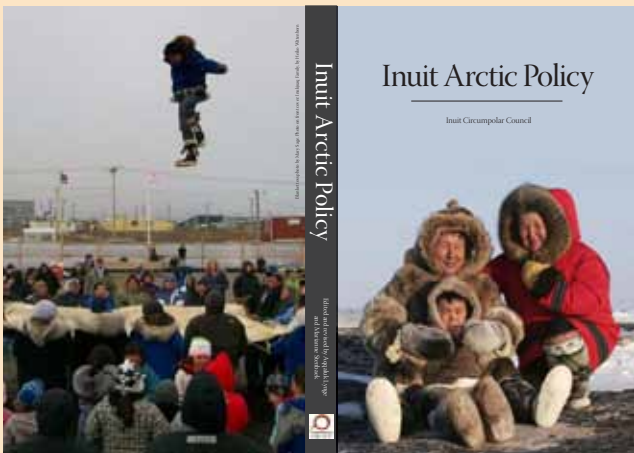
Indigenous Peoples Preparatory Conference in Alta, Norway...

But we also have individual differences as we clearly saw at the ICC arranged Indigenous Climate Change Summit in 2008 in Anchorage. Thanks to ICC Alaska's initiative, we got a much needed lesson in the difficulties of indigenous diplomacy. It was difficult finalizing the outcome document because of differences between the Inuit position on development and others who look at our culture and way of life as static. Inuit have a pragmatic way of adapting to new circumstances and change is part of the pattern.

Diplomacy was a word frequently used in the beginning of June 2013, where ICC representatives from Chukotka, Alaska, Canada, and Greenland, joined by representatives from the Greenland Parliament, met in the Sami town of Alta, Norway. They met with more than 700 indigenous people's representatives from all over the world for the preparation of the UN High Level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly to take place in September 2014 in New York.

The meetings resulted in the Alta Outcome Document, (<http://inuit.org/en/indigenous-peoples-rights/alta2013.html>). It took many months of negotiations and three meeting days in Alta to finally agree on the outcome. I think this preambular wording says clearly what Inuit and all indigenous peoples fight for: "We affirm that the inherent and inalienable right of self determination is preminent and is a prerequisite for the realization of all rights. ***We Indigenous Peoples, have the right of self determination and permanent sovereignty over our lands, territories, resources, air, ice, oceans and waters, mountains and forests.***"

This is a strong message that shows that our nearest allies are the indigenous peoples of the world. Inuit are part of the fight and proud of being indigenous. I thank all Inuit who participated in Alta and hope they will continue working with the issues that we all care deeply about. 




Inuit Arctic Policy Now Available Online!

"Over the years, the Inuit Arctic Policy has become the main document for development on many issues in the Arctic and has contributed significantly in numerous ways as the Arctic has changed profoundly since the beginning of this work. Arctic states and others are invited to join with Inuit in the ongoing challenge of building and carrying out a common Arctic vision that is clearly supportive of the Arctic environment and beneficial to humankind." -*Inuit Arctic Policy, Page 7*

Meet Our Summer Interns

By ICC Alaska Staff

Through our partnership with the First Alaskans Institute internship program, Malorie Johnson joined our office for the summer. Her Inupiaq name is Malgui. Her parents are Merlin and Velma Johnson and her grandparents are Ruth and Harry Johnson Sr. and Ruth and Elmer Kotongan. Malorie was raised in Unalakleet and attended Mount Edgecumbe high school. A junior in college, she recently transferred to the University of Alaska Fairbanks from the Anchorage campus to pursue a Bachelor of Arts degree in Rural Development. After graduation she plans to pursue a Master of Arts degree and return to her region to contribute in a meaningful way. Malorie is tasked with researching the co-management system of fish and game resources in Inuit regions in Canada. She will report on how the system is set up and operates in Canada and make recommendations on the possible use and application to Inuit regions in Alaska.

Salima Sewani comes to our office this summer from the University of Michigan. Through the International and Comparative Studies Program, we have partnered for the second year now with the University to host interns over the summer. Salima will graduate next spring with a Bachelor of Science degree in Neuroscience and Community Action and Social Change. She plans to use her degree to work on improving disparities in health resulting from social and economic differences. Through the internship, she will work with Carolina Behe, Traditional Knowledge/Science Advisor on the food security research project. She is particularly interested in understanding how food insecurity affects physical and mental health. 



Summer interns Malorie Johnson and Salima Sewani. Photo by ICC Alaska.



We welcome Owen Maxim Sahsook Inunnguaq Malavansky to the ICC Alaska family. Sahsook, named after his great-grandfather, Delbert Eningowuk of Shishmaref, was born at 2:32 p.m. on April 24, 2013 in Anchorage. He weighed 8 pounds 3 ounces and measured 20 ½ inches in length. Executive Director, Kelly Eningowuk and Maxim Malavansky, Jr. originally from Saint George Island are his proud parents.

Force to develop an action plan on oil pollution prevention by 2015; on the Arctic Biodiversity Assessment recommendations urging the Arctic states to implement them; on the Arctic Ocean Acidification Assessment recommendations urging the states to take actions for mitigation. Sweden further reported: on efforts to develop a Polar Code with the International Maritime Organization; ongoing work of the Arctic Ocean Review; ongoing work on pollution and mercury and their impacts on health; on the creation of a Task Force to improve cooperation in scientific research.

On strengthening the Arctic Council Sweden reported: on the creation of a Permanent Secretariat in Tromsø, Norway; on the revision of the Arctic Council Rules of Procedure and an Observer's Manual to aid Observers in their engagement at the Council; on adopting the Senior Arctic Officials Report to Ministers; and accepting China, India, Italy, Japan Republic of Korea, and Singapore as official observers. The European Union observer application was received affirmatively but final decision is deferred until concerns raised by Council members are addressed.


Of particular interest to ICC Alaska, our organization's top priorities of food security and education were highlighted in the Arctic Declaration. Statements in the Arctic Declaration included a call for recognition for "control by indigenous peoples over developments affecting their territories, waters, coastal waters and other resources [to enable] them to freely pursue their traditional livelihoods and economic, social, and cultural development, including to maintain and strengthen their food security, in accordance with their own aspirations and needs" and a recognition of, "the need to adopt effective measures to guarantee indigenous peoples and individuals right to the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms as recognized in international human rights law, including their right to culture, language

All Arctic states and Permanent Participants made short statements. The statement made by ICC Chair, Aqqaq Lyngø can be found at www.inuit.org.

The Ministers then adopted the Kiruna Vision and Kiruna Declaration.

Canada presented its program for their chairmanship. Their overarching theme is Development for the People of the North with three broad priorities: Responsible Arctic Resource Development, Safe Arctic Shipping, and Sustainable Circumpolar Communities. ICC is encouraged by this focus on the well being of our villages and towns.

The last official act of the Ministers was the signing ceremony of the Marine Oil Pollution Preparedness and Response Agreement and the Kiruna Declaration which is the guiding document for the coming 2013-15 Canadian chairmanship.

After the meeting concluded all delegates were treated to a fine dinner featuring local cuisine and an evening of socializing. All documents related to the Ministerial meeting can be found on the Arctic Council website, www.arctic-council.org. 

continued from page 1

and education." These issues were also acknowledged in the Alta outcome document.

Reflecting on the Alta conference, Marie Greene said, "As indigenous peoples it is critical to join forces at the international level, like we did at the Alta Conference, to share our concerns and challenges, and to support each other. Moving forward, we need to develop a strategic plan to implement the Alta conference document to ensure that it is seriously considered at the 2014 World Conference on Indigenous Peoples."

We look forward to the World Conference and the reception of the Alta outcome document by the UN General Assembly. We will report on any developments leading up to the World Conference. 



The Arctic Delegation Caucuses at the Alta Conference. Photo by Ben Powless, Global Coordinating Group Media Team.



Indigenous organization flags from around the world at the Alta Conference. Photo by Ben Powless, Global Coordinating Group Media Team.

FIRST CLASS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Anchorage, AK
Permit No. 69

INUIT CIRCUMPOLAR COUNCIL

ALASKA OFFICE

3900 ARCTIC BLVD,
SUITE 203
ANCHORAGE, AK 99503

PHONE: (907) 274-9058
FAX: (907) 274-3861
www.iccalaska.org

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.



WE'VE MOVED FOR THE LAST TIME!
ICC Alaska is a proud owner of an office condo located at
3900 Arctic Blvd. Suite 203
Anchorage, Alaska 99503
Come By for a Visit!

