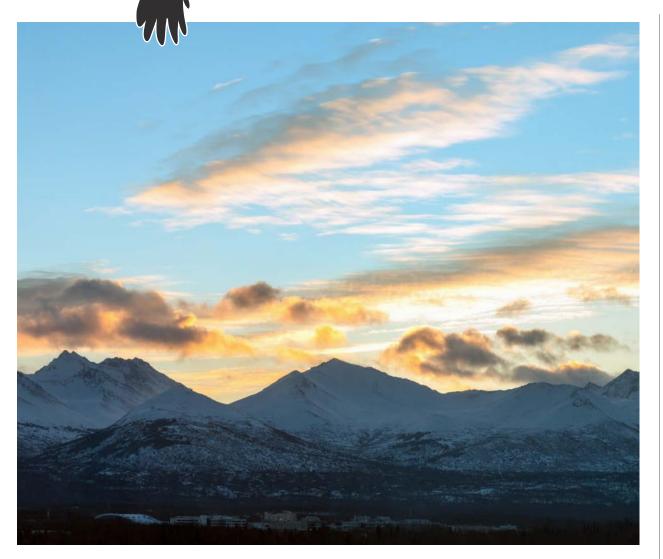
# RAVEN'S **K** CIRCLE **APRIL/MAY 2022 // CIRI NEWSLETTER**



## CIRI ACHIEVES HIGHEST REVENUE, NET INCOME IN 10 YEARS

2021 was a difficult year for many people. The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, natural disasters, political tensions and financial uncertainty gripped the nation, while closer to home, people dealt with illness, the loss of loved ones, unemployment and other physical-, mental- and emotional-health challenges.

Thankfully, medical experts say there is cautious optimism over the state of the pandemic, with current infection rates indicating the pandemic disease is transitioning into an endemic disease-that is, a disease that will be with the population for some time to come, but which causes fewer deaths, like the seasonal flu. While the past two years have shown how unforeseen events can alter financial forecasts, sometimes dramatically, economists are expecting another above-trend year for growth.

At the end of 2021, CIRI owned \$1.1 billion in assets and had generated \$99.9 million of net income (compared to \$50 million in 2020). Shareholders' equity also increased, totaling \$754.1 million at year-end 2021 (compared to \$722.9 at year-end 2020).

Shareholder distributions will increase this year, totaling \$26.4 million (\$42.05 per CIRI share) from the CIRI Settlement Trust (CST) Distribution Fund in 2022-a per-CIRI-share increase of \$1.73 from 2021.

#### 2022 SHAREHOLDER **DISTRIBUTIONS**

Approved dates and amounts for all distributions expected to be issued in 2022. PAGE 8



#### **INFO MEETING AND ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS**

As the Annual Meeting will be held via livestream, voting in the election of Directors will only be by proxy. PAGE 9

#### **VIRTUAL MENTORING** PROGRAM

The next program application deadline is Friday, July 22. PAGE 9





Thanks to CIRI's private equities and securities segments, which benefitted from strong market conditions, and the government services segment, which delivered its highest-ever revenue and net income, the company achieved exceptional financial performance in 2021.

Since its inception, the Company has funded cumulative dividends and distributions totaling \$1.2 billion to its Shareholdersmore than any other Alaska Native regional corporation.

"CIRI acknowledges the challenges we all faced in 2021," CIRI President and CEO Sophie Minich said. "We are grateful for the company's financial success last year, and we remain optimistic that 2022 will be a period of healing and recovery."

A more detailed accounting of CIRI's 2021 financial condition is available in the 2021 CIRI Annual Report, which was distributed to Shareholders in April.

## FUR RONDY HERITAGE AMBASSADOR

Congratulations to CIRI Descendant Tayler Higgins (Yup'ik, Dena'ina Athabascan and Unangax) for being selected as the 2022 Fur Rondy Heritage Ambassador. She will be part of the Fur Rendezvous Court for 2022 and involved in a number of community events and volunteer opportunities. Tayler works at the Alaska Native Heritage Center as an executive assistant.

Congratulations, Tayler!



# A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT

It's a busy time here at CIRI! Preparations are currently underway for our Information Meeting, which will be pre-recorded and made available in May, and for the Annual Meeting of Shareholders, which will be held via virtual meeting webcast on Saturday, June 4. Although I will miss our in-person interactions, I look forward to sharing with you the financial performance of our company, introducing you to our Board-recommended slate of candidates, and highlighting some of the upcoming programs and opportunities available to you, our Shareholders and Descendants.

Based on responses gathered from last year's Shareholder and Descendant survey, we know how important Shareholder and Descendant programs are to you. We are currently in the process of improving offerings so they better align with CIRI's vision and address the evolving needs of our people at all life stages.

Survey results showed that our Shareholders and Descendants desire a deeper understanding of their Indigenous heritage, as well as a greater connection with the broader Alaska Native community. We understand that those living outside Alaska may face barriers to accessing the benefits and services our in-state Shareholders and Descendants enjoy, and that those who have acquired their shares through gifting or inheritance may not feel the same connection with their corporation as original CIRI enrollees.

Please know that your thoughts and opinions matter to us and your voice has been heard! Whether you have been with us since the very beginning (thank you!) or are a newly registered Descendant (welcome!), your corporation endeavors to embrace all cultures, embody a culture of celebration, and support and create cultural bridges. By doing this, we connect with our culture, heritage and traditions—and each other.

CIRI is infusing our culture into our current program offerings, including the Summer Internship Program, Virtual Mentoring Program and Next Gen Day. Later this year, CIRI will recruit for a new Shareholder and Descendant Programs Advisory Committee, which will be an excellent opportunity for young Shareholders and Descendants to provide direct feedback to CIRI on the programs and opportunities that are important to them. Please stay tuned and look for more information as it becomes available.

This is an exciting time for our corporation. As we celebrate our remarkable history over the last 50 years, we are also creating a roadmap for the future. Our Shareholder and Descendant programs are an important part of the journey. Thank you for lending your vision, and your voice, to the next 50 years.

Sophie Minici

Sophie Minich CIRI President and CEO

## AS SEEN IN OUR REGION

Aurora over Russian Jack Park in East Anchorage, Alaska. Photo taken April 7, 2022. *Photo by Kevin Bennett.* 

## Q'ESCHŁ HERITAGE CENTER

#### **UP-AND-COMING PROJECT CELEBRATES NINILCHIK TRIBE'S DISTINCT CULTURE AND HISTORY**



Slated to open in 2025, the Q'eschił Heritage Center will be located on a parcel of land next to the Russian Orthodox Church in Ninilchik, Alaska.

More than a museum, the Q'eschił Heritage Center will encompass tangible heritage (arts and crafts, artifacts), intangible heritage (language, music, spiritual traditions) and natural heritage (plants and animals, the land and ecosystems). It's a lofty endeavor, but one the Ninilchik Traditional Council (NTC) is eager to undertake.

"The model for our center is primarily to be a nation-led, curated and directed institution that celebrates our people using our own voice and conventions, which are not accurately conveyed through popular and academic regionalisms," said CIRI Shareholder Argent Kvasnikoff (Dena'ina Athabascan and Alutiiq), who serves as the center's planning director.

The literal translation of q'eschił (pronounced kes-cheel) is "cloud lodge." Four focus areas for the center have been identified:

 At the heart of the center will be a modern interpretation of a nichił—the semi-subterranean lodge from which the Ninilchik tribe derives its name—that will function as both a gathering space and sacred spiritual place.

- An outdoor pavilion with amphitheaterstyle seating will accommodate cultural demonstrations.
- Two exhibit areas will respectively house the center's permanent collection and temporary exhibits.
- A lecture hall and classroom will provide space for conferences, classes and workshops.

"Traditionally, (the people of Ninilchik) have been Dena'ina Athabascan with some Aleut and Alutiiq and a significant Russian influence," said CIRI Shareholder Ivan Encelewski (Dena'ina Athabascan), who serves as NTC's executive director. "Because we're so unique in our culture, and because there's kind of a hodgepodge to it, we get an opportunity to help recreate it. We get an opportunity to tell our story, to have a place to encourage spirituality amongst our people, whatever that might be for them as individuals."

"The center is exploring what it means to be and to have been a Niqnalchint person, which encompasses multiple cultures and races today," Argent Kvasnikoff emphasized. "Tribal members, depending on their roots and families, call themselves different cultural terms. The idea is to show what unites us through our common geographical roots and using our earliest known name—Niqnalchint, or the traditional ethnonym 'Nichiłt'ana.'"

Located 100 miles southwest of Anchorage, Ninilchik is one of seven Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act-designated villages in the CIRI region, though only about 15% of its residents are Alaska Native people. In 2019, the NTC moved to study the feasibility of a new museum for and about the people of the Ninilchik Village Tribe. What spurred this endeavor was the donation of a parcel of land located next to the Holy Transfiguration of Our Lord Russian Orthodox Church by CIRI Shareholder and NTC President Richard "Greg" Encelewski (Dena'ina Athabascan), on which the center will be built.

In late 2021, the NTC announced its request for qualifications for the architectural design and development of the campus of the Q'eschił Heritage Center, with responses due this spring. The center is currently slated to open in 2025.

"People talk about 'Well, how many people lived here.' And there's a discussion about the barabaras, those shallow holes in the ground that had lodges built over them," said Ninilchik tribal Elder and interpretive artist Marla Kvasnikoff. "And to see a cultural heritage center that is something above ground that our people can see, our young people can see, everybody else can see it gives us a solidarity in our place in the world."

For more information about the Q'eschił Heritage Center, visit qeschil.org.

## IN TOUCH

CIRI Shareholder Terri Imbach is pleased to announce the birth of her grandchild, Jackson Thomas Henbach, who was born Jan. 21 to CIRI Descendant Payton Imbach and Jackie Hennon. Little Jackson's great-grandmother is CIRI Shareholder Ruth Chambliss. Congratulations, Terri and family!

3

## DESCENDANT SPOTLIGHT

CIRI Descendant Rebecca Taylor's (Inupiaq) art allows her to both create and release, connect with the past and exist in the present moment. Whether it's beading, carving or sewing, "I'll try anything," she said. "Lately, I've been making earrings out of sealskin and doing some soapstone carving. I've dabbled in ivory and scrimshaw and linocut printing. I'm hyperverbal in some ways; I can talk too much and overexplain things. That's what's calming about art: it's the way my mom would teach us things without saying as much."

Rebecca is connected to CIRI through her great-grandmother, the late Rosie Annie Omelak, whose family hails from White Mountain, Diomede Island and Solomon, Alaska. Rebecca's parents are Rose (Omelak) Taylor and the late Brian Taylor. Her parents met in Fairbanks, Alaska, and moved to Smithers, British Columbia, before Rebecca was born.

"My dad was kind of a hippie—I guess my mom was too," she laughed. "My dad's parents are American, but he grew up in Canada. When he was 18, he decided he wanted to raft the Yukon River with a couple of friends. He met my mom in Fairbanks at the end of that trip, and they moved together to Smithers."

Rebecca said she knew other First Nations people growing up in Canada, but she and her mother and two sisters were the only people of Inupiaq descent in their community. Rebecca self-identifies as Eskimo; it's a word she heard her mother and great-grandmother use growing up, but when she started school, "I always got corrected and made to feel bad about it," she recalled. "If someone is raised by a Native person, and that person was raised by a Native person, there's always going to be all those things, even from the time you're a baby, that inform how you see the world—whether it's language or mannerisms or how you relate to others," Rebecca continued. "Growing up, I didn't recognize it as anything, but I later learned, and was able to identify, those things my mom taught us that were culturally specific."

REBECCA Taylor

Rebecca's mom preferred to sit or kneel on the floor rather than on furniture. She greeted others in a familiar way, as she would have done in the village. And she taught her daughters to learn through observing, what modern psychology refers to as "observational learning."

"My mom always made things," Rebecca said. "She worked as a horse trainer, so she sewed a lot of Western-style shirts. She painted antlers and drew a lot. Her grandmother, the one who raised her, made a living making and selling Eskimo dolls. Growing up, we had squirrel parkas and caribou mukluks and really nice things she made for us. I have a voice recording of my great-grandma saying that because of her arthritis she can't sew and she misses it, and that it made her feel so lonely. I'm named after her—my Inupiaq name is Anewna—and that's why I feel like I'm channeling my greatgrandmother when I make things."

Rebecca holds bachelor's and master's degrees in social work from the University of Victoria, the latter with an Indigenous specialization. She did much of the research for her master's degree in Alaska, combing through historical archives and studying her family's history. "I think when people seek things out in school or in life in general... I mean, I knew I wanted to help people, but looking back, I think I wanted to understand how to help myself and my family more than anything," Rebecca shared. She also uses her family's stories and Alaska Native and Inupiaq history to inspire her artwork, unearthing old stories and deepening her present-day relationship with them through creating.

Rebecca is a 43-year-old mother of a grown daughter and a school-age son. She resides in Victoria, British Columbia, and hopes to one day live in Alaska and learn the Inupiat language. She began sewing mukluks in her early 20s and delved deeper into Alaska Native art as a way "heal through creating" after a particularly challenging caseload at her social-work job. She has led sewing workshops in Canada and recently taught CIRI Next Gen Day participants how to make traditional Eskimo yo-yos.

"In the Inuktitut language, there's no word for 'artist'—the closest approximation is a word that means 'pretend work,'" Rebecca said. "I can relate to that, because art gives you freedom. It's the way my mom and great-grandmother passed on knowledge without words. In the pauses, in the spaces without words, they were teaching us how to create."

Rebecca's artwork can be purchased via CIRI's Alaska Native Artist Directory at ciri.com/Shareholders/resources/ artistdirectory.

## INROLL

Our vision is that our children and youth become life-long learners and are successful in their chosen path

Our mission: Our children and youth receive a world-class education through exceptional Alaska Native culture and values-based learning opportunities preparing them for success in their future endeavors. Eall 2022 Correspondence Dendram

Opening August 2022 K-12 IN PERSON

4

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https://www.knikculturalschool.org/

KNIK CULTURAL CHARTER SCHOOL

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## **KNIK CULTURAL CHARTER SCHOOL**

CIRI Shareholder Esther Shade (Yup'ik) is pleased to announce the opening of the Knik Cultural Charter School, which is currently preenrolling students and will provide on-site education and statewide correspondence services beginning in fiscal year 2023. Esther is employed with the Knik Tribal Council as a life skills instructor/State Training & Employment Program assistant manager. The Knik Cultural Charter School will be Alaska's first Indigenous K-12 charter school. Congratulations to Esther and all those who worked to shepherd the school through the Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District Board of Education approval process!

# **BOARD CORNER**

#### Get to Know your CIRI Board of Directors: Chair Doug Fifer

My name is Doug Fifer, and it has been my privilege to serve on the CIRI Board of Directors since 2006. I am Tlingit, born in Homer and raised primarily in Anchorage and Eagle River, Alaska. I recently retired from the Anchorage Police Department and was a small business owner from 2007 to 2019. I hold a bachelor's degree in occupational education from Wayland Baptist University and executive education program certificates from Stanford University and Harvard University.

I have been married to my wife, Kim, for more than 20 years. Together, we have four awesome children and one fantastic puppy. I currently split my time between Alaska and Arizona. After a lifetime in Alaska, I thought I'd grab a little sun from time to time!

I am 50 years old, and therefore one of the youngest original enrollees of CIRI. Original enrollment to the corporation closed in the 1970s, and the only way to become a Shareholder today is to receive stock through gifting from certain relatives who are existing CIRI Shareholders or through inheritance. Your Board is in the process of exploring additional options so that the next generation and beyond are fairly represented. Shareholders will ultimately decide our path moving forward, and the long-term best interests of CIRI depend on their involvement.

My mother was raised in Ketchikan during a time when being an Alaska Native person was not openly celebrated and participating in traditional customs was disparaged. As I became a young adult, I asked her about CIRI. She confessed she did not know a lot. I knew that she deserved better, so together we learned about CIRI, and that is where my journey to serving as a Director began. My mom is, and will always be, my greatest inspiration.

Outside of my work on the CIRI Board, I enjoy anything outdoors—camping, fishing and hiking top the list. I have traveled extensively and enjoy seeing other places, but in the end, I always want to come home. Alaska and our people are truly unique, and I count myself lucky to be here.

I also enjoy reading. A recent favorite book is "A More Beautiful Question: The Power of Inquiry to Spark Breakthrough Ideas" by Warren Berger, which highlights the importance of finding the "right" questions while challenging our traditional ways of asking them. I valued this book enough to share it with the entire CIRI Board (yes, even Directors get homework from time to time!). CIRI celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. As we look ahead, the ultimate show of respect by future generations is to continue sharing the wisdom and traditions that have been passed down from our Elders. In turn, the current generation of CIRI Shareholders must find ways to bridge a growing generational divide. Your Board and management team will work diligently to make this happen. We can't do it alone, so we'll need our future Shareholders and leaders to take the initiative by learning about CIRI, becoming involved and sharing what's important to you.

I am incredibly proud of what CIRI has accomplished to date, but we have more to do. I believe the future will be transformational for CIRI, with the company maintaining its foothold in Alaska while expanding its reach across the nation and globe. Thank you for being part of this remarkable journey.



#### **CARES ACT UPDATE**

When CIRI received its allocation of Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding in August 2021, it committed to working with its family of socially driven enterprises and tribally designated organizations including Cook Inlet Housing Authority, Cook Inlet Tribal Council and Southcentral Foundation—to identify programs and projects best suited to receive and deploy funding in compliance with federal law.

Passed by Congress in March 2020, the CARES Act is an economic stimulus bill that provides relief for individuals and businesses negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. A portion of the relief funds was directed to tribal governments, which included Alaska Native corporations (ANCs). CIRI received CARES Act funding in the amount of \$111.8 million and allocated the funds as follows:

- Alaska Native health care: \$72.1 million
- Workforce re-entry and economic support: \$13.8 million
- Shareholder and Descendant assistance through CIRI's Direct Assistance Program: \$12.7 million
- Elder, family, education and other support: \$8.7 million
- Homelessness and housing instability: \$4.5 million

Per direction from the U.S. Department of the Treasury, CARES Act funding could not be used for special distributions/dividends, nor could it be used for corporate bonuses or to cover lost company revenues. In all, the Treasury Department reserved \$444 million from the CARES Act to distribute to ANCs, which included 12 regional corporations and nearly 200 village corporations. All CARES Act funding was required to be distributed by Dec. 31, 2021.

"Alaska Native people have been disproportionately affected by COVID-19, experiencing higher rates of infection, hospitalization and mortality than other Americans," CIRI President and CEO Sophie Minich said. "We are grateful to all those who worked to ensure ANCs received their fair share of CARES Act funding, and we are thankful to our partner organizations for responsibly allocating this money where it is most needed."

# IN MEMORY

#### **JULIA ALEX, 84**

Julia Alex passed away Feb. 21 at 3 Angels' Assisted Living Home in Anchorage. Ms. Alex was born Feb. 25, 1937, in Anchorage. She is survived by her son, Herbert W. Cooper.



#### **CARRIE E. ALEXIE, 70**

Carrie E. Alexie passed away Nov. 4, 2021, at the Alaska Native Medical Center in Anchorage. Ms. Alexie was born Aug. 24, 1951, in Napakiak, Alaska. She promoted and practiced a subsistence lifestyle, including fishing, picking berries and gathering wild foods. Ms. Alexie regularly visited Cantwell to pick berries, Seward to fish and Homer to sightsee. Her family remembers her as a kind and generous person whose door was open to everyone for fellowship, food and song. She is survived by August, Nels, Roy and Oscar Alexie, Elsie Chimegalrea and Donald Kilbuck.

#### **ELVA KANAUK AMIDON, 83**

Elva Kanauk Amidon passed away Jan. 12 at Prestige Nursing Facility in Anchorage. Ms. Amidon was born March 6, 1938, in Wales, Alaska. She is survived by her husband, Gene Amidon; and children, Dana Chapman, Daniel Amidon, Tanya Dolchok, Teresa Grenz and Dyan Rivera.

#### **RENA SUSIE ANAWROK, 79**

Rena Susie Anawrok passed away Nov. 28, 2021, in Anchorage. Ms. Anawrok was born Sept. 1, 1942, in Shaktoolik, Alaska. She is survived by Alfred Lee Anawrok and Helen Kate Anawrok.

#### **JERRY JAMES BARKLEY, 63**

6

Jerry James Barkley passed away Feb. 4 at

#### **CHARLIE BLATCHFORD III, 54**

Charlie Blatchford III passed away Aug. 23, 2021, at home in Homer, Alaska. Mr. Blatchford was born Oct. 12, 1966, in Anchorage. He is survived by his mother, Donna Huff-Ahvakana; sister, Desiree Harrah; and Adrienne, Saul and Chara Lee.

#### JOANNE RAE BRADY, 73

Joanne Rae Brady passed away Nov. 10, 2021, at home in Gardena, Calif. Ms. Brady was born Dec. 4, 1947, in Anchorage. She is survived by her son, Joseph John Brady; and grandsons, Jacob Aaron Brady and Jack Spencer Brady.

#### PETER J. EGELAK, 59

Peter J. Egelak passed away Oct. 9, 2020, at Providence Alaska Medical Center in Anchorage. He is survived by his sister, Ida Paniptchuk; brother, Walter Egelak; and nieces and nephews, Laverne Kobuk, Mindy Egelak, Chrystal Egelak, Lena, Lance, Lesley, Lyle, Camillas, Patrick, EJ and Matthew.



#### MARK ALAN GREINER, 61

Mark Alan Greiner passed away Dec. 13, 2021, in Auburn, Wash. Mr. Greiner was born Dec. 2, 1960, in Anchorage. His family remembers him as a great fisherman who was very loved by his family and friends. Mr. Greiner is survived by his wife, Sandra Rogers Greiner; children, Roger Mulcahy, Mark Greiner Jr., Delbert Greiner and April Greiner; siblings, Jenny Yingling and David, Wesley and James Greiner; aunts, Rose Blatchford Albrightson and Gladis Blatchford Armstrong; and grandson, Jack Greiner.

#### **ERIC BRUCE HAMILTON, 57**

#### **DORIS J. KELLY, 89**

Doris J. Kelly passed away Dec. 20, 2021, at home in Ninilchik, Alaska. Ms. Kelly was born Sept. 18, 1932, in Ninilchik, Alaska. She is survived by her daughter, Connie S. Judson; grandchildren, Wendy Kelly, Travis and Stephen Settle, Yvonne Willhauck, Jason Wooten, Jason Kelly and Jasmine Pattison; 20 great-grandchildren; and 10 greatgreat-grandchildren.

#### PATRICIA MAE KRUGER, 81

Patricia Mae Kruger passed away Feb. 6 at home in Anchorage. Ms. Kruger was born Feb. 29, 1940, in Los Angeles. She is survived by her children, Diana Johnson, Phyllis Kruger, Ramona Stiles, Richard Kruger, Wayne Kruger, Chris Kruger, Warren Kruger Jr. and Orpha Carlson.

#### **DORIS MAE LIPINSKI, 65**

Doris Mae Lipinski passed away Oct. 2, 2021, at home in Anchorage. Ms. Lipinski was born Oct. 5, 1955, in Sitka, Alaska. She is survived by her cousins, Marie Melin and Charlotte Melin.

#### **DARRELL LEE LOPEZ**, 54

Darrell Lee Lopez passed away Sept. 28, 2021, at the Alaska Native Medical Center in Anchorage. Mr. Lopez was born Sept. 8, 1967, in Anchorage. He is survived by his wife, Darbe Lopez; brothers, Bryon, Darren and Kevin Lopez; brother- and sisterin-law, Olaf "Bugs" and Tanya Hansen; sisters-inlaw, Lisa Lopez, Nina Pedro and Khara Hood; and numerous nephews, nieces and family friends.

#### **NATALIE MARIE MAI, 55**

Natalie Marie Mai passed away Aug. 17, 2021, at Providence Alaska Medical Center in Anchorage. Ms. Mai was born Oct. 6, 1965, in Anchorage. She is survived by her mother, Elizabeth Mai; brother, Derek Mai; and niece, Amber Scott.

#### **JESSIE MATHES, 82**

Jessie Mathes passed away Feb. 5 at Aspirus Keweenaw Hospital in Laurium, Mich. Ms. Mathes was born Nov. 30, 1939, in Unalakleet, Alaska. She is survived by her spouse, Arthur F. Mathes; and children, Lincoln P. Mathes, Thurza M. Mathes and Patricia A. Mathes-Rich.

#### AYSHONA LEE-NICOLE METCALF, 39

St. David's North Austin Medical Center in Austin, Texas. Mr. Barkley was born April 26, 1958, in Anchorage.

Eric Bruce Hamilton passed away Dec. 12, 2021, at Via Christi St. Francis Hospital in Wichita, Kan. Mr. Hamilton was born Feb. 21, 1964, in Pacoima, Calif. He is survived by his wife, Michele Shields; mother, Irene McMillan; children, Cassie Salinas, Ian Hamilton and Jillian Hamilton; stepson, Dereck Shields; grandchildren, John, Elijah and Asher Salinas and Kain Shields; and siblings, James West, Debbie Donaldson and Ken Martinez. Ayshona Lee-Nicole Metcalf passed away Dec. 23, 2021, at home in Eagle River, Alaska. Ms. Metcalf was born Nov. 28, 1982, in Palmer, Alaska. She is survived by her sons, Tristan and Logan; mother, Tish Lambert; stepfather, Christopher Lambert; father, Allen L. Metcalf; and brothers, Allen C.L. Metcalf and Timothy J. Metcalf.

#### **JOYCE N. OFRANCIA, 68**

Joyce N. Ofrancia passed away Dec. 19, 2021, at Valley Hospital Medical Center in Las Vegas. Ms. Ofrancia was born June 22, 1953, in Seattle. She is survived by her children, Wendy Matta, Kacie Sojot, Kele Sojot and Wesley Sojot; and boyfriend, Bert Dias.

#### **RONALD DEAN PAPPAS, 83**

Ronald Dean Pappas passed away Nov. 19, 2021, at Lakeland Hospital in Niles, Mich. Mr. Pappas was born Oct. 3, 1938, in Elkhart, Ind. He is survived by his daughters, Deanna Dean Woodward, Jonna Marie Anglin and Carol Audrey Immel; son, Andrew Mark Pappas; and stepsons, Michael James Pappas and David Ray Pappas.

#### **JOHN PESTRIKOFF, 50**

John Pestrikoff passed away Nov. 27, 2021, at home in Kodiak, Alaska. Mr. Pestrikoff was born Nov. 13, 1971, in Anchorage. He is survived by his mother, Lilly Pestrikoff; and siblings, Maria Pestrikoff, Nicholas Pestrikoff Jr., David Allen Pestrikoff and Larry Pestrikoff.



#### **JOHN GARY PHELPS, 79**

John Gary Phelps passed away Nov. 4, 2021, at the Alaska Native Medical Center in Anchorage. Mr. Phelps was born Oct. 12, 1942. He grew up in Anchorage and Seward, Alaska, and joined the Alaska Army National Guard in 1963, retiring as colonel in 2001. He later worked for FedEx. Mr. Phelps was a member of the Pioneer and Elks Clubs, loved spending time with family and friends, and counted among his many hobbies fishing, golf, hunting and supporting his grandchildren and nieces and nephews in their sports and other endeavors. He is survived by his sisters, Donica, Marilyn, Joleen, Elva, Audrey, Elissa and Sophie; brothers, David and Rob, both veterans; son, Rod; daughter, Selina; granddaughters, Chyanne, Stephanie, Amber and Rachel; and numerous nieces and nephews.

#### FRANCES LEE REGAN, 76

Frances Lee Regan passed away Dec. 16, 2021, at home in Marysville, Wash. Ms. Regan was born May 17, 1945, in Cordova, Alaska. She is survived by her daughters, Natalie Knite and Charlotte Foster.

#### **ROBERT CHARLES SNYDER, 50**

Robert Charles Snyder passed away Nov. 7, 2021, at Providence Alaska Medical Center in Anchorage. Mr. Snyder was born July 2, 1971, in Anchorage. He is survived by his sister, Esther Jeannie Einfeldt.



#### **ALFREDA ELIZABETH TOLMAN, 89**

Alfreda Elizabeth Tolman passed away Feb. 13 at home in Anchorage. Ms. Tolman was born Sept. 24, 1932, in Cordova, Alaska. Ms. Tolman is survived by her children, Cynthia, Jim, John and Michael DeMott and Patricia Davidsen; 10 grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

#### **QUINN ANTHONY TOSHAVIK, 44**

Quinn Anthony Toshavik passed away Sept. 11, 2021, in Port Arthur, Texas. Mr. Toshavik was born April 5, 1977, in Anchorage. He is survived by his brother, Edwin "Eddy" Toshavik Sr.; and halfbrothers, Tom Lock and Bill Johnsen.

#### **SHARON ANN VERNIKOS, 76**

Sharon Ann Vernikos passed away Feb. 6, 2019, at Rio Pinar Health Care in Orlando, Fla. Ms. Vernikos was born Sept. 6, 1942, in Duluth, Minn. She is survived by her sons, William, Gregg and Kurt Vernikos.



## CONDOLENCES

**KITTY ELMINA ALLEN, 94 LELAND GEORGE BARGER SR., 71 LISA DEEANN BARNEY, 55 ALIDA CAROL BAYES, 89 SONYA MAE CHURCH, 54 JAMES MADISON COBB, 68 IVY DAWN CONSTANTINE, 45 DENA WILLIAMS COOPER, 76 DEBORAH ANNE COVEYOU, 65 CHARLOTTE FRANCES DICK, 67 FLORENCE ELIZABETH DILLINGER, 50 JOHN DOLCHOK JR., 79 GRACE LILLIAN FOX, 87 TEENA LOUISE GILE, 60 CLINTON ALBERT GREGG, 84 CHRISTINE CAROL HAMERSLEY-KUZMA, 63** WALTER MARK HOLST, 63 **JEAN F. HULL, 79** HILDA H. JACOBS, 71 **JILENE DEE LAING, 62 MICHAEL JOSEPH LARRABEE, 53 ALEXANDRA MARIE LINDGREN, 75** FLOYD MACK, 63 **VIOLET NORA MACK, 85 KEVIN MICHAEL MCDANIEL, 47 AMBERLY MARIAH MILLER, 28 MICHAEL F. MOORE, 76 JOSEPH ARTHUR NOTTI, 54 NORMAN NICKOLI OLESON, 81 KENTON CECIL OSKOLKOFF, 59 HELEN ANN OYOUMICK, 66 EDWIN MICHAEL PIOTROWSKI, 66 MARY PEARL REAMER, 87 IRENE ANNE SADEN, 84 TODD EUGENE SMAGGE, 58 PAUL BAILEY THEODORE, 66 ROBERTA LOUISE TOLBERT, 68 ROBERT DENNIS TOWNE, 77 ROSALINE GLORIA WALKER, 73 RALPH LEE WATSON, 52 CHARLOTTE ANN WEST, 64** 

#### **PHILLIP JOSEPH SERRADELL, 67**

Phillip Joseph Serradell passed away Feb. 4 at the Alaska Native Medical Center in Anchorage. Mr. Serradell was born Oct. 21, 1954, in South Naknek, Alaska. He is survived by his spouse, Gertrude Serradell; children, Gabriel, Cherilyn, Nicole, Nellie, Natalia, James and Kaden Serradell; and brothers, John and William Serradell.

#### **PARISCOVIA SIMPSON, 75**

Pariscovia Simpson passed away April 9, 2020, in Juneau, Alaska. Ms. Simpson was born Oct. 19, 1944, in Naknek, Alaska.

#### **SHIRLEY ANN SIMPSON, 68**

Shirley Ann Simpson passed away Jan. 12 in Anchorage. Ms. Simpson was born Dec. 5, 1953, in Cordova, Alaska. She is survived by her son, Edward S. Labere Sr.; grandson, Edward S. Labere Jr.; and brothers, Noel and Joseph Anderson.

#### MARTHA J. ZACHARIAS, 58

Martha J. Zacharias passed away Feb. 6 at Mayo Luther Hospital in Eau Claire, Wis. Ms. Zacharias was born Feb. 3, 1964, in Anchorage. She is survived by her husband, Marvin; children, Melissa (Travis) Jarzomski, Robert (Kelsie) Zacharias, James Zacharias and Michelle Zacharias; grandchildren, Lillyan, Zachary, Aviana, Adler, Madelyn, Delilah and Anthony Jr.; brothers, David and Lonnie; and sisters, Ruth and Angelee.

#### **RONALD CAREY WILLIAMSON JR., 32**

APRIL/MAY 2022

7



## HERBED GARLIC Potatoes

Adapted from the recipe by Sherry DesJardin of Fairbanks, Alaska. Original recipe at tasteofhome.com.

As the author wrote about this recipe, "These potatoes fit any kind of meal, from fancy to burgers—and everyone asks for the recipe."

#### Start to finish: 1 hour 15 minutes (15 minutes active)

#### **INGREDIENTS:**

- 15 baby potatoes, halved
- 1/3 cup salted butter, cubed
- 1/4 cup minced fresh parsley
- 2 tablespoons minced chives
- 2 to 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1-1/2 teaspoons fresh or 1/2 teaspoon dried herbs (optional). Dill, rosemary, tarragon and thyme all work well in this recipe.
- 3 bacon strips, cooked and crumbled (optional)

Salt and pepper, to taste

#### DIRECTIONS:

- 1. Place potatoes in a large saucepan and cover with water. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and cook 15 to 20 minutes or until tender. Drain well.
- In a large skillet, melt butter. Add the parsley, chives, herbs (if using) and garlic. Cook and stir over low heat 1-2 minutes.
- 3. Add the potatoes, bacon (if using), salt and pepper; toss to coat. Cook until heated through, about 5 minutes.

#### THE RAVEN'S CIRCLE WOULD LIKE TO FEATURE OUR READERS' FAVORITE RECIPES! To submit, visit ciri.com/recipe

## 2022 SHAREHOLDER DISTRIBUTIONS

#### FIRST QUARTER DISTRIBUTION

First quarter payments from the CIRI Settlement Trust (CST) Distribution Fund, in the amount of \$10.01 per CIRI share (or \$1,001 per 100 shares), were mailed or directly deposited on Thursday, March 31, to all CST beneficiaries who owned CIRI stock and had a valid mailing address on file with CIRI as of Monday, March 22.

#### **RESOURCE REVENUE DISTRIBUTION**

For Shareholders who owned at-large shares and had a valid mailing address on file, resource revenue payments of \$11.6955 per share (or \$1,169.55 per 100 shares) were mailed or directly deposited on April 1, 2002. 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.

#### **OTHER 2022 DISTRIBUTIONS**

The dividend policy adopted by the CIRI Board of Directors in 2007 set total CIRI dividend payments to Shareholders in any given year at 3.5% of the total Shareholders' equity, calculated as of Dec. 31 of the prior year. After Shareholders approved the creation of the CIRI Settlement Trust (CST) in 2019, the Board replaced that dividend policy in favor of contributing the amounts that CIRI would have issued as dividends to the Distribution Fund of the CST, with the CST trustees agreeing to distribute the contributed amounts to CST beneficiaries who were Shareholders of CIRI. Beginning in 2020, annually, the CIRI Board has recommended a CST Distribution of 3.5% of the previous year's ending Shareholders' equity balance.

We are pleased to announce that CIRI's prior-year financial statements have been completed, allowing 2022 distribution amounts to be calculated. The table below has been prepared to assist Shareholders with planning and contains the approved dates and amounts for all distributions expected to be issued in 2022. The table is also available in Qenek.

Direct Deposit Sign-Up Deadline (3 p.m.)	Address Change and Cancel Direct Deposit Deadline (3 p.m.)	Record Date	Mailing Date	Payments from the CST Distribution Fund	Resource Revenue Payments	Payments from the CST Elders Fund*
March 1, 2022	March 3, 2022	March 10, 2022	March 11, 2022			\$450.00
March 7, 2022	March 22, 2022	March 23, 2022	March 31, 2022	\$10.01/share (\$1,001 per 100 shares) Total payout: \$6,282,276		
March 7, 2022	March 22, 2022	March 24, 2022	April 1, 2022		\$11.6955/ share (\$1,169.55 per 100 at-large shares) Total payout to Shareholders: \$7,340,095	
May 31, 2022	June 2, 2022	June 9, 2022	June 10, 2022			\$450.00
June 13, 2022	June 22, 2022	June 23, 2022	June 30, 2022	\$10.01/share (\$1,001 per 100 shares) Total payout: \$6,282,276		
Aug. 29, 2022	Sept. 1, 2022	Sept. 8, 2022	Sept. 9, 2022			\$450.00
Sept. 9, 2022	Sept. 22, 2022	Sept. 23, 2022	Sept. 30, 2022	\$10.01/share (\$1,001 per 100 shares) Total payout: \$6,282,276		
Nov. 15, 2022	Nov. 29, 2022	Nov. 30, 2022	Dec. 7, 2022	\$12.02/share (\$1,202 per 100 shares) Total payout: \$7,543,752		
Nov. 15, 2022	Nov. 29, 2022	Dec. 8, 2022	Dec. 9, 2022			\$450.00



\*Per eligible Elder on the date of record

## **ALBUM RELEASE**

Congratulations to CIRI Shareholder Allen Anderson on the release of two recent albums, "Long Road to Music" (October 2021) and "Come with Me" (January 2022). The albums can be purchased on Apple Music.



## INFORMATION MEETING, ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

#### **2022 INFORMATION MEETING**

Join us for the 2022 CIRI Information Meeting! Topics will include 2021 financial information, a business update and economic forecast, Board candidate speeches and a Q&A segment. The meeting will be pre-recorded and available in the Qenek portal in May.

#### **2022 ANNUAL MEETING**

The 2022 Annual Meeting of Shareholders will be held via livestream at 10 a.m. on Saturday, June 4. The meeting will include an overview of 2021 operations and results, celebrating 50 years of CIRI, Shareholder prize drawings and more. To participate in the webcast, Shareholders must register via Qenek or at ciri.com/rsvp.

As the Annual Meeting will be held via livestream, voting in the election of Directors will only be by proxy. Shareholders may vote online at vote.ciri.com or by completing and returning a paper proxy.

More information will be made available as plans for these events are finalized. For the most current information, log into Qenek, visit the CIRI website or follow us on social media.

## 2022 ANNUAL MEETING EVOTE AND EARLY BIRD PRIZES

All proxies must be received by 2 p.m. AKDT on Wednesday, May 25. 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 only 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.

#### **2022 eVOTE PRIZE DEADLINES**

Friday, May 6	1 Prize of \$4,000 2 Prizes of \$1,000
Friday, May 13	2 Prizes of \$2,000
Friday, May 20	1 Prize of \$2,000
Tuesday, May 24	1 Prize of \$1,000

#### **2022 EARLY BIRD PRIZE DEADLINES**

Friday, May 6	4 Prizes of \$1,000		
	2 Prizes of \$500		
Friday, May 13	2 Prizes of \$2,000		
	2 Prizes of \$500		
Friday, May 20	2 Prizes of \$500		



MAY 30, 2022	Memorial Day: CIRI Offices Closed
MAY 31, 2022	CST Elders Distribution Direct Deposit Deadline
JUNE 1, 2022	The CIRI Foundation General Scholarship Deadline (visit thecirifoundation.org for information)
JUNE 2, 2022	CST Elders Distribution Change of Address Deadline
JUNE 4, 2022	Annual Meeting of CIRI Shareholders
JUNE 8, 2022	CIRI's 50th Anniversary
JUNE 10, 2022	CST Elders Distribution
JUNE 13, 2022	Second Quarter Direct Deposit Deadline



## APPLY NOW FOR CIRI'S VIRTUAL MENTORING PROGRAM

Application deadline: Friday, July 22

Network, form lasting relationships, and take advantage of resources and information to benefit personal and professional advancement—CIRI's Virtual Mentoring Program offers both mentors and mentees an avenue to maximize potential, develop skills, improve performance and achieve goals.

Program participants experience custom workshops throughout the program, driven by the specific interests of the cohort and focused on professional and academic development. In addition, cultural workshops will provide an opportunity to connect with and celebrate Alaska Native culture and the diversity within the CIRI region.

The next program application deadline is Friday, July 22. Participants must be 18+ and can live anywhere in the world. Mentee applicants should be CIRI Shareholders or Descendants; prospective mentors can come from the broader community.

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

## MISSING Shareholders

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.

(As of 5/3/2022)

Jason Ray Agli Roseanna Alexandria Baehm Darrell John Baker Dorothea Marika Barron Natasha Mae Beasley

- JUNE 19, 2022 Juneteenth
- JUNE 20, 2022 Juneteenth Observed: CIRI Offices Closed
- JUNE 22, 2022 Second Quarter Change of Address Deadline
- JUNE 24, 2022 SPC Application Deadline
- JUNE 30, 2022 Quarterly CST Distribution; Youth Educational Incentives Entry Deadline; Quarterly Participation Prize Drawing Deadline

## BEAVER TALES COFFEE

Congratulations to original CIRI enrollee Fredrick Bell (Tlingit), owner of Beaver Tales Coffee in La Conner, Wash. Along with partner Michelle Calvin, Fred was recently featured on NorthWest Indian News, a Tulalip TV program that tells stories and shares information about topics important to tribal communities. The video can be viewed on the Beaver Tales Coffee Facebook page. Congratulations, Fred!



Thomas Michael Bellinger Christopher James Black Phillip Jay Black Samuel Micah Bogard David Lewis Borenin Micheal Scott Brewer James Patrick Brown Katarina Elise Burton David Cabanes Daniel Forrest Call Anthony Chuitt Andrew Gene Crawford Bryan Jack-Ross Cro Alyssa Joy Danner Kamakana Charles-Nukapigak Danner Mary Elizabeth Dentor Christy Lynn Downs Christopher George Evon William D. Ferguson Reann Melody Gafford Janice Deanne Gransbury Louden David Greiner Jade Ariane Grunert Ernesto Gutierrez Jr. Michelle Denise Hale Dahmir Lamarr Hale Jeannie Lynn Harkins Jason David Harrington Christopher J. Harris Samuel Clifford Hatfield James Douglas Hatten Elizabeth Alexis Hickok Hunter Kelli Hogan Hannah Isaac Marcel Michael Isidore Beverly Ruth James

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 10** 

#### MISSING **SHAREHOLDERS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9**

Michael Joseph Johnson Bernard William Johnson Jr. Edward Charles Ayak Johnson Jacen Lee Kallner Kaitlyn Xanthippe Kallner Maryette Louise Kanabak Rebecca Jayne Katchatag MJ Kayouktuk Courtney Deann Sophie Kayouktuk Doris Jean Lageson Judy Lammersen Jennifer Mary Lane Paul Matthew Larson William Dean Luttrell Jr. Mark Todd Lyle Maria Elizabeth Malven Aladean Sohail Marey Peggy Sue Marquez Michael West Mason John Kelly McConnell Chase William-Mejia McMichael Jessica Ann-Marie Merlino Lucy Jean Mogg Shaun Michael Moore Brian Lee Morissette Debra Fredrica Moto Forrest James Nayukok Gus William Nelson Godfrey Nicolie Nicholas Gabriel O'Donnell Salem O'Fallon Nolan Ryan Ogle-Endresen Florence Helen Okpealuk Quinn Edward Oksoktaruk Lena Pauline Oksoktaruk-Wood Bryan Lee Outwater Richard Lee Pedersen Marie Kaye Pestrikoff Gary Woodrow Petersen Ronald Joseph Peterson Jerry Shane Phillips Charles L. Purvis Kenneth David Quijance Isaac Charles-Rodney Quintana Joanne Frances Ramos-Crow Tracy Ann Reedy Alexandra Rae Reynolds Cassie Marie Richards Luz Mae Rivera Stephanie Anne Robertson Glenn Jonathan Ryan Charlein Terese Sanford Stephanie Sue Shanigan Glenn Ross Shook Marian Carlota Smith Jennifer Nicole Smith James Earl Smith Benjamin Samuel Snyder Viola M. Soxie Charles O. Swanson Kathryn Irene Sweetland Veronica Ann Takeuchi Carl Gustav Thiele Ivory Julianna Trenton David Elton Truitt Martin Sean Tucker Cyril M. Tyson Nathan Michael-Estrada Valdez Janelle Elizabeth Verduce Robert Paul Vlasoff Lance Geoffrey Weier Jenell Ski Westcoast James Christian White Nicholas Carroll Wilson Daniel Wilson Angela Denise Wilson Mercedes Teresa Wirz



#### CIRI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Douglas W. Fifer, Tlingit Chair\*

**Chair Emeritus** 

Roy M. Huhndorf, Yup'ik **Chair Emeritus** 

Margaret L. Brown, Yup'ik Vice Chair<sup>3</sup>

Louis "Lou" Nagy Jr., Yup'ik Secretary'

Samuel G. Spangler, Aleut Treasurer\*

Rolf A. Dagg, Yup'ik **Assistant Treasurer\*** 

Katrina M. (Dolchok) Jacuk, Aleut Assistant Secretary\*

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

Hallie L. Bissett, Athabascan Michael R. Boling, Athabascan Robert E. Harris, Inupiaq Michelle B. Lindersmith, Inupiag Cynthia L. Muller, Haida Patrick M. Marrs, Aleut

# 

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

#### **CIRI CONTACT INFORMATION**

**CIRI Headquarters** 

725 E. Fireweed Lane, Suite 800 Anchorage, Alaska 99503 Tel. (907) 274-8638 www.ciri.com

#### **Shareholder Relations**

Tel. (907) 263-5191 or (800) 764-2474 Fax (907) 263-5186

For Estates/Wills, Contact Probate at: Tel. (907) 263-5540 or (833) 263-5136 Fax (907) 263-5186

Submit ideas, stories & recipes to info@ciri.com



APRIL/MAY 2022 // CIRI RAVEN'S CIRCLE NEWSLETTER

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## **APPLY NOW TO SERVE ON CIRI'S** SHAREHOLDER AND DESCENDANT PARTICIPATION COMMITTEES

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, JUNE 24** 



Since 1995, CIRI's Shareholder Participation Committees have helped increase two-way communication between CIRI and its Shareholders. For the first time this year, CIRI is inviting confirmed, registered Descendants to apply and serve on its Shareholder and Descendant Participation Committees! CIRI seeks to include Descendant voices to truly represent the diversity of all those we serve.

#### **TO APPLY:**

Interested and eligible Shareholders and Descendants are asked to apply by June 24. The committees meet in the spring and fall of each year. Members are compensated \$150 for each regularly scheduled meeting.

### **APPLY NOW** ciri.com/spc