

## **Monday, December 7**

8am to 5:15pm – **Newly Elected Officials Training**

*Tikahtnu A*

8am to 5:15pm – **Elected Officials Training**

*Tikahtnu B*

8am to 4:30pm – **Affiliate Meetings** (*separate registration*)

- Alaska Municipal Attorneys Association (AMAA)
- Alaska Association of Municipal Clerks (AAMC)
- Association of Alaska Assessing Officers (AAAO)
- Alaska Municipal Management Association (AMMA)
- American Planning Association – Alaska Chapter (APA AK)

*Tikahtnu C&F*

*Tikahtnu D&E*

*Kahtnu 1*

*Kahtnu 2*

*Tubughnenq 3*

3:30pm to 4:30pm – AAMC Region IX Meeting

*Tubughnenq 4*

4:30 to 5:30pm **Mayors' Arctic Defense Forum**

*K'enakatnu 6*

- Closed-door discussion among defense mayors, military leadership, emergency management officials, tribal partners, infrastructure providers, and mental health leaders. This session would allow participants to have candid operational conversations about:
  - Energy resilience
  - Housing and workforce pressures
  - Mental health and family support systems
  - Emergency response capacity
  - Transportation and supply chain vulnerabilities
  - Communications infrastructure
  - The role of municipalities during military expansion or crisis response

5:30 to 7:30 PM **ACoM President's Reception**

*Tikahtnu A*

Elected officials registered for Elected Officials Training and/or ACoM should attend this networking event that connects municipal leaders with one another.

## **Tuesday, December 8**

8am to 4:00pm **Elected Officials Training/Alaska Conference of Mayors (ACoM)**

*Tikahtnu B*

- ACoM Business Meeting

**Affiliate Meetings** (*separate registration*)

- Alaska Municipal Attorneys Association (AMAA)
- Alaska Association of Municipal Clerks (AAMC)
- Association of Alaska Assessing Officers (AAAO)
- Alaska Municipal Management Association (AMMA)
- American Planning Association – Alaska Chapter (APA AK)
- Alaska Regional Development Organizations (ARDORs)

*Tikahtnu C&F*

*Tikahtnu D&E*

*Kahtnu 1*

*Kahtnu 2*

*Tubughnenq 3*

*Tubughnenq 4*

**Project Cohorts** (*by invitation*)

*Tubughnenq 5*

*Project updates for project participants*

1. Boardroads
2. Boardroads
3. TCP
4. Good Jobs

5. Energysed or whatever
6. Housing Development w/ AHFC and/or TAG
7. TAT – USDA and/or ACMS
8. \*SIMPLE
9. \*GIS
10. \*Cybersecurity
11. \*PCE rate setting
12. Coastal resilience

|            |                                                                |                             |
|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 3pm to 5pm | <b>AML Early Registration</b>                                  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Foyer |
| 4:30 PM    | <b>Alaska Municipal Health Trust Annual Meeting</b>            | <i>K'enakatnu</i>           |
| 7:00 PM    | <b>Alaska Association of Municipal Clerks – Annual Banquet</b> | <i>Tikahtnu A</i>           |

**Wednesday, December 9**

|           |                         |                   |
|-----------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 7:30-5:00 | AGFOA                   | <i>Tikahtnu B</i> |
| 8am       | Breakfast               | <i>Ballroom</i>   |
| 8:30am    | <b>Opening Ceremony</b> | <i>Ballroom</i>   |

Chaired by **Glenda Ledford**, outgoing AML Board President and Mayor, City of Wasilla

- Presentation of Colors
- Pledge of Allegiance
- National Anthem
- Alaska Flag Song

|         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |  |
|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| 9:00am  | <b>AML – Works for You</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |  |
|         | Start the conference with a clear look at how AML is working for members through advocacy, training, shared services, practical support, and partnerships. Meet the staff behind the work and learn how to connect with AML's tools, expertise, and opportunities throughout the year. |  |
|         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Nils Andreassen</b>, Executive Director, Alaska Municipal League</li> <li>• <b>Erin Reinders</b>, Deputy Director, Alaska Municipal League</li> </ul>                                                                                      |  |
| 10:00am | Break                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |
| 10:30am | <u>Concurrent Sessions – Thought Leadership</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |  |

- **Economic Development by Design: Local Government Roles** *Kahtnu 1*
  - Economic development is about more than attracting businesses. Panelists will explore how tourism, small businesses, incentives, and investments in schools, childcare, public safety, and transportation can create lasting opportunity.
- **Small Cities, Big Projects: Turning Ideas into Results** *Kahtnu 2*
  - Moving a project from a good idea to construction can be difficult, especially with limited staff. Local leaders will share how partnerships, funding, procurement, and project management helped them get the work done.
- **Built to Fit: Making Development Work for Alaska Communities** *Tubughnenq 3*
  - Housing and development move more smoothly when plans, zoning, infrastructure, permitting, and public input work together. Learn how

communities can make development clearer and more predictable while protecting local priorities.

- **Arctic Readiness: Local Strength and National Significance** *Tubughnenq 4*
  - Building on the Mayors' Arctic Defense Forum, this session will explore how housing, utilities, transportation, workforce, communications, health care, and emergency response strengthen communities and support national-security infrastructure.
- **What's Changing?: Trends Local Leaders Should Watch** *Tubughnenq 5*
  - Political, economic, demographic, and technology shifts are changing the choices facing Alaska communities. Panelists will explain important trends, what they could mean locally, and what leaders should be thinking about now.

11:45am Break and Lunch

12:00pm **Lunch Plenary Session** *Ballroom*

Framing Leadership and Policy Advancement - **Nils Andreassen**, Executive Director

1pm Break

1:15pm Concurrent Sessions – Policy Advancement

- **From Statute to City Hall: Putting New State Laws into Practice** *Kahtnu 1*
  - New state laws can require changes at city hall. Learn what the key changes mean and what communities may need to update in their codes, procedures, elections, budgets, and services.
- **Local Priorities, State Decision: Shaping Transportation Investment** *Kahtnu 2*
  - State transportation decisions have lasting local impacts. Learn how RPOs, MPOs, and partnerships can bring community priorities into planning earlier and connect projects with federal programs and funding.
- **ROADs to Housing: What Federal Change Mean for Alaska** *Tubughnenq 3*
  - Federal decisions and agency implementation can directly affect housing, land use, and development in Alaska. Learn what is changing, what it could mean for communities, and what local leaders should watch next.
- **Disaster Recovery and Resilience: Preparing for Changing Responsibilities** *Tubughnenq 4*
  - Explore what local governments should prepare for in the midst of FEMA transformation and related emergency and disaster recovery needs, hazard mitigation planning, insurance, and other state and federal tools.
- **Before Decisions Are Made: Giving Local Government an Early Voice** *Tubughnenq 5*
  - Local input is most useful before a policy is final. Learn how local leaders can recognize emerging issues, build shared positions, provide useful information, and engage state and federal decision-makers early.

2:30pm Break

**APRA Annual Business Meeting** *Tikahtnu A*

3:15pm Concurrent Sessions – Good Governance

- **Trust in Action: Engaging the Public in Local Decisions** *Kahtnu 1*
  - Public trust grows when local governments involve residents early, explain decisions clearly, listen, and show how public input made a difference. Local

leaders will share practical ways to make engagement more meaningful and transparent.

- **From Priorities to Progress: Setting Goals & Showing Results** *Kahtnu 2*
  - How does a community turn many needs into clear priorities? Learn how elected officials, staff, and residents can set goals, measure progress, and clearly report results.
- **Strong Leadership: Building Elected & Administration Partnership** *Tubughnenq 3*
  - Elected officials and administrators have different but closely connected roles. Panelists will share how they communicate, set expectations, support good decisions, and maintain appropriate boundaries. Learn how orientation, shared expectations, meeting practices, and governing policies can help the full body work effectively through leadership changes, with management, and as priority change.
- **Shared Community, Shared Future: Municipal-Tribal Collaboration** *Tubughnenq 4*
  - Municipalities, Tribes, and Alaska Native corporations often share community priorities. Panelists will discuss how they clarify roles, formalize commitments, align resources, advance shared priorities, and build partnerships that last.
- **Revenue Decisions: Resident Expectations vs What We Can Afford** *Tubughnenq 5*
  - Help elected officials and administrators connect community priorities, service levels, and revenue requirements—and make those tradeoffs explicit before deciding whether to raise taxes, adjust fees, reduce services, or defer investments. How a governing body decides what government should provide, what it costs, who pays, and how to maintain public legitimacy around that decision.

|        |                                                     |                     |
|--------|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 4:30pm | Break – Networking and Vendor Presentations         |                     |
| 4:30pm | <b>Committee Meetings</b> ( <i>by invite only</i> ) | <i>K'enakatnu</i>   |
| 4:30pm | <b>ARSSTC Annual Membership Meeting</b>             | <i>Tubughnenq 5</i> |
| 5:30pm | <b>Community Showcase and Silent Auction</b>        | <i>Tikahtnu A</i>   |

#### **Thursday, December 10<sup>th</sup>**

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|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 7:30-5:00 | <b>AGFOA</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <i>Tikahtnu B</i> |
| 8am       | <b>Breakfast and Business</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <i>Ballroom</i>   |
|           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business Meeting Announcements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Resolution Committee</b> – update to members for 2027 submitted resolutions</li> <li>○ <b>Nominating Committee</b> - update to members on the slate of AML Board candidates</li> <li>○ <b>Board Candidates</b> – candidate one-minute intros</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |                   |
| 9:15am    | Break                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                   |
| 9:30am    | <u>Concurrent Sessions – Effective Operations</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                   |
|           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ready Workforce: Attracting and Keeping Good Staff</b> <i>Kahtnu 1</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Local governments across Alaska are competing for a limited workforce. Panelists will share practical ways to recruit, onboard, develop, and retain</li> </ul> </li> </ul>                                                  |                   |

employees - including military spouses and reservists - and fill gaps through cross-training and partnerships.

- **Know What You Own: Proactive Infrastructure Management** *Kahtnu 2*
  - Good planning starts with knowing what your community owns. Learn how to inventory and map assets, assess their condition and cost, set priorities, and plan for maintenance and replacement.
- **Practical AI: Work Smarter and Manage Risk** *Tubughnenq 3*
  - AI can help local governments draft documents, summarize meetings, research issues, analyze data, and answer routine questions. See practical examples and learn how to manage privacy, accuracy, cybersecurity, public records, and accountability.
- **Stronger Together: Sharing Services and Specialized Capacity** *Tubughnenq 4*
  - Local governments do not need to maintain every specialized service on their own. Explore how shared technology, staffing support, expertise, and partnerships can expand capacity, lower costs, and improve local services.
- **Continuity Under Pressure: Keeping Essential Services Running** *Tubughnenq 5*
  - Emergencies and system failures can quickly disrupt essential services. Learn how utilities, public safety, behavioral health partners, IT, finance, and administrators can prepare together and keep serving the community.

11:15am Break

11:45am Awards Luncheon

1:15pm Break

1:30pm Concurrent Sessions – Financial Health

- **Property Taxes: Who Pays, What's Fair, and What Are We Funding?** *Kahtnu 1*
  - Property taxes support essential local services, but questions about fairness, exemptions, and local authority are growing. Compare approaches from Alaska and other states and explore what potential changes could mean for communities.
- **Beyond the Grant: Can We Afford to Own It?** *Kahtnu 2*
  - A grant may build a project, but the community must operate it for years. Learn how to consider staffing, energy, maintenance, insurance, replacement, and other long-term costs before deciding to move forward.
- **Borrowing with Confidence: When Bonds & Loans Make Sense** *Tubughnenq 3*
  - Borrowing can move an important project forward, but it must fit the community's finances. Learn how that can work for municipalities, how to judge affordability and risk, and when another funding approach may make more sense.
- **Investing in Your Workforce: Pay, PERS, and Long-Term Costs** *Tubughnenq 4*
  - Good employees are essential to strong local services, and communities need compensation they can sustain. Learn how wages, benefits, PERS, COLAs, vacancies, and union proposals affect employees and municipal budgets - and how good information supports fair, collaborative decisions.
- **Protecting Public Dollars: Preventing and Responding to Fraud** *Tubughnenq 5*
  - Public funds are increasingly targeted through payment fraud, fake vendors, impersonation, and procurement scams. Learn how to recognize warning signs,

prevent losses, respond quickly, and work with banks, cybersecurity professionals, and law enforcement when fraud occurs.

|        |                                                                                                               |                                     |
|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 2:45pm | Break – Exhibitor Recognition and Raffle                                                                      | <i>2<sup>nd</sup> level hallway</i> |
| 3:15pm | Plenary Session – <b>Laughter is Key</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Danny Adams</b></li></ul> | <i>Ballroom</i>                     |
| 4:30pm | Break – Networking Pitch Sitch                                                                                |                                     |
| 5:30pm | <b>AML Game Night</b>                                                                                         | <i>Tikahtnu A</i>                   |

**Friday, December 11<sup>th</sup>**

|          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                       |
|----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 8am-12pm | AGFOA                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <i>Kahtnu 1-2</i>     |
| 8:00am   | Breakfast                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                       |
| 8:30am   | <b>AMLIP Annual Meeting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Safeguarding Investments</li><li>• Managing Return</li><li>• Increasing Capacity</li></ul>                                                                                 | <i>Tubughnenq 3-5</i> |
| 9:30am   | <b>AML Annual Business Meeting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• President’s Report</li><li>• Director’s Report</li><li>• Resolutions Committee</li><li>• Legislative Committee</li><li>• Nominating Committee - Elections</li></ul> | <i>Tubughnenq 3-5</i> |
| Noon     | <b>Adjourn</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                       |