

October 26, 2010

Shishmaref IRA Council
P.O. Box 72110
Shishmaref, Alaska 99772

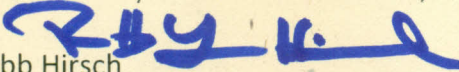
Dear Shishmaref IRA Council:

I am writing on behalf of the Climate Change Leadership Institute (CCLI), a non-profit organization based out of Santa Fe, New Mexico. We believe that the United States of America can and must correct her mistakes and be at the forefront in achieving a sustainable way of life on earth, and we think this work is best done through the following principles: education, direct action, justice, innovation, and stewardship.

Every year CCLI gives a Justice Grant, the purpose of which is to recognize and make amends for the fact that human and wildlife communities around the less developed regions of the world are being unduly affected by the severity of human-induced climate change which is caused predominantly by the most developed world. It is estimated that in coming years most of the displaced people on our planet will not be fleeing their home due to war but due to climate change related environmental disasters. As a village, Shishmaref is an early victim of the effects of climate change. And the United States, as the highest historical per capita emitter of greenhouse gases of any nation, has a responsibility to actively seek compensation and restitution for the peoples and wildlife communities that have been irrevocably harmed by our exorbitant climate pollution. For the sake of human dignity as well as justice for all and in the spirit of reconciliation, CCLI wishes to provide a gesture of good will to those unduly affected by the U.S. driven climate pollution.

This year we award the 2010 CCLI Justice Grant to the community of Shishmaref to help in your relocation and revival. The loss of not only your homes but also the island home that has supported a beautiful culture is a loss that should be felt in the hearts of all people who hear the Shishmaref story. We hope that this small gesture which includes a financial prize and feature on our website can help you in your efforts to persevere and join in solidarity with what is a universal solution – all of us embracing ways of clean energy and conservation for the sake of future generations.

With sincerity and our best wishes,


Robb Hirsch
Executive Director and Founder