



United States
Department of
Agriculture

October 11, 2018

Office of the
Secretary

Dear Tribal Leaders:

Office of Tribal
Relations

On behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) we would like to invite you to attend USDA's General Listening Session at the Alaska Federation of Natives Convention. This event will take place on Saturday, October 20th from 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM (AKDT) at the Dena'ina Center:

1400 Independence
Avenue, SW
Room 501-A
Whitten Bldg.
Washington, DC
20250

600 W 7th Avenue, 2nd floor, room 2
Anchorage, AK 99501

Phone # 202-205-2249
Fax # 202-720-1058

USDA agencies and/or offices present at the event will include: Rural Development, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Food and Nutrition Service, Farm Service Agency, Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA Office of Tribal Relations, and the Forest Service.

USDA is committed to supporting tribal communities in Alaska. We hope this event will allow our USDA staff to learn about the challenges and opportunities in rural Alaska so we can better enhance our partnerships, relationships, and program delivery. We look forward to this important dialogue.

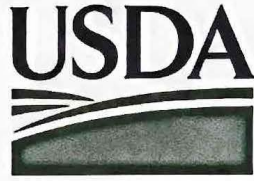
If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Office of Tribal Relations by phone at (202) 205-2249 or by e-mail at Tribal.Relations@osec.usda.gov.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Linda Cronin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Linda Cronin
Acting Director, USDA Office of Tribal Relations

Attachment: Agenda



**U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)
General Listening Session**

*2018 Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) Convention
Saturday, October 20th, 2018, 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (AKDT)*

*Dena'ina Center
600 W 7th Avenue, 2nd floor, room 2
Anchorage, AK 99501*

Agenda

- Welcoming Prayer: Honorable John Ross
- Opening Remarks
- Introductions
- Agency Overview:
 - Rural Development (RD) – 5 minutes
 - Building infrastructure in Alaska's rural communities
 - National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) – 5 minutes
 - 2017 Census of Agriculture
 - Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) – 5 minutes
 - FNS programs and program outreach
 - Farm Service Agency (FSA) – 5 minutes
 - FSA purpose, goals, and mission
 - Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) – 5 minutes
 - Tribal Conservation Districts and NRCS programs
 - USDA Office of Tribal Relations (OTR) – 5 minutes
 - USDA overview, OTR overview
 - Forest Service (FS) – 5 minutes
 - Alaska Roadless Rule, Alaska Landless Tribes, Subsistence
- Discussion
- Closing Remarks
- Adjourn