



# Chitina Native Corporation

Winter 2020-2021

## Newsletter

### A Word from the President

I hope this newsletter finds you and yours in good health and optimistic about a new year. With the effects of COVID 19, it has been difficult for us to communicate and share specifics around our 2020 performance. Within this newsletter, you will find that your Corporation is doing well, and the future looks bright .

This past year has provided some challenges for us all; however, your Board of Directors has focused on implementing plans to diversify and maintain operations.

I would also like to take a moment and thank our former CNC Board Member Jason Nessler for his many years of service and help me welcome our new Board Member, Joseph Hart. Included in this newsletter you will find some background information about Joseph. Your CNC Board of Directors welcomes his considerable experience to the board and looks forward to his contribution.

There are lots of changes being made within your corporation as we navigate the evolving business environment. We are not alone as there continues to be challenges to all Alaska Native Corporations (ANC) both at a State and Federal level. As an active Alaska Native Village Corporation Association Board Member, I will be keeping apprised of the new administration and how their agenda can effect Chitina Native Corporation and other ANC's.



Anne Thomas  
President

### A Message from the CEO

To say 2020 has been a challenging year would be an understatement. Not only for Chitina Native Corporation but for so many shareholders and employees across the country. While we may not be gathering with our friends and extended families as we usually do, I would like to take this opportunity to summarize this past year for your Corporation and some of the good work we can be grateful for.

For Chitina Native Corporation, we have seen record-setting growth with another year of great opportunities and safe operations. Based on these overall results we were able to deliver a record dividend. Our subsidiaries have maintained their revenue goals and in some cases exceeded them based on being responsive to federal contracting opportunities. The Anchorage CNC office has hired new staff and is preparing for another great year of growth. We have transitioned our Chitina Office Manager into a role specifically devoted to growing shareholder value as we look at long term shareholder programs.

With all of this said, we must remember this virus has taken its toll on shareholders and their family members alike. While the exponential growth in cases across the country is certainly concerning we must remain vigilant, there is hope on the horizon and we look forward to what the future may bring.



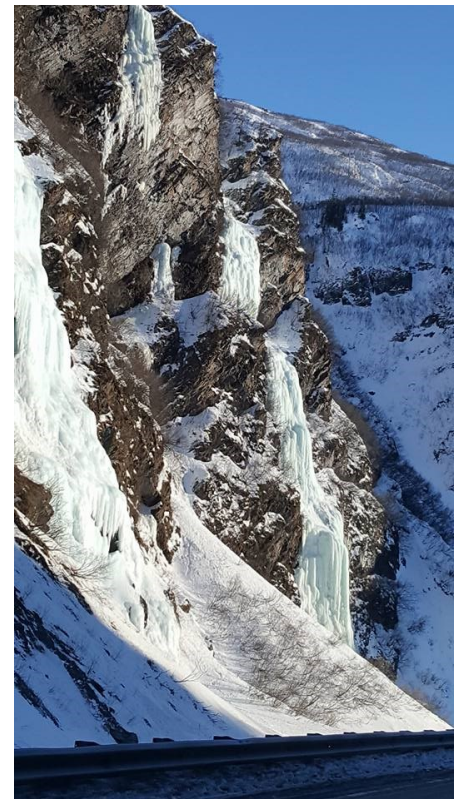
Ed Herndon  
CEO

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#### CNC Board of Directors

- Anne Thomas, President
- Arleen Lenard, Vice President
- Jason Hart, Secretary/Treasurer
- Danna Finnesand, Board Member
- Joseph Hart, Board Member
- Martin Finnesand, Honorary Elder



## *CNC subsidiaries continue to pursue opportunities*

2020 has been a challenging year for all businesses' concerns across our state and across the nation. With travel and gathering restrictions in place, It has caused Chitina Native Corporation to evaluate how business is conducted from Board Meetings to Project Marketing and general employee operations. We have found ourselves on-line for most meetings and continue to distance where we can socially. 2020 has been a strong year for Chitina Native Corporation overall. As you will read in the following Newsletter update, your corporation has adapted and continues to pursue our business goals. Our complete 2020 financial performance information will not be available until early 2nd qtr. 2021 yet all indications look to be another record-setting year.

### *Chitina Electric Inc.*

Even though Chitina Electric Inc. (CEI) officially graduated the SBA 8(a) program in April of 2020, they continue to see substantial work activity through on-going and existing federal contracts. The Chitina Electric, Inc./ AMES 1 Joint Venture has proven a great opportunity for CEI to build relationships and past performance with the United States Army Core of Engineers, nation wide. CEI will continue working on some of these projects for the next few years or as field projects come to an close.

CEI has also long pursued the idea of Chitina utilizing Hydro-Electric power to offset the high cost of diesel fuel for the region. For 2020, CEI has seen major advancements with this effort to include a substantial USDA grant award. With the Alaska Energy Authority's support CEI is continuing to validate the 5 mile Hydro-Electric project. In partnership with the Ahtna Intertribal Resource Commission, CEI will continue to look at the project economics to determine the best path forward.

### *Chitina Diversified Services*

As CNC's newest operating subsidiary Chitina Diversified Services (CDS) has recently been awarded construction work through the SBA 8(a) program from the United States Army Corps of Engineers. The scheduled contract work is set to begin early 2021 and go on for approximately a year and a half in Brooklyn, NY. "As of right now we are working to staff up the site and prepare to mobilize supporting project infrastructure" says Ed Herndon, GM for CDS.

This is an exciting opportunity as it shows the long term sustainable approach that CNC will use to pursue federal contracts in the SBA 8(a) program. With seven more years in the 8(a) program CDS is ready to work and is actively marketing itself to different agencies for construction and services contracts.

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## *Lands — O'Brien Creek/ Haley Creek update*

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A Joint task force made up of members of Ahtna Inc, Chitina Native Corporation and the Native Village of Chitina have created a working group to address regional concerns.

With and increase in activities such as dip-netting, tourism, and state and local work have caused concerns for regional stakeholders. The task force has focused in on prioritizing land, cultural, trespass and resource items. With spring around the corner and access to O'Brien Creek and Haley Creek increasing, the group is working steadfastly to prepare and communicate priorities that convey that our lands, culture and history are to be respected.

If you have specific concerns, comments or questions please feel free to email [info@chitinanative.com](mailto:info@chitinanative.com)

## *Taral Enterprises*

Taral not only operates the lone Chitina store but operates the local gas station, provides park and sanitation services and takes campground/RV reservations for Chitina. While providing these services Beth Kelly (GM for Taral) strives to keep her and her employees safe during this pandemic. Taral is continually reminded that if an employee gets exposed to COVID – 19 it could mean shutting down the only store in Chitina. Beth takes this seriously and has created procedures to ensure all who enter the store are safe and works hard to keep the Chitina store open for all.

For 2020 Taral has seen record reservations and an uptick in sales across the board, with the exception of gasoline sales. Taral continues to look for ways to add to its services and most recently opened a new 1 mile tent platform spot. The focus remains on growing local products and services to meet peak summer demand.

## *Chitina Real Estate Investments*

The property rental market in Anchorage has been somewhat flat for 2020 and there hasn't been much activity with all three residential properties fully leased. Chitina Real Estate Investments (CREI) continues to be busy with the addition of the new Anchorage location, 821 N St.. This property was purchased to give Chitina Native Corporation a footprint in Anchorage and to support our subsidiaries growth. With CNC subsidiaries as the primary lessors, subsidiary's work has increased with additional personnel for those offices. Residential/Commercial Property will continue to be an area of interest for CNC and as property markets soften we will look for the right investment and time to add to our portfolio.

## *New CNC position—Shareholder Services Administrator*

If you have ever called the Chitina Native Corporation phone line or emailed CNC, odds are you have talked with Loni Lohse. Loni has worked at Chitina Native Corporation for 29 years and during that time she has worked with and supported the CNC Board of Directors and employees alike.

With the growth of the Corporation and the ongoing need to provide increasing benefits to our owners, CNC has created a new position to work directly with our shareholders and dependents. Loni has accepted that job as “Shareholder Services Administrator” and will focus on;

- Ensuring all Shareholders have current and updated Testamentary Dispositions/Wills on file
- Maintain the Shareholder database
- Keep and Update Shareholder addresses/contact info
- Administer all current and future shareholder programs
- Shareholder Scholarships Administration

These are a few of the responsibilities that the new position will tasked with for 2021. We must remember the unique charter that Chitina Native Corporation has as an Alaska Native Corporation and we hope that as the corporation grows we look to add more shareholder programs and benefits. Any Shareholder Questions can be directed to 907.823.2223 or by email to [llohse@chitinacorp.com](mailto:llohse@chitinacorp.com).

## *New CNC Board Member— Joseph Hart*



I have served as a Board of Director previously and as the President and CEO of Chitina Native Corporation, Chairman of the Land Committee. Recently, I have taken a new job with the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Anchorage with the Regional Realty department, working in acquisitions and disposals in the Realty Program. I have worked for the Federal Government for over twenty years now.

I have worked on natural resource management and issues in the Chitina and Copper River basin since I returned to Alaska in 1996 after serving in the Army and was honorably discharged. I Love the outdoors, hunting, fishing, camping and simply recreating whenever I can. My grandparents were Joseph and Martha Goodlataw, my parents were John and Velma Hart, I have three sons, and eight grandchildren.

I look forward to being an active member of our Corporation Board of Directors and will do my best to ensure we are moving in a positive and as successful manner as we can.

Joseph

## *In Remembrance*

Lynn Craig  
Katherine Charley  
Kyle Mead

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Mailing Address

