



# RAVEN'S CIRCLE

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2023 // CIRI NEWSLETTER



The village of Tyonek is located approximately 40 air miles from Anchorage. Prior to VPSO Zach Burns serving the community, Alaska State Troopers had to fly in from Soldotna.

## VILLAGE OF TYONEK WELCOMES VPSO

Congratulations to the village of Tyonek! Thanks to a coordinated effort among the Native Village of Tyonek (NVT), Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association (APIA) and the State of Alaska, Tyonek recently welcomed a Village Public Safety Officer (VPSO).

VPSOs are unique to Alaska. Known as “First Responders on the Last Frontier,” they provide rural fire protection, basic law enforcement, search-and-rescue coordination, emergency medical services and safety education in tribal communities throughout the state.

VPSOs are the first to arrive on the scene of safety and medical emergencies when help might otherwise be hours away, ensuring citizens in rural communities receive immediate response without delays caused by weather or distance. They typically come armed with tasers, spray and batons, but no guns.

Located approximately 40 air miles from Anchorage on a bluff overlooking the northwest shore of Cook Inlet, Tyonek is home to approximately 175 residents of primarily Alaska Native descent. It is one of seven villages in the Cook Inlet region.

According to NVT Secretary/Treasurer Janelle Baker, the last time Tyonek had a VPSO was in 2005. “There has been a need for a VPSO for quite some time,” she said. “Except in certain emergency situations, it can take days after a report is made for Alaska State Troopers to arrive in Tyonek.”

Tyonek is not alone. A 2019 Anchorage Daily News and ProPublica investigation found that one in three Alaska communities had no local police protection.

Alaska’s VPSO program is divided into 10 individual programs: APIA, Association of Village Council Presidents, Bristol Bay Native Association, Central Council Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, Chugachmiut, Copper River Native Association, Kawerak Inc., Kodiak Area Native Association, Northwest Arctic Borough and Tanana Chiefs Conference. The program is paid for by the State of Alaska. Individual programs hire, employ and supervise the VPSOs, as well as

manage daily operations and work with the communities receiving VPSO services.

After reaching out to the Alaska Department of Public Safety, NVT’s request for a public safety officer was put before the regional coordinators of the individual programs. APIA—a federally recognized tribal organization that serves tribes and communities in the Aleutian/Pribilof region—stepped in to help NVT hire and manage a VPSO for Tyonek.

“I had a meeting with our president to discuss the possibility of providing and managing an officer outside our region,” APIA Public Safety Coordinator Michael Nemeth said. “He was very receptive to the idea, and we decided that providing public safety in rural Alaska—be it in our region or another region—was important and the right thing to do.”

VPSO Zachary Burns arrived in Tyonek in December 2022. A Montana native, Burns is no stranger to Alaska—an Army Staff Sergeant veteran, he had previously been stationed at Fort Wainwright near Fairbanks.

“I originally heard about the VPSO Program through some Army buddies,” Burns recalled. “They were talking about these law-enforcement officers living in villages, being out there all alone. And my first thought was, that’s crazy! But the more I looked into it, the more I decided it sounded like a really interesting job. What appealed to me was getting to do not only police work, but EMT, fire protection, search and rescue—all the things the little kid in me would have dreamed of doing.”

Burns started out as the very first VPSO intern through the U.S. Department of Defense SkillBridge Program, which connects service members transitioning out of the military with paid time off to receive hands-on training in their chosen fields. He interned with APIA, shadowing VPSOs in the community of False Pass, Alaska. Training took place at the Alaska State Troopers Academy in Sitka.

The VPSO Program is selective. VPSOs undergo training that exceeds that required of tribal and village police officers and must also submit to background checks on par

### 2022 TAX INFORMATION

Quarterly payments issued in 2022 from the CIRI Settlement Trust (CST) Distribution Fund and the CST Elders Fund are nontaxable.

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### CIRI INFORMATION AND ANNUAL MEETINGS

RSVP now for Information and Annual Meetings! In-person events with a virtual option available.

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### CIRI SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Apply by the Friday, April 28 deadline!

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with Alaska State Trooper candidates. “Zach and I spent many hours talking about the program, the specific job duties and my expectations of our officers,” Nemeth said. “His drive, his desire for community and passion for the different duties the job entails made him a great candidate to interview with the NVT Tribal Council.”

Housing is often a barrier to communities looking to install a VPSO. American Rescue Act funds enabled NVT to renovate an existing home for Burns, who called his accommodations “top-notch.”

“NVT treats me very well and they’re very supportive of what I’m doing,” he said. “For me, being a VPSO is about making a positive impact. I’m ingrained with the community here; I know everyone’s name and work with them on an almost personal level. In the entire rest of the country, there’s nothing else like the VPSO Program.”

The issue of lack of law enforcement in Alaska villages has gained traction in recent years. In 2019, the U.S. Department of Justice announced \$42 million in grant funding to improve public safety in rural Alaska. Last year, a bill that aims to clarify the statutory mission of VPSOs and the role of the Alaska Department of Public Safety in helping to administer the program passed unanimously through the senate. It added funding to the 2022 budget for another 10 VPSOs and included a \$7-per-hour salary increase for officers.



## A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Happy new year to you, our Shareholders and Descendants! As we move into 2023, I am excited for what lies ahead.

This spring, CIRI will hold our first in-person Information Meetings since 2019. While I am grateful for the technology that allowed us to hold these meetings virtually the last three years, there is no substitute for in-person interaction. Our Board of Directors, executive team and CIRI staff look forward to sharing this time together! Please mark your calendar for the following Information Meeting dates and locations:

- Saturday, April 22 in Anchorage.
- Sunday, April 23 in Kenai, Alaska.
- Saturday, May 6 in Puyallup, Wash.

This year's Annual Meeting will be held Saturday, June 3 in Anchorage.

If you cannot attend the meetings in person, a virtual option will be made available to you—more information to come in the months ahead.

As we return to our in-person gatherings—not only reconnecting but sharing important information about the financial health of our corporation—I am reminded that our unity is our strength. Your corporation is committed to sharing ideas, fostering cooperation and finding innovative ways of working with our villages, tribes and family of socially driven enterprises to promote

the economic and social well-being of CIRI Shareholders and Descendants.

Throughout the year, in the Raven's Circle and in other CIRI communications, you will read how our villages and tribes are working to instill pride in heritage and improve opportunities for the people and communities they serve. Likewise, the CIRI family of tribally designated organizations and community nonprofits serve the needs of Shareholders, Descendants and other Alaskans, providing education, employment, health care, housing, and other social and cultural enrichment services that reflect traditional Alaska Native values. We are grateful for their service and dedicated to working with them to help all CIRI stakeholders thrive.

Again, I look forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming Information Meetings and Annual Meeting!

Warm regards,

Sophie Minich  
CIRI President and CEO

### NEW VIDEO: THE CIRI FAMILY OF SOCIALY DRIVEN ENTERPRISES

Since its inception, CIRI has provided financial support and worked with community partners to create and build a family of tribally designated organizations and community nonprofits. Watch to learn how the Alaska Native Heritage Center, Cook Inlet Housing Authority, Cook Inlet Tribal Council, Inc., Koahnic Broadcast Corporation, Southcentral Foundation and The CIRI Foundation are improving the lives of our Shareholders, Descendants and other Alaskans! View the video by scanning the QR code or visiting [youtube.com/@TheCIRIChannel](https://youtube.com/@TheCIRIChannel).



# BOARD CORNER

## A message from CIRI Board Assistant Secretary Katrina (Dolchok) Jacuk

Dear friends in the CIRI community:

After 14 years of service, I have chosen to step aside from the CIRI Board of Directors. It is a decision made with profound gratefulness for the opportunity to have served, coupled with an understanding that one must always lead by example. It has been an incredible honor to serve you in this role. I am especially thankful to those who gave me your trust and steadfast support over the years. Please know I have done my best to fulfill the duties of a Director with integrity and respect and to demonstrate our shared Alaska Native values.

In 2009, I entered this office with the intent of being a leader who listens to all. In my numerous conversations with Shareholders and Descendants over the years, many of you gifted me with your personal stories, details about our Alaska Native history and valuable cultural knowledge. In addition, you specified your concerns and priorities regarding the business of our corporation. Please know, every time I entered the Board room, I carried your information with me. Thank you for helping me become a more effective leader. Along the way, I learned it is essential to bring our shared Native values into our discussions and decision-making.

In 2023, I leave the Board with the awareness that we must create space for new voices and fresh perspectives. We can no longer simply talk about including the next generation in the future of CIRI—the next generation is here, and they are

prepared to do the work. It is incumbent on all of us to give them, the second and third wave of Shareholders and Descendants, an opportunity to set a new course for CIRI for the next 50 years.

As an original Shareholder, I have felt the constant presence of CIRI in my life since its inception in 1972. I am fortunate to have been part of its first 50 years, and I am proud of our corporation's many accomplishments. In a way, it feels like I grew up with CIRI. When the initial dividend was issued, I was about 10 years old and promptly bought myself a 10-speed bicycle in red, white and blue. Even though I learned of proxy votes and Board seats early on, I never expected to become more involved with CIRI because I didn't think that was an option available to me. Decades later, upon my acceptance to law school, I used another dividend to purchase a laptop computer. While my interest in the corporation would ebb and flow over the years, I remained a proud CIRI Shareholder who recognized it not only as a secondary source of income, but as a real connection with Alaska and part of my identity as a Native woman. I am forever grateful I was given a chance to interview and earn a seat on the Board of Directors. I sincerely hope young Shareholders and Descendants will envision a future for themselves at CIRI, in a form of service suitable for them.

To be an Alaska Native person is to live in relationship—with creation, the Creator and especially with our community, whether it be a tribe, village or Alaska



Native corporation. Without a doubt, my favorite part of this journey has been getting to know our wonderfully diverse community of CIRI Shareholders and Descendants. Thank you for welcoming me into your lives.

As we move into 2023, I thoughtfully ask each of you to set aside time to get involved in the CIRI community. Educate yourself about your corporation. Learn the history of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. Attend Shareholder and Descendant meetings. Read the Annual Report. Apply to serve on the CIRI Participation Committees. Vote your proxy. Speak up. Find a way to participate, whether virtually or in person. We must all make an effort to remain informed about the business of our corporation. We are CIRI and the Cook Inlet region; our opinions and ideas are important. 🦅

## CIRI IN THE COMMUNITY

### COVEY ACADEMY—COVENANT HOUSE ALASKA

Providing an array of resources and services to help homeless youth on their journey to self-sufficiency, Covey Academy connects young people with housing, job training and community support. But Covey Academy isn't your average transitional-living facility—in addition to 19 onsite housing units, the facility offers vocational training in a variety of industries, including heavy-equipment operation, the culinary arts, and administrative and support services.

A program of Covenant House Alaska (CHA), Covey Academy opened in summer 2022. Partner organizations—such as the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Anchorage School District and

Nine Star Education and Employment Services—have offices in the building. The goal is to prevent and alleviate homelessness through housing and job training, and foster independence in residents while keeping them connected with services.

Capital for Covey Academy was provided by Cook Inlet Housing Authority (CIHA) through CIRI's allocation of 2021 Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act funds.

Forty-one percent of CHA's youth clients identify as Alaska Native/American Indian. CHA partners with various Alaska Native organizations, including The CIRI Foundation and Cook Inlet Tribal Council, to ensure its programs are culturally appropriate.

"I recently toured Covey Academy and was impressed not only by the facilities themselves, but by the commitment of the staff and residents," said CIRI President and CEO Sophie Minich. "At the ribbon-cutting ceremony in June, the president of Covenant House International described Covey Academy as 'flight school, where young people learn they can soar.' This is a place designed to give young people the skills and support to move toward independence and life as a healthy, productive adult. I am pleased CIRI was able to support the project through our allocation of CARES Act funds and grateful to CHA and CIHA for their vision and execution."

For more information, visit [covenanthouseak.org](https://covenanthouseak.org) 🦅

## AS SEEN IN OUR REGION

View of Cook Inlet and Turnagain Arm from Seward Highway near Anchorage, Alaska.  
Photo by Kevin Bennett.



## RECIPE

# MOOSE SOUP

RECIPE COURTESY OF  
THE ALASKA NATIVE HERITAGE CENTER

Perfect for winter, this cozy soup uses fridge and pantry staples you likely already have on hand. If you do not have moose meat, feel free to substitute beef stew meat.

### INGREDIENTS:

- 1 pound moose or beef stew meat
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 4 large carrots
- 4 celery stalks
- 1 onion
- 1 tablespoon minced garlic
- 1 large russet potato
- 6 to 8 cups water
- 1 cup dried elbow macaroni pasta
- 2 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
- 1 can stewed tomatoes
- 1 packet dry onion soup mix, such as Lipton
- Salt and pepper (to taste)
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- Kimchi or chopped fresh parsley (optional)

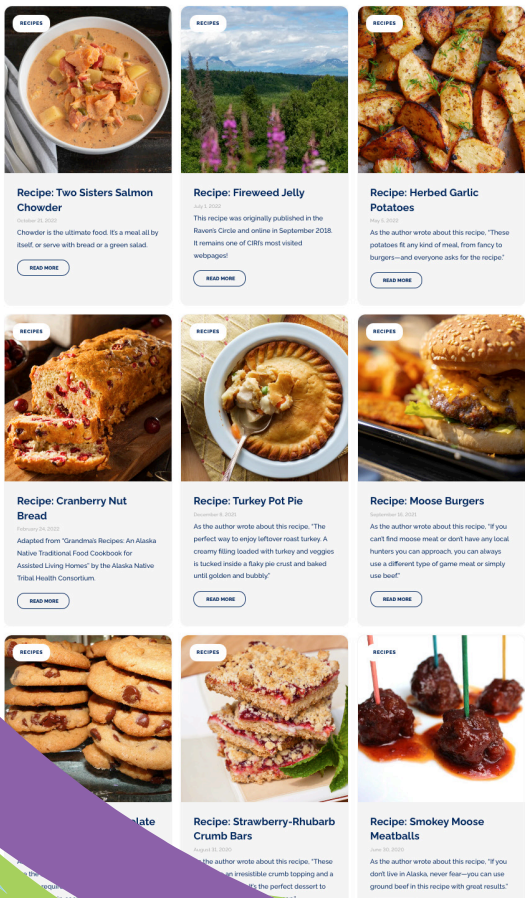
### DIRECTIONS:

1. Cut meat and chop vegetables into bite-size pieces. Dab meat dry with paper towels and season with salt and pepper. Set aside.
2. Heat olive oil in a heavy-bottom soup pot. Brown the moose meat, along with the onion, garlic and Worcestershire sauce.
3. Add water and onion soup mix and bring to a boil. Once soup is boiling, add carrots, celery, stewed tomatoes, potato, macaroni and oregano.
4. Reduce heat to a simmer; cook until potatoes are tender and macaroni is *al dente*.
5. Add salt and pepper to taste. Serve soup hot. Top bowls with kimchi or parsley, if desired.

THANK YOU TO THE ALASKA NATIVE HERITAGE CENTER  
FOR THIS RECIPE—WE APPRECIATE YOUR PARTNERSHIP!

THE RAVEN'S CIRCLE WOULD LIKE TO FEATURE  
OUR READERS' FAVORITE RECIPES!

To submit and view more, visit [ciri.com/recipes](http://ciri.com/recipes)



# 2023 FAREWELL ACCESS PERMITS

## APPLY BY FRIDAY, MARCH 31

As in previous years, recreational use permits will be issued for access to portions of the Farewell area for Dall sheep hunting in 2023.

Access permits to CIRI lands near Farewell are awarded through a random drawing. The area, which is accessible by plane, is located approximately 200 miles west of Anchorage. The general public may apply for access; however, CIRI Shareholders and their immediate family members, registered CIRI Descendants and CIRI employees are drawn in a separate priority lottery, ensuring first choice of hunting periods.

Additionally, CIRI is pleased to again make access permits available by lottery for the Unit 19 Youth Hunt. Though available through the same lottery system as the general hunt, these permits are limited to CIRI Shareholders, registered CIRI Descendants and children of CIRI employees.

- Applications will be accepted through Friday, March 31, with the drawing held in early April.
- Access for the Youth Hunt is Aug. 1-5.
- The general season hunting period is Aug. 10 to Sept. 20.

As in past years, hunters may access the area via Veleska Lake to the north or Smith Lake to the south. For conservation purposes, access permits will be issued for up to 10 days, nine nights. Each hunting party (up to four individuals) will be limited to taking two legal rams. All state hunting regulations apply.

For additional details and to complete the online permit application, visit [ciri.com/our-lands/permitting](http://ciri.com/our-lands/permitting). To register as a CIRI descendant, visit [ciri.com/descendant-registration](http://ciri.com/descendant-registration).

# IMPORTANT DATES

MARCH 10, 2023	CST Elders Distribution
MARCH 12, 2023	Daylight Saving Time begins
MARCH 22, 2023	First quarter and resource revenue change of address deadline
MARCH 31, 2023	Quarterly CST Distribution; GreenLink \$500 prize drawing; quarterly participation prize-drawing deadline; last day to apply for the Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend
APRIL 3, 2023	Resource Revenue Distribution
APRIL 18, 2023	Federal income tax returns due
APRIL 22, 2023	CIRI Information Meeting: Anchorage
APRIL 23, 2023	CIRI Information Meeting: Kenai, Alaska
APRIL 28, 2023	CIRI Summer Internship Program application deadline
MAY 6, 2023	CIRI Information Meeting: Puyallup, Wash.

# 2022 TAX INFORMATION

## 2022 CST payments are nontaxable

The quarterly payments issued in 2022 from the CIRI Settlement Trust (CST) Distribution Fund and the CST Elders Fund are nontaxable; thus, tax forms will not be issued, and the payments will not be reported to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

## Tax status of 2022 CIRI payments

CIRI IRS Forms 1099 for the 2022 tax year were mailed no later than Jan. 31, 2023. Shareholders with portal accounts may access their Forms 1099 at [qenek.ciri.com](http://qenek.ciri.com). Tax information remains accessible in Qenek for seven years, allowing Shareholders to easily view and print their forms, if desired.

2022 tax forms will reflect all payments made to affected CIRI Shareholders in 2022, and such Shareholders may receive more than one type of Form 1099 depending on type of CIRI income received. These include:

- **Form 1099-MISC (resource revenue payments and prizes).** Resource revenue—or 7(j)—payments derive from resource revenue sharing obligations among the 12 Alaska Native regional corporations, as required by the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA). Shareholders who owned at-large stock on April 1, 2022, received a \$11.6955 per at-large share (or \$1,169.55 per 100 shares) 7(j) payment from CIRI in 2022. Additionally, if you inherited at-large stock in 2022 and received an estate settlement payment, a portion of that

VOID		CORRECTED	
PAYER'S name, street address, city or town, state or province, country, ZIP or foreign postal code, and telephone no. <b>COOK INLET REGION, INC. PO BOX 93330 ANCHORAGE, AK 99509-3330</b>		1 Rents \$	OMB No. 1545-0115 Form <b>1099-MISC</b> (Rev. January 2022) For calendar year 2022
PAYER'S TIN		2 Royalties \$	Miscellaneous Information
RECIPIENT'S TIN <b>XXX-XX-1234</b>		3 Other income \$ <b>AMOUNT</b>	
RECIPIENT'S name <b>SHAREHOLDER NAME</b> Street address (including apt. no.) <b>SHAREHOLDER ADDRESS</b> City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code <b>ANCHORAGE, AK 99509-3330</b>		4 Federal income tax withheld \$	Copy 1 For State Tax Department
13 FATCA filing requirement <input type="checkbox"/>		5 Fishing boat proceeds \$	
Account number (see instructions) <b>07-999-00000-01</b>		6 Medical and health care payments \$	18 State income \$
16 State tax withheld \$		7 Payer made direct sales totaling \$5,000 or more of consumer products to recipient for resale <input type="checkbox"/>	
		8 Substitute payments in lieu of dividends or interest \$	17 State/Payer's state no. \$
		9 Crop insurance proceeds \$	
		10 Gross proceeds paid to an attorney \$	15 Nonqualified deferred compensation \$
		11 Fish purchased for resale \$	
		12 Section 409A deferrals \$	14 Excess golden parachute payments \$
		13 FATCA filing requirement <input type="checkbox"/>	
		16 State tax withheld \$	17 State/Payer's state no. \$
		17 State/Payer's state no. \$	

Form 1099-MISC (Rev. 1-2022) www.irs.gov/Form1099MISC Department of the Treasury - Internal Revenue Service


payment may have consisted of held 7(j) funds.

Resource revenue payments are reported in Box 3 – Other Income on a Form 1099-MISC. ANCSA requires that resource revenue amounts distributed in connection with CIRI village-class stock be paid to the associated village; therefore, CIRI does not report these payments as individual Shareholder income.

Shareholder prizes are also reported in Box 3 – Other Income on a Form 1099-MISC.

- **Form 1099-DIV (estate payments).** If you inherited CIRI shares in 2022, any held dividends paid by CIRI in connection with the inherited shares will be reported in Boxes 1a –

Ordinary Dividends and 1b – Qualified Dividends on Form 1099-DIV. If you have held your shares for less than one year, please consult your tax advisor regarding the proper treatment of qualified dividends.

Please note that it is your responsibility to accurately report your CIRI income on your tax returns; CIRI cannot provide tax advice. The proper IRS forms and schedules to use when completing individual tax returns may vary depending on the types of CIRI payments received. Shareholders are encouraged to consult with a tax advisor regarding individual circumstances and applicable federal and state tax requirements. 

## SHAREHOLDER SPOTLIGHT: FRED S. ELVSAAS JR.

Growing up steeped in Alaska Native politics has given CIRI Shareholder Fred S. Elvsaas Jr. (Aleut) a unique perspective on the history, culture, challenges and opportunities facing Alaska Native regional and village corporations.

Fred's grandfather, Fred H. Elvsaas, served on the CIRI Board of Directors and helped establish Seldovia Native Association (SNA) in the early 1970s. "Anyone who knew my grandfather would tell you that Alaska Native politics was all he talked about," Fred chuckled. "We lived in Seldovia, but our family set-net site is near the Kustatan River. He had a captive audience when we were out setnetting, so by the time I was 18, I kind of learned, well, I mean, a lot of what there was to know about Alaska Native politics and ANCSA (Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act) and everything else."

One of seven villages in the Cook Inlet region, Seldovia is accessible only by a 15-minute flight or a 45-minute ferry ride from Homer. Its fewer than 300 residents still largely rely on commercial fishing for their livelihood. Fred lived in Seldovia until he was 18, describing the tight-knit community as "a kid's paradise."

"There was always something going on, between the boats, crab fishing and halibut fishing and cod fishing, and then taking off and going salmon fishing in the summer," Fred recalled. "It was always busy, especially if you were a kid; you could always get a job somewhere doing something. You'd fish king salmon in the slough and longline halibut in the bay, and then take off first thing in the spring and head to fish camp and come home right before school started."

"Growing up, I definitely identified as an Alaska Native person," Fred continued. "In Seldovia, that's just the culture—subsistence, sharing what you have with Elders, seasonal

work and living in harmony with your environment."

After moving to Anchorage, Fred began working for VECO Corp., an oil pipeline and construction company. In 2009, he hired on with NANA, the Alaska Native regional corporation for northwest Alaska. He started out as an estimator, rising through the ranks to project manager and then general manager. Since 2016, he has been at the helm of NANA Construction.

"There's never a dull moment, and growing up in a commercial-fishing family, I've always kind of operated at this intense pace," Fred said. "We do rural housing fabrication. We build oil field process modules, pipe racks, schools, 350-man camps. We do turnarounds at mines and oil and gas facilities. We've got work at the refineries down on the Kenai Peninsula, offshore oil and gas—things like that. It's a 24/7 job, and we've grown a lot. We're running 365 days a year, day and night shifts at all these different mines and facilities."

Fred credits his "awesome wife," CIRI Descendant Brittany A. Elvsaas (Athabaskan), for taking on the bulk of family life and responsibilities so he can devote his time to work. And together, they are committed to instilling pride in Alaska Native culture and heritage in their four children, who range in age from 22 to 6. "With us, we live it," he said. "When salmon fishing opens, we're already over on the west side of Cook Inlet at our fish camp. You're on the beach; your entire life revolves around the weather. And as far as seal hunting and commercial fishing and doing those types of things, those are things that we try to instill in our kids and get out there and go and do."

Fred's mother, siblings, aunts and uncles still reside in Seldovia, and he makes quarterly trips from his home in the Matanuska-Susitna



Valley to visit family and attend meetings of SNA, for which he serves as board vice president.

Fred said SNA has experienced "phenomenal growth" since he joined the board 20 years ago. Current business operations include the Dimond Center Hotel in Anchorage and a tour group based in Palmer, Alaska. The corporation also recently wrapped up the process of identifying and making an inventory of carbon offset credits for future sales. "Fifteen, 20 years ago, we didn't have any money," Fred said. "And now we're looking at setting up permanent funds and getting things to where we can pay dividends in perpetuity. It's been a fun 20 years—a fruitful journey from where we started to where we are now."

Fred inherited CIRI shares from his grandfather, Fred H., as well as an "uncle," Reuben B. Ingram, who also lived in Seldovia. "At the end of the day, you're proud of your regional corporation and the things they do, and same

# IN MEMORY

## HARLAN RICHARD ADKISON, 85

Harlan Richard Adkison passed away Sept. 11, 2022, at Providence Hospital in Anchorage. Mr. Adkison was born Jan. 27, 1937, in Dillingham, Alaska. He is survived by his spouse, Zinaida Adkison; son, Harlan R. Adkison Jr.; stepsons, Mike Drake, Ronnie Drake and Greg Baldwin; and stepdaughters, Cindy Schurosky, Beverly Vanvalkenburgh and Marina Sapelnik.

## BURNELL W. BENEDIX JR., 63

Burnell W. Benedix Jr. passed away Aug. 19, 2022, at Alaska Regional Hospital in Anchorage. Mr. Benedix was born Sept. 5, 1958, in Anchorage. He is survived by his son, Harley D. Benedix; and brother, Don Benedix.

## PAULINE CHILLIGAN, 97

Pauline Chilligan passed away Sept. 8, 2022, in Eklutna, Alaska. Ms. Chilligan was born Aug. 25, 1925, in Knik, Alaska. She is survived by her brother, Ray Stephan; children, Irene Chilligan, Laura Chilligan, Shirley Craig and Norman Chilligan; grandsons, Duane Craig, Ralph Phillips and Robert, Herman, Smitty and Jason Chilligan; granddaughters, Rachel, Beverly, Rose and Deanna Chilligan, Breanna Clevenger and Tashena Craig; nieces, Debra Call, Sharon Padilla and Delia Call; grandnieces, Michele Carter, Michelle Edwards and Rachel Stephan; and many more nieces and nephews, great-grandchildren and one great-great-granddaughter.

## NANCY LEE FITZHUGH, 88

Nancy Lee Fitzhugh passed away Oct. 13, 2022, at Harbor Assisted Living in Nampa, Idaho. Ms. Fitzhugh was born Jan. 10, 1934, in Sheridan, Wyo. She is survived by her children, Richard, Julie, Michael and Mark Heusser and Kathy Apple; and brother, David Curtis.

## SUSAN H. GONZALEZ, 74

Susan H. Gonzalez passed away Sept. 6, 2022, in Carmichael, Calif. Ms. Gonzalez was born Mar. 27, 1948, in Martinez, Calif. She is survived by her children, Richard Bright, Faye Shoulders and Anthony Gonzalez; grandchildren, Raven Schaefer, Layla Bellaflores, Aniya Gonzalez-Padilla and Greta Gonzalez; and great-grandchildren, Kayden Coonan, Eli Coonan, Lorelei Bellaflores and Willow Schaefer.

## JOSEPH BERNARD JAGER, 53

Joseph Bernard Jager passed away Jan. 12, 2022, at home in Auburn, Wash. Mr. Jager was born July 3, 1968, in Anchorage. He is survived by his siblings, Nora Velez, Audrey Jager, Candace Daniels and Andrew Jager; nephews, Benny Velez, Chris Velez, Michael Jager, Danni Jager, Alex Daniels, Max Daniels, Jeremy Nelson, Eddie Nelson and Jason Nelson; and nieces, Diana Velez, Isabel Velez, Lily Jager, Michelle Daniels, Crystal Daniels and Jessica Nelson.



## JANICE JOHNSON, 77

Janice Johnson passed away Dec. 10, 2022, in Tarboro, N.C. Ms. Johnson was born Nov. 26, 1945, in Tarboro. She is survived by her daughter, Lisa (Clifton) Ruffin; grandson, Matt (Kali) Ruffin; great-granddaughter, Chloe Ruffin; sister, Ann (Phil) Letchworth; nephews, Mark (Amy) Letchworth and Danny (Joy) Letchworth; great-niece, Katelyn Letchworth; great-nephew, William "Bill" Letchworth; special friend, Thomas Webb; and "constant companion," Smokey.

## QUENTIN DAVID NORMAN, 52

Quentin David Norman passed away Sept. 7, 2022, at home in Odessa, Texas. Mr. Norman was born July 22, 1970, in Anchorage. He is survived by his father, David F. Norman; sister, Melissa (Norman) Doherty; children, Heather Hadley, Jordan "Jordy" (Norman) Willie and Alex Norman; and grandchildren, Cooper Murie, Carol Willie and Sidney Willie.

## WILLIAM PAUL PONCHENE, 73

William Paul Ponchene passed away Aug. 15, 2022, at home in Rochester, Wash. Mr. Ponchene was born Aug. 26, 1949, in Seldovia, Alaska. He is survived by his son, Steven W. Kunnuk; and uncle, Frank Saracoff.

## ANNA MARIE PUSHUK, 63

Anna Marie Pushruk passed away Aug. 20, 2022, in Wasilla, Alaska. Ms. Pushruk was born June 23, 1959, in Nome, Alaska. She is survived by her daughter, Kristy Allain; siblings, Robert Pushruk and Linda Cathey; granddaughters, Samantha, Danica and Destiny; and cousins, James Gainey, Mary Cathey and Terry Pushruk.

## ROBERT LOUIS ROBINSON JR., 70

Robert Louis Robinson Jr. passed away March 2, 2022, at the Alaska Native Medical Center in Anchorage. Mr. Robinson was born Dec. 11, 1951, in Nome, Alaska. He is survived by his mother, Virginia Mae Lee; daughter, Lorie Ann Lockyer; brother, Raymond Robinson; nephew, Ron Robinson Jr.; and nieces, Cheryl-Lynn Robinson and Anna Marie Robinson.

## LOGAN T. SHOWALTER, 30

Logan T. Showalter passed away Dec. 11, 2022, in Soldotna, Alaska. Mr. Showalter was born Feb. 26, 1992, in Soldotna, Alaska. He is survived by his wife, Trinity Showalter; stepdaughter, Macie Davis; daughter, Rogue Showalter; and son, Robin Showalter.



## JULIA LORRAINE WILSON, 72

Julia Lorraine Wilson passed away Dec. 27, 2022, in Soldotna, Alaska. Ms. Wilson was born July 12, 1950, in Seward, Alaska. She is remembered as a loving grandmother who devoted her life to family. She counted among her hobbies cooking and baking, crocheting, knitting, playing darts and harvesting traditional foods. She is survived by her daughter, Sandy K. (Emil) Wilson; her faithful companion, William Segura Sr.; grandchildren, Jonathan, Marissa, Julianne (Roan) Andrew, Samiel, Emilee, Savana, William and Hanna Wilson, and Blake, Paige and Matthew Walker; sister, Dorothy Lecceardone; great-grandchildren, Everly Walker and Ezra Taplin; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

## CONDOLENCES

DENISE J. COX, 64  
HAROLD F. GOLF, 76  
JANICE DEANNE GRANSBURY, 57  
JEANIE ANN GRASS, 72  
MARVIN STANLEY GREENBERG, 69  
PATRICIA ELLEN HALLSTEAD-MANN, 79  
WILLIAM STANLEY IRONS, 75  
LAEL W. MORGAN, 86  
JOHN RAY NEVZUROFF, 42  
MARTIN O'CONNOR, 80  
CLYDE RICHARD PETERSON, 90  
RONALD JOSEPH PETERSON, 42  
SHERRI ANNE PETERSON, 61  
DANIEL DAVID REEL, 66  
DOUGLAS HARVEY SHAW, 80  
MYRNA TRAEGER, 82  
JANELLE ELIZABETH VERDUCE, 64  
EDWARD BRUCE WOODBURY, 57

# WINNERS' CIRCLE

To increase participation in certain programs, CIRI holds periodic prize drawings from the names of those enrolled who meet certain criteria and have a current mailing address with CIRI. If CIRI has returned mail, a different winner will be selected. Visit the CIRI website or call (907) 263-5191 or (800) 764-2474 to learn more. The following Shareholders and Descendants have been selected as winners for the most recent CIRI drawings:

## STOCK WILL PARTICIPATION PRIZES

Must have a valid will on file that complies with CIRI's fractional share policy.

### \$200 Monthly Stock Will Prize:

JULY: JOHN BURGESS

AUGUST: NANCY SANDERS

SEPTEMBER: GUNNAR BOWMAN

### Third quarter drawing for an Apple iPad Air:

• BARBARA MOONIN

## DIRECT DEPOSIT DRAWING

The direct deposit instruction must be current with CIRI to win.

### Third and fourth quarter drawings for \$500:

• KELLY NESS

• ZACHARY MALEY

## eNEWSLETTER DRAWING

Shareholders enrolled in the eNewsletter program with a valid email address on file.

### Third and fourth quarter drawings for an iPad or

\$400 cash:

• NICODEMUS MARSING

• WINNER HAS NOT YET BEEN SELECTED

## CONFIRMED, REGISTERED DESCENDANT DRAWING

Direct lineal Descendants of CIRI Shareholders who are not themselves Shareholders, who have submitted legal documents substantiating descent and who have a valid email address on file.

### Third and fourth quarter drawings for a Kindle Fire

HD or Amazon gift card:

• NOE REYES (YOUTH)

• LINDA CASTEEL (ADULT)

• DELILAH STRICKLAND (YOUTH)

• MARY JOHNSON (ADULT)

## QENEK ACCOUNT DRAWING

Shareholders and registered Descendants who have created a Qenek account or accessed an existing account during the preceding quarter.

### Third and fourth quarter drawings for a YETI cooler:

• MISHA SHAFFER

• TANYA SOLBERG

## GREENLINK DRAWING

Shareholders who have a valid direct deposit instruction and email address on file and who have opted into electronic delivery of certain materials.

### Third and fourth quarter drawings for \$500:

• KRISTAL MERCADO-ROBISON

• DEA SIMS

## SPECIAL QENEK ACCOUNT DRAWING

Shareholders who created or logged into an existing Qenek account between Jan. 25 (the date 2022 IRS Form 1099s were available in Qenek) and Jan. 31, 2023.

### Drawing for Alaskan Red King Crab or \$400 gift card:

• TERESA ROBERS

## SAVE THE DATE: 2023 INFORMATION AND ANNUAL MEETINGS

For the first time since 2019, CIRI will host in-person Information Meetings in Anchorage; Kenai, Alaska; and Puyallup, Wash. The Annual Meeting will be held in Anchorage. There will also be an option to attend the meetings virtually. For those who plan to attend in person, mark your calendar for the following dates and locations. We can't wait to see you!

### INFORMATION MEETINGS

#### Saturday, April 22—ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

- Location: William A. Egan Civic & Convention Center
- Address: 555 W 5th Ave, Anchorage, AK 99501
- Registration opens: 10:30 a.m.
- Please RSVP by: Friday, April 7
- Childcare available

#### Sunday, April 23—KENAI, ALASKA

- Location: Kahtnuht'ana Duheldiht Campus
- Address: 12271 Kenai Spur Hwy, Kenai, AK 99611
- Registration opens: 2 p.m.
- Please RSVP by Friday, April 7
- Child care available

#### Saturday, May 6—PUYALLUP, WASHINGTON

- Location: Chief Leschi School
- Address: 5625 52nd St E, Puyallup, WA 98371
- Registration opens: 10:30 a.m.
- Please RSVP by Friday, April 21
- Child care available

### ANNUAL MEETING

#### Saturday, June 3—ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

- Location: Dena'ina Civic and Convention Center
- Address: 600 West 7th Avenue
- Registration opens: 8 a.m.
- Child care available

WHILE IT IS NOT REQUIRED TO RSVP FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING, IT HELPS US ENSURE THE PROPER AMOUNT OF FOOD IF YOU DO.

### THERE ARE THREE WAYS TO RSVP:

Letting us know you will attend and how many people will be in your party helps us plan for the appropriate number of guests. Please note the RSVP deadlines listed for each event and respond by the indicated date one of the following ways:

1. Via the portal at [qenek.ciri.com](https://qenek.ciri.com).
2. Online at [ciri.com/RSVP](https://ciri.com/RSVP).
3. By phone at (907) 263-5191 or (800) 764-2474 (select option 5).



## 2023 CIRI SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM APPLICATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, APRIL 28

CIRI is now accepting applications for its 2023 Summer Internship Program!

To be eligible for consideration, applicants must:

- Be a CIRI Shareholder or registered Descendant.
- Have at least a 2.0 GPA.
- Be enrolled in a two- or four-year degree program; or have graduated from a two- or four-year degree program within the past year; or be enrolled in or recently graduated from a vocational program that is relevant to the position of interest.



Apply online before the **Friday, April 28** deadline by visiting [ciri.com/internship](https://ciri.com/internship).



Any questions or requests for additional information may be directed to [shareholderprograms@ciri.com](mailto:shareholderprograms@ciri.com).

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

## SHAREHOLDER SPOTLIGHT: FRED S. ELVSAAS JR.

thing with your village corporation," Fred said. "People hear you're a CIRI Shareholder and you belong to a highly respected company, and it's a good thing—something we can all be proud of."

Fred is also a current member of CIRI's Participation Committees, which seeks to increase two-way communication between the corporation and its Shareholders and Descendants.

By dividing the land into village and regional corporate holdings, ANCSA planted the seeds of a conflict within the Native community over the capital versus subsistence value of land. Over the last decade, CIRI's management has made it a high priority to find opportunities that fall within our joint best interests and to work cooperatively with the

Cook Inlet region village corporations. In February 2013, CIRI conveyed more than 200,000 acres of 12(b) lands to CIRI village corporations, ending the long process to finally convey the major land entitlements to CIRI villages.

Fred acknowledges the past—"the way the land-selection process worked under ANCSA, it's almost like it was designed to create conflict between the regional and village corporations"—while remaining hopeful about the future. "What I've seen over the last 10 years is closer alignment," he said. "It's noticeable how much the relationships have improved. People are getting together in the same room, having conversations, making business deals. I think the younger generation has realized we're all in this together. We're focused on opportunity rather than conflict." ✍️

# SHAREHOLDERS WITH RETURNED MAIL

The following CIRI Shareholders do not have a current mailing address on record. When CIRI mail is returned as undeliverable, the distributions are held and the Shareholder does not qualify to participate in any prize drawings until the address is updated. Shareholders with Qenek portal accounts may update their addresses online. Alternatively, Shareholders may visit CIRI's website or call Shareholder Relations at (907) 263-5191 or (800) 764-2474 for address change forms and information. For a complete and current list of missing Shareholders, visit [ciri.com/missing-shareholders](http://ciri.com/missing-shareholders).

(As of 02/21/2023)

David Allowan  
Pauline Allowan  
Shirley Maureen Arkless  
Roseanna Alexandria Baehm  
Katherine Rosamond Beeman  
Matthew David Benkoe  
Aubrey Leroy Bennett Jr.  
Pamela Helen Benti  
Christopher James Black  
Richard Kenneth Bright  
Leslie Ray Bryant  
Robin Ann Bryant  
Charlene Rae Burns  
Randy Stephan Cain  
Christian Troy Carey  
John Joseph Carmen  
Richard Lee Chamberlain  
Karen Jean Christiansen  
Wayne Scott Chulinn  
Mary P. Conroy  
Crystal Dawn Copeland  
Shadow Lee Correa  
Audrey Clarkson Craig  
John Wilson Cross  
Dominik Kai Dalton  
Samuel P. Davic  
Marcia K. Denison  
Mario Lanza Dyer  
Joseph Anthony Edwards  
Brandon Scott Ekopak  
Joseph Francis Fadaoff  
Michael Henry Ferguson  
Steven Curtis Fielding  
Wolfgang Von Foreman  
Wesley Frank Fraley  
Drake Edward Frostad  
Arseny Leonty Galeshoff  
Shavonne Krystal Geffe  
Joshua Allen Gosser  
Jody Ann Guerrero  
Dahmir Lamarr Hale  
Penny Louise Hansen  
Jeannie Lynn Harkins  
Christopher Allen Hayes  
Annie Marie Heinrich  
Barbara Hochmuth  
Kristie Mae Hocking  
Rodney Wayne Hoeldt  
Matthew Michael Holmes  
Samantha Jordan Michelle Holmes-Hooper  
Nathaniel Lyle Hosier  
Daniel Patrick Huber  
Grant Thomas Hutchison  
Magdalene Katherine Isidore  
June Frances Jaidinger  
Nicholas Brandon James  
Melissa Ann Jones  
Donald Walter Karels  
Bruce Arnold Katchatag  
Lisa Lyn Keene  
Patricia F. Kelly  
Chance Laurent King  
Elizabeth Ann Kirschner  
Brent Wells Kolstoe  
John Earl Komok

William Ryan Koweluk  
Vincent Wade Lawton  
Sean Michael Lestenkof  
Henrietta Marcel Lewis  
David Atlas Lock Jr.  
Tony Dean Long  
Roger Dean Lowe  
Elsie Theresa Luke  
Krstiana Lin Mark  
Michael Patrick McCann  
Rodney Phillip McCord  
Mary Ann McCord  
Shane Patrick McCurdy  
Michelle June McDonald  
Barry Elton McIntosh  
Jeffrey Brian Meeks  
Melody Ann Miller  
Michael Rethmon Nesja  
Leon Lee O'Donnell Jr.  
John Wassilly Olsen  
Thomas Albert Osborne  
Sharon Kathryn Parks  
Duane Allen Peck  
Justina Carrol Penney  
Nettie Elizabeth Peratrovich  
Janet Lynn-Savoy Peterman  
Christopher Allen Raduege  
Miles Brendan Richardson  
Melanie Brook Ritter  
Trent Sidney Roberts  
Victoria Daisy Seetot  
Nick Theodore Sherman  
Carly Jennie Sherman  
Russell Lee Shetters III  
Jackie Ree Singleton  
Madison Paige Smith  
Mason Ray Smith  
Xander Lynn Smith  
Benjamin Samuel Snyder  
J Michael-A Soto Jr.  
Brittany Michelle Sparks  
Richard Jasen Standish Jr.  
Roger Wayne Stewart  
Leona A. Tague  
Matthew Darryl Theodore  
Raylen Marie Thompson  
Patricia Faye Thompson  
Tracy Lynn Thompson  
Curtis O'Malley Tindall Sr.  
Clara Ruth Tootkaylok  
Jeffery Leo Trenton  
Christopher Jay Tucker  
Nathan Michael-Estrada Valdez  
Mika Lynn Vanoudenallen  
Anthony Wayne Waterbury  
Archie Alfred Watson IV  
Harry Markum Watson Jr.  
Sarah Melissa Whalen-Lunn  
Anwar Lee Wheeler  
Dominic Joseph Wheeler  
Robert Lawrence Wild Jr.  
Kristina Marie Yankovic  
Mary Ann Yates  
Loretta Anne Zoltek



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\* Denotes a member of the Board of Trustees of the CIRI Settlement Trust



P.O. Box 93330  
Anchorage, Alaska 99509-3330

### CIRI CONTACT INFORMATION

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Tel. (907) 263-5191 or (800) 764-2474  
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[shareholderrecords@ciri.com](mailto:shareholderrecords@ciri.com)

**For Estates/Wills, Contact Probate at:**  
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Fax (907) 263-5186

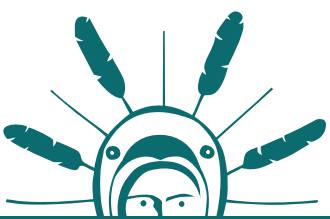
Submit ideas, stories & recipes to [info@ciri.com](mailto:info@ciri.com)



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THE CIRI FOUNDATION

# Hiring

OPEN POSITION:  
✓ **President/CEO**

Full-time position in Anchorage, Alaska.

<https://thecirifoundation.org/about/employment-opportunities>

[board@thecirifoundation.org](mailto:board@thecirifoundation.org)

