



BSNC MOURNS THE PASSING OF HENRY IVANOFF SR. “CHALAAVALUQ”

FEBRUARY 20, 1944 — MARCH 30, 2022

It is with great sadness that Bering Straits Native Corporation (BSNC) announces the passing of Board Chairman Henry Ivanoff Sr. Chairman Ivanoff passed away after a brief illness on March 30, 2022, with family by his side. Chairman Ivanoff served on the BSNC Board of Directors since 1978, as BSNC’s President from 1985 to 1989 and as BSNC’s Board Chair since 1989. He has the distinction of being the longest-serving board member and Chairman in BSNC’s history.

“Henry served BSNC with strong commitment and integrity,” said BSNC President & CEO Gail R. Schubert. “I am thankful for his guidance and wisdom over the many years. BSNC is blessed to have been shaped by Henry’s leadership and vision. He was an excellent advisor whose instincts and leadership were important to the transformation of BSNC. Henry continuously demonstrated BSNC’s values, which arise from the culture of Our People: We honor our commitments, we empower one another, we respect diversity and we lead with responsibility. While his legacy will live on, Henry will be dearly missed.”

Chairman Ivanoff was born on Feb. 20, 1944. He was the eldest child of Ralph and Laura Ivanoff. He graduated from the Unalakleet Covenant High School in 1963. In 1965, he earned his First-Class Radio License from

the Radio Broadcast School of Tacoma, Washington. He worked in the broadcasting industry for more than 50 years, providing radio service to several villages in Western Alaska.

Chairman Ivanoff actively served the people of the Bering Strait and the Alaska Native community for many decades. His board service includes the Alaska Federation of Natives, Community Enterprise Development Corporation, Bering Sea Fishermen’s Association, Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation, Unalakleet Native Corporation and the Rural Alaska Television Network. He also holds the distinction of being the longest-serving Mayor of Unalakleet, having served from 1994 to 2006.

Chairman Ivanoff will be greatly missed by his large extended family, the BSNC Board of Directors and employees, his broad network of dear friends and by all who knew him in our region’s communities. The BSNC Board and management express our deepest condolences to his wife, Yvonne, and his beloved family. A memorial service took place in Anchorage at 3 p.m. on Sunday, April 3, at the First Evangelical Covenant Church (1145 C Street). A celebration of life took place in Unalakleet on April 9 at 2 p.m.

BSNC'S BOARD ENDORSES TARA KATUK SWEENEY FOR U.S. CONGRESS

The BSNC Board of Directors announced its endorsement of Tara Katuk Sweeney’s candidacy in the special election for Alaska’s only seat in the U.S. House of Representatives. Originally from Utqiagvik, Sweeney understands firsthand Alaska’s unique challenges and opportunities.

Sweeney served Alaska internationally as chair of the multi-national Arctic Economic Council, whose membership included the USA, Russia and several Nordic countries. She was the first Alaska Native Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs in the Department of the Interior, co-chair of the Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) and served in the cabinet of Gov. Frank Murkowski as Special Assistant for Rural Affairs and Education. Sweeney, a Republican, was also co-chair of the late Congressman Don Young’s campaign.

“Tara Sweeney is the most qualified candidate to fill this position,” said Gail R. Schubert, BSNC President & CEO. “Tara's depth and breadth of service at all levels, in both public and private sectors, simply cannot be matched by any other candidate running for this seat.”

Responsible resource development is key to a strong future for Alaska.



“Tara's depth and breadth of service at all levels, in both public and private sectors, simply cannot be matched by any other candidate running for this seat.”

- Gail R. Schubert, BSNC President & CEO

Sweeney’s understanding of how businesses and government work will help create jobs, grow Alaska businesses and foster positive economic development.

The special election to fill the remainder of Congressman Young’s term begins with a by-mail open primary, with ballots due or postmarked by June 11. The top four candidates will advance to a special ranked-choice general election on Aug. 16. Your vote counts and will be especially important in this election.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO



Dear Shareholders,

Alongside many shareholders and friends, many of us still grieve the loss of our Board Chairman Henry Ivanoff Sr. Henry was the longest-serving board member and Chair in BSNC’s history. He experienced the downturns in our financial history, leading the Board and staff through difficult times.

He didn’t let financial setbacks define BSNC and its history. Instead, he rallied the Board and management to work hard and think creatively to find the means to move BSNC forward. His close friendships and

the mutual respect that our Congressional Delegation and Chairman Ivanoff had for each other enabled both parties to work together to find ways to recapitalize BSNC. Because of his leadership and dedication to our region and its people, BSNC was able to move forward and build the capacity to better serve and benefit Our People.

As the daylight returns to the Arctic, spring is a reawakening time in our region. Migratory birds will journey northward, seals will be turned into dried meat while the blubber is rendered into seal oil, and soon herring and spring greens will be ready for harvest. I am thankful for all that our lands and seas provide, and proud of the continuation of our tradition of sharing our bountiful subsistence harvests with our Elders.

BSNC also mourns the passing of U.S. Congressman Don Young, the longest-serving Republican member of the U.S. House of Representatives in history. Congressman Young was truly Alaska’s Congressman for life, and he leaves a remarkable legacy. He was a friend and tireless supporter of Alaska Native people, and championed many congressional actions that directly benefited our many shareholders and communities.

Congressman Young worked hard to help BSNC fulfill its ANCSA land entitlement by championing two significant congressional actions: The Salmon Lake Lands Consolidation Act of 2012 and the Conveyance of Port Clarence/Point Spencer through the 2016 Coast Guard Reauthorization Act. Congressman Young will be missed by many Alaskans spanning multiple generations. We thank the Congressman for his many decades of service to Alaska and its Native peoples.

Recently, many shareholders have expressed concern regarding Russia’s invasion of Ukraine. Our region is geographically situated near Russia, with just 2.5 miles separating Little Diomed and Big Diomed. During the Cold War, Indigenous people, many of whom were close family members, resided on the two islands, subsequently becoming separated by a geopolitical wall. Many of our shareholders and descendants have relatives in Russia, and they remain in our thoughts.

I am in alignment with the Alaska Delegation's statements regarding holding Russia accountable for its aggressions, strengthening our military, and most importantly, our commitment to our Nation's democratic values. While Russia’s buildup of military activity in the Arctic is evident, U.S. intelligence thus far indicates that Russia is not interested in invading surrounding Arctic nations. However, BSNC is taking this situation seriously and is engaged in dialogue with other Arctic Nations.

I thank all shareholders who took the time to complete the 2021 BSNC Shareholder Survey. We appreciate your important feedback as it helps inform BSNC on what matters to our shareholders.

As always, quyaana for your continued support and involvement in your corporation. I hope everyone has a safe and productive spring.

Gail R. Schubert
BSNC President & CEO

BSNC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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HISTORICAL SPOTLIGHT: ELVA AMIDON AND ALASKANS ON THE POTOMAC

The late Elva "Willie" Kanuak (Ahmasuk) Amidon was instrumental in the formation of Alaskans on the Potomac, which was active in the early days of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) movement. Alaskans on the Potomac provided supportive services to Alaskans and Alaska Native People visiting Washington. Amidon represented Alaska on a float at President Nixon's inauguration.

Amidon was born on March 6, 1938, in Wales, Alaska. She was one of 14 children born to Harold and Anna Qiliq Ahmasuk. During the flu pandemic, the family moved to Nome. Amidon was a lieutenant in the Civil Air Patrol when she met Gene Loren Amidon, a young airman stationed in Nome. Following a romantic courtship, Elva married Amidon on April 23, 1958.

Elva and Gene had seven children during their 63 years of marriage. Due to the nature of Gene's career in the U.S. Air Force, they moved to numerous assignments all over the world and the U.S., including Germany, Turkey, Washington D.C., South Carolina, North Carolina, New York, Mississippi, Missouri and Wisconsin. After retiring from the Air Force in 1977, Gene and Elva moved the family back to Alaska.

Amidon also served as an executive assistant at the Shareholder Division of The CIRI Foundation, president of the Ladies Auxiliary Service at the Alaska Native Medical Center, and a court watch for the Cook Inlet Native Association for Abused Women in Crisis. She was also a master seamstress and an avid hunter who shared the majority of her harvest. Amidon passed away on Jan. 12, 2022.

BSNC SUCCESSFULLY ADMINISTERS
CARES ACT DIRECT
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
TO ASSIST SHAREHOLDERS



In August 2021, BSNC received its allocation of CARES Act funding of nearly \$15 million from the U.S. Treasury. BSNC staff immediately sprang into action and worked long hours to quickly roll out BSNC’s CARES Act Direct Assistance Program (DAP) to provide cash assistance to eligible BSNC shareholders who shouldered extra expenses and/or loss of income due to the COVID-19 pandemic. BSNC worked in consultation with independent contractor Deborah (Debbie) J. Atuk to assess how to expend the funds in a manner that complied with the law and the U.S. Treasury’s strict spending requirements while meeting the needs of shareholders negatively affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

“The program had a real, tangible and immensely positive impact on Our People and our Region,” said BSNC President and CEO Gail R. Schubert. “Our mission—to improve the quality of life of Our People through economic development while protecting our land and preserving our culture and heritage—is what drives us. In pursuing this mission, BSNC made it a priority to help our shareholders financially address the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. I thank Debbie for her tireless work in leading this program, all of the staff who worked long hours and our shareholders for their support and involvement.”

“Joining the BSNC team to develop this program provided me with a window into the excellent team we have at BSNC,” said Debbie Atuk. “Virtually every department head of BSNC participated and contributed to the development and execution of this project. By being supportive in this way, it allowed us to keep the costs down and maximize the amount of funds available to the shareholders. The project was fast, intense and much needed. I am grateful that the Alaska Native corporations were able to win recognition as Tribes for the purpose of distribution of these emergency relief funds. We’ve heard first-hand accounts of just how meaningful these funds have been, and I am honored to have been able to be a part of this response. One other thing about this program – it gave the corporation an incredible opportunity to interact with shareholders. It is my understanding that there has never been higher participation. My hope for the corporation is that this means we will continue to have high-value interactions with shareholders and descendants going forward based on this work.”

The DAP was staffed with the support of the Shareholder Development Department, and 23 shareholders were hired to accept and process applications in Anchorage, Nome and all of the region’s villages. More than 73% of BSNC shareholders applied for and received CARES funding. Although BSNC had to work with a short timeframe to expend CARES funds, BSNC was able to successfully extinguish all its CARES funding through direct financial support to shareholders.

“The DAP was formatted to provide direct cash assistance to our BSNC shareholders who have experienced unexpected difficulties during the COVID-19 pandemic,” said Vice President of Shareholder Development Lucille Sands. “Each shareholder’s needs differ, and with a direct cash relief program, shareholders were provided with the ability to make financial decisions regarding the use of funds that were best suited for their needs. This is thanks to the speed and conviction at which BSNC President & CEO Gail R. Schubert and the BSNC Board steered the decision-making process for allocation of DAP funds in accordance with the U.S. Treasury guidelines. The Shareholder Development Department is honored to have served our shareholders by supporting the administration of the DAP with Debbie’s results-driven approach to leadership and commitment to program success.”

BSNC NEWS

BSNC SHARES EDUCATIONAL VIDEO
SERIES TITLED 'MAZZAQ TIGITTUAQ'

BSNC is pleased to share a series of educational videos celebrating our culture and knowledge. This video series is titled "Mazzaq Tigittuaq", which is Iñupiaq for “sunrise.” The culture and traditions of Our People, BSNC’s shareholders and descendants, are key to our strength and resilience. We hope to share cultural knowledge and help uplift and perpetuate the brilliance and beauty of Our People's traditions. In the first video of the series, watch as BSNC shareholder, Anchorage office receptionist and culture bearer Esther Koezuna demonstrates how to make traditional Iñupiaq yo-yos. Check out the video series on Bering Straits Native Corporation's YouTube channel or visit beringstraits.com/cultural-initiatives. Stay tuned for more videos in the series!



BSNC PROMOTES DESCENDANT JAMIE
YINGLING TO PAYROLL SPECIALIST I



Jamie (Klushkan) Yingling

BSNC congratulates descendant Jamie (Klushkan) Yingling on her recent promotion to Payroll Specialist I. In her new role, Jamie enters and reviews employee timesheets and is responsible for the full payroll process, including compiling, copying and ensuring reports are filed accurately and timely. She also reviews and updates employee leave records. Jamie joined BSNC in September of 2021.

Jamie graduated with an associate degree in business administration and accounting technology from Alaska Career College in 2021 and will pursue her bachelor's degree this fall.

Jamie is the daughter of Rosanna Dotomain from Nunivak Island and the late James Klushkan Jr. Her maternal grandparents are Tom and Annie Dotomain of Shaktoolik and paternal grandparents are Lena Farkas and James Klushkan Sr. of Yakutat. She is the mother of two and enjoys being outdoors, hiking, camping, berry picking and spending time with her friends and family.

MONTHLY STOCK WILL
DRAWING WINNERS

MAIL IN YOUR UPDATED STOCK WILL TODAY &
BE ENTERED INTO A DRAWING TO WIN \$200!

| | |
|-----------|--------------------|
| December: | Denise Evans |
| January: | Aurora Larsen |
| February: | Colleen D. Anagick |
| March: | Francine Hopson |
| April: | Jens Irelan |

Mail in your updated stock will today and be entered into a drawing to win \$200. Having a stock will on file with BSNC lets you decide who will inherit your stock after your death. If you pass away without a stock will, your stock will be distributed according to state law and may be distributed to individuals you do not intend to benefit.

Please visit beringstraits.com/shareholders/forms or call (907) 443-5252 to update your stock will today.

SHAREHOLDER NEWS

BSNC SHAREHOLDER AYYU QASSATAQ SHARES MASTER’S THESIS



Ayyu Qassataq

BSNC shareholder Ayyu Qassataq's University of Alaska Fairbanks master's thesis titled "When Uᅑalaqtiq Danced: Stories of Strength, Suppression & Hope" explores events in Uᅑalaqtiq (Unalakleet) around the turn of the 20th century from an Inuk perspective.

In the late 1800’s, Uᅑalaqtiq was missionized by the Swedish Evangelical Covenant Church. Missionaries established a local education system under the direction of Alaska's General Agent of Education Sheldon Jackson in the early 1900s. By 1915, the community was no longer engaging in ancestral songs, dances, or celebrations, such as the Kivᅑiq Messenger Feast. Her research outlines events that occurred in Uᅑalaqtiq around the turn of the 20th century and analyzes how those events influenced the formation of the education system and its ongoing impacts today. Additionally, her research briefly explores approaches other Iᅑupiat communities have taken to awaken their ancestral practices of singing, dancing and creating qargi spaces.

The intent of this research is to help grow shared understanding of how this history continues to shape our lived experience as modern-day Native peoples and help to lay a foundation to promote healing through the revitalization of ancestral traditions that have kept us healthy and strong for thousands of years.

Read her thesis here: scholarworks.alaska.edu/handle/11122/11181.

BSNC SHAREHOLDERS INDUCTED INTO 2022 NORTH AMERICAN INDIGENOUS ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME

BSNC congratulates shareholders Nicole Johnson Morton and Carol Pickett Hull for being inducted into the inaugural 2022 North American Indigenous Athletics Hall of Fame.



Nicole Johnson Morton

Nicole Johnson Morton, a decorated athlete, was inducted into the Alaska Sports Hall of Fame in 2016 for her incredible athleticism in Alaska Native sports. Johnson Morton learned Native games growing up in Nome and collected more than 100 medals at major events, like World Eskimo Indian Olympics (WEIO), the Arctic Winter Games (AWG) and the Native Youth Olympics (NYO). She went on to become one of Native sport's most passionate and effective ambassadors. She has served as a board member and chairwoman for WEIO. She currently serves as President of AWG Team Alaska and is employed by Cook Inlet Tribal Council, where she coaches youth, trains officials and serves as head official in organizing the statewide NYO competitions.

Born and raised in Anchorage, **Carol Pickett Hull** began participating in traditional Native sports in 1979. Since then, Carol has competed successfully in the Native Youth Olympics, World Eskimo Indian Olympics and Arctic Winter Games – Inuit Sports. Hull won the 1989 Denali Award as Alaska's Sportsperson of the Year. Even as a teenager, she proved to be a natural athlete, with jaw-dropping kicks that reached seven feet, pushing the women's record to new heights. She still holds the world record in the traditional one-foot high kick, set in 1990.



Carol Pickett Hull

For 30-plus years of participating in traditional Native sports, Hull has won over 100 medals and the 1989 Alaska State Sportsperson of the Year, Outstanding Contributor Award from WEIO and various other recognitions. Married to fellow Alaska Native games icon Garry Hull, she supports traditional Native games events by volunteering, coaching, organizing and officiating events.

BSNC SHAREHOLDER ROY AGLOINGA RECEIVES GOVERNOR'S ARTS AND HUMANITIES AWARD



Roy Agloinga

BSNC congratulates shareholder Roy Apaagzuk Agloinga on receiving the 2021 Governor’s Arts and Humanities Award for Distinguished Service to the Humanities through education. Agloinga grew up in Natchirsvik (White Mountain) and continues to work with the remaining fluent speakers of the Iᅑaᅑuik dialect of Qawiaraq Iᅑupiaq. Agloinga and other volunteer community members spent countless hours working with Elders to build the Qawiaraq Language Preservation Project and make the language accessible to current and future generations. Agloinga co-authored an audio and written record and a Qawiaraq Iᅑaᅑuik Inupiat Dictionary with Luann Harrelson.

Agloinga serves as Program Officer of External Affairs for the Rasmuson Foundation. He currently serves on the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce’s Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee and is co-chair for the Equity and Inclusion Committee of the Western States Arts Federation, a regional nonprofit dedicated to strengthening the arts. He is a tribal member of the Native Village of White Mountain and a shareholder of Golovin and White Mountain Native Corporation. Agloinga has a bachelor’s degree in English and a degree in secondary education from the University of Alaska Fairbanks. He is a continuing student of Iᅑupiaq and Spanish.

ELIGIBLE ALASKA NATIVE VETERANS CAN GET UP TO 160 ACRES OF FEDERAL LAND

Alaska Native Vietnam-era Veterans Land Allotment Program of 2019 provides the opportunity for eligible Vietnam-era veterans or their heirs to select 2.5 to 160 acres of federal land in Alaska under the 2019 Dingell Act.

APPLY BETWEEN DEC. 28, 2020 AND DEC. 29, 2025.

The program is open to all eligible Alaska Natives who served between Aug. 5, 1964, and Dec. 31, 1971, and it removes the requirement for personal use or occupancy mandated under previous laws. Those receiving allotments under previous programs are ineligible.

SHAREHOLDER NEWS

IN MEMORIAM:
**BSNC SHAREHOLDER AND
FORMER BSNC OFFICER,
VERNON “CHUBBY” OLSON**



Vernon “Chubby” Olson

BSNC mourns the passing of shareholder and former BSNC Senior Vice President Vernon “Chubby” Olson. Olson passed away peacefully on Sunday, March 6, fourteen days after being diagnosed with cancer. Olson was born at Nook fish camp east of Nome to John Helmer Olson, from rural Sweden, and Elizabeth Marie Kakkåanga (Frantzen), from Little Diomedé and the old village site of Wales, Alaska.

Olson started his career at BSNC in 1976 as the Vice President of real estate. He also served as President of Bering Straits Environmental Systems and Construction,

Executive Vice President of Bering Straits Development Company and Executive Vice President of the Bering Straits Foundation. He served on the BSNC Board of Directors from 1978-1981 and 1984-1990. With his hard work, dedication and positive energy, he provided leadership to the company and the foundation until his retirement in 1998. Olson also served on Governor Cowper's Alaska Land Use Council and was a member of the Nome Eskimo Community, Pioneers of Alaska, Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion, the ACLU and served briefly as the Alaska Native Brotherhood President.

**BSNC SHAREHOLDER
PERRY MENDENHALL**



Perry Mendenhall

BSNC offers its condolences to the family and friends of former BSNC Board Director Perry Mendenhall. Mendenhall served as BSNC Director from 2001 to 2007. He was active in his community and served the region and state for 40 years on the boards of Sitnasuak Native Corporation, Nome Eskimo Community, Northwest Community College, Inuit Circumpolar Council, Northern Norton Sound Fish Advisory Board, Arctic Native Brotherhood, RurALCap, Alaska Federation of Natives and several more. Mendenhall passed away in Nome on March 30, 2022. His family plans to hold a celebration of life in June at his camp.

**CAREER PATHWAYS SERIES –
HEALTH: ASHLEY SOCKPICK**



Ashley Sockpick

BSNC’s Career Pathways Series helps showcase jobs held by successful shareholders and descendants. This series aims to raise awareness of these career options and the essential skills needed to succeed in these positions.

BSNC shareholder Ashley Sockpick recently completed an accelerated community-based distance education nursing program through Frontier Nursing University (FNU). FNU seeks to meet the needs of prospective nurse-midwives and nurse practitioners who seek to

remain in their home communities while earning a graduate education in pursuit of their professional goals. She is now a Family Nurse Practitioner at Southcentral Foundation.

In 2014, Sockpick earned her Bachelor of Science in Cellular and Molecular Biology with a Chemistry minor at Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colo. She also attended school in Moorhead, Minn. Sockpick’s parents are Ricky Sockpick and Anne Narog.

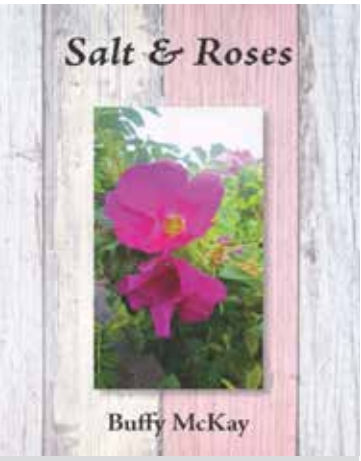
WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO PURSUE YOUR CAREER?

“I grew up in Nome, Alaska, and spent most of my summers with my grandmother Agnes Amarok and Aunt Deborah Anungazuk at fish camp. I thrived in my traditional values and found my love for the medical field. I grew up observing, experiencing and hearing stories from Irene Aukongak, our health aid at that time. My mother, Anne, is also a Family Nurse Practitioner. From then on, I knew I wanted to follow Irene and my mother’s path on becoming a health practitioner.”

WHAT WERE SOME CHALLENGES OR BARRIERS YOU FACED?

“Some of the challenges that I faced during my career journey included attending school away from home. I could have attended school in Alaska, but the wait time for nursing school was two years, so I sacrificed being close to home to become a nurse sooner. I often was homesick and sometimes could not afford to fly back home for the holidays. This was hard at times, but I was lucky to have the support of other students on campus in very similar situations. I knew that, in the end, I would not be away from home forever. In a way, I feel that this made me confident and more independent and solidified my dream and abilities to become a Family Nurse Practitioner. Read more at: <https://beringstraits.com/career-pathways-series-health-ashley-sockpick/>.

**BSNC SHAREHOLDER ROBERTA
“BUFFY” MCKAY’S POETRY IS
PUBLISHED**



BSNC shareholder and poet Roberta “Buffy” McKay recently published a book of poetry titled "Salt & Roses" (Cirque Press). In "Salt & Roses," McKay looks hard at life across a range of free verse, villanelles and haikus. McKay, who is of Iñupiaq and Scottish descent, enjoys writing about memory, time and place and has written poems since age 3. First published in the "We Alaskans" section of the Pulitzer Prize-winning Anchorage Daily News in 1993, her work has appeared in various literary journals. She has won scholarships to the

Community of Writers, Olympic Valley, California, and Billy Collins’ master class at The Key West Literary Seminar and remains grateful for their value and life lessons.

"Salt & Roses" can be purchased on Amazon.

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SHAREHOLDER NEWS



Submitted by Tom Gray



Submitted by Annette Burcham



Submitted by Bonnie Reynolds



Submitted by Adaline Pete



Submitted by Sophie Annie Arthur



Submitted by Charice Johnson

2022 ANNUAL PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS!

BSNC is pleased to announce the winners of the 2022 Annual Photography Contest! BSNC thanks all the entrants for the fantastic photos that they submitted. These photos showcase the beauty and strength of Our People, our culture and our region. This year, a “Generations” category was added to the contest. These photos demonstrate how Our People value family and pass on traditional values, skills and knowledge to our young people.

Grand Prize:

Tom Gray who submitted a photo of **Catrina West** helping put beluga muktuk away at Anvil Mountain. **Catrina** is the daughter of **Rhonda** and **Jerry West** of Nome.

Generations

- 1st:** Grandson and Grandma Herring Net – **Adaline Pete**
- 2nd:** Berry Picking Boat – **Eileen Tonuchuk**
- 3rd:** Dance Family – **Candy Pete**

Historical

- 1st:** 1950s Successful Hunting Trapping Trip – **Sophie Annie Arthur**
- 2nd:** Lady with Cane – **Lorena Gray**
- 3rd:** Mother Daughter – **Karen Garcia**

Scenery and Landscape

- 1st:** Kit Fox – **Bonnie Reynolds**
- 2nd:** Children on the Nome-Teller Highway – **Brandi Oquilluk**
- 3rd:** Norton Sound – **Patti Huhta**

Subsistence and Cultural Activities

- 1st:** Bullet from First Moose – **Annette Burcham**
- 2nd:** Traditional buckets – **Jeanette Nanouk**
- 3rd:** First Ugruk – **Jolene Nanouk**

Village Life

- 1st:** Piggy Back Race – **Charice Johnson**
- 2nd:** Old Hamilton – **Geraldine Matthias**
- 3rd:** Smiling kids – **Jessie Ongtowsruk**

SHAREHOLDER SPOTLIGHT: ESTHER KOEZUNA



BSNC shareholder Esther Koezuna serves as the corporation’s Anchorage Office Receptionist. In addition to serving as the first individual people interact with at BSNC, Koezuna is a traditional culture bearer. She grew up in the King Island community of Nome. She regularly shares her traditional knowledge with summer interns and, recently, in BSNC’s new cultural series titled "Mazzaq Tigittuaq," Iñupiaq for “sunrise.”

Koezuna is a member of the King Island Dancers of Anchorage. She is also a talented artist who creates oogithgaak (kuspuk),

yo-yo’s, dolls, Native jewelry, parkas and mukluks. She learned Iñupiaq King Island dancing and artistry from her grandmother.

“I was shy and did not want to dance. I went to spend time with my grandmother, who told me, “You have to learn how to dance – nobody else is going to carry it on.” I encourage my girls and grandkids to learn how to dance. My grandkids are shy but are learning how to dance at home.”

While attending West Valley High in Fairbanks, Koezuna's grandmother would send her sealskin, and she would make slippers to sell to earn income. Upon graduating from high school, she attended trade school in Anchorage and earned an accounting certificate. She worked in Nome as an Assistant Manager for Alaska Commercial Company, at the Alaska Native Heritage Center as an Artist and Receptionist, at Norton Sound Health Corporation as an Assistant Receptionist, and at Fairbanks City Hall as an Assistant Receptionist.

Koezuna rejoined BSNC’s Anchorage office in 2017, where she has one of the more challenging roles in the company. She regularly juggles multiple responsibilities, balancing a high volume of phone calls and questions with administrative work. A part of her position also includes serving to safeguard BSNC from phishing and scam attempts. She previously worked for BSNC between 1999-2003 in the Anchorage Office Park building when there were only seven employees. Now, BSNC’s Anchorage office has more than 100 employees.

Koezuna’s favorite part of serving as BSNC’s Anchorage Receptionist is greeting shareholders and sharing her cultural knowledge with BSNC’s summer interns. In her spare time, Koezuna loves berry picking and fishing, particularly during the traditional harvesting time of late July to late August.

An Athabascan Elder once told her, “You have a bachelor’s degree in your culture. Don’t ever let anyone put you down for not having an academic degree.”

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THE AGLUKTUK

Spring 2022



IN MEMORIAM:
**U.S. CONGRESSMAN
DON YOUNG**

BSNC deeply mourns the passing of U.S. Congressman Don Young, who passed away on March 18, 2022. Congressman Young was the longest-serving Republican member of the House of Representatives and of Congress in history, having represented Alaska for 49 years.

"Congressman Young was my congressman for life, and his legacy of advocating for Alaska will always be remembered," said BSNC President and CEO Gail R. Schubert. "He was a friend and tireless supporter of Alaska Native people. Congressman Young worked hard on behalf of BSNC shareholders by helping the corporation fulfill its ANCSA land entitlement. He championed two significant Congressional actions: the Salmon Lake Lands Consolidation Act of 2012 and the Conveyance of Port Clarence/ Point Spencer through the 2016 Coast Guard Reauthorization Act. He was a staunch and vocal supporter for all Alaskans."

During his lifetime, Congressman Young passed more bills – a majority with an Alaska focus – into law than any other member of the House of Representatives. Congressman Young was first sworn in as a freshman to the 93rd Congress after winning a special election on March 6, 1973, and worked for Alaska until his passing. He sought out new ideas and different perspectives, was approachable and engaged, and genuinely committed to Alaska, Our People and our communities.

He will be missed by many people throughout Alaska.



Soliciting candidates for the 2022 Board of Directors election

Bering Straits Native Corporation (BSNC) is soliciting candidates for the upcoming Board of Directors election to be held at the 2022 Annual Meeting of Shareholders. The Annual Meeting of Shareholders may be held in person if COVID infections have reduced significantly. The Board of Directors will make the final decision based on safety concerns and the protection of our shareholders.

Voting shareholders who are at least 18 years of age and wish to run for the Board of Directors must file a letter of intent, resume and Proxy Compliance & Conflict of Interest Questionnaire with BSNC. Shareholders may request a Nominating Packet by mail, email or phone from:

Nominating Committee
Bering Straits Native Corporation
P.O. Box 1008
Nome, Alaska 99762
Email: shareholders@beringstraits.com
Phone: (907) 443-5252

IMPORTANT: All letters of intent, resumes and Proxy Compliance & Conflict of Interest Questionnaires must be received by BSNC **no later than 5 p.m. (AKDT) on Friday, June 10, 2022.**