



A Word from the President Nov. 25, 2020



CIRI President and CEO Sophie Minich

My fellow CIRI shareholders and descendants:

Happy Thanksgiving and a wonderful Native American Heritage Day to you all!
I hope this message finds you safe, healthy and well.

While we may not be gathering with our friends and extended families as we usually do, let us take this opportunity to count our blessings and all the things we are grateful for.

COVID-19 cases are surging nationwide, and Alaska is no exception. Because of this, it is important to understand that travel and gathering with those outside our immediate family could send infection rates skyrocketing if the proper precautions are not taken. This includes holiday gatherings.

If you must gather with those outside your household, allow enough time to self-quarantine and get tested. The Municipality of Anchorage is encouraging all residents to get tested, regardless of symptoms. Free community testing centers across the city have announced expanded hours and there will be pop-up testing sites around Anchorage through the end of the month. Additionally, all Alaska Native/American Indian (AN/AI) people eligible to receive care at the Alaska Native Medical Center and who have an ANMC chart may get tested for free. For more information, visit anchoragecovidtest.org and anthc.org/covid-19-testing-at-anmc/.

While the exponential growth in cases across the country is certainly concerning and we must remain vigilant, there is hope on the horizon! Pharmaceutical company Pfizer has applied to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for emergency use of its coronavirus vaccine, with pharmaceutical company Moderna soon to follow. Late-stage vaccine trials show the vaccine is 90-95% effective—a stunning achievement! Enough vaccine for 20 million people who fall into high-risk categories is expected to be available the second half of December. If all goes as planned, most individuals will be vaccinated in the second and third quarters of 2021. Until then, our lives will continue to be different, and it is up to each of us to look out for one another.

Native American Heritage Month

In addition to Native American Heritage Day, which is celebrated each year the Friday after Thanksgiving, the whole of November is dedicated to Native American Heritage Month.

In 1990, President George H. W. Bush approved a joint resolution designating November 1990 as National American Indian Heritage Month. Similar

proclamations have been issued each year since 1994.

Native American Heritage Month is a time to celebrate the rich and diverse cultures, traditions and histories of AN/AI peoples, and to acknowledge their important contributions to the U.S. It also provides an opportunity to educate the general public about tribes; to raise general awareness about the unique challenges AN/AI people have faced both historically and in the present; and to celebrate the ways in which tribal citizens have worked to conquer these challenges.

If you are looking to celebrate Native American Heritage Month from the safety and comfort of home, I invite you to visit the Alaska Native Heritage Center's [Facebook page](#). With weekly virtual storytelling events, cultural demonstrations, at-home craft projects and more, there is something for everyone! The [Anchorage Museum](#) and [National Museum of the American Indian](#) are two other excellent resources.

Virtual CIRI Friendship Potlatch

While I truly missed seeing our shareholders, descendants and their families at this year's Friendship Potlatches, I'm excited to announce our virtual Potlatch is available on the [Qenek](#) portal and on [YouTube](#)!

While there is no substitute for sharing food and stories, exchanging hugs and high-fives, celebrating culture and enjoying in-person entertainment, I'm pleased to report that with the help of some fellow shareholders and descendants, we were able to come up with the next best thing.

I hope you will watch and enjoy this year's virtual Potlatch, entitled #TogetherApart. I look forward to the day we can all safely be together!

Alaska Native Justice Center 'Voices for Justice' Fundraiser

The holiday season is the time to start thinking about gift-giving and what we can do to help those of us who are less fortunate. By participating in the Alaska Native Justice Center's (ANJC) annual fundraiser, you can do both!

An affiliate of Cook Inlet Tribal Council, ANJC offers services for victims of violence, assault and human trafficking, as well as for adult re-entry, coaching

and mentoring, youth advocacy and family law. The organization offers these services to participants of all ethnicities—while keeping the initiatives rooted in Alaska Native culture.

ANJC's 2020 Voices for Justice fundraiser takes place entirely online the month of November. Participate in the online auction and [bid](#) on Alaska Native art, clothing jewelry, experiences and more—either for yourself or as a gift for a friend or loved one! For more information, visit citci.org/voices-for-justice-2020.

Seeking Applications for 2021 CIRI Board Slate

The CIRI Nominating Committee seeks CIRI shareholders interested in nomination to the 2021 CIRI Board of Directors' candidate slate. If you're a voting CIRI shareholder 18+ years of age with demonstrated decision-making, leadership and communication skills, we want to hear from you!

The deadline to apply to the CIRI Board slate is 3 p.m. AKST on Monday, Jan. 11. Applications may be submitted by mail or email; in-person drop-offs are not available. For more information and a candidate nominee application, visit ciri.com/2021-board-election.

As in the past, shareholders interested in running for the CIRI Board as write-in candidates—including those not selected for the Board-recommended slate—will have an opportunity to submit their information for inclusion in CIRI's election materials. Write-in candidate information packets will be posted to CIRI's website no later than Friday, Jan. 29. Completed write-in candidate information packets must be received by CIRI by noon AKST on Wednesday, Feb. 17.

Apply Now: 2021 CIRI Virtual Next Gen Day

Learn about CIRI and its family of companies, gain exposure to future career paths and participate in Alaska Native cultural activities—shareholders and descendants 10 years through high-school age are invited to attend Next Gen Day, which in 2021 will be held virtually. CIRI youth, regardless of where they live, are encouraged to apply!

Next Gen Day provides an inside look into the company and future

opportunities available to CIRI youth. The event will be held Monday, Jan. 18, which coincides with Martin Luther King Jr. Day, an Anchorage School District holiday.

The application deadline is Tuesday, Jan. 5. For more information and an application, visit ciri.com/nextgen.

Contacting Us

As a reminder, in observance of the Christmas and New Year's holidays, CIRI will be closed Thursday, Dec. 24, 2020, through Friday, Jan. 1, 2021. Staff will remotely report back to work on Monday, Jan. 4. During the closure, shareholders may continue to access the [Qenek](#) portal.

While the Fireweed Business Center remains closed to the public, the Shareholder Relations department can nonetheless be reached by phone at (907) 263-5191 / (800) 764-2474 and via [email](#) during normal business hours. With no on-site staff, calls will go to voicemail; however, if you leave a message with a return phone number, a Shareholder Relations team member will return your call. Please note that because staff are working from home, calls made to shareholders will not display CIRI's name or phone number. The [Qenek](#) portal remains available 24/7.

Wishing you all a wonderful Thanksgiving and Native American Heritage Day. Stay safe and healthy!

Warm regards,
Sophie Minich



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