



# BERING STRAITS NATIVE CORPORATION AGLUKTUK

Volume XXXV

June 2009

## Denali Commission presents BSNC with Sustainability Award

Bering Straits Native Corporation was awarded the Sustainability Award on March 19, 2009, from the Denali Commission. BSNC was honored and recognized for the work of its subsidiaries, Bering Strait Development Company (BSDC) and Eagle Electric, LLC.

BSDC and Eagle Electric took it upon themselves to promote workforce development in the Bering Straits Region by creating an apprenticeship program in the construction trades. The Bering Strait Regional Apprenticeship Program (BSRAP) was approved by the Department of Labor/Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training in October 2005. BSNC started this workforce initiative in 2000 and now sponsors five of the ten active apprentices in the BSRAP, which is coordinated by Kawerak. The State of Alaska has used the BSRAP model for the creation of its own program and the Denali Commission has sponsored this program through two successive grants.

The Sustainability award recognizes and supports those working to ensure the long-term health, viability, and stability of their community. This requires understanding both the short- and long-term factors that affect the community. The organization's planning should anticipate many factors, such as changes in community and societal expectations and needs, new business, workforce development, and technological developments.



Tony Parsons, BSDC Construction Manager, accepts the Sustainability Award from George Cannelos, Federal Co-Chair for the Denali Commission.

## BSNC Board Plans for Future Growth

The Board of BSNC developed long-term strategies for increasing profits during a strategic planning retreat on February 16 and 17. Corporate profits have been on a steady upward climb for the past five years. The goal of the retreat was to develop strategies to keep profits growing during next five years.

All 15 members of the Board of directors were present. These

included Henry Ivanoff, Tim Towarak, Gail Schubert, Eugene Asicksik, Roy Ashenfelter, Clara Langton, Homer Hoogendorn, Percy Nayokpuk, Louise Bauman, Fred Sagoonick, Neal Foster, Steve Ivanoff, Eileen Norbert, Lincoln Trigg, and Tony Weyiouanna. Also present were staff members Wally Powers, Matt Ganley, Jenette Paulson, Jerald Brown, Peggy Hoogendorn, and Kimberly Gooden.

The retreat was facilitated by Financial Inc., a consulting firm owned by BSNC shareholder Jason Evans. Jason co-facilitated the session with former Nome resident David Hoffman.

The retreat began with a briefing on the world-wide economic picture by San Francisco-based investment experts Melody McDonald and Jeff Stabler of RCM Capital Management.

~continued on page 3

## BERING STRAITS NATIVE CORPORATION Notice of Annual Meeting of Shareholders

Saturday, October 3, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.  
in Nome, Alaska



# BSNC Greetings

Tim Towarak, President/CEO

Welcome spring time! As most of you remember, our winters in the region are mostly enjoyable being able to get out snow machining, dog teaming, taking long winter walks, or reading a good book in a warm, comfortable home while enjoying visitors and drinking a hot cup of coffee or tea. On the other hand, we always welcome the change in weather, the additional sunlight every day increasing by 5-8 minutes a day, and appreciating spring's arrival this year is no exception.

March 31, 2009 ended our business year. Some time this summer you will receive our annual report of FY 2009's business activity. Even with the downturn of the national and world economy, BSNC will probably report another record year of growth in income. Because of the changes the BSNC Board of Directors made about 10 years ago to focus on providing services to the federal government, our revenues have increased considerably during that period.



While we are grateful for our continued growth, we are also hopeful for successes in our region. The local regional economy was given a great boost when Nova Gold began the construction of the Rock Creek Mining facility. Its closure was a surprise to the region and we hope they will be able to resume their original plans and get back to playing an important role in our region's economy. Currently, NovaGold and Alaska Gold Company are proceeding with plans to address outstanding issues at the mine with a goal towards beginning production in the not-so-distant future.

Another local news item within the region was the declaration of bankruptcy of the Catholic Bishop of North America Diocese based out of Fairbanks who owns all of their properties in Western Alaska including Radio Station KNOM and the Pilgrim Hot Springs. The BSNC board feels that the Pilgrim Hot Springs could have a long term effect on our economy through tourism, health healing and cultural value development, and possibly as an alternative energy source further down the road. We will continue our ongoing efforts for gaining an interest in the future of the Pilgrim Hot Springs. The governments are creating tax incentives, grants and bureaucratic support towards this type of development. The 18 wind mills installed at Banner Peak was done to take advantage of these programs which will accelerate a return on investment for both BSNC and Sitnasuak Native Corporation. BSNC will continue looking at means of spreading this cost reducing program to all of our villages in the region.

BSNC has come a long way in the last few years and benefits are starting to reach our shareholders. As far as we can see in the foreseeable future, that growth can and will continue with the support of all shareholders. It is hard to understand exactly how corporations make our lives better, but as we continue our growth, it is getting easier and easier to see the positive role BSNC and village corporations are having not only in our region but also the role they are playing both on a statewide and national level. The BSNC Board always appreciates the support of our shareholders towards that success.

## *BSNC Mission Statement*

*To improve the quality of life of our people through economic development while protecting our land, and preserving our cultural heritage.*

# ANCs: Obama pledge on Iraq contracts won't affect us

By Margaret Bauman  
Alaska Journal of Commerce

It was a brief sentence toward the end of President Barack Obama's speech to a joint session of Congress Feb. 24.

"We'll eliminate the no-bid contracts that have wasted billions (of dollars) in Iraq," Obama said.

Then, on March 4, Obama ordered an overhaul of the way the government hands out contracts, promising to curtail no-bid awards that have led to waste, abuse and corruption investigations.

"The days of giving defense contractors a blank check are over," said Obama, who added that such changes could save up to \$40 billion a year.

The president's message targeted in particular no-bid contracts, to allow for more competition for government-paid work.

Four spokespersons for Alaska Native firms that have been involved in lucrative federal no-bid contracting said they were aware of Obama's comments in his address Feb. 24 to the nation, but said they were sure the president

wasn't talking about them.

"I don't think President Obama was speaking to Alaska Native corporations or small businesses in general when he made that statement," said Sarah Lukin, vice president of external relations for Alutiiq LLC and the Afognak Native Corp. "We don't expect it to have an impact on our business."

It's unclear how many Alaska Native firms are currently working directly in, or in support of, the Iraq war efforts. It is clear, however, that the success of dozens of Alaska Native corporations and their subsidiaries have come through their heavy involvement in government work that has been awarded through sole-source, no-bid contracts. Some contracts have totaled in the billions of dollars.

Some 38 percent of federal contracting dollars are awarded through no-bid contracts, and Alaska Native corporations and American Indian tribes nationwide collectively take less than 1 percent of federal procurement dollars, Lukin said.

Alaska Native corporations and their subsidiaries are among some 200 Alaska firms certified through the U.S. Small Business Administration

as small, disadvantaged businesses that are owned by Native Americans, according to the SBA Alaska division.

All 8(a)-certified companies are eligible to participate in no-bid, sole-source government contracts. The majority of contracts are limited to \$3 million or \$5 million, depending on the type of work.

The SBA 8(a) certification is open to socially and economically disadvantaged individuals, such as minorities or veterans. Its aim is to help these businesses gain experience, earn some money, then move to competitive bidding.

But federal law gives one special provision - a move driven by former Alaska Sen. Ted Stevens - to companies where Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians or American Indians own at least a 51 percent majority: Native-owned companies have no limits on contract amounts.

Those reached for comment on Obama's message on no-bid Iraq contracts said they did not believe they currently had contracts relating to the war efforts.

~continued on page 4

## Future Growth

~continued from page 1

RCM primarily manages large portfolios for public investment funds, including the Alaska State Retirement Board. The RCM presentation was entitled "*How did we get here? What went wrong with the world financial system?*"

The next agenda item was a briefing on issues relating to the SBA 8 (a) program by Karen Atkinson, Executive Director of Native American Contractor's Association (NACA). Karen stated that numerous Congressional committees are currently reviewing the 8 (a) program. Additionally, the Obama Administration has indicated that government acquisition reform will be an issue on which it will focus considerable attention. At this point it appears most likely that if there are any adverse changes to the Alaska Native Corporation (ANC) 8 (a) program those changes would focus primarily on very large contracts obtained by ANCs in a non-competitive or sole source manner.

A large part of the first day was spent reviewing the financial performance of BSNC over the past ten years. Both revenues and profits have grown dramatically since 2005, when BSNC began to focus on government contracting, through the 8 (a) program. Pretax profits reached a record high in 2008 at approximately \$11 million and projections

indicate that profits for the year ending March 31, 2009 will be approximately \$14 ½ million. The upward profit trend has been primarily a result of these elements:

- Rising revenues and favorable profit margins on 8 (a) contracts
- Careful control of General and Administrative expenses
- Increasing 7 (i) resource revenues from other ANCSA corporations

A significant amount of discussion focused on the ability of BSNC to increase its revenues over the coming five year period. One major challenge resulting from the favorable growth trend will be a strain on available working capital. However, BSNC is well poised to continue its four-year trend of significant growth.

Following a review of the financial status of the corporation, there was a discussion of key strategic issues that were identified by senior staff members prior to the workshop. These issues focused on growth and future investments. The outcome of the workshop was the preparation of corporate policies and action items relating to BSNC's continued growth in a financially sound manner.

## Iraq Contracts won't effect us ~continued from page 3

"There are very, very few contractors working in Iraq or Afghanistan under 8(a) contracts," said Barney Uhart, executive director of Chugach Native Corp. "We didn't want to put any of our folks in a war zone." Arctic Slope Regional Corp., which in the past has had 8(a) contracts related to operations in Iraq, did not respond to initial inquiries made just after Obama's speech. Reached March 3, spokeswoman Mary Gasperlin said the person in her company who had that information was busy and it would take several days to comment.

The government doesn't seem to know either. The SBA, which oversees the certification program, could not provide any information regarding any contracts that Alaska Native 8(a) firms may currently or formerly have had in Iraq or Afghanistan. The Federal Procurement Data System, which tracks contracts, doesn't track data according to where companies are based.

The U.S. Government Accountability Office has investigated 8(a) contracting by Alaska Native corporations. The GAO in April 2006 released a report on contract management of the Alaska Native corporations' special 8(a) provisions.

The GAO found that while representing a small amount of total federal procurement spending, 8(a) obligations to firms owned by ANCs increased from \$265 million in fiscal 2000 to \$1.1 billion in 2004. In fiscal year 2004, obligations to ANC firms represented 13 percent of total 8(a) dollars, the GAO report said.

The report specifically noted two ANCs under contract in support of the Iraq effort.

ASRC Airfield and Range Services Inc. had a \$50 million Department of Defense contract to work in Iraq training and equipping security guards.

Bowhead Manufacturing Co. LLC had a \$33 million contract with the Department of Defense for the distribution of water and fuel tanks to U.S. storage sites in support of the Iraq war. Phone numbers for Bowhead are no longer in service.

Leaders in Alaska Native corporations say they don't believe sole-source contracts with their companies is wasteful. Helvi Sandvik, executive director of NANA Development Corp., she doesn't view the president's statement as a threat to the 8(a) programs. "There seems to be a misconception that 8(a)s are the only sole source contracts," she said.

Gail Schubert, an executive with Bering Straits Native Corp. agreed. "I think when you look at the no-bid or sole source contracts that the Alaska Natives and we in particular have received, you will find there is not the kind of waste that the president appears to think there is," Schubert said. "The contracts are useful to the (federal) agencies. They don't have the time to do a competitive bid and review it.

"The Alaska Native corporations comprise such a small percentage of the sole source work, that we are a blip on the radar screen," she added.

Rep. Don Young, R-Alaska, meanwhile said in a release that he had won a victory for Alaska small businesses in the federal economic stimulus bill.

Young said the Senate version of the bill included a provision that appeared to prohibit use of programs administered by the SBA designed for procurement through minority-owned business enterprises, women-owned businesses, veteran and service disabled veteran programs and the SBA's 8(a) programs.

Young said he worked with Democrats in Congress to make a case for these programs, and was able to get the provision pulled from the bill.

"I was approached by members of the Alaska Federation of Natives with concerns about this provision," Young said in a statement issued in mid-February. "I told them that no matter if I supported this bill or not, I would make sure they were not hurt by it.

"These programs are a success and are working just as Congress intended," he said. "Through these programs, community-based projects function as an economic driver for Alaska Natives and Alaska small businesses, and empower organizations to provide benefits to entire communities and

regions throughout our state."

The limitations on subcontracting require that an 8(a) contractor doing a service contract for the federal government must perform 51 percent of the contract with their own people, and many of the big companies have no desire to do 49 percent and work for a small business, Uhart said.

As for tightening up on the no-bid contracts, that has been a focus of the government for a long time, he said. Under the Obama administration, Uhart said he thinks there will be more of a focus on transparency and accountability.

"An 8(a) contract is unlike a competitive contract in a lot of ways," Uhart said. "In an open competition, the support documentation for pricing is not provided as part of the proposal to the government. In 8(a), those are negotiated contracts. The government gets to see all the numbers up front. Every element of the cost proposal is exposed to the government negotiators, and the government has the ability to pick it apart and choose what they want."

Uhart also argued that reporting requirements for the SBA 8(a) contracts are more onerous than reporting in a competitive environment.

"There's no doubt that there has been a lot of attention paid to the fact that Alaska Natives have been very successful; that they have positioned themselves with companies that are able to take advantage of or utilize the program as it was intended by Congress," Sandvik said. "It's unfair to paint a broad brush and assume that anybody who has been successful in business has done so by violating the rules. We have worked hard to learn the business and we deliver great value with our companies.

"We will fight to keep the 8(a) program," Sandvik said. "There is a need to make sure it is understood and the impact it has had on Alaska Natives and other economically disadvantaged peoples. It is doing some good. It would be inappropriate to single out economically disadvantaged people."

# New BSNC Employees at the Anchorage Office



George Sookiayak is a BSNC descendent from Shaktoolik. George started working for the IT Department in April 2009 as IT Tech Support Specialist. In his new position George will provide technical support for BSNC and subsidiary employees such as routine maintenance, configuration, web development, and deployment of all areas of technology.

"After doing web design and development for the last eight years, I am very excited to take on a new aspect of Information Technology," said George. Prior to working for BSNC, he worked for Morris Alaska, ChangePoint Alaska, Chugachmiut Inc., and Southcentral Foundation in various roles and capacities of graphic design and web development. He has plans of going back to school and attended the University of Alaska Anchorage to study public communication during the 2009 fall semester.

George is the son of George H. Sookiayak from Shaktoolik and Harriet Slwooko, who is now living and working in Kotzebue.



Michel Tanner was hired at the Assistant Operations Manager for Bering Straits Information Technology (BSIT) in April 2009. BSIT is a wholly owned subsidiary of BSNC. As Assistant Operations Manager for BSIT, Michel will be responsible for assisting in the management,

administration and planning of broad range commercial and Government contracts and projects.

"I'm excited about the opportunity to be able to learn about all BSIT contacts and to eventually see the sites and meet everyone that is involved," Michel said of her new job.

Michel moved to this great state five years ago from Maui, Hawaii and before that she lived in Japan for eight years. She received her Bachelor Degree in Business Administration Management from UAA in May. In the summer she will start working towards her MBA. She looks forward to meeting and working with everyone.

Bella Ryan is a shareholder of BSNC and daughter of the late Fred Ryan Jr. and Karen Bradley of Unalakleet. Bella started working as a Payroll Clerk in March 2009 and has enjoyed learning more about BSNC.

"I've learned quite a lot within the first couple of weeks I've been here and definitely enjoy working in the payroll field. It's new and different and I look forward to having the opportunity to learn from a great group of people," said Bella.

As payroll clerk Bella is responsible for ensuring timely and accurate payment of paychecks for five companies. Her job includes importing and exporting time sheets,



making sure reports are accurate, printing checks, direct depositing checks, entering data, and filing.

Bella graduated from Frank A. Degnan High School in 2006 in Unalakleet and looks forward to continue taking classes at UAA this fall.

To learn more about job opportunities with BSNC please contact Human Resource staff

Norma Nashalook  
907-334-8322  
nnashalook@inuitservices.com

Sharon Westlake  
907-334-8310  
swestlake@inuitservices.com

BSNC Anchorage Office  
907-563-3788  
907-334-8315 (fax)

[www.beringstraits.com](http://www.beringstraits.com)

# Village Corporation Land Planners Meet

On April 16, 2009, BSNC Land and Resource department hosted a semi-annual meeting for the Village Corporation Land Planners. The meetings are held in April and October and the agendas include presentations by federal and state agencies, as well as updates on BSNC's land and resource related activities. BSNC President & CEO Tim Towarak opened the meeting, welcomed the village representatives, and provided an update on BSNC's activities.

Steve Titus of DOT/PF discussed the current studies being conducted for the Western Alaska Transportation Study. Village representatives expressed their interest, in regard to construction, employment and training, as well as their concerns about trespassing and potential pressure on local resources if

a road were to be constructed through the region. Mr. Titus noted that the project is only in the study phase and that opportunities for public participation would increase as more information becomes available.

Tom Sparks, the BLM Field Officer for Nome, assisted BSNC staff in opening discussions related to navigable waters, and the differences between waters determined navigable by the state and those identified by the federal government.

Alternative energy, particularly the role of wind farms in the region's communities, occupied a good portion of the afternoon session. BSNC staff provided information about how to set aside and lease village corporation land for wind farm installations. Jerald Brown discussed the Banner Wind project, a joint venture between BSNC

and Sitnasuak Native Corporation. Five villages in the region have already implemented wind farm projects or have been approached by local utility companies to consider wind farms on village lands.

A surprise visit from Senator Lisa Murkowski's staff, Bobby Walsh and Karen Knutson, introduced to the group by Tim Towarak, offered the opportunity for the Village representatives to speak with the Senator's staff about issues facing their communities.

BSNC will be hosting another Village Corporation Land Planners meeting in October. BSNC appreciates the great attendance at these meetings and look forward to continuing this on-going, constructive dialog about resource and land concerns with the Village Corporations.



Left to Right: Maggie Ann Moses of Golovin Native Corp., Lucy Kitchen of Wales Native Corp., Irene Kakarak of Mary's Igloo Native Corp., and Matilda Nayokpuk of Brevig Mission Native Corp. take notes as they listen to presenters.



Karen Knutson, Chief of Staff for Senator Lisa Murkowski, listened to concerns from meeting participants.



Left to Right: Irene Navarro of Golovin Native Corp., Ellen Hunt of Shaktoolik Native Corp., Larry Ivanoff of Unalakleet Native Corp., and Frank Kavairlook Sr. of Koyuk Native Corp. participated in the Village Corporation Land Planners meeting in April at Nome.

## Harris Promoted to Contracts Administrator

Haven Harris was promoted to Contracts Administrator for BSNC in March 2009. As Contracts Administrator, Haven is responsible for focusing on management of subcontracts with our teaming partners and tracking amendments and modifications to the contracts. Haven is based in our Anchorage office.

Haven previously was a Proposal Coordinator and said "I have enjoyed learning the proposal process and look forward to learning government contracting procedures while still assisting the business development team on proposals." Haven is continuing his pursuit of a Masters in Business Administration degree and is scheduled to finish the program in December 2009.

Haven is a BSNC shareholder and the son of Denise Warnke Barengo, grandson of Marge Apok Tropher, and great grandson of Robert and Martha Apok.



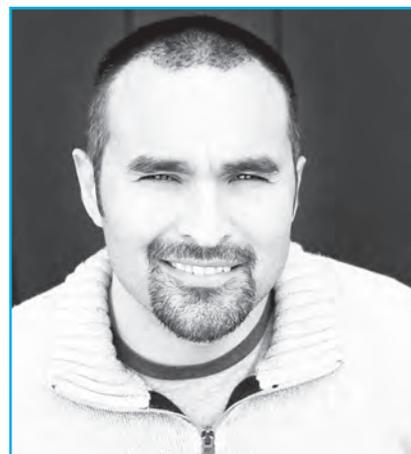
## Pederson hired as Land and Resource Assistant

BSNC shareholder Larry Pederson was hired as BSNC's Land and Resource Assistant in December 2008. His responsibilities include assisting Matt Ganley, Land and Resource Vice President, and Irene Anderson, Land and Resource Manager, in the daily activities such as filing, billing, office organization and assisting customers and shareholders with land needs. Currently, Larry is working with shareholders on updating campsite files. He also works with land records, maps, and operates and manages the Snow Cat Tours.

Prior to coming to BSNC Larry worked for six years at Bristol Environmental and Engineering Services in Anchorage as an Environmental Scientist/Specialist. The last two years he was employed with NovaGold Nome Operations at the Rock Creek Mine as Environmental Supervisor/Sr. Coordinator.

"It gives me pride in having the ability to do my part in a field that affects not only me and my family's future but all shareholders' futures," said Larry of his new position at BSNC. He also enjoys the opportunity to learn about the regional land status and issues and the ability to work with and for fellow BSNC shareholders for the betterment of present and future.

Larry received a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Biology from Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado in December 2000. He is the son of Annie (Pederson) Bailey of Fairbanks and his grandparents are the late Steve and Kitty Pederson of Council. Larry is married to Esther (Nagaruk) from Elim and they have two kids, Sienna and Levi. Larry received scholarships from the Bering Straits Foundation while attending college.



### **Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation**

Business grant opportunities of up to \$35,000

SMALL BUSINESS INITIATIVE 2009  
Applications are due by July 15, 2009

Do you have a small business idea?

Do you want to enhance or expand your small  
business?

Applications now available at [www.nsedc.com](http://www.nsedc.com)

For questions or more Information contact:

Paul Ivanoff III  
(800) 385-3190 or [pivanoff@nsedc.com](mailto:pivanoff@nsedc.com)

Katie Peterson  
(877) 938-6542 or [katie@nsedc.com](mailto:katie@nsedc.com)

Tiffany Martinson  
(888) 650-2477 or [tiffany@nsedc.com](mailto:tiffany@nsedc.com)

# Artists Succeeds in College and Traditional Art

Bering Straits Native Corporation recently contracted with carver Jimmy Carlisle to etch the company logo on a large mammoth tusk which will be incorporated into a sign in the Anchorage office lobby. The tusk was purchased from Rex Koenig in April of 2008 during BSNC's open house at the Anchorage office.

Jimmy Carlisle was born in 1962 to Gemma Koyuk of King Island and Johnny Carlisle of Little Rock, Arkansas. Raised in Nome, Jimmy served in the Alaska National Guard from 1980 to 1989 and later worked for Bering Straits Foundation and BSNC Land and Resource Department. He began carving at the age of seven, learning some of his skills from such noted carvers as Sylvester Ayek, Joachim Koyuk, and other King Island carvers, whom he had encounters with. Though he's encountered some difficulties and setbacks along the way these have not deterred Jimmy's enthusiasm for life and desire to continue his education. Currently Jimmy is completing his Associate's degree in Applied Science with an emphasis on Technical Graphics.

Paying tuition and bills in Anchorage are expensive but scholarships have helped, most notably from BSF, Kawerak, Inc., NSEDC, and the State Office of Vocational Rehabilitation. Still, he considers himself a full-time carver and it's not unusual for him to work all night on projects in his shop when he's meeting deadlines or finishing a big order. His artwork is in high demand and he's thankful for the income he derives from his skills.

Living in Anchorage, while attending college, has its benefits and drawbacks Jimmy has learned. He noted that his daughters Melissa and Rebecca are doing well in school and their education is central to any decision he may make in the future to relocate. But Jimmy also regrets not being near his family and community in Nome, a sacrifice he's willing to make for now in order to complete his education, which he'll complete this year. Maintaining a 3.10 GPA is a deserved source of pride for Jimmy, and he looks forward to seeking employment in the drafting and mapping fields, preferably in land management or with a mining company. When asked about the challenges he has faced and obstacles he has overcome and how he might advise young people, he said "Hold your head up and keep seeking your goals." Coming from someone who has faced tough times and continues to overcome, with humor and positive energy, the challenges life throws at him, this is good advice. BSNC would like to say "Quyanna" to Jimmy for the beautiful artwork and for the inspiration others may find in his work.



## Alaska Native Health Resource Advocate Program

The Alaska Native Health Resource Advocate Program (ANHRAP) is a joint effort on behalf of Southcentral Foundation and CIRI to provide information and referral services to Alaska Native people. ANHRAP assists Alaska Native people by identifying, locating and connecting with health, social, educational, legal, employment, disability, treatment, housing, and other programs and/or services. Interviews are conducted over the telephone. Client's residing in the Seattle-Tacoma area of Washington can request an appointment to meet with the ANHRAP supervisor at a convenient designated location.

### Information and referral services include:

- Listening to individual customer needs and researching appropriate available resources.
- Linking customers in the areas of health care services, social services and educational options.
- Empowering customers by linking the customer with requested appropriate and available information, resources and/or agency contact information.

For assistance identifying and locating available resources and services in your area please contact the Alaska Native Health Resource Advocate Program.

### Contact Information:

Phone: (253) 835-0101	Southcentral Foundation
Toll Free: (866) 575-6757	ANHRAP
Fax: (907) 729-5033	PO Box 2045
	Milton, WA 98354-2045



## BSNC announces \$225,000 Contribution to Foundation

At their May 21 meeting, the Bering Straits Native Corporation (BSNC) Board of Directors approved a \$225,000 contribution to the Bering Straits Foundation, BSNC announced today. Of that amount, \$175,000 will be spent on scholarships and \$50,000 towards FY10 operations.

"This donation is a reflection of the BSNC and Bering Straits Foundation mission statements," BSNC Chairman Henry Ivanoff said. "With this funding, we're putting into action our commitment to supporting our shareholders' educational and career goals."

"The purpose of the Bering Straits Foundation is to provide opportunities for our shareholders

to build strong and stable Native communities by investing in their educational/vocational future while grounding them in the Native cultural values and traditions of our people," Foundation Executive Vice President Kirsten Timbers said. "Our goal is to provide education and training opportunities for every shareholder who knocks on our door, making this happen through partnerships with like-minded entities."

The BSF provides vocational education and higher education scholarships, and fellowships, for shareholders and lineal decedents. From fall 2008 to spring 2009, the Foundation approved 238 scholarships totaling more than \$180,000, 38 of



Tim Towarak, BSNC President & CEO presents a check for \$225,000 to BSF EVP Kirsten Timbers and Intern Miles Reader.

which were to vocational institutions and 200 were issued to colleges and universities.

## Giftng Shares

Under the 1991 Amendments to the ANCSA (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.), you may only give stock to a person who is your child, grandchild, great-grandchild, niece, nephew, brother or sister and who is also a Native or descendent of a Native. H.R. 3157 "The Alaska Land Status Technical Corrections Act of 1992," allows for gift of stock to siblings. The law defines a Native as a person who is at least one-fourth degree Alaska Indian, Eskimo or Aleut blood, or any combination; a descendant of a Native is a lineal descendant (child, grandchild, great-grandchild, etc.) of a Native or an adoptee of a Native or descendant of a Native is who is adopted before the age of 18. Once your gift is completed on the corporate books, the recipient of your shares will own and have all the stock rights for those shares, including the right to vote the shares at the shareholder meetings, to receive dividends and distributions on the shares, to bequeath the shares upon death, or to give the shares to a relative. Once gifting is completed, you will have no rights with respect to the shares you gave away.

If you are interested in the gifting process, please contact the Shareholder Department of BSNC at P.O. Box 1008, Nome, AK 99762 or call us at 907-443-5252 or toll-free at 1-800-478-5079.

Please note that if you are a shareholder of the village corporations of Sitnasuak (907 443-2632), Unalakleet (907 624-3411), Stebbins (907 934-3281) or Shishmaref (907 649-3751) and you wish to gift at the village level, you must contact the respective village corporation to request information and forms directly from them.

## Do you need to update your shareholder contact information?

Please complete the form below and mail to BSNC, Shareholder Department, Box 1008, Nome, AK 99762. If you know of a deceased BSNC shareholder, please advise our office.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ New Name\*: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security #: \_\_\_\_\_

Custodian for BSNC Shareholder: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\* For a name change, you must include the legal document for record.

# Bering Straits Foundation Programs

The purpose of the Bering Straits Foundation is to provide opportunities for our Bering Straits shareholders to build strong and stable Native communities by investing in their educational/vocational future while grounding them in the Native cultural values and traditions of our people. The goal of the Foundation is to provide education and training opportunities for every shareholder who knocks on our door, making this happen through partnerships with like-minded entities.

Our mission is to enrich the lives of our people and strengthen self-sufficiency by supporting educational goals, cultural heritage and traditional values.

The goal of the Foundation is to provide education and training opportunities for every shareholder who knocks on our door, making this happen through partnerships with like-minded entities. The Bering Straits Foundation provides vocational education and higher education scholarships for shareholders and lineal decedents as well as fellowships and coordinates a mentorship program.

## Seward Peninsula Application Network Scholarship (SPANS)

*“A joint effort to guide you on the path to success”*

The Bering Straits Foundation has teamed up with Kawerak, Inc., Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation, Norton Sound Health Corporation, and Sitnasuak Foundation and created the Seward Peninsula Application Network Scholarship (SPANS) with the purpose of making the process of applying for scholarships easier and more efficient. The scholarships are available to college students and vocational education trainees.

Each organization requires much of the same information. After completing pages 3-5, turn them in to each organization you are applying for along with the required documents. Page 2 lists each organizations specific requirements for its application. If you are applying for the BSF scholarship, you must fill out page 8 of the application. This page is used in the process of determining your eligibility for the scholarship.

BSF has also created a Continuing SPANS application for continuing students. This application requires less paperwork than the regular SPANS application. Make sure to fill out the correct application.

Read through the SPANS scholarship packet carefully and turn in ALL your required documents before the deadline. The applications are available at: [www.beringstraits.com/foundation/scholarships](http://www.beringstraits.com/foundation/scholarships)

## Mentor Program

*“Passing on experience and expertise”*

Filling out college/vocational applications, scholarship applications, writing essays, and completing the FAFSA for the first time can be a confusing and a long process. Many of our scholarship recipients are first generation students who are not familiar with the application process. This is why the Foundation created the Mentoring Program. The program is designed to help first-time college/vocational applicants who have applied for the BSF scholarship make it through their first year of education.

If you are a college/vocational student or graduate and a recipient of the BSF scholarship, we encourage you to become a Foundation Mentor. A mentor's duty is to help prospective students complete college/vocational applications, scholarship applications, and any other paperwork that is entailed in the application process, and send care packages to the student during final exam time. It is also a good idea to share your knowledge of adjusting to living away from home and good study habits. Your assistance and guidance will help the student have a successful transition into higher education.

If you would like to become a mentor or if you are looking for a mentor, fill out the application available at: [www.beringstraits.com/foundation/mentor](http://www.beringstraits.com/foundation/mentor)

## Fellowship Program

*“Supporting Native values of the Bering Straits region”*

The Foundation offers fellowships to individuals who are going to attend non-credit workshops, conferences, or seminars approved by BSF. Fellowship awards are intended to broaden understanding and appreciation of Native education, culture, and society.

Fellowship awards may be granted to one person up to \$500 per calendar year based on available funding. Recipients should be prepared to discuss their cultural experiences with members of the BSF.

The application is one page long and includes your personal history, event information, financial information, and a statement of understanding.

Upon completion of the event, fellowship recipients must submit a Completion Form. The Completion Form consists of a brief summary of the event you attended, a financial information section informing us of how the fellowship was spent, and your signature. This form is required to be filled out completely and turned in to BSF before any future funding can be considered.

The fellowship application and completion forms are available at: [www.beringstraits.com/foundation/fellowships](http://www.beringstraits.com/foundation/fellowships)

Bering Straits Foundation offers scholarships to BSNC shareholders and lineal descendants who are enrolled to accredited vocational education or college institutions. It is with great pride that we recognize our Bering Straits Foundation graduates.

**Jennine Stebing** is the daughter of Ella Anagick and David Stebing. She obtained her BA from the University of Arizona in Spanish with a Portuguese Concentration and Latin American Studies. While pursuing her BA she studied abroad in Mexico, the Dominican Republic, and Brazil. She obtained her Masters in Public Policy (MPP) at Pepperdine University on April 17, 2009. She is currently finishing up her Masters in Dispute Resolution (MDR) at the Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution at Pepperdine University. She will graduate this summer. She also is completing an internship at the Tribal Law and Policy Institute in West Hollywood, California, where she is learning grant writing. Jennine hopes to eventually return to Alaska and serve the people. She is very grateful to have received funding from the Bering Straits Foundation and Kawerak throughout her undergraduate and graduate school endeavors. Congratulations Jennine!



Jennine Stebing

**Cameron Stiles** is the son of BSNC shareholders Don Stiles and Sue Luke of Nome. He is a 2006 graduate from Unalakleet High School. In February of 2009 he attended the Heavy Equipment Operators School of Oregon in Eugene. It is a six week training program that gives students the fundamental knowledge required to safely and effectively operate a dozer, front end loader, backhoe, excavator, roller, and grader. The curriculum for the training was both theoretical and practical. Cameron successfully completed the 240 hour course in March of 2009. Cameron now plans on finding steady employment in Nome. Congratulations Cameron and welcome home!



Aluki Brower

**Christine Omelak** is the daughter of Phoebe Omelak of Anchorage and Nome. Christine graduated April 14, 2009 from Career Academy with a Medical Assistant Specialist diploma. Her training comprised of classroom lecture combined with 144 hours of "On-the-Job" practical externship. Christine has been interested in the medical field for quite some time and wants to get a job in the medical field and continue her studies to later specialize in labor and delivery. Congratulations Christine!



Jerry West

**Pauline 'Aluki' Brower** is the daughter of Ernestine Mokiuyuk and Dave Brower. She graduated from the University of Alaska Southeast in Juneau with a Bachelors Degree in Social Science. Aluki plans to attend the University of Alaska Anchorage and obtain a Masters Degree. Congratulations Aluki.

**Jerome 'Jerry' West** is the son of the late Sarah West and Mike West of Nome. Jerry graduated from Northern Industrial Training in Palmer on April 10, 2009 with a certificate in Heavy Equipment Operator and Truck Driver Training. The program is a six week, 240 hour course. Jerry was trained in both class A and B vehicles. He has also received his certifications for Mine Safety Health Administration, First Aid/CPR, and Traffic Control Flagging. Jerry has returned to Nome and hopes to secure employment. Congratulations Jerry and welcome home!



Miles Reader

BSF Executive Intern Miles Reader is a graduating senior from Nome Beltz High School. He will be attending University of Nevada Las Vegas in the fall to obtain a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management. Good Luck to you Miles!

Our hats are off to the new 2009 graduates! Bering Straits Foundation recognizes all graduates with a graduation present and opportunity to join the Bering Straits Foundation Alumni. If you or someone you know is a recent graduate please contact the BSF office with an updated transcript/diploma/degree. Members of the BSF Alumni are people who have graduated from an accredited institution and have received scholarship awards from BSF. If you are interested in joining or finding out more information about the BSF Alumni please contact Kirsten at [foundation@beringstraits.com](mailto:foundation@beringstraits.com) or (907) 443-4305 or toll-free at (800) 478-5079.

Spring 2009  
Scholarship Deadline is  
June 30

[www.beringstraits.com](http://www.beringstraits.com)  
& click on the  
Foundation link

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