September 25, 2018

Sarah Marrinan  
Social Science Planning Team  
North Pacific Fisheries Management Council

Dear Ms. Marrinan,

I am writing you this letter as the President of Tanana Chiefs Conference, in support of Kwerak Inc.’s nomination of Mr. Brenden Raymond-Yakoubian to the Social Science Planning Team of the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council. Mr. Brenden Raymond-Yakoubian is highly qualified for that position.

As a part of Tanana Chiefs Conference, I have been made aware of Mr. Raymond-Yakoubian, and based on his educational background, training and experience in Anthropology, his extensive social science work with rural and indigenous communities across the state (including with Traditional Knowledge bearers), and his experience and participation in the Council process through his affiliation with Kwerak, believe that he is an ideally qualified candidate for the Social Science Planning Team.

The North Pacific Fisheries Management Council will greatly benefit from Mr. Raymond-Yakoubian who can provide knowledge and information that the Council needs based on his extensive knowledge from his undergraduate and graduate degrees in Anthropology, extensive social science and Traditional Knowledge work across the state, and involvement fisheries-related topics.

Finally, I feel Mr. Raymond-Yakoubian is well suited for the position due to his experience with the Bering Sea Fishery Ecosystem Plan team and Ecosystem Committee and his familiarity with many rural and indigenous communities. Mr. Raymond-Yakoubian's many activities have brought him in contact with a wide variety of Alaska Native organizations, tribes, and communities which he has built relationships with over the years.

On behalf of Tanana Chiefs Conference, I whole heartedly support the appointment of Brenden Raymond-Yakoubian as Social Science Planning Team member of the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council. It is my belief that the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council would be in great hands if he were appointed to that position.

Sincerely,

Tanana Chiefs Conference

President Victor Joseph
September 26, 2018

William Tweit, Interim Chairman
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
605 West 4th Avenue, #306
Anchorage, AK 99501

RE: Nomination of Brenden Raymond-Yakoubian to Social Science Planning Team

Dear Chairman Tweit and Council Members:

We write to express our support for Brenden Raymond-Yakoubian’s nomination to the North Pacific Fishery Management Council’s (Council) Social Science Planning Team (SSPT). An expert in traditional knowledge, Mr. Raymond-Yakoubian holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in anthropology and is an ideal candidate to help realize the SSPT’s goal of improving the quality and application of social science data and information for use in fishery management.

Pew has worked for several years with Mr. Raymond-Yakoubian on natural resource management issues in the Arctic and Bering Sea region. With respect to fisheries, Mr. Raymond-Yakoubian recently co-authored a peer-reviewed journal article regarding the incorporation of traditional knowledge into the federal fishery management process in Alaska.1 Additionally, Mr. Raymond-Yakoubian has been closely engaged in the development of the fishery ecosystem plan for the Bering Sea, and has helped build and lead a coalition of indigenous organizations and communities seeking to advance incorporation of traditional knowledge into the Council process. Last, having worked across the Arctic and Bering Sea regions, Mr. Raymond-Yakoubian has developed relationships and built trust with many of the indigenous communities with whom the Council wishes to engage as they seek to improve the use and application of social science.

Mr. Raymond-Yakoubian would be a positive and needed addition to the SSPT and we encourage your strong consideration of his nomination. Thank you in advance for your time and attention on this matter.

Sincerely,

Steve Marx
Officer, U.S. Oceans, Pacific
The Pew Charitable Trusts
smarx@pewtrusts.org

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September 26, 2018

Sarah Marrinan
Social Science Planning Team
North Pacific Fisheries Management Council
Sent via email to: sarah.marrinan@noaa.gov
CC’d to Council Executive Director, David Witherell@noaa.gov

Re: City of Saint George nomination of Brenden Raymond-Yakoubian to the Social Science Planning Team of the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council

Dear Ms. Marrinan,

On behalf of the City of Saint George we nominate Mr. Brenden Raymond-Yakoubian to the Social Science Planning Team. Saint George Island is an Unangan community that heavily depends on the flora and fauna – subsistence and fisheries resources of the Bering Sea.

We believe that your appointment of someone such as Mr. Raymond-Yakoubian, a person with substantial experience of working with coastal indigenous communities of the Western Alaska and fully appreciative and aware of the Alaska Native Traditional Knowledge and role of the Marine Subsistence for the people of Alaska.

Thank you for your consideration of this nomination. Please contact me if you have any further question or need additional information (907-859-2263 ext.23)

Sincerely,

Patrick Piemikoff
Mayor
September 19, 2018

Sarah Marrinan
Social Science Planning Team
North Pacific Fisheries Management Council
Sent via email to: sarah.marrinan@noaa.gov.
CC’d to Council Executive Director, David Witherell: david.witherell@noaa.gov

Re: Kawerak nomination of Brenden Raymond-Yakoubian to the Social Science Planning Team of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Dear Ms. Marrinan,

On behalf of Kawerak we nominate Mr. Brenden Raymond-Yakoubian to the Social Science Planning Team. Kawerak is the Alaska Native non-profit Tribal consortium for the Bering Strait region. We have 20 member Tribes and are directed by a Board consisting of the Presidents of the Tribes, two Elder representatives, and a representative of the regional health care organization. Kawerak is an organization that provides programs and services to western Alaska communities.

Mr. Raymond-Yakoubian has been affiliated with, and collaborating with, Kawerak for over 5 years on a variety of social science issues and projects, including federal fisheries related work. He has represented Kawerak at NPFMC meetings, including at the SSC, Ecosystem Committee, FEP Team, and other Council-related meetings. Brenden is intimately familiar with the concerns, issues and knowledge of the Tribes and communities of the Bering Strait region, as well as other parts of the state, as relates to fisheries, the marine environment, research and social science. He has, among other efforts, co-led Kawerak social science research projects about Traditional Knowledge of fish and marine mammals in the region. Brenden has also led the facilitation of a coalition of indigenous organizations and communities in the development of extensive comments to the Council’s Fisheries Ecosystem Plan Team. He has worked extensively with Tribes, Tribal members and communities.

Mr. Raymond-Yakoubian has undergraduate and graduate degrees in Anthropology and extensive knowledge of and practical experience with anthropological method and theory and its application to fisheries-related topics. Among other topics, he has written and published on the issues of Traditional Knowledge, community engagement, and the use of social science in fisheries management. Brenden has also worked extensively across the state of Alaska, in dozens of communities, on other Traditional Knowledge and social science projects outside of the Bering Strait region.
Kawerak considers Mr. Raymond-Yakoubian to be an expert in documenting and working with Traditional Knowledge and TK holders, in working with Alaska Native coastal communities, and in the field of anthropology (including anthropological method, theory and application) – especially as these relate to fisheries and marine resources, subsistence, and research.

We believe that your appointment of someone such as Mr. Raymond-Yakoubian, a person with strong ties to and experience with coastal and Tribal communities and also the field of anthropology, would greatly benefit the work of the SSPT. We strongly recommend him for appointment to the SSPT.

Thank you for your consideration of this nomination. Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information (mbahnke@kawerak.org, 907-443-5231).

Sincerely,
KAWERAK, INC.

[Signature]
Melanie Bahnke
President

Enclosure: Curriculum Vitae, Brenden Raymond-Yakoubian
CV: Brenden Raymond-Yakoubian

Statement of Qualifications
My educational background is mainly in anthropology; I have a BA, MA, and am currently a PhD Candidate, all in anthropology. I have worked on social science projects spanning over two decades in over four dozen communities across Alaska. I am considered an expert in areas relating to Local and Traditional Knowledge, natural resource policy and management, subsistence, and the relationship between research and communities. I have been published on the topic of integrating Traditional Knowledge (TK) into Alaska federal fishery management, and have been the lead facilitator for a partnership of indigenous communities and organizations making inputs related to indigenous concerns, perspectives, and knowledge (including TK) to the Council's Bering Sea Fishery Ecosystem Plan team. Over roughly the past five years, I have worked extensively on projects with Alaska Native communities and organizations across western Alaska, with a particular though not exclusive focus on the Bering Strait and Norton Sound regions. This has included work on TK of walrus, TK of salmon and environmental change, the incorporation of TK into federal fishery management, the integration of TK in ecological mapping, and the relationships between research processes and indigenous communities. In addition to having worked with many Alaska Native organizations, tribes and communities, during my career I have performed work that was with, in, or funded by the National Science Foundation, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, US Forest Service, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Army National Guard, University of Alaska, North Pacific Research Board, Audubon Alaska, Pew Charitable Trusts, and the Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim Sustainable Salmon Initiative.

Education
• University of Chicago, Department of Anthropology: PhD Candidate, ABD Status (All But Dissertation) (Current)
• University of Tartu (Estonia), Semiotics and Theory of Culture: Visiting Student (2006)
• University of Alaska-Fairbanks, Department of Anthropology: M.A. (2000)
• Cornell University, Department of Anthropology and Department of Archaeology: B.A. (double major) (1998)

Selected Positions, Appointments, & Memberships
• Current: Registered Professional Archaeologist (2005 and 2016-present)
• Research Assistant, University of Chicago, for Dr. Michael Silverstein (2007)
• Teaching Assistant, Research Assistant, and Instructor, University of Alaska Fairbanks (1998-2004, except between Fall 2002 and Spring 2004)
• Assistant Crew Chief and Archaeologist Technician, Northern Land Use Research, Inc. (2001)
• Archaeologist Technician, National Park Service (2000)
CV: Brenden Raymond-Yakoubian
brenden@SandhillCultureCraft.com

- Archaeologist Technician, Bureau of Land Management (1999)
- Archaeological Program Assistant, University of Alaska Museum, University of Alaska Fairbanks (1998)
- Archaeological Program Assistant, University of Alaska Fairbanks archaeological field school (1997)

Selected Honors & Awards
- (2011) Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant, National Science Foundation
- (2005-2009) Fellowship for graduate studies, University of Chicago Division of Social Sciences
- (2000) University of Alaska Fairbanks Graduate School Thesis Research Tuition Scholarship
- (1999) University of Alaska Museum Geist Fund Award for M.A. field research
- (1998) Magna Cum Laude, Cornell University Department of Anthropology
- (1998) Golden Key National Honor Society, Cornell University
- (1998) Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, Cornell University
- (1998) Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society, Cornell University
- (1996-1997) Hirsch Scholarship, Cornell University Archaeology Program

Selected Papers, Presentations, Etc.


