

## THE AGLUKTUK

Fall 2022



### **BSNC ANNOUNCES 2022 ANNUAL MEETING ELECTION RESULTS**

BSNC held its 2022 Annual Meeting of Shareholders on Saturday, Oct. 1 in Nome, Alaska at the Nome Recreation Center, 208 E. 6th Ave. Shareholders voted on the election of five board directors who will serve three-year terms. Incumbents Gail R. Schubert, Louie Green Jr., Cindy Towarak Massie and Charles W. Fagerstrom were reelected and Tyler L. Ivanoff was newly elected to the Board.

Shareholders who were not able to attend in person were invited to view the meeting webcast online at www.bsncvote.com. Proxy prize drawings were held for shareholders who cast a proxy. Checks were mailed to winners within 10 business days. In addition, the Young Providers, Youth Culture Bearer, Elder of the Year Awards and the Tim Towarak Memorial Scholarship were presented to recipients.

### **ELDER OF THE YEAR AWARDEES**

BSNC honored Elders selected by their respective village corporation in appreciation for their accomplishments in maintaining traditional lifestyles and the determination to share valuable knowledge with our youth in preserving the culture and heritage of the Bering Strait region. This year, BSNC recognized the following Elders:

Rita Olanna – Brevig Mission Native Corporation

Tom Gray - Council Native Corporation

**Carol L. Oliver** – Golovin Native Corporation

Isabell Ahkvaluk - Inalik Native Corporation

**Justin Tiulana** – King Island Native Corporation

**Luci A. Washington** – Saint Michael Native Corporation

Helen L. Jackson – Shaktoolik Native Corporation

**Elizabeth Nayokpuk** – Shishmaref Native Corporation

Susanne A. Toliver – Sitnasuak Native Corporation

Caleb E. Dotomain - Sitnasuak Native Corporation

Rose C. Okbaok – Teller Native Corporation

Sig Wein Omiak – Teller Native Corporation

Elizabeth "Betty" Anagick – Unalakleet Native Corporation

Rose M. Kowchee – White Mountain Native Corporation

Quyaana to all the shareholders who attended the meeting in person and online.

### **BSNC ANNOUNCES 2022 YOUNG PROVIDERS AND** YOUTH CULTURE BEARER AWARDEES



Hayley Topkok



Nyche Andrew

BSNC is pleased to announce the awardees of its 2022 Young Providers Award and Youth Culture Bearer Award. BSNC shareholder Hayley Weyiouanna Topkok of Teller will receive the Young Providers Award in honor of the late Dora Iyapana Ahkinga. BSNC descendant Nyche "Skavaq Sivulliugti" Tyme Andrew of Anchorage will receive the Youth Culture Bearer Award in honor of the late Emily Ivanoff Brown. These awards annually recognize young people who contribute on a daily basis to the health and well-being of their families, communities and culture. Topkok and Andrew were recognized during the 2022 Annual Meeting of Shareholders in Nome, Alaska.

Originally from Shishmaref, shareholder Hayley Weyiouanna Topkok now resides in Teller with her husband and children. At the age of 6, Topkok had a strong interest to help her great grandmother sew slippers. She began sewing gifts

for friends and family and today she shares her talents in making parkas, seal skin hats, booties, mittens and kuspuks. Her beautiful work can be seen on her Facebook page Bering Sea Stitches.

In Teller, Topkok took on the roles of athletic director and Headstart teacher's aide. Halfway through the basketball season, the boys team

unexpectedly needed a coach and Topkok stepped in. Although she was a young mom and expecting her second child, Topkok brought structure, discipline and instilled pride in the team. The team worked their way up to the championship, where they placed 2nd and Topkok was awarded Coach of the Year. Her parents are Donna Barr and John Weyiouanna.



Dora Ahkinga

Topkok was recognized in honor of Dora Iyapana Ahkinga. Ahkinga was born on Little Diomede Island to James Iyapana of Big Diomede and Annie Omiak Iyapana of Teller. Ahkinga enjoyed living on Diomede with her husband and boat captain Orville Sr. and their children. She taught her children

traditional subsistence skills, which included gathering greens and berries, and storing foods prepared from walrus, bowhead whale, beluga, polar bear, oogruk, birds and crab. Sewing was a passion Ahkinga mastered, and her skills included making parkas, mukluks, kuspuks, sealskin pants, gloves, mittens, hats and all other types of clothing. Without ceasing, Ahkinga enjoyed splitting and sewing walrus skins for her husband's boat crew. Singing, dancing, and the history of each traditional song were a joy to Ahkinga. If anyone wanted to learn subsistence skills, traditional knowledge, or the many Inupiaq dialects spoken in the Bering Strait region, they went to Ahkinga.

For 36 years, Ahkinga served as the head cook at the BIA and Diomede school. She also served as the Bering Air agent for the island and for ten years she worked with the Bering Sea Women's Group. Additionally, she served on the Diomede Tribal Council, was mayor of Diomede

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### A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO



Dear Shareholders,

I hope everyone had a productive summer and fall fishing, hunting, and harvesting berries and greens in preparation for winter. As we continue to respond to the wreckage left by Typhoon Merbok and prepare for the winter ahead, we are immensely thankful that no lives were lost. While the storm was devastating, we will recover.

The outpouring of support we have received spans Alaska, from our dedicated first responders to everyday

Alaskans, and shows the best of our great state. When disaster strikes, Alaskans are there for each other. Our communities, friends and neighbors have pulled together and reminded all of us why we are blessed to live in rural Alaska.

I also want to thank Governor Dunleavy and the Congressional Delegation for showing real leadership — they rolled up their sleeves for Alaskans when we needed them the most. Additional appreciation goes to Governor Dunleavy, Senator Murkowski and Congresswoman Peltola for visiting the region to see the devastation.

During Typhoon Merbok we saw multiple vessels, including two cruise ships, seek refuge from the storm in the deep, protected waters of Port Clarence. Our Delegation has long seen the need for a strategic system of ports and harbors throughout the Arctic and the unique role Port Clarence would serve in that system. The need for maritime infrastructure will only increase as vessel traffic, including foreign oil and LNG tankers, increases through the Bering Strait. Senators Murkowski, Sullivan and our dear late-Congressman Young haven't just advocated for the necessary infrastructure, they have consistently ensured our local communities are an integral part of the process and will realize benefits from those developments.

Along those lines, Senator Murkowski recently introduced the Arctic Commitment Act. This bi-partisan legislation is a comprehensive approach to addressing the needs of our region; one that is desperately needed to ensure the people and communities of the Arctic play a direct role in the development of the Arctic. By integrating commerce, research, defense, response and infrastructure priorities, the Arctic Commitment Act provides an integrated vision for the Arctic, while also pushing for the institutional reforms needed in federal agencies to execute that vision. It is a vital starting point, and we look forward to working with the Congressional Delegation on these priorities for our region.

Our changing climate and the geostrategic importance of our region create complex challenges for our region, People and the state. But with leadership that genuinely listens to, engages with, and supports Our People we will not just recover, we will reinvigorate our region in support of a peaceful and prosperous Arctic.

As you know, BSNC held its 2022 Annual Meeting on Oct. 2 in Nome. I thank Eugene Asicksik for his longstanding service as a Board member. Eugene worked with the Board for more than three decades to address the needs of our region and for the advancement and benefit of Our People. His leadership and dedication to his community of Shaktoolik and the Bering Strait region is much appreciated. Quyaana Eugene, your wife Rhoda and your family for your longstanding service to our region, shareholders and descendants.

BSNC continues to evaluate and gather information in preparation to launch an educational campaign on open enrollment. In August, BSNC shared the results of the survey that was conducted last October by DHM Research. The survey was one step in a process that will have the Board of Directors and management evaluate the effect on existing shareholders of opening the rolls. Understanding what is important to BSNC shareholders is critical to guiding the development and formation of future goals. The BSNC Board of Directors is carefully considering an appropriate path forward. We will continue to keep you updated on this topic.

I hope that everyone has a happy and safe Holiday Season. Quyaana for your continued support of and involvement in BSNC.

Gail R. Schubert BSNC President & CEO

### **BSNC BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Lee Ryan Chairman

Deborah Atuk Treasurer

Jason Evans Director

Tyler Ivanoff Director Gail R. Schubert President & CEO

Becka Baker
Assistant Secretary

Robert (Bobby) Evans

Director

Fred Sagoonick

Director

Cindy Towarak Massie

Vice Chair

Steve Ivanoff

Assistant Treasurer

Charles W. Fagerstrom

Director

Isaiah Towarak

Director

Roy Ashenfelter

Secretary

Ella A. Anagick

Director

Louie Green Jr. *Director* 

### HISTORICAL SPOTLIGHT:

### **Inalit Held Captive By Russian Soldiers in 1948**

The island of Diomede is found in the middle of the Bering Strait just a few miles from the International Dateline and Russia. On Aug. 5, 1948, 18 people from Diomede (Iŋalit), including Roger Menadelook, began a routine visit to family and friends at East Cape in Siberia. They did not know that all U.S. Native permits to visit Russia were no longer valid, and were held captive on the Russian island of Big Diomede. They were continuously interrogated and lived in horrific conditions in makeshift tents, and were fed sour bread and a thin soup made from salted salmon.

Menadelook was treated especially poorly, at times interrogated all day seated on a small stool, because the Russians thought he was a spy. To pass the time, he carved small boats out of driftwood for his sons. Finally, on Sept. 26, 1948, the Russian soldiers set the Inalit free. The captives rowed back to their home island very skinny

and in poor health. Menadelook was diagnosed with tuberculosis. His health never recovered. He wrote a vivid and compelling article on the peoples' captivity and sent it to governor Ernest Gruening. He asked for Gruening's assistance in finding a publisher for his article to bring in money to help support his family. Menadelook's article can be found at the Alaska State Archives in Juneau, along with his letter to Governor Gruening. He died in 1949 in Juneau.

The complete article titled "A Group of Alaskan Eskimos Receive Greetings and Sample the Hospitality of Soviet Russia" by Roger Menadelook, including a forward written by Roger's niece, BSNC shareholder Eileen Norbert, can be found online at www.beringstraits.com/book-collection.

### SHAREHOLDER NAME AND ADDRESS CHANGE FORM

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 custodian. Mail in this form or send a signed letter to BSNC with your social security number, date of birth and new address to:

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) 443-5252 or (907) 563-3788 or email us at shareholders@beringstraits.com.

email us at shareholders@beringstraits.com
PONC - ind a sub-
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:
Social security number:
Date of birth:
Signature:
Date:
P.O. Box 1008 Nome, Alaska 99762  ving attained the age of eighteen (18) years and being of sound mind, and solely untarily execute this will and hereby devise and bequeath my shares of stock invillage corporation to:
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County of:(orJudicial District)
Subscribed, sworn to and acknowledged before me by
the testator, this day of, 20
Notary Public or Postmaster In and for the State of
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Are you receiving important mailings from BSNC, including newsletters and dividends? It is important that shareholders keep their mailing address up-to-date.

Visit http://beringstraits.com/shareholders/forms/address\_name\_change.pdf to update your address today or use the form above.

### MISSING SHAREHOLDERS

State of:

or older, of sound mind, and under no constraint or undue influence.

BSNC continues to search for shareholders who may have funds on hold and attempts to 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. If you know the whereabouts of someone listed, please contact BSNC's Shareholder Department at shareholders@beringstraits.com or call (907) 443-4303 or (907) 443-8110. If you have been contacted by the Shareholder Department, please respond to their requests because you may be entitled to a dividend distribution. Help BSNC ensure that all shareholders receive their dividends. Quyaana!

### SHAREHOLDER ADDRESSES NEEDED

JORDAN J. ADSUNA STEVEN GILBERT AGIBINIK DARREN B. ALEXANDER-HICKS GEORGE D. ALURAC JR. MARY ANN ALURAC BENJAMIN AMAROK MERCILEN AMAROK WALTER ANALOAK JONI ANDERSON THERESA KAY ANDERSON ETHAN J ANGASAN LEE ANUNGAZUK LENA MAE ANUNGAZUK CRISTA LYNN ARNOLD MARY LOU ASICKSIK RAYMOND THOMAS ASILA JOHN ATTATAYUK AUDREY BAILEY SHARON YVETTE BENNETT DEBRA ANN BORCHARDT SARA BOSTWICK ELLIOTT D. BRADLEY JR. DONALD E BRANDON II DARRELL G. BROWN MABEL BROWN MARCELLE T. BROWN PETER EDGAR BROWN MARY BUCK KARISMA BURSE ZAIRE BURSE VERN A. CABBELL STEFANEY CAMPBELL FLIZABETH CARLO KRISTIE EMMA CAROON CATHERINE CARR CHRISTOPHER ADAM CARR FRANCES RITA CHAPSON TOMMICINA E. CHEEMUK KATIE CLARK THERESA D. CLARK GORDON COFFEE

KATHRYN ANNE COLE ROBERT NORMAN COLE DANIEL R. COLEMAN GRETCHEN COLEMAN TERESA MARIE DALILAK STELLA LULU DAU RANDALL EUGENE DAVID FRED DAVIS WILBUR DAVIS ANTONIA MARIE DENMARK TONY JOHN DESARRO DEGEE A DOBSON ANASTASIA MARIE DUNN JOHN DAVID EAGLE ELLIOTT MARL EAKON JR NANCY EDWARDS FREDERICK EARL ERNAK II GUY GRANT ESTVOLD LORRAINE M. FAIRCHILD JOSE FEAGINS JAMIE LEE FIELDS ERIC KALANI FINLEY CLIFFORD CHARLES FITKA CHANDLER FOSTER GIDEANN EMILY FOWLER KALEB FOWLER RACHEL REBECCA FRANKSON DEAN FRANZEN ANTHONY LANE FRY DYLAN GABLICK HARRY GOLDSBERRY MYLES GONANGNAN II JEFFERY EUGENE GRANT LESLIE RENE GRAY JOHN GREEN KHAILA GREEN MELONY L. GREEN TERRELL GREEN LYDIA ANN HANCOCK STEVEN LEE HANSEN FRED R. HAWES

JAMES N. P. HEIDLEBAUGH SETH ANTHONY HELTON CAROL KAROKA HENRY TANYA HICKS MAXINE O HOFFMAN VANESSA HOLDER-GUTIERREZ THOMAS LEE HUFFMAN JR TASHA MARIE HUKILL CHARLEEN LEE IVANOFF JOHN CYRUS IVANOFF JESSICA LYNN IYAPANA KATHERINE MARIE IYAPANA WILLIAM OMYRUK IYAPANA HAZEL NANCY JACK JOHN W JACKSON III JESSE T. JAMES THOMAS B. JAMES TIMOTHY DAVID JAMES KYLE M. JENSEN ROBERT K JOE JR KEYAHNA DESTINY JOHNSON ADRIANNA ELIZABETH JOHNSTON VIOLA VERA JOSEPH CHARLIE H.M. KATCHATAG ROMALD K KATEXAC EDWARD KAYOUKLUK JACK SPOTTED CROW KEECH GREGORY KILLARZOAC AARON SPIKE KIMINOCK WESLEY KIMOKTOAK AARON SCOTT KINGSTON FRANCIS KIRK CRAIG KISSELL WARREN A KIYLITELLUK KAY GENEVIEVE KLOSS BRIAN KOTONGAN VERNA FAYE KOUTCHAK EDWARD JOGUES KOYUK PETULA ANN KUNNEMANN ADAM LARSEN

ELIZABETH JANE LARSEN

CAROLYN M LEE CHRISTOPHER LEE LINCOLN DONALD LEE MIKE LEE III HERMAN LESTENKOF JR MELISSA N LEWIS MATHILDA LICK HARRY DREWLETTE LILLEY II JOHN ALLAN LONGLEY LORRAINE LUPSON LORRI LUPSON MARRIE LUPSON RONNIE H KEITH LUPSON NATHAN MAILLOUX WOODROW MALEWOTKUK JR ROBERT WEOKONA MAYOKOK ANTHONY PITOOKNUK MAZONNA JOSHUA D. MCCOMAS GARY R. MERRILL BESS MILLER MARIE ANN MILLER NORA MARGARET MILLIGROCK SHERRY MILLIGROCK JARROD W. MINKLER CYNTHIA MIXSOOKE LUCY JEAN MOGG SCOUT ADAM MONEGAN LINDEN MONTAGUE ANNIE P MORGAN JAMES F MORGAN JR MARY LOUISE MORGAN FLORA ANN LUKE MORTON LOUCILLE CATHERINE MURPHY ANTHONEY J MURPHY VANESSA MURPHY PETER NAKARAK PATRICIA NELSON MCINTURFF <mark>JONATHAN W. NELSO</mark>N ANNIE JUNE NERSHAK GEORGE W. NEWTON

CHERLYN NICKOLI MICHAEL JOHN NORD HENRY NORMAN EUGENE O'CONNOR MARTIN O'CONNOR MARY RIVERS OKITKUN THERESA M OKPEALLIK WILSON FRED OKPOWRUK JR LENA PAULINE OKSOKTARUK-WOOD PERCY OLANNA JR VICKI MARLENE OLIVER SHIRLEY OLLOM RICHARD RAYMOND OMELAK BILLY ONEAL FLOYD NORMAN OOUILLUK MICHAEL D. OTT JEREMIAH R. OUTWATER CRYSTAL OYOUMICK JAHOMITT PARKER NANCY P PEREZ JOHN LUKE PETE ALEXIS PHILLIPS WENDY A PICKENS JULIA MAY PICKUS JAMES RAY PIERCE DORIS ABLOOGALOOK POLAND KIMBERLY PORCH ROBYN BETHANY PRYOR GLORIA PUSHRUK MEGAN PUSHRUK BRIAN MITCHELL RAGLAND CAMEY REXRODE ROBERT EARL REYNOLDS MARTHA ARLENE RICHARDS PAUL BRYAN ROBERTS PATRICK RYAN ROBINSON ELAINE H ROCK VIOLA E. SACCHEUS NATANE SAMBO-FREEMAN ANNOKAZOOKA LAZYNA

MARK DAMIAN SEEGANNA SHERRY ANN SETON DOUG SETTERS TARA BEATRICE SHAW LEVI ALFRED SILAS PAMARA J. SIMPSON EDWARD SMITH III ROBERT L. SMITH WILLIAM LAURENCE SMITH STEVEN SOLLICH JENNIE RUTH SPIVEY CYNTHIA JEANNE SPREER MARK WILLIAM STEPNEY JAMIE MASSAK STEVENS FRANCES MARTHA STEVENSON CHRISTOPHER H. STRICKLAND SAM B TEAYOUMEAK CHARLES VANN ERIC CHRISTIAN VELTRANO GARY RUSSELL WALLACE MARGARET WALLACE JAMES MELVIN WALSER KATHERINE MARY WALTERS MARTHA MARIE WASHINGTON PRESTON WASHINGTON LEESA JOAN WATSON ELIZABETH J WEBB PAMELA WEST ELIJAH WETHINGTON MIKE WHEELER PAUL R. WHITE GEORGETTE MARIE WHITIS GLEN D. WHITTAKER GEORGE H WIDEMAN ANTHONY WILHITE BRENDA ANN WRIGHT MARY JILL YOUNG

AHLTIELL Z'AVIER

ANTONIO N. SANCHEZ

BRIAN CRAIG SANDERS

## BSNC NEWS

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for seven years and was an active member of the Diomede and King Island Dance Groups. Ahkinga passed away on March 7, 2019.

BSNC descendant Nyche "Skavaq Sivulliuqti" Tyme Andrew was instrumental in the Anchorage School District's (ASD) Title VI Indian Education Native Advisory Committee's efforts in advocating for students to be allowed to wear traditional regalia or objects of cultural significance at graduation ceremonies. Because of her efforts in rallying support and successfully testifying in front of the ASD Board, Anchorage graduates now have the option to wear cultural regalia during graduation ceremonies. As a junior in high school, Andrew founded the Indigenous Student Union at Service High School. The purpose of this club is to connect Native youth at Service, to create a welcoming environment, while at the same time uplifting Native cultures in school and encouraging academic excellence.

In March of 2021, Andrew spoke with key district officials who allowed her to be an exception and wear her Yup'ik headdress when she graduated. With this inspiration, she championed a resolution to the graduation regalia policy titled, "Tribal Headwear", which has passed in the ASD's NAC and is currently under review by the Anchorage School Board.

Andrew is involved in many groups, committees and programs. She has been recognized by many for her work to eliminate racism and advocate for equity in education. She has received the Yale Bassett Award for Community Engagement, Princeton Prize in Race Relations, Alaska Delegate United States Senate Youth Program, YWCA Alaska Young People of Achievement Award, Calista Native Corporation Culture Bearer Award, 3rd in chapter Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizen, Prudential Spirit of Community Certificate

of Excellence and President Volunteer Service Award: Silver 2021. Andrew graduated high school as summa cum laude with a 4.12 GPA, in the top 5% in her class. This fall she will continue to study political science at Yale University as a sophomore and hopes to come back to Alaska to continue helping her people. Andrew is the daughter of Jacqueline Dawn Morris, Tigran Anthony Andrew and Maynard Clay Morris Jr. Her grandmother, Janet Walluk Hubbard, was from Shishmaref and her grandfather John Anthony Andrew is from Bethel.



Emily "Ticasuk" Ivanoff Brown

Andrew was recognized in honor of Emily "Ticasuk" Ivanoff Brown. Brown was dedicated to perpetuating Alaska Native languages and recording and passing on traditional Inupiaq oral history and knowledge. She was born in Unalakleet in 1904 to Amelia (Malquay) and Stephan Ivanoff. She taught as a grade school teacher for 30 years at schools in Kotzebue, Unalakleet, Shaktoolik and Meade River, advocating for bilingual education and

developing a curriculum for the instruction of Inupiaq in elementary schools. She also helped produce a dictionary for her own Malimiut dialect and organized the Alaska Heritage Writer's Association.

During her lifetime, Brown earned two bachelor's degrees and a master's degree. She wrote several books and received many awards throughout her lifetime, including a presidential citation from Richard Nixon for her "exceptional service to others, in the finest American tradition." She was working toward earning a doctoral degree when she passed on at the age of 78 on May 3, 1982. The University of Alaska awarded her an honorary doctor of humanities degree on May 9, 1982.

### BSNC ANNOUNCES 2022 AWARDEE OF TIM TOWARAK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



Kastyn Lie

BSNC is pleased to announce Kastyn Lie of Nome as the 2022 awardee of the Beringia Settlement Trust (BST) Tim Towarak Memorial Scholarship.
This scholarship is a \$10,000 merit-based competitive scholarship awarded annually to one high-performing student enrolled in an accredited college or university. The scholarship honors the late Tim Towarak, who worked tirelessly to advocate for Alaska Native people.

Lie is a senior at Stanford University where she is pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree in English with a minor in Education. She plans to return to Nome to teach middle school English. Lie says tutoring in the school district has allowed her to see how much of an impact education can play in a child's life and she wants to provide the students of Nome with all that she has learned. Lie also believes in the importance of having Alaska Native teachers in the classroom.

At Stanford, Lie is a fellow for the Ravenwood Reads tutoring program and a member of the club volleyball team. She also volunteers her time tutoring middle schoolers in the East Palo Alto Tennis and Tutoring program. She has served as an assistant coach to the Nome Beltz high school volleyball team, and during the summer, Lie opened a home bakery where she provided freshly baked goods to the community of Nome. Lie is the daughter of Crystal and Erik Lie.

Candidates for the Tim Towarak Memorial Scholarship are professional career-track shareholder or descendant students with a passion for advocating for, or serving, Alaska Native people. Students do not apply separately for the scholarship. Preference for the scholarship award will be given to students who are Alaska residents. For more information, go to www.beringstraits.com/scholarship.

### MAZZAQ TIGITTUAQ: QARGI/QASGIQ



Maaruk, Warren Jones

In the next video of BSNC's educational series Mazzaq Tigittuaq, learn about the importance of the qarġi (Iñupiaq) or qasġiq (Yupiit) from BSNC shareholder and philosopher Maaruk, Warren Jones. Maaruk is an Alaska Salmon Fellow with the Alaska Humanities Forum and a former Governance

Fellow at First Alaskans Institute. He is a steward of Northern philosophy, investigating the philosophies unique to the circumpolar North. Maaruk has won two Alaska Press Club awards, is a published poet, and a stay-athome dad of four.

The qarġi/qasġiq is known as a men's house but was also used as a community gathering place. The purpose of the qarġi/qasġiq was to educate and train the young men/boys to become skillful in different trades, survival and/or hunting, as well as a place to provide life lessons. Historically, the men's house accommodated all the men and boys seven years and older. The women/ girls would bring food to the men's house and in the evenings, gather there for traditional singing, dancing and festivals. It served as a ceremonial and spiritual place for Our People where culture was celebrated. It also served as a schoolhouse and traditional workshop and official business was also conducted between individuals, the village and with other villages or groups of people.

BSNC thanks Maaruk for sharing his knowledge of the qarġi/qasġiq for this video. We would also like to thank the Alaska Art Alliance and the ivory carvers, including shareholders Jason and Eric Tetpon, for sharing their space with us. BSNC's educational series titled Mazzaq Tigittuaq, which means Inupiaq for "sunrise," celebrates the culture and knowledge of Our People. For more videos, visit the BSNC YouTube page at https://youtu.be/qxHhqdubm7A

## BSNC NEWS

## BSNC WELCOMES TYLER IVANOFF AS NEW BOARD DIRECTOR



Tyler Ivanoff

BSNC is pleased to welcome Tyler Ivanoff as a newly-elected board director. Ivanoff is from Shishmaref, Alaska. He is currently in his final year pursuing a degree in Elementary Education with the University of Alaska Fairbanks School of Education and is teaching 4th grade at the Shishmaref School. Ivanoff graduated from Mount Edgecumbe High School. He served for several years as treasurer and president for the Native Village of Elim.

He also served as vice mayor and mayor for the City of Elim and on the Elim Native Corporation Board as a member and vice president.

Ivanoff and his longtime companion, Amber Fernandez of Shishmaref, have six children and two grandchildren. His father is the late Maurice Ivanoff, originally from Unalakleet, and his paternal grandparents were the late Roland and Alma Ivanoff. His mother is Ellen Ivanoff from Elim, and her parents were the late Joseph Murray Sr. and Flora Hansen of Elim.

"If you want to make a change, you have to become a part of the change," said Tyler Ivanoff. "One way is through leadership. Become involved, step up and believe in yourself!"

# BSNC THANKS OUTGOING DIRECTOR EUGENE ASICKSIK FOR YEARS OF SERVICE



Eugene Asicksik

BSNC would like to thank shareholder Eugene Asicksik for 36 years of service as a member of the BSNC Board of Directors. Eugene currently serves as a Board member and president of the Shaktoolik Native Corporation. He is also a member on the Shaktoolik City Council and a commissioner of the Bering Straits Regional Housing Authority representing BSNC.

"I am grateful for Eugene's longstanding service on BSNC's Board of Directors," said BSNC President and CEO Gail R. Schubert. "For more than three decades, Eugene worked with the Board to address the needs of our region, for the advancement and benefit of Our People. His leadership and dedication to his community of Shaktoolik and the Bering Straits region is much appreciated. Quyaana Eugene, your wife Rhoda and your family for your longstanding service to our region, shareholders and descendants."

### SHAREHOLDER MATT WALKER IS PROMOTED TO AIH STORE MANAGER



Matt Walker

BSNC is pleased to announce that shareholder Matt Walker was promoted to store manager of Alaska Industrial Hardware (AIH) in Fairbanks. Walker has more than 15 years of experience in coordination, management and training. His previous role as assistant manager at AIH has provided him with a great foundation and understanding of AIH. Walker's experience and knowledge, coupled with his accolades and professional

development over the years, offer a great platform to share with the AIH team and the community they serve. **Congratulations, Matt!** 

## BSNC SUBSIDIARY AIH EMPLOYS LARGE NUMBER OF SHAREHOLDERS AND DESCENDANTS

BSNC is pleased to share that currently 18% of Alaska Industrial Hardware's (AIH) workforce are shareholders and descendants. AIH, a BSNC-owned subsidiary, employs approximately 187 Alaskans.

"AlH's commitment to BSNC's mission, as well as its operational revenues, helps provide increased shareholder opportunities and benefits," said BSNC President and CEO Gail R. Schubert. "AlH is an Alaskan company, employing Alaskans, with all profits staying in Alaska. I am thankful for AlH's leadership and dedication."

"Thanks to the dedication of resources and commitment to increasing shareholder hire at all levels within the Corporation by BSNC's Board and Gail Schubert, President and CEO, we have seen tremendous growth in the employment of our shareholders and descendants," said Vice President of Shareholder Development Lucille Sands. "Terry Shurtleff, AIH President and CEO, and the AIH leadership team have worked hard to attain a measurable increase in shareholder hire, with a continued commitment to increasing employment opportunities for Our People. I'm extremely grateful for Terry's commitment to our mission and his continued support of hiring and developing Our People."

BSNC's shareholder hire preference gives hiring, promotion, training and retention preference to BSNC shareholders, descendants and shareholder spouses who meet the minimum qualifications for the job. Apply online and learn more about careers within BSNC and its subsidiaries by visiting https://beringstraits.com/career/Learn more about AIH at https://www.aih.com/

# ANCHORAGE AND NOME OFFICES REOPEN TO SHAREHOLDERS AND DESCENDANTS

BSNC is pleased to announce that our Anchorage and Nome offices are open to shareholders, descendants and the general public Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. We thank you for your support and for helping keep Our People and communities safe. Quyaana.



BSNC Anchorage & Nome Offices

ARE NOW OPEN!



### SHAREHOLDER NEWS

### BSNC SHAREHOLDER ELIZABETH AARONS RECEIVES AFN'S HEALTH AWARD



Elizabeth Aarons

BSNC congratulates shareholder Elizabeth Aarons on receiving the Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) Health Award. This award is given to an Alaska Native in the health field who has improved the health outcomes of Native peoples through their competence and commitment. Aarons was nominated by BSNC and recognized at the 2022 AFN Convention.

Aarons is a public health professional and registered nurse. For more than two years, Aarons was a frontline

healthcare leader who utilized her training and skills to operate the Alaska Native Medical Center's COVID-19 Testing and Contact Tracing Program. This testing site was the largest testing site in the State of Alaska. At the site, Aarons served as a supervisor.

Aarons demonstrated her commitment to Alaska Native people's health and well-being by working long hours and sacrificing time to lead testing and contact tracing efforts. Aarons has worked diligently throughout the pandemic under challenging conditions to ensure the health and safety of Alaskans. Her father is retired Dr. Charles Aarons, and her mother is the late Martha Anagick Aarons, originally from Unalakleet.

Read more at: https://beringstraits.com/bsnc-shareholderelizabeth-aarons-receives-afns-health-award/

## BSNC SHAREHOLDER ROY ASHENFELTER RECEIVES AFN'S KATIE JOHN HUNTER-FISHER AWARD



Roy Ashenfelter

Ashenfelter of White Mountain on receiving the AFN Katie John Hunter-Fisher Award. This award is given to an Alaska Native who exemplifies and preserves the spirit of successful subsistence hunting, trapping and sharing and our way of life. Nominees acknowledge and ensure that the next generation of providers will carry on the traditions and customs in harmony and peace to sustain their extended families. Ashenfelter was nominated by BSNC and recognized at the 2022 AFN Convention.

Ashenfelter grew up subsistence hunting and fishing. His first on-his-own subsistence activity consisted of setting snares and traps on the outskirts of White Mountain where he received instruction from his grandma Mary Ashenfelter. Ashenfelter has advocated for the subsistence way of life locally through his job, statewide while attending fish and game meetings, nationwide on a federal level as a board member for AFN, and internationally serving on the Inuit Circumpolar Council board representing the Bering Strait region.

Read more at: https://beringstraits.com/ashenfelter-receives-afns-katie-john-hunter-fisher-award/

## BSNC SHAREHOLDER BRIAN WASSMANN RECEIVES AFN'S GLENN GODFREY LAW ENFORCEMENT AWARD



Brian Wassmann

BSNC congratulates shareholder Brian Wassmann, originally from Nome, on receiving the AFN Glenn Godfrey Law Enforcement Award. This award recognizes an Alaska Native law enforcement officer, federal, state or local, who has shown outstanding dedication to the safety of the public in any location(s) within Alaska, often requiring heroic courage in the face of danger. Wassmann was nominated by BSNC and recognized at the 2022 AFN Convention.

Between 1987 and 1991, Wassmann attended the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF). In 1993, he achieved his long-held goal and dream of becoming an Alaska State Trooper (AST). He enjoyed a robust career with a variety of assignments and locations including Fairbanks, Bethel, Nenana, Delta Junction and Anchorage. He also served temporary duty assignments in St. Mary's and Emmonak and had the privilege of traveling extensively throughout Alaska.

While stationed in Bethel in the mid-1990s, Wassmann was the oversight trooper for Village Public Safety Officers (VPSO) in five villages. He worked closely with VPSOs and Village Police Officers (VPOs) to assist their communities. During that time, community policing became a primary focus of Alaska State Troopers in rural Alaska. He collaborated with village councils and tribal councils to address the causes of community issues that led to crime.

Read more at: https://beringstraits.com/wassmann-receives-afns-glenn-godfrey-law-enforcement-award/

### BSNC SHAREHOLDER DAISY LOCKWOOD RECEIVES THE SHIRLEY DEMIENTIEFF AWARD



Daisy Lockwood

Governor Mike Dunleavy and the First Lady of Alaska awarded BSNC shareholder Daisy Lockwood of Stebbins with the annual Shirley Demientieff award at the AFN Convention.

During the recent storm in Western Alaska, Lockwood quickly prepared her community to apply for assistance. Stebbins was the first community to provide a complete, detailed damage assessment before anyone "had boots on the ground" thanks to Lockwood.

She encouraged the National Guard to go to other villages with more damage than Stebbins because she was so confident in the resiliency of her village.

"Rose and I are deeply honored to continue the tradition of presenting the annual Shirley Demientieff award," said Governor Dunleavy.
"Shirley was an Athabascan leader, a tremendous friend to many, and a passionate advocate for all people in Alaska. She cared for women, children, the homeless, the incarcerated and the forgotten. She cared deeply for her people. This year's award goes to an exceptional leader, Daisy, the City Administrator for Stebbins. She exemplifies the very best values of Alaska."

Watch the ceremony here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rkdgyMB6gPg

## SHAREHOLDER NEWS

### CAREER PATHWAYS SERIES - LAW: JENNA KROHN

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 Jenna L. Krohn joined BSNC as corporate counsel in 2021. In 2013, Krohn graduated from the University of Alaska with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Justice and a minor in English. In 2019, she graduated from Mitchell Hamline School of Law in St. Paul, Minnesota,



Jenna Krohn

where she earned her law degree. While she completed her education, she worked in human resources at the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium and later at North Star Behavioral Health. After graduating from law school and passing the bar exam, Krohn began practicing law at private firms in Anchorage, focusing primarily on family law, insurance defense, and employment law. Krohn grew up in Anchorage and is the proud daughter of the late Kenneth Dewey Jr. of Koyuk and Karen Alatalo of Bay City, Michigan. She has extended family in Koyuk, Nome and Kivalina, as well as in other areas of the state and in Michigan.

### What inspired you to pursue your career?

"During my last year or so in undergrad, I was able to take Professor Jeff May's rural justice course through the University of Alaska Fairbanks. That course opened my eyes to so many issues that Our People (and Alaska Natives and American Indians in general) face when it comes to the justice system. I knew I was headed toward this field."

## What schooling, skills and experiences did you need or were helpful?

"I found it extremely helpful to intentionally engage in events, activities or courses that would require me to do a lot of writing and speaking. You will need this skill for presentations, interviews and more. The more you do it, the more confidence you will have."

### What were some challenges or barriers you faced?

"Time, resources and money. I did not have the traditional school experience. When I started college at age 19, I was a parent, a full-time employee and a full-time student. It was always a challenge to find the time to balance school with work and my family. I tried to plan ahead as much as I possibly could."

#### What resources did you use to pursue your degree?

"I applied for scholarships that pertained to my field of study, but I also tried very hard to keep my grades up so I could receive academic scholarships. Earlier on in my school career, I also applied for grants. Some years, I used my Permanent Fund Dividend and birthday or Christmas money toward schoolbooks."

#### What are your thoughts on this field of work?

"It is extremely rewarding. The legal field can take you to so many different areas. Any topic you can think of, there is likely an attorney somewhere that specializes in that very thing. If you are interested in helping people during some of the most challenging times of their lives, or helping businesses run smoothly and advising companies on high-risk issues, this is a fantastic option for you."

### What advice do you have for young people?

"(1) It is okay if you don't know what you want to do. When you know it, you'll know it. (2) If it takes you longer to finish your degree or certificate than it might take other people, keep going anyway—the time will pass regardless!

(3) Intentionally go outside of your comfort zone—that is where you will do most of your growing both personally and professionally."

#### What has been your experience working at BSNC?

"I am the corporate counsel. I work in the Legal Department and do a variety of in-house legal tasks. I love the mission and working for Our People. Knowing that I am contributing to not only our current generation but our future generations is something I am proud of every day. I also love our environment. BSNC has the most positive and welcoming work environment I have ever worked in."

### SHAREHOLDER SPOTLIGHT:

### **LUANNA GREYBEAR**

In 2001, BSNC shareholder Luanna Greybear saw that the Anchorage Police Department (APD) was hiring dispatchers on the evening news. A single mother of four young children, Luanna applied and passed every step required for the position.

In the beginning, it was difficult for her and her children with daycare and a changing schedule every 4-6 weeks. Fortunately, she found a daycare provider who accepted daycare assistance and was available for her rotating schedule. There were times she picked them up at 2 or 3 a.m.

The first time she sat in the dispatch room she loved it. Luanna answers business and 911 calls for part of the day and works the radio for the rest. She talks to people who may be having the worst day of their lives and strives to treat every caller with compassion and respect. Although it can be difficult work, Luanna treats each person like her family or an Elder.

This year, Luanna celebrated 21 years with APD. On July 4, 2022, Luanna was promoted to dispatch supervisor. As dispatch supervisor, Luanna supports her team and ensures that the dispatcher center runs smoothly. She is grateful and proud that she has the opportunity to serve her community and her work family. Luanna is also currently attending UAA part-time and pursuing a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Economics.

Luanna was born and raised in Anchorage to Geneva Bright of Dillingham and John Penatac Sr. of King Island. Her maternal grandmother, the late Angeline Hodikoff Riley, was born and raised on Attu Island and was taken to Japan as a prisoner of war along with the entire village. Angeline's father was the last chief of Attu. He died as a prisoner of war in Japan along with many other villagers.

In 2003, Luanna married Abraham Greybear and together, they have six children. Today she is the proud mom of seven girls and three boys. Her

daughter Victoria Marquez recently graduated from the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) nursing program. Her daughter Kathryn Treder plays national rugby for Team USA and her eldest daughter, Dajan Lefuel, is attending school in North Carolina to be a physician's assistant. Dajan qualified to compete at the Olympic Team Trials in 2016 for wrestling. Luanna says her children are her inspiration.



Luanna and her family

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## THE AGLUKTUK

Fall 2022

## BSNC REGION NEWS

## BSNC DONATES \$250,000 TO THE NOME COMMUNITY CENTER



BSNC recently donated \$250,000 to the Nome Community Center for the HomePlate Nome Apartments, located on 6th Avenue near the baseball fields adjacent to the Nome Recreational Center. The project will include 15 studio apartments built for single

occupancy, and an onsite unit for the property manager. The Project is designed to provide a path toward housing permanency for Nome's most vulnerable, chronically homeless population. Construction is expected to be completed by December of 2023, with a projected move-in date of January 2024.

"BSNC is pleased to provide this donation to the Nome Community Center in support of its efforts to provide safe, warm housing for the unhoused," said BSNC President and CEO Gail R. Schubert. "Homelessness and affordable housing are serious concerns in our region and rural Alaska. We are pleased to participate in the effort to help address Nome's critical housing needs for this vulnerable population."Learn more by visiting: https://www.nomecc.org/housing-homeless-prevention.html

# CHARELS TUNGWENUK COMPLETES THE ELECTRICIAN APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM AT BSDC



Charels Tungwenuk

Tungwenuk of Nome on becoming an Alaska Certified Journeyman Electrician through BSNC subsidiary Bering Straits Development Company's (BSDC) Electrical Apprenticeship Program. He plans to continue residing in Nome with his wife Erica and sons Gage and Abel.

BSNC congratulates shareholder Charels

"On behalf of BSNC and BSDC, congratulations, Charels, on your accomplishment," said BSNC

Vice President of Nome Operations Larry Pederson. "This is a prime example of BSNC and its subsidiaries' commitment to hire, develop and train Our People. We look forward to your continued employment and progression in the field as an electrician for the BSDC team in Nome."

### MONTHLY STOCK WILL DRAWING WINNERS

Mail in your updated stock will today and be entered into a drawing to win \$500!

AUGUST Camilla Pratt

SEPTEMBER Linda Ongtowasruk

OCTOBER **Dennis Adams** 

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 BSNC stock must be distributed according to state law and may be distributed to individuals you do not intend to benefit.

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