



# MORRIS THOMPSON CULTURAL AND VISITORS CENTER

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***“This Center will bridge the cultural gaps in Alaska. It will depict the way we make a living in Alaska. It will depict the rivers we depend on for subsistence, commerce and recreation. It will depict the people like Morris who prove one person can make a difference.”***

**Orie Williams, CEO,  
Doyon Limited**

## Our Vision

Inspired by the life and contributions of Morris Thompson, the Morris Thompson Cultural and Visitors Center combines the resources and missions of three outreach organizations to co-locate under one roof to serve visitors and area residents alike. It provides an important educational link so community members and visitors can live and breathe the Interior's history and culture. It offers the region, the state and the nation a prototype for synergistic collaborating to launch a well considered cultural and visitors center.

The partners in this venture recognized some years ago the need to serve visitors to the Interior more effectively. The Fairbanks Convention and Visitors Bureau (FCVB) and the Alaska Public Lands Information Center (APLIC) talked of sharing a highly visible facility with enough space and parking to better serve their constituents. Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) has long dreamed of having its own cultural exhibits as well as dedicated space for cultural and educational programs. The synergy of this unique partnership will create a world-class cultural and visitors center at a price none could afford on their own.

A newly incorporated 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization has been established to operate the facility. It is governed by a 10-member board of directors that includes three Fairbanks Convention and Visitors Bureau appointees, three Tanana Chiefs Conference appointees, two Alaska Public Lands Information Center appointees, one appointee representing the family of Morris Thompson, and one exofficio family member. Operating costs for the new facility will be paid by charging annual fees to the occupants based on the amount of square footage they occupy in the building.

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