

**DRAFT CHARTER
QUALITY OF LIFE WORKING GROUP
TONGASS FUTURES ROUNDTABLE**

I. PURPOSE

Recommend strategies and programs to enhance our SE Alaskan quality of life through the responsible stewardship of cultural, economic, historical, and biological values; thereby contributing to sustainable communities and biological systems.

II. CONVENING VALUES

Recognizing that the governance of the Roundtable will evolve over time, this charter is intended to guide the Quality of Life Working Group through its efforts to add value to the Roundtable outcomes.

Quality of Life means:

The ability to maintain a high value life, with basic socio-economic needs met, and a high level of satisfaction with wages, the surrounding culture and environment.

III. GOALS

- Identify ways to celebrate and enrich community and regional cultures, perpetuating cultural diversity, protecting cultural values, and strengthening opportunities for healthy communities, livable wages and vibrant economies.
Strategies/Tactics(I note in some goals we include strategies and tactics and in others we do not. We will need to maintain some consistency. My recommendation is to merge into the goal if valuable or delete if not merged with the goal.
 - Identify key community use areas and sacred, historical and archaeological sites which southeast Alaskans cherish and benefit from economically, socially, and culturally, and how to protect and enhance them.
 - Assess how current and new businesses and industries can contribute to the quality of life, who benefits, and how do we capture those benefits?
- Engage and sustain a program through the TFR that gives voice to and empowers all cultures and values, local communities and business and industry.
Strategies/Tactics
 - Engage advisors and regional interest groups to help formulate a vision and tactics to achieve the desired quality of life for the region and each community..
- Maintain effective and stable communities, sustain and develop community leadership, and retain young community leaders.
 - Establish a directed mentoring program to develop community leaders.
- Promote sustainable, livable and life-style compatible annual wages throughout the region. Where lifestyle compatible annual wages (dual economies) is a combination of subsistence

and cash that contribute to a sustainable lifestyle and livable wages are year round professional and industrial higher wage jobs.

- Maximize the training and use of the local labor force.
- Identify ways to conserve ecosystem values and wildlands which are important for the region's economic vitality and sustainability because of their role in attracting visitors and enhancing the quality of life for existing and potential residents.
- Identify ways to conserve and grow existing business and industries to sustain current economic base and serves as a platform for future growth.
- Promote of integrated, collaborative, regional branding marketing in which all communities and many interests participate. Develop a regional "brand", "theme", or "message" that conveys the beauty and abundance of the rainforest ecosystem, the cultural and historical richness of the region, and the vibrant human spirit of Southeast Alaskans.

IV. INDICATORS OF SUCCESS

- Work with individuals communities to develop quality of life indicators that are repeatable and serve as a measure of progress. Possible indicators include:
 - Retention of families (adults with children) in urban and rural communities.
 - Quality of basic infrastructure for urban and rural communities:
 - health care,
 - water,
 - sewer,
 - power,
 - education and training, libraries and learning centers,
 - transportation,
 - telecommunication,
 - The amenity infrastructure for urban and rural communities:
 - trails, campgrounds, cabins, and interpretive facilities,
 - outdoor recreation facilities and opportunities,
 - indoor recreation facilities and opportunities,
 - cultural activities and programs,
 - good hunting, fishing, hiking,
- Monitor residents' opinions, through polling, focus groups or other methods, to learn whether they believe they are achieving a high quality of life.
- Maintain sustainable, livable, annual wage jobs throughout the region that are compatible with a lifestyle based on dual economies as a combination of subsistence and cash that together contribute to a sustainable lifestyle that does not necessarily require full time employment.
- Maintain and increase year-round, high wage, professional and industrial jobs throughout the region.

- Employment of the human resources available within the regional community.
- Wages are derived from diversified sources -- private, government and other sources (avoid dependence on unsustainable revenues – e.g. grants and government subsidies).
- Maintain indigenous and multicultural communities – celebrate cultural diversity.
- Maintain effective and stable community leadership and retention of young leaders.
- Encourage positive interrelationships between rural/village and urban communities in the region.

IV. MEMBERSHIP

VI. WORKING GROUP MEETINGS

A. Meeting Schedule.

B. Action/Decision Log.

C. Meeting Minutes.

VII. RESPONSIBILITIES OF WORKING GROUP MEMBERS

A. Good Faith. All members agree to act in a good faith effort to reach consensus in all aspects of the working group's work by encouraging the free and open exchange of ideas, views, and information. All members accept that other participants bring with them the legitimate purposes and goals of their organizations. All parties recognize the legitimacy of the goals of others and assume that their own goals will also be respected. Personal attacks and prejudiced statements will not be tolerated.

B. Time. All members agree to give the working group priority attention, staffing, and time.

C. Exchange of Information. The members of the working group agree to exchange information in good faith. Members agree to provide information in advance of the meeting where such information will be necessary. All members agree not to divulge information shared by others in confidence outside of Full working group and Work Group meetings. (Public and private statements are the same – good faith).

D. Compensation of Services. Members of the working group shall receive no pay, allowance, or benefits by reason of their service on the working group. Individual members will not be excluded. Need to find way to ensure participation.

E. Costs and Expenses. Members of the working group are responsible for their travel and expenses, though in extraordinary cases these expenses may be reimbursed.

F. Code of Conduct. Members of the working group are expected to abide by the Roundtable Code of Conduct.