**Record High Dividends**

**Shareholder Dividend Distribution**

BSNC’s Board of Directors has declared a record-high dividend of $7.00 per share to be issued in December, an increase of 40 percent more than the 2018 shareholder dividend. The average BSNC shareholder who owns 100 shares of stock will receive $700. This dividend distribution will be paid through the BSNC Beringia Settlement Trust on a tax-free basis. The total 2019 distribution will be approximately $4.4 million to BSNC's shareholders of record. Since 1972, BSNC has distributed $27.9 million in regular dividends.

There are many benefits that come with being a BSNC shareholder or descendant, including eligibility to receive scholarships from the Bering Straits Foundation and hire preference for qualified shareholders, descendants and shareholder spouses. In addition to these benefits, BSNC provides Shareholder Bereavement Assistance, paid through the BSNC Beringia Settlement Trust, in the amount of $2,500 to help defray the cost of funeral expenses for an original BSNC shareholder, a lineal descendent of an original BSNC shareholder, or the spouse of a living original BSNC shareholder.

**Elder Dividend Distribution**

BSNC’s Board of Directors has declared a 2019 special Elder dividend distribution of $1,500, an increase of $500 more than the 2018 special Elder distribution. This special distribution will be paid through the BSNC Beringia Settlement Trust to original BSNC shareholders who are 65 years of age or older on Nov. 4, 2019, the date of record. Checks will be mailed on or by Dec. 31, 2019. Since 1972, BSNC has distributed a total of $3.7 million in Elder dividends.

"This is a record high dividend and a 40 percent increase from BSNC's 2018 distribution," said BSNC Board Chairman Henry Ivanoff. "BSNC is more than pleased to fulfill its pledge to return tangible benefits to its shareholders."

BSNC has doubled scholarship funding for undergraduate, graduate and vocational Bering Straits Foundation (BSF) student recipients. Newly approved scholarship increases are effective for the fall 2019 term.

"BSNC is very proud to invest in its shareholders and descendants," said BSNC President & CEO Gail R. Schubert. "I encourage our students to fully utilize scholarships from the Foundation to obtain an education or training that will benefit our Region, Alaska and Our People."

"BSF is extremely thankful for the increase in contributions from BSNC and their continued support," said BSF President Jed Ballard. "These changes will have a meaningful positive impact for our students and their families."

BSF’s mission is to support the educational and vocational goals of Our People, strengthening sustainable communities and enriching Native cultural heritage and traditional values. Since 1991, BSNC has provided more than $3.1 million to BSF to support BSNC shareholders and descendants pursuing post-secondary education.
A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO

This Summer’s unusually warm weather has delivered some of the state’s hottest days on record. As a result, ocean temperatures have also risen and have had a noticeable impact on migratory birds and marine mammals in our Region. Many of us are feeling the effects of climate change. Food security for Our People remains an important aspect of BSNC’s mission, which we carry out through the protection of our lands and our commitment to the preservation of our culture and heritage. I encourage our subsistence hunters and fishers to stay safe and be aware, as the changing climate can affect animal migration patterns and sea ice conditions on the rivers or ocean. We have lived through and experienced difficult conditions for many generations, and our collective strength and tradition of sharing have and will continue to ensure our survival for many more generations.

I am pleased to report that overall shareholder benefits, including dividends, the Elder distribution, bereavement payments, the Summer Internship Program and contributions to the Bering Straits Foundation, increased by 25 percent in fiscal year 2019 over the prior fiscal year. Recently, the BSNC Board of Directors declared a record-high dividend of $7.00 per share to be issued in December, an increase of 40 percent more than the 2018 special Elder dividend distribution of $1,500, an increase of $500 more than the 2018 special Elder distribution. BSNC strives to continue to return overall shareholder benefits to our shareholders and descendants, and we appreciate your continued support.

Shareholder hire at BSNC continues to increase and remains a strong priority for BSNC’s Board of Directors and management. One of BSNC’s in-Region contracts is comprised of 100% shareholder hire. BSNC subsidiary Eagle Eye Electric will oversee the design-build of the upgrades and repairs to the city power distribution system for the City of Diomede. This project is managed by BSNC shareholder employee Cliff Johnson. Additionally, wholly-owned BSNC subsidiary Sound Quarry Incorporated (SQI) has begun operating the Cape Nome Quarry located 12 miles east of Nome, with an 88% shareholder, descendant and shareholder spouse hire rate.

BSNC’s 2019 Summer Internship Program was a success and provided 10 interns the opportunity to gain valuable work experience and skills in Nome and Anchorage. The program is important to me and the Board, and I am pleased that our executive team and management were very involved in mentoring the interns. In addition to gaining knowledge about BSNC through the departments in which the interns were placed, they attended weekly trainings and informational luncheons that provided in-depth information about BSNC’s history and corporate structure, the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, financial security, government contracting, board training and Alaska Native policy matters. I believe that our program is one of the best in the state, and I encourage shareholder and descendant students to apply in January when recruitment for a new class of interns begins.

In closing, I’d like to highlight the importance of the 2020 Census. Participating in the Census benefits our communities because it helps determine where $3.2 billion in federal funding will be spent. Alaska has been historically undercounted by at least 8%, which means less funding for critical infrastructure, Head Start, Medicaid, hospitals, public housing, Low Income Energy Assistance and many other federal programs. The Census also determines the boundary lines of voting districts. In terms of representation in the State Legislature, your participation in the Census count is much needed. You can also help your community by applying for a temporary 2020 Census job. The pay is competitive, you will be paid weekly and the hours are flexible. The U.S. Census Bureau is recruiting now. Apply online at 2020census.gov/jobs.

I hope everyone enjoys the remainder of the Summer season and has a safe and productive Fall. Quyaana.

Gail R. Schubert
BSNC President & CEO

BSNC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Henry Ivanoff Sr. 
Chairman
Deborah Atuk 
Treasurer
Becka Baker 
Director
Louie Green Jr. 
Director
Lee Ryan 
Vice Chairman
Eugene Asicksik 
Assistant Secretary
Jason Evans 
Director
Homer E. Hoogendorn 
Director
Gail R. Schubert 
President & CEO
Steve Ivanoff 
Assistant Treasurer
Robert (Bobby) Evans 
Director
Tim Towarak 
In Memoriam
Roy Ashenfelter 
Secretary
Ella Anagick 
Director
Charles W. Fagerstrom 
Director

HISTORICAL SPOTLIGHT:
The Alaska Native Heritage Center Celebrates 20th Anniversary and Honors BSNC Shareholder and Visionary Paul Tiulana

This past spring, the Alaska Native Heritage Center celebrated its 20th Anniversary and honored BSNC shareholder Paul Tiulana, who was the original visionary for the Center. Opening its doors in 1999, the Alaska Native Heritage Center is a renowned cultural center and museum in Anchorage, Alaska where all people can come to expand their understanding of Alaska’s indigenous people.

Tiulana was born on King Island in 1921 and was taught at an early age how to hunt, read the weather and ice floes and stay physically fit among many other survival skills. Tiulana started going to school on King Island when he was nine years of age. That same year, his father died, and his uncle, John Oiarana, became his mentor. With Oiarana as his mentor, Tiulana grew up to become a leader in the preservation of Inupiat traditions. He made the perpetuation of the culture and heritage of the King Islanders a major concern and devoted much of his life to this work.

Tiulana was drafted to serve in the U.S. Army during World War II. He was honorably discharged as a disabled veteran after losing his leg in an accident. The loss of his leg left him feeling completely disappointed and frustrated.

“All my preparation to be a good hunter was lost. I had lost everything. I could not go out hunting in the moving ice any more. The Bering Sea

Continued on page 4
SHAREHOLDER ADDRESSES NEEDED

BEVERLY ANN VAN
ANTONIA MARIE DENMARK
ANTHONY JASON WALLUK
AMBERLY MILLER
ALFRED TOPKOK JR
ALEXIS PHILLIPS
ALBERT K WHITE

(If applicable)
____________________________
Email address: __________________________________________________________
Contact phone number: ______________________________________________________
City: ____________________________ State: ___________ ZIP: ___________
New mailing address: _________________________________________________________
Print name: _________________________________________________________________

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,

BERING STRAITS NATIVE CORPORATION

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
__________________________
Signature of testator:

BERING STRAITS NATIVE CORPORATION

(For new names, such as a copy of a court record, valid government ID, marriage certificate or divorce decree.

Name of village

Name
Current Address
% of Shares

If I am also a custodian for:
Signature:
Date:

MAIL COMPLETED FORM TO
Bering Straits Native Corporation
P.O. Box 1008
Nome, Alaska 99762
You may also call our Nome or Anchorage offices at (907) 563-3788 or email us at shareholders@beringstraits.com

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.

Name
New name
Former name
Signature
Date:

MAIL COMPLETED FORM TO
Bering Straits Native Corporation
P.O. Box 1008
Nome, Alaska 99762
You may also call our Nome or Anchorage offices at (907) 563-3788 or email us at shareholders@beringstraits.com

Name
Current Address
% of Shares

If I am also a custodian for:
Signature:
Date:

BERING STRAITS NATIVE CORPORATION

(For new names, such as a copy of a court record, valid government ID, marriage certificate or divorce decree.

Name of village

Name
Current Address
% of Shares

If I am also a custodian for:
Signature:
Date:

BERING STRAITS NATIVE CORPORATION

(For new names, such as a copy of a court record, valid government ID, marriage certificate or divorce decree.

Name
New name
Former name
Signature
Date:

MAIL COMPLETED FORM TO
Bering Straits Native Corporation
P.O. Box 1008
Nome, Alaska 99762
You may also call our Nome or Anchorage offices at (907) 563-3788 or email us at shareholders@beringstraits.com

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.

Name
New name
Former name
Signature
Date:

MAIL COMPLETED FORM TO
Bering Straits Native Corporation
P.O. Box 1008
Nome, Alaska 99762
You may also call our Nome or Anchorage offices at (907) 563-3788 or email us at shareholders@beringstraits.com

Name
Current Address
% of Shares

If I am also a custodian for:
Signature:
Date:

BERING STRAITS NATIVE CORPORATION

(For new names, such as a copy of a court record, valid government ID, marriage certificate or divorce decree.

Name of village

Name
Current Address
% of Shares

If I am also a custodian for:
Signature:
Date:

BERING STRAITS NATIVE CORPORATION

(For new names, such as a copy of a court record, valid government ID, marriage certificate or divorce decree.

Name
New name
Former name
Signature
Date:

MAIL COMPLETED FORM TO
Bering Straits Native Corporation
P.O. Box 1008
Nome, Alaska 99762
You may also call our Nome or Anchorage offices at (907) 563-3788 or email us at shareholders@beringstraits.com

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.

Name
New name
Former name
Signature
Date:

MAIL COMPLETED FORM TO
Bering Straits Native Corporation
P.O. Box 1008
Nome, Alaska 99762
You may also call our Nome or Anchorage offices at (907) 563-3788 or email us at shareholders@beringstraits.com

Name
Current Address
% of Shares

If I am also a custodian for:
Signature:
Date:

BERING STRAITS NATIVE CORPORATION

(For new names, such as a copy of a court record, valid government ID, marriage certificate or divorce decree.

Name of village

Name
Current Address
% of Shares

If I am also a custodian for:
Signature:
Date:

BERING STRAITS NATIVE CORPORATION

(For new names, such as a copy of a court record, valid government ID, marriage certificate or divorce decree.

Name
New name
Former name
Signature
Date:
The people of King Island were forced to leave their island in the 1950s and in 1956 Tiulana, his wife Clara and their children moved from Nome to Anchorage. Life in Anchorage took a huge adjustment. He missed traditional dancing so much, he formed the King Island Singers and Dancers of Anchorage dance group in the 1970s. Tiulana taught the group the songs and dances that were passed down from generation to generation for as long as King Island people have existed. The group has traveled to places such as Paraguay, South Korea, New York, Los Angeles, Cincinnati, Sante Fe, Seattle and numerous places throughout Alaska.

Tiulana was an accomplished ivory carver and mask maker and taught carving classes and workshops for the Alaska Native organizations that serve Anchorage. He spearheaded a project to build a traditional skin boat, or umiak, in 1982 and he played a key role in the revival of the ceremonial Wolf Dance, which was finally performed in 1982 for the first time in more than 50 years.

In the late 1970s he told Vivian Senungetuk about life on King Island in the 1930s and 1940s. Senungetuk transcribed his account and published it as “A Place for Winter. Paul Tiulana’s Story.” In 1983, Tiulana was named Citizen of the Year by the Alaska Federation of Natives for his work in promoting cultural heritage. Rarely had a civic adjustment. He missed traditional dancing so much, he formed the King Island Singers and Dancers of Anchorage dance group in the 1970s. Tiulana taught the group the songs and dances that were passed down from generation to generation for as long as King Island people have existed. The group has traveled to places such as Paraguay, South Korea, New York, Los Angeles, Cincinnati, Sante Fe, Seattle and numerous places throughout Alaska.

Tiulana was an accomplished ivory carver and mask maker and taught carving classes and workshops for the Alaska Native organizations that serve Anchorage. He spearheaded a project to build a traditional skin boat, or umiak, in 1982 and he played a key role in the revival of the ceremonial Wolf Dance, which was finally performed in 1982 for the first time in more than 50 years.

In the late 1970s he told Vivian Senungetuk about life on King Island in the 1930s and 1940s. Senungetuk transcribed his account and published it as “A Place for Winter. Paul Tiulana’s Story.” In 1983, Tiulana was named Citizen of the Year by the Alaska Federation of Natives for his work in promoting cultural heritage. Rarely had a civic award of this nature been presented to a practicing artist. In 1984, he was recognized by the National Endowment for the Arts as a National Heritage Fellow.

Tiulana’s son and BSNC shareholder Eugene Tiulana and BSNC shareholder and receptionist Esther Koezuna have been teaching Tiulana’s son and BSNC shareholder Eugene Tiulana and BSNC shareholder and receptionist Esther Koezuna have been teaching Tiulana’s son and BSNC shareholder Eugene Tiulana and BSNC shareholder and receptionist Esther Koezuna have been teaching Tiulana’s son and BSNC shareholder Eugene Tiulana and BSNC shareholder and receptionist Esther Koezuna have been teaching Tiulana’s son and BSNC shareholder Eugene Tiulana and BSNC shareholder and receptionist Esther Koezuna have been teaching.

BSNC has launched an effort to locate missing shareholders and identify the next of kin of deceased shareholders.

Currently, a large amount of dividends are being held for BSNC shareholders because of outdated contact information. BSNC seeks to locate these shareholders to ensure they, or their descendants, receive their dividend distributions.

BSNC’s mission is to improve the quality of life of Our People through economic development while protecting our land and preserving our culture and heritage. BSNC works to fulfill its mission by providing a variety of benefits to shareholders, including dividend distributions.

Missing shareholders may be entitled to accrued but unpaid dividends, depending on when BSNC lost contact with each missing shareholder. If you know the whereabouts of someone listed as a missing shareholder, please contact BSNC at shareholders@beringstraits.com or call (907) 443-4303 or (907) 443-8110 to speak with the Shareholder Department.

If you have been contacted by the Shareholder Department, please respond to their requests because you may be entitled to an accrued and unpaid dividend distribution.

Please help BSNC ensure that shareholders receive their dividends. Quyaana!

BSNC is pleased to announce that shareholder Lynn Kinney was recently promoted from Proposal Coordinator to Jr. Proposal Manager. In her new role, Kinney manages business development proposals and submissions. Kinney interned in the Business Development Department during the 2017 Summer Internship Program and began working for BSNC after graduating from the University of Alaska Anchorage with her bachelor’s degree in Business Administration in Management. Kinney is the daughter of Dawn and Rodney Kinney, Jr., granddaughter of Rodney P. Kinney, Sr. and great granddaughter of Paul Kinney and Anna Moon, with roots in Koyuk. Congratulations, Lynn!

“BSNC continues to provide their shareholders – including myself – with endless opportunities for growth and development. For this, I am humbled and forever grateful to be a part of an amazing corporation!” – Lynn Kinney

BSNC is pleased to announce that shareholder Alexis Walkins was promoted to Payroll Supervisor in the Accounting Department. In her new role, Walkins will perform duties associated with the overall administration of the Payroll Department. She started working for BSNC in 2014 as a Payroll Technician. Walkins is the daughter of Wesley Rasmussen and Deb Maxwell and granddaughter of John and Myrtle (Bunny) Rasmussen with roots in Unalakleet. Congratulations, Alexis!

“I am thankful to work for such an amazing company and am excited for this opportunity.” – Alexis Walkins
**BSNC BOARD OF DIRECTORS PAY TRIBUTE TO TIM TOWARAK**

The BSNC Board of Directors and executive team paid tribute to the late board member and former President & CEO Tim Towarak during the recent board meeting in Unalakleet. The Board presented a framed memoriam signed by Alaska’s State Legislature honoring Tim, who was the second longest serving board member, to his wife Rose Towarak, and their family.

**SQI BEGINS INDEPENDENTLY OPERATING CAPE NOME QUARRY**

BSNC is pleased to announce that wholly-owned subsidiary Sound Quarry Incorporated (SQI) is now independently operating the Cape Nome Quarry located 12 miles east of Nome. In December of 2018, BSNC acquired Knik Construction’s 49% interest in Cape Nome Products (CNP). Since 1998, CNP was a joint venture between SQI and Knik Construction. The Cape Nome Quarry is a source of industrial grade armour stone and riprap commonly used on seawalls, causeways and breakwaters. BSNC shareholder Shane Smithhisler is the quarry manager for SQI. SQI has an 88% shareholder, descendant and shareholder spouse hire rate.

**BSNC ANNOUNCES HIRES OF NEW VICE PRESIDENT AND GENERAL COUNSEL**

BSNC is pleased to announce that Mary L. Pate has joined BSNC as Vice President and General Counsel. Pate brings many years of experience in a variety of legal matters, including corporate governance, litigation, commercial transactions, Native and employment law, risk management and compliance.

Pate joins BSNC from NANA where she served as Vice President and Deputy General Counsel. At NANA, Mary oversaw all commercial subsidiary legal matters and risk management. Prior to her work at NANA, Pate worked as a partner for Honigman Miller Schwartz & Cohn LLP.

Pate earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Kentucky, Lexington, a Master’s degree in Business Administration from the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, and her Juris Doctorate from the University of Puget Sound School of Law.

“I am confident that Mary will be a strong asset to BSNC,” said BSNC President & CEO Gail R. Schubert. “I look forward to working with her as we continue to grow and expand our operations.”

**SHAREHOLDERS IN ACCOUNTING**

BSNC has hired and currently employs shareholders and descendants in each section of its Anchorage-based Accounting Department. Pictured from left is Billing Specialist I Stephanie Kozuna, Accounts Payable Specialist I Danielle Anagick, Payroll Specialist II Mikan Outwater, GL Accountant Gwen Anagick-Walters, Payroll Supervisor Alexis Walkins and Accounts Payable Specialist I Tamara Tocktoo. Not pictured: GL Accountant Chugie Keller Folk, Accounts Receivable Manager Teresa Martin and Accounts Payable Administrator Penelope Paraoan.

BSNC gives hiring, promotion, training and retention preference to BSNC shareholders, BSNC shareholder descendants and BSNC shareholder spouses, in that order. Sign up to receive notifications about job openings at www.beringstraits.com/enewsletter.
BSNC PHOTO CONTEST

BSNC thanks everyone who submitted photos for our seventh annual photo contest! The grand prize winner is Taylor Booth, who submitted a photo of Asaaluk Irelan holding her daughter Dally out on the tundra. Here are the winners of the other categories:

Alaska Native Dance
1st    David Octuck
       “Ribbon Dance”
2nd    Leon Boardway
       “First Dance”
3rd    Adeline Pete
       “Laine Hunt’s First Dance”

Historical
1st    Sophie Arthur
       “Doris Kigrook Fisher”
2nd    David Evans
       “Eskimo Flu Pandemic Cemetery”
3rd    Rachel Goodall
       “Eddie Tocktoo at Fort Davis”

Scenery and Landscape
1st    Hattie Keller
       “Winter Kuspuk”
2nd    Taylor Booth
       “Bluff”
3rd    Melanie Sagoonick
       “Camp”

Subsistence Activities
1st    Heather Jones
       “Black Meat, Onion, Carrot”
2nd    Lisa Lynch
       “Salmonberries”
3rd    Patti Huhta
       “Unalakleet River”

Village Life
1st    Brandi Oquilluk
       “Corey’s Wooden Boat”
2nd    Kevin Piscoya
       “Happiness in the Bering Sea”
3rd    Tania Snowball
       “Girls Putting Fish Away”

U.S. CENSUS 2020

The U.S. Census will start its count in January 2020 in Toksook Bay, Alaska. It is critically important that every person is counted and included in our villages. Participating in the Census benefits your community because it helps determine where $3.2 billion in federal funding will be allocated. Alaska has historically been under-counted by 8%, which means less funding for critical infrastructure, Head Start, Medicaid, hospitals, public housing, Low Income Energy Assistance and many other federal programs. The Census also determines where voting districts get divided. You can help your community by applying for a temporary 2020 Census job. The pay is competitive, you will be paid weekly and the hours are flexible. The U.S. Census Bureau is recruiting now. Apply online at 2020census.gov/jobs.

BSNC DONATES $100,000 TO BSSD

BSNC’s Board of Directors authorized a $100,000 donation to the Bering Strait School District. BSNC exists to empower its shareholders and is proud to support our region’s schools, nonprofits and other organizations that make a positive difference in the lives of our People.

BSNC HIRES SHAREHOLDER AS NEW HOTEL PROPERTY MANAGER

BSNC is pleased to announce the hiring of BSNC shareholder Myrtle Fagerstrom as the new Hotel Property Manager at the Aurora Inn & Suites, a wholly-owned BSNC subsidiary located in Nome, Alaska. Fagerstrom was born and raised in Golovin and has lived in Nome since 1993. Her parents are the late Floyd and Alice Fagerstrom. She is married to BSNC shareholder James T. Sherman and together they have nine children and more than a handful of grandchildren. Fagerstrom retired from Hageland Aviation/Ravn Alaska in August 2018.

“I am excited to be working for our regional corporation,” said Fagerstrom. “Working at the Aurora Inn puts me in contact with many of my former customers from my previous jobs and that makes me all the more excited to be able to serve our shareholders in a different setting, especially since our shareholders are the owners of this hotel.”
SHAREHOLDER SPOTLIGHT: ROBERT (BOBBY) EVANS

There are many paths one can take to reach their professional career goals in life. BSNC shareholder and Board Director Robert (Bobby) Evans planned to pursue higher education but found rewarding work experience working for the State of Alaska.

Evans was raised in Nome in a one bedroom house with no running water. He followed his grandpa, Teddy Sockpick, a well-regarded artist and ivory carver, wherever he went. Evans attended Covenant High School where he graduated with honors and gave the last valedictorian speech as they closed their doors in 1985. Evans chose to attend UAA to stay close to his family but withdrew after his first semester and returned to Nome.

In 1988, Evans began working for the State of Alaska as a correctional officer. He states, “Although it was not the path I had intended, it gave me a great career opportunity and provided for my young family.” Evans retired in 1999 after 21 years of service.

He then worked for Kawerak in the Wellness Department focusing on youth leadership, lowering adult and underage binge drinking, and suicide prevention. He started two businesses, ‘Tundra Toyo and Heating’ and ‘Tundra BnB’. He recently sold his Tundra Toyo and Heating business, but continues to operate Tundra BnB out of his home in Nome.

“Your might have to change your plans as you go through the ups and downs of life,” said Evans. “Be flexible and be open to opportunities. Try to live a healthy lifestyle. Cherish and surround yourself with good people. Take one day at a time. Don’t be afraid to take chances and learn from your mishaps. And life is never easy, but you can overcome and get through anything.”

ALASKA NATIVE VETERANS ALLOTMENT ACT

Many questions have arisen concerning the new Alaska Native Veterans Allotment Act, also known as the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act (Public Law 116-9) passed on March 12, 2019. This Act allows Alaska Native Vietnam era veterans who served between Aug. 5, 1964 and Dec. 31, 1971, or their descendants, to select and receive a Native land allotment. Here is what you need to know:

Do I need to apply now?
No. Alaska Native Vietnam Era veterans do not need to apply immediately for their allotment. Once the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has worked through all of the processes, Alaska Native veterans who served during the Vietnam Era will be notified to apply for their allotments.

Before applications can be accepted by the BLM, the new law requires that within 180 days of enactment, the Department of Defense, in coordination with the Department of Veterans Affairs, must prepare a list of potential applicants based on their service dates. The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) will then use the list to identify the potential applicants based on their Native heritage. BLM will review the list for those who have already received allotments. Only those qualified individuals who have not previously received an allotment are eligible under Public Law 116-9.

The Department of the Interior and the Department of Veterans Affairs will conduct outreach to the eligible individuals. While that is being done, the BLM, with input from other agencies, potential applicants, and the general public, will draft the regulations that will guide the program and identify public lands that will be available for allotment within 18 months. The application period will open when the regulations become effective. The Department of the Interior will provide assistance in applying for allotments. Applicants will have five years from the date the regulations become effective to apply for an allotment.

Who will be eligible to select an allotment of land?
Any Alaska Native who:
1. Served in the armed forces between Aug. 5, 1964 and Dec. 31, 1971; and
2. Has not already received an allotment of land.
A personal representative, acting on behalf of the heirs of a deceased Native veteran, may also apply for an allotment if:

1. The deceased veteran has not already received an allotment of land; and
2. The deceased veteran meets the military service requirement listed above.

Appoint a personal representative for eligible individuals who are deceased by visiting http://courts.alaska.gov/shc/probate/probate.htm.

Who will certify military service?
The Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

In order to help the process proceed smoothly, please ensure that the BIA, Veterans Affairs and your local tribal organization has your current mailing address. For more information, please visit https://www.blm.gov/. For additional questions, please visit https://www.blm.gov/office/national-office or contact the BLM at (202) 208-3801 or 1-800-877-8339.

TOP ALASKA MILITARY OFFICIAL VISITS UNALAKLEET

BSNC HIRES SHAREHOLDER DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

BSNC is pleased to announce that shareholder Lucille Sands was hired for the newly-created position of Shareholder Development Director. In this new position, Sands will actively design and implement strategies to align shareholder development with organizational goals and business needs, work to recruit shareholders and descendants for open positions, source qualified shareholders and provide ongoing review and metrics related to open positions and hiring of qualified shareholders.

“BSNC is owned by and exists for the benefit of our shareholders and descendants,” said BSNC President & CEO Gail R. Schubert. “BSNC strives to empower Our People as leaders of the Arctic region by providing meaningful employment, career development and scholarship opportunities for its shareholders and descendants. Lucille is incredibly qualified to help BSNC continue to achieve its mission and grow its value by leading the Company’s efforts to effectively implement our shareholder hire policy and highlight opportunities for shareholders and descendants.”

Sands was employed by BSNC in its Nome office for many years, and has worked across many departments, which enhances her ability to assist management in meeting our commitment to shareholders and descendants. She earned a Master of Business Administration degree from Western Governor’s University, a Bachelor of Business Administration degree with a Minor in Alaska Native Business Management from the University of Alaska Anchorage, and an Associate of Arts degree from the University of Alaska Anchorage. Sands recently served as the Proposal Compliance Manager at BSNC.

“My personal mission is to continuously improve Alaska Native organizations by working for them in a value-added capacity to enhance the quality of life of Alaska Native people,” said Sands.

BSNC DONATES $30,000 TO NEST

BSNC’s Board of Directors approved a $30,000 donation to the Nome Emergency Shelter Team (NEST) at their August meeting. NEST is a Nome-based nonprofit that provides safe and supportive overnight winter shelter and meals to any adult in need, seeks emergency housing solutions for low-income families in financial crisis, and assists people in need of housing while pursuing sobriety and self-reliance.

State and federal grants for emergency shelters and low-income housing are decreasing while housing costs in Nome have escalated to among the highest in the state. Alaskans may donate to NEST and many other nonprofits through Pick.Click.Give. when they file for their Permanent Fund Dividend (PFD) online.