

RAVEN'S CIRCLE

APRIL/MAY 2023 // CIRI NEWSLETTER



Held Jan. 30-31 in Anchorage, the Cook Inlet Region Leaders Roundtable and Alaska Native Unity Forum brought together leaders from CIRI, the CIRI family of tribally designated organizations, and Cook Inlet region villages and tribes.

COOK INLET REGION LEADERS COME TOGETHER TO IDENTIFY PRIORITIES

CIRI President and CEO Sophie Minich kicked off two days of Alaska Native leadership meetings with a call to unity. "These meetings are about creating a space to work together, having critical conversations, and identifying challenges and opportunities," she said. "We come together at a pivotal time to re-evaluate what we think we know, identify opportunities for making change, and ultimately come in closer alignment on our shared goals and values."

COOK INLET REGION LEADERS ROUNDTABLE

Held Jan. 30 in Anchorage, the Cook Inlet Region Leaders Roundtable brought together leaders from CIRI, the CIRI family of tribally designated organizations, and Cook Inlet villages and tribes to develop regional priorities. The roundtable was hosted by CIRI, Cook Inlet Housing Authority, Cook Inlet Tribal Council and Southcentral Foundation.

Cook Inlet region leaders identified various economic, social and cultural priorities. The priorities were discussed during the roundtable, and the top three region-wide priorities were determined by a region leaders vote at the following day's Alaska Native Unity Forum:

- 1) Protecting self-determination:** Defend Alaska Native people's rights to self-determination and access to critical federal programs and funding.

- 2) Subsistence:** Manage subsistence resources for future generations. Protect all Native peoples' subsistence practices, regardless of whether they live in urban or rural Alaska.

- 3) Revitalize Alaska Native culture and identity:** Protect ancestral lands, preserve and revitalize Native languages, celebrate all Alaska Native cultures and build awareness of the importance of cultural identity.

"Gathering in the same room, listening to tribal leaders' stories and working through ideas is valuable," said Ronette Stanton, council chair, Kenaitze Indian Tribe. "We worked to develop a clear plan of action to address national issues that significantly impact Alaska Native people. It is imperative we come together and have these crucial conversations."

ALASKA NATIVE UNITY FORUM

On Jan. 31, Cook Inlet region leaders joined tribes, Alaska Native regional and village corporations, tribal health organizations, nonprofits, housing authorities and other Native organizations from across the state for the Alaska Native Unity Forum (ANUF). The purpose of the forum was to discuss Alaska's model of self-determination and how to better work together to serve and represent Alaska Native people. In all, more than 200 Native leaders from across Alaska participated in the ANUF.

"I enjoyed the collaboration and saw what we can accomplish when we work together and support one another as Alaska Native people and organizations," said Chris

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CIRI PRESIDENT AND CEO RECRUITMENT

CIRI is searching for a visionary leader to fulfill the role of president and CEO.

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APPLY: CIRI VIRTUAL MENTORING PROGRAM

The application deadline for both mentors and mentees is Friday, July 21.

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2023 SHAREHOLDER DISTRIBUTIONS

The audit of CIRI's 2022 financial statements is complete; 2023 distribution amounts calculated.

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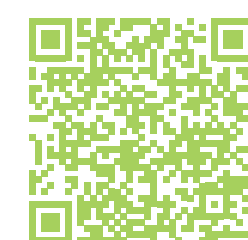


APPLY NOW: CIRI PARTICIPATION COMMITTEE

APPLICATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, JUNE 30

CIRI Shareholders and Descendants are invited to apply to serve on the CIRI Participation Committee! This is an excellent opportunity to enhance your knowledge of and strengthen ties with CIRI; network with your fellow Shareholders and Descendants, CIRI staff and Board Directors; and lend your voice to the decision-making process.

To apply: Interested and eligible Shareholders and Descendants (ages 18+) are asked to apply by the Friday, June 30 deadline. Meetings are held in the spring (in-person) and fall (virtual). Travel expenses for out-of-area members for the spring meeting will be covered by CIRI; all members will be compensated \$150 for each regularly scheduled meeting.



APPLY TODAY!

Learn more:
ciri.com/cpc

BOARD CORNER

A Message from CIRI Board Director Pat Marrs


When I joined the CIRI Board of Directors in 1977, John Colberg served as Board Chair. Like me, John was from Seldovia. He reminded me that I did not represent any one group, tribe or village, and that I worked on behalf of all CIRI Shareholders and Descendants. He said our job was to help CIRI develop an investment strategy that would return strong, consistent and sustainable returns to Shareholders and their families.

John's advice served as a guidepost for me throughout my time on the CIRI Board (1977-2000 and 2001-2023). In addition to John, I am fortunate to have had other mentors. I must mention CIRI Shareholder Clare Swan, who has been a great mentor to me. She is a visionary, outspoken and humorous woman with great compassion. Thank you, Clare.

To be eligible for ANCSA, a person had to be alive on Dec. 18, 1971, have at least one-quarter Alaska Native blood and be an American citizen. All Native people born after 1971 were therefore ineligible for inclusion in the settlement. Those of us born prior to the 1971 cutoff date are fortunate that, in a moment of time, our ancestors paved a way for our participation in the freedoms and self-determination all Native people deserve.

Current Shareholders owe the same to future generations. That is why I view my CIRI shares as something to pass along to my descendants. Long ago, I gifted shares to my children and then to my grandchildren. I encourage my fellow Shareholders to do the same. The value is not so much in the distributions, but in belonging to the CIRI family.

CIRI's dividend and distribution policy has always been one of the most challenging topics the CIRI Board has tackled. The equity-based distribution policy was adopted by the CIRI Board of Directors in 2007. Currently, the policy calculates distributions such that the total CIRI distribution payment to Shareholders in any given year is equal to 3.50% of the prior year's Shareholders' equity. I was in favor of this conservative approach, and over time, CIRI's distribution policy has produced a stable stream of distributions while allowing us to grow the company so it can pay future distributions.

When I sold my business, Communication North, four years ago, I missed the work of solving communications and navigation problems, but I quickly found other ways to fill my time. The same is true of my time on the CIRI Board. I will now have more time to dedicate to my children and grandchildren. As I depart the Board, I encourage the next generation of CIRI Shareholders and Descendants to get involved with your corporation—your vision, energy and perspective is needed! 



A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT

There is still plenty of snow on the ground here in our region, but the sun has returned, and the days are growing longer—we made it through another winter, and spring has arrived! This is an exciting time for CIRI as we resume in-person Information Meetings and Annual Meeting, prepare to welcome our summer interns, and make plans for warm-weather camping, cycling, fishing and hiking.

CIRI's 2022 Annual Report was mailed to Shareholders in mid-April. In addition to the previous year's financial information, the report includes information about our tribes and villages, the CIRI family of socially driven enterprises, and many of our programs and services. CIRI Descendants will receive a Descendant Annual Report with information specifically for you. I hope you will take the time to read these reports, as they not only provide a deeper understanding of what we do and how we do it, but also offer information about our region, culture and people."

The theme of this year's Annual Report is "In the Family." As Alaska Native people, our traditions and culture provide a sense of identity, continuity and connection; the practice and transmission of heritage contributes to the ongoing vitality, strength and well-being of our people. We are part of not only our immediate family, but our CIRI family and the broader Alaska Native community.

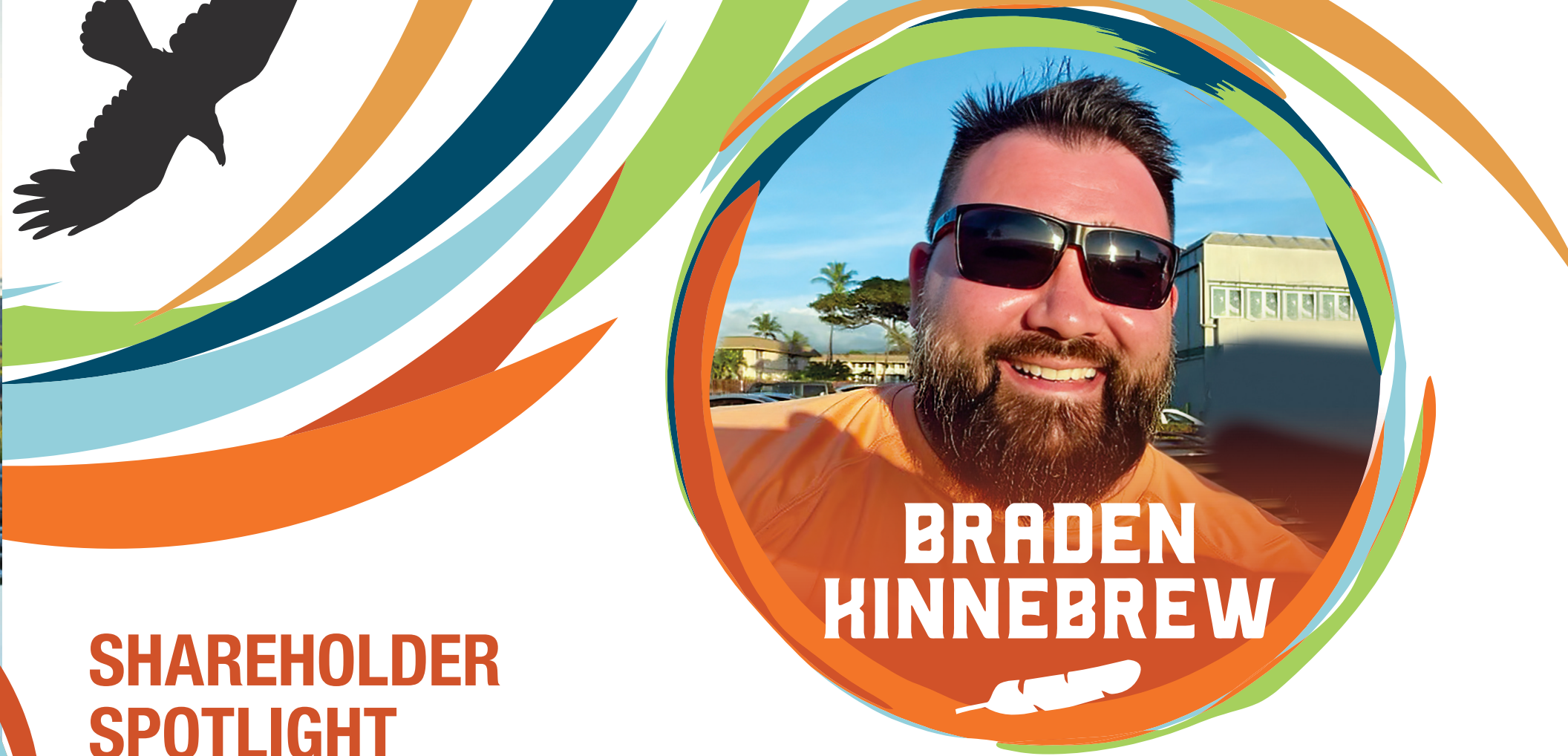
It was announced in April that I will conclude my 30-year career with CIRI at the end of this year. The Board of Directors has launched a search for my successor. I have been honored by the trust our Shareholders and Descendants have placed in me the last 10 years while I served as your president and CEO. As a proud Shareholder, I am grateful to have led the CIRI team as we championed efforts to preserve and perpetuate Alaska Native culture and support current and future generations through corporate growth, distribution payments, job creation, and other social and cultural services. I am excited to continue this critical work throughout 2023 with the amazing CIRI team.

Though I will no longer serve in the capacity of president and CEO after this year, I am a proud member of our CIRI family, and that will never change.

I am excited to see you, valued members of our CIRI family, at the 2023 CIRI Annual Meeting, which will be held Saturday, June 3 in Anchorage and at our Friendship Potlatches this fall.

Warm regards,

Sophie Minich
CIRI President and CEO



BRADEN KINNEBREW

SHAREHOLDER SPOTLIGHT

Meet Braden Kinnebrew (Tsimshian), a CIRI Shareholder who parlayed a CIRI summer internship into a full-time job and a successful career in the construction industry.

“I was in the inaugural summer intern class at CIRI (in 2015), interning for CIRI subsidiary North Wind Group,” Braden recalled. “The internship helped me hone my interpersonal skills because it required me to deal a lot with people. That was probably the biggest thing that helped me—I needed the internship to help me get to where I am now.”

After the internship ended, Braden was invited to stay on at North Wind Group as a project coordinator while he finished his bachelor’s degree.

Braden currently works as a project manager at ASRC Earthworks, a subsidiary of Alaska Native regional corporation Arctic Slope Regional Corp., overseeing civil-works projects at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER) in Anchorage. His job entails managing projects related to heavy civil construction, materials extraction/processing and paving, as well as helping estimate and oversee jobs outside JBER.

Braden is connected to CIRI through his mother, Kim Kinnebrew, and grandfather, Everett Hudson, whose family hails from Metlakatla Indian Community in Southeast Alaska. Metlakatla is the only federal Indian reserve in Alaska and not a part of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

When he was in his late 20s, Braden’s mother gifted him a single CIRI share. “She wanted to help me feel more connected with CIRI, a little more involved,” he explained. “I have a younger brother, and he’s also a Shareholder. Being a Shareholder makes a difference—you feel part of something bigger than yourself. Running for the CIRI Board of Directors is definitely a goal for me down the road, and that single CIRI share makes it possible.”

Braden lived in Kenai, Alaska, as a young child but grew up primarily in Anchorage. He didn’t visit Metlakatla until after his grandfather passed away. “My grandmother was white and from Kansas, and my grandfather’s interracial marriage was frowned upon by many members in the community,” he said. His grandfather nonetheless passed down Alaska Native culture to his grandson, teaching him to

hunt, fish and engage in other subsistence activities. “He ran a halibut charter, so I’d go down in the summers (to Homer, Alaska) and deckhand for him,” Braden said. “He showed me the traditional halibut hooks made of wood and animal hide his parents and grandparents had used. That was his way of sharing culture.”

Braden began playing hockey when he was only 3 or 4 (“The first ‘Mighty Ducks’ movie had recently come out, so that piqued my interest,” he laughed) and played the sport through his first two years of college at Castleton State University in Vermont. He had recently transferred to the University of Alaska Anchorage to pursue a degree in construction management when he learned of the opportunity to intern at CIRI.

“Even though I was primarily interning out of North Wind’s office in South Anchorage, everybody I met at CIRI was amazing and very generous with their time,” Braden shared. “People were more than willing to talk about their experience and offer advice. I would say that anybody considering CIRI’s summer internship program should pursue it because it’s definitely worth it.”

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AS SEEN IN OUR REGION

View from the bluff overlooking Cook Inlet in Ninilchik, Alaska. Located on the Kenai Peninsula, Ninilchik is one of seven villages in the CIRI region.
Photo by Matt Hage.

APPLY: CIRI VIRTUAL MENTORING PROGRAM

APPLICATION DEADLINE:
FRIDAY, JULY 21



Strengthen your connection with Alaska Native culture and heritage, network, form lasting relationships, and accelerate your personal and professional advancement. Unlike traditional top-down mentoring, CIRI's Virtual Mentoring Program cultivates a reciprocal relationship between mentor and mentee, where each participant develops his/her skills through a two-way transfer of experience and perspective.

The next Virtual Mentoring Program cohort application deadline is **Friday, July 21**. Participants must be 18+ and may live anywhere in the world. Mentee applicants should be CIRI Shareholders or Descendants; prospective mentors may come from the broader community.

For more information and to apply, visit ciri.com/mentorship

2023 NEXT GEN DAY



CIRI had a record turnout for 2023 Next Gen Day, held Jan. 16 at CIRI's corporate headquarters in Anchorage. Shareholders and Descendants ages 10 to 17 got a behind-the-scenes look at CIRI, learned about the many programs and opportunities available to them, and enjoyed Alaska Native craft activities.



CIRI PRESIDENT AND CEO RECRUITMENT

CIRI is a uniquely different type of for-profit Company, serving a diverse population of stakeholders. The president and CEO is the Company's primary representative to CIRI Shareholders, Descendants, employees, subsidiaries and the business community and is responsible for communicating and promoting CIRI's mission and values. Through visionary leadership, the CEO provides strategic guidance by working with the Board of Directors and executive leadership team in establishing corporate goals, objectives and policies. S/he is responsible for generating sustainable and growing net income and cash flows while protecting and enhancing CIRI's reputation.

If you would like to learn more about the position, email CIRICEO@heidrick.com



DIRECTOR POSITION: AMBER CHRISTENSEN FULLMER

Congratulations to CIRI Shareholder Amber Christensen Fullmer (Inupiaq), who recently became director of operations for the Alaska Native Justice Center (ANJC). Amber first worked as a youth counselor at McLaughlin Youth Center in Anchorage, and then as a juvenile probation officer for high-risk youth. Later, she moved to Colorado and worked as an adult probation officer. Back in Alaska, she left a position as the director of Native Student Services at the University of Alaska Anchorage to join ANJC. Amber is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Indigenous studies with a focus on public health and social justice.



DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY: JUSTIN STEPHAN

CIRI Shareholder Juliana M. Crandall is pleased to announce that CIRI Descendant Justin Stephan, son of CIRI Shareholder Isaac and Ellen Stephan, recently graduated from Florida Southern College with a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree. In honor of his Alaska Native roots, during his graduation ceremony, Justin wore a necklace from his grandfather, CIRI Shareholder the late Sava Stephan. One of Justin's clinical rotations was at Southcentral Foundation, which allowed him to return to Alaska and provide therapy to the Alaska Native community. After graduation, he was hired on at a clinic in Florida. Justin's family is extremely proud of his achievements and excited to see his career as a physical therapist take off!

HONORING 30 YEARS OF SERVICE

Change is crucial to the continued growth of any organization, and we are excited to welcome three new Directors to the CIRI Board in June. Another change is on the horizon: Together, our Board and president and CEO, Sophie Minich, recently announced a transition in leadership that will take place the end of the year. This will begin a new chapter for CIRI, and we are excited for what lies ahead. I would personally like to thank Sophie for her 30 years of service to CIRI, her last 10 as president and CEO.

Sophie started her career in CIRI's accounting department, where her aptitudes were quickly realized. She served in several leadership positions—including as chief operating officer, senior vice president of business development, chief financial officer, vice president of administration, and director of accounting—before assuming the role of president and CEO in January 2013. In this role, she helped right-size the company by discontinuing operations that did not consistently sustain a profit, oversaw a business-harvesting strategy that maximized profitability, and positioned the Company for impressive growth and expansion, nearly doubling the Company's net income and raising annual distributions per share to their highest amount in CIRI's history.

Throughout her tenure, Sophie has led CIRI with integrity and grace while working

tirelessly to fulfill the mandates of CIRI's mission of providing socially, culturally and economically for CIRI Shareholders and their families. Sophie has a deep appreciation of and connection with CIRI's stakeholders and successfully built a team committed to advancing CIRI to meet our community's needs in a changing world. She treats each of us as family.

The Board of Directors launched a search for Sophie's successor in April. The Board and Sophie have closely coordinated throughout the succession-planning process, and Sophie will remain with the Company through Dec. 31 to support a smooth and orderly transition. In addition to Sophie and CIRI's executive leadership team, we have enlisted the help of a third-party executive search firm to support the Board as we search for Sophie's successor.

While the search will include all qualified candidates, CIRI provides employment preference to CIRI Shareholders for all job postings. The Board will keep CIRI's diverse Alaska Native cultures and the Company's values in the forefront, with the goal of building a strong future for CIRI for generations to come.

Your Board is both excited for what lies ahead and immensely grateful to have worked alongside Sophie. I am most honored to call Sophie my friend. She took me under her wing when I came on as a Board Director in 2006, showing me the ropes and providing



mentorship and guidance. I would not be where I am today, proudly and gratefully serving as your Board Chair, had Sophie not gifted me her time and talents.

As Sophie concludes her incredible career at CIRI, I know her impact will carry on. We appreciate Sophie's deep commitment to our community and thank her for her service.

Warm regards,

Doug Fifer
Chair, CIRI Board of Directors



For the first time since 2020, the Junior Native Youth Olympic (JNYO) Games took place in person Feb. 24-26 at the UAA Seawolf Sports Complex in Anchorage.

In 2021, the JNYO Games went virtual to protect athletes and spectators during the COVID-19 pandemic. Athletes participated from their own homes with the help of parents or coaches, using video submissions to compete in nine events.

This year, JNYO brought together almost 600 student athletes from across the state for three days of friendly competition in traditional Alaska Native games. JNYO is open to all athletes in grades 1-6.

GIRL IN THE COMMUNITY:

This year, 52 schools participated in the Games.

This was also the first year an award was given for Best Team Banner at the Junior Games. Teams design and create their own banners, which are hung throughout the Seawolf Sports Complex gym to celebrate and recognize the athletes participating at the event. The winner of this year's Best Team Banner Award was the Tyonek/Native Village of Eyak team.





Each year, both JNYO and the Senior NYO Games are made possible by support from Cook Inlet Tribal Council (CITC) partners, including CIRI.

CIRI is an annual sponsor of the scissor broad jump, supporting NYO Games at the Silver Medal level. CIRI also provided \$10,000 to support a new NYO video project: Combined with funding from Nike's N7 Fund, CIRI's donation was used to create a series of instructional videos that walk young athletes, coaches and parents through each NYO event, step by step.



JUNIOR NYO BRINGS YOUNG ATHLETES TOGETHER IN PERSON

By CITC Senior Communications Specialist Jamey Bradbury

"CIRI's generous funding is helping make traditional Alaska Native games more accessible to athletes throughout the state and beyond," said CITC President and CEO Gloria O'Neill. "Through the support of partners like CIRI, CITC is sharing our Native culture with future generations and keeping tradition alive through the celebration of NYO Games."

Many Alaska communities hold smaller NYO events throughout the year. This year, CIRI was pleased to support Chickaloon NYO. Funds went to support student athletes competing at the main Anchorage event, as well as to the Chickaloon NYO Invitational, which was held March 3-5 in Palmer, Alaska.

For more information, including contest results and a photo gallery, visit nyogames.com.



AS SEEN IN OUR REGION

The aurora borealis (*yuyqux/yuyqush* in the Dena'ina language) above the Knik River in the Matanuska-Susitna Valley. Photo taken April 23, 2023. Photo by Kevin Bennett.

2023 SHAREHOLDER DISTRIBUTIONS

SHAREHOLDER DISTRIBUTIONS

Shareholder distributions are set by the CIRC Board of Directors and distributed by the Distribution Fund of the CIRC Settlement Trust (CST). Distributions are for beneficiaries who are CIRC Shareholders. Currently, CIRC makes an annual contribution to the fund that is equal to 3.5% of the previous year's ending Shareholders' equity. Shareholders receive four payments per year from this contribution. We are pleased to announce the audit of CIRC's 2022 financial statements has been completed, allowing 2023 distribution amounts to be calculated.

First quarter payments from the CST Distribution Fund, in the amount of \$9.75 per share (or \$975 per 100 shares), were mailed or directly deposited on Friday, March 31 to all CST beneficiaries who own CIRC stock. Distribution dates, amounts and other relevant deadlines for the remainder of 2023 are as follows:

Direct Deposit Sign-Up Deadline (3 p.m.)	Address Change and Cancel Direct Deposit Deadline (3 p.m.)	Record Date	Mailing Date	Payment Amount
June 12	June 23	June 26	June 30	\$9.75/share
Sept. 11	Sept. 22	Sept. 25	Sept. 29	\$9.75/share
Nov. 13	Nov. 30	Dec. 1	Dec. 11	\$11.19/share

ELDERS DISTRIBUTIONS

Quarterly Elders Fund distributions of \$450 are paid to the beneficiaries of the CST who are original CIRC Shareholders and alive and 65 years of age or older on the approved dates of record, providing they either own at least one share of CIRC stock or gifted all their CIRC stock prior to July 31, 2003. First quarter payments from the CST Elders Fund were mailed or directly deposited on Friday, March 10 to eligible Elders.

Distribution dates and other relevant deadlines for the remainder of 2023 are as follows:

Direct Deposit Sign-Up Deadline (3 p.m.)	Address Change and Cancel Direct Deposit Deadline (3 p.m.)	Record Date	Mailing Date	Payment Amount
May 30	June 2	June 8	June 9	\$450
Aug. 28	Sept. 1	Sept. 7	Sept. 8	\$450
Nov. 13	Nov. 30	Dec. 7	Dec. 8	\$450

RESOURCE REVENUE DISTRIBUTION

For Shareholders who owned at-large shares and had a valid mailing address on file, resource revenue payments of \$19.4955 per share (or \$1,949.55 per 100 shares) were mailed or directly deposited on April 3, 2023. Resource revenue payments for Shareholders who own village-class shares are mailed directly to their village corporations, as required by the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA). Information on the type of stock owned is available in the Qenek 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.

Whether you receive a check or participate in direct deposit, any time your address changes you must either update your address in Qenek or send a signed address change request to the Shareholder Relations department. You must also keep your address updated with the U.S. Postal Service. If your CIRC mail is returned as undeliverable, distributions will be held, interest-free, and you do not qualify to participate in any prize drawings until your address is updated.



TCF President and CEO Susan Anderson with TCF recipient and University of Alaska Anchorage graduate Tia Hale. Photo courtesy of TCF.

SUSAN ANDERSON CONCLUDES 23 YEARS OF SERVICE TO TCF

On March 31, original CIRI enrollee Susan Anderson (Tlingit) departed The CIRI Foundation (TCF) after having served as the foundation's president and CEO since 1999.

Anderson was one of the first recipients of TCF scholarships, which she used to earn a bachelor's degree in secondary education and a master's degree in adult education administration, both from Western Washington University. She also holds a post-graduate certificate in project management and was selected to attend the Stanford University Executive Program for Philanthropy Leaders.

"We have scholarship recipients who come and say that TCF has literally changed their lives, and it has changed the lives of their family members," Anderson told the Raven's Circle in 2017. "The recipients are doing all the hard work, but we get to help them along the way."

Anderson's extensive list of volunteer and board service includes the Alaska Children's Trust, Alaska Humanities Forum, Best Beginnings Early Learning Council, Native Americans in Philanthropy, Philanthropy Northwest, United Way of Anchorage and Western Interstate Commission of Higher Education. She is currently a trustee for Alaska Pacific University and serves on the development committee of the University of Alaska Foundation.

In 2018, for her role in strengthening communities through a commitment to improving Alaska's social, economic and civic life, Anderson received the Distinguished Service to the Humanities in Leadership award. She has also been honored with a YWCA Women of Achievement award, an Alaska Village Initiatives Chief's Knife award and an Alaska Journal of Commerce "Top 40 Under 40" business leader award. In 2012, she was inducted into the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce's ATHENA Society.

"For 23 years, Susan has led the efforts of TCF in enriching the lives of thousands of CIRI Shareholders and their Descendants through post-secondary scholarships and grants," CIRI President and CEO Sophie Minich said. "Her commitment to education, culture and heritage will continue well past her tenure at TCF, and we thank her for her many years of dedicated service."

TCF is a private foundation established by CIRI in 1982. Its mission is to promote individual self-development and economic self-sufficiency through education, and to maintain pride in culture and heritage among Alaska Native people who are original CIRI enrollees and their Descendants. Since its establishment, TCF has contributed more than \$42.5 million for the Alaska Native beneficiaries of CIRI to participate in post-secondary education. For more information, visit theirifoundation.org.

COOK INLET REGION LEADERS

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Monfor, president and CEO of Salamatof Native Association. "Coming together for the Cook Inlet region leaders roundtable the day prior was helpful, as our region established an agreed-upon direction and we were able to immediately move into action at the statewide level."

LOOKING AHEAD

Cook Inlet region leadership will meet again this summer to discuss the region's priorities and establish a formal protocol for engaging one another on critical issues. "The work being done is not just for CIRI Shareholders and Descendants and Cook Inlet villages and tribes, but all Native people," Minich said.



CIRLR participants included, L to R: Sarah Lukin, chief strategy officer, CIRI; Sophie Minich, president and CEO, CIRI; and Aaron Leggett, president and chair, Native Village of Eklutna. Photo courtesy of CITC.

"We may not always agree—and indeed, healthy conflict is an important part of any relationship—but we all want the same thing: a bright future for Alaska Native people in our region and beyond," she continued. "These leadership meetings provide a way to share learning, strengthen our relationships and ultimately affect positive change for our people."



Held Jan. 30 in Anchorage, the CIRLR brought together leaders from CIRI, the CIRI family of tribally designated organizations, and Cook Inlet villages and tribes to develop regional priorities. Photo courtesy of CITC.

RECIPE SALMON SPREAD

INGREDIENTS:

2 8-ounce packages cream cheese
12 ounces smoked Alaska salmon, flaked
2 tablespoons sweet onion, grated
2 tablespoons fresh dill, chopped,
plus more for garnish
Fresh-squeezed lemon juice, to taste

Submitted by CIRI Shareholders
Darla and Nikki Graham (Yup'ik)

DIRECTIONS:

1. Let cream cheese come to room temperature or place unwrapped cream cheese in a microwave-safe bowl and microwave on high for 25 seconds (check after 15 seconds).
2. Hand-mix cream cheese with the smoked salmon.
3. Mix in 2 tablespoons dill, lemon juice and grated onion.
4. Garnish with fresh dill. Serve with crackers, crostini or pita chips.



**SHAREHOLDER SPOTLIGHT:
BRADEN HENNEBREW**

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Outside of work, Braden enjoys golf, fishing and skiing. He plans to enroll in Alaska Pacific University’s MBA program this fall because “it would help me broaden my horizons,” he said. As for leaving Alaska, “I don’t see it, because I really love it up here. I enjoy my job and the people I work with. It would be tough to leave, for sure.”

Braden’s advice for young people looking to connect with their culture and heritage is simple: Seek what you desire and live in the moment. “Immerse yourself in whatever you’re doing; put your phone away and enjoy where you are at the time,” he emphasized. “In some families it’s easier because you’re around it (Alaska Native culture), but for many of us—myself included—you need to seek it out, which can be challenging. Travel. Educate yourself. Don’t be afraid to get out and be adventurous.”

For more information about the CIRI summer internship program, visit ciri.com/internship.

Thank you to CIRI summer intern Lauren Culhane for contributing to this article!

**CIRI OFFICE
CLOSURE:
JULY 3-8**

CIRI offices will be closed Monday, July 3 through Friday, July 7. During the closure, the Qenek portal (qenek.ciri.com) will remain available 24/7. Wishing our Shareholders, Descendants and their families a fun and safe Independence Day!

**2023 ANNUAL
MEETING**

Saturday, June 3, 2023

DENA’INA CIVIC AND CONVENTION CENTER

The CIRI Annual Meeting will begin at **10 a.m. on Saturday, June 3** at the Dena’ina Civic and Convention Center in Anchorage.

Registration will open at 8 a.m. and end at 11 a.m.

The meeting will include an overview of 2022 operations and results, candidate speeches and the election of five CIRI Board Directors, a buffet-style lunch and refreshments, artist booths, prize drawings and more! Validated parking at two garages—420 B Street and 414 West 6th Avenue—and child care will be available.

RSVP

While it is not required to RSVP for the Annual Meeting, it helps CIRI ensure the proper amount of food if you do. There are three ways to RSVP: 1) via the Qenek portal (qenek.ciri.com), 2) online at ciri.com/RSVP, or 3) by phone at (907) 263-5191 or (800) 764-2474 (select option 5). For those unable to attend in person, a virtual option will be made available.

2023 ANNUAL MEETING eVOTE AND EARLY BIRD PRIZES

VOTE ELECTRONICALLY — VOTE.CIRI.COM

All proxies must be received by 2 p.m. AKDT on Wednesday, May 24. Shareholders whose valid proxies (for any proxyholder or candidate) are received by the Inspector of Election or the CIRI Secretary by 5 p.m. AKDT on the deadline date for a particular drawing will be eligible for that drawing and all subsequent drawings. Shareholders are eligible to win one eVote prize and one Early Bird Prize. Winners will be notified by CIRI and their names published in the newsletter and on CIRI’s website.

eVOTE PRIZE DEADLINES

Also eligible for Early Bird Prizes

May 5 1 Prize of \$4,000
 2 Prizes of \$1,000
 May 12 2 Prizes of \$2,000
 May 19 1 Prize of \$2,000
 May 23 1 Prize of \$1,000

EARLY BIRD PRIZE DEADLINES

May 5 4 Prizes of \$1,000
 2 Prizes of \$500
 May 12 2 Prizes of \$2,000
 2 Prizes of \$500
 May 19 2 Prizes of \$500

IMPORTANT DATES

- May 29, 2023** Memorial Day: CIRI offices closed
- May 30, 2023** CST Elders Distribution direct deposit deadline
- June 2, 2023** CST Elders Distribution change of address deadline
- June 3, 2023** CIRI Annual Meeting: Anchorage
- June 9, 2023** CST Elders Distribution
- June 12, 2023** Second quarter direct deposit deadline
- June 19, 2023** Juneteenth: CIRI offices closed
- June 23, 2023** Second quarter change of address deadline
- June 30, 2023** Quarterly CST Distribution; Youth Educational Incentives entry deadline; quarterly participation prize-drawing deadline; CIRI Participation Committees application deadline

CONDOLENCES

MICHAEL NORMAN ACHAYOK, 66
LINDSAY EARL BOSTER, 62
SUSAN VIRGINIA BROWER, 81
HOWARD CHICKALUSION, 61
SALLY ANN CHULIN, 83
FRANK ROSS COOPER, 59
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CHERYL DENISE HYDE, 75
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IRENE IKEY MCMILLEN, 78
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JOYCE LYNN PHILLIPS, 54
RICHARD DAVID SCHNERER, 91
NORMAN XAVIER SR., 76

IN MEMORY



WILLIAM "BILL" CHOATE JR., 76

William "Bill" Choate Jr. passed away Oct. 17, 2022, at South Peninsula Hospital in Homer, Alaska. Mr. Choate was born May 7, 1946, in Fairbanks, Alaska. He is survived by his daughter, Colette Choate; granddaughter, Sienna Rummery; and siblings, Virginia Rowley, Jim Volentine and Robert Langsdale.

MARGARET ANN CLUM, 74

Margaret Ann Clum passed away Dec. 22, 2022, at home in Anchorage. Ms. Clum was born July 18, 1948, in Port Alsworth, Alaska. She married Voight Clum of Lake Odessa, Mich., in October 1965, and moved to Anchorage where, as a homemaker, she raised their three children. Ms. Clum is survived by her children, David Clum, Daniel Clum and Denise Tuttle; five grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

RUDDY "DEEDEE" MALLORY, 65

Ruddy "DeeDee" Mallory passed away Jan. 15 at home in Rio Linda, Calif. Ms. Mallory was born April 17, 1957, in Seward, Alaska. She is survived by her significant other, Charles "Chuck" Collins; children, Jason R. Berry, Clifton Scott Bliss, Jennifer Bliss, Mary Ann Mallory and Trinity Carrasco; and grandchildren, Xander Bliss, Preston Berry, Braden Berry and Robert T. Carrasco.



CAROLYN O. REIFSNYDER, 89

Carolyn O. Reifsnnyder passed away Dec. 20, 2022, at Orchard Park Assisted Living in League City, Texas. Ms. Reifsnnyder was born July 28, 1933, in Ninilchik, Alaska. She is survived by her son, Mike Issermoyer; and siblings, Arnie Oskolkoff and Nancy Aldrich.

GLADYS MAE YUTH, 78

Gladys Mae Yuth passed away Jan. 15 at home in Seldovia, Alaska. Ms. Yuth was born July 17, 1944, in Seldovia. She worked in the local cannery, set net fished with her husband and children, and worked at the local post office. Her family remembers her as a loving, caring woman who always had a smile on her face. Ms. Yuth is survived by her sister, Helen Quijance; children, Tina Yuth, Deborah Cameron and Harold Yuth; grandchildren, Marty White, Tyler Tucker, Katrina Hecks, Alexander Yuth and Thomas Colberg; and great-grandchildren, Cory Tucker, Allen Tucker, Sophia White, James Hecks and Gabriel Yuth.



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Reann Melody Gafford
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Joshua Allen Gosser
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Jade Ariane Grunert
Dahmir Lamarr Hale
Reeve Talon Hall
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APRIL/MAY 2023 // CIRI RAVEN'S CIRCLE NEWSLETTER

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As HighGold prepares for another field season, Shareholders and Descendants are encourage to apply for the following positions:

1. **Geotechnician,**
\$250-\$300/day
2. **Core technician/cutter,**
\$250-\$300/day
3. **First aid attendant/mountain tech,**
\$350-\$450/day
4. **Carpenter/laborer,**
\$300-\$400/day
5. **Sample Preparation Supervisor,**
\$250-\$300/day
6. **Sample Preparation Technician,**
\$200-\$250/day

For more information, email **Sean Solie** at ssolie@highgoldmining.com