BSNC PROMOTES KEVIN IVANOFF TO VICE PRESIDENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Bering Straits Native Corporation (BSNC) announced the promotion of Kevin Ivanoff to Vice President of Information Technology (IT). Ivanoff formerly served as BSNC’s Senior Director of IT. In his new role, Ivanoff will guide the overall technology direction of the Company and is responsible for the design, development and implementation of BSNC’s organizational information, network and technology systems.

“I am very pleased to welcome Kevin to our executive management team,” said BSNC President and CEO Gail Schubert. “His professionalism and in-depth understanding of BSNC’s business operations and information technology strategies is an important asset to the Company. His track record and skill set will continue to benefit BSNC and deliver value to our business partners, customers and shareholders.”

Ivanoff, a BSNC shareholder, joined BSNC in 2008 as its Senior Systems Administrator. He earned a Bachelor’s degree in Business Administration Management from the University of Alaska Anchorage and holds a Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer (MCSE) certification.

BSNC ANNOUNCES SUPPORT TO IN-REGION NONPROFITS

The Bering Straits Native Corporation (BSNC) Board of Directors announced a major $150,000 contribution to the Northwestern Alaska Career and Technical Center (NACTEC), as well as $10,000 donations to each of the Bering Sea Women’s Group (BSWG) and the Nome Emergency Shelter Team (NEST).

“BSNC is proud to support organizations that make a positive difference in the Bering Strait region,” said BSNC President & CEO Gail R. Schubert. “NACTEC is a well-run regional vocational center located in Nome. It is a joint venture between the Bering Straits School District and Nome Public Schools and provides incredibly important training, skills and resources to students to prepare them for high school graduation, post-secondary education and careers. BSWG provides a safe haven for women and children who are the victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, or other violent crimes and NEST provides overnight winter shelter and meals to adults in need.”

“BSNC’s support of NACTEC has contributed to a 66% growth in student enrollment at NACTEC over the past seven years. Graduation rates have climbed during this time from a low of 32% in 2008 to a high of 84% in 2015, the 2nd highest graduation rate in Alaska,” said NACTEC Director Douglas J. Wairath. “BSNC’s support of NACTEC is making a profound difference and impact in our region, to which we are so thankful to be partners for seven years running.”


BSDC RECOGNIZED BY THE U.S. DEPT. OF ENERGY

For the past few years Bering Straits Development Company (BSDC), a BSNC subsidiary, has quietly developed capacity and expertise in the deployment of alternative and renewable energy technologies. BSDC’s solar technology projects and contracts in rural western and northwestern Alaskan communities are working to meet the challenges of remote energy production. This innovative work was recently recognized by the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Indian Energy’s report “Solar Energy Prospecting in Remote Alaska.” View the report by visiting: www.energy.gov/indianenergy/downloads/solar-energy-prospecting-remote-alaska.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

SATURDAY, OCT. 1, 2016 AT 10 A.M.
TO BE HELD IN ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
ANCHORAGE DOWNTOWN MARRIOTT
820 W 7TH AVENUE, ANCHORAGE, AK 99501

Voting shareholders who are at least 18 years of age and wish to run for one of the five Board of Directors seats open for election are requested to send a LETTER OF INTENT, including current address, telephone number and a RESUME listing qualifications to:

Nominating Committee
Bering Straits Native Corporation
P.O. Box 1008
Nome, Alaska 99762

IMPORTANT: All letters of intent and resumes must be postmarked by June 16, 2016.

3 Artist Spotlight
3 Shareholder Addresses Needed
4 BSNC Descendant Recognized

Stay up-to-date at Facebook.com/GoBSNC
This Spring brought an unusually early arrival of warm weather and the corresponding return of migratory waterfowl to our Region. It’s the time for Spring hunting of waterfowl, seals and other marine mammals, and king crab harvesting! Because of warmer weather, the formation and thickness of sea ice decreased this past winter and limited access to traditional marine hunting grounds. Despite these challenges, our hunters, both young and old, traveled out from our villages to replenish subsistence food supplies with fresh seal, walrus and oogruk, all kinds of migrating birds and their eggs, and fresh crab. Our villages are busy with Spring harvesting activities!

It has been great seeing photos of our shareholders and descendants showing their successful hunting and harvesting efforts. What is even more gratifying is seeing that our tradition of sharing with Elders, the infirm and others is still as important now as it was hundreds of years ago. Our youth have demonstrated a strong allegiance to this tradition, ensuring that our traditions will survive and continue to be an important part of who we are as Alaska Native people. We are a living culture, and while changes in our environment and lifestyles have occurred, our traditions are what bind us to our past and ensure that our way of life will continue to thrive and survive through our descendants.

Some of our villages are continuing to experience serious impacts from warmer winter weather, which has delayed the formation of shorefast sea ice. In years past when the shorefast ice formed, usually beginning sometime in October, it protected our shorelines from the typical winter storms that occurred starting in November. Now, coastal communities bear the full brunt of these storms, which have increased in frequency and intensity, because of the lack of shorefast ice to protect the shoreline. I was surprised when I visited Unalakleet with Senator Murkowski in November and saw that the Norton Sound was full of white caps, and there was no ice formation on the beach. We have and will continue to advocate for funds for our villages, including Shakttoolik and Shishmaref, as they explore options to protect their homes and villages.

The BSNC Board and staff recently held a shareholder informational meeting in the Seattle area, which was attended by about 200 shareholders, guests and descendants. Staff provided an update on BSNC operations and finances, including reports from me, Chief Financial Officer Laura Edmondson, and Vice President of Lands and Resources Larry Pederson. We were happy to meet with our shareholders and descendants who live in the greater Seattle area, and share some of our traditional foods with several lucky door prize winners. We again had an Inupiat dance group, led by Thomas Octuck, perform for us. And, as before, we had two shareholders who were over ninety years old who attended the meeting.

As May is graduation month, I would like to extend sincere congratulations to our shareholders and descendants who are graduating from high school, college, and graduate school, on behalf of the BSNC Board of Directors and staff. We are all very proud of your accomplishments and wish you well in your future endeavors. We hope everyone has a fruitful, safe and enjoyable Summer!

Gail R. Schubert

BSNC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BSNC IS ON FACEBOOK

BSNC has more than 3,000 “Likes” on Facebook! “Like” us on Facebook and get the latest news from BSNC and the region.

www.facebook.com/GoBSNC

HISTORICAL SPOTLIGHT: THE CARIBOU ARE BACK!

It was 20 years ago, during the summer of 1996, that caribou once again moved into the central area of the Seward Peninsula in large numbers. This extension of the Western Arctic Caribou Herd (WACH) is now resident on the Peninsula, with calves being born annually in the inland regions. Caribou had been mostly absent since their disappearance during the middle decades of the 1800’s. During those early years the Seward Peninsula herd was so large that many were taken on an annual basis at large drive sites located throughout the Seward Peninsula. It is not known with any certainty what caused the demise of the Seward Peninsula herd, but it was most likely a combination of the naturally occurring cycle of large herd populations, changes in environment or available browse, and higher calf mortality due to predators. Firearms were introduced about the same time as the herd was dwindling, but an earlier theory that firearms were the sole cause of the decline is no longer accepted. Since 1996, Reindeer herders have lost animals as they wander off with the caribou, but as Jim Dau wrote in 2000, “Aside from reindeer herders, most residents of the Seward Peninsula are delighted to have virtually unlimited opportunity to harvest caribou for sport and subsistence.” While the presence of caribou is very beneficial for our residents, the Western Arctic Herd numbers have declined rapidly in recent years. New regulations were recently introduced by the Federal Subsistence Committee for Federal lands within Game Management Unit 23 (north of Seward Peninsula). Please be aware of these changes and harvest your subsistence resources responsibly.
SHAREHOLDER SPOTLIGHT: JENNY MILLER

BSNC shareholder Jenny Miller was recently awarded a grant from the Alaska Humanities Forum for her new photographic portraiture series “Shapeshifters.” The project features photographs and stories written by Alaska Native and LGBTQ or “Two-Spirit” individuals.

Miller hopes the project will create dialogue and exchange and help empower the Alaska Native LGBTQ community and educate the public on the community’s unique cultural values, traditions, and worldviews.

A Bering Straits Foundation scholarship recipient, Miller attended the University of Washington in Seattle where she received a Bachelor’s degree of Fine Arts in Photo Media and American Indian studies. During her last year of her undergraduate studies, Miller received a fellowship through Fulbright Canada to study as a visiting visual arts and First Nations student at the University of Western Ontario in London, Canada. She graduated in 2013 on the dean’s list and now lives in Alaska.

Currently in production, Miller anticipates the project to premier in Anchorage later this year as an exhibition. If you are interested in being a part of “Shapeshifters” or would like to know more, please contact Jenny Miller at jirenemiller@gmail.com.

BSNC SHAREHOLDER HOLDS YUP’IK SPELLING BEE

BSNC shareholder Freda Dan held a Yup’ik Spelling Bee on April 23 in Anchorage.

WINNERS:

1ST | Daniel Hunter, 7th grade, Sheldon Point School, Nunam Iqua

2ND | Celeste Katcheak, 7th grade, Tukumgaiqinguq School, Stebbins

3RD | Emery Lockwood, 6th grade, Tukumgaiqinguq School, Stebbins

The coach for Stebbins was Becky Atchak, a BSNC shareholder.

EDUCATOR SPOTLIGHT: SEAN ASIQŁUQ TOPKOK

BSNC shareholder Sean Asiqłuq Topkok received his Ph.D. from the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) in Indigenous Studies in December 2015. Topkok is now a tenure-track Assistant Professor at UAF and teaches courses on Alaska Native Education, Introduction to Applied Social Science Research, Multicultural Education, Rethinking Multicultural Education, Cultural Atlases and Community-School Relations.

“I am proud to be Inupiaq. My dissertation was on our Iñupiaq Values, passed down from generation to generation for thousands of years. We remember and live our cultural values every day. Our Elders encourage us to pursue higher education, and we can achieve whatever goals we set out to do. I look forward to serving my region and others to reach their goals.”
BSNC ANNOUNCES EXECUTIVE PROMOTIONS

Bering Straits Native Corporation (BSNC) announced two promotions within the company’s senior management team. Richard Foster was promoted to Executive Vice President and Laura Edmondson was promoted to Senior Vice President/Chief Financial Officer. Foster formerly served as Senior Vice President of Government Services and Edmondson served as Chief Financial Officer.

“Rick and Laura have made significant contributions to the success and growth of BSNC,” said President and CEO Gail R. Schubert. “Fiscal year 2016 marks the 12th consecutive year that BSNC has experienced financial growth and Rick and Laura are integral parts of our Company’s success. They both have demonstrated a strong commitment to our company’s mission and I am proud to recognize their leadership with these promotions.”

Foster joined BSNC as Vice President of Business Development in 2004 following a successful 28-year-long career in the U.S. Air Force. BSNC has experienced significant growth from 2004 to present. Foster served as Command Chief (Senior Enlisted Advisor) for the 3rd Wing Commander at Elmendorf Air Force Base prior to joining BSNC.

Edmondson joined BSNC in 2013. She provides strategic and technical financial advice to the company and is responsible for planning, implementing, managing and reporting all financial-related activities for the company.

Edmondson has more than 20 years of financial, operations and risk management experience. Prior to joining BSNC, Edmondson worked for another regional corporation for 10 years in several executive capacities, including Chief Financial Officer and Vice President of Operations.

SIGN UP FOR THE E-NEWSLETTER!

BSNC invites shareholders and descendants to reduce our usage of paper by signing up to receive the Agluktuk newsletter electronically. The e-Newsletter, which will be sent via email, will help cut down the costs of printing and postage, will respect the environment and is received in a more timely fashion than the mailed newsletter.

Shareholders who receive e-Newsletters may always request to receive paper copies of editions that are meaningful to them, and full copies of the paper newsletter will continue to be posted to the BSNC website in a PDF format. Visit www.beringstraits.com/enewsletter to sign up.

BSNC INVITES YOU TO SUBMIT EVENTS FOR WEBSITE CALENDAR

Did you know that BSNC has a calendar on its website of upcoming events? BSNC invites shareholders, descendants and BSNC-region community members to submit news of upcoming events of interest with date, time, location and other relevant information to media@beringstraits.com.

UNAATUQ, LLC COMPLETES MARKET SURVEY

Unaatuq, LLC completed a market survey to measure local residents’ preferences and desires for locally grown produce. The survey polled 116 residents of the Bering Strait region on their opinions of local vegetable farming and agricultural development. The study’s outcomes demonstrated overwhelming support for a market for locally-grown agriculture, with 99.1 percent of respondents answering that they would purchase fresh produce grown at Pilgrim.

Since 2010, Unaatuq, LLC has worked to further define the nature and extent of the geothermal resource underlying the Pilgrim property. Pilgrim Hot Springs was purchased in late 2009 from the Catholic Bishop of Northern Alaska by a consortium of organizations in the Bering Strait region.

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT: BRANDON RINGSTAD

BSNC thanks descendant Brandon Ringstad for donating a print of his artwork titled “Sisuaq.” Ringstad, a young artist and the nephew of artist Susan Ringstad Emery, shares his art and techniques on his YouTube page, “Nature Meets Paper.”

Ringstad graduated with his Bachelor’s degree in Aquatic and Fishery Sciences from the University of Washington in 2013. During the 2015 offshore drilling season, Ringstad participated in the BSNC’s Protected Species Observer program where he helped monitor, document and report marine mammals.
SHAREHOLDER ADDRESSES NEEDED

JANY HELLEN CRISWELL
JODY MARIE CORTEZ
BOBBY COLLINS
JAMES E CAROON
STEVEN BURKE
ROY EDWARD BEN BROWN
CAROL JOANN BREWSTER
CORY GENE BLISS
FREDERICK SEAN BIGJIM
GRACE ELLA BEACH
LEROY ASHENFELTER
ALEX IRVINE ASHENFELTER
CRAZTA LYNN ARNOLD
JOHN FLOYD ANDERSON
THERESA KAY ANDERSON
CARL L. ANASOGAK
JAMIE ADSUNA

New mailing address: ____________________________________________________________________
(If applicable)

Contact phone number: __________________________________________________________________

City: __________________________________________________ State: ___________ ZIP: ___________

BSNC shareholders should update the Shareholder Records Department directly in writing anytime their mailing
address or name changes. Address changes for shareholders under the age of 18 must be signed by the minor's
parent or legal guardian. Name changes require that you attach a legal document with your new name, such as a copy
of a court record, valid government ID, marriage certificate or divorce decree.

MAIL COMPLETED FORM TO:
Bering Straits Native Corporation
P.O. Box 1008
Nome, Alaska 99762

For name changes, BSNC requires that you attach a legal document with your new name, such as a copy of a
court record, valid government ID, marriage certificate or divorce decree.

New name: 

Former name: 

Date of birth: 

Date of birth: 

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MAIL COMPLETED FORM TO:
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P.O. Box 1008
Nome, Alaska 99762

I, __________________________________________, having attained the age of eighteen (18) years and being of sound
mind, and solely
for the purposes of AS 13.16.705(b) and ANCSA of 1971, Sec. 7(h)(2), freely and voluntarily execute this will and hereby devise and bequeath my shares of stock in
Bering Straits Native Corporation and __________________________ village corporation to:

Name of village: 

This will revoke any bequest of the stock, described above, in any previously existing will or codicil. If I now own more shares than I have bequeathed above, I direct
that the remaining shares shall be split pro rata among the persons named above. BSNC recommends that all existing fractional shares of stock be given to one person,
and that existing whole shares be given as whole shares and not split into fractional shares.

This instrument shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Alaska.

Date at which will was executed:

Signature of Testator:

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and that existing whole shares be given as whole shares and not split into fractional shares.

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Alaska’s First Lady Donna Walker announced BSNC descendant Nick Hanson of Unalakleet as a recipient of the 2016 First Lady’s Volunteer of the Year Award. Hanson was chosen for his dedication to setting a good example and his active involvement with his community’s youth. More than 90 Alaskans from around the state were nominated for the awards. Recipients were carefully chosen by the First Lady and members of the selection committee. Winners were honored during a luncheon at the Governor’s Mansion on May 4.

Hanson was also recognized as a 2015 BSNC Young Providers Awardee. Hanson, who competed on NBC’s “American Ninja Warrior,” helps build a better community by working as a teacher’s aide, coaching youth sports in Unalakleet, working with a suicide prevention program, and traveling to other rural communities as a motivational speaker. His efforts to improve the health and well-being of youth also led Nick to organize a 5K fun run to encourage people to keep active and physically fit, no matter their age. Hanson embraces traditional activities and relishes the role as a mentor of young people.