



SITNASUAK
NATIVE CORPORATION

VENTURE

FIDELITY TITLE
NEW BRANCH

PAGE 14

RESOURCES
IDENTITY
TRADITIONS

PAGE 10

SPRING
2 0 1 8

COVER PHOTO: Gil Jethom



letter from **THE PRESIDENT & CEO**

Happy Spring to you and your families! As we prepare for our spring subsistence activities, the Sitnasuak team is busy harvesting business opportunities. In addition to our focus on building up existing operations, we are also working to diversify our portfolio in an effort to increase Sitnasuak's sustainable profit. Our goals are ambitious, but our team is strong and our mission is essential.



In the first quarter of 2018, we are happy to share that Sitnasuak surpassed our budgeted revenue by 20 percent. Our operations in Puerto Rico contributed significantly to that success, bouncing back quickly from the devastating hurricanes of last fall with a tremendous resilience and commitment to the Corporation that still amazes us. Together, we kept downtime to a minimum and continued to push forward through the darkest of times to ensure the success of this very important segment of our business. I would like to personally thank everyone who went above and beyond during this time of need for our family of businesses.

Also in the first quarter, Sitnasuak invested in Nome by sponsoring the Arctic Futures Workshop with the UAA Arctic Domain Awareness Center, federal agencies and other Arctic-based organizations. The workshop's theme was, "Arctic in the distant future...gaining Alaskan Native insights to challenges anticipated across Maritime and Coastal Regions." We also engaged the services of two lobbyists to elevate Sitnasuak's national and state priorities, including the Port of Nome expansion, support for federal contracting opportunities for our subsidiaries, and extending the State Educational Tax Credit to allow scholarship contributions to the Sitnasuak Foundation as eligible credits. SNC is also proud to report that Mocean, another of our subsidiaries in our family of businesses, sponsored local Nome resident Aaron Burmeister in the 2018 Iditarod. We congratulate Aaron on his 12th place finish in this incredible achievement of endurance and skill.

We continue to reach out and engage with Shareholders in a number of different ways. Packaged with our winter issue of the Venture, we sent out a Shareholder survey with an aim to gather information we will use to improve services. Sitnasuak also launched a new social media campaign, "We are Sitnasuak," which celebrates our cultural values. We continue to supplement our printed newsletter, The Venture, with the Sitnasuak Messenger, an e-newsletter with a current distribution of 800 Shareholders. Finally, a significant development has occurred in the lawsuit filed last fall with a settlement allowing Sitnasuak to move forward with our 44th Annual Meeting of

Letter from the President & CEO continued

Shareholders.

Our staff is dedicated to working hard to achieve the goals of the Corporation as we advance the decisions of the Board of Directors. As president and CEO, I strive each day to strengthen our operations and our corporate culture through our values. As we celebrate our subsistence lifestyle, let us also celebrate the harvest of business opportunities and our shared goal of increasing benefits to our Shareholders and community.

I look forward to our continued success and wish everyone a safe and healthy spring.

Quyanaqpak,



Roberta "Bobbi" Quintavell,
President & CEO

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Robert "Bobby" Evans, Chairman
Louis Green Jr., 1st Vice Chairman
Jason Evans, Treasurer
Helen Bell, Secretary
Barb "QasuGhana" Amarok, Director
Edna "Becka" Baker, Director
Andrew Miller Jr., Director
Trudy Sobocienski, Director
Mark Allred, Director
Haven Harris, Director
Joel "Jay" Craft Jr., Director



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Letter from THE CHAIRMAN

What an interesting winter we had. It seems like we had record snow fall and it reminded me of all the snow we had when I was a kid growing up in Nome. Spring is here and summer is soon to follow. It's a great time of year to get outside and enjoy our great lands. We send greetings from Nome and hope you all have a safe spring season. I hear plans of bird hunting on the land, seal hunting on the ice, and a few last snow machine rides before they are put away for the year.



As I think about our Village Corporation, each of us is entrusted with responsibility for one another. We are basically all the same. We all started together as Sitasuak in 1973, when I was just 6 years old. Our parents and grandparents were there from the very beginning. They've paved many rocky roads and made the decisions that got us here today—a successful Village Corporation with a strong family of businesses. We continue to grow and thrive because of our many hard working and dedicated leaders and employees. We have a great management team that strives for the best in everything we do. Each of us can be proud of our Corporation.

Sitasuak recently completed our 2017 annual audit, and I am thrilled to share we had another great fiscal year. We have built upon our past accomplishments and 2018 promises even more growth. Over the last eight years, Sitasuak's board and management have worked tirelessly to improve our financial position, and we have done so with our traditional Iñupiaq values supporting us every step of the way. We thank President and CEO Bobbi Quintavell and all of our hardworking employees all the way from Nome to Puerto Rico.

I also want to recognize outgoing Director Neal Foster for his many years of service. He has been a blessing to Sitasuak and he will be deeply missed. Neal is a homegrown leader who graduated from Nome Beltz, went on to complete college and returned home to work for our Corporation as executive vice president. He was later elected to the Board of Directors and has served on the Bylaws and Personnel Committee, Finance Committee, and the following subsidiary boards: Bonanza Fuel, LLC; Sitasuak Properties, LLC; SNC Technical Services, LLC; and Sitasuak Financial Services, LLC. Neal's dedication and commitment have contributed greatly to the success of the Corporation. We wish him the best as he focuses on representing us all in the State Legislature.

Our Corporation is guided by our Shareholders. You elect members to the board to serve as our leaders, and each leader makes decisions that impact the bottom line and provide value for our community and families. We take the annual election process very seriously and hold it to the highest standards. We must have

SITASUAK MESSENGER E-NEWSLETTER

Want to know what's going on?
Sign up for the Messenger –
Sitasuak's e-newsletter. The
Messenger supplements and
complements our quarterly Venture
newsletter. Signing up is quick and
simple: Share your email address
with the Shareholder Department
at shareholder@snc.org and
include "Subscribe me to Sitasuak
Messenger" in your email.

SITASUAK
MESSENGER



Letter from the Chairman continued

fair elections and respect the process that those before us have paved. We have established high standards, strive for excellence and must hold everyone accountable to these standards of good behavior and fairness. We will have an election process that you all can agree is fair and respects your voting rights. As your chairman, I take this responsibility seriously. As a board, our priority is to protect our Shareholders and voting rights.

Honoring our traditional value of kanniglusi (open communication), Sitnasuak has been keeping Shareholders up-to-date through the Messenger, website, social media and the Venture newsletter. We also hear from Shareholders through visits to the offices, emails, online comments and from those that attend meetings. We would like to hear from you even more. Sitnasuak is considering hosting additional Shareholder informational and outreach meetings. These meetings are an opportunity for Sitnasuak to share information and truly listen to your concerns. We are also looking at dates for our Annual meeting. Your active participation and free expression in these meetings has demonstrated confidence in your board and management, and for that I am grateful.

We are now looking at ways to resolve our challenges on the board. Through this process of moving forward, Shareholders have shown the traditional value of uttakiragagin (patience). Thank you for that. Please trust that we are doing the right thing and everything will work out. As we proceed, if you hear or read something that concerns you, please call and talk to us. Stay involved. Together, we are continuing to build a Corporation we can all be proud of.

Quyaana and God Bless,



Robert "Bobby" Evans
Board of Directors Chairman



BONANZA EXPRESS

Serving Sitnasuak Shareholders and Everyone in Nome.

FUEL UP & HEAD OUT!

We're your spring and summer break headquarters:

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- Food, Snacks, Drinks
- Bonanza Express Clothing, Electronics
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Get your Bonanza Express Rewards Card:

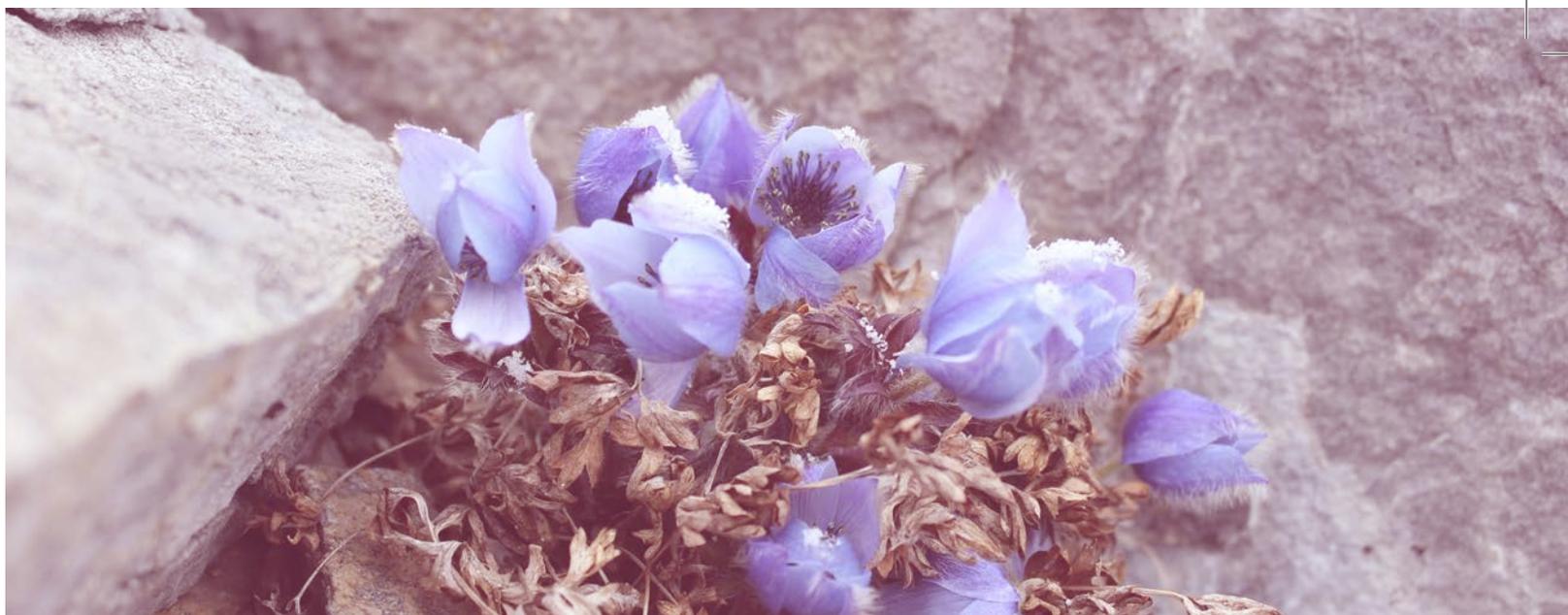
- Earn stickers for every \$20 spent—including fuel purchases!
- Redeem stickers for Alaska Airline miles and store discounts.

7 OPEN **7** DAYS A WEEK

Proudly a Subsidiary of Sitnasuak



SITNASUAK
NATIVE CORPORATION



r e m e m b e r i n g

DANIEL QAKIQSINAURAQ KARMUN, SR.

Sitnasuak Native Corporation Shareholder and Elder, Mr. Daniel “Dan” Qakiqsinauraq Karmun, Sr. moved on to a higher calling March 3, 2018.

Dan was born on December 15, 1926 in Deering, Alaska, to Harry and Nellie (Harvey) Karmun. His siblings were Edward, Alfred, Emerson, Evans, Elsie and Wilbur. Dan adored his mother. He spoke of how she nursed him back to health after he fell from a top bunk when he was five. Dan’s father, Harry, passed away when Dan was thirteen.



Daniel “Dan” Qakiqsinauraq Karmun, Sr. and wife, Ethel Davis

Dan’s early years were spent herding reindeer with his family. He and his siblings each learned to play instruments by ear and he enjoyed music and singing—often playing his accordion for family and friends.

Dan attended school until the eighth grade. When he was 17 years old, he decided to change his date of birth so that he could enlist with the Alaska Territorial Guard, serving from March 1942 to June 1945. From 1943 to 1945 he worked in Nome as a laborer with the U.S. Corp of Engineers. In 1945 he was inducted into the U.S. Army. He was honorably discharged December 31, 1946. In honor of his service during World War II, Dan travelled to Washington D.C. as part of the Last Frontier Honor Flight in 2014, escorted by his son, Harry.

Dan married Ethel Davis on March 9, 1949, in Candle, Alaska. He often told the story of how he had to borrow \$5 from his brother, Alfred, to pay for the marriage license. Dan and Ethel had 13 children. They made their home in Deering until 1959 when they moved the family to Nome, and Dan began a career with Wien Air Alaska in 1959 as a station manager for both Nome and Kotzebue. When he later transferred, Dan and Ethel moved the family to Anchorage. They proudly supported and encouraged their three oldest daughters, Lucille, Laraine and Elsie, as they attended business college.

Remembering continued

Dan spent many years as a member of the Reindeer Herders Association and worked as the director of the Kawerak BIA Reindeer Program from 1975–1981. Dan often told stories of a trip he made with Willie Hensley and Don Sheldon to learn about reindeer herding in the Chukotka Region. For many years after that trip, they greeted each other with, “Hello Comrade.” He retired from the University of Alaska-Cooperative Extension Service in 1991. Even after his retirement, many called on him for his expertise.

Dan was an active member of his community and received recognition for his service. He served as president and chairperson of the Alaska Federation of Natives Elders and Youth Conference; a member of the Arctic Native Brotherhood; a member of the Nome Chamber of Commerce; a member of the Parent Advisory Committee; a volunteer of the Emergency Medical Services; a member of the Nome School Board; a member of the Western Alaska Tribal Council; and a member of the Rotary International Club.

He also served on the Bering Straits Native Corporation board of directors, the Nome City Council and the Sitnasuak Native Corporation board of directors. He served on the State of Alaska Commission on Aging and volunteered with local youth groups and church boards.

Dan belonged to the Democratic Party and supported many local, regional and state candidates. Dan was an ardent Nome-Beltz Nanook fan.

Dan spent his life teaching others about traditional ways of hunting and sharing, and serving God. He ministered to family and friends, encouraging everyone, and was the family prayer warrior. Dan and Ethel opened their home to visitors and pastored the Friends Church for several years. As an ordained minister, Dan performed marriages around the Seward Peninsula. He will be missed for his kind counsel and sweet prayers.

Dan is survived by his children, Gloria Ann and partner Perry Olanna; Porter and his wife Leslie; Judith and husband Bryan Reed; Harry and Donnie; many grandchildren and great grandchildren; four great-great-grandchildren; and many extended family members. Dan was laid to rest in Deering, Alaska, next to his beloved wife.

Sitnasuak respectfully honors Mr. Karmun’s life and his many contributions to the Corporation and community, and expresses condolences to his family.

IN MEMORIAM

Our sincere condolences to the family
and friends of the recently deceased.

COLEEN COULSON

ROMEO IYAPANA

DANIEL KARMUN, SR.

LARRY KELLER

JAMES KLEMENTSON

ROBERT KOKULUK

RACHEL OLSON

RAYMOND TRIGG

PLEASE SEND OBITUARY INFORMATION TO SHAREHOLDER@SNC.ORG.



settlement of lawsuit

DIRECTOR FAGERSTROM RESIGNS

Our Sitnasuak Board of Directors is pleased to announce the settlement of a pending lawsuit. This ensures Sitnasuak will be able to hold its 44th Annual Meeting this summer. The settlement resolves many months of conflict and provides a framework for positive and meaningful cooperation.

As many of you are aware, Sitnasuak filed a lawsuit (Sitnasuak Native Corporation v. Fagerstrom, et al.) last fall against individuals on issues protecting Shareholder voting rights and fair elections. This settlement resolves the lawsuit out of court and Director Charles E. Fagerstrom has resigned his seat on the Sitnasuak Board of Directors as part of the settlement agreement.

Since the start of this action, we were always looking for a resolution. We still have a lot of work to do, but now we can move forward.

According to the terms of the settlement, we will hold our 44th Annual Meeting in Anchorage within the shortest possible time consistent with regulatory requirements for notice, preparation and printing of proxies, and providing reasonable and adequate time for maximizing the quorum and proxies returned. In this new election, Shareholders will be required to resubmit proxies. New proxy cards and a new proxy statement will be distributed to Shareholders in the coming weeks. Sitnasuak will also update election rules, which will be distributed to Shareholders as well. We expect to provide more information on these topics as the 44th Annual Meeting approaches. Sitnasuak intends to hold the 45th Annual Meeting in Nome.

This settlement agreement gives us all a chance to begin anew in the election process. Each director has a fiduciary duty of care and loyalty to Sitnasuak Native Corporation and all parties agreed that Shareholders have the right to receive truthful information in exercising their voting rights. The agreement also states our shared understanding on the legality of discretionary voting and fair elections.

We welcome this agreement and look forward to what we can accomplish working together under our core corporate values – Culture, Character, and Contribution – all derived from our traditional values.

MISSING SHAREHOLDERS

Anagick, Natalia
Anderson-Timmons, Katherine
Angasan, Hunter
Ballard, Robert
Barger, Jr., Charlie
Barger-Knox, Ellen
Behr, Cody
Bigjim, Stephen
Blankenship, John
Borkowski, Chelsea
Bourdon, Cynthia
Brower, Dale
Brown, Mabel
Buck, Mary
Cable, Jennifer
Childers, Allison
Coleman, Eric
Delgado, Kevin
Dickson, Christopher
Dixon, Scott
Iyahuk, Thomas
Douglas, Alie
Ernak Ii, Frederick
Eubanks, Christopher
Eubanks, Daniel
Floyd, Ruth
Giffin, Laura
Goff, Norman
Greiner, Timothy
Guiley, Jacquelyn
Gustafson, Desiree
Gustafson, Samantha
Gustafson, Christian
Gustafson, Michelle
Hanschen, Samuel

Heidlebaugh, James
Hull, Carol
Jack, Hazel
Johnson, Garon
Johnson, Melanie
Katexac, Romald
Kayouktuk, Courtney
Keeble, Judith
Kinney, Jennifer
Kokuluk, Robert
Kulukhon, Michele
Larsen, Elizabeth
Larsen, Perry
Larsen, Jr., George
Larson, Julie
Leonard, Joylyn
Leonard, Jr., Michael
Littlefield, Scott
Luciano, Anthony
Lucier, Paul
Mayac, Michael
Mazonna, Anthony
Morgan, Kendra
Murphy, James
Murphy, Daniel
Nicholson, Betty
Okitkon, Elsie
Okleasik, Ryan
Oksotaruk, Quinn
Oliver, Vicki
Olson, Jennifer
Olson, Alexandria
Omelak, Richard
Orr, Adrienne
Outwater, Bryan

Ozenna, Louie
Pushruk, Patrick
Rais, Rachel
Riley, Thomas
Riley, Jr., Lincoln
Ross, Kenneth
Rudzavice, Milton
Russell, Jennifer
Rylander, Michelle
Sanchez, Annokazooka
Scott, Alonzo
Sebring-Strout, Robert
Seton, Josie
Seton, Alice
Silook, Ivan
Silook, Jr., Roger
Slwooko, David
Smith, Starla
Trigg, Blanche
Walluk, William
Walunga, Timothy
Washington, Preston
Willoya, William
Willoya, Jr., Lars
Wittie, Frank
Wittie, Jamie
Yool, Theresa

If you know the whereabouts of a missing Shareholder, please contact our shareholder department at shareholder@snc.org or (907) 929-7032.



Photograph by Charles Menadelook, estimated 1920. Seven hunters from Wales dividing catch.

s u b s i s t e n c e

OUR RESOURCES, CULTURAL IDENTITY AND TRADITIONS

By Eileen Norbert

Subsistence among our Sitnasuak Shareholders and Descendants is vital to our past, present and future. For generations, families have proudly harvested resources from the land and sea. Families picked their own berries, greens, medicinal plants and roots. Families hunted seal, walrus, moose and caribou on their own. Traditional, cultural and subsistence activities continue, yet times have dramatically changed. The following are stories and histories to share with our Shareholders and Descendants.

It was 1981. A six-year-old Inupiaq boy was excited and bursting with pride. He was going on his first sea mammal hunt with his dad, grandfather and older brothers. They hoped to bring home seals, ugruk and walrus. He'd been taught to always respect the animals they were hunting, listen to his Elders and to be quiet while they hunted. The hunt was successful. The men cut the meat on the sea ice before they headed home, where the boy's grandmother made sure the meat, oil and skin were processed and divided according to family tradition.

Fast forward to 2018. The fourth generation of sons are being taught the same hunting skills, knowledge of the environment, respect for the animals, sharing with immediate and extended family, and processing skills. All the Inupiaq values and skills are being passed from generation to generation.

In another family, the 61-year-old Inupiaq mother first started picking berries when she was very young; children could not play until their berry buckets were full. She caught her first squirrels with a bow and arrow and she checked the family's squirrel traps. She carried her dad's gun when he went hunting but did not shoot game until her early 20's. She first went seal hunting with her husband when she was 26 years old. She successfully hunted for moose and caribou. She also makes quviut products from musk oxen to give to family members or sell as part of the subsistence economy. To this day, not many women hunt but rather, like in times of old, take charge of fishing for salmon. The late

Subsistence continued

Daisy Jack loved to hunt and fish, first out of necessity to feed the many siblings in her family and later because it was her proud traditions and life. Daisy also sewed items with seal skins and reindeer hides.

A young Inupiaq man of 42 not only hunts, but also uses animal by-products for his artwork. He uses ivory, whiskers, fur, claws, teeth, bones, antlers and other animal parts to make masks, jewelry, and carvings of animals and figurines. He went on his first hunt when he was 16 years old with his friend's older relatives. He now hunts for ugruk, walrus, beluga and seals with his hunting partner of 20 years. Both men are third generation Nomeites whose great grandparents moved to Nome from their ancestral community. His partner owns the boat and motor and, as umaliq (boat captain), divides the tusks and meat. He taught his own sons to hunt when they turned 8 years old.



Photograph by Janelle Otton

All three families share the marine mammals they catch with immediate and extended families, Elders and others who do not have hunters in their families. Hunters share their catch equally or according to need. Expenses are often shared but if a crewmember cannot afford to contribute, their willingness to hunt is enough. Subsistence foods are sent to relatives and friends as well as family members living in urban cities like Anchorage or "Outside" (states other than Alaska), even to relatives living in ancestral communities.

Today, hunters and fishers must abide by numerous federal and state statutes and regulations, and deal with five regulatory bodies and six management agencies. In addition, the western system of wildlife and fisheries management divides Alaska into subsistence and non-subsistence areas. Seals and whales are managed by the National Marine Fisheries Service; polar bears and walrus are managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. There have been legal and political challenges since statehood. Even global warming is affecting hunters, who now have to go further out in the ocean or cannot take their snowmachines on the tundra depending on snow conditions.

The positive side is that both the federal and state governments established a subsistence priority with hunting and fishing uses. Subsistence uses are defined as the "customary and traditional uses" of wild resources for food, clothing, fuel, transportation, construction, art, crafts, sharing, and customary trade. Both governments also recognize that subsistence uses are central to the customs and traditions of many cultural groups in Alaska, including Inupiat and Yupiit.

In 2018, hunters and fishers have bigger boats and powerful outboards, global positioning systems, binoculars, four-wheelers, snowmachines, satellite and cell phones, trucks, and powerful hunting equipment. Cooperative hunting is not as necessary as it once was, but the beliefs and values that guided our ancestors are proudly honored and continued by our people. Many of our Sitnasuak Shareholders and Descendants continue to find great satisfaction and joy in providing healthy traditional food for their families, sharing with others, and passing on Inupiaq values, traditions and customs. Aarigaa!



winona hickerson

HIRED AS SHAREHOLDER RELATIONS SPECIALIST

The Shareholder Department welcomes Ms. Winona Hickerson as the new Shareholder relations specialist based in Anchorage. Winona was born in Nome, Alaska, to Denny Hickerson and the late Johanna Hickerson (Pullock). Her grandparents are John and Grace Pullock. She attended high school in Kotzebue and college in San Diego, Calif., and is now pursuing a business degree at the University of Alaska Anchorage.

Winona lives in Anchorage with her fiancé and their 9-month-old son, Easton. During her free time, she loves to spend time with Easton and enjoys running daily.

Winona said, "I am excited to be working in the Shareholder Department alongside Marilyn Koezuna-Irean, and I love hearing stories of my late mother, Johanna. I appreciate the opportunity to be part of the Sitnasuk team and working with Shareholders."



Winona Hickerson
and son, Easton



a n d r e w w e y i o u a n n a
**HIRED AS LAND
TECHNICIAN**

The Land Department welcomes Andrew Weyiouanna as Sitnasuak’s new land technician. “I am very excited for the new career opportunity ahead with the Sitnasuak Native Corporation. I started this position on March 19th, 2018. I am looking forward to helping the people of my community and contributing to the Land Department,” said Andrew.

Andrew grew up in the village of Shishmaref, where he lived a subsistence lifestyle with his late grandparents, Esau and Alene Weyiouanna. His mother is Stella Havatone, and his late stepfather is Wendell Havatone. He graduated from Shishmaref High School in 2001 and later moved to Nome to pursue more career opportunities. His significant other is Ms. Agnes Kunnuk, and they have two children, Peyton Weyiouanna (10) and Alesa Weyiouanna (2), both of whom are Sitnasuak, Teller and Bering Straits Native Corporation Shareholder Descendants.

Prior to his position with Sitnasuak, Andrew worked at the Norton Sound Regional Hospital Acute Care unit for 11 years. This gave him invaluable working experience providing services to all people of the Bering Strait region.

Andrew said, “I look forward to continuing to raise my children in this great, supportive community. I also look forward to continuing to help the community in my new position. Learning about Sitnasuak lands and the many different services the Corporation provides will be my number one priority going forward. I want to learn as much as I can for this position, ranging from campsites and homesites to land access, historical preservation, and various land permits. I want to thank Sitnasuak for giving me the opportunity to serve my community and look forward to being an integral part of the Sitnasuak team for years to come!”

**NEW
SHAREHOLDERS**

Anna Dall

Jessica Demarco

Hudson Henry

Hydie Henry

Wayne Henry III

Christopher Kowleski

Carol Meyer

Gwendolyn Roberson

Bradley Wheeler

Michael Wheeler

Marjorie Wilson-Ahyakak



Branch Manager, Maddie Boyd

fidelity title agency of alaska
**GROWS WITH NEW
FAIRBANKS BRANCH**

Fidelity Title Agency of Alaska, a subsidiary of Sitnasuak Native Corporation, has opened a new Fairbanks branch located at 250 Cushman Street in Suite 2B.

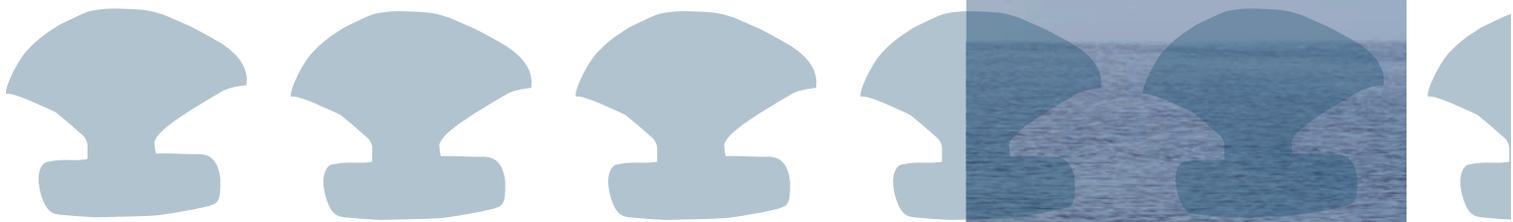
Leslie Plikat, Fidelity Title Agency of Alaska's chief operating officer, said "A Fairbanks Branch is essential to providing all Alaskans with the trust and quality support in home buying and property development that Fidelity Title is known for. We are looking forward to serving Fairbanks and northern Alaskan communities from Nome to Kotzebue to Utqiagvik, advancing home buying, property development, building and infrastructure projects, and supporting the many real estate, mortgage and lending professionals for years to come."

Roberta "Bobbi" Quintavell, President and CEO of Sitnasuak Native Corporation, provided more background on the project and ensured her commitment to serving customers all over Alaska with SNC's core values of culture, character and contribution. "We are very proud of Fidelity Title Agency of Alaska's growth into the northern Alaska market, which is an important part of our strategy to strengthen our family of businesses. During the past year, we've analyzed our businesses, prioritized new opportunities, and identified the Fairbanks market as a long-term investment to best serve both customers and Shareholders," said Quintavell.

The Fairbanks Branch is led by Maddie Boyd. Boyd graduated with honors from James Madison University with a Master of Arts in Teaching, and a Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Learning Studies. Prior to her work at Fidelity Title, she was employed with a government contracting company in Charlottesville, Virginia, creating multi-leveled training courses and assisting in proposal development. We are glad to have Maddie on our Fidelity Title team based in Fairbanks to grow and expand our title insurance and escrow services. Please stop by and see us anytime, or give us a call at 907.457.3250.

Fidelity Title continued

In addition to the new Fairbanks branch, Fidelity Title Agency of Alaska has branches in Anchorage and Eagle River. Mat-Su Title Agency, another part of the Sitnasuak Family of Businesses, is based in Wasilla and works in close partnership with Fidelity Title. Our network of experts can serve your title and escrow needs anywhere in the State of Alaska. New orders and property profiles can be conveniently requested by email. For Anchorage and Eagle River Branches, email order@fidelityak.com, or for the new Fairbanks Branch, email faiorders@fidelityak.com. Email receptionist@matsutitle.com for the Mat-Su Title Agency. Information on the company is available online at snc.org or alaska.fntic.com.



youth perspective

TRADITIONAL & CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

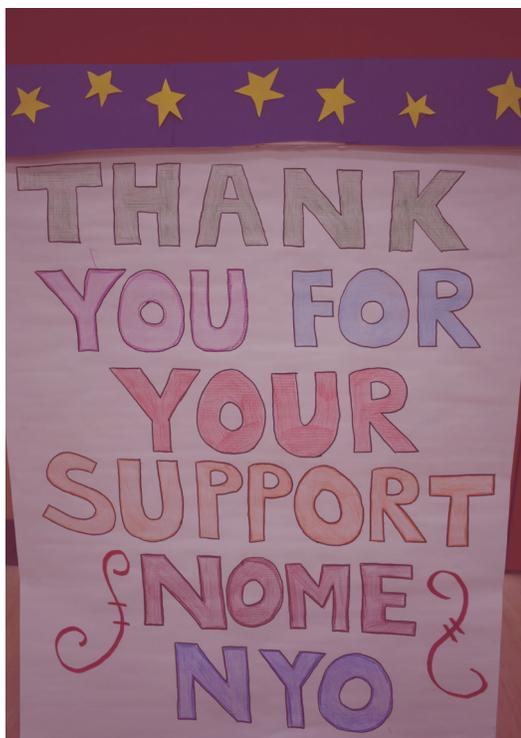
By Emily Pomrenke, Youth Perspective Author

As an Alaska Native, it's important to practice our traditional and cultural ways. I have participated in many years of Native Youth Olympics (NYO), starting in kindergarten. Practicing the games has helped me stay physically fit and has given me the courage to push myself to the extreme. The games are very challenging but, with the help of the community members, I've been able to learn and succeed in every event.

I'm thankful for our school programs that have given me the chance to learn how to sew mukluks, kuspuks and parkas. I enjoy sewing and can't wait to pass down what I've learned. This has also given me the opportunity to take transitional Iñupiaq language classes.

At home, my family and I participate in subsistence activities, such as berry and greens picking, hunting and fishing. I love gathering traditional foods and preparing them.





From left to right: Coach Jake Kenick, Daniel Brandt, Aaron Rose, Zoe Okleasik, Coach Vanessa Tahbone, Minnie Clark, Abby Tozier, Kastyn Lie, and Amber Gray

n o m e n a n o o k s

NYO TEAM UPDATE

By NYO Athletes Amber Gray and Kastyn Lie

Native Youth Olympics, more commonly known as NYO, includes sporting events that test an athlete's mental and physical strength, agility and stamina. For generations, NYO has challenged Alaska Native Youth by encouraging athletes to strive for their personal best while helping to learn cultural skills and supporting teamwork with sportsmanship.

April 13-15, 2018, the Nome Nanook NYO team took seven athletes to Kotzebue to compete in the Northwest Arctic Borough School District Regional competition. Although Nome is not part of this school district, the team went to gain more experience by competing against other schools. Just under 50 athletes showed up to compete from Ambler, Noorvik, Nome, Buckland, Deering, Noatak and Kotzebue.

The tournament consisted of 10 competitive events, including wrist carry, seal hop, one-foot high kick, two-foot high kick, kneel jump, Eskimo stick pull, Indian stick pull, Alaskan high kick, scissor broad jump and one-arm reach. The sports may seem simple to observers, but as first year participants we have learned that each sport and event demands a strong physique, mental willingness and determination. This is especially hard when competing with many other athletes.

During practice, our teammates practice sportsmanship and competition. During this tournament, when we were faced with competitors we didn't know, our determination to succeed rose greatly. We found that rivalry with

Nome Nanooks continued

other teams drew out the very best ability in ourselves and in our fellow athletes. In fact, many of the us who traveled from Nome beat our personal bests while competing. This led to the Nanooks taking home 7 of the 20 first place trophies. We also placed top three in nearly every event.

Aaron Rose, who returned for his sixth and final year of NYO, placed first in seal hop, wrist carry and Indian stick pull. He also placed second in one-arm reach and two-foot high kick. Amber Gray, a junior in her first year of NYO, placed first in two-foot high kick and seal hop. She also placed second in one-foot high kick, and third place in Eskimo stick pull. Kastyn Lie, a junior also in her first year of NYO, placed first in one-foot high kick and kneel jump. She also got second place in wrist carry, Alaskan high kick, Eskimo stick pull, two-foot high kick, and one-arm reach. Abby Tozier, a junior in her fifth year of NYO, beat her personal bests in Alaskan high kick, and one-foot high kick by four inches. Minnie Clark, a freshman in her fourth year of NYO, placed second in kneel jump, with 28 inches. Zoe Okleasik, a freshman in her fifth year of NYO, beat her personal best in two-foot by 12 inches.

As newcomers, NYO has been completely different from the other sports that we have participated in. Coming into it, we didn't know what to expect, but now that we have had the chance to practice and compete, we have a better understanding of the sport. The jumps and hand games are trickier than expected, but with help from the NYO community—from our teammates and coaches to the competing teams—our skills have progressively developed. Coaches and athletes from other teams were not openly aggressive competitors, but instead easy-going athletes who offered suggestions and helpful advice when it came to performing events against each other. A true example of sportsmanship. We both agree that NYO is an incredibly fun, yet demanding, sport and we are so glad we joined.

Note: Sitasuak proudly sponsors the 2018 Nome Nanooks NYO team.





congratulations to
**IDITAROD MUSHER
AARON BURMEISTER**

Congratulations to Musher Aaron Burmeister (bib #64) for a successful Iditarod finish in 12th place. The Iditarod is one of the most challenging races in the world, spanning over 1,000 miles of trails from Anchorage to Nome. This year the trail had deep snow conditions and dog teams worked hard with their mushers to break trail across the great State of Alaska.

“This year, before the start of Iditarod, my shop in Nenana (Alaska) burned to the ground and I lost my collection of mushing gear—from snow machines to dog sleds, harnesses, winter gear and tools,” Aaron said during the meet and greet hosted at Sitnasuak Native Corporation headquarters in Nome on March 16. “Through this loss, I focused on the race and reflected on my slogan for this year; ‘There Is Always A Way—Believe In Yourself.’ I kept this in mind throughout the Iditarod trail as a motivation to move forward and work towards my goal to finish in the top 20. Over the coming year, I will be sharing this message with youth and communities to overcome obstacles in life and encourage everyone to achieve personal success. There is always a way.”

Musher continued

Mocean, LLC, a subsidiary of Sitnasuak Native Corporation, is proud to have sponsored Aaron Burmeister in the 2018 Iditarod. "Our performance apparel products are important to law enforcement, public safety and first response professionals across the US and we are honored to have sponsored Aaron with the message 'There Is Always A Way,' which resonates with our company, customers and communities," said Executive Vice President of Mocean, Bill Levitt. To learn more about Mocean and its line of tactical products, visit moceantactical.com.

Congratulations to Aaron and his team for the successful finish in the last great race, the Iditarod, from Mocean, LLC, Sitnasuak Native Corporation and our family of businesses.



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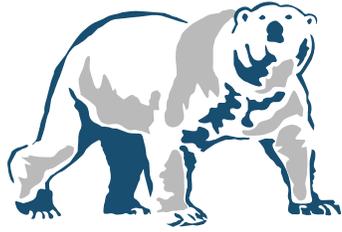
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