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A Message from Federal Co-Chair *George Canelos*

Dear Friends of the Denali Commission,

This will be my last eNewsletter message to you as Federal Co-Chair. My four-year appointment from the Secretary of Commerce expires this Saturday, October 3rd, 2009.



Over the past four years I've been privileged to lead one of the most unusual and innovative organizations in American government. The Denali Commission staff is passionate and dedicated to the proposition that rural Alaska has great value for our society, and that we're on track, together, to finding bold and innovative solutions to the great challenges of living in this Great Land.

I've placed a great urgency on partnering effectively and quickly to carry out our mission. I've often quoted Robert Service, "Ah, the clock is always slow; It's later than you think!" I leave these words with you, today, as well. While I remain optimistic for our future and for the leadership role Alaska has in sustainable living, we have no time to waste.

Thank you immensely to all our program partners, to all the state, municipal and tribal leaders and organizations across Alaska, to our non-profit and foundation partners, and to our Congressional delegation. We've proven that through listening, respect and collaboration, we can accomplish great things! I ask you to support the continuing work of the Denali Commission.

I look forward to taking a break and spending important time with my wonderful wife Mary Lu and our young son Jared. Qu yana.

October 2009

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 8 - 10, 2009 – The [Bristol Bay Native Association](#) will hold the Bristol Bay Energy Summit in Dillingham, Alaska.

October 12, 2009 – Denali Commission offices closed in observance of *Columbus Day*.

October 14, 2009 – The *Denali Commission Health Steering Committee* will meet. Watch our [website](#) for details and agenda. For more information contact [Ms. Nancy Merriman](#).

October 22 – 24, 2009 - The [Alaska Federation of Natives](#) annual conference to be held in Anchorage at the Dena'ina Civic and Convention Center. Watch for our booth at this event.

October 26 – 27, 2009 – The *Alaska Workforce Investment Board meeting* will be held in Fairbanks. See their [website](#) for details.

November 5, 2009 – The *Denali Commission Quarterly Meeting* will be held in Anchorage. Watch our [website](#) for an agenda and meeting details.

November 11, 2009 – Denali Commission offices closed in observance of *Veterans Day*.

November 16, 2009 – The *Denali Commission Transportation Advisory Committee* will meet. Watch our [website](#) for an agenda and meeting details. For more information contact [Ms. Adison Smith](#).

Best Wishes,



George J. Canelos,
Federal Co-Chair

November 16 – 17, 2009 – The [44th Annual Conference of the Alaska Association of Municipal Clerks \(AAMC\)](#) will be held in Anchorage, Alaska at the Hotel Captain Cook. The Academy session will be held on November 15, 2009.

November 16 – 20, 2009 – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium will host the [15th Annual Alaska Tribal Conference on Environmental Management \(ATCEM\)](#), at the Anchorage Hilton Hotel.

November 18 – 20, 2009 - The [59th Annual Alaska Municipal League Local Government Conference](#) will be held at the Hotel Captain Cook in Anchorage, Alaska.

November 26, 2009 –Denali Commission offices closed in observance of *Thanksgiving Day*.

PROGRAM UPDATES

View [Monthly Program Updates](#) to get the latest program activities.

In Focus: AKSourceLink

An update on a Denali Commission Economic Development Program project, [AKSourceLink](#).



Our programs mission is to extend and expand entrepreneurial knowledge and access in rural Alaskan communities. The AKSourceLink entrepreneurial web portal endeavors to meet this critical program goal. The Denali Commission has partnered with the Alaska Entrepreneurial Consortium (AEC) of which the University of Alaska's Center for Economic Development has taken the project lead.

AEC is a coalition of 19 regional development organizations and statewide service providers who share the collaborative goal of strengthening support to entrepreneurs and small business owners by providing easy access to available resources. The benefit to federal agencies is in making their programs more broadly inclusive to the outlying areas of our state.

The web portal was officially launched at the annual Alaska State Chamber of Commerce meeting held in Homer, Alaska. This project was received with a lot of excitement by those present and is already bringing stakeholders and technical service providers together. For more information on this project or if you would like to join this initiative as a resource partner please contact Ms. Linda Ketchum at afldk@uaa.alaska.edu The website can be found at www.aksourcelink.com.

Questions about the Denali Commission Economic Development Program, contact [Mark Allred, Program Manager](#). For more information on AKSourceLink go to www.AKSourceLink.com or call 888-554-6525 (888-5 Link AK) or email AKSourceLink at info@AKSourceLink.com.

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