



2018 ANVCA Legislative Fly-In to Washington, D.C.

- 55 confirmed meetings all over the city with 32 participants in teams of 8
- Meaningful connections with Federal Communications Commission, the U.S. Department of Energy, the U.S. Small Business Administration, and the Department of Defense
- Four overarching topics: Contaminated Lands, 8(a) Contracting, Telecommunications, and Energy

Our Washington, D.C. Fly-In took place from September 11-13, 2018, with just over 30 members going to a total of 55 meetings and events. The majority of our meetings took place on Capitol Hill, with the exceptions of the following federal agencies:

- The United States Department of Energy – Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs
- Federal Communications Commission – Office of Native Affairs and Policy
- United States Small Business Administration
- Department of Defense Office of Small Business Programs
- United States Department of Agriculture – Rural Development Division
- United States Bureau of Land Management

In addition to meaningful meetings all over Capitol Hill with individual offices as well as House and Senate Committee offices, we were able to secure a large-group sit-down meeting with the full Alaska Congressional Delegation: Representative Don Young, Senator Lisa Murkowski, and Senator Dan Sullivan.

Broken down by topic and based off the expressed interests of our Members and Partners, the 2018 Fly-In Cohort asked the following in our meetings:

- Contaminated Lands
 - [Adopt mitigation clean-up credits and tax credits for clean-up activities on ANCSA lands](#)
 - [Require a minimum of bi-annual agency reporting on the status of clean-up on ANCSA lands](#)
 - [Provide Native contractor preference for clean-up on Native lands](#)
 - [Swap undesirable ANCSA lands with unencumbered federal property](#)
 - [Prioritize clean-up on ANCSA Lands.](#)
 - [Provide specific training of local residents to enhance participation in future mitigation work.](#)
 - [Enforce Tribal and Alaska Native Corporation consultation on activities related to environmental mitigation on ANCSA lands.](#)



- Support concept of bi-annual report from Department of Interior on the Status of ANCSA Lands
- Provide Native Contractor Preference for clean-up on Native Lands
- Adequately fund the Department of Defense Native American Lands Environmental Mitigation Program
- Energy
 - Ensure that Alaska Native Corporations are included in investing and service opportunities for major public infrastructure projects
 - Adequately fund the Office of Indian Energy (OIE);
 - Establish a dedicated budget line item to ensure OIE as a stand-alone function (i.e., not within the administrative funding line)
 - Elevate the OIE Director to Assistant Secretary
 - Provide funding for oil spill response training and prevention
 - Ensure a \$500M carve out for Alaska for tribal loan guarantees
- Telecommunications
 - Ensure that Alaska Native Corporations are included in investing and service opportunities for major public infrastructure projects
 - Appropriate a portion of funding for first-mile and middle-mile infrastructure where it is needed most
 - Increase funding or keep at current levels the USDA Rural Utilities Service Program
 - Increase funding for telecom infrastructure in Western Alaska to properly support increased activity in the Arctic
 - Ensure \$600M in rural broadband grants includes a preference for rural communities who still rely in dial up
 - Improved regulatory certainty in the FCC's universal service support programs
 - Fewer prohibitions and siting delays, especially on Federal lands, which inhibit and increase cost of broadband deployment
 - Streamlining permitting requirements will help ensure access while also providing appropriate oversight
 - Need to coordinate efficiently among all federal and state programs
- 8(a) Contracting
 - Protect Native 8(a) Contracting and support increased opportunities for ANC economic development
 - Change the online application system to allow for entity-owned businesses to participate



- [Eliminate the application of category management to small businesses and SBA Programs](#)

In addition, we included in each team agenda a total of four reception opportunities, ranging from the Bristol Bay Native Corporation Wild Salmon Day Celebration to an ANVCA Board Reception sponsored by Blank Rome Government Relations, LLC.

One person in our cohort of 32 responded to our survey invitations with nothing but “good” or “excellent” ratings on our meetings, quality of communication with staff, prepared briefing materials, and overall Fly-In experience. Throughout the Fly-In, though, ANVCA Staff had received critique that the 55 scheduled meetings were, at times, scheduled too close together with too great distance, to allow enough time to leave one meeting and go to the next. ANVCA Staff will work to mitigate these concerns in future Fly-Ins.