Ahtna Kanas

HISTORIC WIN FOR AHTNA LAND RIGHTS P. 12

Ahtna Kanas

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Ahtna, Inc. and Ahtna Netiye' senior management team



Michelle Anderson



Tom Maloney CEO. AN



Roy J. Tansy Jr. Executive VP. AN



Kathryn Martin Senior VP. Al



William M. Tishe CFO, Al



VP of Land and



VP of Human



General Counsel

Ahtna Subsidiary Presidents



Craig O'Rourke President, AGSC & ADB



President, AFSI & APSI



Vicky Dunlap President, ASTS & ALL



Susan Taylor President, KEC, AKHI & ATSI



Tim Finnigan President, AES & AEI



David O'Donnell

If shareholder-owners would like to submit articles for the next issue of the Kanas, the submission deadline is February 17, 2017.

For questions or more information about the Kanas, please contact the Media and Communications office: Shannon Blue at (907) 230-7058 or sblue@ahtna.net

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD MESSAGE 2016 WAS A VERY GOOD YEAR FOR AHTNA

Happy new year, everyone! It's my pleasure to fill in for Michelle, who is out this holiday season.

It was a very good year for Ahtna, and it is our privilege to share that success with you, our shareholder-owners.

Shareholder-owner dividends:

• \$5.75 per share, up \$1.32 per share from last year

Elder dividends:

• \$400, up \$100 from last year

The Board's priorities remain the same as last year: safety, shareholder-owner hire and finding growth opportunities in the Ahtna region. We must find ways to bring jobs and security to our villages to give our people the opportunity to thrive on the lands of their ancestors. We must keep our existing schools open. We must continue to invest in the training and education of our shareholder-owners so our people are ready to go to work.

We have much to celebrate as we bid adieu to another year. A huge accomplishment is the cooperative management agreement that was signed between the Ahtna Intertribal Resource Commission (AITRC) and U.S. Department of the Interior on November 28. This sets the groundwork for a management plan for our moose and caribou. Our goal is to have this plan implemented by the 2017 hunting season. We aren't sure how the new

president's administration will impact this agreement, but we are keeping our ears open - and hopes up. We want to ensure we are able to work with the new secretary of the interior to move this agreement forward.

Congratulations to my fellow Board member Karen Linnell for being appointed to the Alaska Board of Game! It will be great to have an Ahtna voice present when the State makes decisions that affect our people's livelihood and traditions.

This year's visit by Gov. Bill Walker moved forward our long desire to regain possession of some of Ahtna's most sacred land and burial sites taken by the federal government so many decades ago. Thanks to everyone who kept attention focused on what has happened to our lands in Gulkana. We hope to have more updates soon.

Lastly, I hope you had a great holiday season and had a chance to take some time off to enjoy your family and friends. This is a great time to look forward and, with your help, we will make 2017 an even better year.

Godspeed,

Nicholas Jackson Chairman of the Board



CEO'S MESSAGE

2017 STRATEGY PUTS SAFETY, SHAREHOLDER-OWNERS AND PROFITABILITY AT FOREFRONT

It's been an outstanding year.
While we have had many moving pieces in play, we ended the year

with our best safety record ever. Thank you, everyone.

SAFETY COUNTS

Our industry-leading safety record sets us apart from other businesses and has allowed us to expand in this down economy. This culture starts with our Board of Directors, extends down through our incredible management team, and ends with each and every one of you. Thank you for embracing the traditional Ahtna way of "being prepared," which puts safety at the forefront of everything we do.

TOLSONA UPDATE

After much consultation and testing calls, I advised our Board chairman and our president last month that we should suspend activities related to the Tolsona well. Suspension means that personnel, equipment and materials will be demobilized from the site. We'll spend the next few months deciding if the well should be plugged and abandoned.

These results are very disappointing, as we have all hoped and prayed for commercial success. However, we should be proud of what this project delivered:

- Outstanding safety record.
- Shareholder hire and development.

- Penetrating and evaluating the targeted zone and qualifying for state credits.
- Obtaining a large non-8(a) revenue base for AEI to help it obtain additional sole-source work.
- Learning a great deal about the gas prospects on Ahtna lands outside of Tolsona. There was a tremendous amount of data analysis and correlations done between various wells.
- Increasing awareness from the industry that Ahtna is open for business.

I want to personally thank the shareholder-owners who have safely worked so hard – EVERY DAY– during this effort. I also would like to thank the Board and all the management personnel who have invested so much time, talent and treasury into Tolsona.

CARBON CREDIT UPDATE

Last quarter's issue of the Kanas included an article on a new program Ahtna is exploring called "carbon offsetting." After meeting with other Alaska Native corporations and carbon-project developers, our Board of Directors told us to proceed with the project so long as our inventory is more than 4 million tons of carbon. It turns out that our carbon stocks inventory is at 7.5 million tons, which is nearly twice as much carbon as we expected. Moreover, BP is committed to purchasing 6 million tons, and may be interested in purchasing the remaining volume. That means we already have a buyer

lined up for almost all of the credits we are likely to be allowed to sell. This month begins the initial six-month reporting and verification-process period.

I'm so proud of the great work by our shareholderowners who have advanced this project, and the hard work of the Ahtna support team including HR, Shareholder Development, Legal and Finance. This project is a game changer that will benefit Ahtna shareholder-owners for years to come.

We are committed to protecting the money this project will generate. The entire Board and management team recognize your concerns that shareholder-owners get lasting value from this project, and we will work to find ways to make that possible. That means this revenue cannot leave the company as quickly as it comes in: we will structure receipt of the revenue for long-term prosperity.

2017 PRIORITIES

If our 2017 priorities sound similar to 2016, it's because they are. Our Board provides the framework for what they want management to focus on and – as our chairman stated earlier – our priorities focus on delivering for you – our owners:

- 1. Safety
- 2. Shareholder-owner hire and development
- 3. Ahtna region business and profitability

Tourism has become a strategic focus for our Board. Ahtna has some of the most beautiful land in the world and we want to utilize our land and create jobs for our shareholder-owners by developing this renewable resource. We are actively studying options for an Ahtna resort complex in the Denali area. A conceptual layout is being developed. We will update you as the project moves forward.

It has been an amazing and humbling experience to visit with shareholder-owners during the gatherings in Anchorage, Fairbanks and Glennallen this past year. I've learned so much about you and the culture and traditional values of the Ahtna. Thank you.

I hope your holidays have been merry and happy new year to you all.

Jom Maloney

COMING UP

Upcoming Job Fair in Anchorage! Join us at the Ahtna headquarters office on February 4 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Remember to bring your resume.

SUBSIDIARY SPOTLIGHT

AHTNA ENGINEERING SERVICES

WHAT ARE AHTNA ENGINEERING SERVICES' (AES) **CORE SERVICES?**

Founded in 2003, AES is an established, self-performing, government contractor with experience managing timesensitive, design-build, construction, professional services, staffing augmentation and environmental projects across the United States.

Core capabilities include site investigations, remedial and removal actions, stormwater-pollution prevention, vertical construction, design/build construction, renovations, civil construction, operations and maintenance, records management and document control, staffing augmentation, and complex logistics.

CONTRACTING STATUS

Graduated from 8(a) program in February 2016, considered a Small Disadvantaged Business within certain NAICS codes

STAFF AND OFFICE LOCATIONS

182 employees in offices located in Anchorage and Fairbanks, AK; SeaTac, WA; Pleasant Hill, Marina and Irvine, CA; and Crystal City, VA. Tim Finnigan, President.

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS:

• \$500 million capacity worldwide, multiple-award IDIQ AE13 environmental services contract with the Air Force Civil Engineer Center

- \$5.5 million, removal action, Attu Island, AK, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District
- \$48.5 million, environmental services and construction IDIQ contract. AFICA Pacific Air Force Installations (sub to Versar)

AES IN THE ALEUTIAN ISLANDS

In 2013, AES won a seat on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers environmental remediation services (ERS) contract. To date, we have been awarded 10 task orders totaling approximately \$25 million. Of note are the awards to perform work in the Aleutian Islands, a region well known for its complex conditions from near constant fog and rain, to lack of infrastructure. So far, we have been awarded work in Amaknak Island (Dutch Harbor), Tanaga Island, Cape Sarichef and Atka Island. Most recently, we won a project on Attu Island, the western-most island in the Aleutians, and the site of the only World War II land battle to take place on U.S. soil. Tim Gould, vice president, shared his excitement regarding the Attu task order: "This is a big win for our team and involves the excavation and removal of over 5.000 tons of contaminated soil and drums at Attu Island. The project will provide a full season of work for four of our scientists and engineers and three of our craft laborers, representing a significant effort for Ahtna over the next 16 months."

AES's work in the Aleutians will be featured in a three-part series of articles published in The Military Engineer over the course of six months – from May 2017 through the September 2017 issue.





AHTNA SUBSIDIARY FEATURED IN SOCIETY OF AMERICAN MILITARY ENGINEER'S MAGAZINE, THE MILITARY ENGINEER

AES performed phase one of two of a construction project involving design, repairs and alterations to water-damaged U.S. Coast Guard family housing units located in Cordova, Alaska, an area that experiences an average of 206 days of precipitation per year, including gale-force winds and intermittent snowfall and rain, resulting in icy conditions. The project was time-critical not only because work was performed while the units were occupied, but because of the risk of mold to human health, as well as structural failure due to water damage. Despite challenging working conditions, Ahtna completed the project ahead of schedule and to the full satisfaction of the housing occupants and the U.S. Coast Guard

To read the full article, go to pages 54-56 of the magazine at this link:

http://online.fliphtml5.com/fedg/wgjs/#p=56

STAR AWARDS -





Gregory Wells recently received a STAR Level 1 Award for at least two reasons. Greg has been responsible for the effective implementation of multiple and varied projects and their Safety & Health Plans at AGSC/ ADB for several years. Under Greg's safety leadership, his projects have had zero OSHA recordable incidents over thousands of work hours logged; zero regulatory citations or violations, despite multiple high-visibility projects; and helped AGSC and Ahtna, Inc. achieve an experience modification rate far below the industry average.

Also in September, Greg was helpful in assisting an injured motorist. On his way home from a field project, Greg was instrumental in providing first-responder assistance to a seriously injured motorist. Arriving first on the scene, equipped with Ahtna's first aid materials, Greg was joined by two retired EMTs. By providing first-aid, contacting emergency responders and performing site control, Greg and the retired EMTs mitigated the extent of the victim's injury and possibly saved his life.

Gregory Wells (right), AGSC/ADB construction superintendent, receives STAR Level 1 Award from David Frenzel, director of construction (AGSC / ADB).

LANDS SPOTLIGHT **GOVERNMENT TO AHTNA IN 1898:** ASSIMILATE OR BE REMOVED

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the next in a series of historical sketches by Bill Simeone. You can contact Bill at wesimeone2@gmail.com.

Hoping to use an all-American route to the Klondike goldfields, thousands of prospectors swarmed into the Copper Basin in the spring and summer of 1898. Like an invading army, they burned and cleared land, and went hunting and fishing.

Settlement soon followed – roads, towns and schools were built and the Kennecott Copper Mine began operation. The Ahtna protested that game was scarce, white man's food made them ill and they could not make a living if tied to one place while their children attended school. In response, the government told the Ahtna they could either assimilate and give up their traditional way of life - or

Up until World War II, most Ahtna families remained on the land, but the government continued to demand assimilation by insisting Ahtna children attend school and enforcing hunting and fishing regulations. World War II not only increased the pace of change, but revealed the Ahtna had become strangers in their own land. Two incidents exposed

the indiscriminate power of the American government: the forced removal of Ahtna from their village at Dry Creek so the U.S. Army could build an airfield and the destruction of Gulkana Village when the government decided to realign the Richardson Highway.

Years later, Ahtna Elders recalled no one said anything when the army came and destroyed their homes "...the Indians just let it go, just like they thought they were on somebody else's land."

In the 1950s, many young Ahtna became politicized through association with the Alaska Native Brotherhood (ANB). The first meeting of ANB Camp No. 36 was held on April 10, 1954, at the Copper Center Hall. Harry Johns was president, Fred Ewan vice president, Walter Charley secretary and Oscar Craig treasurer. Throughout the 1960s and early 1970s, the ANB led the fight to reassert Ahtna presence on their land and to protect their traditional way

facilitate the war effort drew thousands of Anchorage and Fairbanks residents to hunt and to fish for salmon in Ahtna territory. The large numbers so concerned the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) that it restricted fishing in the upper Copper River in 1964 without consulting the Ahtna. The state argued that the salmon fishery had become largely recreational as few people actually needed the salmon to survive.

The Ahtna disagreed, pointing out that the new regulation restricted their ability to harvest salmon. In a letter to ADF&G, Markle F. Ewan Sr. wrote that the majority of Ahtna did not have freezers and needed to dry their salmon, and that many Elders still depended on the salmon to survive. Nevertheless, the regulations remained in place.

ADF&G restrict fishing

In 1966, ADF&G again restricted the subsistence fishery without consulting the Ahtna. ANB President Harry Johns wrote that the Ahtna were concerned that the state had acted arbitrarily and as a protest they would fish despite the new regulations. Following a statewide outcry, ADF&G backed down and opened the fishery. The state again limited the fishery in 1978 without consulting the Ahtna, and again the Ahtna protested. Robert Marshall, president of the Copper River Native Association, wrote that the Ahtna needed the fish and he protested the way the state had chained and padlocked the fish wheels of Ahtna Elders. Again the state backed down and opened the fishery.

The Ahtna have never given up our claims to our traditional territory or the right to our traditional way of life. Led today by Elders like Eleanor Dementi, Roy Ewan and Nick Jackson, the Ahtna continue to demand an equal right to makina decisions about our traditional way of life.

Following World War II, roads built to As Bacille Jackson wrote for the Copper River Advisory Committee in 1978, "At no time since our fathers completely owned this land have they or we given up our right to live a subsistence lifestyle. We have not traded off the right to catch fish for our families from our river. We are not about to give this right to the State of Alaska or the federal government today or at any future time at any price."

Bacille Jackson wrote this statement for the Copper River Advisory Committee in 1978:

When our fathers and grandfathers met the first white people to come up the Copper River, there was no question in anyone's mind that they owned all the land and resources in the area. This included the big game in the hills as well as the fish in the river.

History shows that we we're not greedy with our resources, but shared them first with the Russians, later with the gold miners of 1898, and until this day, with the white people who are our neighbors. Furs, big game, timber, minerals and fish that originally belonged to us have been taken continuously by others with seldom a complaint on our part.

Losing control of land

Today we all know times have changed, statehood and the Native Land Claims Bill [ANCSA] seem to bear this out that much of the land doesn't belong to us anymore. In the few short years since the turn of the century (which many of our old folks can remember), we have come from complete ownership of land and all its riches to what often seems to us at most as trespassers on anothers [sic] land. Now we are told much of the land belongs to others, we are told when to hunt, where to hunt, where to mine, where to cut timbers, when to fish, where to fish, when to trap, where to trap, and on and on and on.

At no time since our fathers completely owned this land have they or we given up our right to live a subsistence life style. We have not traded off the right to catch fish for our families from our river. We are not about to give this right to the State of Alaska or the federal government today or at any future time at any price.

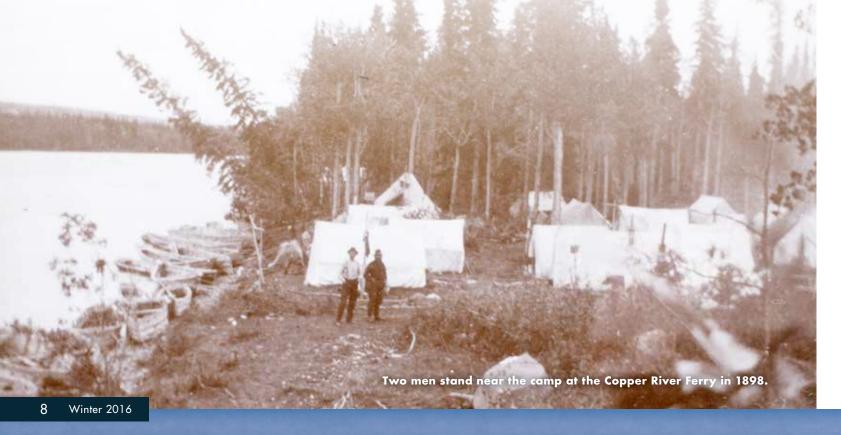
Protest great injustice

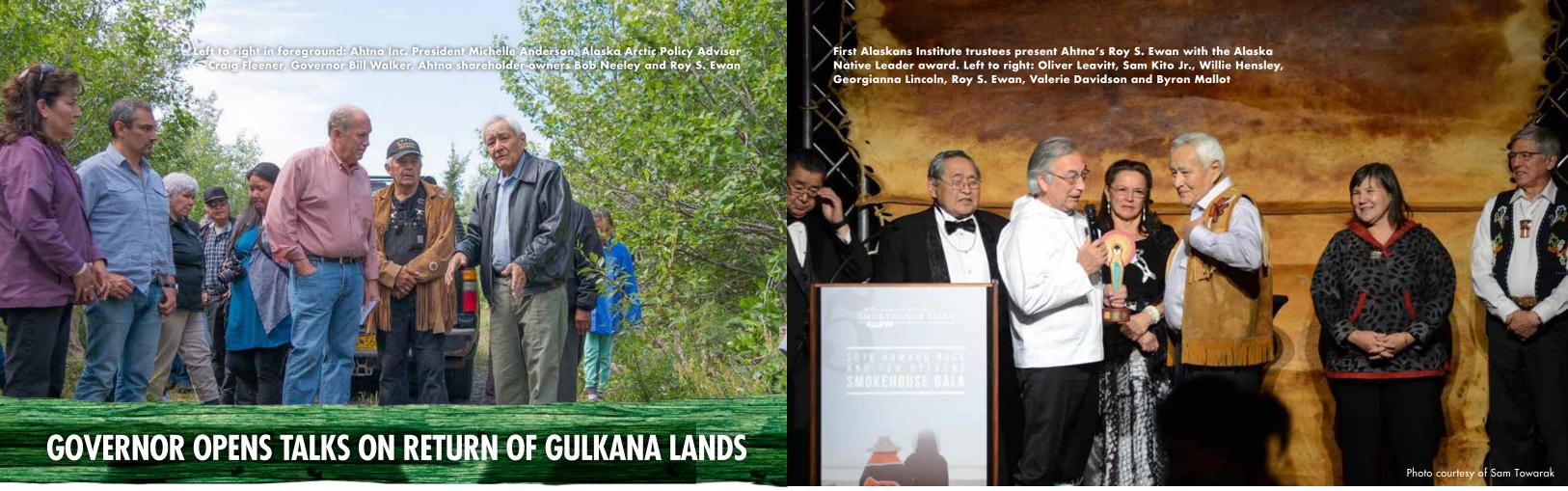
Today we are here to protest what we believe is a great injustice to our people. We are being told that the fish of the Copper River no longer belong to us and, that we no longer have the right to take them when and how we want for our own needs. Great emphasis seems to be given to the use of the fish by the commercial fishermen in the Cordova area and by the dip-netters from the Fairbanks and Anchorage areas. We seem to be the last people whose need and desires are being met.

A history of our people show that when fish runs are good, our fathers did well; when fish runs were poor, our people starved. Truly the fish of the Copper River have been the basic necessity for the existence of our people throughout time.

Many of us here today grew up in the 1920s and 1930s when a subsistence life style was necessary. We still hang on to some of that life-style. Certainly we would not be too intelligent to give up our right to the life-line of our people throughout history, on the chance that Alaska and America will never again face depression or wars, and we won't ever again have to depend on the salmon of the Copper River for our livelihood. We believe that the State of Alaska doesn't have the right to lock up our fishwheels or our people for fishing. We further believe the state does not have the right to keep our people from subsistence fishing!

Minutes of the Copper River Advisory Committee on file, ADF&G, Glennallen





Representatives from Gov. Bill Walker's administration are meeting with Ahtna and the Gulkana Village Council to being made a explore a path forward to return the villagers' sacred lands several goals: that are currently in state possession.

The working group formed after Walker visited Gulkana in June and heard firsthand the story of a bisected village and decades of ancestral grave desecration that began when the U.S. government built a highway bridge over the Gulkana River in 1943. Village residents had to move to the other side of the road, away from the cemetery.

Roy Ewan estimates 100 family members are buried in the cemetery.

"My grandpa, my grandma, my uncle, my auntie, my sister, my brothers. All we come together there all the time," 90-year-old Hazel Neeley of Gulkana told KTVA-TV. That is until 1943, when Hazel was only 18 and returned with her family from a trapping trip to find a road had been built right through their village.

The 13 acres their family's gravesite sits on was signed over to the state of Alaska in 1971. It's now a campground and a boat launch. Ahtna and Gulkana have proposed a land swap that would exchange the 13 acres the cemetery sits on for another piece of land on the other side of the bridge.

While conversations are in the early stages, progress is being made and the working group has embraced several goals:

- Complete legal and expeditious return of sacred lands
- Account for DOT&PF transportation mission needs associated with the existing bridge (Maintenance and operational access and future bridge rehab scheduled for 2018)
- Ensure reasonable alternative public access to the Gulkana River (Ahtna has plans for a new boat-launch facility)
- Collaborate on a public process for those impacted so they have opportunity to be heard and provide input
- Account for fiscal reality both the state and Ahtna/ Gulkana are working within tight fiscal constraints

Everyone interested in this topic should stay tuned for public process announcements in which opportunities for input will be offered and welcomed.

THANK YOU, ROY EWAN, FOR 'STANDING UP FOR OUR RIGHTS AND ASPIRATIONS'

There are leaders who define generations by their dedicated, loyal and enduring service – and Roy S. Ewan exemplifies these traits.

For his humble and quiet leadership, the First Alaskans Institute, a statewide Alaska Native nonprofit organization, presented Roy with the Alaska Native Leader Howard Rock Award. This honor is given to a person who has shown quality of character and effort to be a leader by putting their community and people before themselves. The award was presented November 19 at the fifth annual Howard Rock & Ted Stevens Smokehouse Gala.

Roy's role as an Elder, culture bearer and advocate continues to this day. "Recently, he spent time with Gov. Bill Walker in his community of Gulkana, visiting the gravesites of his family and people, advocating for the return of these sacred grounds to the village," the award noted.

"He has always strived to make Ahtna a company that its shareholders can be proud of, and has spent his life generously serving the Ahtna people through engagement, advocacy, legislation and business," the award stated. "It is an incredible honor to recognize him for all he has done in

standing up for our Native peoples, our rights and our aspirations."

Roy served on the Ahtna Board for over 20 years. He is a former president/CEO of Ahtna and has also served on many Ahtna subsidiary boards and committees. Roy was involved in the passage of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act and continues to advocate for the Ahtna region. He was instrumental in advocating for co-management of Ahtna lands and the protection of our ways of life.

He is a past board member of the Alaska State Chamber of Commerce, the Alaska Native Heritage Park, the Alaska Federation of Natives and the Resource Development Council. He is past co-chair of the Alaska Federation of Natives, SNOW PAC and the Southcentral Subsistence Advisory Council.

Roy is originally from Kluti-Kaah, then moved to Gulkana after marrying is wife. He and his wife, Glenda, have one daughter, Jackie Johnny.



It took 45 long years, but Ahtna shareholder-owners now may have a greater say in how moose and caribou are managed on our traditional lands.

A pilot program announced in December by Department of Interior (DOI) Deputy Secretary Michael Conner allows the Ahtna Intertribal Resource Committee (AITRC) to cooperatively manage the subsistence moose and caribou hunt on federal land for tribal members. It also creates a local advisory committee and formalizes a bigger role for local communities in federal wildlife-management decisions. Many of the implementation details of the program will need to be worked out over the next months and years, but the agreement is a historic step in the right direction.

The signing of the agreement comes on the heels of the two statements made by U.S. Department of the Interior Secretary Jewell Sally' at the Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) Conference in October. She announced the release of Secretarial Order No. 3342, requiring the Interior Department's agencies to include tribes in the management of federal lands and resources where possible. The Interior Department's agencies include the National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management and Bureau of Reclamation

"The announcement comes at a time when we expect to see food shortages

in our region due to weak salmon runs and a substantial increase in competition for limited game resources, such as moose and caribou," said Ahtna Chairman Nicholas Jackson. "The state-managed moose hunt permits a take of 100 moose, with over 3,000 hunters in the Ahtna region and no assurance that the Ahtna people will have enough customary and traditional foods. Something must change and this directive is a step in the right direction."

The directive does not make tribes co-managers, but instead requires federal land managers to consult with tribes and develop new ways to make Native people partners in managing fish and wildlife, cultural sites, plant collection and public information.



The need to protect the subsistence hunt for Ahtna's people was acknowledged by both the state and federal governments.

"As Alaska's population has grown, the Ahtna people have borne the brunt of increasing hunting pressure on their traditional lands because these areas are fairly accessible to much of the Railbelt region, home to 70 percent of Alaska's population," said DOI's Connor. "This agreement is an effort to help preserve their traditional way of life, put food on the table and improve wildlife habitat and populations for everyone."

"Ahtna has long-standing concerns about the rules governing the subsistence hunt," Gov. Bill Walker said. "It is encouraging to see DOI engaging with Ahtna and its tribes and exercising the flexibility provided by federal law to address those concerns."

The Ahtna Cooperative Management Demonstration Project is the first cooperative agreement established nationwide under the new DOI order. It recognizes that tribes have special geographical, historical and cultural connections to federal lands and waters, and that tribes have traditional ecological knowledge and practices regarding resource management that have been handed down through generations. It was established for the benefit of healthy ecosystems, wildlife populations, the Ahtna traditional way of life and all those that wish to enjoy the federal lands that lie within Ahtna's traditional territory.

"The DOI and AITRC share mutual concern for conservation of healthy wildlife populations and their habitats, as well as ensuring sustainable and sufficient harvests for customary and traditional subsistence uses," said AITRC Board Chair Christopher Gene. "The ability of our people to pass down traditional knowledge and customary practices from generation to generation has allowed us to thrive for thousands of years. We are very thankful for the work of Secretary Jewell and Deputy Secretary Connor and their staff to make sure our traditional ecological knowledge and customary and traditional management practices are heard and represented."

"This kind of collaboration with tribal nations can help ensure that we are appropriately and genuinely integrating indigenous expertise, experience and perspectives into management of federal lands and waters," Jewell said.

Rural Alaskans in the Ahtna region who are not tribal members will continue to hunt on federal lands under the Federal Subsistence Management Program as before and will not be affected by the agreement.

"The practical impact on other Alaska hunters would be minimal since the amount of moose, caribou and other

wildlife resources necessary to meet Ahtna's needs is only a small percentage of the total take of wildlife within Ahtna's traditional territory," said Chairman Jackson. "Moreover, AITRC intends to increase the current moose population through enhancement of habitat on Ahtna lands."

Federal lands in the Ahtna region include portions of Denali National Park and Preserve, Wrangell St. Elias National Park and Preserve, Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge and scatted Bureau of Land Management lands around the Richardson and Denali Highways.

A HISTORIC FIRST FOR TRIBAL RIGHTS

"We recognize that the hunting pressure and fierce competition that the Ahtna communities experience to provide moose and caribou for their families on traditional lands has been challenging."

- Interior Secretary Sally Jewell

"Our hope is that it can provide a model for other tribes to adopt."

- Ahtna President Michelle Anderson

"It's a momentous occasion."

- AITRC Executive Director Karen Linnell

"This agreement is an effort to help preserve their traditional life ..."

- Deputy DOI Secretary Michael Conner

"Ahtna has long-standing concerns about the rules governing the subsistence hunt."

- Gov. Bill Walker

"The ability of our people to pass down traditional knowledge and customary practices ... has allowed us to thrive for thousands of years."

- AITRC Board Chair Christopher Gene





This year marks 40 years of oil flowing through the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS). Every year, the Alyeska Alaska Native Program funds the Building Foundations for Excellence Program (BFEP).

"This is a highly competitive program, and it speaks volumes that Ahtna shareholders have been sought out for these positions," says Alaska Native Program Manager Matt Carle. Only five positions are funded at any given time and this year, two positions opened up, one of which went to Ahtna shareholder-owner Rick Morlock III.

Over the next two years, Rick will receive the handson experience and mentorship he needs to become a pipeline civil maintenance coordinator (P&MC). His path to success includes a development program, coordinated higher education options and tuition for courses necessary to fulfill job requirements.

As part of the BFEP program, Alyeska commits to offering positions to candidates who successfully complete the program. That was the case for Ahtna shareholderowner James Pence. James entered the program a little over two years ago and is now the Yukon response base supervisor (RBS). RBSs have a huge responsibility. They keep the entire facility functioning – power, food, water/wastewater, etc. In addition to the baseline crew, James is the Alyeska on-site representation for contractors from NANA for catering and Doyon for security. "Leadership is huge throughout the program and I make sure I speak to the new program entrants and try to act as a mentor to ensure they are as prepared as possible for these positions," James says.

"James impressed us all. His skill set was impeccable and, when a spot opened up in the Yukon, we knew he was

the best person for the job," says Alyeska's Right-of-Way Director Lorena Hegdal. "The workers we get through the BFEP program have been amazing and hard-working."

Outside of the BFEP program, we spoke with two other Ahtna shareholder-owners employed at Alyeska. Loren Bell is a Northern Oil Spill Coordinator, responsible for ensuring spill response teams are fully equipped, trained and readily available along the pipeline from Prudhoe Bay to Pump Station 5. "Mainly, the challenges of this job are geographical and weather," Loren says. "The people I work with are outstanding. Alyeska's a great company to work for. If you do your job and come in with a good work ethic and accomplish goals with your team, they take care of you"

Like James, Rick and Loren, Ahtna shareholder-owner Daryl Beeter started with Ahtna Construction. Alyeska hired him in 2011 as a P&MC for Pump Station 5. In 2015, he moved to Pump Station 4 where he is accountable for 124 miles of pipeline right-of-way. He manages surveillance, manual gate values, conducts inspections, oversees permitting for right-of-way work, maintains oil spill response stations, and material stockpiles, and oversees the maintenance of the 5,200-foot runway for crew changes.

Between programs like BFEP, and opportunities for contracts with Ahtna subsidiaries, the partnership between Ahtna and Alyeska has proved to be extremely valuable. And as we continue to offer baseline training and education for these types of positions, our mutually beneficial relationship will continue to grow.

CLASS L STOCK ENROLLMENT

Application booklets are available online at **www.ahtna-inc.com** and at either Ahtna, Inc. office. Ahtna will not accept incomplete applications.

Eligibility requirements:

- Lineal descendant of an original Ahtna shareholderowner (such as child, grandchild, etc.)
- ¼ or more Alaska Native blood quantum
- Be born after Dec. 18, 1971
- Be a United States citizen
- Not be a shareholder-owner of another ANCSA Regional Corporation (except by gifting or inheritance)

Required documents:

- Class L Stock Application
- Original birth certificate An original birth certificate is the only document that will be accepted. If you do not have an original birth certificate, contact your local Vital Statistics office.
- Original Certificate of Indian Blood (CIB)
- For assistance regarding CIBs, contact the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Additional documents (required if applicable):

- Proof of name change (if name is different from that listed on birth certificate)
- Proof of custodianship (if not a biological or adoptive parent)
- Paternity affidavit (if parent is not listed by one or both parents on birth certificate)
- Adoption court order (if adopted by one or both parents)

IMPORTANT: If you are a Class L shareholder-owner, are of age and have received your high school diploma, GED or equivalent, please remember that Shareholder Services needs proof of graduation/completion, such as a copy of your diploma, so they can transfer your remaining shares to you. Please note that Class L applications and graduate gift requests are managed under separate programs and proof of graduation must be submitted separately to each. When first enrolled, a Class L shareholder-owner receives 30 shares of Class L stock. Upon turning 18 and receiving a high school diploma, GED or equivalent, Class L shareholder-owners receive an additional 70 shares of Class L stock, for a total of 100 shares.

NAME AND ADDRESS CHANGE

It is important that your mailing address and other contact information be kept current so that you receive dividend distributions as well as other mail from Ahtna, including company announcements, newsletters and annual meeting materials. Those who need updated contact information are listed on the website at:

ahtna-inc.com/shareholders/bad-address-list/

You may update your address and phone number on the talent bank at shareholder.ahtna.net or by calling Shareholder Services at (907) 822-3476 or emailing

shservices@ahtna.net.

DIRECT DEPOSIT

iract deposit halps you receive your divide

Direct deposit helps you receive your dividend faster. The form can be found on our website.



ANDERSON TELLS RDC THAT AHTNA IS WELL-POSITIONED FOR FUTURE

Ahtna President Michelle Anderson shared the Ahtna story with more than a thousand Alaskans who attended the Resource Development Council's (RDC) annual meeting November 17 in Anchorage.

Michelle split the keynote duties with Doyon's Aaron Schutt, speaking about "Facing the Future with Confidence."

Like RDC, Ahtna believes it can grow the corporation through the responsible resource development of its holdings in oil and gas, mining, timber, tourism and fisheries. "We're open for business, and we're looking for strategic partners to grow our businesses," she said.

As the trans-Alaska pipeline traverses 55 miles of Ahtna land, the corporation's relationship with Alaska's economic backbone dates back 40 years. Ahtna has the highest percentage of Native hire of any Alyeska Pipeline Service Co. contractor – and Michelle's family lived near Pump Station 11. "How many kids grew up with a pipeline in

your back yard?" she asked.

The Ahtna region has some of the largest and best sources of hard rock for minerals – and it's completely accessible by road and rail.

It also contains some 500,000 acres of commercial forest land and enough wood to heat the region for 100 years on a sustainable basis.

Michelle said the corporation is looking at tourism opportunities as it analyzes how best to use its 600,000 acres in Wrangell-St. Elias and its smaller holdings at Denali. "Our villages are gateways into the national park system and we're trying to become a destination."

"I've coined a new motto," she said. "The Ahtna region is halfway to everywhere in Alaska and a strategic location for future growth."



SHAREHOLDER APPOINTED AS AFN VILLAGE REP

director for both Chitina Native Corporation and Ahtna Intertribal Resource Commission. For nearly

10 years, Danna has been involved in various Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) activities, keen to learn how best to serve and support the best interests of the Ahtna people. Danna's recent appointment as the AFN village representative speaks to her unending commitment to the Ahtna people and to ensuring a strong voice on topics such as natural-resource management, customary and traditional rights, and economic opportunities that secure prosperity for future generations.

As an Ahtna shareholder-owner, Danna was raised in Chitina. Her grandparents are Neil and Hannah

Danna Finnesand serves as a board Finnesand. Her parents are Martin and Beverly Finnesand. Danna and her husband, Chris McIntyre, have two daughters, Katelynn and Nicole McIntyre. Danna and her family still call Chitina home, where they enjoy much fishing and hiking. She also loves to bead and paint.

> On serving as the AFN village representative, Danna states that she is "excited and honored to be further involved in AFN, to be helping make a positive impact and difference for the Ahtna people. It is through working together that we will successfully protect our traditional and subsistence way of life. My Ahtna leaders and Elders have always been a true source of inspiration, and I will always look out for the best interest of our people."

VILLAGE HIGHLIGHT: CANTWELL

Cantwell is named after Lieutenant J. C. Cantwell, military explorer and commander of the revenue steamer Corwin on the Yukon River, 1898-1900. It started its modern history as a railroad flag stop at the junction with the Denali Highway. Today's population is 219.

Historically, its inhabitants were nomadic Tanana Indians and Athabascan Alaska Natives who hunted and fished in the area they knew as Yidateni Na' in Ahtna Athabascan.

Today, the community supports nearby Denali National Park. Almost 20 percent of its workforce is in accommodations and food, followed by 13 percent in education and construction.



While Rena Nicklie's community of Cantwell sits in the shadow of Denali National Park, it's 150 miles from the nearest recycling center. So she started her own.

Rena is the environmental coordinator for the Native Village of Cantwell. She saw a growing problem and came up with a great solution.

Trash from the park and its associated businesses goes to the Denali Borough's landfill. The 15 tons of trash that park visitors left behind in 1995 had exploded to 220 tons by 2015, threatening to overwhelm the landfill.

Rena's answer was to partner with the borough to open a recycling center. The borough lets Rena use a vacant building, it owns and Rena secured a grant from the Indian General Assistance Program.

Denali Park became part of the solution when it became a pilot park for the Zero Landfill Initiative, a partnership among the National Parks Conservation Association, Subaru of America, the National Park Service and park concessionaires. By diverting waste through such practices as phasing out single-use plastic water bottles and bags, Denali hopes to halve the amount of waste it sends to the borough landfill by next year.

Now cardboard from the park and the shops around its entrance are turned into pellets to heat homes.

"This is a great example of a win-win," said Borough Mayor Clay Walker.

CBS Sunday Morning featured Rena's efforts in a segment titled "One woman's recycling revolution." You can watch it on YouTube at www.youtube.com/ watch?v=1GwHe7zSM3s&feature=youtu.be

Why does she do it? "For me, recycling is common



SHAREHOLDER SPOTLIGHT



AHTNA BOARD MEMBER NAMED TO BOARD OF GAME

Gov. Bill Walker appointed Ahtna Board member Karen Linnell of Glennallen Board of Game. Karen is a longtime resident of the Copper River basin.

A lifelong subsistence hunter and fisher. Karen has over a decade of experience working on fish and game management

issues in our region. She is the executive director of the Copper River-Ahtna Inter-Tribal Resource Conservation District and chair of the Wrangell-St. Elias Subsistence Resource Commission. Additionally, she has served on the Copper River Basin Fish and Game Advisory Committee for more than eight years.

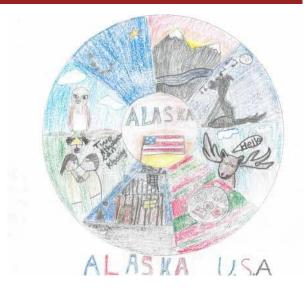
"Management of our state's wildlife resources impacts thousands of Alaskans," said Walker. "Karen's experience working in the Copper River basin has provided her with a deep understanding of the challenges and complexities to serve on the Alaska in Alaska's dual management system. Her background will prove to be an asset to the Board of Game and the State of Alaska "

> Walker noted Karen's experience working on state, federal and tribal boards gives her a unique perspective on issues related to wildlife management.

> "It is important that any governing body understand different perspectives and how that relates to the work before them," Walker said. "Given her past work with many different interest groups, I am confident that Karen's insights will be of great benefit and build on the sound dynamic of the existing Board."

> The Alaska Board of Game consists of seven members serving three-year terms. Members are appointed by the governor and require confirmation by the Alaska Legislature.





Lena Layland of Cantwell, age 10, granddaughter to Eleanor and the late Gilbert Dementi Sr., and daughter to Ahtna shareholder-owners Sam and Tammany George of Cantwell, won the contest for Doyon Limited's holiday card. She won the grand prize, 32 gb iPad mini with her name engraved. Her artwork was used on the 2016 Doyon Limited holiday card. Congrats, Lena!



AHTNA ROOTS LEAD YATIBAEY TO CAREER IN EDUCATION

One of Alaska's leading Native educators credits her Ahtna roots for her lifelong love of her profession.

And now Ahtna shareholder-owner Yatibaev Evans is settling in her new role as president of the National Indian Education Association (NIEA).

"Being Ahtna is very central to why I pursued education, growing up

with the teachings of my grandma, Molly Galbreath, Katie John and all the Elders in Mentasta, Chistochina and Copper River area. They were great mentors and great leaders," she told Ahtna Corporate Communications Coordinator Brianne

Growing up Ahtna was special, Evans says. "To have a whole community of love and support, especially from those who have gone through the trials and the fires and came out on the other side to see a positive result in their lives. My Uncle Fred John, along with many other Elders and Elders in training, often telling me to 'Go and get your education and come back and serve your people.

Despite all the challenges we may face as a people, we rise above them. We have so many shining stars, so many amazing people who are a part of the Ahtna family. Aunties and uncles and those who have passed. And all that they stood up for, all the battles that were fought on our behalf. It is incredible, the strength of our people."

Evans took over as president of NIEA a month ago. The association was formed by Native educators in 1969 to encourage a national discourse on Native education.

"It is a lot of fun working with so many professionals who have dedicated their lives to education. There are so many

really brilliant and smart people working on behalf of Native children. I am grateful for having the privilege and honor working alongside them and being on a team with them," she said when asked about her first month in office.

She said she is pursuing an aggressive agenda as NIEA president.

"We are trying to encourage tribes and tribal organizations to get in engaged with meaningful consultation under the Every Student Succeeds Act. The school districts that have the title programs are obligated to reach out to every tribe that has a student in their school and invite them to these meetings and have conversations about how school districts should run the program. It is not just the Indian Education programs, but all the different title programs. This is a first time for this sort of consultation "

"After hearing so many concerns over the years, from families, parents and communities, about what they want to see, now is their opportunity to really weigh in and be creative in working together with school districts throughout

"We are also starting a Native Teachers Campaign, strategizing to get Alaska Native and Native American teachers to stay in education, and encouraging them to stay or return to their Native communities to teach our young people. By thinking outside of the box, and as well as looking at other models like Indian Health Services for student loan forgiveness programs. Thinking about ways to get to kids in school now, to get them excited and interested in careers in education, help them develop that passion at an early age."

Evans oversees the Title VII program, Alaska Native Education (ANE), in Fairbanks, and is an adjunct professor for the Department of Alaska Native Studies at Rural Development at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.



MEET THE BOARD



BOARD IS SHAREHOLDERS' VOICE TO AHTNA MANAGEMENT TEAM

After 16 years of being a Board member, John Craig took a year off in 2015, but was happy to come back

this year to continue serving Ahtna's shareholder-owners.

John and his wife of 42 years live in Glennallen. They have four children (two of whom have passed), 17 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren.

What tribe are you with?

Native Village of Kluti-Kaah. My clan is the Udzisyu (Caribou Clan).

Describe your family lineage, childhood and/or inspirations.

I was born in Cordova and lived there until I was 7 when I moved to Copper Center, where dad is from. I had 17 brothers and sisters. We learned to live a subsistence life filled with fishing and hunting. My dad taught me about how important it is to work hard and get up early. Since I was 8, I'd get up early with my dad and, to this day, I get up at four in the morning. Work ethics was instilled in me by my father. I went to grade school in Copper Center, then Glennallen for high school. I then attended a trade school in Kansas for auto mechanics, and joined the Navy in 1965 as a SeaBee (Construction Battalion). I served for almost four years during the Vietnam War.

Can you tell me more about your work history and community involvement?

After the service, I worked in a number of different positions: construction, the railroad, the city of Anchorage. I even managed a few grocery businesses throughout Anchorage. In 1975, I started my career at Ahtna Rogers and Babler. After the completion of the pipeline, Ahtna Construction took over and I transferred to Pump 12 as a supervisor for Ahtna Construction for 22 years.

What excites you the most about the Board's work?

I really enjoy working for the people. The shareholder-owners are my main concern. Our job is to get the corporation built up to where it benefits the people. I helped push for the Settlement Trust Fund that will hopefully lead to tax-free earnings for all of our shareholder-owners. Education is also a big priority for me. Investing in our people will make for a prosperous future. I helped establish a number of college funds and scholarships for youth.

What do you want all shareholder-owners to know about the Board?

We are here for the shareholder-owners. We work hard and truly care about where we are going and how we are going to get there. The priorities the board set for the Ahtna management team have come from listening to all of you. We are the shareholders' voice to our management team, so please continue to give us your thoughts and ideas.



CONDOLENCES

In loving memory of our shareholder-owners who have passed

Carlton Pete
Harry Henry
Russell Routt
Kimberly Miller
Susan Voyles

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY

Feb 4 - Job Fair, 11 a.m.- 3 p.m., Anchorage office

Feb 10 - Class L Deadline

Feb 13 - AITRC Board, 10 a.m., Glennallen

Feb 17-25 - Alaska Board of Game, Fairbanks

Feb 20 - President's Day

Feb 23 - JT Shareholder/ Policy Committee, 9 a.m. ■ **Feb 24** - Land Committee, 9 a.m.

Feb 28 - Deadline for all Board nominations

MARCH

Mar 13 - AITRC Board, 10 a.m., Glennallen

Mar 13 - Audit & Financial Committee w/ Al/AN BODs, 9 a.m., Anchorage Mar 14 - Oversight & Improvement Committee, 9 a.m.

Mar 20-24 - AK Board of Fisheries Statewide, Anchorage

Mar 23-25 - Al, AN BOD, 9 a.m., Sacramento

Mar 24 - Deadline for SVO Ballots

APRIL

Apr 1 - Cantwell SVO Tri- Annual

Apr 5 - Record Closing

Apr 8 - Kluti-Kaah SVO Tri-Annual

Apr 10 - AITRC Board, 10 a.m., Glennallen **Apr 14** - Good Friday

Apr 16 - Easter Sunday

= Video Conference

20 Winter 2016 21

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Consolidated Balance Sheet

The Consolidated Balance Sheet shows economic resources that we own (assets), what we owe (liabilities) and the stockholders' ownership in the business (stockholders' equity). The Consolidated Balance Sheet reflects a snapshot picture of our business at any given time.

Consolidated Statement of Operation

This statement shows our sales, expenses and profit from operations. It is a reflection of our business activity and gives an overview of how we are doing financially during a certain period of time.

AHTNA, INCORPORATED, AND SUBSIDIARIES

Consolidated Statement of Operations (unaudited) For the Period Ending October 31, 2016 and 2015

	2016	2015
Revenues	\$ 173,095,598	147,235,042
Other regional corporation natural resources (7i)	1,536,231	2,691,796
Cost of revenues 1	145,107,088	123,086,602
Gross profit ²	29,524,741	26,840,236
Operating expenses ³	22,385,835	20,392,415
Income from operations	7,138,906	6,447,821
Other income (expense):		
Investment income	86,454	300,334
Interest expense	(141,705)	(180,986)
Gain from sale of property and equipment	52,181	974,789
Social, cultural and educational programs	(477,870)	(555,707)
Other	(404,769)	(66,365)
Total other income (expense)	(885,709)	472,065
Income before income taxes	6,253,197	6,919,886
Income taxes expense	(2,344,174)	(2,691,483)
Net income ⁴	3,909,023	4,228,403
Net (income) loss attributable to noncontrolling interests	(21,210)	(18,879)
Net income attributable to Ahtna, Incorporated	\$ 3,887,813	4,209,524
Earnings per share	16.35	17.70

AHTNA, INCORPORATED AND SUBSIDIARIES

Consolidated Balance Sheets (unaudited) October 31, 2016 and 2015

Assets	2016	2015
Current assets: Cash and cash equivalents ⁵ Marketable securities ⁶ Accounts receivable, net ⁷ Inventories Prepaid expenses and other current assets ⁸ Costs and estimated earnings in excess of billings on uncompleted contracts	\$ (407,098) 2,465,553 35,917,708 198,177 1,851,688 1,369,255	4,497,355 1,873,309 31,045,796 155,782 1,919,512
Total current assets	41,395,283	39,491,754
Deferred taxes Other assets Oil and gas exploration costs ⁹ Property and equipment, net ¹⁰	282,246 11,074,632 20,556,174	1,233,837 117,049 2,782,238 13,169,371
Total assets	\$ 73,308,335	56,794,249
Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity	2016	2015
Current liabilities: Line of credit 11 Accounts payable 12 Accrued expenses 13 Current portion of long-term debt Billings in excess of costs and estimated earnings on uncompleted contracts 14 Income taxes payable Deferred income Other current liabilities	\$ 7,785,697 13,074,412 15,360,313 507,802 3,341,465 853,136 1,285,826 196,487	4,000,000 4,744,270 12,073,666 771,083 5,651,589 1,728,311
Total current liabilities	42,405,138	29,200,811
Long-term debt, less current portion ¹⁵ Deferred taxes	879,550 4,065,416	485,940 2,929,902
Total liabilities	47,350,104	32,616,653
Stockholders' equity ¹⁶ : Common stock, no par value. Contributed capital Retained earnings Accumulated other comprehensive income, net of tax	- 25,894,071 27,033	- - 22,477,463 53,932
Total stockholders' equity attributable to Ahtna, Incorporated	25,921,104	22,531,395
Noncontrolling interests	37,127	1,646,201
Total stockholders' equity	25,958,231	24,177,596
Commitments and contingencies		
Total stockholders' equity	\$ 73,308,335	56,794,249

¹Cost of Revenue – Costs incurred in providing services to customers.

²Gross Profit – Revenue less cost of revenue.

³Operating Expenses – Costs associated with running core operations on a daily basis, such as general and administrative payroll, insurance and professional services.

⁴**Net Income** – Profit left after all expenses have been paid.

⁵Cash and Cash Equivalents – Includes cash and other liquid investments that are convertible into cash within three months.

⁶ Marketable Securities – Investments in marketable securities, such as stocks, bonds and mutual funds.

⁷**Accounts Receivable** – Money owed from customers to Ahtna from sales to customers.

⁸**Prepaid Expenses** – Amounts already paid for future services or goods.

⁹Oil and Gas Exploration Costs – The costs for exploring for oil and gas in the Ahtna region.

¹⁰Property Plant and Equipment – The cost of property and equipment purchased by the company less depreciation or costs for using the equipment

Line of Credit – Shorter-term amounts borrowed from financial institutions or banks to conduct operations.

¹²**Accounts Payable** – Amounts owned for purchases made by the company.

¹³Accrued Expenses – Amounts that will be paid in the future for company activity that has taken place.

¹⁴Billings in Excess of Costs and Estimated Earnings on

Uncompleted Contracts - Amounts billed on contracts that are in excess of costs recognized to date on contracts.

¹⁵**Long Term Debt** – Longer-term amounts borrowed from financial institutions or banks to conduct operations.

¹⁶Total Stockholders' Equity – Stockholder/owners ownership in the company and/or assets less liabilities.



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Nicholas Jackson Chair



Eleanor Dementi Vice Chair



Jason Hart Treasurer



Linda Tyone Secretary



Roy J. Tansy Sr.



John E. Craig



Lucille Lincoln



Dorothy Shinn



Karen Linnell







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