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## A Word from the President

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*CIRI President and CEO Sophie Minich*

My fellow CIRI shareholders:

Like all of you, I continue to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic. The world is facing an unprecedented challenge, and first and foremost, I hope you and your families are safe and well.

From the onset of this situation, CIRI has monitored developments very closely and taken action to protect and support our shareholders, staff, business partners and others in our community. We are doing our part to “flatten the curve,” and I know we will get through this together.

### **CIRI Office Closure**

At this time, the Fireweed Business Center, CIRI’s corporate headquarters in midtown Anchorage, is closed to staff, shareholders and visitors. In an effort to minimize the transmission of COVID-19 while maintaining CIRI operations, we have implemented a telework policy. CIRI is fully operational, and our Shareholder Relations department remains reachable by phone and [email](#).

### **Cancelled: CIRI Information Meetings**

Both the State of Alaska and Municipality of Anchorage have ordered residents to shelter in place until at least mid-April and avoid contact with anyone except household members. Following these mandates, and with the health and safety

of our shareholders in mind, CIRI will not be holding our spring Information Meetings in Anchorage, Kenai or Puyallup, Wash. We will continue to follow the guidance of public health officials and we are making plans to hold our Annual Meeting in a manner that best protects the health of our shareholders and staff. As you can imagine, these plans are in flux, and we will keep you abreast of any developments as they relate to our 2020 Annual Meeting of Shareholders.

### **A Reminder: Preventing Transmission of COVID-19**

In accordance with state and local guidelines, CIRI strongly advises all Alaskans to stay home, avoid nonessential travel, and practice social distancing to protect our vulnerable populations and communities. In addition to these measures, basic safety and hygiene measures remain the best defense against COVID-19:

- Wash your hands often with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are unavailable, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Practice "social distancing" by maintaining at least 6 feet between yourself and others.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth without first washing your hands.
- Get adequate sleep, eat well-balanced meals and drink plenty of water to ensure a healthy immune system.

### **Update: First Quarter Distributions**

In light of the issues surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, the CIRI Board and the CIRI Settlement Trust Trustees approved early payment of the first quarter CIRI Settlement Trust (CST) and resource revenue distributions. Shareholder Relations staff worked diligently to complete requested shareholder record changes and process the payments. Thank you to those staff members!

First quarter payments from the CST Distribution Fund, in the amount of \$9.46 per share (or \$946 per 100 shares), were mailed or directly deposited Wednesday, March 25.

Resource revenue payments, in the amount of \$18.8951 per share (or \$1,889.51 per 100 shares), were mailed or directly deposited to at-large CIRI shareholders Thursday, March 26. If you have a [Qenek](#) account, you may access information regarding your payments and the type of stock owned in the portal. Resource revenue payments are made in accordance with Section 7(j) of ANCSA, which directs the sharing of resource revenues among the 12 regional corporations within the state of Alaska.

Other important notes:

- **Rejected direct deposits and lost/missing checks:** Sometimes direct deposit payments transmitted to a shareholder's bank account are rejected, and sometimes checks are lost or misplaced. If you find yourself in this situation, the CIRI website has information about [direct deposit returns](#) and [lost/missing checks](#).

- **Payment verifications and copies of IRS Forms 1099:** CIRI often receives time-critical requests to verify distributions paid to shareholders applying for loans, services or benefits. This time of year, we also hear from many shareholders who have misplaced their IRS Forms 1099. As a reminder, shareholders with [Qenek](#) accounts may generate payment confirmations and copies of their IRS forms via the portal. Alternatively, shareholders may call and leave a message with Shareholder Relations or email their request to [shareholderrecords@ciri.com](mailto:shareholderrecords@ciri.com).
- **Creating a Qenek portal account:** To create a [Qenek](#) account, you will need your shareholder identification (ID) number, which can be found on your CIRI shareholder ID card; date of birth; and the last four digits of your Social Security number. You will also need to enter the "primary" email address on file with CIRI. (If you participate in the [eNewsletter](#) program, this is the email address to which CIRI eNewsletters are sent. If you don't receive eNewsletters but have communicated with Shareholder Relations by email or have otherwise provided your email address to Shareholder Relations, that email address should be used.) To add an email address or verify the email address on file, email [shareholderrecords@ciri.com](mailto:shareholderrecords@ciri.com) or call (907) 263-5191 / (800) 764-2474 and press "0" to leave a message, including your full name and a good call-back number.

## 2020 U.S. Census

The 2020 U.S. Census is an opportunity to shape the future of the Alaska Native community. While Census field operations are on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic, you may easily respond from home by visiting [my2020census.gov](https://my2020census.gov) or calling (844) 330-2020. The 2020 Census questionnaire will take about 10 minutes to complete and your answers are safe, secure and confidential.

Additionally, as you fill out your Census form, keep in mind these tips from the Alaska Federation of Natives:

1. **For Question 5, if you live in a mixed Native and non-Native household, list the Native person as "Person 1."** If Person 1 is an American Indian or Alaska Native person, the entire household is counted as one with an AN/AI head of household. (Person 1 doesn't have to be male or pay more than half the household expenses.) A Native family of four brings in approximately \$14,000 in federal funds annually!
2. **For Question 9, list the name of your federally recognized Tribe.** Federally recognized Tribes are listed at [nativefederation.org/aktribes](https://nativefederation.org/aktribes). If you can't remember your Tribe, write in the name of your: A) Alaska Native regional corporation (e.g., CIRI); B) If not A, then your Alaska Native village corporation; and C) If not B, then your racial/ethnic identifier (e.g., Athabascan, Inupiaq, Yup'ik, etc.).

## Other CIRI News

This communication will replace our March 2020 Raven's Circle newsletter; we hope to resume our regular publishing schedule in the near future. However, I invite you to catch up on CIRI news and information here! We have some great

stories to share with you, including a feature on [Alaska Native female trailblazers](#) and our [Descendant Spotlight](#), [Board Corner](#) and a [CIRI Settlement Trust update](#).

In the meantime, we will communicate any pertinent information via the [CIRI website](#), direct e-mail and our social media channels. If you require assistance, visit the [Qenek](#) shareholder portal or contact Shareholder Relations at [shareholderrecords@ciri.com](mailto:shareholderrecords@ciri.com) or (907) 563-5191 / (800) 764-2474 (press "0").

These are challenging and uncertain times, but we feel confident that as a company and community, we can get through this together. Our Alaska Native values of taking care of one another and working together to overcome challenges will help see us through to a brighter future.

Stay safe and well.

Warm regards,

Sophie Minich  
CIRI President and CEO