## RAVEN'S CIRCLE

LATE SUMMER 2024 // CIRI SHAREHOLDER
AND DESCENDANT NEWSLETTER







# YAH PROGRAM PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY TO CONNECT, LEARN AND GROW

## EMPOWERING CIRI SHAREHOLDERS AND DESCENDANTS TO ASCEND TO THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF THE COMPANY

"It's no secret that I'm CIRI's first non-Native CEO," Swami shared with the audience gathered at the 2024 CIRI Annual Meeting, held June 1 in Kenai, Alaska. "And although I'm Indian, I'm not the same type," he joked.

All joking aside, Swami and the CIRI leadership team are serious about developing executive-level skills among CIRI Shareholders and Descendants. "I am committed to ensuring that when I leave here, a Shareholder or Descendant is standing in my place," Swami continued. "We want to put CIRI on a path of being led by its people."

Designed to identify potential leaders, encourage creativity and innovation, and empower those looking to play a key role in CIRI's business operations and future success, the Yah (Dena'ina for "grow") Program will prepare CIRI Shareholders and confirmed Descendants to lead at the highest levels of the organization.

The successful candidate will become the Yah Executive. In the first year of the program, an individual development

plan will be created based on his/her interests and skills. This development plan will help guide the selected candidate through years two through six of the program.

Participants will receive exposure to and learn various executive-level leadership skills and become familiar with CIRI's business lines, corporate strategy, and ANCSA/mission-critical programs and benefits. They will provide executive-level support to the CIRI leadership team, serve as a liaison between internal/external contacts and CIRI executives, and oversee special projects. Additionally, they will represent CIRI at business and community functions and Shareholder meetings and events.

"The Yah Program is about our future," Swami emphasized. "Though the goal is to place a CIRI Shareholder or Descendant in my position, we understand not all program participants want to become the CEO. If you meet the eligibility requirements and are passionate about becoming a leader within CIRI, we encourage you to apply. Whatever your interest, this program is designed to teach, support and encourage our successful candidates every step of the way."

## 2024-2025 VIRTUAL MENTORING

The mentee application deadline is Sept. 27.

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### 2024 SUMMER INTERNS

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The ideal Yah Program candidate will be mid-career, with some business and onthe-job supervisory experience, and have a demonstrated interest in Alaska Native people and cultures. A bachelor's degree is required, and a master's degree is preferred.

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



## A MESSAGE FROM CIRI CEO SWAMI IYER

#### IMPROVING PERFORMANCE AND GROWING FOR THE FUTURE

As your CEO, my job is to help build a foundation that provides the profit we need to grow our company for the next 50 years—a foundation not only for distributions, but for multigenerational prosperity that ensures the well-being of our Shareholders and Descendants. From a business perspective, this means divesting from low-performing companies and investing in businesses with double-digit profit margins, robust backlogs and strong growth rates.

As such, we are actively pursuing merger and acquisition targets that will bolster CIRI's foundation. Our current efforts are focused on conducting thorough due diligence on select, high-potential acquisitions. Keeping our Shareholders and Descendants abreast of our

business decisions is a priority; as decisions are made and contracts are signed, we will keep you updated on any developments.

While new additions to the CIRI portfolio are a key component of our long-term success, our business strategy also demands we optimize current CIRI investments. I'm happy to report that CIRI's largest subsidiary, the North Wind Group (NWG), has made important strides in 2024 to optimize performance through a corporate reorganization. I'm excited about the team NWG President and CEO Rich Driggs is building. Together, CIRI and NWG will continue to look for opportunities to grow NWG's client portfolio and profitability, particularly in the federal-contracting arena.

As we enter the fourth and final quarter of the year (Oct. 1–Dec. 31), we will focus on wrapping up our 2024 goals, preparing for our yearly audit, and strategizing 2025 and beyond. CIRI is moving forward through new acquisitions and growth in existing business lines; we are focused on improving the performance of our current investments and acquiring high-performing companies. I look forward to sharing more with you in the months ahead!

Best regards,

Mam

Swami lyer CIRI CEO



Cama'i (hello)! It's hard to believe summer is winding down and autumn is upon us! Though I'll miss the long, sunny days, this is my favorite time of year: changing leaves, the chill in the air, excitement and anticipation as students head back to school.

I have wonderful autumn memories of growing up in Port Lions. In preparation for the long winter ahead, my family and I would spend many days canning and smoking fish, making jams and jellies, and drying plants and herbs. Subsistence—or, as some Elders call it, "traditional harvest lifeways"—is a fundamental part of Alaska Native culture, identity and self-determination. These important skills, passed down from generation to generation, are just as vital today as at any time in our history. We are proud to continue these practices—enhanced through modern tools—and teach them to our children.

Just as seasons change, so do organizations. As we gear up to attend the Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) Convention in October, on behalf of CIRI, I would like to welcome Ben Mallott (Athabascan and Lingít) to the role of

## A WORD FROM CIRI PRESIDENT SARAH LUKIN

#### PRESERVING CULTURE BY EMBRACING INNOVATION

AFN president. Having most recently served as AFN's vice president of external affairs, Ben is well aligned with AFN's mission and values. We look forward to seeing him build upon the foundation former AFN President Julie Kitka (Chugach Eskimo) laid over her 40 years of service. A reminder for those planning to attend, the 2024 AFN Convention will be held Oct. 17-19 in Anchorage. For more information, including an Alaska Airlines flight discount, visit nativefederation.org/convention.

CIRI continuously strives to be at the forefront of innovation. As an Alaska Native corporation, we understand our continued growth and economic strength is rooted in our ability to be forward-looking, flexible and adaptable. To better communicate with our Shareholders and Descendants, we recently launched the MyCIRI app! App users can download forms, browse traditional recipes, access distribution schedules and more.

Part of deepening and enhancing our Shareholder and Descendant communication efforts involves gathering your feedback. This spring and summer, Swami and I—along with Board Chair Doug Fifer and Darla Graham, director of CIRI stakeholder engagement—visited all seven of our CIRI villages. Thank you to those who took the time to meet with us to discuss the unique challenges your organizations face, the actions you are taking to improve your communities and how we can work together to achieve our shared goals.

We will also be launching a Shareholder and Descendant survey this fall. If you are one of the selected participants, please take a moment to share your views on CIRI. More information will be made available as the survey is rolled out.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our fall Friendship Potlatches! Potlatches will be held Oct. 12 in Anchorage; Oct. 20 in Kenai, Alaska; and Nov. 3 in the Pacific Northwest.

Quyanaa (thank you),





## BOARD CORNER

## A MESSAGE FROM CIRI BOARD CHAIR DOUG FIFER

CIRI Director Robert Harris (Inupiaq), who joined the CIRI Board in 2011, submitted his letter of resignation, effective July 29. Robert accepted an executive-level position at another Alaska Native corporation and resigned from the CIRI Board to avoid any potential conflicts of interest.

On behalf of CIRI, I would like to thank Robert for his years of service to our company. Among his fellow Directors, he is known for his insight into business and technology, strong financial acumen, understanding of local economies and passion for service to Alaska Native communities. When I asked Robert what he will miss most about serving on the CIRI Board, he



Robert Harris

said he will miss working with the Board to grow the company, improve economic opportunities for Shareholders and Descendants, and increase Shareholder distributions. He added: "This is an exciting time for CIRI, and I am confident the Board is well positioned to continue their efforts to strengthen and build our company for generations to come. My thanks to our Shareholders and Descendants, Chair Fifer and my fellow Directors for the opportunity to serve."

At the request of the CIRI Board, the CIRI Board Nominating and Governance Committee considered options for filling the vacancy for the remainder of Robert's term, ending in 2026. I'm pleased to inform you the committee recommended Lisa Huffman (Athabascan), a 2024 applicant, to the Board. The CIRI Board unanimously voted to support the committee's recommendation and appointed Ms. Huffman to the Board on Aug. 23.

## 2024-2025 VIRTUAL MENTORING PROGRAM COHORT

**MENTEE APPLICATION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 27** 

Strengthen your connection with Alaska Native culture and heritage, network, form lasting relationships and accelerate your personal and professional advancement—CIRI's virtual mentoring program cultivates a reciprocal relationship between mentor and mentee, where each participant develops his/her skills through a two-way transfer of experience and perspective.

A two-fold application process helps ensure strong pairings, with mentors selected first. Prospective mentees will have a chance to view mentors on the CIRI website and indicate their preferred pairing(s) on their application.

The mentee application deadline is Friday, Sept. 27. The opportunity is open to CIRI Shareholders and confirmed Descendants ages 18+. Participants may live anywhere in the U.S. For more information and to apply, visit ciri.com/mentorship.





## MEET CIRI'S 2024 SUMMER INTERNS

From salmon fishing to scavenger hunts, mentoring to museums, CIRI's 2024 summer interns sampled a little bit of everything. "We really try and give our interns a well-rounded experience," said Darla Graham (Yup'ik), director of CIRI stakeholder engagement. "Our interns have customized work plans based on their skills, interests, and educational and professional goals, but we also do a deep dive into culture." This summer, interns visited the

villages of Ninilchik and Tyonek, toured Cook Inlet Tribal Council's Denetchin Super Fab Lab, and participated in Alaska Native arts and craft activities. "Our goal is to not only give our interns skills and experiences that will aid them in the future, but give them a deeper understanding of themselves," Darla said. "We explore who they are, where they came from and how, as Alaska Native people and members of the CIRI family, we are all connected."



CIRI summer interns, L to R: Aaron Oskolkoff, Paisley Protzman, Lauren Muller, Brooke Schurosky, Danika Herndon and Joseph Sherry. Photo by Yuit Comms.

#### DANIKA HERNDON Kovukon Athabascan

Hometown: Anchorage, Alaska

Education: Sophomore at the University of Alaska

Anchorage

Major/field of study: Major in health sciences, minor in Alaska Native business management CIRI department: Corporate Communications Favorite Alaska experience/memory: "I have recently gotten into traditional beading. I also love being outside with my friends and family—there's nothing like Alaska!"

#### LAUREN MULLER Haida/Inupiaq

**Hometown:** Grand Rapids, Michigan **Education:** Sophomore at Michigan State University

Major/field of study: Computer science
CIRI department: Information Technology
Favorite Alaska experience/memory: "Hiking
Flattop, a 3-mile hike in the Chugach Mountains."

#### **AARON OSKOLKOFF** Aleut

Hometown: Anchorage, Alaska

Education: Undergraduate degree from the University of California Santa Cruz; currently attending Western New England School of Law Major/field of study: Second-year law student (2L) studying corporate law

CIRI department: Legal

Favorite Alaska experience/memory: "Camping, especially across the Homer Spit."

#### PAISLEY PROTZMAN Inupiaq/Oneida

Hometown: Anchorage, Alaska

Education: Junior at the University of Alaska

Anchorage

Major/field of study: Major in social work, minor in Alaska Native business management

CIRI department: Shareholder + Descendant

Programs

Favorite Alaska experience/memory: "Setnetting in Kasilof every summer as a child."

#### **BROOKE SCHUROSKY** Iñupiag

Hometown: Wasilla, Alaska

**Education:** Sophomore at the University of Alaska

Anchorage

Major/field of study: Major in accounting, minor in

project management

CIRI department: Shareholder + Descendant

Programs

Favorite Alaska experience/memory: "Fourwheeling and camping up near Manley Hot Springs, and especially making s'mores!"

#### JOSEPH SHERRY Iñupiag

Hometown: Portland, Oregon

**Education:** Junior at Seattle University **Major/field of study:** Major in mechanical

engineering, minor in mathematics

CIRI department: Land and Energy

Favorite Alaska experience/memory: "Traveling

around the state with my family."



Dzaanh nezoonh (hello)!

My name is Danika Herndon, and I am this year's CIRI Corporate Communications intern. I am Koyukon Athabascan and connected to CIRI though my father, original enrollee Ed Herndon. I was born and raised in Anchorage, and at this point in my life, I don't plan on leaving home anytime soon! I am furthering my education at the University of Alaska Anchorage, majoring in health sciences with a minor in Alaska Native business management.

I have been lucky enough to participate in many CIRI Shareholder + Descendant programs

DANIKA HERNDON, CIRI CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS INTERN

throughout the years, so when it came time to apply for this summer's internship, it was an easy decision. However, choosing which department to intern with proved a bit challenging! Ultimately, I plan to pursue a career in Alaska Native health care administration, working behind the scenes to make a positive impact on both patient care and overall health care policy. My parents explained that strong communications skills are a must for any health care administrator, and that Corporate Communications would be a perfect fit for the type of work in plan to do.

As I progress through my internship, I am open to all experiences, but overall, I am most excited to see how an Alaska Native corporation functions from the inside and learn more about my own culture, as well as other Indigenous cultures.

As I look to the future, I am excited to see where my path will take me! I know I care deeply about helping my community and ensuring the success and well-being of Alaska Native people. I have no doubt that my time at CIRI will help aid me in my life—whether through professional connections, a deeper understating of Alaska Native culture or just knowing I will be supported by my corporation at every step along the way.

Baasee' (thank you),

**Danika Herndon** 

## SHAREHOLDER IOI

#### **HEALTH CARE FOR SHAREHOLDERS AND DESCENDANTS OUTSIDE THE COOK INLET REGION**

Question: I'm a Shareholder living in Washington state. CIRI provides health care services to its Shareholders and other Alaska Native and American Indian people living in the CIRI region. Why doesn't CIRI make health care services available to Shareholders CIRI region?

**Answer:** In 1975, Congress passed the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (ISDEAA). The act, at its core, is about self-determination and empowering Tribes to provide services and programs directly to their people. Alaska Native corporations were included in the definition of "eligible Tribes" within ISDEAA to ensure Alaska Native people were not left behind when it comes to accessing various federal programs and services.

In the early 1980s, the CIRI Board of Directors recognized the need to address housing, social services and health care within the Cook Inlet region. CIRI delegates its Tribal authority under ISDEAA to three designated Tribal organizations (DTOs)-Cook Inlet Housing Authority, Cook Inlet Tribal Council and Southcentral Foundation (SCF)—providing each the ability to access federal funding to administer their services. Under federal law and regulation, each organization has limitations on who it may serve and where it may serve (Service Unit). Generally, CIRI DTOs may only provide services within the CIRI region.

Shareholders, Descendants and other Alaska Native/American Indian (AN/AI) people who reside within the CIRI region are eligible to receive care at SCF, an Alaska Native-owned health provider that serves approximately 70,000 customer-owners. SCF operates within its federally designated Anchorage

Service Unit, which includes Anchorage and the Matanuska-Susitna Valley. SCF may not provide services outside the Anchorage Service Unit since CIRI's federal authority only extends to its own Service Unit.

SCF's Alaska Native Health Resource Advocate Program was developed to meet the information and referral needs of Alaska Native people living outside Alaska, or those within Alaska who do not reside in SCF's Anchorage Service Unit. The program assists Alaska Native people and their family members by identifying, locating and connecting them with appropriate and available health, social, educational, legal, employment, disability, treatment, housing, health insurance, and other related programs and/or services. For information, visit the SCF website or call (866) 575-6757.



## SHAREHOLDER SPOTLIGHT

From spearheading language-revitalization efforts to helping establish a family subsistence fishery, original CIRI enrollee Clare Swan (Athabascan) has spent a lifetime advocating for her people. Her extensive list of service, honors and commendations includes chairing the Kenaitze Indian Tribe (KIT), serving on the CIRI Board of Directors and chairing the Cook Inlet Tribal Council (CITC) board of directors, receiving the Alaska Federation of Natives Elder of the Year award and being inducted into the Alaska Women's Hall of Fame and recognized as CIRI's Shareholder of the Year. In 2017, Clare was honored by CITC with the naming of the Clare Swan Early Learning Center. She also gave the keynote address at that year's AFN annual Convention.

For a lifetime of accomplishments, Clare received a standing ovation at this year's CIRI Annual Meeting, held June 1 in Kenai, Alaska.

"Clare has made such a major impact in my life and has helped CITC establish a vision of truly serving and advancing our people," CITC President and CEO Gloria O'Neill (Yup'ik) said. "We thank her for her leadership and friendship, for scolding us when we need to be scolded and for growing us up. We honor Clare and our Elders because they keep us moving forward and remind us of who we are."

Born in 1939 in Kenai,
Clare grew up the eldest
of nine siblings. Her mother's
family was Athabascan, her father's
Filipino. Though multiple languages were
spoken in her home, she remembers being
reprimanded by a teacher for speaking
Dena'ina at school. (Years later, the teacher
apologized.)

In 1950, Clare married her husband, Van, and together they raised four children. The family was living in Seward, Alaska, when the 1964 Good Friday earthquake hit and destroyed their home, so they relocated to the Lower 48 to be near Van's family.

Once her own children were raised, Clare enrolled in Loyola College (now Loyola University New Orleans) in Louisiana and earned a degree in business. She and her husband moved back to Alaska in 1973, shortly after passage of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act and just as incorporation was occurring for KIT.

Clare chaired KIT for 15 years and led the effort to secure its Traditional Educational Fishery. She was instrumental in helping establish KIT's Dena'ina Health Clinic as well as youth programs and a community

agricultural
program. As a
certified substance
abuse counselor, a volunteer

with the court system and an active participant in the effort to revitalize the Dena'ina language, including relearning the language herself, Clare has helped countless Alaska Native people.

CLARE SWAN

> "Clare's life—her commitment, foresight and passion—is an example to us all," CIRI President Sarah Lukin (Alutiiq) said. "It is an honor to recognize Clare on behalf of CIRI and all our Shareholders and Descendants."

> Now in her 90s, Clare still resides in the Kenai area and is active with her Tribe. The Kenaitze and Salamatof Educational Fishery she helped establish in the late 1980s continues to serve as a center of learning and tradition, bringing families and community members together.

"When you get something in your heart that says 'go,' you go—it's that simple, and it's that hard," Clare said. "It's like Peter Kalifornsky used to say: 'When you look back, look at your footprints. See how far you've come. Climb up the hill, sit down, smile and say 'thank you.' Enjoy yourself, and then get up and start again."

#### TRADITIONAL RECIPE

## BERRY LIME BUTTERMILK SHERBET

Adapted from the recipe by Maya Wilson. Original recipe at alaskafromscratch.com.

#### **START TO FINISH:**

2 hours, 10 minutes (10 minutes active)

#### **INGREDIENTS:**

- 3 cups fresh berries, such as blueberries, strawberries, raspberries, blackberries or a combination
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1 cup buttermilk or plain kefir

Zest of one lime
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
Equipment needed: blender, ice-cream
maker, loaf pan, sieve/strainer (optional)

#### **DIRECTIONS:**

- 1. Place loaf pan in a freezer to chill.
- 2. Add all ingredients to a blender and blend until smooth. (You may strain the mixture through a sieve if you want smoother sherbet, but it is not necessary.)
- 3. Pour mixture into ice-cream maker and churn, per the manufacturer's instructions.
- 4. Spread the sherbet into the chilled loaf pan. Cover with plastic wrap and freeze two hours before serving.
- 5. Optional toppings: fresh or frozen berries, drizzle of honey, citrus slices, fresh mint leaves





## CIRI IN THE COMMUNITY

## ATHABASCAN COUNTING CORDS BY CIRI SUMMER INTERN DANIKA HERNDON

Preserving and perpetuating Alaska Native culture and heritage is a priority for CIRI. In July, the Shareholder + Descendant Programs team and several of the summer interns traveled to Eklutna to share culture with youth participating in the Native Village of Eklutna Culture Camp.

A traditional Athabascan counting cord served as a type of calendar. Knots and beads were

used to count days or commemorate special events, such as a first hunt or reaching the age of maturity. CIRI interns jumped at the chance to teach this traditional activity to Eklutna youth.

We brought with us kits that contained hide or sinew cord, beads and charms, and walked the campers through how to create their own cord. During the activity, we discussed the history behind the counting cords and their significance to the Athabascan people.

This was such a fun way to share culture—we really enjoyed our time in Eklutna! The kids loved telling their stories and making the counting cords their own. As for the interns, we loved being part of the positive impact CIRI has in our Tribal communities.

### IN MEMORY

#### **CYNTHIA LOUISE COOPER, 65**

Cynthia Louise Cooper passed away March 11 in Austin, Texas. Ms. Cooper was born April 10, 1958, in Anchorage. Growing up in an Air Force family, she spent time in Alaska, Florida and New York before ultimately settling in Texas. She was married to the love of her life, Charles Cooper, for 26 years before his passing in 2021. She is remembered as someone who loved to cook and bake, a great joke-teller and a skilled hunter. Ms. Cooper is survived by her sister, Peggy Hessler; and many other family and friends.

#### **RICHARD ANTHONY GULARTE, 81**

Richard Anthony Gularte passed away Feb. 24 in Anchorage.
Mr. Gularte was born May 2, 1942, in Fairbanks, Alaska.
He will be remembered by his family and friends for his sharp and surprising sense of humor, distinctive laugh and endless generosity. Mr. Gularte is survived by his brother, Jerry; sister, Margie; brother-in-law, Ron; nieces, Shannon, Lauren, Vanessa and Hillary; nephew, Travis; and four great-nieces and great-nephews.

#### **JOSEPH BOYD MOORE, 51**

Joseph Boyd Moore passed away Jan. 17 in Huntersville, N.C. Mr. Moore was born Aug. 25, 1972, in Mecklenburg, N.C. With a career mainly in construction, he helped rebuild New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina in 2005. He was known for his skills in interior painting, sheet-rock installation and versatile repairs and is remembered as a true craftsman. Mr. Moore is survived by his sisters, Marcia Strickland, Marie Clarkson-Hartgrove, Audrey Craig and Cammy Herring; and brother, Marty Clarkson.

#### **LINDA LEE DAVIDSON, 66**

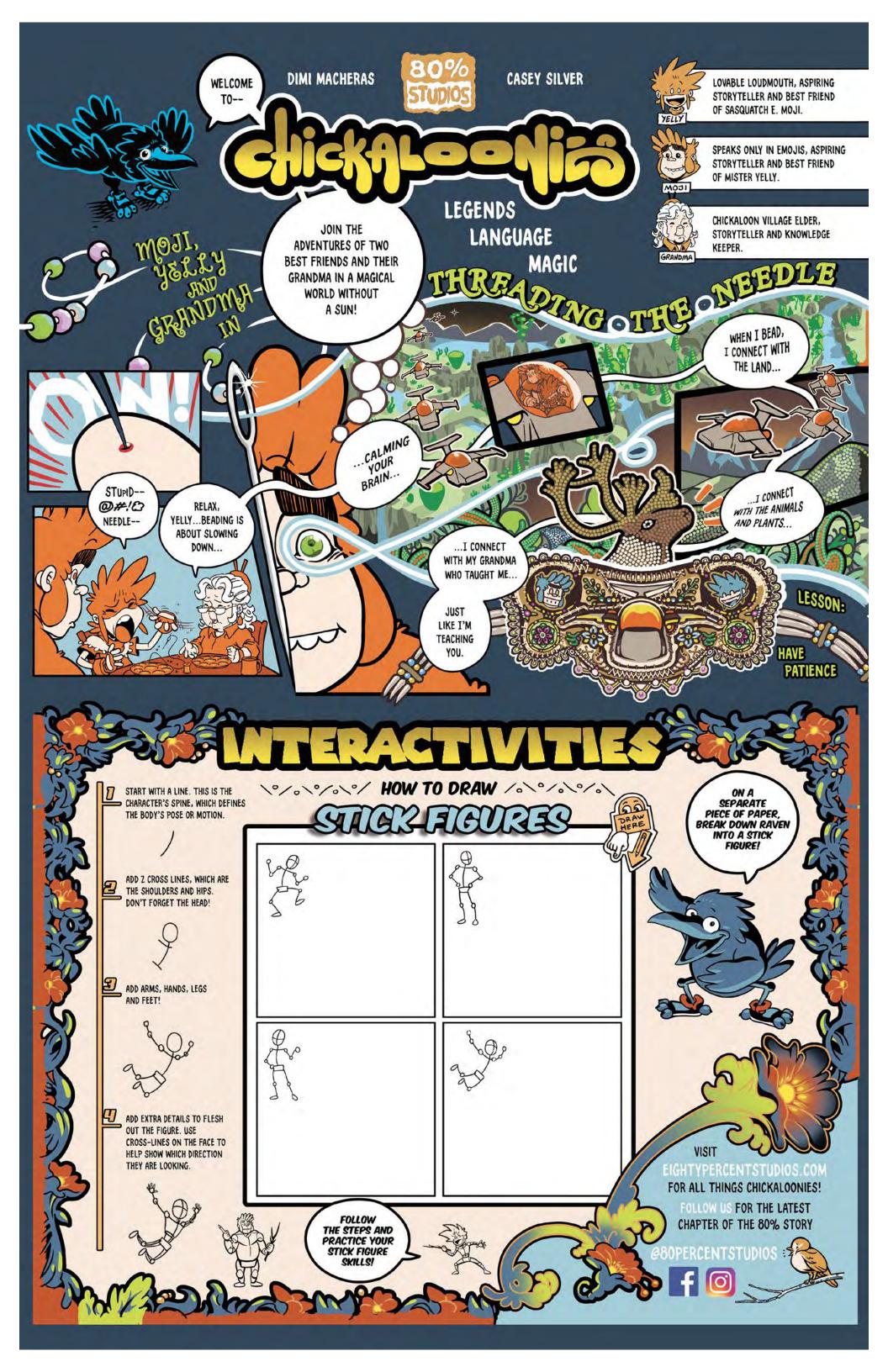
Linda Lee Davidson passed away Feb. 21 in Wrangell, Alaska. Ms. Davidson was born March 24, 1957, in Anchorage, Alaska. A lifelong Alaskan, she enjoyed berry picking, boating, camping, fishing, reading and travel.

### CONDOLENCES

LAWRENCE JOSEPH ACHAYOK, 69 SANDRA LYNN ANDERSON, 67 WINIFRED BELLE ATWOOD, 90 **ALICE LUCIA BEIGHLEY, 88 JAMES WAYNE BOIRE, 76 MARION LOUISE BOLEN, 76 ROLAND G BOUDREAU, 78 ROBERT LESLIE CLARKSON JR., 65 ELLEN ALICE CLEVELAND, 83 LENORE MARGUERITE CLINTON, 95 SANDRA JEAN CLOUD, 61 ESTHER LEE FAST, 74 RICHARD JONATHON FAST, 75 ALEX W FLYUM, 85 SAM MORRIS GROSVOLD, 63 TANYA LEE GULARTE, 75 EFFIEBELL ROSIA GULLIFORD, 55** 

**ROY LOUIS HANSEN JR., 66** DOROTHY ELEANOR HERMANSEN, 96 **ROBERT WILLIAM HON, 64 DONNA LEE HORTON, 69 DOLORES LUCILLE HOWELL, 67 RUTH OTTILIE JUNDT, 98 DEBRA ANN KISSEL, 70** DALE ANDREW KONRAD, 71 **GLENN MILTON KOOLY, 83 DOROTHY KRAFT, 94 JULIA ANN MARKEY, 55 CHRISTOPHER LEE MARKS, 44 BONNIE LEE MARSH, 79 JACK WILLIAM MCCORD, 60 MARGARET BERTHA MEYER, 88 MARCELLUS MORRIS III, 82** 

**ETHEL ALICE NATION. 91** JENNIFER LYNN NEWHALL, 41 **MONSON NICKLIE JR., 40 DOUGLAS RAY OLINGER, 67** SOSEPATRA PROKOPIOF, 84 **SOPHIE JUNE PROSSER, 100 ROBYN EVELYN RAY, 41 JEANITA KIM SAMPSON, 60** DAVID CHRISTIAN SAMUELSON, 57 **WILMA MARY TERESA SANDSTROM, 79 VICTORIA MARIE SCHOLL, 71 DONNA MARIE SCHWEITZER, 80 ELIZABETH ANN SEGURA, 84 SHARON ELIZABETH TONEY, 59** RICHARD LEE VREELAND JR., 63 HAROLD LEE WIK, 85



## IN TOUCH



#### **HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION**

CIRI Shareholder Leona Westdahl is pleased to announce the graduation of her daughter, Hannah DeMello, from North Medford High School in Medford, Ore. Hannah will begin her dental assistant studies in the fall at Rogue Community College in Grants Pass, Ore.



#### **HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION**

Congratulations to CIRI Descendant Simone Davis Iloilo, who graduated this spring from West Anchorage High School in Anchorage, Alaska. Davis was a member of the National Honor Society and a starting running back for the varsity football team. He plans to continue his academic and athletic career at Virginia University of Lynchburg in the fall. Great-grandparents are the late Terry and Alexandria Stephan. Grandparents are William and the late Isabelle Davis and the late Teoteo and Tauoloasii Iloilo. Proud parents are Simone and Amber Iloilo.



#### **HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION**

CIRI Shareholder Gwen Chickalusion is pleased to announce the graduation of her son, Aleksei "AJ" Allowan, from Homer Flex High School in Homer, Alaska. AJ completed his senior year early, in December 2023, and participated in his school's graduation ceremony on May 14. AJ began his high school journey in Tyonek, Alaska, at the Tebughna School as a freshman and moved to Homer the following year. Father is CIRI Shareholder Leonard Allowan. Brother is Kela Thomas Allowan. Grandmothers are CIRI Shareholders Norma Chickalusion of Tyonek and the late Pauline Allowan.



#### **HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION**

Congratulations to Ihupani Juliussen, who graduated May 13 from Kenai Central High School in Kenai, Alaska. Ihupani is the son of CIRI Shareholder Scott Juliussen and the late Donna Halican, as well as the grandson of late CIRI Shareholders Bonnie and Eugene Juliussen.



#### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

CIRI Shareholder Jeff Hurlburt is pleased to announce the graduation of his daughter, Julia, from Middletown High School in Middletown, Conn. Julia will attend Eastern Connecticut State University on the President's Scholarship as a computer science major. Mother is Taneone Hurlburt. Grandparents are CIRI Shareholders Bert and the late Julie Johnnie of Anchorage and Tyonek, Alaska, and Frances and Jeffrey Hurlburt of Florida.



#### LICENSED MIDWIFE

Congratulations to Jessica Nichole Johnson! After starting her education journey in 2016 and graduating in 2022, Jessica is now a Licensed Direct-Entry Midwife (LDM) in the state of Oregon.

## **IMPORTANT** DATES

Sept. 30, 2024

Quarterly CST distribution; quarterly participation prize

drawing deadline

Oct. 12, 2024

CIRI Friendship Potlatch: Anchorage, Alaska

Oct. 14, 2024

Indigenous Peoples' Day: CIRI offices closed

Oct. 17-19, 2024

Annual AFN Convention: Anchorage, Alaska

Oct. 20, 2024

CIRI Friendship Potlatch:

Kenai, Alaska

Nov. 3, 2024

CIRI Friendship Potlatch: Pacific Northwest; Daylight Saving Time ends

## **SAVE THE DATE**

#### **2024 FALL FRIENDSHIP POTLATCHES**

CIRI's fall Friendship Potlatches offer CIRI Shareholders and Descendants an opportunity to socialize and celebrate important cultural traditions with family and friends. The program includes cultural entertainment, children's activities. Alaska Native arts and crafts booths, door prizes and a meal that includes traditional Alaska Native foods.

Potlatches are open to CIRI Shareholders, confirmed Descendants and their immediate family members (spouse, children and parents). The wearing of traditional regalia is encouraged.

Mark your calendar! 2024 Friendship Potlatches will take place as follows:

#### ANCHORAGE, ALASKA Saturday, Oct. 12

ChangePoint Church 6689 Changepoint Drive, Anchorage

#### KENAI, ALASKA Sunday, Oct. 20

Kahtnuht'ana Duhdeldiht Campus 12271 Kenai Spur Highway, Kenai

#### PACIFIC NORTHWEST Sunday, Nov. 3

Tulalip Resort Casino 10200 Quil Ceda Boulevard, Tulalip, Wash.

CIRI Shareholders and confirmed Descendants who are interested in displaying or selling arts and crafts should email cbickley@ciri.com or call (907) 263-5502 for information and to reserve space.

More information will be made available in early fall via the CIRI website, ciri.com/shareholders-descendants/meetings-and-events.

## 2024 ANNUAL MEETING PRIZE WINNERS

#### **eVOTE PRIZE WINNERS**

Shareholders were given the option of completing an electronic proxy (eProxy) using CIRI's web-based proxy system. If submitted by the appropriate deadlines, eProxies qualified Shareholders for the 2024 Early Bird prize drawings as well as up to \$13,000 in eVote prizes.

Date of Prize	Shareholder	Location	Amount
May 3, 2024	Linda D. Smith	Renton, Washington	\$4,000
May 3, 2024	Lisa M. Ostlind	Spokane, Washington	\$1,000
May 3, 2024	Rene O. Kanabak- Nicklie	Cantwell, Alaska	\$1,000
May 10, 2024	Steven H. Nickerson	Chandler, Arizona	\$2,000
May 10, 2024	Allen R. Black	Anchorage, Alaska	\$2,000
May 17, 2024	Betty J. Gilcrist	Soldotna, Alaska	\$2,000
May 21, 2024	Joseph J. Goetz Sr.	Riverhead, New York	\$1,000

#### **EARLY BIRD PRIZE WINNERS**

A quorum is the minimum number of members or shares that must be represented at a meeting to make the proceedings of that meeting valid. To ensure a quorum is achieved for the Annual Meeting of Shareholders, CIRI's Early Bird Prize drawings reward Shareholders who submit a valid proxy for any proxyholder or candidate by certain dates in advance of the meeting.

Date of Prize	Shareholder	Location	Amount
May 3, 2024	Scharlott E. Thomas- Creary	Soldotna, Alaska	\$500
May 3, 2024	Mark B. Cunningham	Kittery, Maine	\$500
May 3, 2024	Jerome D. Walker	Wasilla, Alaska	\$1,000
May 3, 2024	Jack M. Stewart Jr.	Goodnews Bay, Alaska	\$1,000
May 3, 2024	Charlotte G. Luster	Atmore, Alabama	\$1,000
May 3, 2024	Joyce R. Nelson	Federal Way, Washington	\$1,000
May 10, 2024	James D. Swartz	Jamestown, North Dakota	\$500
May 10, 2024	Walter C. Sipary	Saint Mary's, Alaska	\$500
May 10, 2024	S. A. Strand	Grants Pass, Oregon	\$2,000
May 10, 2024	Frederick W. Johnson	Kirkland, Washington	\$2,000
May 17, 2024	Jonathan R. Butzke	Anchorage, Alaska	\$500
May 17, 2024	Katherine M. Felix	Toksook Bay, Alaska	\$500

## 2024 BOARD ELECTION RESULTS

Thank you to everyone who participated in the 2024 election of CIRI Directors!
Certified results show that CIRI
Shareholders elected the following five
Directors at the 2024 CIRI Annual Meeting, held June 1 in Kenai, Alaska: Douglas W.
Fifer, Jeffrey A. Gonnason, Michelle B.
Lindersmith, Cynthia L. Muller and Louis
Nagy Jr. All will serve three-year terms ending June 2027. The Board convened after the Annual Meeting and elected the following Board officers:

CHAIR: DOUGLAS W. FIFER

VICE CHAIR: SAMUEL G. SPANGLER

SECRETARY: CYNTHIA L. MULLER

ASSISTANT SECRETARY: CAROL A. GORE

TREASURER: ROLF A. DAGG

ASSISTANT TREASURER: MICHELLE B. LINDERSMITH

CHAIR EMERITUS: THOMAS P. HUHNDORF



#### **BOARD CORNER, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3**

Lisa is a CIRI Shareholder and enrolled member of the Kenaitze Indian Tribe. She began her career as a teacher and principal in the Anchorage and Fairbanks North Star School Districts, followed by a five-year stint as the chief administrative officer for The Aleut Corporation. Since 2023, Lisa has been an owner and managing member of Huffman Properties, LLC, an Alaska-based real estate and investment company. She holds bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Alaska Anchorage and is a graduate of the Alaska Native Executive Leadership Program at Alaska Pacific University.

Please join me in thanking Robert Harris for his many years of service and welcoming Lisa Huffman to the CIRI Board!

Warm regards,

Jour

**Doug Fifer**Chair, CIRI Board of Directors

# THIRD QUARTER DISTRIBUTIONS

Payment Type	Direct Deposit Sign-Up Deadline: 3 p.m. AKDT	Address Change and Cancel Direct Deposit Deadline: 3 p.m. AKDT	Distribution Date
Third Quarter CST Elders Distribution	September 3, 2024	September 6, 2024	September 13, 2024
Third Quarter CST Distribution	September 9, 2024	September 20, 2024	September 30, 2024

#### **CST ELDER DISTRIBUTIONS**

Third quarter payments from the CIRI Settlement Trust (CST) Elders Distribution Fund will be mailed or directly deposited by 6 p.m. AKDT on Friday, Sept. 13, to eligible Elders with a valid mailing address on file as of 3 p.m. AKDT on Friday, Sept. 6. CST beneficiaries who are original CIRI Shareholders and are 65 years of age or older on the record date of Thursday, Sept. 12, are eligible to receive the \$450 payment, providing they either own at least one share of CIRI stock or gifted all their CIRI stock to family members prior to July 31, 2003.

#### **CST DISTRIBUTION FUND**

Third quarter payments from the CST Distribution Fund, in the amount of \$9.85 per share (or \$985 per 100 shares), will be mailed or directly deposited by 6 p.m. AKDT on Monday, Sept. 30 to all CST beneficiaries who own CIRI stock and have a valid mailing address on file with CIRI as of 3 p.m. AKDT on Friday, Sept. 20.

#### **DIRECT/REMOTE DEPOSIT**

CIRI urges Shareholders who receive their distributions in check form to consider signing up for direct deposit or taking advantage of remote deposit. Both options are fast, easy and environmentally friendly. (Note: When remotely depositing a check, it's a good idea to make a note on the check so you don't attempt to cash it again. If a check is cashed twice, you are legally liable to repay the amount of the overpayment.)

Shareholders who participate in direct deposit and have a mailing address current with CIRI are also eligible to participate in quarterly prize drawings.

Direct deposit forms are available from Shareholder Relations and at ciri.com. To cancel direct deposit, contact Shareholder Relations and submit a signed, written request prior to 3 p.m. Alaska Time on the specified deadline. If you have a Qenek account, you may cancel your existing direct deposit instruction online via the portal.

#### **ADDRESS CHANGES**

Checks are mailed to the address CIRI has on record as of the specified deadline. If your address has changed, be sure to update your address with both CIRI and the U.S. Postal Service. These addresses must match, or your CIRI mail may not reach you. When CIRI mail is undeliverable, distributions are held, and the Shareholder does not qualify to participate in any prize drawings until the address is updated. This is true even if a Shareholder is signed up for direct deposit.

CIRI address changes may be submitted online via the Qenek portal. Alternatively, you may submit a completed CIRI address change form—available at ciri.com—or a signed, written request that includes a current telephone number. You may scan or take a photo of your completed form or request and email it to shareholderrecords@ciri.com; mail it to CIRI at P.O. Box 93330, Anchorage, AK 99509; or fax it to (907) 263-5186. If faxed, please call Shareholder Relations as soon as possible to confirm receipt. Forms and information on changing your address or submitting a mailforwarding request with the U.S. Postal Service are available at usps.com or your local post office.

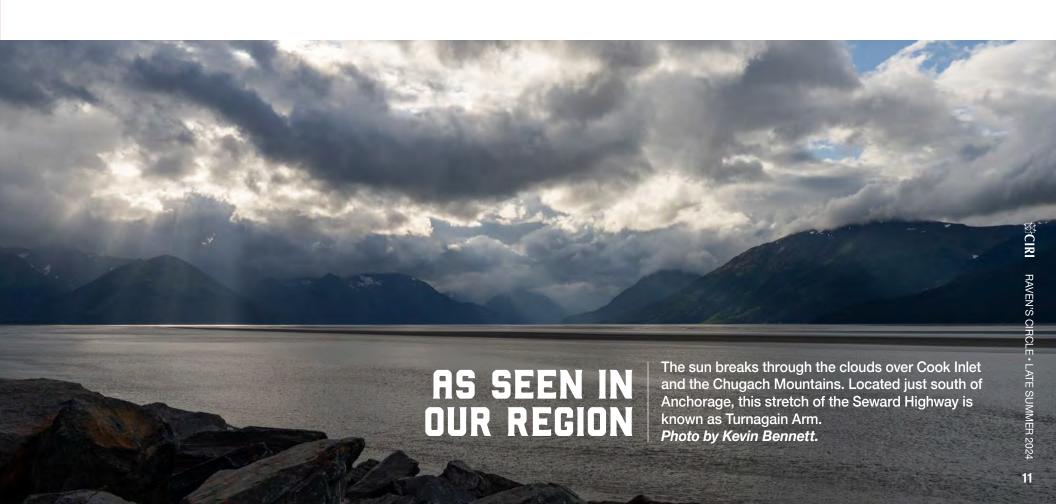
Please be aware that if you fail to notify CIRI of a new address before a specified deadline and your check is sent to your previous address, CIRI cannot reissue that check to you unless it is either returned to us or a minimum of 90 days has elapsed. A list of Shareholders who do not have a current mailing address on record is continually updated and may be found on the CIRI website.

#### **TAX REMINDER**

Neither CIRI nor the CST withhold taxes from distributions; however, Shareholders or beneficiaries who anticipate owing tax on their distributions have the option of making quarterly estimated tax payments directly to the IRS. To find out more about applicable federal and state tax requirements or making quarterly estimated tax payments, please consult with a tax advisor or contact the IRS directly. As a reminder, distributions made by the CST are expected to be tax-free to beneficiaries in most cases.

#### **CONTACTING US**

The Fireweed Business Center is open to Shareholders, Descendants and visitors from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Alaska Time) Monday through Friday. The Shareholder Relations department may also be reached by phone at (907) 263-5191 / (800) 764-2474 and via email at shareholderrecords@ciri.com during normal business hours. Additionally, the Qenek portal (qenek.ciri.com) provides access to a wealth of news and information and allows many tasks and record changes to be completed online, including generating payment confirmations and reprinting tax forms.



#### 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 accounts may update their addresses via the portal. 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 8/26/2024)

Matthew James Anaruk

Marnie Taneya Anderson

Mersady Star Anderson Rinnah Storm Andrew Shauna Lee Awalin Dakota Douglas Baktuit-Palmer Rae Jean Bartels Earl Corneluis Bates Kristopher James Bayes Thomas Michael Bellinger **Daniel Albert Berry** Phillip Jay Black Daniel Forrest Call Nadia Linda Carreira Richard Lee Chamberlain Linda Louise Champion Terry Lynn Clark Christine C. Cox Kamakana Charles-Nukapigak Danner Anita Jewell Davis Zackary Scott Davis Angel Rafael-Rivera Dean Marcia K. Denison Clifford Leon Dolchok Sr. Kayla Dawn Eichholz David Andrew Endresen Gabriel Joseph Eognuk Jr. Taloa Ann Farve William D. Ferguson Robert Wayne Galvan Ricole Maria Garcia-Olivera Reece William Grohall Vincen Drais Grohall Nathan Tanner Hamilton Jason David Harrington James Douglas Hatten Carl Arnold Hestnes Bethany Michelle Hoke Matthew Michael Holmes Samantha Jordan Michelle Holmes

Hooper Jennifer Clara Howard Shawn Kurtis Huffman Grant Thomas Hutchison Hannah Isaac Joseph Nels Jenkins Jacen Lee Kallner Marie Bertha Kaloa Roberta Marie Karabelnikoff Lisa Lyn Keene Timothy Christian Kirschner-Griffith Midford Wayne Knight Richard Benjamin Koutchak Jr. Melissa Ann Krukoff Clinton Ray Lageson William Jack Lamont III Michael Lee Leonard Jr. David Atlas Lock Jr. Alexander Konstantinos Macheras Sandra Lee Marcus

Nicodemus Dominick Marsing Loanne Joyce Martin Michael West Mason Kelly Ray McClusky John Kelly McConnell James Robert McFarlin Jeffrey Brian Meeks Shaun Michael Moore Brenda June Mulford Karina Eleanor Anne Munson Gus William Nelson Kaitlyn Xanthippe Nichols Nicholas Gabriel Odonnell Florence Helen Okpealuk Michael Terrance Oneill II Shanda Michelle Oneill Quentin Aleksander Oskolkoff Bryan Lee Outwater Donald Norman Outwater II Gary Woodrow Petersen II Timothy Lee Petterson Irene Agnes Phillips Jerry Shane Phillips Matthew Walter Phillips Allina Tiffani Pike Raymond Coy Powers David Joseph Price Ricardo John Pridham Jacqueline Bernadette Prince Alana Britney Ray-Fowler Seth Ryan Reynolds Cassie Marie Richards Melanie Brook Ritter Charlein Terese Sanford Robert William Sebring-Strout Joseph John Seetomona Glenn Ross Shook Valorie Jean Shore-Jones Steven Shuravloff James Earl Smith Jedediah lan Smith Samaad Ali Smith Roger Andrew Starnes Isabella Renee Stevens Jupiter Rose Stevens Marilyn Mae Stiles Charles O. Swanson Gage Robert Swanson Jeri Elizabeth Taeschner Levi R. Tetpon Carl Gustav Thiele III David Elton Truitt Martin Sean Tucker Brandy Chantalle Varney Teresa Yvette Walters Patrick James Westdahl Peggy Lee-Sharen Whipple Yolanda Marie White Jack D. Wilkening Philip Hunter Wilson Jr. Machelle Lynn Yankovic



### CIRI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Douglas W. Fifer, Tlingit

Thomas P. Huhndorf, Yup'ik Chair Emeritus\*

Vice Chair

Cynthia L. Muller, Haida Secretary\*

**Treasurer** 

**Assistant Secretary** 

Michelle B. Lindersmith, Inupiag **Assistant Treasurer** 

Margaret L. Brown, Yup'ik

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



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

#### **CIRI CONTACT INFORMATION**

#### **CIRI Headquarters**

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

#### **Shareholder Relations**

Tel. (907) 263-5191 or (800) 764-2474 Fax (907) 263-5186 Email shareholderrecords@ciri.com

#### For estates/wills, contact Probate at:

Tel. (907) 263-5540 or (833) 263-5136 Fax (907) 263-5186

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



#### LATE SUMMER 2024 // CIRI RAVEN'S CIRCLE NEWSLETTER

EDITOR: CARLY STUART // LAYOUT AND DESIGN: YUIT COMMUNICATIONS // © CIRI, 2024

**PRESORTED** FIRST-CLASS MAIL U.S. POSTAGE PAID PERMIT NO. 257 ANCHORAGE, AK

## WINNERS' CIRCLE

To increase participation in certain programs, CIRI holds periodic prize drawings from the names of those enrolled who meet certain criteria and have a mailing address current with CIRI. If CIRI has returned mail, a different winner will be selected. Visit the CIRI website or call (907) 263-5191 or (800) 764-2474 to learn more. The following Shareholders and Descendants have been selected as winners for the most recent CIRI drawings:

#### **DIRECT DEPOSIT DRAWING**

First quarter drawing for \$250:

KATHLEEN A. DENNIS

The direct deposit instruction must be current with

#### *ENEWSLETTER DRAWING*

First quarter drawing for a \$100 gift card:

• TRAVIS G. GULARTE

Shareholders enrolled in the eNewsletter program with a valid email address on file.

#### **CONFIRMED, REGISTERED** DESCENDANT DRAWINGS

First quarter drawing for a \$100 Amazon gift card:

- ELIJAH T. SNOW (YOUTH)
- FRANCIS PRINCE JR. (ADULT)

Direct lineal Descendants of CIRI Shareholders who are not themselves Shareholders, who have submitted legal documents substantiating descent and who have a valid email address on file.

#### **QENEK ACCOUNT DRAWING**

First quarter drawing for a \$250 gift card:

TRAVIS A. LAMPLEY

Shareholders and confirmed Descendants who have created a Qenek account or accessed an existing account during the preceding quarter.

#### GREENLINK DRAWING

First quarter drawing \$500:

• RAYMOND E. RYAN JR.

Shareholders who have a valid direct deposit instruction and email address on file and who have opted into electronic delivery of certain materials.