

## **Sealaska Heritage Institute**

### **Cultural and Intellectual Property Rights Policy**

Sealaska Heritage Institute recognizes that under the traditional laws of the Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian, crests, songs, stories and names are considered to be real property and subject to defined protocols. We have of necessity and as a result of historical experience become exceedingly cautious and concerned about the use of our cultural and intellectual property and knowledge. We have been subject to widespread violations of our traditional laws along with mischaracterization of our cultural traditions and values. We realize that application of our traditional laws may in some instances conflict with western copyright and public law, but nevertheless, we continue to make assertions of ownership of our cultural and intellectual property and knowledge. Sealaska Heritage Institute commits itself to the full legal recognition of our traditional cultural and intellectual property and knowledge.

Sealaska Heritage Institute will implement the following process to ensure recognition of our cultural and intellectual property and knowledge and also to allow use of our intellectual property and knowledge for cultural, educational or scientific use:

SHI will review requests for the proposed use of our cultural and intellectual property to ensure that they will be used for cultural, educational or scientific purposes. If the cultural and intellectual property or knowledge is deemed to be appropriate for public cultural, educational or scientific use, SHI or the appropriate clan will allow the use if it is accompanied with a statement that acknowledges that the information is the cultural and intellectual property of the Southeast Alaska Indians or the appropriate clan.

If researchers or educators request to use cultural and intellectual property or knowledge that has been restricted from public use, SHI may agree to allow the use of the restricted intellectual property if the researcher agrees that SHI will be allowed to review the study or report prior to its publication and that the study will incorporate an SHI statement should SHI have a different perception of analysis than that the author.

SHI will charge a fee of \$50 per hour for the review process of responding to requests.

Adopted this 16<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2004.

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Dr. Soboleff, Chair  
Sealaska Heritage Institute