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## A Word from the President May 27, 2020

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*CIRI President and CEO Sophie Minich*

As we move into summer, it's hard to believe we have collectively been working through the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic since mid-March. While all 50 states have begun to reopen to some degree, it is imperative we stay vigilant to lessen the risk of more outbreaks.

Reducing our contact rate through social-distancing measures is still the most effective way to prevent new infections. Additionally, wearing face masks when in public, practicing hand-hygiene and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces all help reduce the spread of the virus. I ask that our readers do their part to protect themselves and others.

### **Vote Your Proxy**

One of the most important responsibilities of being a CIRI shareholder is to select well-qualified shareholders to serve, on your behalf, on the CIRI Board of Directors. No matter who you vote for, it is important you make your voice heard!

**The deadline to submit your proxy is 2 p.m. AKDT today, Wednesday, May 27.** If you have not done so already, I encourage you to vote online at

[vote.ciri.com](http://vote.ciri.com)! It is fast and easy to submit an eProxy and better for the environment.

Please remember that this year's Annual Meeting of Shareholders will be held via virtual video webcast, and there will be no in-person voting. The only way shareholders may vote in the election of Directors is by voting [online](#) or completing and returning a paper proxy prior to the proxy deadline.

### **Congratulations to Our Graduates!**

This is an exciting time for many of our young people as they graduate from high school and college. I extend my sincerest congratulations to our graduates and commend them on a job well done!

Despite these unprecedented times, your accomplishments are to be celebrated. The world has changed, and you've changed with it. Schools and universities are getting creative with commencement exercises, from virtual and drive-through ceremonies to senior walks and celebration parades. Your journey of academic dedication and scholastic achievement is no less notable because you may not be participating in a traditional graduation ceremony.

I hope you will help CIRI celebrate the accomplishments of our graduates by sending photos and graduation announcements to [info@ciri.com](mailto:info@ciri.com)! We plan to share announcements in future editions of the Raven's Circle newsletter and via other CIRI communication channels.

As a reminder, The CIRI Foundation is available to help with education funding, including academic scholarships, certificate/vocational training grants and internships. The next scholarship deadline is Monday, June 1, so if you are a full- or part-time degree-seeking student, apply now! For more information, visit [thecirifoundation.org](http://thecirifoundation.org).

If you need help finding a job, whether for the summer or long term, I invite you to visit Alaska's People, a program of Cook Inlet Tribal Council. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Alaska's People has continued to connect Alaska Native job seekers with work and employment resources via phone and video chat. For more information, visit [citci.org/alaskas-people](http://citci.org/alaskas-people) or call (907) 793-3467.

Another excellent resource is [AlaskaNativeHire.com](http://AlaskaNativeHire.com), which helps shareholders and other Alaska Native people find jobs. Open jobs can be browsed by location, company and category. Job seekers are invited to create a profile highlighting their experience, skills, education and employment history. This information then converts to a customized resume that can be downloaded by employers. [AlaskaNativeHire.com](http://AlaskaNativeHire.com) will also notify job seekers of open positions for which they qualify. The cost to job seekers is always free.

### **CIRI Information Meeting**

CIRI's Information Meeting video is available in the [Qenek](#) shareholder portal. Please take the time to view the video, as it includes important information about CIRI's 2019 financial performance, how your Corporation is handling the COVID-19 pandemic, a business/economic forecast, Board candidate speeches and a question-and-answer session.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to email questions and weighed in on how CIRI can continue to benefit shareholders as we adapt to the changes in our economy. Your support is integral as we work to create a positive future for our region, our people and our Company.

### **Annual Meeting of Shareholders**

The 2020 Annual Meeting of Shareholders will be held via a virtual meeting webcast beginning at 10 a.m. AKDT on Saturday, June 6. The meeting will include an overview of 2019 operations and results, an update on 2020 and information on how CIRI is charting its course during these challenging times. If you have questions you would like addressed during this webcast, please submit them to [board@ciri.com](mailto:board@ciri.com) by 5 p.m. AKST today. These questions will be compiled and answered during the meeting.

To register and view the webcast, visit the [Qenek](#) shareholder portal or [ciri.com/rsvp](http://ciri.com/rsvp). Once your registration is processed, you will receive secure login information.

### **Other CIRI News**

This communication will replace our May 2020 Raven's Circle newsletter. Next month we will mail out a traditional print and eNewsletter, after which time we will continue to send monthly shareholder communications via email but will transition to a bimonthly print newsletter schedule. Be sure to check the [CIRI website](#) and social media channels for the most up-to-date company news.

More than 55% of CIRI shareholders currently opt to receive interactive versions of the Raven's Circle newsletter instead of paper copies. If you haven't already signed up for CIRI's [eNewsletter program](#), I encourage you to do so! eNewsletters are better for the environment, more cost-effective and delivered faster than print newsletters. Quarterly prize drawings are conducted from the names of shareholders enrolled in CIRI's eNewsletter Program who have valid email and mailing addresses on file. **In 2020, the eNewsletter Program quarterly prize winner will have his/her choice of an iPad or \$400 cash.** Shareholders with portal accounts may sign up to receive eNewsletters in [Qenek](#). Alternatively, you may return a completed [Electronic Newsletter Request Form](#) to CIRI Shareholder Relations.

Our articles this month include a [Board Corner](#) feature from Director Sam Spangler, who is just finishing up his first term on the CIRI Board and is running for reelection this year. And if you haven't yet explored our new [cultural resources](#), I promise you'll find a little something for everyone!

As a reminder, please join me for the Annual Meeting webcast on June 6. Until then, stay healthy and safe!

Warm regards,

Sophie Minich

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