

**NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH ASSEMBLY
RESOLUTION 24-26**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHWEST ARCTIC
BOROUGH ASSEMBLY TO RECOMMEND A FINANCIAL
TRANSITION PLAN FOR THE SULIANICH ARTS CENTER,
AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS: the Borough is the home rule regional government for Northwest Alaska; and

WHEREAS: in 2000, the Borough formed Sulianich as the Borough's "Art Purchasing Program" located within the Borough building; and

WHEREAS: the art purchase program startup funding came from the Borough (\$75,000), Maniilaq (\$25,000), and NANA (\$25,000); and

WHEREAS: when this funding was depleted, the Borough began covering all operating costs until 2005 when the University of Alaska Chukchi Campus helped to secure funding from the Rasmuson Foundation to develop a new facility; and

WHEREAS: since that time, NANA has contributed to Sulianich in the form of a zero-dollar lease for its facility; and

WHEREAS: in 2006, the Borough formed Sulianich Association as a nonprofit Alaska Corporation, and in June 2009, the IRS certified Sulianich as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation classified as a public charity; and

WHEREAS: since formation, the Borough has provided financial and administrative support to ensure that Sulianich can meet its underlying purpose and financial needs; and

WHEREAS: despite this support, the Borough has long had the goal of making Sulianich a self-sustaining, independent organization that can operate without the Borough as its financial sponsor; and

WHEREAS: through past financial practices and accounting that the Borough provided for Sulianich, the Sulianich art purchasing fund has grown to approximately \$1.2m that can be utilized to establish an endowment fund to support Sulianich's financial independence; and

WHEREAS: by establishing an endowment for long-term investment, it will allow Sulianich to use endowment fund earnings to support Sulianich's ongoing operations while replacing a portion of the costs the Borough would otherwise directly pay from its General Fund; and

WHEREAS: in addition to establishment of an endowment, the Assembly recommends executing a memorandum of agreement (MOA) with Sulianich to lay out a three-year plan and timeline for the Borough's transition of financial, employment, and primary administrative functions to Sulianich; and

WHEREAS: the Assembly directs the Administration to work with the Sulianich Board of Directors to establish a three-year financial transition plan.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly directs the Administration to work with the Sulianich Board of Directors to establish a three-year financial transition plan while establishing an endowment using a portion of the current Sulianich fund balance.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 25th DAY OF JUNE 2024.



Nathan Hadley, Jr., Assembly President

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 25th DAY OF JUNE 2024.



Dickie Moto, Sr., Mayor

SIGNED AND ATTESTED TO THIS 25th DAY OF JUNE 2024.



Stella Atoruk, Borough Clerk

ATTEST:

