

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Chilkoot Indian Assoc., SEARHC host t-shirt contest

HAINES, June 9, 2008 — The Chilkoot Indian Association, the SouthEast Alaska Regional Health Consortium (SEARHC) Steps to a Healthier SE Alaska program and the SEARHC tobacco program are teaming up to host a t-shirt design contest about the dangers of secondhand smoke.

Residents of all ages from the Haines Borough and Klukwan are encouraged to submit their designs that reflect what secondhand smoke and its effects mean to you. These designs can be in art, words, or a combination of art and words.

The contest winner will receive \$125 and a t-shirt imprinted with the winning design, second place receives \$75 and a t-shirt, third place receives \$50 and a t-shirt, and an honorable mention winner receives a t-shirt. The t-shirts will be released at the Southeast Alaska State Fair, which takes place July 24-27 in Haines.

“This is a fun and educational way to let your neighbors know what you think about the effects of secondhand smoke,” said Jane Weagant, a SEARHC Tobacco Health Educator in Haines. “Secondhand smoke is a toxic cocktail of hundreds of poisons and chemicals that have been shown to cause health problems in those who breathe it. The Surgeon General in 2006 said there is no risk-free level of secondhand smoke exposure, and even brief exposure can be dangerous.”

The entry deadline for the t-shirt design contest is by the close of business on Tuesday, July 1. Participants are allowed to submit one entry per person to Jane Weagant at P.O. Box 1549 in Haines, or they can drop the entries off at the SEARHC Haines Health Center, the SEARHC Klukwan Health Center or the Chilkoot Indian Association office. Entrants may not be employees of SEARHC or the Chilkoot Indian Association.

Entry images should use line art in one or two colors, with a maximum art size of 8 inches by 10 inches. On the back of the drawing, please write a brief description of it and include your name, address and phone number. All drawings become the property of the Chilkoot Indian Association and SEARHC. For more information, contact Jane Weagant at 766-6315 or Shori Long at 766-6372.

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