



Samara Kasayulie Kookesh,
Calista Descendant



DESCENDANT FROM VILLAGES AIMS TO GIVE BACK AFTER DEGREE

SAMARA KASAYULIE KOOKESH, EMPOWERING OUR SHAREHOLDERS

Samara Kasayulie Kookesh, a Calista Descendant with ties to Akiachak, was raised in a village, and after leaving for college and coming back, she wants to help those small but vital communities. Kookesh attained a bachelor's degree in government with a minor in legal studies from Grand Canyon University in Phoenix, Arizona last December.

Kookesh, a Sealaska Shareholder, grew up in the Southeast Alaska village of Angoon, and while growing up she would visit her Kasayulie family in Akiachak along the Kuskokwim River near Bethel.

Kookesh says she first went to college to play basketball and generally wanted to go into law. Her early experiences opened her eyes to the workplace, and she considered working for a Tribe or an Alaska Native corporation. She firmly decided the direction she wanted to take when she interned with **Tlingit & Haida**, the regional tribal government for Southeast Alaska tribes.

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CONGRATS TO THE 2025 CALISTA CORPORATION SHAREHOLDER AWARD RECIPIENTS

SIX INDIVIDUALS RECOGNIZED FOR MAKING AN IMPACT IN THEIR COMMUNITIES

Six Calista Corporation Shareholders are receiving recognition in the 2025 Shareholder Awards. Drawn from nominations submitted by fellow Shareholders, these annual awards honor exceptional efforts by Shareholders and Descendants to uphold the cultural values of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Region and its communities.

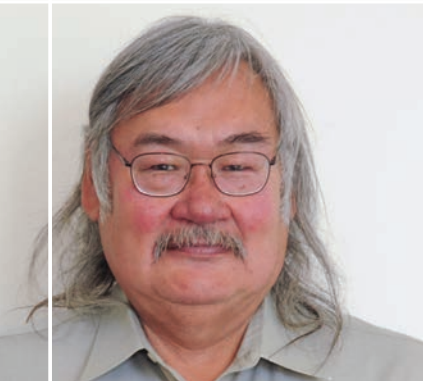
"Our traditional way of life is to learn from those who came before us," says Willie Kasayulie, Calista Board Chair. "Our Award recipients are adapting those lessons from the past and keeping them alive for the next generation."



Axel C. Johnson Distinguished Shareholder: **Carolyn Iverson** (Bethel)

Carolyn Iverson was born in Anchorage and raised in Akiak and Bethel. She has been a licensed clinical social worker for over 20 years, working for YKHC and LKSD, and serving youth throughout the Calista Region. She now works at schools in Bethel and Mekoryuk. She obtained her master's degree in social work from UAA. She is seen as a champion for all the children she works with in her personal and professional life. Iverson says, "Each of us have value, and I love helping kids find their personal value."

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Willie Kasayulie, Board Chair

“SUPPORT THROUGH SHAREHOLDER BURIAL ASSISTANCE IS JUST ONE WAY WE HOPE TO REDUCE SOME OF THE STRESS FAMILIES FACE THROUGH THE PROCESS OF BURYING A LOVED ONE AS THEY EXPERIENCE TREMENDOUS LOSS.”

Willie Kasayulie

BOARD MESSAGE: CEC BURIAL ASSISTANCE INCREASE

Willie Kasayulie, Board Chair

As an Alaska Native corporation formed under ANCSA, or the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, Calista first considers the needs of our Shareholders as we grow. Our **Mission** is to: **Increase Shareholder benefits and economic opportunities through innovation, growth, leadership, partnership, execution and financial discipline.**

One growing need is the support of our Shareholder families through **Burial Assistance** provided and coordinated through our affiliated nonprofit, **Calista Education & Culture (CEC).**

Calista is CEC's largest corporate donor, and the Calista Board saw the increased need to support families with loved ones in their passing. **Calista increased the donation amount to Calista Education & Culture in January 2025 to provide \$1,000 per family of a deceased Calista Corporation voting Shareholder or descendant of an original Shareholder.** It was previously \$500 per family.

As the costs associated with taking care of the affairs of deceased loved ones grow, we are cognizant of our Shareholders' needs. Families are tasked with handling legal, financial and personal responsibilities of a loved one. Assisting our Shareholders in the form of monetary funeral assistance is one way we can make an impact.

Support through Shareholder burial assistance is just one way we hope to reduce some of the stress families face through the process of burying a loved one as they experience tremendous loss. We honor the memory of our ancestors as we honor our Elders and those who have come before us and leave before us.



CALISTA EDUCATION & CULTURE – BURIAL ASSISTANCE

Calista Education and Culture (CEC) is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, governed by a Board of Directors and providing cultural preservation, educational empowerment, and **Yuuyaraq** guidance. Through these strategic priorities, our programs include cultural immersion camps, documenting and sharing traditional and historic knowledge, scholarships for higher education and vocational education, and burial assistance for Shareholders of Calista Corporation.

The Burial Assistance program may provide a one-time amount not to exceed \$1,000 to be used towards funeral home, transportation, or other related funeral expenses. Applicants must be an immediate family member or a spouse of the deceased Calista Corporation voting Shareholder or Descendant of an original Shareholder to be considered eligible to apply for Burial Assistance.



Scan the QR code to learn more about Calista Education & Culture.



Andrew Guy, President and CEO

“RURAL ENERGY SOLUTIONS FOR OUR REGION REQUIRE ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE SOURCES OF ENERGY AND DEVELOPING ELECTRIC INTERTIES.”

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: ENERGY ADVOCACY

Andrew Guy, President and CEO

It is past time to solve the energy crisis in our Region. Our villages cope with lengthy power outages that run up household bills, cause mechanical breakdowns and lead to school closures.

I traveled to Juneau in late March along with other community and Tribal leaders—including **Aniak Traditional Council Traditional Chief Wayne Morgan** to discuss our Region's energy needs and potential solutions with Alaska legislators. We were joined by AFN President Ben Mallott during our testimony before the **House Special Committee on Energy.**

I testified to the energy committee that we have a term in Yugtun—**elliinginaq**—not to be doing anything in vain. We need real solutions versus studies that gather dust.

Rural energy solutions for our Region require access to affordable sources of energy and developing electric interties. In our Region, we have 19 providers for our villages, many of them run by individual operators. Those individual operators lack economies of scale and must develop and maintain their own expertise in running utilities.

In Western society, infrastructure development

is the responsibility of the government, which funded electric interties for the Railbelt and Southeast Alaska decades ago. By contrast, rural Alaskans have depended on federal and state assistance programs to defray our high energy costs—programs that are increasingly threatened by budget cuts.

Alaska's **Power Cost Equalization (PCE)** program is an important endowment fund to help reduce energy bills, but it is not enough. Our Elders and families are crippled by power outages and high bills. We need a reliable, affordable energy backbone, especially as our Region continues to grow in population.

I encouraged legislators not to neglect rural Alaska when it comes to developing a large-scale natural gas pipeline. The pipeline project appears to be gathering momentum, and, if it is successful, it can spur economic and business development throughout Alaska, including in our Region.

This matters for households as much as it does for businesses. In the Lower 48, nearly every community, including very small ones, is intertied with electric power. In Alaska, we can do that too.



Village power lines and wind turbines in Kasigluk.

YUKON EQUIPMENT AT 80 STILL SERVING SHAREHOLDERS AND THE REGION

SHAREHOLDER DESCRIBES WORK AT A SUBSIDIARY



John Bill,
Calista Shareholder from Toksook Bay
Parts Specialist at Yukon Equipment

Yukon Equipment, Inc., under Calista Brice LLC, Calista’s construction holding line, is turning 80 years old this year. Formed in 1945, Yukon Equipment is the oldest Alaska-owned heavy equipment dealer in the state, with a longevity to reflect its wealth of experience.

From the city to remote locations, the experienced team at Yukon Equipment supports its customers, no matter where they are. Yukon Equipment has dealerships in Anchorage, Fairbanks and the Mat-Su Valley, but it also serves remote customers in the Calista Region and other parts of rural Alaska.

John Bill, a Calista Shareholder from Toksook Bay and Parts Specialist at Yukon Equipment, is excited to work in a place that can help other Shareholders.

“I help people find parts from across the state, but when I get a call from the [Calista] Region, I speak to them in Yugtun or let them know I’m from the Region too,” Bill says. “It helps build rapport with the customer when they know you understand where they’re coming from.”

Bill was born in Bethel and raised in Toksook Bay. He works at the Yukon Equipment dealership in Anchorage in parts and in the warehouse.

“People here [at Yukon] are great to work with and I love coming in to work,” Bill says.

Bill worked as a laborer at QAP before his work at Yukon Equipment. He also served in the U.S. Army before his work in the heavy equipment and construction industries.

“I served in the military for 17 years,” Bill says. “The discipline I learned from the Army brought me over here to continue working as a civilian.”

“WHAT I LEARNED FROM MY ELDERS IS TO NEVER GET COMPLACENT. LIKE THE MILITARY, SOMETHING BAD CAN HAPPEN IF YOU BECOME COMPLACENT.”

- John Bill, Calista Shareholder from Toksook Bay and Parts Specialist at Yukon Equipment

Bill says his military experience and the subsistence way of life he learned in Toksook Bay have a positive influence in the workplace. For example, his military training has helped create a process to train new employees through leading by example.

“To show new employees what to do, we first talk them through it, walk them through it, then let them learn by themselves,” Bill says.

He says there are also some similarities between living the subsistence lifestyle and military service because both are essentially about survival.

“What I learned from my Elders is to never get complacent,” Bill says. “Like the military, something bad can happen if you become complacent. You have to know what you’re doing and stay vigilant.”

Bill also compares the work he does to subsistence fishing.

“It works the same way in this field, you need to have the right numbers and the right parts to help the customer,” Bill says. “In the same way you need to place your wooden guides properly to set up your net for ice fishing.”



John Bill, Calista Shareholder from Toksook Bay and Parts Specialist at Yukon Equipment, says his military experience and the subsistence way of life he learned in Toksook Bay have a positive influence in the workplace. “To show new employees what to do, we first talk them through it, walk them through it, then let them learn by themselves.”



CALISTA CORPORATION

SHAREHOLDER VOTING PROXY PRIZES

ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS: JUNE 6, 2025 IN NUNAM IQUA, ALASKA

ONLINE EARLY BIRD PRIZES

Deadline: 5 p.m. Alaska Daylight Time, Friday, May 9.
Valid online proxies submitted by this deadline are eligible for the prizes below, in addition to the Early Bird, Regular Proxy, and Online Regular Proxy Prizes.

1st Prize \$10,000

2nd Prize \$2,500

5 Prizes of \$1,000 each

EARLY BIRD PRIZES

Deadline: 5 p.m. Alaska Daylight Time, Friday, May 23.
Valid paper proxies received or online proxies submitted by this deadline are eligible for the prizes below. Valid paper proxies are also eligible for the Regular Proxy Prizes. Valid online proxies are also eligible for the Regular Proxy and Online Regular Proxy Prizes.

1st Prize \$10,000

2nd Prize \$2,500

5 Prizes of \$1,000 each

ONLINE REGULAR PROXY PRIZES

Deadline: 5 p.m. Alaska Daylight Time, Monday, June 2.
Valid online proxies submitted at www.calistavote.com by this deadline are eligible for the prizes below, in addition to the Regular Proxy Prizes.

1st Prize \$5,000

2nd Prize \$2,500

3rd Prize \$1,000

REGULAR PROXY PRIZES

Deadline: 5 p.m. Alaska Daylight Time, Monday, June 2.
Valid paper proxies received or online proxies submitted by this deadline are eligible for the prizes below.

1st Prize \$2,500

6 Prizes of \$1,000 each

VOTE AND YOU COULD WIN!

Rules:

1. Valid only for Calista Corporation ("Calista") Shareholders who have shares with voting rights at the 2025 Annual Meeting.
2. Valid paper proxies must be physically **received** at the Inspector of Elections Office (Sramek-Hightower, CPAs, P.O. Box 240569 (2525 C Street, Suite 100), Anchorage, Alaska 99524-0569) by the respective deadlines listed above. **Postmark or mailing dates do not qualify.** Calista is not responsible for late, damaged or otherwise altered delivery.
3. Valid online proxies must be **received** by the respective deadlines listed above. The valid and eligible online proxy website is www.calistavote.com. Calista is not responsible for data charges, lost connections, device failures, online proxy website errors, or any other technical issues.
4. Any eligible Shareholder who submits a valid proxy by the first of the deadlines shown above may win up to four prizes, one per eligible round. Any eligible Shareholder who submits a valid proxy by the second of the deadlines shown above may win up to three prizes, one per eligible round. Any eligible Shareholder who submits a valid proxy by the third of the deadlines shown above may win up to two prizes, one per eligible round. Any eligible Shareholder who submits a valid proxy by the last of the deadlines shown above may win one prize.
5. Shareholders who vote by proxy (online or paper) need not be present at the Annual Meeting in order to win a prize. Winning Shareholders must complete a W9 tax form, provided by Calista, to receive any prize(s). Prizes will be mailed by August 22 or within three weeks of Calista's receipt of the completed forms, whichever is later.

CALISTA LAND & NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT PRESENTS:

LANDS IN FOCUS

ANCSA AND CULTURAL SITES

A small and sacred part of Calista's land entitlement is the historical and cemetery sites we selected almost 50 years ago under the **Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA)**.

ANCSA Section 14(h)(1) authorized Calista and other Alaska Native regional corporations to seek ownership of historical and cemetery sites outside the boundaries of village corporation lands.

In the Calista Region, these culturally significant sites were identified from oral and written accounts and personal interviews with village residents and Elders in the 1970s. They are not open to development and their locations are not provided on public maps to prevent exploitation.

"We are strict about protecting these sacred sites, but we strongly encourage Shareholders to honor and preserve knowledge about our ancestors and the traditional use of our land," says **Tisha Kuhns, Calista Vice President of Land and Natural Resources**.

The **Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta** once was dotted by thousands of seasonal camps and settlements. Many traditional place names and oral histories from our Elders can be found on **Calista Education and Culture's Yup'ik Atlas**, which features an interactive online map, Kuhns explains.

Calista's 14(h)(1) land

Calista submitted more than 1,500 historic and cemetery site applications during the mid-1970s and now owns approximately **4,000 acres** under Section 14(h)(1). Individual sites are hundreds if not thousands of years old and they can range in size from less than an acre to hundreds of acres.

Similar to other ANCSA land selections, the process of obtaining 14(h)(1) land took many years. In fact, some applications are still under review or are moving through the conveyance process.



This 14(h)(1) site consisted of a large, central habitation mound and 13 smaller satellite mounds which collectively contained the remains of 30-plus semisubterranean dwellings, one qasgiq and at least eight graves. Archaeological analysis indicated it was probably established by the mid-15th century and remained in use into the 19th century. Based on Yup'ik oral history accounts and other evidence, it was later used as a seasonal subsistence camp until the early 1900s. Photo by Harley Cochran, July 1986, ANCSA 14(h)(1) Collection, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Anchorage.



Yup'ik ceremonial dance masks documented in 1985 at a 14(h)(1) site that was a historic village. This location was used as a winter village after a nearby village was decimated by the 1899-1900 influenza epidemic. Many residents in the newer village subsequently died during the 1918-1919 Spanish influenza but it was used seasonally by individual families into the 1930s. The remains of 32 semisubterranean dwellings, a qasgiq and 29 graves were recorded at the site. The two masks, partially overgrown by tundra vegetation, were left in place. Responding to a Calista request, BIA archeologists revisited this 14(h)(1) site in 2011 to try to relocate the masks and obtain higher resolution images of them. But they were not found: the masks had most likely been completely overgrown or absorbed by the tundra. Photo by Wilda Toussaint, June 1985, ANCSA 14(h)(1) Collection, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Anchorage.

Kuhns explains, "Just in the last five years, Calista received title to a 14(h)(1) historic site over 1,000 acres in size in the western part of our Region, near the Bering Sea."

A Huge Research Project

According to the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Alaska Native corporations documented roughly 2,300 sites in their ANCSA Section 14(h)(1) applications.

This turned into a 30-year-plus research project because the federal government needed to verify the physical existence and location of each site and evaluate its significance in Alaska Native history and culture.

The BIA fieldwork began in 1978, and an estimated 1,300 taped recordings were generated with Elders in our Region, mostly in Yup'ik or Cup'ik.

If an application was accepted, the land had to be surveyed and patented before the **U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM)** conveyed it to Calista. Through our subsidiary, **Tunista Construction**, Calista has participated in some of the cadastral surveys for these sites as a contractor.

A large part of the survey work occurred during 2011 and 2012 and included hiring community members and interviewing Elders; in those two years, more than 130 sites were surveyed from Nunam Iqua to Kalskag, from St. Mary's to Bethel, from Lime Village to Scammon Bay, and from Nunam Iqua to Kipnuk.

Calista treats the sites it applied for under 14(h)(1) as sacred sites, not open to development whether or not the application was accepted. Also, in some cases, Calista has reconveyed 14(h)(1) sites to a village corporation.

According to its website, the BLM is continuing to work on 14(h)(1) land selections by Calista, Aleut Corp., Chugach Alaska Corp., CIRI, Doyon and Sealaska.



Scan the QR code to visit the
Yup'ik Atlas and learn about our
ancestral lands.



CALISTA EDUCATION & CULTURE PRESENTS

YUP'IK TEACHING MOMENT

CALISTEM ANGLIURALLRA [CHA-LIS-TEM UNG-LEEW-WAH-TH'HA] "STEADY GROWTH OF CALISTA"

Calista Education & Culture (CEC) presents the **Yup'ik Teaching Moment** in our Storyknife newsletter. CEC is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization with the mission to serve the people of the Calista Region by preserving culture, empowering education and facilitating Yuuyaraq, our traditional Way of Being, to ensure a vibrant and sustainable future of being in our Region. The Yup'ik Teaching Moment is provided by **Mark John, CEC Cultural Advisor** and Calista Elder from Toksook Bay.

Calistem Angliurallra [cha-LIS-tem UNG-leew-WAH-th'ha] translates from Yugtun to "Steady Growth of Calista."

Calista also means 'the worker.' Traditionally our work encompassed subsistence gathering. Our living was traditionally subsistence, or **pingnatulria**, which translates to "providing for the family" in English.

Our Yup'ik people have lived and survived in a harsh environment through a subsistence lifestyle in Southwest Alaska for thousands of years. We didn't learn to survive overnight. The knowledge came from the collective experiences of people dealing with the weather and the seasons for fish and game.

It came from knowing which equipment, materials and skills the providers needed for a successful hunting, fishing or gathering trip. In a traditional sense, the **Calista**, or worker, needed to plan and execute as an individual, with a hunting and fishing partner, or as an extended family or community.

To be successful, subsistence activities had to be shaped and practiced through our cultural values. Our people had to work hard and respect nature and the animals they were hunting and fishing.

Following the teachings of our Elders, the providers had to cooperate with each other while practicing subsistence. They were encouraged to share what they caught so everyone could benefit and survive. The providers took what they learned from our Elders, and, as the next generation came along, they would pass on that knowledge through example and showing the process. By supporting the provider in subsistence activities, it would help steadily grow each community member's knowledge of our traditional practices.

Just as important as the hunters and fishers were those that received the catches at home. They took care of them, so the fish and game caught were processed and stored to be preserved and remain edible. Materials from the catch were needed for clothing, tools and shelter.

All in all, successful subsistence activities required the efforts and cooperation of all to be productive. It required everyone to grow in their knowledge passed on from Elders.

CALISTEM ANGLIURALLRA [CHA-LIS-TEM UNG-LEEW-WAH-TH'HA] "STEADY GROWTH OF CALISTA"



CONGRATS TO THE 2025 CALISTA CORPORATION SHAREHOLDER AWARD RECIPIENTS

SIX INDIVIDUALS RECOGNIZED FOR MAKING AN IMPACT IN THEIR COMMUNITIES

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Calista Culture Bearer: Marie Arnaq Meade (Nunapitchuk)

Marie **Arnaq** Meade has dedicated her life to the preservation and education of the Yup'ik language and culture, making a profound impact on the community, state and national levels. She has received extensive training from Yup'ik Elders in traditional oral storytelling, ceremonial practices, and dance, allowing her to become a respected cultural bearer. Her skills as a linguist and translator have been instrumental in transcribing and preserving Yup'ik oral histories. Through her unique combination of academic training and deep cultural expertise, Meade has played a vital role in ensuring the survival of the Yup'ik language and traditions for future generations.



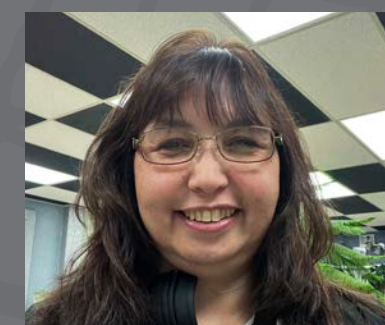
Calista Elder of the Year: Winifred K. Hunt (Kotlik)

Winifred K. Hunt was born and raised northeast of Kotlik in Caniliaq. She partakes in Yup'ik cultural dances and always encourages others to attend and participate in healthy uplifting events. She is strong in her faith. The community says she's always willing to listen to people who are going through hard times. Hunt gives encouragement and advice and is always willing to pray with and for others. She is a positive advocate for the community of Kotlik.



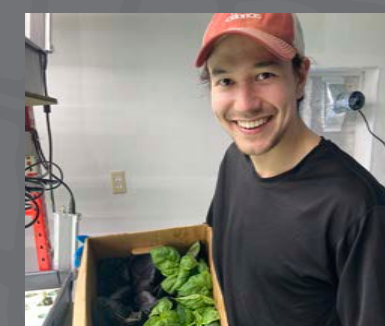
Calista Youth/Educator of the Year: Denise Ray (Hooper Bay)

Denise Ray's deep roots in her Yup'ik heritage have shaped her remarkable journey as an educator. She has taught in Anchorage for the past 19 years, including the last 13 years at the Alaska Native Cultural Charter School (ANCCS). Denise's role at ANCCS has been especially meaningful. As an Indigenous teacher working with Indigenous students, she has found her calling in creating a culturally relevant learning environment where students feel seen, valued and connected.



Calista Youth/Educator of the Year: Samantha Afcan (Alakanuk)

Samantha Afcan is the principal at Nunam Iqua School. She was born in Bethel and raised in Alakanuk. Afcan believes in her students. She does her best to help them accomplish their educational and post-secondary goals. She went to UAA for her master's in education. She makes a difference in the lives of her own children, her staff and in the lives of her students. As a principal, she's built a positive, warm and welcoming school environment.



Raymond C. Christiansen Business of the Year: Kelly May, Alaska Native Greens (Hooper Bay)

Kelly May is a Calista Descendant living in Interior Alaska with ties to Hooper Bay. He collaborated with the Fairbanks Soil and Water Conservation District to develop a hydroponic farm curriculum for villages, with his farm design now being implemented in schools across Alaska. He is also leading a team of eight to establish the first Native-owned food hub serving 40+ villages in Interior Alaska. Kelly was awarded the Na'ah Illahee Indigenous foods grant in 2021 and is now learning how to cultivate Yup'ik greens found around Hooper Bay in his hydroponic system.

Award recipients receive an award plaque and financial reward. Recipients will also be honored on June 6 at the **51st Annual Meeting of Shareholders** for their contributions in upholding our cultural values.

CALIVIKA SHAREHOLDER DIRECTORY HIGHLIGHT

NALAUQU, LLC OF QUINHAGAK



Nalauq, LLC partnered with the Alaska Division of Forestry and Fire Protection to host a 4-day training to help enhance local firefighting skills, emergency preparedness and workforce development.

Three years ago, village corporation leaders in Quinhagak created a subsidiary called **Nalauq, LLC** focused on science and technology.

Nalauq doesn't immediately resemble a typical village corporation-owned business in our Region, like a store or utility coop.

But Nalauq has a similar purpose—it focuses on local needs, resources and opportunities to provide local jobs.

We're pleased to highlight Nalauq in our ongoing series of articles on businesses that have joined the Calivika Shareholder Directory. Following is a Q&A with **Nalauq CEO Lynn Kic'i Church**, a Calista Shareholder with village ties to Quinhagak and Twin Hills.

How did Nalauq, LLC begin?

It evolved from the 12-year-long **Nunalleg Archaeological Project** in Quinhagak. The name "**Nalauq**" means "we found it" or "discovery" in Yup'ik and reflects our commitment to uncovering new opportunities for the community.

Nalauq, LLC was created by our village corporation, **Qanirtuuq Inc.**, to address the need for a new research model that not only gathers data but invests in the local economy, supports local businesses and empowers the community.

What services do you provide?

We collaborate with Indigenous communities on **co-production and co-design of research projects**, to ensure Indigenous values are respected. This allows us to integrate local knowledge and ensure the community has a direct voice in research outcomes.

We offer **community-based training** that provides local job opportunities and skills that can be used both locally and outside the village, helping build a more resilient workforce.

Through **cultural resource management**, we work with Indigenous partners to interpret and manage archaeological findings. This includes meeting qualifications for Section 106 excavations and ensuring the community is actively involved in managing its cultural resources.

Using **unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) & satellite-based remote sensing**, we map subsistence areas, monitor landscape changes and gather high-precision geospatial data. This technology helps remote communities make informed decisions about land and resource management. We've certified one local as a Part 107 drone pilot, with two more in process.



Lynn Kic'i Church,
Nalauq, LLC CEO

Nalauq hosted a basic wildland firefighting Red Card training last year. Can you tell me about that?

After a fire in Quinhagak last year, Warren Jones and volunteers recognized the need for better fire preparedness. Through a partnership with the **Alaska Division of Forestry and Fire Protection**, the first Red Card training certified 26 community members.

The Red Card training, drone pilot training, and another training we did through YKHC to certify 16 search and rescue volunteers in first aid, demonstrated that community-based training is most effective.

People feel more comfortable in their own environment, and they can immediately apply what they've learned. We are excited to continue our partnership with the Division of Forestry along with other agencies and other organizations in Quinhagak this coming year with the communities of Quinhagak, Eek, Goodnews Bay and Platinum.



With sponsorship from Qanirtuuq, Inc., American Seafoods, AVCP Tribal Workforce Development, and Coastal Village Region Fund, Nalauq, LLC along with YKHC EMS and Behavioral Health successfully completed Search & Rescue (SAR) Training with Quinhagak, Eek and Goodnews Bay SAR volunteers.

What is another project you are working on this year?

We depend on boat skiffs to travel to surrounding villages and feed our families. In late October 2020, seven boaters went missing from Quinhagak. Unfortunately, search efforts were paused indefinitely due to harsh weather.

Recognizing the importance of accurate, timely information about ocean conditions, we are partnering with the **Alaska Ocean Observing System** and the **Background Buoy Program** to help local communities gain real-time insights into ocean conditions. This program is led by local navigators along with our new partners. They will have access to crucial ocean data—such as currents, depth and more—directly on their phones, improving safety and awareness.

Do you have advice for other village corporations trying to start a new business venture?

My advice would be to build a strong team with a shared vision and common goals. The foundation of a successful business model is not only the idea but the people behind it. Having the right team ensures that everyone stays motivated and focused, which is essential for overcoming the challenges that any new venture brings.

Sometimes we need to take risks to create opportunities for our community, especially for our shareholders. These risks are taken with the long-term vision of providing meaningful opportunities that will support and uplift families in our region. It's about ensuring that we create sustainable growth that benefits everyone in the community.

"THE NAME *NALAUQU* MEANS 'WE FOUND IT' OR 'DISCOVERY' IN YUP'IK AND REFLECTS OUR COMMITMENT TO UNCOVERING NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE COMMUNITY."

- Lynn Kic'i Church, Nalauq, LLC CEO

Interested in listing a Tribal or Village Corporation-owned business in the Calivika Shareholder Directory? Scan the QR code.



DONLIN GOLD'S NEW GENERAL MANAGER

Q&A WITH TODD DAHLMAN



Todd Dahlman,
Donlin Gold General Manager

Todd Dahlman, a mining industry veteran who has worked in mining operations in Alaska, the Lower 48, and other countries, was recently selected as the **Donlin Gold Project's** new general manager.

Prior to Dahlman joining Donlin Gold in early April, the general manager position was filled on an interim basis by Enric Fernandez, Donlin Gold's permitting and environmental manager.

Dahlman brings significant global mining experience to Donlin Gold, and most recently served as vice president and deputy general manager for Kinross Gold's Fort Knox Mine.

Following are Dahlman's responses to questions posted in a Storyknife interview for this newsletter, edited for length and clarity.

What interested you about working for Donlin Gold?

In my career, I've helped reopen two mine operations, including one in my hometown, and helped begin one new operation. I really enjoy making the difference for the community. When you start a major project like this, it has such a positive impact on people's lives.

My end game is to make sure we develop a responsible, sustainable operation that benefits everyone. I believe this project is well positioned to do that.

You've worked in mining for nearly 40 years. What are a few things you enjoy about it?

I come from a legacy mining town, Butte, Montana, where mining has occurred since the 1860s. My grandparents worked in the mines and Butte is a small enough town that you are practically involved in mining, whether or not you are employed in it. When I was 22, I was offered an opportunity to help restart a local mine that had been closed for three years. It was an amazing experience. You could see day by day the changes in the economy and in people's lives. That's what has kept me in mining all along.

I enjoy the operational aspects of mining, too. Anytime you can make an improvement or lead a team that comes up with a solution is extremely rewarding. I also have a lot of satisfaction in training people to use and take care of the machinery. I've been a mechanic, myself. Training the people who work on equipment—such as rebuilding engines or welding—is also very rewarding.

Are there some notable changes you've seen in mining during your career?

Like any industry, improvements in technology have increased efficiency and productivity and reduced emissions and energy consumption. Even in the mill, the instrument controls are so much better now. It's easier to understand failure modes for equipment so you can increase safety for people. The workforce has also changed—it seems like we have a more inquisitive and involved workforce, rather than just repetitively completing their tasks.

What is unique about mining in Alaska versus some of the other places you've worked?

The regulatory environment in Alaska is outstanding, with the Mining Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) and the state departments of Environmental Conservation, Natural Resources and Fish and Game. They all have a common goal of a sustainable, responsible operation.

Also, Alaskans are hardworking people who are very in tune with the land. The relationship that Alaskans have with their natural environment is part of what ensures that you are a responsible operator. I think it's a really good environment to work in.

What else would you like to share with our Shareholders?

One of my first objectives is getting to know the people who are involved with the Donlin Gold Project and people who are from the Region and the area where the project is located. I want to ensure we have a common understanding of the impacts of our business and the opportunities it provides.

Also, I feel strongly about career development, no matter what level you are at in the organization. This includes succession development, not just planning, to get employees ready for their next roles. I believe in putting together a safe operation and making sure that people really enjoy their jobs.

DESCENDANT FROM VILLAGES AIMS TO GIVE BACK AFTER DEGREE

SAMARA KASAYULIE KOOKESH, EMPOWERING OUR SHAREHOLDERS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"I was placed with an ICWA [Indian Child Welfare Act] office at Tlingit & Haida. I liked working with families, because once the families are strong the community can be strong," Kookesh says.

"Also, I like working with the youth, and I like to give them a voice and the opportunity to become leaders."

"I'm Tlingit and Yup'ik and grew up in a village for most of my life," Kookesh says. "I understand there are difficulties and hardships because of coming from a village, but there are a lot of positive things. There will always be a sense of community and there will always be someone you can lean towards for support."

Growing up, Kookesh would always like fishing with her family, and sometimes hunting or berry-picking. She sings and dances in the Tlingit tradition but also learned as a kid how to yuraq, Yup'ik style dance.

Kookesh says she is grateful for the support from both regions. It has made it possible for her to complete her degree. She left Alaska for nearly four years, and it helped her appreciate that sense of community from families in both regions.



Samara Kasayulie Kookesh,
Calista Shareholder

"I LIKE WORKING WITH THE YOUTH, AND I LIKE TO GIVE THEM A VOICE AND THE OPPORTUNITY TO BECOME LEADERS."

- Samara Kasayulie Kookesh, Calista Shareholder

"I'm grateful for the financial support that **Calista Education & Culture** and the Tribes and corporations have provided, but it also shows how much they believed and supported me," Kookesh says. "They wanted me to continue, get my degree, and it motivated me to keep attending classes. Knowing my corporations and Tribes were standing next to me helped a lot, because they believed in me."

In Kookesh's experience, she has seen her older cousins go and come back for their education, and she wants to be an example for her younger cousins and siblings.

"There are many leaders from village communities who have gone and come back to serve their community," Kookesh says. "It's OK to leave the village for a while, it may seem challenging at times, but the community and the village will always be there."

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PERSONAL DATA FORM – MAY/JUNE 2025

Shareholder Name _____

New Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Last 4 SSN _____

Birth Year _____

Would you like Calista to send you new Will forms? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Calista Shares _____

Village Corporation Shares _____

Please change my address as I have indicated above. I understand that you cannot make address changes without my permission and signature, which I hereby give of my own free will and without constraint. I further authorize Calista and its subsidiaries to share this information internally and in accordance with law.

Shareholder Signature _____
(Two witnesses are required if Shareholder signs with an "X.")

Date _____

Signature of Witness 1 _____

Signature of Witness 2 _____

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