



WINTER NEWSLETTER



Message from the Chairman & C.E.O.

I'd like to wish everyone a safe and happy new year. We have a lot planned for 2017 and expect to see a lot of

positive changes at Azachorok, Inc. and subsidiaries including our first 8(a) revenue and plans to host the Kusilvak Economic & Advocacy Alliance (KEDAA) in Mountain Village this fall. This initiative will boost economic activity and create more jobs in the region.

Our biggest opportunity for growth at Azachorok is in the 8(a) program. I'm excited to report after several months of navigating through the bureaucratic process with federal agencies, Azachorok Contract Services LLC is finally able to secure million dollar contracts for avionics products manufactured by our company in Palmdale, California. This is a huge step and will enable Azachorok to be profitable and sustainable.

It's impossible to discuss 2017 and the future without mentioning the new Trump Presidency. While there is a lot of uncertainty, I am confident Azachorok can benefit from a pro-economic development President. The Administration's intent to reduce red tape, increase defense funding and create more efficiency when working with federal agencies which will serve our shareholders well.

Azachorok's position in the 8(a) program is a team effort and huge accomplishment. I'd like to acknowledge ACS Treasurer & Secretary

Joyce Brown, ACS Board Member
Howard Peterson, Executive Manager
Gene Souza, Havelock & Duffy LLP,
C2North consulting LLC, and Native Procurement Technical Assistance Center Specialist Tina Long for their hard work in ensuring Azachorok's eligibility to participate in this critical program. I look forward to continued partnership as we make progress in the remaining four years in the 8(a) program with this particular certificate.

Moreover, Azachorok has entered in a partnership with the City of Mountain Village for fundraising efforts for the KEDAA concept. Together, we will be able to leverage more funding to host the KEDAA Summit this fall after subsistence & commercial fishing harvests comes to a close. The goal of the initiative is job creation and united advocacy. I'm proud to be the top lead on this important issue.

As always, I value our shareholder feedback. Don't hesitate to let me know if you have any ideas to improve Azachorok's businesses and services. Contact me through our website at www.azachorok.com. Here's to even more successes in 2017!

Sincerely,

Loren Peterson
Chairman & C.E.O.

IN THIS ISSUE:

Shareholder Spotlight	2
Vice Chair's Report	3
PFD Protection & Restoration	4

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

LOREN PETERSON
Chairman & C.E.O.

JOYCE BROWN
Vice-Chairwoman

HOWARD PETERSON
Secretary

PETER "MATT" ANDREWS
Treasurer

JOHN AGWIAK
Assistant Secretary

ROBERT BEANS SR.
Director

FELIX HESS
Director

Congratulations to our Spring 2017 Scholarship Recipients!

*Applications now
available online
www.azachorok.com*

*Shareholders and
Descendants are eligible*

*Azachorok Inc. awarded
\$8,000 in
scholarship funds since
inception in 2016.*

Congratulations to Loren Peterson named 2017 Top 40 Under 40 in the Alaska Journal!

Loren Peterson will be featured in the April 2017 issue.



Shareholder Spotlight Ben Alexie

Ben Alexie is Mountain Village's very own homegrown sled dog musher. Ben has been mushing since he was six-years-old with no end in sight. He was born in Bethel on September 3rd, 1962 to Paul and Cecilia Alexie.

Shortly after, Ben's family moved to Mountain Village. He has three sisters, one brother, two sons, one daughter and two grandchildren. Throughout his life, Ben has worked in construction, helping put up wind turbines and working other seasonal summer jobs. But during winter, his focus shifts entirely to his passion: dog mushing.

While competing in several races every year, Ben consistently ranks in the top five. But for Ben, mushing is about a lot more than just racing, it's about traditions, culture, community and family. When he was a boy, the family's dog team was used for hauling wood, water and garbage.

Ben says dog mushing is deeply ingrained in his blood and his intense passion comes from his late father Paul,

also known as "Goodman". Ever since he spoke his first words, he begged his parents to let him mush and when he turned six, his father said it was time to hit the trail. Those years on the trail and long talks between father and son paved the way for a very strong bond between Paul and Ben.

Right now, Ben's team consists of eight dogs: Tasha, Breeze, Sally, Nelly, Joe, Spike, Harry, T-Bone and one young pup yet to be named. Breeze and Tasha are the lead dogs with Nelly and Sally in lead training. He says his almost 50-years of dog mushing gives him a keen sense of how to put together a winning team.

Currently, Ben and his family live in Emmonak, but he says part of his heart is still in Mountain Village. He misses the terrain surrounding the Yukon River in the area. As for the future, Ben is currently rebuilding his dog team and is in the process of determining what race he will enter next. And just like his late father, Ben plans to keep mushing on until he just can't do it anymore.

We are proud to have Ben Alexie on our team as a shareholder of Azachorok. Read a more in-depth, fascinating story about Ben Alexie at www.azachorok.com.



Photo by: Harvey Alexie



NORTH STAR GAS
100% Native Owned Company

Your Alaska Native Owned Discount Bulk Fuel & Propane Broker!
Let's do some good business, while keeping our \$\$\$ a little closer to home.
Toll Free: (855) 904-3835 * Cell: (907) 545-5474
pflatley@northstaralaska.com

Vice Chair's Report



Happy New Year to our Azachorok shareholder family! We achieved many great milestones in 2016 and our goals are even higher for 2017. One example is, in 2016, we were able to increase employee pay by 12 to 13% because Azachorok's operating budgets are now producing sufficient

net profits rather than deficits seen in previous years. Additionally, after months of hard work, ACS is now in a position to receive 8(a) revenue.

We value our employees and want to make sure they are paid adequately and remain invested in our companies. The cost of living in rural Alaska is very high and we want to further support our staff as they work hard to serve our shareholders and community.

During 2016, we instituted some very positive developments at the local ACS Gas Station. Howard Peterson has been named new Station Manager and customers can fuel up 24-hours a day, seven days a week. Remodeling will begin this spring with new flooring and upgrades. Customers can expect to see more items on the shelves including everything from survival kits to snacks and drinks.

ACS is also in the process of acquiring a new fuel delivery tow so customers can expect continued stove oil deliveries. I'd like to thank the leadership and new station manager for making these positive changes happen. We have a great team of leaders and employees and progress is moving more quickly as a result.

In 2017, We are excited to be creating a Land Planner & Shareholder Relations position at Azachorok, Inc. The Land Planner & Shareholder Relations will be responsible for overseeing zoning and land issues and enhancing shareholder relations in the community. Having this position will be a great asset to the corporation. We look forward to creating more employment opportunities at the local level sometime in the future. Interested applicants may pick up and application at the local corporation office in Mountain Village.

We are gearing up for more advocacy in both Juneau and Washington D.C. Azachorok's memberships in the Native American Contractors Association and the Alaska Native Village Corporation Association are proving to be beneficial for increasing our impact on important shareholder concerns. Key issues include protecting the 8(a) program, addressing rural Alaska's infrastructure needs and protecting the Permanent Fund Dividend among other issues impacting our shareholders and communities.

I look forward to continuing service to Azachorok shareholders and embarking on other advocacy issues as we work to unite our region and build a stronger voice for all of our communities.

Best regards,

Joyce Brown

Vice Chair of Azachorok Inc.

Secretary & Treasurer of Azachorok Contract Services LLC

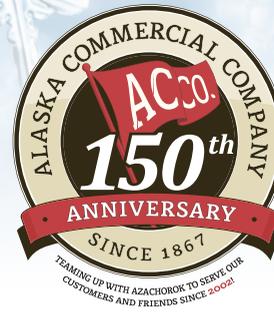


NORTHSTAR
ALASKA
100% NATIVE OWNED

WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTOR
FOR GROCERIES, ELECTRONIC,
HOUSEWARE, OUTDOOR AND
MORE.....

855-904-3835 * 4025 W 50TH AVE, STE 1 * ANCHORAGE, AK 99502

ORDER INQUIRIES: MWHITE@NORTHSTARALASKA.COM



**Mtn. Village
Gas Station**



**Buy
Fuel
24/7**

for more info
(907) 591-2573

PFD Protection & Preservation

Azachorok Board of Directors and the City of Mountain Village have both passed resolutions calling on the Alaska Legislature to protect the Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend. Ultimately this means protection through preservation. Rural Alaska, particularly Western Alaska, will endure the biggest hardship if the dividend disappears or is reduced dramatically.

The PFD has been extremely effective in offsetting the high cost of living in rural Alaska. A gallon of milk is as high as \$10 and gasoline can be as high as \$9.00 per gallon. Also, stove oil is near \$6.50 per gallon. The PFD is super-critical for homes to afford the stove oil to get through the cold winters. A dividend of at least \$1500 will help support energy costs which can help a household to stay warm for approximately five months during the long winter months.

Moreover, if the PFD is reduced, small businesses could face potential fatal deficits. The PFD is vital to our private sector and is an important source of cash in our economy. When less cash comes into rural businesses such as a fuel station or small grocery store, prices for commodities and for merchandise rise, adding to the already high cost of living for rural Alaskans. Other possible outcomes could be less jobs, less benefits and small businesses closing their doors in areas where jobs are already scarce.

Lastly, the PFD was created by oil revenue from the oil fields in the North Slope that was a direct result of the Alaska Native Claim Settlement Act. ANCSA enabled the oil industry to extract and transport this vital resource so that all Alaskans can enjoy the benefit through annual dividends of the PFD.

It should also be known Alaska's Constitution mandates the resources of Alaska belong to Alaskans and that all Alaskans should reap the benefit of our resources.

Taking away the PFD from Alaskans is a bad deal and that's why Azachorok's main legislative priority is to ensure the PFD remains permanent and dividends are at least \$1500 every year for each qualifying Alaskan; not just for the here and now, but for decades to come. We will fight to make sure the principal of the fund doesn't fall into frivolous government spending and the interest continues to be funneled instead to the pockets of qualifying Alaskan residents.

If you or your organization is interested in protecting the PFD and making your voice heard on this issue, please contact Azachorok Chairman & C.E.O. Loren Peterson through our website: www.azachorok.com. We are posting the PFD resolution on our website in the hopes other organizations will consider including this resolution at their next board or council meeting and send their resolutions to the State Capitol. Help us protect the PFD and ensure its sustainability for future generations.



North Star Market

We are an **Alaska Native** owned grocery store that is new and innovative with our test store in **Kotzebue, Alaska**. We are developing a model to transform rural Alaska grocery store operations into an Alaska based business that partners with **local communities**. We hope to be in your community in the near future.



Carol Myre



The Elders Advisory Committee will be traveling to Juneau to fight for Alaskans' PFD

Lucy Peterson



Matthew Waskey Sr.



Supporting Shareholders



Working in partnership to promote a healthy environment and develop economic opportunities for residents of the Yukon Kuskokwim region.

- > Responsible resource development
- > Revenue sharing to all Alaska Natives
- > Drug- and alcohol-free workplace
- > Local hire

To learn more about the project please visit www.DonlinGold.com



Let us help *you*
take *your business* to the top

Financial Alaska is a unique company focused on financing projects in Rural Alaska.

We specialize in making your business a success and can assist with business plans, determine project feasibility, and work with your Board from *start to finish*.

- * Business Financing
- * Business Consulting
- * Business and Strategic Planning
- * Business Plans and Marketing Plans
- * Start-ups, Mergers, and Acquisitions



Ph 907.770.0836 • Fax 907.770.0822

Ravn
ALASKA

Serving over 100 communities throughout the state visit us at www.flyravn.com for all of your passenger, cargo and charter needs.

St. Mary's Reservations
(907) 438-2246
Statewide Reservations
(907) 266-8394
www.flyravn.com

Connect with us!

Winter SALE

Est. 1999

Mountain Village
Monthly Native Store

Monthly Grocery Sales
1st-10th & 14th-21st

CALISTA ★ **ON MY SIDE**

DESCENDANT
MIKE WILLIAMS JR.

SPONSORED BY CALISTA
FIVE-TIME IDITAROD FINISHER

SHAREHOLDER
KIRSTEN KINGAK-FRIDAY

ASSOCIATE GENERAL COUNSEL
CALISTA CORPORATION

Learn more about how Calista Corporation can help you achieve success ★ facebook.com/CalistaCorporation



5701 Silverado Way, Suite L-201
Anchorage, AK 99518

Our Mission

Azachorok Incorporated is a for-profit ANCSA Village corporation that invests in sustainable business opportunities for the benefit of shareholders while preserving traditional our subsistence culture and values.

Our Vision

We believe in creating a better tomorrow for our shareholders and community through economic and social opportunities. We also envision our communities living healthy subsistence lifestyles. We balance making profits, seeking opportunities and increasing shareholder value.

PRESORTED
FIRST CLASS
US Postage
PAID
Anchorage, AK
Permit No. 69

MOUNTAIN VILLAGE WINTER SUNSET

Photo by: Howard Peterson