

# Raven's Circle



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› TCF President and CEO Susan Anderson addresses attendees at CIRI's 2016 "Take the Next Generation to Work Day" event. Photo by Jason Moore.

## THE CIRI FOUNDATION CELEBRATES 35 YEARS

The CIRI Foundation President and CEO Susan Anderson likens herself to a fairy godmother. "It's not quite as simple as showing up and waving your magic wand, but when you get to come to work every day and actually change lives, what more could you ask for? It's pretty amazing."

A private foundation established in 1982 by the CIRI Board of Directors, The CIRI Foundation (TCF) has contributed more than \$29 million for the Alaska Native beneficiaries of CIRI to participate in post-secondary education. TCF offers funding for postsecondary education through scholarships, vocational training grants, individual fellowships, research and other education projects. A variety of village and tribal scholarships and grants are available as well.

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

For 35 years, TCF has helped fund the education and career development of original CIRI shareholders and their direct lineal descendants. But as CIRI shares continue to be gifted and inherited, the number of Alaska Native shareholders who are not original enrollees or direct lineal descendants has been increasing. To better serve this growing population, TCF created the Raven Fund in 2015.

"The Raven Fund is our way of kind of 'pulling everyone into the hug,'" Anderson said. "It's like a concentric circle – CIRI folks are in the middle, Alaska Native people are out from there, Alaskans are out from there and the world

is out from there. The way our board has been looking at it is, how and what we do is in service to our people. If there are other people who happen to be helped along the way, then sure, why wouldn't we do that?"

Program Officer and CIRI descendant Kyla Morris has been with TCF four years. A scholarship recipient herself, she is currently pursuing a master's degree in communication and leadership from Gonzaga University.

**"The scholarship made such a difference in the amount of time I was able to focus on school."**  
- STACEY LUCASON

"This is a great place to work – the people here are very supportive of you going to school while working," she said. "It's a very busy job when we're up against scholarship deadlines, but it's a very rewarding job. We get to see so many people from different walks of life, from high school students going to college for the first time to parents going back to school after 10 years. The other day we had a mom, a daughter and a son, and they were all going to school together in the same program."

Program Assistant Stacey Lucason echoes Morris' sentiments. "TCF is a nice place to work, even when it's busy and there's a lot going on, because we're doing stuff that's important and makes people happy and improves their lives."

Lucason received funds herself while attending the University of Alaska Anchorage as a double major in philosophy and biology with a minor in Alaska Native

## TCF IS BORN

"...the future of CIRI itself will depend in large part upon the well-trained management leadership selected to lead the corporation. Also, a solid education is a basic tool that is necessary to enable our shareholders to be prepared as active participants in our modern world."

With these words, then-CIRI President and CEO Roy Huhndorf unveiled The CIRI Foundation (TCF) to readers of the August 1982 CIRI Newsletter.

Prior to the establishment of TCF, CIRI awarded scholarships through two programs: the CIRI-H&N Scholarship Program and the CIRI/ARCO Scholarship Program.

TCF was incorporated on July 9, 1982. Its primary purpose was, and continues to be, expanding and enhancing the educational assistance programs made available to CIRI shareholders and their direct lineal descendants.

In its first year, thanks to a \$100,000 initial contribution from CIRI, TCF awarded 26 scholarships and 20 training grants. Over the last 35 years, thanks in large part to continued support from CIRI, TCF has awarded \$29 million to CIRI shareholders and their direct lineal descendants to participate in post-secondary education. An additional \$2.8 million has been awarded through TCF's Education and Heritage Project Grant Program toward nonprofit organization projects that further the goals of TCF.

### President's message



CIRI SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES GROWING

By Roy M. Huhndorf

CIRI recently announced the names of shareholders who have been awarded CIRI college scholarships for the 1982 fall semester. These awards were made from the CIRI-H&N Scholarship Program and the CIRI/ARCO Scholarship Program. Recipients of these awards are to be commended for their academic achievement and determination in pursuing professional degrees in the fields of their choice.

The new scholarship programs represent the firm commitment which CIRI has in support of continuing education by shareholders. It is the philosophy of the CIRI Board of Directors that educational assistance programs of this type should be made available to shareholders for two reasons. One reason is that the future of CIRI itself will depend in large part upon the well-trained management leadership selected to lead the corporation. Also, a solid education is a basic tool that is necessary to enable our shareholders to be prepared as active participants in our modern changing world.

Because of this strong commitment to educational opportunities for CIRI shareholders, CIRI is in the process of establishing The CIRI Foundation. The Foundation was incorporated under the laws of Alaska on July 9, 1982. The primary purpose of the Foundation will be to expand and enhance the educational assistance programs made available to CIRI shareholders, their lineal descendants and immediate family members. The CIRI Board of Directors will decide on the budget and operations plan for the Foundation at their next meeting in September.

Specific plans call for three basic programs. The first type of educational opportunity will be scholarship assistance for individuals who are employed and seeking a job upgrade or career growth (continuing education) experience. It is anticipated that The CIRI Foundation will have the initial scholarship programs available within the next four months.

Regardless of the type of program — whether it be for academic, vocational or continuing education purposes — funds already available through the CIRI/ARCO Scholarship Program — all CIRI shareholders are urged to take advantage of these opportunities. More information about CIRI's educational assistance programs is available from the CIRI Shareholder Service Department.

CIRI-H&N SCHOLARSHIPS ... Continued from page 7

enabling the Corporation to be more responsive to the educational needs

of our shareholders. We hope to have this program continue as well as to develop additional programs that will permit more shareholders to pursue their educational goals."

In the Alaska General Election on November 2, 1982

VOTE "NO" ON BALLOT MEASURE #7

(the "Personal Consumption of Fish and Game" Initiative) and protect the current state subsistence law.

VOTE "NO"

The CIRI Newsletter

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Board of Directors

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Roy Huhndorf President/Director

Robert Rube 1st Vice President/Director

Garth Dagg 2nd Vice President/Director

Charles Rasmussen 3rd Vice President/Director

B. Agnes Brown Secretary/Director

Patrick Martin Treasurer/Director

William Prosser Director

Jerry Brown Director

Alvin Chase Director

John Lestander Director

Arnold Casakoff Director

Lee Stebbins Director

Peter Hoeschele Director

Editor: Lynda Hays, Manager, Shareholder Services and Community Relations

## A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Sophie Minich, CIRI president and chief executive officer

I hope you are enjoying the summer! CIRI kicked off the season with its Annual Meeting of Shareholders, which drew 300 shareholders and their family members to Southcentral Foundation's Nuka Learning and Wellness Center in Anchorage. A highlight of the meeting was hearing presentations from several of CIRI's nonprofit organizations, two of which – Southcentral Foundation (SCF) and The CIRI Foundation (TCF) – are celebrating their 35th anniversaries this year!

While CIRI's corporate focus is dedicated to profitable investments and business operations, the company is also committed to the "real economic and social needs of Natives," as stated in Congress's declaration of policy in the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, and as explicitly stated in CIRI's mission statement. CIRI accomplishes this through a family of nonprofit organizations that provides a variety of services to our shareholders and other Alaska Native and American Indian people in the Cook Inlet region.

SCF provides excellent, patient-focused health care to approximately 60,000 Alaska Native people. Since it was incorporated under CIRI's tribal authority in 1982, SCF has elevated the level of excellence in medical care delivered to Alaska Native and American Indian people. By contributing to the health and wellness of our people, it has made our community a better place.

The contributions made every day by the dedicated team of health care professionals at Southcentral Foundation have fulfilled the promise of the Alaska Native leaders who envisioned a health care system that would be owned and managed by Alaska Native people, and help us to be physically stronger, mentally sharper and spiritually restored.

With an initial \$100,000 endowment from CIRI, TCF was created in 1982 to deliver educational scholarships to original CIRI shareholders and their direct lineal descendants. Over the last 35 years, TCF has awarded 15,000 scholarships totaling nearly \$30 million. I invite you to learn more about TCF in this month's newsletter and by listening to episode 11 of the CIRIosity podcast, "TCF at 35."

This time last year, CIRI was honored when the Fireweed Business Center, CIRI's corporate headquarters in midtown Anchorage, was chosen as the location where then-U.S. Attorney General Loretta Lynch met with the Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) and Alaska tribal leaders to address some of the most critical issues facing Alaska Native people. This June, the Fireweed Business Center was again selected as the location to host U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke, the AFN board of directors and the Alaska Congressional delegation as they discussed ways to grow the Alaska economy and optimize our state's natural resource potential.

When CIRI relocated its corporate headquarters to the Fireweed Business Center two years ago, the company occupied roughly 40 percent of the building. The challenge before us was to lease the remaining 60 percent as the building is, first and foremost, an investment aimed at delivering greater returns to shareholders.

When the CIRI Board of Directors approved the project's development, they recognized it would take time to lease the space to quality tenants. CIRI was pleased to welcome engineering company Stantec to the Fireweed Business Center in early 2016. Earlier this year Stantec expanded, and Umialik Insurance Company recently moved on to the fifth floor.



Sonosky, Chambers, Sachse, Endreson & Perry LLP (Sonosky Chambers), a law firm, will begin occupying a portion of the fourth floor next month, putting the Fireweed Business Center at 75 percent occupied. I look forward to the day CIRI announces that the Fireweed Business Center is 100 percent occupied! Meanwhile, CIRI's former headquarters at 2525 C Street continues to be a premier midtown Anchorage property and remains a strong asset in CIRI's real estate portfolio.

Warm regards,

*Sophie Minich*

## CIRI *in the* COMMUNITY

### 2017 GOLF CLASSIC FUND RECIPIENTS

An annual charitable event that benefits programs focusing on youth and education, the CIRI Golf Classic has raised more than \$1.9 million for local nonprofit organizations since it began in 1983.

The 2017 tournament will be held Friday, Aug. 4 at Moose Run Golf Course in Anchorage. This year's proceed recipients include:

#### Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center

AWCC's education programs share the magnificence of Alaska wildlife and the important role it plays in the balance of life, culture and environment. Programs reinforce STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) curriculum standards and provide teachers a novel way to attract youth to science and math topics. Nearly 1,300 students from 30 schools visited the AWCC on fieldtrips during the 2015-2016 school year, and another 1,175 Title 1\* students received outreach education. Examples of AWCC's popular and cost-effective outreach programs include Animal Puppet Show, Bones and Fur Class, Animal Ambassador Programs and Bison-in-a-Box, which contains a real bison skeleton for students to assemble. [www.alaskawildlife.org](http://www.alaskawildlife.org)

**Camp Fire Alaska** provides safe, enriching learning experiences for more than 5,000 youth across Alaska. Its Inclusion Fund gives



youth access to both school-year programs and summer camps. In 2016, the Inclusion Fund provided \$166,000 in scholarships to 227 youth. [www.campfireak.org](http://www.campfireak.org)

#### Koahnic Broadcast Corporation

KBC is committed to serving Native youth. In 2017 Koahnic will launch The RIVR, a youth-oriented online radio stream. The RIVR will mix cultural and educational content with music that appeals to teens and young adults, and provide an ideal forum for youth-produced programming. Funds from the CIRI Golf Classic will support the development of educational programs for Alaska Native high school students, with the goal of producing programming that will be made available for airing on The RIVR. [www.koahnicbroadcast.org](http://www.koahnicbroadcast.org)

#### The Children's Lunchbox at Bean's Café

The mission of The Children's Lunchbox is to feed hungry children in safe community environments.

Nearly 3,000 children in high-need, low-income areas receive meals for 36 weeks of the school year through TCL's Weekend Food Program, which provides healthy meals to students in Anchorage Title 1\* schools. In 2016, more than 289,290 meals were distributed through the Weekend Food Program. [www.beanscafe.org/the-childrens-lunch-box](http://www.beanscafe.org/the-childrens-lunch-box)

CIRI is pleased and proud to partner with organizations that do such important work in our communities. For more information on the CIRI Golf Classic, visit [www.cirigolf.com](http://www.cirigolf.com). 🍴

*\*To qualify for the Title 1 program, which provides supplementary funding to improve academic achievement for low-income students, a school must have a certain percentage of students in its attendance area who qualify for free or reduced-price lunches.*

# CIRI Youth OPPORTUNITIES

Youth SPC applications, youth art contest submissions due Aug. 9, 2017

## SPC YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES

CIRI is seeking applications from CIRI shareholders and descendants who are 13 to 17 years of age to fill the Shareholder Participation Committees (SPC) Youth Representative positions. Application packets can be downloaded and printed at [www.ciri.com](http://www.ciri.com) and are also available from Shareholder Relations. Applications and supporting materials must be received by CIRI by 5 p.m. Alaska Daylight Time on Aug. 9 to be considered.

## YOUTH ART CONTEST

To be entered in the 2017 Youth Art Contest, CIRI shareholders and descendants who are 5 to 12 years of age must submit to CIRI original artwork interpreting the theme "The WILDLife in Alaska," as well as a completed entry form, by 5 p.m. Alaska Daylight Time on Aug. 9. Winning entries will be displayed at the CIRI and The CIRI Foundation Friendship Potlatches this fall. Entry forms can be downloaded and printed at [www.ciri.com](http://www.ciri.com) and are also available from Shareholder Relations.



## IN MEMORY

### Michael W. Batt, 74

Michael W. Batt passed away April 30 at Alaska Regional Hospital in Anchorage. Mr. Batt was born March 25, 1943, in Sheboygan, Wis. He is survived by his brother, David E. Batt; and sister, Patsy Batt.

### Christopher Alan Blohm, 59

Christopher Alan Blohm passed away May 4 in Kawkawlin, Mich. Mr. Blohm was born Dec. 30, 1957, in Bay City, Mich. He is survived by his children, Jeremy Blohm and Kiana Blohm; and granddaughter, Kaelin Blohm.

### Simon Emmard-Josefsen Carlough, 69

Simon Emmard-Josefsen Carlough passed away June 6 at Providence Extended Care in Anchorage. Mr. Carlough was born July 25, 1947, in Anchorage. He is survived by his sister, Melody Busse.

### Martha Chase, 71



Martha Chase passed away June 28 at home in Anchorage. Ms. Chase was born June 26, 1946, in Tyonek, Alaska. She is survived by her children, Allen Chase Jr., Vernon Chase and Jennifer Norkett; brothers, Stanley Mishakoff, Chad Chickalusion, Leonard Chickalusion and Daniel Chickalusion; sisters, Katherine Chickalusion, Doris Baker, Virginia Hudson and Norma Chickalusion; and many nieces, nephews, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

### Alice G. Malidore, 92

Alice G. Malidore passed away May 19 at home in Portland, Ore. Ms. Malidore was born Aug. 15, 1922, in Philadelphia. She is survived by her children, John W. Malidore Jr. (Darlene), Rebecca G. Hodges (Ray) and Jennifer E. Malidore (Jim); grandchildren, Scott, Lamora, Michelle, Richard, Christopher, Shari, Chuck, Richie, Nick, Dana, Hope, Jamie, Joshua, Keith and Neil; 47 great-grandchildren; and 23 great-great-grandchildren.

### LaTonia Michelle Mejia-Lora, 39

LaTonia Michelle Mejia-Lora passed away May 16 at home in Anchorage. Ms. Mejia-Lora was born Dec. 3, 1977, in Anchorage. She is survived by her grandfather, Chuck Croley; uncle, Chuck Campbell; aunt, Patricia Rhymes; children, Chase McMichael, Heaven McMichael and Manolo Lara; cousins, Lorraine, Jacqueline, Andrew, Mandy, Lucia and Enrique; and brothers, Thomas McMichael and Timothy Smith.

### Patrick Kakaruk, 60



Patrick T. Kakaruk passed away May 29 at the Alaska Native Medical Center in Anchorage. Mr. Kakaruk was born Nov. 2, 1956, in Nome, Alaska. Growing up, he was taught by his parents outdoor and subsistence skills. As an adult, Mr. Kakaruk enjoyed spending time with his family in the great outdoors. He is survived by his sisters, Ann Kalerak, Katherine King, Mary Ellen Baier, Linda P. Kakaruk and Margaret Kakaruk; and brothers, Floyd Kakaruk, Steven Kakaruk and Walter P. Kakaruk.

### Condolences

Ray Vernon Anawrok, 69  
Terry Neill Gilligan, 74  
Anna K. Kramer, 90  
Nicholas Malachoff Jr., 84  
Joseph Aloysius Yester, 89

## 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 07/27/2017)

Byron Keith Abell	Shane Nolan Moore
Bernice Ada Adams	Shaun Michael Moore
Edgar Ailak	Forrest James Nayukok
Matthew Jacob Anahonak	Vencent Michael Nelson
Bruce Matthew Anthony II	Brandi Michelle Nethery
William Shannon	Glenda Lee Nicholi
Ashmore	Martin O'Connor
Egan Hugh Askay	Stephanie Lee Olsen
Thomas Michael Bellinger	Andrea Lee Olson
Leah Mae Blue	Tracy Day Osborn
Gale Marie Boskofsky	Bryan Lee Outwater
Richard Kenneth Bright	William Pedersen
Steven Patrick Bright	Angela Dodie Peter
Lindsey Marie Bryant	Samuel Peter
Carolyn Jane Burns	Janet Lynn-Savoy
Diana Marie Call	Peterman
John Scott Cleghorn	Mary B. Phillips
Michael James Cooper	Angela Marie Racette
Rachel Joanna Cosgriff	Barbara N. Redington
Shirlee Ann Damon	Kenneth Warren Rice III
Kamakana Charles-	Judith Anne Richards
Nukapigak Danner	Robert Charles Ring
Stella Yvonne Davis	Sophie Anne Ring
David Manual Delacruz	Melanie Brook Ritter
Juan Eugene Delacruz Jr.	Rebecca Ashley Roehl
Daniel Mark Delkittie	Vina Louise Routt
Jeremy Nathan Donaldson	William Jack Schneider Jr.
Christy Lynn Downs	Gregory Floyd Seeber
Tess Gabriella Evren	Luther Michael Shavings
Elizabeth MSH Evon	Maryah Dorothy Showalter
Robert A. France	Steven Shuravloff
Brenda Kelli Gish	Don Foster Simmonds
Jade Ariane Grunert	Foster P. Simmonds Sr.
Lucy F. Harris	Joshua Sly
Sonja Sue Hartman	Andrew David Smith
Freddie Ray Hawes	James Earl Smith
Annie Marie Heinrich	Selena Kathleen Spiller
Martin Edward	Susan Kay Stanford
Hermansen III	Kenneth Curtis Stehman
Cindy Kim Hertz	Dorothy Kay Stone
Dona Irene Highstone	Sheila Elizabeth Stroud
Claire Rachell Hursey	Veronica Ann Takeuchi
Christopher Marion-Stone	Brian Wade Taylor
Jacobsson	Vincent Theodore
John Edwin Johnson	Robert Arthur Thomas
Branden J. Jordon	Nina Sharon Truitt
David Michael	Martin Sean Tucker
Karabelnikoff	Alice Marie Umetsu
Julie Marie Kenick	Amber Dawn Waisanen
Elizabeth Combs Kimball	Jerome David Walker
Theresa Louise Kincade	Johnnie Wayne Walker
Gary James Kious	Thomas Dwayne Walton II
Judy Lammersen	Terilyn Irene Wamser
Anita Elaine Litchfield	Anthony Wayne Waterbury
Mickey Lopez III	David Edward Watson
William Dean Luttrell Jr.	Ralph Lee Watson
Lydia Josephine Maloy	David Clifford Weston
Nellie Lavonne Mayer	Kathryn Marie Weston
Chase William-Mejia	Jordan Brando Wik
McMichael	Greta Ann Wright
Marilyn Jean Miller	Kristina Marie Yankovic
Virginia Lee Miller	



## PANEEN PETERSEN

Colorectal cancer took the life of Paneen Petersen’s mother when she was only 45 years old. Paneen was 12 at the time. “I grew up thinking her death was a fluke,” Paneen said. “It wasn’t until years later, when I was working as a health programs administrator at the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, that I realized my mom dying of colorectal cancer was not unique. I could accept it was a personal tragedy for our family, but it was not a fluke – it’s something we see all the time (in Alaska Native populations). It made me indignant, like ‘What’s going on here?’”

According to the National Center for Biotechnology Information, colorectal cancer (CRC) is the most frequently diagnosed cancer among Alaska Native people – 30 percent higher than the rate among U.S. white people. From 1969 to 2003, CRC increased 25 percent among Alaska Native people, whereas among U.S. white people, the disease has declined since 1986. Additionally, morbidity rates for Alaska Native people diagnosed with CRC are higher than for other races.

Paneen channeled her grief and indignation into research. She is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in epidemiology at the University of Washington where she studies gene-environment interactions and the risk of CRC. She is expected to graduate in 2018. This research follows a Master of Public Health degree in epidemiology and biostatistics, where she examined CRC survival rates among American Indian and Alaska Native people in the Pacific Northwest.

Epidemiology is the branch of medicine that investigates the incidence, distribution and possible control of diseases and other factors relating to health. Always a serious and science-minded student, Paneen was interested in epidemiology before she knew what it was called. “I earned my bachelor’s degree in anthropology, but I had subscriptions to things like Medscape and Morbidity and Mortality Weekly,” she shared. “When the H1N1 pandemic broke out in 2009, I had the call-in number to the statewide Center for Disease Control so I could hear what all the epidemiologists were talking about.

“Disease isn’t just science; it’s culture and behavior,” Paneen continued. “Epidemiology is the marriage of the two things that excite me most – medical stuff and people.”

Paneen is an advocate for community-based research, which differs from community-placed research. Community-placed research involves “researchers who are interested in a population for data purposes, but whose findings may not necessarily be of use to that community,” Paneen said. Community-based research is a collaboration between researchers and community members, which seeks as its goal social action and social change for the purpose of achieving social justice.

Paneen grew up in Anchorage and still considers Alaska home, though she currently resides in the Seattle area due to school. A CIRI shareholder of Iñupiaq descent and a former CIRI Shareholder Participation Committee member, she is connected to CIRI through her mother, the late Gretchen Petersen of Kotzebue, Alaska; her father, who hails from Nebraska, is of Danish and German ancestry.

“My goal is to come back to Alaska,” Paneen said. “I want to lead research design with our own community members.”

Paneen is grateful to have received funding from The CIRI Foundation (TCF) for each year of her Ph.D. program. “I wouldn’t be able to do what I do without money from TCF,” she said. “I actually worked for TCF as a program officer for four years (2000-2004), and I learned a great deal. It really gave me a leg up on funding. The application process isn’t about jumping through hoops; they really want to see you succeed.”

Paneen is passionate about CRC screenings for everyone, especially Alaska Native people. “Alaska Native patients should begin screening for CRC at age 40 rather than 50,” she said. While colonoscopies are the “gold standard,” there are other screening tests if colonoscopies are not available in your area.

“There are lots of challenges in Alaska – limited access to screenings and a population that’s high risk. And also fear,” Paneen said. “I will tell you that I’ve had five colonoscopies, starting at the age of 30. Twilight sedation during the procedure is an option. It’s really not that bad; I actually opted to stay awake during my last four. Remember that the screening isn’t just about you – it’s for your family, too. With proper screening, colorectal cancer is a disease that’s almost completely preventable.”

For more information on colorectal cancer screening, please visit the following resources:  
[www.anmc.org](http://www.anmc.org)  
[www.cancer.gov](http://www.cancer.gov)  
[www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)  
[www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

## SHAREHOLDER PARTICIPATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Please join CIRI in welcoming the following new Shareholder Participation Committee (SPC) members:

### ALASKA SPC COMMITTEE

Glenn A. Carlo, Fairbanks  
 Brian K. Finley, Fairbanks  
 Ariana M. Smith, Trapper Creek  
 Tiffany E. Stonecipher, Ninilchik\*

### ANCHORAGE SPC COMMITTEE

Edward A. Jones  
 Tony C. Kruger  
 Kayla Reiser

### LOWER 48 AND HAWAII SPC COMMITTEE

Kristen D. Barnett, Maine\*  
 Cynthia Demientieff, Oklahoma  
 Tammy S. Kopotic, Wisconsin  
 Thomas D. Yates III, Oklahoma

\*Selected to fill vacated term

Each year, SPC members are chosen through a drawing from the names of voting shareholders who are at least 18 years of age, have indicated an interest in participating on a committee and have correctly answered a questionnaire about CIRI that is mailed to all voting shareholders prior to the Annual Meeting of Shareholders.

This year, 333 shareholders submitted questionnaires. Of these, 116 (approximately 35 percent) questionnaires were answered correctly. The most frequently missed question was “If two shareholders have the same email address on file with CIRI (for example, a husband and wife), only one may create a Qenek account using that email address.” The correct answers for the 2017 questionnaire are shown here:

#### Which of the following statements are true?

- CIRI conducts quarterly drawings for an Echo Dot from the names of all shareholders with Qenek accounts who have accessed the Qenek account during the quarter. If the selected individual has not accessed the account during the quarter or if the CIRI address is not current, another winner is selected.
- Qenek helps to reduce CIRI’s carbon footprint.
- To maintain confidentiality, Qenek sign-in information should be treated confidentially and not shared.
- To register for Qenek, a shareholder needs his or her shareholder identification number, the last four digits of the social security number, the date of birth and the “primary” email address on file with CIRI, which is the address where eNewsletters and other eCommunications are sent.
- If two shareholders have the same email address on file with CIRI (for example, a husband and wife), only one may create a Qenek account using that email address.



## MEET CIRI'S SUMMER INTERNS

As part of CIRI's commitment to provide shareholders and descendants valuable experience in their career fields, this summer CIRI placed five young shareholders and descendants in temporary positions.

The goal of CIRI's internship program is to increase shareholder relevance and deepen engagement with the next generation entering the workforce. By creating opportunities for students and recent graduates to directly apply their education in a practical work setting, they gain excellent experience and insight into CIRI's culture and businesses. Interns are also provided development and mentorship opportunities.

**"CIRI's summer internship program attracts talent from all over the U.S.," said Talent Manager Darla Graham. "Interns bolster their resumes and make connections, and the company benefits from increased productivity, fresh ideas, and specialized strengths and skill sets."**



**Please join CIRI in welcoming its 2017 summer interns:**

- KC Chickalusion  
*CIRI Business Development/ Shareholder Programs*
- Drew Johnson  
*CIRI Corporate Communications*
- Josephine Kamkoff  
*CIRI subsidiary North Wind Group*
- Autumn Olson  
*CIRI Human Resources*
- Brandi Wheelehan  
*Alaska Federation of Natives*

## INTERN-al AFFAIRS

In my opinion, the beauty in Alaska cannot be matched.

Being from the Pacific Northwest, I'm accustomed to lush forests, snow-capped mountains and dramatic seascapes, but trust me – Washington's got nothing on Alaska. When I got the opportunity to live and work in Anchorage for the summer, I knew I had to take it!

My name is Drew Johnson, and I am the intern assigned to CIRI's Corporate Communications department. I grew up in Seattle and just finished my junior year at Washington State University where I major in finance. With graduation fast approaching, I knew I needed to broaden my professional horizons and bolster my resume. My father, CIRI shareholder Lynn Johnson, suggested that CIRI might be a good fit for me, so I started doing my research. After learning more about the Summer Internship program, I was motivated to apply.

In just three short weeks I've already helped edit the Raven's Circle shareholder newsletter, brainstormed potential podcast topics and posted to CIRI's various social media accounts. If you don't already, I invite you to follow CIRI on Instagram (@ourCIRI) – the other interns and I had a lot of fun taking over the account on June 21 for National Selfie Day!

I'm looking forward to multiple opportunities to learn from CIRI executives and other Alaska Native



PHOTO BY JOEL IRWIN.

leaders throughout the summer. Even though it is still early, I feel as though I've learned so much yet have barely scratched the surface.

As I learn more about CIRI, my initial favorable impression has only deepened. This is the first time in my life I have been exposed to a corporation that truly puts its shareholders and the community first. I feel extremely grateful for the opportunity CIRI has provided me and look forward to sharing my experience with you each month.

Until next time,

*Drew Johnson*

Drew Johnson

## RECIPE

### HEARTY CABBAGE SOUP



**START TO FINISH:** 75 minutes (approximately 15 minutes active)

**SERVINGS:** 6-8

#### INGREDIENTS:

- 1½ pounds ground beef
- 4 stalks celery, chopped
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 7 cups cabbage, chopped
- 2 cans (16 ounces each) kidney beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 can (28 ounces) diced tomatoes, undrained
- 3 cans beef broth
- 1 can (15 ounces) tomato sauce
- 3 carrots, chopped
- ½ teaspoon sugar
- Salt and pepper to taste

#### DIRECTIONS:

1. In a large Dutch oven, cook beef, celery and onion over medium heat until meat is no longer pink and vegetables are tender.
2. Add the remaining ingredients and bring to a boil.
3. Reduce heat, cover and simmer one hour or until cabbage and carrots are tender. Good served with homemade bread. Freezes well.

*This recipe was from late CIRI shareholder Irene White's personal collection. It originally appeared in the 2003 edition of the Ninilchik Community Cookbook.*

The Raven's Circle would like to feature our readers' favorite recipes! For instructions on how to submit, please visit [www.ciri.com/recipe](http://www.ciri.com/recipe).

#### THE CIRI FOUNDATION, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 01

studies. "The scholarship) made such a difference in the amount of time I was able to focus on school," she said. "When I first started attending college, I went to school part time and worked full time, and school was definitely that back-burner, second-priority thing. When I was able to switch to attending full time, I was able to actually get involved with the campus community and I met so many more people. It felt like, this is how college is supposed to be."

Individual TCF scholarship and grant opportunities include:

•**General scholarships:** Awarded to CIRI original enrollees or direct lineal descendants, up to \$5,000 per academic year for full-time students and up to \$4,500 for part-time students.

•**Vocational training grants:** Awarded to CIRI original enrollees or direct lineal descendants, up to \$4,500 per calendar year for students enrolled in a technical skill-training program.

•**Raven Fund:** Applicants are eligible for up to \$2,500 per term for full-time students and up to

\$2,250 for part-time students, or up to \$4,500 per calendar year for vocational students.

"The 35th anniversary of TCF is really an amazing legacy for CIRI as well as for TCF as a private foundation entity," Anderson said. "Twenty-nine million dollars and 15,000 awards – that's a huge amount of funds and people who have been changed through education and training."

For information about The CIRI Foundation, visit [www.thecirifoundation.org](http://www.thecirifoundation.org).



**GRADUATION ANNOUNCEMENT**

CIRI shareholder Douglas Shelford and his wife, Jo, are pleased to announce the graduation of their daughter, Kendall Marie Shelford, from the University of Washington in Seattle. Kendall graduated with a bachelor's degree in public health with minors in nutrition and Spanish. She was also chosen for the Dean's List. Kendall would like to thank The CIRI Foundation for its support.



**GRADUATION ANNOUNCEMENT**

CIRI shareholder Elaine Stefanowicz and Steve Stefanowicz are pleased to announce the graduation of their son, Michael Stefanowicz, from Curtis High School in University Place, Wash. Michael plans to attend Tacoma Community College in the fall.



**ART EXHIBITION**

Congratulations to CIRI shareholder Storme Webber on her solo exhibition, *Casino: A Palimpsest*. Through family photographs, archival records and poetry, Webber unearths a personal history of one of the oldest gay bars on the West Coast. The exhibition runs Aug. 5–Oct. 29, 2017, at the Frye Art Museum in Seattle.

**CIRI, EKLUTNA INC. SIGN GRAVEL PIT AGREEMENT**

Article courtesy of Eklutna Inc.



> The Eklutna Gravel Site operates on land jointly owned by Eklutna Inc. (surface) and CIRI (subsurface). Photos courtesy of Joanna White/Eklutna Inc.

Through regular gatherings of representatives from CIRI and other Alaska Native corporations, tribes, villages and nonprofits in the Cook Inlet region, the Tikahtnu Forum provides a platform for business collaborations and discussion of issues that impact Alaska Native people.

Although the individual organizations that make up the Forum have different missions and objectives, each recognizes that greater success can be realized through collaboration. In the spirit of working together, CIRI and Eklutna Inc. recently signed an agreement to open a gravel pit in north Eagle River, Alaska.

“The Tikahtnu Forum helped formalize a process that takes relationships between Alaska Native regional and village corporations to the next level,” said Eklutna Inc. CEO Curtis McQueen. “A prime example was when the CIRI Board, with support

from CIRI’s executive team, recognized that land owned by Eklutna (surface) and CIRI (subsurface) could result in a gravel project that would benefit both parties.”

In 2006, CIRI entered into a joint venture with Eklutna for a sand and gravel extraction project that will supply these valuable materials to the Anchorage and Matanuska-Susitna Valley markets. The 43-acre site is situated 25 miles northeast of Anchorage.

The relationship between the two parties was strengthened in 2009 with the signing of a three-year gravel extraction agreement at Birchwood Industrial Park. Within three construction seasons, the site produced 3.3 million tons of rock.

The new site is slated to begin operations in 2019. For more information, visit [www.eklutnainc.com](http://www.eklutnainc.com).

**ADDICTION RECOVERY CENTER TO BE BUILT IN EKLUTNA**

The Tikahtnu Forum – a collaboration between representatives from CIRI and other Alaska Native corporations, tribes, villages and nonprofits in the Cook Inlet region – first discussed a substance abuse, prevention and treatment agenda in August 2015. These have continued to be important topics: in 2016, two Tikahtnu Forum Special Committee on Substance Abuse meetings were held.

“I remember the Tikahtnu Forum discussing and brainstorming how we needed more options and beds available for addiction patients, culturally-appropriate programs and land to build on,” said CIRI’s Greg Razo, vice president, Government Contracting.



> A rendering of the floor plan for the first floor of the new Ernie Turner Center, which will be located in Eklutna. Rendering courtesy of Spark Design, LLC.

“We came together over the course of those meetings and said, ‘We have the resources available – let’s coordinate and do it!’”

Less than two years after that initial meeting, CIRI-affiliated nonprofit organization Cook Inlet Tribal Council (CITC) announced plans to build a new residential inpatient addiction treatment center. The Ernie Turner Center Recovery Journey Program will be built on land owned by Eklutna Inc. A second CIRI-affiliated nonprofit, Cook Inlet Housing Authority, will serve as project developer.

This new treatment facility will offer residential addiction treatment to individuals who have gone through detox and have been screened by the program’s application process. Floor plans of the center have been finalized and include 16 beds for short- and long-term addiction patients, as well as a fitness room, arts and crafts room, and carving studio.

According to Rebecca Ling, director of recovery services for CITC, the location -- a secluded six-acre parcel of land owned by Eklutna Inc. -- provides a healing, natural environment that’s a contrast to the busy Anchorage location of the current Ernie Turner Center. “We’re excited about the location, which is a very serene, natural environment where participants will really be able to focus on healing,” she explained. “The current location has very convenient access to things like hospitals, but the urban environment can be a little chaotic for those in recovery.”

The Ernie Turner model, a therapeutic “Village of Care” framework, is based on traditional Alaska Native values and concepts. Clients are referred to as “family members” and have a “family chief,” sobriety is understood to involve the whole person and spiritual needs are addressed as part of recovery.

ADDICTION RECOVERY. CONTINUED ON PAGE 07

## U.S. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR MEETS WITH ALASKA NATIVE LEADERS AT FIREWEED BUSINESS CENTER

With the goal of addressing a broad topic – doubling Alaska’s gross domestic product over the next 10 years – U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke met with the Alaska Federation of Natives board of directors and the Alaska Congressional delegation June 1 at the Fireweed Business Center, CIRI’s corporate headquarters in Anchorage.

Zinke’s proposed strategy includes revitalizing the state’s oil industry and otherwise encouraging development of natural resources, including bolstering development on the North Slope, building out telecom to meet national security needs and encouraging foreign investment in Alaska. He advocates the removal of barriers for Alaska Native people to develop Native-owned lands, tax reforms that benefit Alaska Native and American Indian people and policies that give Alaska Native corporations contracting preference.



➤ CIRI President and CEO Sophie Minich (center) and CIRI executive Greg Razo (left) greet Secretary Zinke during his visit to the Fireweed Business Center. *Photo by Jason Moore.*



➤ U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke met with the Alaska Congressional delegation and Alaska Native leaders June 1 at the Fireweed Business Center, CIRI’s corporate headquarters. *Photo by Jason Moore.*

**“It was a great honor hosting Secretary Zinke, U.S. Senators Lisa Murkowski and Dan Sullivan, Congressman Don Young and many Alaska Native leaders at the Fireweed Business Center,” said CIRI President and CEO Sophie Minich. “It’s a testament to the Secretary that he sees creating opportunities for Alaska Native people as a way to pull the state out of its recession.”**

Zinke is a retired U.S. Navy SEAL who has spent time on the Aleutian islands of Adak and Shemya. His wife has also spent time in Alaska, having once worked at the Lucky Wishbone restaurant in

Anchorage. Zinke was offered the position of U.S. Secretary of the Interior by then-President-elect Donald Trump on Dec. 13, 2016; he was later confirmed by a Senate vote and sworn in March 1. In his role, Zinke leads an agency with more than 70,000 employees who are stewards for 20 percent of the nation’s lands, including national parks, monuments, wildlife refuges and other public lands. The department is charged with overseeing the responsible development of conventional and renewable energy supplies on public lands and waters; is the largest supplier and manager of water in the 17 Western states; and upholds trust responsibilities to the 567 federally-recognized American Indian and Alaska Native tribes.

For more information on the U.S. Department of the Interior, visit [www.doi.gov](http://www.doi.gov). 📄

### ADDICTION RECOVERY, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 06

#### Ernie Turner Recovery Center



➤ The location of the future Eklutna-based Ernie Turner Center, expected to open in early summer 2018. *Photo courtesy of Alaska Dispatch News.*

This model, as it was implemented at the original Ernie Turner Center, reported strong results: After six months, 86 percent of residential graduates reported a reduction in harmful behaviors. Nearly all graduates obtain jobs after finishing the program.

The new Ernie Turner Center fulfills a critical need for additional detox services in the Anchorage area. At this time, there are only two detox centers in Alaska — one of which is the current Ernie Turner Center, now run by Southcentral Foundation — and as the number of heroin-related deaths has increased tenfold since 2010, Alaska is in dire need of treatment facilities. The new facility is slated to open in early summer of 2018. A blessing ceremony of the building site will be held later this summer.

For more information, visit [www.citci.org](http://www.citci.org). 📄

*Special thanks to CITC’s Jamey Bradbury for contributing to this article.*

## ANJC DEVELOPS SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

### After merging with CITC, ANJC refines vision and mission

Alaska Native people face increasingly disproportionate rates of victimization, incarceration and other justice-related issues in Alaska. Through culturally-based advocacy, prevention and intervention initiatives, the Alaska Native Justice Center (ANJC) works to restore dignity, respect and humanity to all Native peoples.

ANJC was formally brought into the fold of Cook Inlet Tribal Council’s (CITC) programming structure last fall. Moving ANJC into the CITC family leverages existing infrastructure and ensures sustainability of ANJC’s services, while providing a foundation for the organization to reach its full potential. The partnership:

- More closely aligns the services of CITC and ANJC and creates a stronger continuum of opportunities for participants;
- Merges both organizations’ missions to provide a robust and effective network for service delivery; and
- Furthers the collective impact model for both organizations.

To help guide ANJC toward greater viability and community impact, the organizations have been working with community stakeholders and key partners to develop a sustainability plan. The plan will map out a future in which ANJC is a stronger, more self-reliant and resilient organization. A seven-member board, which includes CIRI executive Greg Razo, provides direction, guidance and oversight. For more information, visit [www.anjc.org](http://www.anjc.org).



# NEW CIRIOSITY PODCAST EPISODE AVAILABLE



Download the newest episode of CIRIosity, "TCF at 35," which explores the history of The CIRI Foundation. A nonprofit organization established in 1982 by the CIRI Board of Directors, TCF encourages the education and career development of CIRI's original shareholders and their direct lineal descendants through post-secondary scholarships and vocational training grants.

Learn about TCF's history, what the organization is doing now and where it's headed.

The latest episode of CIRIosity is available at [www.ciri.com/ciriosity](http://www.ciri.com/ciriosity). Or you can subscribe on iTunes, and new episodes will download automatically to your smartphone or device. 📶



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

EDITOR: CARLY STUART | LAYOUT AND DESIGN: YUIT COMMUNICATIONS | © CIRI, 2017

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## SHAREHOLDER ESTATES

### ALSO MISSING

When CIRI shareholders pass away, gathering the information necessary to settle the stock estate is often a difficult task and may delay settlement. CIRI is looking to contact the individuals listed below in connection with the following estates:

- Estate of Thomas William Highsmith – Tonya Lorraine Highsmith
- Estate of Lily Mae Marshall – Kamette R. Myers and Christian James Marshall
- Estate of Richard Lloyd Sargent (aka Lloyd Richard Sargent) – Derek Bernard Sargent and John Michael Sargent Clark
- Estate of Leonard Turgeon – Ashley Moore

If your name appears above or you know the whereabouts of any of the individuals listed above, please contact CIRI Probate at (907) 263-5191 or toll free at 1-800-764-2474, and select option 4.