



4 Annual meeting set



6 SNC expands financial services



7 Kaatiluta celebration



SITNASUAK NATIVE CORPORATION

VENTURE

SPIRITUALITY • COMMITMENT TO FAMILY • LOVE OF CHILDREN • RESPECT FOR ELDERLY • RESPECTING OTHERS • HARD WORK • REVERENCE TOWARD NATURE • COOPERATION • SHARING HONESTY • OBEDIENCE • PATIENCE • HUMOR • HUMILITY • RESPONSIBILITY • PRIDE IN CULTURE • AVOIDANCE OF CONFLICT • OPEN COMMUNICATION • SPEAKING OUR TRADITIONAL LANGUAGE

Goodbye to a very good year

FROM THE CHAIRMAN: JASON "AYAK" EVANS

I extend New Year's wishes to all of you. Two thousand twelve was a very good year for Sitnasuak Native Corporation and I expect 2013 to be even better. We are off to a busy start. We are working aggressively to continue our strategy of diversification that we successfully launched in 2012.

We took ownership of Fidelity Title Agency and MatSu Title on December 1, 2012. Both companies were very profitable during their first month of SNC ownership and the transition at both companies has gone very smoothly. We are also diversifying building on our strengths by significantly expanding our Nome tank

farm. The project is in full swing and we expect it to be completed by October of this year.

We will continue our work in diversification in 2013 with a goal of another new acquisition or a significant new business start-up company.

Several of the actions that the Board took at the regular quarterly Board meeting on December 7 have been fully implemented.

Specifically:

- The special \$500 dividend to elders was issued before Christmas and



[continued on page 2]

Chairman's MESSAGE

[continued from page 1]

- The bereavement benefit program is in operation and two families have received the benefit.

Our next quarterly Board meetings will be in Anchorage the first week of April. Please check our website, www.snc.org, for details. In this issue of the Venture, we are proud to profile shareholders Robert Joe, Sr. and Kendra Takak, as we honor the past and future of our corporation.

We look forward to hearing from shareholders as 2013 gets underway. Feel free to send us news, questions, and comments at info@snc.org.



SNC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jason Evans
Chair

Gloria A. Karmun
1st Vice Chair

Andrew C. Miller Jr.
2nd Vice Chair

Neal W. Foster
Secretary

Helen C. Bell
Assistant Secretary

Robert K. "Bobby" Evans
Treasurer

Mark Allred

Barb Amarok

Crystal M. Andersen-Booth

Louis H. Green, Jr.

Lincoln T. Trigg Sr.

Board declares SHAREHOLDER DIVIDENDS

The SNC Board of Directors declared a dividend of \$7.16 per share at a special board meeting in November. The dividend was distributed in late November. In December, the Board voted to disburse a one-time dividend of \$500 to elders and to implement a shareholder bereavement benefit program.

As Sitnasuak continues in the new year on its path of stability and profitability we will continue to work for the benefit of our shareholders, board chair Jason Evans said. "On behalf of the board, I extend my gratitude for the hard work and success of our parent company and its subsidiaries."

Board approves BEREAVEMENT BENEFIT

Families of deceased Sitnasuak shareholders will now be eligible for a \$1,000 bereavement benefit to defray the costs of funerals and related expenses from the death of a shareholder.

The Board of Directors enacted the bereavement benefit program at its regular board meeting Dec. 7, 2012.

Family members eligible to apply include the surviving spouse, children, lineal

descendants, and siblings of the deceased shareholder. The SNC Shareholder Department will work with families and process applications.

"The board decision to implement the bereavement benefit is driven by our mission to benefit shareholders," Board Chair Jason Evans said.

In MEMORIAM

On behalf of the Board of Directors, SNC employees and shareholders, we express our sincere condolences to the family and friends of the recently deceased. Please send obituary information to Larry Keller at lkeller@snc.org or Dave Evans at devans@snc.org.

Robert Ahgupuk
Robert S. Angnabooguk
Bessie B. Barron
Hannah N. Butcher
Dennis L. Copeland
Victor W. Goldsberry
Polly Koweluk
Edward L. Murdock
Angela Payenna
Theresa Pierce
Helen Pushruk
Florie Rudzavice, III
Margaret L. Trigg

PHOTO BY PEGGY FAGERSTROM

Grant awarded for HISTORICAL WALKING MAP

The Alaska Humanities Forum has awarded a grant in support of Siqna-zuami AĀĳuituaqtut, The Native History of Nome Walking Map. The historical walking map is a project of the Sitnasuak Native Corporation Elders Committee.

The AHF grant will pay for supplies and printing. SNC and the Sitnasuak Foundation have been supporting the project and will continue to do so through cash and in-kind contributions.

The map will be a folded piece, 11x17 with information about historic points of interest related to Nome's Alaska Native history. Project Director Joan Kane, SNC's Planning and Communications Director, said the map will provide a way for diverse audiences – visitors, local youth and lifelong residents – to learn more about Nome's many-layered past.

"Nome is known worldwide as a gold rush town," Kane said. "But its historical and living significance as a center of innovations, languages, and indigenous cultures of the circumpolar north has rarely been documented, shared, or discussed. We hope this map will promote greater understanding of Nome's modern context through its past."

Siqnazuami AĀĳuituaqtut ("We're Walking Around Nome" in Inupiaq) will be widely available at Nome's airport, restaurants, schools, visitors center, library, Alaska Native corporations, tribal offices, and other cultural centers. It is expected to be completed by June 1.

The SNC Elders Committee is the driving force behind the walking map project. Committee members include, from left: Guy Martin, Barb Amarok, Vincent Pikonganna, Perry Mendenhall, Lincoln Trigg, Sr., Harriet Simpson, Helen C. Bell and Andrew C. Miller Jr. (not pictured: Lily Rose)

Welcome NEW SHAREHOLDERS

Albert D. Barron
Carl E. Baucom
Karen Beard
Kathy J. Caswell
Dean L. Chaff
Genevive C. Conway
Joseph A. Conway
Samantha C. Conway
Phyllis L. Farrell
Gary T. Gault, II
Charles R. Gault
Daniel W. Gault
Vanessa D. Gault
Katie C. O'Conner
Jennifer H. O'Connor
Charles A. Punguk
Kaelyn R. Schenkenberger
Sean C. Schenkenberger
Jaylene Sheakley
Freida L. Tocktoo
Harry E. Tocktoo
Sharosha R. Tocktoo
Swenson R. Tocktoo
Roseann Ward
Dale L. Willoya



Annual Meeting Set

The 40th annual shareholders meeting of Sitnasuak Native Corporation will be held Saturday, June 1, beginning at 10 am in the Mini-Convention Center in Nome. The following are other important dates related to the annual meeting:

- MARCH 1 (5 PM)

Deadline for submission of shareholder proposals. Proposals must be submitted on the form available from SNC.

- MARCH 1 (5 PM)

Deadline for board candidates to file the required papers in order to be considered for inclusion in the proxy solicitation.

- APRIL 8 (5 PM)

Record date. All shareholders of record on this date are eligible to vote at the annual meeting.

The annual report and all approved proxy materials must be mailed to shareholders no later than May 2, 2013.

Elder PROFILE: ROBERT JOE SR.

Robert Joe Sr. was raised at Pilgrim Springs from the age of 2½ until he was 14 years old. His mother, Imatuq, was married to Seeganna and they had two girls; Seeganna passed away and remarried Robert Joe. Together they had five children, including Robert Joe Sr. in 1927, as well as Joseph, born in 1924, and three girls.

On the 4th of July in 1940, when Robert Joe Sr. was 14 years old, Henry Kost approached him to work at North Pole. For the following four summers, Robert traveled to work there. Later, Robert's dad worked at the Nome Grill, and Robert began to work there also. Following that, Robert went to work at Marks Field on the Army Base as a dishwasher, then as a laborer; he also worked as a heavy equipment driver and recalls driving big Oshkosh trucks.

When Robert was 25 years old, he was drafted into the US military. He spent two years in Anchorage where he was placed in the ammo department. When he was discharged, he worked for an ammunition inspector, where they made him foreman.



Robert then moved back to Nome and worked for the Alaska Road Commission for three or four years, building roads. He says, "The Cape [Nome] road was real scary because it was one lane. The vehicles going uphill had right-of-way. When the workers got to Fox River, they had to camp out because it was too far to drive back."

Robert also worked as a table waiter at the Bering Sea where they had a bar and restaurant. He worked for Bronson Water, carrying 2 5-gallon buckets of water. Then Ted Grothe started a water business using a 1-inch hose for pumping water, until he went out of business as the City of Nome began putting in water and sewer.

In 1966, Robert married Ruth Oxereok, who was born and raised in Wales. Two weeks after they married, Billy was born on January 17th. Robert Joe Junior was born January 20, 1967 and John was born prematurely on December 14, 1967. The sons were so close in age that some called them the Three Musketeers. Robert weighed 165 pounds at the time and, carrying his three sons, was all muscle!

Robert was one of the original incorporators of Sitnasuak Native Corporation and we are grateful for his hard work and vision.

We want your news!

A new baby in the family? A college graduation to celebrate? The Venture welcomes news from shareholders to include in the next issue. Send your news and a photo, if possible, to Joan Kane jkane@snc.org.

Shareholder PROFILE:

KENDRA NICHOLS-TAKAK

Scholarships and hard work = college degree

For Kendra Nichols-Takak, earning her bachelor's degree was no walk in the park. She worked full time throughout the seven years of studies, married and had two children, and started a small business.

Yet she persevered and last December, Nichols-Takak earned her Bachelor of Arts in Human Services from Alaska Pacific University in Anchorage. Fortunately, she had some help.

"If it wasn't for scholarships I wouldn't have been able to go to school," Nichols-Takak said. A Sitnasuak and Bering Straits shareholder, she received scholarships from both corporations, as well as from the Nome Eskimo Community, Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation and Norton Sound Health Corporation.

"People don't realize how fortunate we are to receive scholarships. I'm really grateful. Most people don't get that kind of opportunity," she said.

Born and raised in Nome – daughter of the late Renard and Linda Nichols – Nichols-Takak graduated from Nome-Beltz High School and earned an associates degree in video production at the Art Institute of Seattle. She has used that knowledge to start her own small business, Snowflake Multi-Media. Her "day" job is Injury Prevention Coordinator at Norton Sound Health Corporation.

She returned to school to get her bachelor's degree in human services because "I've always worked with people in social services and I like working with people. I looked at the college catalogue and picked classes that looked interesting to me," she said.

Nichols-Takak has become a believer in the powers of laughter. Her senior project at APU was the "Laughter Club," in which she visited the local senior center to lead exercises and activities that promote laughter.

The theory behind it – also called Laughter Therapy or Laughter Yoga – is that laughter has powerful beneficial effects. It exercises the cardio-vascular system, promotes blood flow and releases chemicals in the brain that help people heal and cope. Even fake laughter, Nichols-Takak explains, has these benefits.

"I've done Laughter Club in some public venues here in Nome. I try to share it as much as I can. It's so simple and easy and has so many benefits," she said. "I'm pretty passionate about it."

Kendra and Silas Takak and their children



Complete your will and be eligible for cash prize

The SNC Shareholder Department encourages shareholders to have a will for their SNC stock. Every shareholder with a will on file will have a chance to win \$300. A new winner will be picked every three months. Will forms can be printed off from the website www.snc.org. To request a form by mail, call Dave Evans at the Shareholder Department office in Nome at (907) 387-1226 or Larry Keller at (907) 929-7024. In order to be valid, SNC wills must be notarized or signed by two witnesses.



Sitnasuak expands FINANCIAL SERVICES

Sitnasuak has expanded its financial services operations with the recent purchase of two established Alaska companies. The purchase of Fidelity Title in Anchorage and MatSu Title in Wasilla was finalized Dec. 1.

Soon after the purchase was finalized, the SNC Board of Directors created Sitnasuak Financial Services, a wholly owned holding company for the new businesses and GBS, LLC. GBS, is certified ANC 8(a) company and escrow closing agent for Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in Washington State, Idaho and Kansas.

“This is an important step in our continuing strategy to diversify Sitnasuak’s business lines,” CEO David Hoffman said. “By acquiring two strong financial services companies, we bolster the financial sector and create opportunities for synergies among the three companies.”

Fidelity Title and MatSu Title each has approximately 25 employees and both have been operating for more than 10 years. They are the leading title and escrow service companies in Alaska, according to Desiree Pfeffer, Chief Executive Officer of Sitnasuak Financial Services.

Strategic plan report: SNC right on course

The vision for SNC’s business operations, drawn by the SNC Board of Directors more than two years ago, is well on the way to becoming reality. The center of that vision, developed in a two-day board retreat at Solomon in 2010, was that SNC would diversify its business activities and become less reliant on 8(a) contracts.

Senior management reports back to the board every year on its progress toward the goals set out in the strategic plan. In December, senior management was able to report dramatic progress: The recent purchase of two Alaska title companies (see article at left) means SNC now has a third major source of operating profits, financial services. The two Alaska title companies and GBS, LLC, now operate under a recently created holding company, SNC Financial Services. The other two major business lines are apparel manufacturing and fuel services.

The board’s decision last year to expand the tank farm will also promote diversification away from 8(a) and open the door to more business opportunities in the area of fuel services.

Senior management also reported progress in other areas that are high board priorities. A shareholder executive development program has been put in place to prepare shareholders for executive positions in the company.

Finally, preliminary financial statements for 2012 indicate that SNC had a very good year with pre-tax profits six times more than 2011. “That’s a dramatic increase, but it’s not a one-time occurrence,” CEO David Hoffman said. “We expect that our operating profits for 2013 will be on par with 2012, because they are built on a sustainable, stable business plan. It’s sustainable because we’re diversified.”

Executive development training sessions bring together senior managers and executive trainees. From left, Brittany Brown, Kelsey Homes, Cameron Piscoya, David Hoffman and Chuck Fagerstom.



Alvanna-Stimpfle BOUND FOR D.C.

SNC’s Business Development Manager Megan Alvanna-Stimpfle is leaving to become a Legislative Assistant to U.S. Senator Lisa Murkowski in Washington, D.C.

Megan will be a senior advisor on issues related to rural Alaska and Alaska Natives. Her portfolio includes rural infrastructure, all ANCSA issues, 8(a), BIA, and Indian health issues. Senator Murkowski will be in a position of significant influence on these issues in the new Congress by virtue of the Senator’s seats on the Appropriations and Indian Affairs committees.

“We are all sorry to see Megan leave – we’ll miss her talent, productivity, commitment and incredibly positive energy,” CEO David Hoffman said. “I’ve told her that when she gets her fill of D.C. we will welcome her back to SNC.”

Kaatiluta marks first celebration of Native Heritage Month

Thanks to a partnership of Bering Straits Foundation and Sitnasuak Foundation, and the enthusiastic support of many community organizations, Nome enjoyed its first ever celebration of Native Heritage Month last November.

The celebration, called Kaatiluta: Our Native Community, featured a logo contest, a community walk, potluck, music and dance performances. Kaatiluta means “all of us together” in King Island Inupiaq. About 250 to 300 people participated in the celebration, held Nov. 24.

Kaatiluta was the brainchild of Moriah Sallaffie “Uliggaq,” Executive Vice President of Bering Straits Foundation.

“We chose Kaatiluta because we wanted a word that was meaningful, we wanted the event to represent that although we have a very diverse Native community in Nome and the Bering Strait Region that we are united and should always be united,” she explained.

“We also wanted a word that in the future, when people say it, everyone would know that they were referring to our celebration,” she said.

Sallaffie led a nine-member volunteer planning committee, which began weekly meetings in August. In addition to Sallaffie, the planning committee consisted of Barb Amarok and Bobby Evans (both members of the Sitnasuak Foundation Board of Directors), Darlene Trigg, Kirsten Timbers, Laureli Kineen, Marie Tozier, Niaomi Brunette and Sherri Anderson.

Students in Nome schools were invited to enter the logo design competition and 60 entries were submitted. The winning logo was designed by Nome Beltz High School students Kayla Bourdon, Diane Handeland and Angel Kagasagoon.

Entertainment was provided by Inupiaq Choir, NBHS Cultural Dance Group and the King Island and Diomedea Drummers and Dancers. Help and support came from numerous groups and organizations. Norton Sound Seafood Products donated 120 pounds of fish, a troop of Nome Girl Scouts helped to serve food, and kids from the Nome Youth Facility helped set up and clean up. Staff from Kawerak provided rides for elders. Every elder left with a gift.

“It was really a community effort to make it happen,” Sallaffie said. “It was great and we fully look forward to hosting it again next year.”



Nome Beltz High School students Kayla Bourdon, Diane Handeland and Angel Kagasagoon designed the winning logo.

A potluck and entertainment were among the attractions that brought out several hundred people to Kaatiluta: Our Native Community.





P.O. Box 905
Nome, Alaska 99762

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
ANCHORAGE, AK
PERMIT NO. 69

SNC Venture • Winter 2013

Missing SHAREHOLDERS:

Percy B. Angnabooguk
Steven D. Anowlic
Beverly A. Bond
Dale R. Brower
Mary Buck
William Carlo, III
Theresa L. Carraher
Jennifer L. Cauble
Daniel R. Coleman
Kaylin J. Coleman
Edmund J. Cook
Frederick E. Ernak, II
Richard M. Foster
Anthony L. Fry
Danielle R. Gray

Timothy M. Greiner
Sherri F. Harris
James N.P. Heidlebaugh
Hazel N. Jack
Romald K. Katexac
Rene Linderman
Robert McQuade
Charlene B. Milligrock
Mildred A. Murdock
Jennifer E. Olson
Melvin B. Olson, Sr.
Richard R. Omelak
Rapheal R. Pikonganna
Juli Rogers
Kelly D. Royal

Louise Seeganna
Elizabeth A. Silook
Emily Selma Sutton
Rosalene Thomas
Blanche T. Trigg
Katheryn L. Venuto
Maria A. Wade
Avelin Waghiyi
William L. Walluk
Steffannita Willoya
William Willoya

If you know the whereabouts
of a missing shareholder
please contact Sitnasuak's
Shareholder Liaison with
updated information.

Sitnasuak Native Corporation
Shareholder Liaison
P.O. Box 905
Nome, AK 99762
Direct line: (907) 387-1226
Fax: (907) 443-3063
Toll free: (877) 443-2632
Main telephone: (907) 387-1200