

# Bering Straits Native Corporation A G L U K T U K

**DECEMBER 2012 / JANUARY 2013** 

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### BSNC purchases Alaska Gold Co.

BSNC is pleased to announce that on November 1, Alaska Gold Co. (AGC) was purchased from NovaGold Resources. AGC was a wholly owned subsidiary of NovaGold Resources, when it was purchased in 1998.

The transaction was the result of more than 18 months of negotiations between BSNC and NovaGold concerning the reclamation of the Rock Creek Mine and the potential for future gold production at the site. BSNC's Board of Directors approved the purchase of AGC on Oct. 12, the day before this year's annual shareholder meeting. At the annual meeting Gail Schubert, BSNC President and CEO, reported to the shareholders that the AGC property and assets would provide a foundation for additional

diversification of the Corporation's operations, particularly within the Bering Strait region.



Gregory Lang, Novagold president and CEO, Ron Rimelman, Novagold vice president environment, health, safety and sustainability, Jerald Brown, BSNC vice president, Matt Ganley, BSNC vice president resources and external Affairs, Gail Schubert, BSNC president & CEO, Heather White, Novagold vice president of mining, and Gil Leathley, Novagold senior vice president and COO.

The assets of AGC include the Rock Creek Mine facility, all patented mining claims in the Rock Creek and Big Hurrah project areas, certain real estate within the city limits of

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### 2013 Annual meeting of shareholders

The BSNC Annual Meeting of Shareholders was held on Oct. 13, in Anchorage at the Alaska Ballroom in the downtown Hilton Hotel. About 250 shareholders attended the meeting and shareholders from 29 states viewed the webcast.

Elder of the year awards were presented to Mathias Pederson of Council Native Corp., Gabriel Amuktoolik from Golovin Native Corp., Rita Olanna from Brevig Mission Native Corp., Clara Topkok from Mary's Igloo Native Corp., Dina Sagoonick from Shaktoolik Native Corp., Vincent Tocktoo Sr. from Shishmaref Native Corp., Jacob Ahwinona of Sitnasuak Native Corp., Helen Curran Larsen of Solomon Native Corp., Rose Okbaok of Teller Native Corp. and Isaac Oxereok of Wales Native Corp. Twenty-five Early Bird prizes were awarded to shareholders whose proxies were received by Sept. 19.

Gail Schubert gave her President's Report and answered

### Dividend mailed in early December

The BSNC Board of Directors declared a shareholder dividend of \$2.50 per share at its regularly scheduled board meeting in August at Unalakleet. The typical shareholder owning 100 shares received a check in the amount of \$250 in early December.

BSNC showed record operating revenues of a little more than \$213 million for fiscal year ending March 31, 2012, an increase of \$15.5 million from 2011.

If you have not received your check by the end of December, please call the Shareholder Department at (907) 443-5252 to report that your check is missing.

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### Greetings from the President and CEO

Gail R. Schubert

As 2012 comes to a close, BSNC management and staff would like to wish our shareholders and their families a Merry Christmas and a safe and joyous New Year!

This past year was a busy year for BSNC in terms of growth and diversification of our business ventures. We continue to win new work in the government contracting arena despite increased pressures to reduce Alaska Native corporation participation in the 8(a) and small business programs. While some of our work is located in Alaska, we also perform work at various military installations in the



Lower 48. Given our dependence on government contract work, management closely monitors developments in this arena both on the Congressional and on the agency levels.

During the annual meeting in October, management announced that BSNC planned to purchase Alaska Gold Company LLC (AGC), from NovaGold. That purchase was completed in early November. With the purchase, BSNC acquired significant commercial real estate in and around Nome, gravel resources, patented mining claims and all of the infrastructure at Rock Creek Mine. We have no plans to dismantle AGC, which will remain intact and spearhead mining and exploration efforts for BSNC. With our outside consultants, we are continuing to evaluate whether gold mining can be restarted utilizing our new mining properties. We have named the mine project Nanuuq Gold, and we expect to know within the next several months whether BSNC will engage in gold mining activities through AGC.

Another project we are pursuing, which will bring further business opportunities and economic development to the region, is the acquisition of Port Clarence, located on Point Spencer near the Bering Strait. This property was decommissioned by the U.S. Coast Guard in 2010, and we are seeking expedited ANCSA conveyance to BSNC through special legislation to be enacted by the U.S. Congress. We have worked closely with Alaska's Congressional Delegation to facilitate this conveyance. Beyond Port Clarence and the Rock Creek Mine, management will continue pursuing opportunities in our region designed to provide jobs and economic development for our shareholders, descendants and other residents of the region.

In the cold months ahead, I hope that all of us can take time to reflect on the many positive things that have brought us happiness and security. Many individuals have come before us to help pave the way, and we are thankful for the leadership and sacrifices they made to provide us with a better life and more opportunities. It is the path they laid and their skilled guidance that gives us our strength, just as our young leaders and youth provide the foundation for a bright future.

May you all be blessed in the coming year.

### **BSNC hires Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer**

BSNC has added two new members to its executive team. Leslie Williams Crocker has been named chief financial officer and Kurt Hermes has been promoted to chief operating officer.

Crocker has been BSNC's interim chief financial officer since November 2011. She is a certified public accountant, a certified compliance and ethics professional, has a master's degree in contract management and more than 23 years professional experience in federal contracting. She has worked as a financial consultant for BSNC since 2008, providing staff augmentation, software implementation services and government contracting consulting services. Crocker also spent eight years as chief financial officer at Chenega Corporation.



Leslie Williams Crocker, CFO



Kurt Hermes, COO

Hermes has been with BSNC for four years as a project estimator and in other capacities related to management and financial control. He has worked in construction and project management since he was in high school and continued as project manager while obtaining a bachelor's of business administration at UAA. Hermes spent five years at the Municipality of Anchorage managing department budgets and a multitude of maintenance contracts. He also spent time estimating and managing projects for Bethel Native Corp. and Chugach Alaska Corp. before joining BSNC in 2008.

### **BSNC Anchorage Office**

BSNC recently purchased the remaining interest in 4600 Debarr Road LLC in early 2012. BSNC is now the sole owner of building where the BSNC Anchorage office is located. Other tenants include the State of Alaska and B2 Networks.



To the left is a picture of the BSNC sign that was recently installed on the front of the office building.

If you have not been by our Anchorage office, please stop by to say hi or grab a cup of coffee.

The office in Anchorage is located at 4600 Debarr Road, Suite 200 in east Anchorage. The phone number is (907) 563-3788.

### BSNC purchases Alaska Gold Co.

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Nome and gravel and sand resources in and around Nome. Rock Creek Mine was constructed by AGC beginning in 2006 but failed to reach full production due to legal challenges and the faltering investment climate of 2008-2009. In 2011, AGC began the reclamation process at the mine site. BSNC has worked diligently with AGC to assess reclamation strategies and evaluate whether mining could proceed at some future date.

AGC will be retained as a wholly owned subsidiary of BSNC. Within the next several months, BSNC and AGC will determine whether the mine can be reopened or whether the property will be reclaimed.

### **BSNC Shareholders receive AFN awards**

### **Roger Lang Youth Leadership Award**

BSNC shareholder Jacob Allen Sunagazuk Martin was presented the Roger Lang Youth Leadership award at AFN. This award was named for the late Roger Lang, a former AFN president, who encouraged young people to expand their horizons and challenge themselves to become future leaders.

Jacob is Ugiuvagumiut (King Island Eskimo) and of Russian descent. He was born and raised in Nome, and graduated from Nome Beltz High School in 2012, after actively contributing to numerous academic, athletic and extracurricular clubs and organizations. Leading up to the 2011 Beringia Days conference in Nome, Jacob spent four months helping the Shared Beringian Heritage Program plan a Youth Forum. He then served as the sole youth representative at the annual meeting to recommend project proposals for the Beringia Program. His ideas and suggestions contributed toward benefitting the Beringia region in Alaska and Chukotka Russia. He is now a college freshman at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, majoring in Geological Engineering. Jacob is the son of shareholders Guy and Blue Martin of Nome.



Roger Lang Youth Leadership award recipient Jacob Martin with his proud parents Blue and Guy Martin.

#### **Hunter-Fisher Award**

BSNC shareholder Steve and his late wife Zoe Ivanoff were presented the Hunter-Fisher award from AFN. The award recognizes Alaska Native people who exemplify and preserve the spirit of successful subsistence hunting, trapping and sharing and our way of life. Nominees must acknowledge and ensure that the next generations of providers will carry on the traditions and customs in harmony and peace to sustain their extended families.

Steve was born to Ralph and Veronica Ivanoff in St. Michael and raised in Unalakleet. Zoe was born and raised in Kotzebue and went to Covenant High School in Unalakleet, where the two met. From the beginning, Steve

and Zoe have raised their three children – Kelsi, Ralph and Gage – in a hybrid subsistence lifestyle. Together they are kept busy with various subsistence activities yearround, including hunting for caribou, moose, birds and seal hunting, picking berries and other vegetation, egg gathering, crabbing, fishing, gardening and much more. They value teaching their children how to properly take care of, put away and prepare food. Steve and Zoe embody the values of respect, tradition, hard work and cooperation and both have served on numerous regional and school boards in Alaska.



Hunter-Fisher award recipient Steve Ivanoff with his children, left to right, Ralph, Gage and Kelsi.

### A voting story

A number of Alaska Native corporation offices in Anchorage took advantage of the Get Out the Native Vote (GOTNV) Express to vote early this year as many of their employees grabbed a ride to the polls. At BSNC's Anchorage office a particularly inspiring story unfolded: Yuliya Temple, an employee in the accounting department, not only recently received her American citizenship, but she voted for the first time in her life.

Yuliya had worked in the Ukraine as an accountant for a construction company before coming to the U.S., and was hired by BSNC in March 2012. In the Ukraine, she didn't feel that her vote counted and was discouraged by what seemed like pre-determined outcomes in elections. She said that in the months leading up to



BSNC Anchorage staff voted early this year by riding the GOTNV Express, which picked up employees, drove them to the election office to vote and promptly brought them back to their office. Yuliya is in the front wearing the pink jacket.

this election she worked hard to learn not just about the presidential candidates, but also about the ballot measures and candidates running in local elections. When ask to jot down some notes about her experience, she wrote the following:

"Growing up in Ukraine, I never really followed politics as it continued on page 6

### **BSNC** receives land from Salmon Lake Land Transfer

On June 15, President Obama signed legislation into law (P.L. 112-133) that resolved outstanding claims between BSNC and the State of Alaska in the area of Salmon Lake approximately 35 miles northwest of Nome.

This legislation was enacted after years of negotiations when a final agreement was entered into by BSNC, the State of Alaska and the U.S. Bureau of Land Management on July 18, 2007 to resolve competing claims held by the State and BSNC in the area of Salmon Lake, approximately 30 miles north of Nome, under the processes called for in the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA).

A result of four years of discussions and negotiations, the agreement will facilitate the transfer of specific tracts of land to both the State of Alaska and BSNC and resolve outstanding issues in competing claims for the tracts. Lands of the BSNC are located in the far northwestern part of Alaska. Some are strategically located only two miles from Russia at their closest point.

The legislation authorizes the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to convey the eastern portion of Salmon Lake to BSNC and the western portion to the State of Alaska in furtherance of the negotiated agreement reached

among all parties. The Act also allows conveyance of the Imuruk Basin Lands to BSNC. All of the lands included in the agreement benefit the people of the region for subsistence and recreational activities and provide critical habitat for various species of salmon, moose, caribou and other game resources. The long process of land selection, adjudication, and conveyance culminated through this bill that started with the passage of the ANCSA more than 40 years ago is nearly complete for the BSNC region and its member villages.

"Over the past three decades, following the processes set forth in ANCSA, BSNC has had to refine and prioritize the lands which were of the greatest value to the region's shareholders," said Gail Schubert, president and CEO of BSNC. Schubert noted that Salmon Lake was determined to be particularly important because of the reliance local residents have on the subsistence resources found there. The lake is one of the western most spawning areas for red salmon on the North American continent and has long provided an essential harvest for the people of the region. Caribou were once hunted in great numbers in the area and have recently returned. Salmon Lake also provides recreational opportunities

due to its location on the seasonal road that stretches north from Nome and the Bering Sea coast.

Schubert also noted, "Our elders have long understood the importance of this area to our people and our culture. While the process of securing these lands has been difficult at times, the future of BSNC and its shareholders, particularly with respect to subsistence activities and resources, will be enhanced and enriched by the receipt of the lands at Salmon Lake and Imuruk Basin for current and future generations. We want to thank Congressman Don Young for his dogged determination in getting this passed through the U.S. House of Representatives. We also want to thank Sen. Lisa Murkowski for sponsoring this bill in the Senate and getting it passed through the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, on which she sits as ranking member. We also thank cosponsor Sen. Mark Begich as well as Chairman Doc Hasting and Ranking Member Ed Markey for their support in getting this bill passed through the House Natural Resources Committee. We also thank the State of Alaska and the BLM for working with us in goodfaith to finalize these lands claims that we have been working on since passage of ANCSA."

### Stock will drive, your chance to win \$1,000

The BSNC board of directors recently approved a Stock Will Drive with a \$1,000 incentive. The drawing will take place at the 2013 Annual Meeting of Shareholders. Each shareholder who turns in a Stock Will will be entered in the drawing.

BSNC will continue providing the monthly Stock Will Drive in which one winner is drawn monthly to win \$200.

The Stock Will Drive is an incentive for shareholders to have in their BSNC file a current Stock Will, whether it is an original or a revised one.

A BSNC Stock Will is included in this newsletter.

BSNC Stock Wills can also be obtained from:

- www.beringstraits.com
- Shareholder Department in Nome at 907-443-5252 or email shareholders@beringstraits.com
- Leila Smith, who is the contact at the Anchorage office, at 907-563-3788

#### 2012 Monthly Winners

November Frances Marie Vartanian, Anchorage

October
Laura Odinzoff, Stebbins

September Joseph Dukes, Charleston, SC

August
Daniel Omedelena, Wales

July Helen Penatac, Fairbanks

June Adam J. Raymond Jr., Anchorage

May Lorrena Katcheak, Emmonak

### **Annual meeting**

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questions. Staff presented information on financials, land and resources, and the Foundation, and answered questions.

W. Foster, Stephen Ivanoff and Percy Nayokpuk, all incumbent directors, were all reelected.

Martha Aarons, Jason Evans, Neal



A future leader: 12 year old Morgan Dotomain asked if descendants can be issued BSNC shares in front of the shareholders at the annual meeting.





Shareholders enjoyed mingling and catching up during breaks at the annual meeting.

### A voting story

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was under communist rule. Even after the Iron Curtain fell Ukraine was under the rule of Russia. Then in 1991 Ukraine broke away and became an independent country again. Politics in Ukraine though holding much promise is still plagued with corruption and many of us took to the ideology that it just is the way it is.

In Moving to America and now being a mother I realize the importance the individual plays in shaping the world we live in. The fact that we have a voice in this country should not be taken lightly. I was proud and honored to be able to take part of the election process this year as it was the first time in becoming an American citizen I was able to vote in a presidential election. I realize that when we vote we are able to voice our opinion on various subjects and

choose who will lead our country. The decisions being made today not only affect our lives but even more importantly affect those of the next generation such as my daughter; it is for this reason I was excited to take part in this American right."

We can all take a lesson from Yuliya's words. No matter what, we as Americans have a system that works only if we diligently exercise our right to make out voice heard. This applies to national and local elections and, yes, the annual election for your Alaska Native Corporation. Use the power of your vote.

### List of Missing Shareholders

BSNC is dedicated to keeping in touch with our shareholders and we want to ensure they can be reached for future newsletters, notices for annual meetings, and distributions. Below is a list of shareholders that we do not have accurate mailing addresses for. If you know any of the people listed, please ask them to contact the Shareholder Department or complete the Shareholder Name and Address Change form that is included in this newsletter. If you believe any of the shareholders listed to be deceased, please notify the Shareholder Department by calling 1-800-478-5079 or (907) 443-5252 or email shareholders@beringstraits.com.

#### List is updated as of 12/20/12

Abouchuk, Veronica Rosaline Ahgupuk, Wilsa Mattie Anderson, Theresa Kay Anderson, Trudy Mae Andrews, Matthew Anowlic, Steven David Arnold, Crista Lynn Attatayuk, Reuben Baldwin, Gladys Baumel, Marion Bell, Craig William Bond, Beverly A. Bourdon, Janine Georgia Brown, Roy Edward Ben Buck, Mary Burke, Eugene David Burkhalter, Beverly Ann Carlisle, Donna Marie Carlisle, Janet L. Carlisle. Kristine Caroon, James E. Caroon, Kristie Emma Caswell, Carrie Samantha Chapman, Oliver W. Chilcote, Terry Ann Cloud, Delia Kolook Coffee, Gordon Coffey, Karen Ann Coffey, Patrick C. Cole, Robert Norman Dan, Opal Lee David, Earl Joel Davis, Thomas Clyde Dawson, Carol Ann Denmark, Antonia Marie Dennis, Frank E. Dorn, Amanda Lola Eakon, Donald George Eben, Mona G. Eben. Owen Francis Ernak, Frederick Earl Evans, Daniel Wayne Evans, Denise Louise Evans, Stephanie Hazel Forbes, William J. Fry, Anthony Lane Fuselier, Benny Wayne Fuselier, Shane Orese Garris, Kevin Ray Giffin, Laura Ann Grant, Jeffery Eugene

Green, Brandon

Greene, Leslie Kit

Gregory, Julie Hansen. Steven Lee Harris, Sherri Laverne Henry, Patrick Francis Holzer, Wanda Jean Huffman, Thomas Lee Hurst, Jesse A. Hyder, Ashley Ingle, Susan Cora Ivanoff, Monica Maxine Iyapana, William Omyruk Jack, Chelsey Ann Jack, Hazel Nancy James, Shirley Esther James, Timothy David Johnson, George E. Johnson, Scottina Jones, Tiffany Nicole Joseph, Viola Vera Kakaruk, Belinda May Kane, Peggy Lee Karmun, Eddie T. Karmun, Helen D. Karmun, Krysta Katexac, Romald K. Kauke, Kalena Meta Kavairlook, Milton Keelick, Nancy Karen Kerr, Donald Lee Kingik, Fred Kirk, Francis Kokochuruk, Alice Komok, Rhonda Luellen Koopmans, Patricia Ann Koozaata, Lee Koweluk, Teddy Kunnuk, Dagan Thomas Leal, Shannon M. Lewis, Gail Lick. Mathilda Lockwood, Floyd B. Lockwood, Richard Wayne Long, Marie R. Longley, Darla May Luke, Henry Wayne Lupson, Lorraine Lupson, Lorri Lupson, Marrie Mace, Carrie Mae Madara, Allen Lee Madara, Kimberly Kay

Maldonado, Marjorie

Malewotkuk, Woodrow

Malone, Michael P Mandan, Pamela J. Martin, Annelle V. Martin, John J. May, Michael Patrick Mavokok, Robert Weokona Mayo-Kok, Michele Leigh McAlear, Frieda McFarling, Rodger Lee McKnney, Justin James Menadelook, Janis Lynn Mike, Alexis Rudy Miller, Marlin A. Mogg, Gerald D. Morgan, Henry A. Morgan, James F. Morgan, Marvin L. Mount, Kenneth Lee Myomick, Cassandra Louise Nakak, Florence Nellie Nakarak, Teresa Denise Nance, Clarence Nance, Louis Nance, Louis H. Napayonak, Deslin Wade Natonabah, Benjamin Navarro, Christine E. Nelson, Gerald Harry Nelson, Laura Irene Nephew, Kyle Nichols, D'lany Bunningtuk Norbert, Donna M. Norbert, Joseph Obrien, John Odle, Charles Howard Odle, Peggy Okitkon, Elsie Rose Okpowruk, Wilson Fred Olanna, Archie Olanna, Brons Olanna, Karen J. Olanna, Tonya O. Olin, Denise Lisa Ollom, Shirley Olson, Jennifer Omelak, Richard Raymond Omiak, Roy Michael Antony Oquilluk, David Otton, Donald M Ozenna. Larry Pezzino. Anita Pickus, Julia May Polaretzke, Stella

Pollock. Denise Rader, Mary Alice Ramirez, Emelio Reynolds, Robert Earl Rilev. Lincoln Norman Rivera. Lena June Roberts, Charles L. Rogers, Julie E. Rose, Yvonne Frances Rvan, Julia Danielle Ryan, Kimberly Michelle Saario, Jan Arvo Sambo, Gary D. Sanchez, Annokazooka Lazvna Sebring, George Bradley Seelkoke, Archie Seetomona, Lorena A. Shoogukwruk, Anthony L. Shoogukwruk, George Earl Smith, Irma Akka Smith, William Laurence Solski, Elazareth H. Sookiayak, Erma Becky Soosuk, Myles Allen Soxie, Harriet Ellen Steve, Jeanne Marie Steve, Jodie Martine Steve, Martin T. Steve, Victoria Stoltz, Jennelle Strzelewicz, Felix Casmier Sutton, Emily Selma Tokeinna, Stacey D. M. Topkok, Alfred Topkok, Clinton Scott Trent Panigeo, Kristen R. Trent Panigeo, Stefanie Thea Veltrano, Eric Christian Wallace, Margaret Walser, James Melvin Washington, Martha Marie Washington, Preston Wassilie, Angeline Wells, William David Weston, Miller Z. Williams, Catherine Edith Williford, Sandra M. Willova, Steffannita Marie Yokum, Elizebeth Lynn Young, Mary Jill

### Bering Straits Native Corporation

P.O. Box 1008 110 Front St., Suite 300 Nome, AK 99762 Address Service Requested

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www.BeringStraits.com

Nome Office

Located in the BSNC Building on 110 Front Street, Suite 300

Mailing Address P.O. Box 1008 Nome, AK 99762

Phone (907) 443-5252 Toll-free 1-800-478-5079 Fax (907) 443-2985

**Anchorage Office** 

Located at & the mailing address is 4600 Debarr Road, Suite 200 Anchorage, AK 99508-3126

> Phone (907) 563-3788 Fax (907) 563-2742

### \$500 REWARD

REWARD for information leading to the prosecution of the person(s) responsible for the following acts of vandalism: On or about July 21, 2012, a person(s) ransacked a cabin and on or about Nov. 24 a person(s) set fire to a cabin, both owned by BSNC on the grounds of Pilgrim Hot Springs, now wholly owned by Unaatuq, LLC. In addition, a REWARD shall be given to anyone that can identify the individual that removed the statue of Jesus Christ from the Church located on the Pilgrim property. To report any information please call the BSNC Land Department at (907) 443-5252 or the Alaska State Troopers at (907) 443-2835.

### Shareholder bereavement assistance program

BSNC adopted the Shareholder Bereavement Assistance policy in February 2010. The deadline to apply for assistance is within three months date of death. The \$500 benefit is payable for the death of an original BSNC shareholder, a lineal descendant of an original BSNC shareholder or the spouse of an original BSNC shareholder. This bereavement assistance is designed to help defray the cost of funeral expenses.

Please visit our website, www.beringstraits.com, for an application. When you get to the website select the Shareholder tab and then select forms, which is on the right side. Contact Kimberly Gooden at kimberly@beringstraits.com or call (907) 443-5252 or 1-800-478-5079 with any questions.

Please visit the BSNC website periodically for news, other forms, including scholarship and change of address, and employment opportunities.

### BERING STRAITS NATIVE CORPORATION ALASKA STATUTE 13.16.705(b) WILL ALASKA NATIVE CLAIMS SETTLEMENT ACT OF 1971

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Bering Straits Native Corporation P.O Box 1008 Nome, AK 99762



## Bering Straits Native Corporation P.O. Box 1008 Nome, AK 99762 Phone # 907-443-5252 Toll Free 1-800-478-5079 Fax 907-443-4755

### Shareholder Name & Address Change Request

The BSNC Shareholder Department will change your records only when you, the shareholder, send in a request. You may do so by phone call, e-mail or using this form. For name changes, we require that you send a legal document for record. Optional information that you wish to provide are your email addresses and phone numbers. Should you wish to provide those, you must remember to provide our office any changes. Please call, email or send this form to:

Bering Straits Native Corporation ATTN: Shareholder Department P.O. Box 1008 Nome, AK 99762

Name:	Social Security Number:				
(Update) Mailing Address to:	Date of Birth:				
	Email address:				
Contact Phone Number:					
I am also custodian for:					
Print Name:					
Signature:					
Date:					
Shareholder Comments					