

# STORYKNIFE

THE VOICE OF THE REGION

*Yaarnin*



## Important Descendant Enrollment Information

(Story on page 2)



Calista Headquarters

## CALISTA HEADQUARTERS HAS MOVED TO A NEW BUILDING IN ANCHORAGE

With our ever-growing workforce, subsidiaries and Shareholders, Calista Corporation is thrilled to announce we have moved our corporate headquarters in Anchorage to a new building in midtown. The move was prompted because Calista had outgrown its former building, said Chief Financial Officer Sharon Burns.

"The building was great back when Calista was small and owned a newspaper subsidiary (Alaska Newspapers, Inc.), but Calista is now the eighth largest Alaskan-owned company in Alaska with over 30 subsidiaries operating across the globe - all supported by Calista administrative staff," said Sharon. "We ran out of room and it was time to expand."

With a 30 percent upgrade in square footage, and a well-planned layout designed from scratch, Shareholder Records now has enough room to allow staff to double without needing more space. With features such as a new elevator, high-density filing cabinets and a new server room for the entire building, efficiency will see a significant increase as well.

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CALISTA CORPORATION  
[www.calistacorp.com](http://www.calistacorp.com)

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## LEADERSHIP MESSAGE

Willie Kasayulie, Board Chairman and Andrew Guy, President & CEO

Our Shareholders play an important role in our business, electing Directors and voting on important issues. Calista's current Shareholders either enrolled during ANCSA, or have inherited or been gifted shares. Under ANCSA, Shareholders can vote to enroll Descendants and it's something Calista and its Shareholders have been considering for years.

In 2011, a Shareholder advisory resolution asked Shareholders to vote whether Calista should recommend a process to create a new class of stock for Descendants born after the ANCSA deadline. Of the votes cast, 86 percent voted in favor of this action. Following the 2011 advisory resolution vote, Calista surveyed Shareholders to gather more information. Of the Shareholders surveyed, 62 percent supported the idea of issuing shares to all currently living and future Descendants of Calista Shareholders; 18 percent opposed the idea. Eighty-seven percent of Shareholders surveyed thought these new shares should have dividends and voting rights but 13 percent did not.

In 2013, there was a more specific advisory resolution vote. This time, it asked whether the Board of Directors should bring before the Shareholders a binding resolution to issue shares to eligible Descendants and others who could have originally enrolled but did not. Of the votes cast, 72 percent voted in favor.

All eligible Calista Shareholders will vote on the resolution at the 2015 Annual Meeting of Shareholders. The resolution would amend Calista's Articles of Incorporation to issue 100 shares to eligible Descendants of original Shareholders and to Alaska Natives who could have received original Calista stock, but did not. In order to pass, a majority of all voting shares present or represented by proxy are needed. This means over 50 percent of the voting shares present or represented by proxy must vote in favor of this amendment.

There are many facts to consider when forming an opinion on this vote, including how this will affect the corporation and current Shareholders. If the resolution is adopted, estimates have shown the total number of Shareholders could increase from about 12,900 to between 38,000 and 43,000.

There are currently 1.3 million shares but if the resolution passes, the number of shares could increase to between 3.8 million and 4.3 million.

Under ANCSA, Calista is required to improve the socio-economic condition of our Shareholders and since the majority of Shareholders live in the Region, that is currently where most of our focus is. Today about 60 percent of Shareholders live in the Region but that percentage could drop if Descendants and others are enrolled. If a larger percentage of Shareholders were to live outside the Region, it could mean a shift away from in-Region projects and investments.

Dividends have been issued to Shareholders for nearly a decade with more than 50 percent of total dividend dollars being issued over the last three years. In 2014, the April dividend was more than 4.6 million dollars, meaning for each 100 shares, a Shareholder received 350 dollars. But with a larger Shareholder enrollment, the amount of the dividend per share will decrease. Based on estimates, if the resolution were to pass, the average Shareholder dividend would be reduced to approximately one-third of current averages.

Calista is working in advance to develop an implementation plan. In October 2014, we began informing Shareholders about the Descendant Enrollment Vote. The vote will take place during the 2015 Annual Meeting of Shareholders. If it passes, Calista will use the following 18 to 24 months to hire additional staff, develop an application process, issue applications and expand our Shareholder database to include new Shareholders. The new Descendant Enrollment stock would be issued between January and June of 2017. After initial enrollment, applications will be processed as they are received. In other words, as Descendants are born their parents or guardians can apply for the child to become a Shareholder.

Willie Kasayulie  
Chairman of the Board

Andrew Guy  
President and CEO

**These materials are for informational purposes only to assist Shareholders with their decision regarding the 2015 Calista Corporation Descendant Enrollment Vote Resolution, and are not meant to advocate a "yes" or "no" vote on the Resolution. The information is subject to change and Shareholders are encouraged to contact Calista Corporation with any specific questions.**

(Continued from page 1)

An exciting addition to all these improvements are sealed glass display cases for Calista's valuable, traditional and historical artwork. During the move, Calista employees discovered that some pieces had been damaged over the years from dry weather, but with the artwork's new optimal humidity cases, the pieces will be well-preserved for future generations.

Despite the large-scale move of files, materials, and employees to the new building, the transition has gone relatively smooth.

"Moving is a stressful time, but the staff have been great and they've kept their sense of humor," said Sharon.

This move is more than just an upgraded facility. It shows that Calista is a growing company at the state, national and international level. The continued growth for Calista means more benefits for Shareholders and Descendants. The new corporate headquarters is located in Midtown Anchorage near the intersection of C St. and West International Airport Road.



Sealed glass display cases hold artwork from the Region.

## BACKPACK CAMPAIGN FOR YOUTH

YULISTA COLLECTS SCHOOL MATERIALS FOR STUDENTS

Aiding and supporting continuous education of Calista Region Youth is important to Calista Corporation. However, the lack of proper school gear is a concern. To help alleviate this struggle, Yulista Holding Company, a subsidiary of Calista, held its first Backpack Campaign, a campaign that will become an annual event.

Volunteers for the Backpack Campaign received a generous amount of donations. They collected 227 backpacks, 1,700 pounds of school supplies and more than \$500 in funds to purchase additional school materials. The donations collected were distributed to the students at the Saint Mary's annual community potluck dinner, where community members gather to celebrate the new school year. Over 220 students from the Saint Mary's School District and the Crow Village Sam School received materials from the Backpack Campaign.

"One of our corporate goals is to offer continual improvement for the lives of our Shareholders," said the President and CEO of Yulista Holding Josh Herren. "The contributions we were able to

raise for the Region's Youth, with the tremendous help of our employees, is an amazing accomplishment."

Yulista is thankful for everyone's efforts and generous donations, and is happy to see the grateful children of the Region enjoying their new backpacks and school supplies. Volunteers for the event look forward to participating in next year's Backpack Campaign and potluck, events that not only assist the Calista Region, but also help strengthen family bonds.

Many villages in the Calista Region are faced with the high cost of energy, food and gas, often resulting in a financial strain on families. Calista and its subsidiaries are committed to alleviating and finding solutions to the financial stresses of the Region with our scholarship and intern opportunities, advocacy for subsistence rights and important programs, and funding to our people. All of these efforts support Calista's goals of improving and enriching the lives of Calista Shareholders and Descendants.



# DOCUMENTING OUR HERITAGE

BY: MARK JOHN, CALISTA ELDERS COUNCIL PRESIDENT

The Yup'ik of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta have practiced ceremonies and festivities with song and dance for centuries. The ceremonies and festivities have contributed to the positive social, physical and mental health of our Yup'ik people since time immemorial. The Calista Elders Council (CEC) held a topic-specific gathering with Yup'ik Elders to document the composition and content of songs and dances that take place during various ceremonies and festivities.

Prior to Western contact and missionary influence, Yup'ik people in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta practiced a number of ceremonies and festivities such as the Kevgiq (Messenger Feast), Ingulaq (special slow songs and dances), Petugtaq (ceremony used for asking for specific needs or requests), Elriq (family specific ceremony done after years of preparation), Itruka'ar (ceremony for exchange of goods or used to help towards a specific purpose) and Ciuqin (a dance festival that takes place between two or more communities known today as potlatch). All of these ceremonies and festivals involved singing and dancing, a spiritual practice that contributed to the health and well-being of communities.

It's extremely important to document the composition and content of traditional Yup'ik songs and dances as singing and dancing continue to be an important and integral part of Yup'ik culture today. Singing and dancing keep the language alive and it's a healthy activity that involves the entire community, young and old, bringing joy and happiness to all who participate, strengthening their identity and pride.

We will be publishing stories in Storyknife from the gathering every now and then. This first story is from Elsie Tommy from Newtok. She passed away this summer and she has contributed so much to our work over the years.

## How Dance Started



BY: ELSIE TOMMY

*(This is the English translation from the Yup'ik version)*

They say there was a married couple living in a fall camp who had only two male children. The younger sibling was at the age where he was aware and paying attention to things. They say his older sibling, those who had gone inside their place after killing his poor father, since [the boys] were males, they took and struck his dear older brother against something and killed him.

Then his younger brother, while his dear mother was holding him, they were about to take him, but a man told him, "Leave that child alone. Since I don't have children at all, he can be my child. Leave him be. I'm warning you [not to kill him] because I want him to be my child." They say they let him be [and didn't kill him]. And when they left him alone, that man took him, wrapped him up and put him underneath his squirrel parka, and brought him outside.

He called his child Panik [literally, daughter]. Then when he grew bigger, when he

became capable, he made him a kayak from the skins of the animals he caught, he made him a kayak out of the caribou skins that he had removed the fur from.

And after building him a kayak, he said to his son, "My Panik [daughter], I'm going to tell you to do something now. Your mother may be alive, go and see the poor thing by loading up food for her from what you have hunted." He apparently had him go in springtime with a kayak.

Then when he arrived in the village, he asked one of the people if his mother was alive. They said she was alive. Then he went to his mother. They say when his dear mother saw him the poor thing suddenly cried out, happy that he was alive.

They say he stayed with his mother all spring and he would bring all different kinds of seals into the village, and he would have some of his catches distributed to the village. And they say he caught many walrus. He would process and take care of their pharyngeal pouches that help them to stay afloat, their noise-making parts, and eventually there came to be many [for use as drum covers].

Then when the spring was over, accompanied by a boy from his village, he went to collect logs, those they called unarciat [straight-grained logs]. And when he brought them home, he worked on them, making a frame for the drum skins. He fixed them up nicely, painting them with red ochre, and he made smaller drums to accompany the drums he made.

Then he told his hunting companion that he wanted to go and see his father, that he wanted to go and give him some seal oil.

They say he brought two drums. He arrived in the place where his father lived, and there were a great many kayaks, a great many kayaks.

He got on top of the land on the other side of the river, he brought his traveling companion up and they stayed there with a windbreak. Back when there were no western things, they were using a seal skin as a windbreak. They stayed there using seal skins as a windbreak.

Then in the morning when the sun came up, when it started to get light out, when one of the men came out of the qasgi, he quickly went down to the shore. Panik took the drum and struck it three times signifying the trinity of God.

Then when that person heard the drum's sound, he put his hand above his eyes for some shade and searched his surroundings. When he stood, he ran up to the qasgi and quickly went inside. Not long after, they went outside. When they went outside, two people went down, and using kayaks, they went to him.

When they got to the middle of that river, they slowed down and stopped. Panik struck the drum three times. Then after striking it, that person shouted to them and asked them why they were there. He said the people of the qasgi wanted them to come, that they've come to get them. Then Panik shouted to him, "You two come over and help us." Then they went across to them, and they helped them and they went across. They say he gave his traveling companion the small drum to hold.

When they went inside the qasgi, they stood by the side wall across from each

other. And when they stood, they say from somewhere out there one of the elderly men asked why they were doing that. Panik struck the drum three times. And after striking it, he said that he had given them these two drums so that using this drum, they would invite villages and compose songs requesting things using this drum.

One of the elderly men wasn't happy, he wasn't happy at first. Then one of them said, he agreed, he said, "Indeed, using that drum, if we start inviting villages following what Panik said, we will start to do what is honorable." He told them they should follow what Panik who was talking out there said. They say those who had planned to go and fight in war and pillage decided not to. It is said that with this drum, they stopped the attacking and pillaging that they used to do.

That drum was the beginning [of their dancing]. And when [Panik] returned home, he went and gave [drums] to Mararmiut [the people of the marshland at the mouth of the Yukon River] traveling by sled. After asking the elderly men of his village how many villages there were here in the coastal area, he counted them and went to give them drums. They say when he would arrive there, that's what he would tell them, that he had gone there to tell them that they should invite villages through dance and to compose songs.

They say he didn't run out of drums that he brought with him when he traveled since that person told him thoroughly about the villages that he planned to go and visit. They say that's the very beginning of dance, the tradition of dance today.



# LEADERS FROM THE REGION: JNYO COACH TOMMY BAYAYOK

## GLADYS JUNG ELEMENTARY HOSTS JNYO DEMONSTRATIONS

Tommy Bayayok, a former Calista Corporation intern, has been working with the Junior Native Youth Olympics (JNYO) since the early 90s. Tommy began his volunteer work helping at practices, and then made the transition to substitute coach for Gladys Jung Elementary (GJE). His passion for the sport and dedication to children earned him the position of head coach at GJE for the JNYO in 1995.

*"It is important to our culture that we carry the tradition of the Native games as well as keep our Youth healthy and active."*

Native Youth Olympics (NYO) is a program developed from traditional Alaska Native games and is designed to have a positive impact on Youth. NYO is valuable to children as it promotes health and discipline, and instills important values such as leadership and sportsmanship. Traditional contests include the Alaska high kick, the seal hop and more.

"JNYO encourages Youth to have good grades so they can participate in the games; this helps them maintain a good education in the long-run," said Tommy.

Tommy's favorite part about coaching the JNYO games is seeing the children learn and advance over time.

"The children work hard and are dedicated towards improvement," said Tommy. "Working with the children is a lot of fun and extremely rewarding."

Tommy says that JNYO brings families and communities together while teaching the children good sportsmanship rather than just focusing on competing. Every year Tommy invites NYO judges to travel to GJE to teach Youth the NYO games.

"It's a wonderful opportunity for our kids to see the games demonstrated by the judges," said Tommy.

**In order to arrange for these demonstrations, Tommy must raise \$4,000 in funds and relies on the generous donations from the people of the Region for airfare, meals and housing. In the past, GJE has raised enough funds to expand the demonstrations to include other schools in the area. If you are interested in donating toward next year's NYO at Gladys Jung Elementary, please contact Tommy at [tommy\\_bayayok@lksd.org](mailto:tommy_bayayok@lksd.org)**



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# New ADDRESS and PHONE NUMBER

With a new building address comes new contact information for Calista. We want you to have our latest information in order to stay up-to-date. As we move into our new corporate headquarters in Midtown Anchorage, we are informing our Shareholders, Descendants and business partners of our new information.

## OUR NEW INFO

5015 Business Park Blvd., Suite #3000  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503  
Phone: (907) 275-2800  
Fax: (907) 275-2919  
Toll-free: (800) 277-5516

As part of our commitment to improving the lives of Shareholders, we want to keep you connected to your corporation. Please update our information in your address books in case you need to call or contact our corporate headquarters or send us mail, like updated Shareholder Records information.

You can also connect with us digitally. Our website, [www.calistacorp.com](http://www.calistacorp.com), is an excellent resource for all the latest business and Shareholder-related news. The website contains press releases, Storyknife issues and stories about Regional leaders and events. Online, you will find information about Calista and the Region and there are many opportunities to connect with various departments like Human Resources and Shareholder Records.

All of the latest corporation news is also available in your inbox. "Connect with Your Corporation" is our email newsletter. To subscribe, visit our website and click on the "sign-up for e-news" link in the top right hand corner. The email contains the latest news from Calista as well as job opportunities and information relating to the Alaska Native community.

Additionally, we are very active on social media. If you have not already done so, please like our Facebook page and follow us on Twitter. Social media is how we connect with people by posting photos from events, profiling interns and answering your questions.

 [facebook.com/CalistaCorporation](https://facebook.com/CalistaCorporation)

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 [www.calistacorp.com](http://www.calistacorp.com)

 <http://bit.ly/CALEmail>



## VILLAGE PROFILE: NIGHTMUTE QALUYAARMIUT "THE DIP-NET PEOPLE"

Nightmute, a traditional Yup'ik Eskimo village, is located on Nelson Island in Western Alaska. The village is 18 miles upriver from Toksook Bay and 100 miles west of Bethel, consisting of about 281 people according to 2010 census records. The Qaluyaarmiut people have inhabited Nelson Island for over 2,000 years, and are commonly referred to as the "dip-net people".

Nelson Island has a rich history, with the Qaluyaarmiut people being first introduced to a Russian naval officer, Lieutenant Lavrenty Zagoskin in 1841. Following his visit, Russian Orthodox priests began visiting the area but failed to have a significant impact on the Qaluyaarmiut people and their strong cultural traditions. Edward Nelson, a Smithsonian naturalist was next to study and explore the land in 1878, he found only six people living on the island. Because of the small number of people inhabiting the land and the limited amount of resources on the island, traders failed to see its value.

Missionaries were the first to take a significant interest in the island, but again an impact on the community proved difficult because of the small amount of people scattered across the land. However, in 1934, a missionary by the name of Father Deshout became part of the community, fostering positive relationships amongst the people of the island. Unlike previous missionaries, Father Deshout encouraged the Qaluyaarmiut people to embrace their culture, influencing the continuation of Yup'ik culture.

Today, the Yup'ik culture remains strong among the people of Nightmute, as they retain traditional Native dance festivals, the Yup'ik language and subsistence living. According to a Nelson Island Eskimo, the subsistence living provided by the rivers and the sea is critical to the community's survival. The people are connected to the changing of the seasons, which affects the birds, fish, whales and other animals in the area.

The Native Village of Nightmute is a federally recognized tribe and remains relatively isolated from outside contact, with many of its people having moved to Toksook Bay in 1964 to obtain more cost-efficient goods. The marine climate of the village results in annual precipitation averages of 22 inches and 43 inches of snowfall. Summer temperatures range from 41 to 57 degrees Fahrenheit, with winter temperatures ranging from 6 to 24 degrees Fahrenheit.

## Employee Feature KIRSTEN KINEGAK-FRIDAY ASSOCIATE GENERAL COUNSEL

Calista Corporation proudly welcomes Shareholder Kirsten Kinegak-Friday to the work place. In August, Kirsten began her position as associate general counsel at Calista, bringing expertise and an impressive resume to the workforce with her years of experience as an associate attorney.

Kirsten is a graduate of Stanford University where she was president of the Alaska Native Students Association, as well as a member of the Stanford American Indian Association. She received her juris doctor degree at the UCLA School of Law, and was heavily involved as secretary and vice president of the National Native American Law Students Association.



Kirsten also served as an intern for Calista and was a recipient of a Calista Education and Culture, formerly named Calista Heritage Foundation, Scholarship. The positive experience Kirsten had as an intern working for Calista encouraged her to pursue her goal of one day obtaining a permanent position at the corporation.

With five years of experience as an associate attorney, and her main legal focus being Alaska Native Corporations and Alaska Native issues, Kirsten says she felt prepared and ready to make the transition to Calista.

"It has always been my goal to work at Calista, and it's been helpful to have a strong background of general legal experience at a law firm," said Kirsten.

Kirsten is enjoying working on corporate governance matters, working with subsidiaries, 8(a) work and working with the Regional Committee.

"The whole reason I am so happy to be here is I am able to work with and for my people," said Kirsten. "I grew up in the Calista Region, so this has been very rewarding for me."

**Calista is committed to providing new jobs and opportunities for Shareholders and Descendants, and is happy to have Kirsten working with the corporation.**

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# STORYKNIFE

THE VOICE OF THE REGION

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## SHAREHOLDER RECORDS

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT GIFTING CORPORATION STOCK

Calista Corporation Shareholders have the option of gifting their Corporation stock, but there are some restrictions. Shareholders are only allowed to gift ANCSA stock to children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nephews, nieces, brothers and sisters.

If you choose to gift your shares to siblings, there are age restrictions. Brothers and sisters receiving shares must be at least 18-years-old, or 16 year of age if they are married. Relatives receiving gifted Corporation stock must be at least one-fourth Alaska Native. Recipients of ANCSA stock by wills are not required to be Native. Rose Kairaiuk, manager of Shareholder Records, says there are some misconceptions about ANCSA stock.

"Some people think that you need to be a Shareholder to receive benefits like jobs, scholarships or internships at Calista," Rose said. "But in reality, you qualify if you are a Descendant of a Shareholder. That is not the case in all Alaska Native Corporations."

If you are interested in gifting Calista ANCSA stock, you should contact the Shareholder Records Department. The department will provide you with all the necessary paperwork. Forms must be filled out by both the gifting Shareholder and the Shareholder or Descendant receiving the stock. Shareholder Records will then verify that the intended recipients qualify.

Contact Shareholder Records at (907) 275-2800 or [shareholder@calistacorp.com](mailto:shareholder@calistacorp.com)

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## PERSONAL DATA FORM - NOV/DEC 2014

Shareholder Name \_\_\_\_\_

New Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ SSN \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_

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.

Shareholder Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Witness 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Witness 2 \_\_\_\_\_

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

Mail to:

5015 Business Park Blvd., Suite #3000  
Anchorage, AK 99503

Toll Free 800-277-5516 • Fax 907-275-2919  
[www.calistacorp.com](http://www.calistacorp.com)