



Tlingit & Haida Disaster Preparedness

INTRODUCTION



Richard Peterson

President

- Tlingit Name: **Chalyee Éesh**
- Hometown: **Gasa'áan (Kasaan)**
- Clan: **Kaagwaantaan**
- House: **Eagle's Nest House**
- Parents: **Leo & Paula Peterson**

INTRODUCTION



Jason Wilson

Public Safety Director



Sabrina Grubitz

*Public Safety Manager &
Incident Commander*

TRIBAL EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

- **TEOC Creation:** Established in March 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Expanded its mandate to handle a range of emergency situations
- **Comprehensive Disaster Preparedness:** Beyond pandemic response, TEOC plays a key role in coordinating emergency preparedness for the Tlingit & Haida, communities, and region.



PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION

- Tribal Occupational Safety & Health
- Office of Emergency Management
- Village Public Safety Officers (VPSO)
- Tribal Access Program
- First Responders – Comprehensive Opioid Addiction & Recovery Program
- Wildland Fire Program
- Court Service Officers
- Tribal Homeland Security



TRAINING & COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS

- All TEOC personnel undergo rigorous training in the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and Incident Command System (ICS) protocols
- The Public Safety Division also sends staff to the Center for Domestic Preparedness for Tribal Training Week annually.
- These programs ensure our teams are fully prepared to handle a wide range of emergencies, aligning with Southeast Conference's emphasis on workforce development as a driver of regional growth.
- **Community Preparedness:**
 - We provide Community Emergency Response Training (CERT), Emergency Trauma Technician, CPR/First Aid, Wildland Firefighting, and Naloxone Training to Southeast Alaska communities and Tlingit & Haida citizens.
- This proactive approach strengthens regional resilience and supports economic stability.

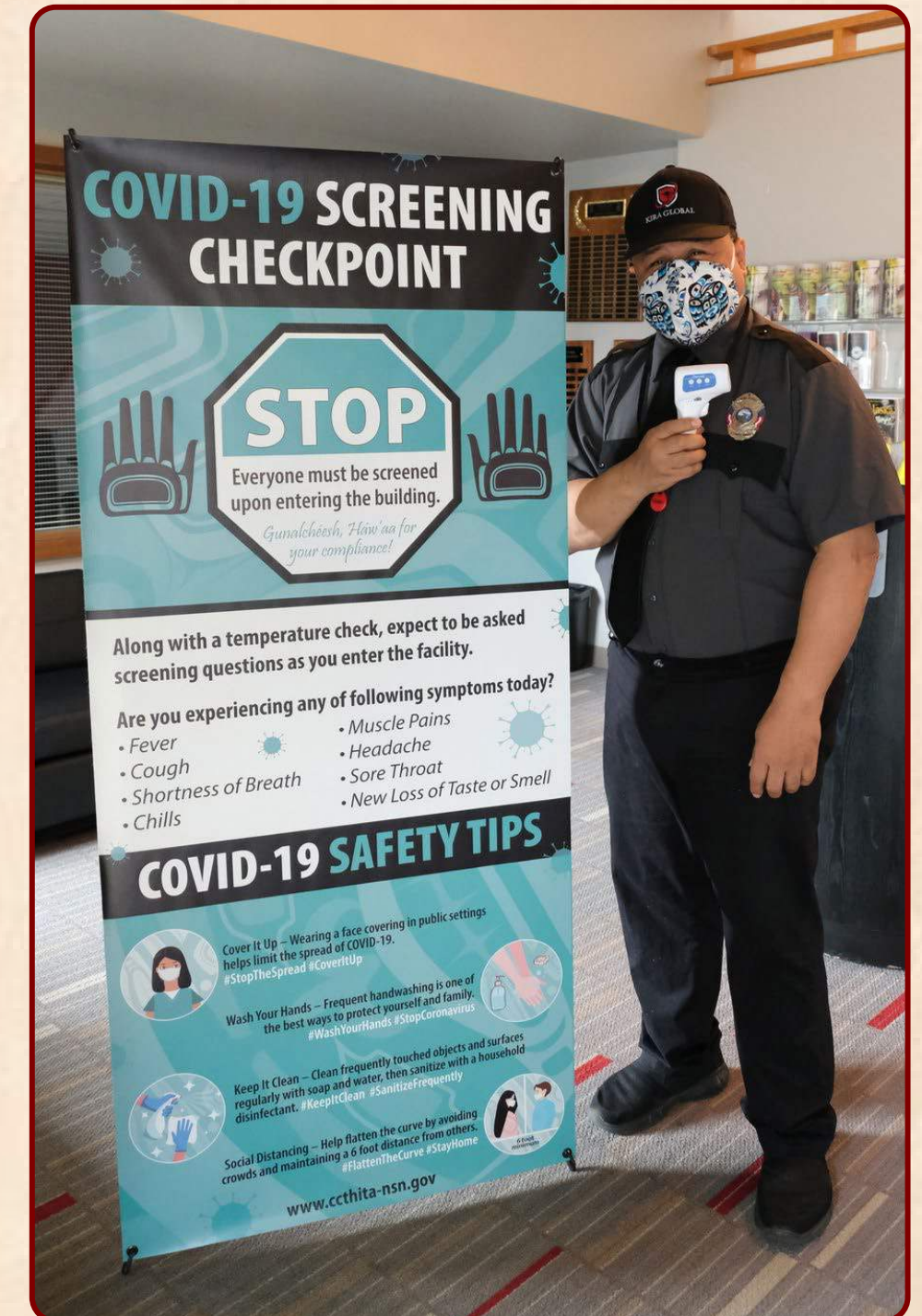
TEOC'S RESPONSE TO DISASTERS

COVID-19 PANDEMIC

- Coordinated mass testing
- Distributed Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Managed vaccine distribution to protect communities

Community Preparedness:

- Partnered with local tribes to deliver Conex containers filled with supplies (e.g., light systems, water purification units, shelf stable foods, generator, PPE, etc.)



MISSING PERSONS

Juneau

- The TEOC was key in coordinating search and rescue (SAR) efforts in Juneau, working closely with law enforcement and volunteers.
- The TEOC building was the headquarters for SAR operations, providing a space for family support, community gathering, and SAR team coordination.

Kake

- Similar efforts were organized in Kake, with the TEOC offering both logistical and financial support when other agencies could not extend their resources.
- The TEOC also provided emotional support to families, reflecting our holistic approach to crisis management.

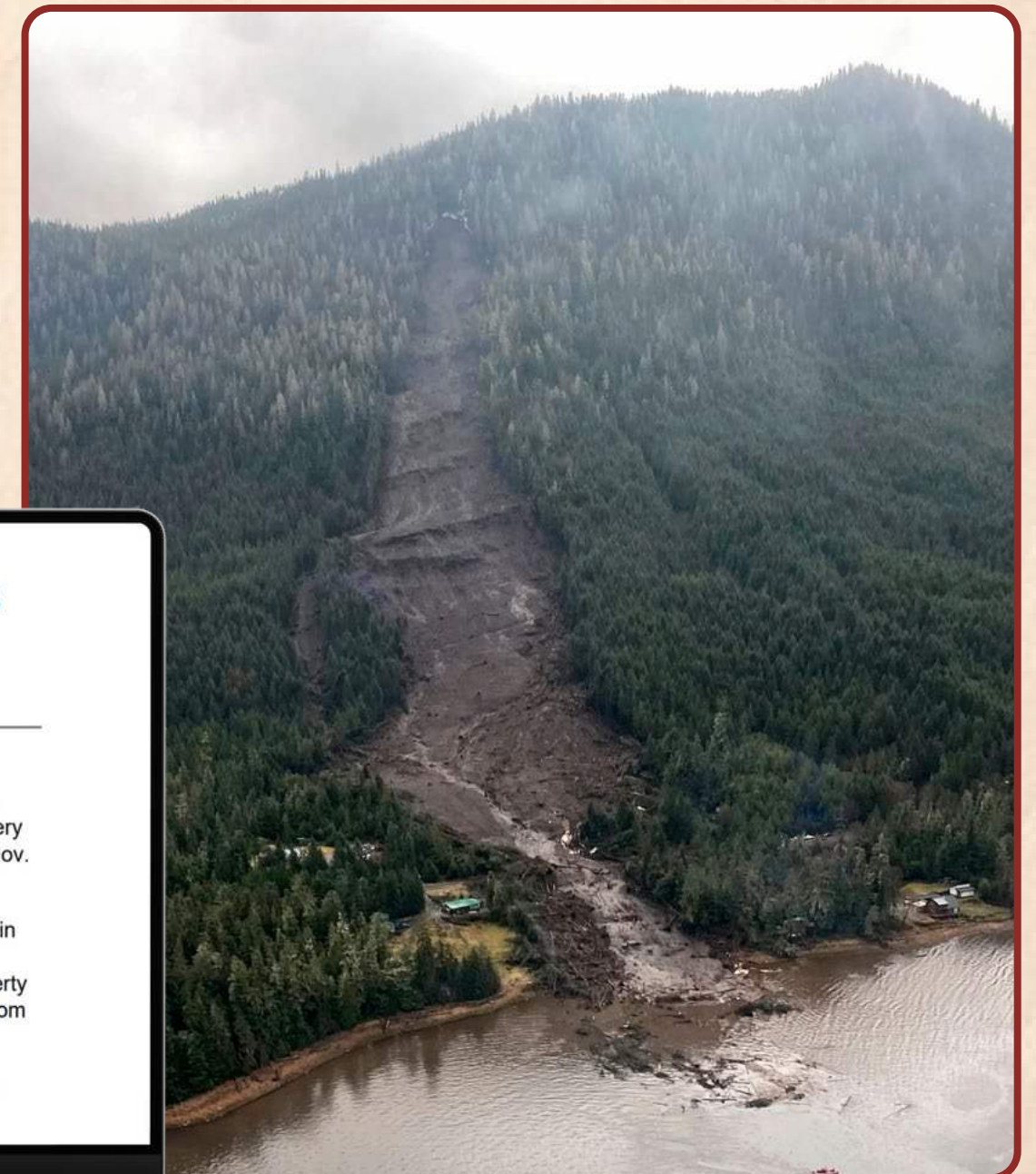
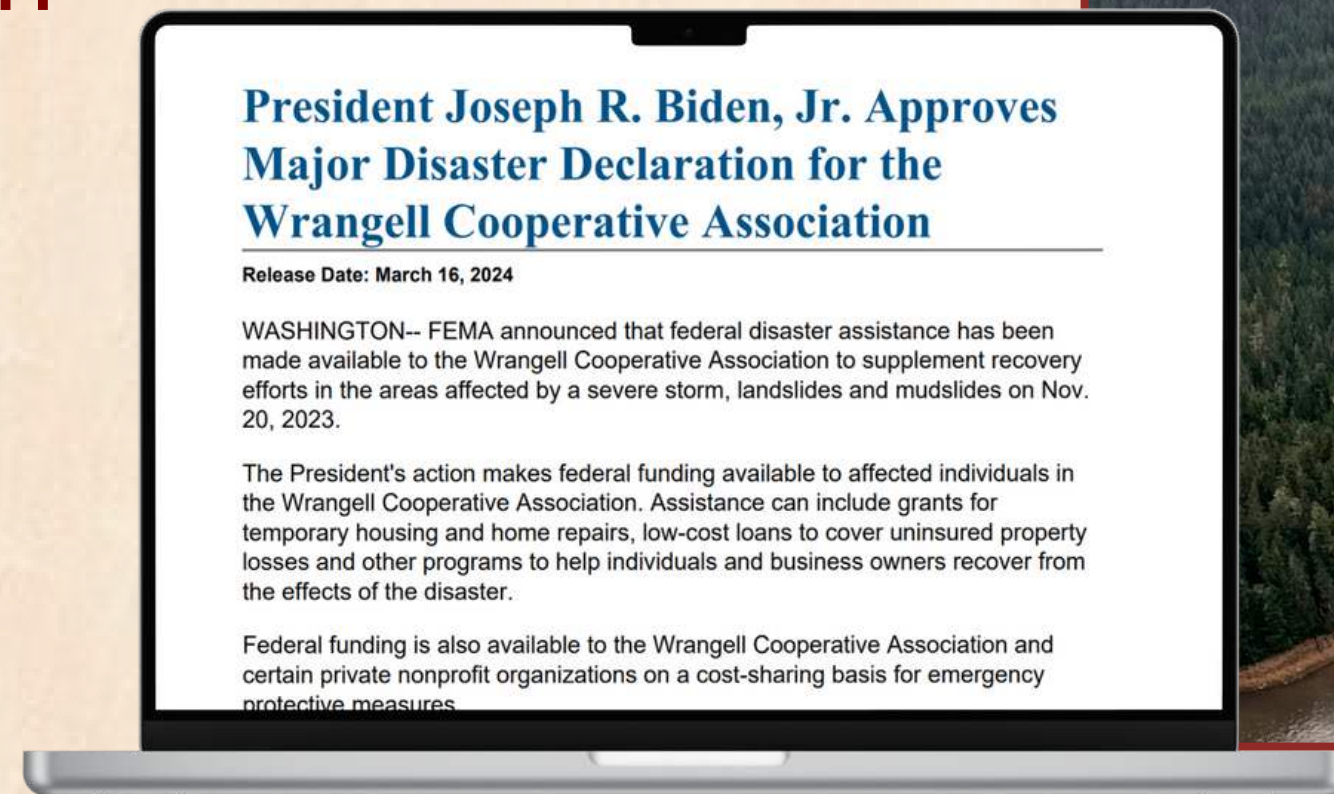
HAINES LANDSLIDE

- **Rapid Mobilization**
- **Deployment of Heavy Equipment**
- **Airport Dewatering Operations**



WRANGELL LANDSLIDE

- **Disaster Mitigation & Rapid Response**
 - TEOC staff sent to assist Wrangell Cooperative Association to assist in navigation of complexities of FEMA system and Disaster Declaration



JUNEAU FLOOD RESPONSE

Using *Everbridge Emergency Communication System*, we identified 470 tribal citizens (173 households) in the flood zone.

Three-Phased Approach:

1. Citizen Safety
2. Shelter and Cleanup
3. Community Education



JUNEAU FLOOD RESPONSE

Teams worked **16-hour days for 11 consecutive days**, and the state allocated **20 National Guardsmen** under TEOC command. We provided shelter, distributed over 500 meals, and ensured **all citizens**—tribal or non-tribal—received the necessary support.



JUNEAU FLOOD RESPONSE

By the Numbers



173

Tribal Citizen
Households Impacted



470

Tribal Citizens
Impacted



5

Entities Partnered
with TEOC



20

National Guards Under
TEOC Command



11

Days TEOC
in Operation



800

Calls Made to Tribal
Citizens for Assistance



500

Lunches Prepared +
Delivered



125

Sanitation Kits
Delivered



65

People Involved in
Emergency Response



50,0000

Pounds of Debris Removed



\$80,392.38

In Donations to Establish Emergency Response Fund

KEY PARTNERSHIPS

- Tribal Governments
- Non -Profits
 - Alaska Sea Dogs, Red Cross & St.Vincent de Paul
- Federal & State
 - FEMA, U.S. Coast Guard & Department of Homeland Security





SHARED VISION FOR RESILIENCY



GUNALCHÉESH,
HÁW'AA
THANK YOU