CALISTA CORPORATION

STORYKNIFE

THE VOICE OF THE REGION *Yaarnin*

SEPT/OCT 2024 • CALISTA CORPORATION NEWSLETTER

Matt Aaryuk Enoch,
Calista intern and scholarship recipient

CALISTA INTERN CONTRIBUTES TO YUP'IK ATLAS AS YUGTUN LINGUIST

MATT AARYUK ENOCH, LEADER FROM THE REGION

Matt Aaryuk Enoch of Nunapitchuk, a Calista Shareholder, interned to help preserve our Region's cultural knowledge this summer and wants to become a teacher in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Region.

While interning as a Translator/Transcriber with **Calista Education & Culture, Inc. (CECI)**, Enoch made over 1,000 updates to the nonprofit's **Yup'ik Atlas**. If you visit the Yup'ik Atlas online and hover over certain place names like ***Naparyaarmiut/ Hooper Bay***, you can hear Enoch speaking the place name in Yup'ik.

CONTINUES ON PAGE 9

Students in Oscarville. Yulista CARES donated 500 backpacks to five schools in the Lower Kuskokwim School District this year.

2024 YULISTA BACKPACK CAMPAIGN

BACKPACKS AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES TO 500 STUDENTS IN THE Y-K REGION

Employees from **Yulista Holding**, Calista's largest government contracting holding line, donated over **500 backpacks and school supplies to the Yukon-Kuskokwim Region** this year. Backpacks and school supplies were donated to five schools in the communities of **Kasigluk, Atmautluak, Napakiak** and **Oscarville**.

Through their annual **Yulista CARES** Backpack Campaign, Yulista employees organize and raise funds throughout the corporation. They support students in Alaska and other states they operate including Yulista's base of operations in Huntsville, Alabama.

Backpacks are filled with everything from notebooks, scissors and pens, to hats, water bottles and a hygiene kit to stay healthy. This gives students hope and excitement so they can start the school year feeling confident and prepared.

"I'm excited about the school year. I like learning about math and mostly science," says Chelsea Joekay, an eighth grader in Oscarville.

CONTINUES ON PAGE 6

Willie Kasayulie, *Board Chair*

"OVER A DECADE AGO, THE BOARD ENDED DISCRETIONARY VOTING. ONLY YOUR VOTES ELECT DIRECTORS."

Willie Kasayulie

BOARD MESSAGE: BOARD OFFICERS ELECTED

Willie Kasayulie, Board Chair

The Calista Corporation Board of Directors has elected its officers following the 2024 Annual Meeting of Shareholders. I, **Willie Kasayulie**, was reelected as Board Chair, **Margaret Pohjola** as Vice Chair, **Johnnie Evan** as Secretary, and **Earl Samuelson, Sr.** as Treasurer.

Each year after the Annual Meeting, the Calista Board elects its officers. Officers serve a one-year term. Our reelected Board officers have 83 years of combined service to Calista Shareholders. We thank our fellow directors for their continued confidence and recognition of the benefits we have realized working together as a board.

I have served on the Board for 25 years. I have been involved in many leadership roles in Alaska Native organizations, including co-chair of the Alaska Federation of Natives.

Vice Chair Pohjola of Chuathbaluk, a past Calista Board chair, has held accounting roles with Tribal organizations. Secretary Evan of Tuntutuliak is a former Tribal Services Director for AVCP and retired as Major from the Alaska Army National Guard. Treasurer Samuelson of Bethel is a member of Bethel Search & Rescue and spent 30 years as an aircraft pilot for the Alaska Department of Public Safety.

For the first time, three Descendants now serve on the Board. Audrey Alstrom with ties to Alakanuk and Glenn Ivanoff with ties to St. Mary's were elected by Shareholders this year. Chris Kolerok with ties to Mekoryuk is an Interim Director, selected by the Board in 2023 to fill a vacancy.

The Calista Board and management are grateful to the more than 13,000 Shareholders who participated in voting during the Annual Meeting this year. Over a decade ago, the Board ended discretionary voting. Only your votes elect directors.

2024-25 Calista Officers Elected

Willie Kasayulie, Chair

Margaret Pohjola, Vice Chair

Johnnie Evan, Secretary

Earl Samuelson, Sr., Treasurer

Audrey Alstrom, Unit 2 Director

Glenn Ivanoff, Unit 3 Director

Chris Kolerok, Unit 6 Director

Andrew Guy, *President and CEO*

"YOUR VOTE MATTERS. BE PREPARED AND TURNOUT TO VOTE ON NOVEMBER 5."

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: GET OUT AND VOTE

Andrew Guy, President and CEO

The right to vote is essential to our democratic process, and it is our civic duty to participate in the process. Our Elders knew the importance voting had on our communities.

Kotlik in 1982 reached a voter turnout rate of over 95 percent, Akiachak reached a turnout rate of over 94 percent in the same year, and there were many other communities with the same results during that time. Our Elders knew the importance of being prepared and the impact voting has on our communities.

Upterrlainarluta—we always got ready. Being prepared is a part of our ***Yuuyaraq*** teachings—whether it's subsistence, taking care of one's family and community, or voting. Always make a plan for how you will vote in each election and then follow through on your plan.

The people we vote for can influence subsistence policies, funding opportunities, how we interact with state and federal officials, and the stability of our communities. It is important that we fulfill our civic duty and vote.

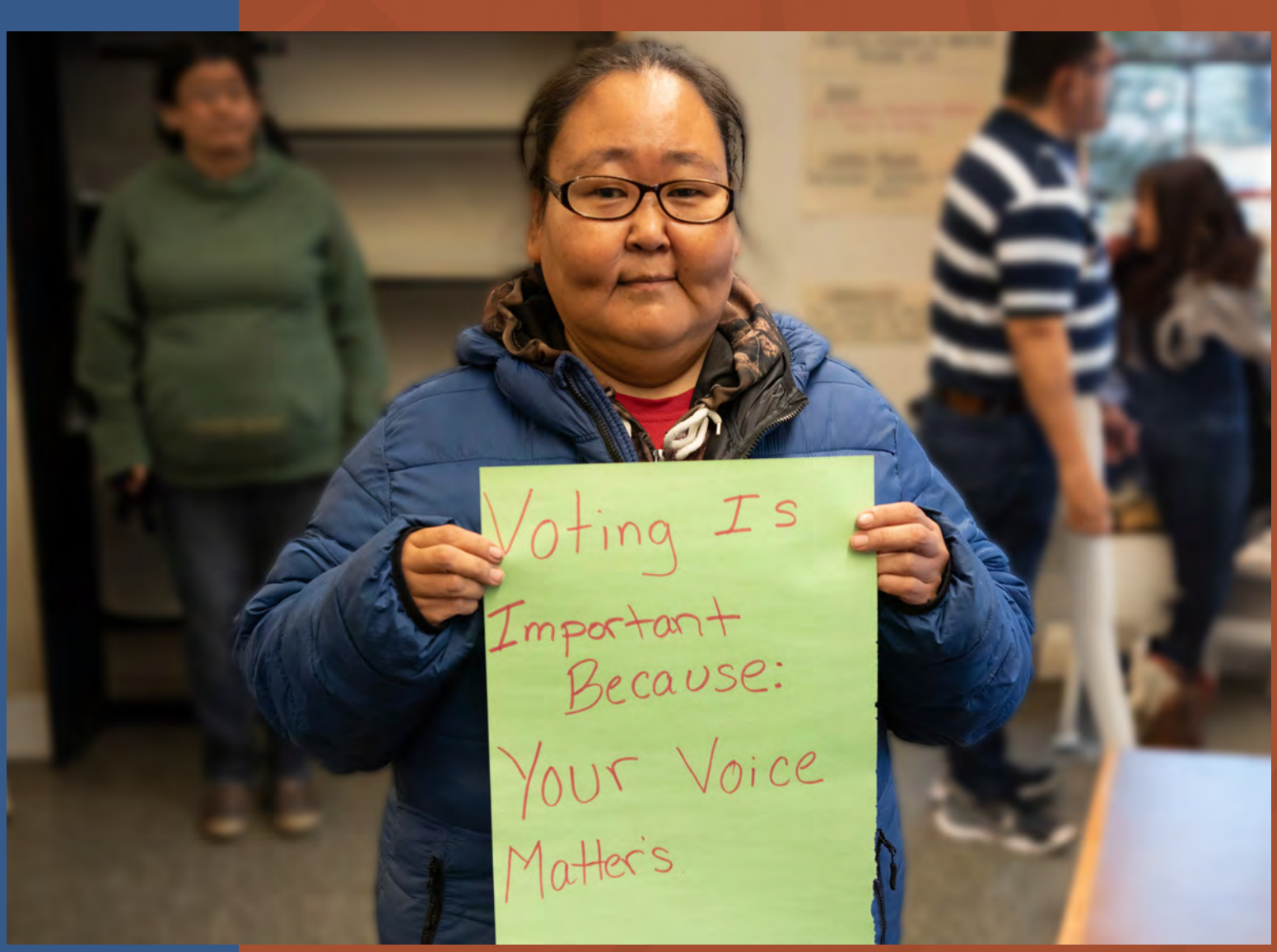
We can reach those voter turnout rates again, but it is up to us as a community to show up and vote. Ensure our voice and priorities are heard by those who seek our vote.

The **general election is November 5, 2024**. Be prepared to vote—make sure you are registered to vote and complete your absentee ballot request if needed.

The deadline to register for the general election is October 6, 2024. The deadline to request the absentee ballot by-mail is October 26, 2024, or electronically by November 4, 2024.

If you have any questions, you can contact our **Calista Government Relations Department** at govrelations@calistacorp.com.

Your vote matters. Be prepared and **turn out to vote on November 5**.



FAQS: DONLIN TAILINGS DAM

ADDRESSING MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT DAM SAFETY

Critics of the Donlin Gold Project have shared concern over a potential accidental release of toxic metals or chemicals into the Kuskokwim River.

They cite the failure of tailings dams in other countries, like the 2014 Mount Polley Dam failure in Canada or the 2019 Brumadinho dam failure in Brazil.

Experts involved in engineering and permitting the Donlin project are focused on the greatest level of safety. It's why they designed the project's proposed tailings facility to not be susceptible to the failures that occurred at Mount Polley, Brumadinho or other dams in recent times.

When designing a highway, aircraft or tailings dam, an engineer will never say that a project has no risk. "Very unlikely" is as close an engineer will get to saying there is no risk.

Misconceptions about project risks are rampant and it's important to acknowledge and address concerns, even if a subject matter expert considered and addressed them previously. Here are some of the top concerns we've heard about the Donlin tailings dam and our responses.

Would the tailings dam withstand a major earthquake or flood?

Yes, and based on a site-specific study, the earthquake scenario used in designing the proposed dam is the ground motion equivalent to a 1 in 10,000-year earthquake. Also, in its certificate to operate, Donlin will be required to comply with a maximum water level below the crest of the dam to prevent the release of tailings or water during an earthquake or large storm on top of snowmelt. The maximum water level will be based on a site-specific study now underway to provide the most accurate estimate of future precipitation.

If there is a spill from the dam, what's the likelihood and potential impacts to water quality from cyanide or mercury?

Because cyanide and mercury will be mostly removed from the waste stream ahead of time, the concentrations in the tailings will be too low to impact fish populations.

While the tailings facility is designed to prevent spills, if one happened, it could release tailings that could degrade fish habitat. The tailings include elevated levels of arsenic, antimony and thallium. The impact on habitat would depend on the specific circumstances of a spill. This is less of a risk after mining ends because the water would be drained from the tailings after mining.

Did the project consider a catastrophic dam break?

No, multiple catastrophic scenarios were considered—including a complete tailings dam failure. The catastrophic scenarios were carefully examined by a panel of 24 tailings dam experts who determined them to be "conceivable, but only under extreme circumstances" and very unlikely to happen. The environmental analysis for the project instead focused on spill scenarios that

had the largest potential consequences but were reasonably foreseeable.

The dam is designed to prevent any of those scenarios from happening—by placing the tailings facility on bedrock in a valley surrounded on three sides; constructing the dam out of rock instead of earth; not using tailings for structural support; and many additional engineering safeguards.

Doesn't the dam store materials that pose long-term hazards to the environment, even if the dam is safe?

The tailings won't be acutely toxic to people or wildlife, but they won't meet water quality standards. That's why, under a permit, wildlife needs to be kept away during mining operations.

After mining, all of the surface water will be drained from the tailings, over a period of about 10 years. Then, the tailings will be capped with a soil cover and revegetated. Rainwater and snowmelt that accumulate on the soil cover are expected to meet water quality standards. If they don't, the water will be pumped to the pit, where it will be treated and discharged in compliance with strict environmental standards.

Who is responsible if there is an accident?

Building and operating the Donlin project in a way that protects our people, the environment, and the resources we depend on is a top priority. Calista and The Kuskokwim Corporation will have oversight, along with dam safety regulators. The tailings dam alone will have weekly, monthly and quarterly reports that must be filed with regulators, but who is responsible for an accident?

Calista General Counsel Walter Featherly states, "Under its lease with Calista, Donlin and its owners are completely responsible for complying with all applicable state and federal environmental laws, and also for all costs and liabilities associated with a tailings release."

"Donlin Gold—with Barrick and NOVAGOLD as the project owners—would be financially responsible for the cleanup cost of a tailings spill, should that occur," says Chris Eckert, Donlin Gold Senior Environmental Coordinator.

Additionally, Donlin must create a cleanup fund before operations begin. This fund requires approval by the State of Alaska.

CALISTA EDUCATION & CULTURE, INC. PRESENTS

YUP'IK TEACHING MOMENT

UKSUAQ [UHK-SUAHK] IS YUP'IK FOR "FALL"

***Calista Education & Culture, Inc. (CECI)** presents the **Yup'ik Teaching Moment** in our Storyknife newsletter. CECI highlights Yuuyaraq, the traditional/cultural way of being in our Region. The Yup'ik Teaching Moment is provided by **Mark John, CECI Cultural Advisor** and Calista Elder from Toksook Bay.*

Fall has always been a dangerous time of the year in rural Alaska. It is getting cold and often wet and windy. It is also a time when freeze-up begins. In the Qasgiq—the community house—the Elders talked to the youth and the adults about the dangers of being out in fall.

Weather conditions were the main concern. They learned how to take care of themselves if they were to fall through the ice or get wet from the weather. They were told to always have a staff. It would help check ice thickness and help pull themselves out if they happen to fall through. They were also taught how to use grass as insulation to keep warm and dry if they got wet.

In the past, hunters, fishers and gatherers were advised not to go out unless it was necessary. Instead, they were advised to prepare traps for fur bearing animals that were used for food and clothing and to prepare for ice fishing with fish traps, nets and jigging.

It was a busy time for both men and women. Men worked on their sleds and harnesses for their dogs, animal traps, and their fish jigging gear. Women worked on winter gear for their families to stay warm during the winter.

Dangerous conditions are the same for those going out today. For those going out subsistence hunting and fishing by snow machine, they need to be very cautious and bring proper clothing, food, tarps and other items to keep safe and survive. Knowing how to navigate and use survival techniques is very important.

Young people who are just starting to get out need to be taught how to be safe. If they don't know, adult family members need to teach them. It is a matter of survival. Keep safe and take care of yourselves.

2024 YULISTA BACKPACK CAMPAIGN

BACKPACKS AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES TO 500 STUDENTS IN THE Y-K REGION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Oscarville—about a 15-minute boat ride from Bethel—has less than 20 students in the school. Each student is now ready for the school year, even the teachers. The Yulista Backpack Campaign also donates extra school supplies to teachers including notepads, pens and more.

"It feels great to get a new bag with supplies," says **Natalia Slim**, a senior at Akiuk Memorial School in Kasigluk. "It's great for my brothers and sisters because they like to write a lot—sometimes even on the wall! They've been counting down the days, and now they're ready to learn."

As Natalia begins her senior year, she's focused on her goal of becoming a trained carpenter. She even participated in the Calista Brice STEM camp last fall.

The Yulista CARES Backpack Campaign raised funds to send over 1,700 backpacks with school supplies to schools nationwide, with 500 of those distributed to the Calista Region. Additionally, $8,350 was raised specifically to support schools in Alaska. We are especially grateful to Grant Aviation for donating charter flights and delivering the backpacks to the Y-K Region.

A Calista Shareholder employee from Yulista typically organizes the backpack delivery, and a highlight for most of the Yulista employees is seeing the students' smiling faces in the schools. Kayla Larson, a past intern, and the Yulista CARES committee organized this year's backpack campaign.

"We want to thank the employees and partners who are dedicated to the mission of Yulista and Calista to make a difference in the lives of our Shareholders," says Larson Yulista employee and Calista Shareholder with ties to Kwethluk. "Quyana for your time and donations in creating a great start for the students of the Y-K Region."

Natalia Slim starts her senior year at Akiuk Memorial School in Kasigluk with a goal to be trained and work as a carpenter.


NAPASKIAK
HAWKS


Alaska GROWN

MEET CALISTA'S NEW WORKFORCE & SHAREHOLDER DEVELOPMENT TEAM

RECENT PROMOTION, NEW HIRES BRING ENERGY TO KEY PROGRAM

Some of Calista's most important initiatives are centered on increasing opportunities for Shareholder employment, education and leadership opportunities, as well as in-Region economic development and partnerships.

Through internships, apprenticeships and other training programs, Calista's **Workforce & Shareholder Development (WFSD)** team helps achieve our corporate mission and strategic goals.

Due to a well-deserved promotion and two new hires, the WFSD team is working at full steam this fall. We are honored to introduce the team in this newsletter!

Regina *Qussauyaq* Therchik was recently promoted to the role of Workforce & Shareholder Development Manager after serving in the specialist position for two years. She previously worked as a Training & Compliance Specialist with Yulista Tactical Services in Alabama and Texas, after working for two summers in our internship program. Regina has created a corporate cultural training program to educate employees on the history and cultures of our Yup'ik, Cup'ik, Cup'ig and Athabascan Shareholders.

Personal Trivia: Regina is a Calista Shareholder who grew up in Toksook Bay. Currently, she serves as the board secretary for both the Alaska Native Professional Association and Alaska EXCEL.

Bradley *Cupluaraq* Lake is the Workforce & Shareholder Development Specialist focused on workforce development. Before joining the WFSD team this summer, Bradley was a third-grade teacher in Hooper Bay, and while attending college, he interned for five summers across several Calista subsidiaries. In his new role, Bradley oversees Calista's apprenticeship programs, facilitates Y-K Workforce Development Group gatherings, and assists Shareholders and Descendants with career development.

Personal Trivia: Bradley is a Calista Shareholder who grew up in Hooper Bay. He has a keen interest in basketball and is also passionate about outdoor activities, including fishing and hiking.

Izayah *Narull'aq* Liu is the Workforce & Shareholder Development (WFSD) Specialist at Calista Corporation who coordinates our internship program. He joined the team in June after previously working in recruitment for the Alaska Native Medical Center and the Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation. Izayah has extensive experience in program coordination and recruiting, having led and optimized development projects in addition to sourcing and placing top talent.

Personal Trivia: Izayah is a Calista Shareholder who grew up in Bethel. He likes to spend time hunting and fishing, working on vehicles, and enjoying winter sports like snowboarding.

WANT TO CONNECT WITH OUR WORKFORCE AND SHAREHOLDER DEVELOPMENT TEAM? HERE'S HOW!

Email: WFSD@calistacorp.com

Facebook: @Calista.HR

Instagram: @calista_hr.wfsd

On the web: www.calistacorp.com/employment/shareholder-development

CALISTA INTERN CONTRIBUTES TO YUP'IK ATLAS AS YUGTUN LINGUIST

MATT AARYUK ENOCH, LEADER FROM THE REGION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Yup'ik Atlas Contributions

Enoch's major project as a CECI translator/transcriber intern was working on the Yup'ik Atlas.

Created in 2010, the Yup'ik Atlas now includes more than 4,000 place names contributed by Elders throughout the Y-K Region, including names of old villages, rivers, lakes, mountains and ocean channels.

This summer Enoch uploaded the Yup'ik pronunciation of place names into the atlas. He also transcribed tapes in English and Yup'ik, translated spoken Yup'ik tapes to English, and uploaded images to their appropriate place on the Yup'ik Atlas.

"I enjoyed listening to tapes of Elders. It helped me learn about their values in their region," Enoch says.

Future Plans

Enoch plans to use his knowledge and expertise from his degree and prior internship experience to find full-time work in his field while pursuing a Master's degree.

"Since my community helped me a lot, I want to give back to them by teaching the Yugtun language in the Y-K Region."

Since the beginning, Matt has been interested in the Yugtun language.

"Being able to teach Yugtun to other villages pushed me. That's why I have been pursuing Yup'ik and doing work related to Yugtun," Enoch says. "These internships have helped me gain more knowledge and understanding about the Yup'ik language."

Enoch graduated from the University of Alaska Fairbanks this May with a bachelor's degree in Yup'ik Language and a minor in Criminal Justice.

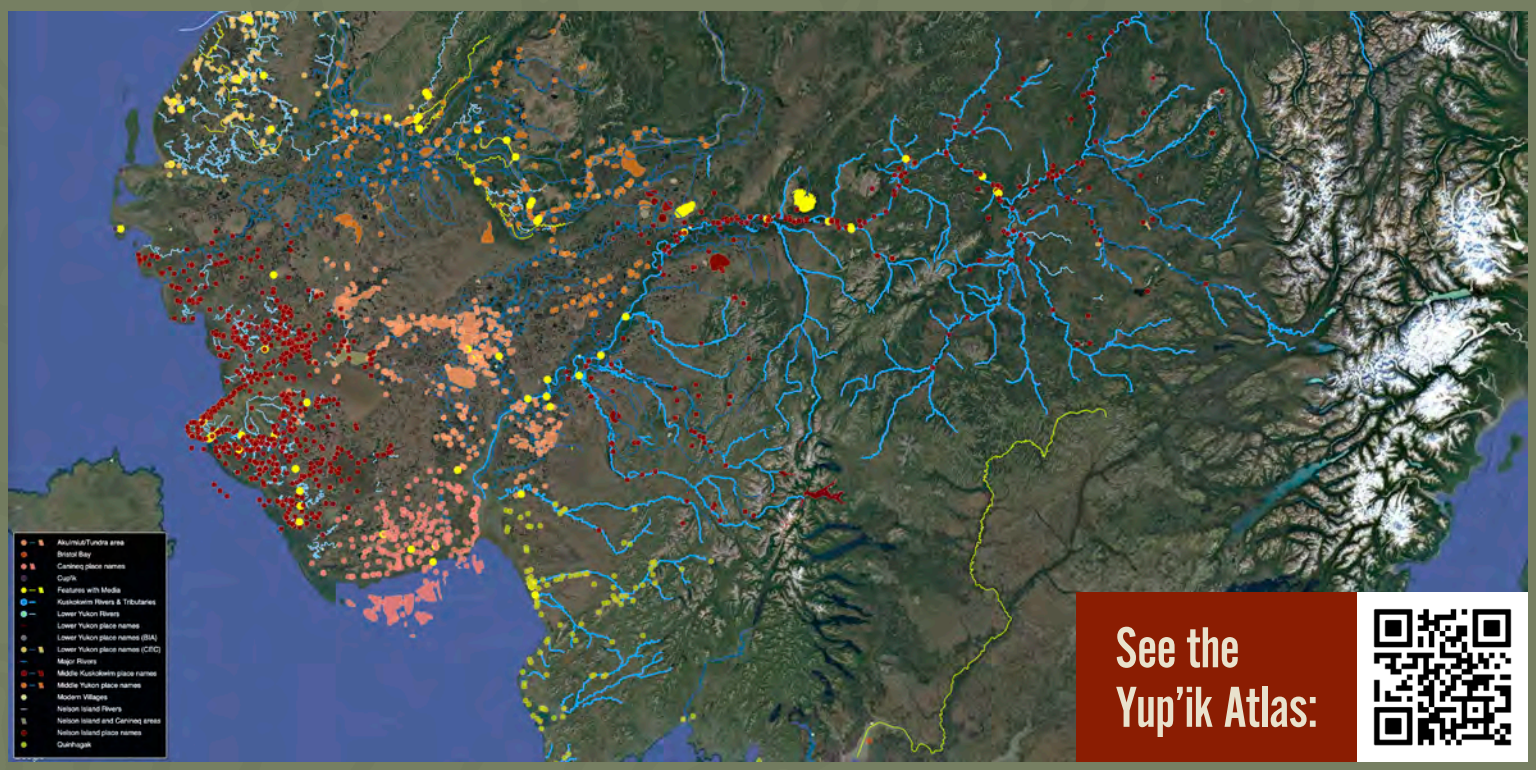
"I'm the first generation in my family to graduate," Enoch says. "I didn't do it for myself, I did it for my community as well."

Enoch comes from a large family with six other siblings. His parents are Matthew and Mary Enoch, and his grandparents are John and Josephine Enoch on his father's side, and Carl and Natalia White on his mother's side. With his family, Enoch participates in subsistence activities including fishing and berry picking.

"My family is big on subsistence. We go together as a family so we can catch more fish and spend time with each other," he says. Enoch's favorite berries to pick are salmonberries, then blackberries, and sometimes blueberries.

Enoch has travelled throughout Alaska following his passion for education. "When I reached high school, I wanted to challenge myself and decided to go to Mt. Edgecumbe High School in Sitka," he says. "From there I went to college in Fairbanks."

Enoch has received CECI's scholarship to help reach his degree at UAF. This is also his fifth year completing the internship program. He interned with CECI as a translator/transcriber in previous years, and with Calista's Yulista Holding line in Huntsville, Alabama as a project assistant.



CALISTA LAND & NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT PRESENTS:

MANAGING OUR LANDS

MEET CALISTA'S LAND TEAM

The **Calista Land and Natural Resources Department** was created and tasked by our Board of Directors in 1972 to work on a monumental task—assisting villages with their land selections.

But that was just the beginning of the department's work.

Today, the department manages approximately 6.5 million acres of Calista's land entitlement—roughly 25 percent of the mineral estate land in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Region.

This includes managing gravel extraction and mineral exploration, authorizing the use of Calista land for projects like water and sewer, and protecting designated cultural sites. Calista's ANCSA 14(h)(1) lands, which include cemetery sites, are not open to development.

Through consultation and public comment letters, the department also provides technical input and traditional ecological knowledge to state and federal agencies when they are considering actions in the Y-K Region that impact Calista and its Shareholders.

If you work for a village corporation, Tribe or a local government, chances are good that you've had phone calls and emails with our Land Department. With some recent staff additions, we'd like to introduce the department staff. If you have questions, you can reach them at Calista_Land@calistacorp.com.

Tisha Kuhns is Calista's vice president of land and natural resources, responsible for advising the company on economic minerals, land issues, and coordination with industry and government agencies. She previously served for three years as a geologist in the department, and before that, spent 12 years with the Donlin Gold Project in geology and water quality baseline management.

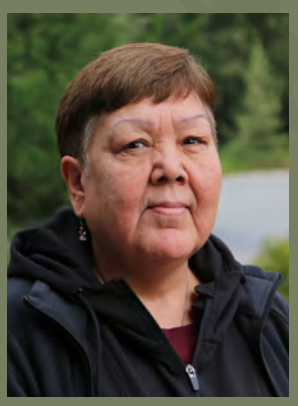
Personal Trivia: Tisha is a Calista Shareholder and Tribal citizen of the Akiachak Native Community, born and raised in Bethel and Homer. In 2021, Tisha was named a Native American 40 Under 40 by the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development.

Mary Martinez is the department's land planner. She works with contractors and communities to secure agreements for use of gravel, an important commodity for maintaining and developing local infrastructure such as roads, runways, foundations and house pads. Mary also develops material site maps in ArcGIS, a computer-based geographic information program, and helps prepare correspondence with government agencies. She's motivated by the continued and future need for gravel for erosion control projects and rising renewable energy projects in the Region.

Personal Trivia: Mary is a Calista Shareholder with ties to Kotlik. For her master's degree in environmental science, she researched trace metals in sediment and vegetation in the Y-K Region, providing a biogeochemical baseline for the region. Her thesis is available on Calista's website, under 'Maps and Reports.'

Paul Anderson is the department's Geographic Information System (GIS) Specialist. He collects, analyzes and displays spatial data such as land ownership and environmental data in maps. Paul loves GIS work because it blends science, data, and design in the service of a deeper understanding of the world.

Personal Trivia: Paul is a NANA Shareholder who lives in the Anchorage area with his wife and two dogs, and he enjoys the outdoors and competitive driving.



Rose Bennett is the department's administrative assistant who provides general support to the department on a variety of tasks. During the salmon crisis in western Alaska, she has supported the department's efforts to monitor and participate in the interagency meetings related to Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim salmon.

Personal Trivia: Rose is a Bristol Bay Native Corp. Shareholder who grew up commercial fishing for salmon in Bristol Bay. Her father was born and raised on the Yukon River, and she enjoys learning about the culture and people of the Calista Region.

Varina Zinno is the department's senior geologist, working on understanding and further developing the mineral resources of Calista lands. That involves spending large parts of her summer doing field work in the Region. Varina is motivated to help attract investment in projects that can provide economic opportunities and jobs for our Shareholders and help reduce reliance on other countries for metals and minerals that are necessary to everyday living.

Personal Trivia: Among other hobbies, Varina enjoys playing hockey, Nordic skiing and playing music with her family and friends. In 2021, she was recognized as an Alaska Top 40 Under 40.

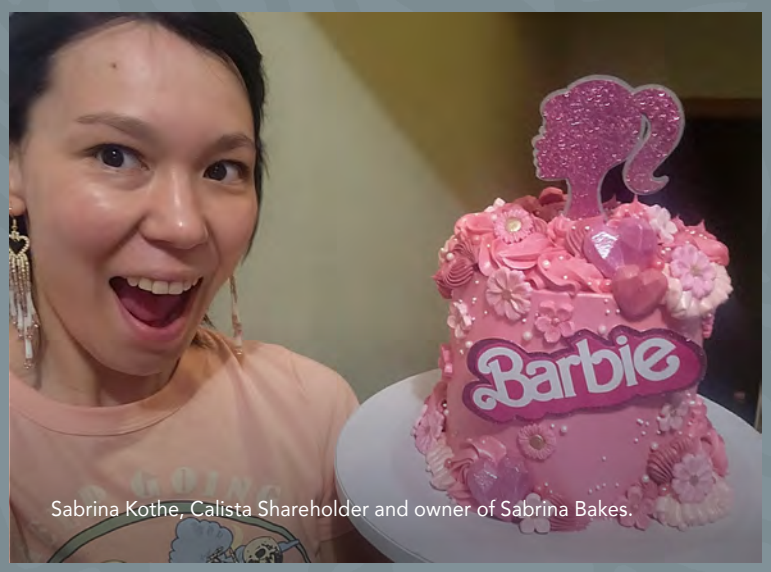
Mike Bethe, Jr. is the department's exploration geologist. He is interested in innovative methods for mineral exploration that may be more effective than traditional industrial methods. He does this by integrating past data with field work, new techniques and remote-sensed data.

Personal Trivia: Mike loves raising his children, photography, cooking, fishing and trying to improve his guitar playing.

Map Credit: Calista Land Department with data from BLM, AK DNR, Airbus, NGA, NASA, CGIAR, NCEAS, NLS, OS, NMA, Geodatastyrelsen, GSA, GSI and the GIS user community.

CALIVIKA SHAREHOLDER HIGHLIGHT: SABRINA BAKES

Q&A WITH SABRINA KOTHE OF SABRINA BAKES



Sabrina Kothe, Calista Shareholder and owner of Sabrina Bakes.

Calista Shareholder **Sabrina Koth**e is a talented baker in Wasilla who offers her services in Wasilla, Eagle River and Palmer. She started her business in 2021 after a period of time as a stay-at-home mom. Sabrina expresses that she is grateful for everyone who has supported her through her business journey.

She listed her business, **Sabrina Bakes**, in our **Calivika Shareholder Directory** in 2023 and can be found on Facebook at **www.Facebook.com/SKotheBakes.**

Tell us about yourself and how Sabrina Bakes started.

I am Sabrina, I am Yup'ik, a mother of five, and part of the Agwiak family of **Mountain Village**. I am the owner of Sabrina Bakes, a cottage food business that I opened in April 2021. I grew up in **St**. **Mary's** until I was 12 years old then my family moved to Palmer, Alaska. When I was younger, I liked to bake anything I could. I'd search the house for ingredients and improvise to make any kind of dessert. Previously I have worked as a Certified Nursing Assistant, case manager, and a Certified Medical Assistant, but baking has always been something I'd do for fun. I would always try to make a baked treat for work potlucks. In 2020 I stopped working to be a stay-at-home mom, and with the encouragement of a few friends I decided to try opening a cottage baking business.

Where can we find your products/services?

The products I mainly sell are cakes and cupcakes meant for any occasion, but I also bake cake pops, cinnamon rolls, fry bread and chocolate chip cookies. You can contact me on Facebook at **www.Facebook.com/SKotheBakes.**

What top three things do you believe contributed to the success of your business?

I put my heart into everything I do and always try to do my best. I couldn't do any of this without the support and patience of my family, and this all started with the encouragement of a few friends. Also, a big part of my success comes from those that support my business, by sharing my work, ordering from me, leaving reviews and recommending my business. I'm very grateful for everyone that has supported me through this journey.

How has your business grown since you started?

I started with just friends following my page and ordering from me, and I've grown quite a bit in the past three years. My business has grown in number of followers on my business page, and number of orders per week. I started off with one here and there and [now] average about 4-7 per week, with my busiest week I believe I had 14 orders.

What advice would you give to budding entrepreneurs?

Learn everything you need to know before starting a business. I would say one big thing is to learn how to price your products. Do not guilt charge or undercharge because you're scared your prices may be too high, which is what I did my first year of business, and I was losing money for all the work I did. Set up rules for deposits on purchases and let customers know what to expect regarding payment for products. Don't overload yourself with work and always tell a customer if you're not comfortable taking an order because you've never done it before or haven't had enough practice at it.

Can you tell us the most rewarding experience you've had with your business?

What's rewarding is seeing the great reviews, seeing photos of those who order my products, seeing recommendations, and new people discovering the work I do. Through "**Sabrina bakes for every child**," I also provide cakes for families in need (for children). I accept nominations for this and choose a family to bless with a cake when I can. You can see more details about this on my Facebook page. So far, I've blessed 14 children with birthday cakes! I am still learning, and still adjusting but I certainly feel more confident than when I started. I am definitely proud to say I am an Alaska Native business owner.

See the Calivika Shareholder Business Directory:

CECI RECOGNIZED FOR YUP'IK CULTURE BOOKS

CALISTA EDUCATION HONORED IN ALASKA CENTER FOR THE BOOK 2024 CLIA AWARDS

Authors **Ann Fienup-Riordan, Alice Rearden** and **Marie Meade** are honored in the 2024 **Contributions to Literacy in Alaska (CLIA)** Awards from the **Alaska Center for the Book** for their work in publishing books for **Calista Education & Culture, Inc. (CECI).** The Center is Alaska's liaison with the **U.S. Library of Congress**.

The CLIA awards have been presented annually to more than 100 people and institutions making a significant contribution in literacy, the literary arts, or the preservation of the written or spoken word since 1993.

"IT WAS IMPORTANT TO OUR ELDERS FOR US TO HAVE BILINGUAL BOOKS WITH YUP'IK AND ENGLISH."

- Alice Rearden,
CECI translator and oral historian with ties to Napakiak

Authors Fienup-Riordan, Rearden and Meade form a collaboration meriting CLIA awards, says the Alaska Center for the Book. The three are tradition-bearers, educators, authors and translators sharing Yup'ik culture, tradition and language through their work.

Along with **Mark John**, **CECI Cultural Advisor**, the authors often work together on many projects. This project started through grants attained through the **Calista Elders Council** (a precursor to CECI) over the last 25 years.

"We wanted to record the knowledge and stories of traditional Yup'ik life," Rearden says. "The interviews with Elders would highlight how they lived before our modern times. Many lived in sod houses and a completely different lifestyle than we know today."

Fienup-Riordan is a cultural anthropologist who has written or edited more than 20 books and she has lived in Alaska since 1973. Meade, born in Nunapitchuk, is a researcher and translator who also teaches Yup'ik dance, language and traditions at the University of Alaska Anchorage. Rearden, originally from Napakiak, has worked as primary translator and oral historian for CECI and as a teacher for the Lower Kuskokwim School District at Bethel Regional High School.

Rearden says the conversations begin with the group meeting with Elders from the Yukon-Kuskokwim Region to speak in Yup'ik about how things used to be done and how they lived.

"We've refined our way of speaking to them over the years, but we gather them together and talk to them about a specific topic," Rearden says. "We typically record three Elders at a time, guide the discussion with questions, but it's basically a conversation amongst the Elders."

Rearden and Meade transcribe all the interviews in Yup'ik, then translate it to English, and provide the English transcripts to Fienup-Riordan, who would work on writing and editing the book from there. Most published books are finalized with one side in English and the opposite side written in Yup'ik.

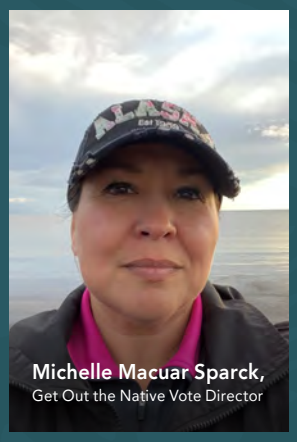
"It was important to our Elders for us to have bilingual books with Yup'ik and English," Rearden says. "The vision of the team is led by our Elder council [now the **Calista Elder Committee**], and they decide what we should highlight in our traditions."

Some of their latest joint works are ***Tengautuli Atkuk / The Flying Parka, Yungcautnguuq Nunam Qainga Tamarmi /All the Land's Surface is Medicine,*** and ***Ircenrraat: Other-than-human Persons***. Links to the books can be found on the CECI website: **www.CalistaEducation.org**.

Mark John, CECI Cultural Advisor (left), and the three authors (right), Ann Fineup-Riordan, Marie Meade and Alice Rearden, who were recognized for their work interviewing Elders, and transcribing and writing Yup'ik cultural books for CECI.

VOTE LIKE OUR ELDERS

IT TAKES A VILLAGE TO MAKE AN ELECTION HAPPEN



Michelle Macuar Sparck,
Get Out the Native Vote Director

Voters in the Calista Region used to be legendary voters, and the Alaska Native vote meant all the difference in very tight statewide races.

Those who are now our Elders knew our right to vote was hard won in their lifetime, and that voting mattered. In 1982, we voted at near village population levels. For example, of the 204 voters in Akiachak, 193 voted that year—that's nearly 19 of every 20 people voting. In Atmautluak, only three people didn't vote, and 131 people gave them a high of a 98 percent turnout rate. Fifty-five out of 63 voted in Nightmute, giving them a rate of 89 percent.

In the 2022 mid-term election, these three villages had a turnout rate of only 2 or 3 in every 10 people voting. We have dropped an average 50 points in voter turnout since the 1980s.

The Bethel region is in parts of House District 37, House District 38, House District 39, and House District 40. Our Senate Districts are broken up between T and S in the Arctic and Southwestern regions. We make up Region IV of the Division of Elections with 107 precincts. We have nearly 42,000 registered voters, and only 13,971 people voted in the 2022 midterm elections.

In 2022, 13 villages managed to pull off in-person voting but their ballots weren't fully counted in the primary or the midterms. That could have been a problem with the systems we depend on for voting, like the Division of Elections, the post office, or air carriers. Some of it could be because voters don't know enough about elections, don't care, or don't want to get involved.

It takes a village to make elections happen, and our local leaders, paid election work volunteers, and voters need to be loud and proud about the upcoming elections.

My organization, **Get Out the Native Vote**, would like to know why 27,941 people did not vote with the opportunities we have in the last statewide elections. We challenge our community to vote like we have and can do again.

Vote like our Elders, and we can change governance in Alaska to share and replicate our successes, meet our needs, reflect our values, our culture, and utilize our good stewardship in all matters of our lives. Voting needs to add up to make a difference, and it takes more than you and I voting. It takes a village.

This presidential year, and for the ones to come, let's vote like our Elders, vote for our future generations, and get the more representative government we deserve.

Calista Shareholder Maggie Alexie
with her granddaughter in Bethel

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit # 165
Anchorage, AK

CALISTA
CORPORATION
5015 Business Park Blvd, Suite 3000
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

PERSONAL DATA FORM – SEPT/OCT 2024

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 _____

Mail to: 5015 Business Park Blvd., Suite 3000
Anchorage, AK 99503
Toll Free 800-277-5516 • Fax 907-275-2922
www.calistacorp.com

STORYKNIFE
THE VOICE OF THE REGION *Yaarnin*

OWN YOUR FUTURE
Become a Shareholder.

WWW.CALISTACORP.COM/ENROLL

PROTECT YOUR SHARES

A stock will is one of the most important forms a Shareholder can have on file for their family. Without a valid stock will, the State of Alaska will determine where your shares go!

Update your stock will if there has been a change in your family due to marriage, divorce, birth or adoption of a child, or a death.

Download a form or call Shareholder Services to request a copy:

www.CalistaCorp.com/CommonForms
or 907-275-2801