



From the CEO...

Quarterly Newsletter ■ Spring 2021

As the number of Alaskans receiving the COVID vaccine gradually increases, we begin to see “some light at the end of the tunnel” and are inspired to resume long range planning for Kijik’s future business operations. While we are still not in a position to discontinue our safety protocols for managing COVID, we can begin re-examining our strategic business initiatives and determine their fit for the post-pandemic era. Particularly in light of proposed increased federal spending targeting the American Indian and Alaska Native communities, we need to be prepared to capture any opportunities that fit our business qualifications. Later in this issue of the newsletter, you can read about Kijik’s subsidiary, IDS, and learn about the growing professional services operations that have developed over the past 2 years. In addition to our traditional IT services, IDS has expanded its menu of services to include professional consulting particularly to other business groups performing under various federal contracts. These business groups have become our new client base and the IDS 8(a) certification has been helpful to their pursuit of federal work.

As we navigate through the remaining months of the pandemic, we are cautious not to allow ourselves to become overly optimistic and too quickly abandon our COVID safety practices. We must remain vigil and recognize the health of our staff, board and shareholders is our highest priority. To that end, the Kijik board has determined that the annual meeting of shareholders, to be held in Anchorage, will be postponed until September 18th when it is believed that a large majority of Alaskans will have been vaccinated. We note that, as of the date of this writing (04/06/2021), official State of Alaska statistics report that over 242,000 Alaskans have been vaccinated and this represents over one-third of Alaska’s population. By September 18th and based on the current rate that vaccinations are occurring, it is evident a large majority of all Alaskans will be protected against the COVID virus. As an additional consideration, the board felt that another virtual annual meeting would not be favored by shareholders and postponing the meeting was a better decision.

KIJIK BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CHAIRPERSON: BETTY CHILCOTT

VICE-CHAIR: ELEANOR JOHNSON

SECRETARY: DARLENE NOLAN

TREASURER: EMMA HILL

DIRECTORS:

STEVE HOBSON III

RICKY DELKITTIE SR.

JUNE TRACEY

RHODY LAUNDERS JR.

KYLE KANANTON

STAFF:

VENTURA SAMANIEGO – President & CEO

APRIL RICKTEROFF – Admin Manger

EMILY DAVENPORT – General Manger, IDS

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In other areas of Kijik business interest, Chuchuna Minerals Company, which is jointly owned by Kijik and Alaska Earth Sciences, has extended the term of its lease/option agreement to allow additional time to attract potential investors. Kijik Technical Services is seeking out new business opportunities and, if appropriate, will attempt to secure SBA 8(a) certification thereby enabling this company to seek federal contract opportunities afforded to 8(a) entities. Qizhkeh Heritage Institute (QHI) continues to provide services under its DOJ/OVW contract. These services consist mainly of technical assistance to other OVW grantees.

We look forward to the opportunity to again meet with Kijik shareholders, in person, but also encourage all shareholders to continue to remain aware of and practice all public agency mandated and recommended safety protocols. We hope you have a safe spring and summer and we will keep you updated on any changes to our annual meeting plans.

Thanks,
Ventura Samaniego,
President & CEO

**NOTICE TO KIJIK CORPORATION
SHAREHOLDERS**

Pursuant to a meeting of the Kijik Board of Directors held on February 20th, 2021, the annual meeting of shareholders, originally scheduled for May 1st, 2021, has been postponed to September 18th, 2021. Said annual meeting will be held in Anchorage, at a location to be determined, and shareholders will be invited to attend in person.

Shareholders seeking to run for a seat on the Board of Directors will be asked to submit a letter of interest to the Kijik Nominations & Elections Committee by no later than the close of business on July 2nd, 2021. Letters of interest should be mailed to the Kijik Corporation office; 801 B Street, Suite 401B, Anchorage, AK 99501.

Thank you for your attention to this notice.

Emma Hill,
Secretary

From the Chair...

Dear Shareholders,

I hope this issue of our newsletter finds you well. Like many of you I am looking forward to a return to life as it was before the pandemic. In the near term, we are looking forward to a regular board where we are able to meet in person. For over a year, the board has been meeting via teleconference. As such, we have kept our meetings short and limited our agenda to only critical items. But now we feel, with vaccinations in Alaska going well, we can entertain the idea of going back to face-to-face meetings. We recognize this is not the time to drop our guard as the pandemic lingers on, however, we can at least start planning for in person meetings.

As you already saw in the above notice to shareholders, the board met via teleconference late February and the decision was made to postpone the annual meeting of shareholders to September 18th, 2021. I think this was a good decision. We need to wait until more of our shareholders have been vaccinated so they are comfortable attending the annual meeting. I also think this was a good decision because, to stay on schedule and meet on May 1st, we would have had to consider another virtual annual meeting. I do not think our shareholders favor virtual meetings.

I am looking forward to the coming summer and being able to move about more freely as more and more people are vaccinated against COVID. I hope the businesses in Alaska, particularly fishing and tourism, can return to more normal operations. Many Alaska businesses, including Alaska Native corporations, have suffered financially due to the pandemic. Fortunately, Kijik was able to take advantage of the federal programs that assisted businesses through the pandemic period. It will be good to see the crisis created by COVID come to an end. With that I will end this letter by wishing you all a happy spring and summer and blessings to all during the Orthodox Easter.

Thanks,
Betty Chilcott,
Chairperson



QHI & Chuchuna Scholarships Due

May 28th, 2021 – Before 5:00pm

Mail to the Kijik Office.

If you still need an application, you can print one off the Kijik website or request one to be mailed to you.

International Data Systems, LLC – Update

IDS has partnered with Shee Atika Enterprises (SAE) a subsidiary of Shee Atika Inc., the urban ANCSA corporation for the shareholders of Sitka, and Kannact Inc., on a contract with the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to support COVID-19 research. The SAE Team’s approach utilizes expertise of three companies, including IDS who provided cultural communications, outreach, and education services on the contract. IDS also served as the subject matter expert for cultural competency pertaining to American Indian and Alaska Native cultures and communities in Alaska and the Lower 48. The “KRE COVID-19 Digital Health Solutions Study” uses digital technology to address the following study objectives:

- Decrease the spread of COVID-19, improve symptom management, and improve outcomes for those affected by COVID-19.
- Improve access to health care through simple, in-home smartphone technologies.
- Strengthen health data on COVID-19 by bringing together information from technologies, patient self-reporting of symptoms, and other sources.

IDS is working with the SAE team to complete the second phase of this program which is scheduled to conclude in August of 2021.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Alaska Research Services

The IDS team was engaged by Big Brothers Big Sisters of Alaska to examine its existing Alaska Native mentorship program and assess possible avenues for strengthening the program. The objective of the research effort is to support the matching process between Alaska Native youth and Alaska Native adults who can mentor them and increase interest and participation in the program from the Alaska Native community. This work consists of qualitative research, including interviews with former and potential mentors, surveys and focus groups. The work collimates with recommendations to BBBS on how to recruit and retain higher numbers of both Alaska Native men and women in the program and ensure that the program is culturally aligned and is a fulfilling and successful experience for all parties involved.

Qizhkeh Heritage Institute – Update

Qizhkeh Heritage Institute (QHI) is continuing work under its grant with the Department of Justice Office of Violence Against Women (DOJ OVW). This project is designed to provide communications, outreach, and education technical assistance to OVW Tribal grantees and coalitions across the country. QHI is developing a toolbox for Tribal grantees and coalitions including videos, webinars and newsletters which are designed to raise awareness and support positive behavior change in the areas of domestic violence and sexual assault prevention. Recently, QHI completed its second newsletter which was released to Tribal grantees in March. QHI also completed two video tutorials which train grantees on how to use foundational communications tactics to prevent violence in Native communities. These video tutorials will be released in April of 2021.

Alaska Tribal Broadband Noorvik Community Outreach Project

Through a short term contract the IDS team provided outreach support to the Noorvik Native Community for their USDA application to bring affordable broadband to community of Noorvik. The support was a team effort with the Denali Commission and Alaska Tribal Broadband to complete the Native Connections grant which included financial planning components, infrastructure design, preliminary engineering, demonstrated need and community support of the project. The completed application was submitted at the end of December 2020 and Tribe is waiting to hear the if the application was successful.



Honey Soy Grilled Pork Chops

Yields: 4 Servings Prep Time: 30mins Total Time: 45mins

Fire up the Grill!

Ingredients:

- ¼ c. Honey
- ½ c. Soy Sauce
- 2 Garlic Cloves, minced
- Red Pepper Flakes
- 4 Pork Chops



Directions:

1. Mix together Honey, Soy Sauce, Garlic, and Red Pepper Flakes in a large bowl. Add Pork Chops then cover and refrigerate for at least 30 minutes or up to 2 hours.
2. Heat Grill over medium high heat and cook until seared and cooked through, 8 minutes per side. Let rest 5 minutes before serving.



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