

THE Eider Pointer



ANCSA Amendments | P6

Will HR 42 affect you?



Message from the President

Aang Aang Unangax,

After coming into the President role in May, Shareholders came together and voted on three new Directors to our Board. We welcomed Anfesia Tutiakoff, Johanna Tellman, and Patty Lekanoff-Gregory last June. Anfesia leads amazing cultural programs at the Qawalangin Tribe, Johanna has experience on the Tribal Council and Ugadaga Quarry Industry, and Patty served with OC and many other boards and mentors in our whole region and beyond. Their new perspectives contribute institutional and cultural knowledge to our work. Being new to the role of President, I am grateful to have such an experienced Executive Committee and Board to work with, along with a few new leaders like me to start this journey.

Within our organization we are working on our Strategic Plan and having a fresh look at our policies. Our policies guide the board and staff and provide a solid foundation for working with our newly adopted Land Plan. Our Land Plan identifies our priority sites and opportunities. The Land Plan and our Unangaġ Values add structure to our Strategic Plan, and we hope to see a reenvisioning in the culture of OC that fosters succession planning and increased Shareholder benefits and opportunities.

Our partners in Unalaska and the Unangam Tanangin (Aleutian Islands) kept us engaged all summer with fun events that brought dancers, researchers, legislators, and mentors to the

community. These opportunities fuel our efforts to collaborate more and feel connected to our region.

There is a lot to do! In 2015, while I worked in our bustling community as a Massage Therapist at Aleutian Chiropractic and with Unangam Tunuu (Unangaġ Language) Revitalization, if you told me one day I would become President of our Village Corporation I might not have believed it. Many people have offered me training, advice, and guidance through the years prior to working with OC, and when I returned to OC in 2018. Our community, Denise Rankin, our previous President, and Natalie Cale, our CEO, and my coworkers and family have nudged me along, teaching and encouraging me to learn more, ask questions and question the answers. This last year working with the Arctic Energy Ambassador Program with the Arctic Energy Office, I have become acquainted with the Unangam Tanangin in a new light, and through it all I think the common thread is to help others, support your region through collaboration, and responsibly care for and build on what our ancestors gave us: Our Lands, Shareholders, and Unangam Tunuu, our language.

Txichin Qagaasakuqing,

Laresa H. Syverson
President

UNANGAM TUNUU



Aġada

Dance, Everyone Dance

Ounalashka Corporation Mission Statement

Our mission is to effectively manage our lands and resources, provide sustainable business opportunities, and enhance the economic well-being of our Shareholders.

Ounalashka Corporation's Commitment to Unangax Cultural Preservation

At the heart of Ounalashka Corporation's mission, lies a deep and unwavering commitment to the Unangaꝥ people and the preservation of our culture.

This commitment is more than a statement; It is a guiding principle that informs our actions and investments

in the community. We believe that by honoring our past and nurturing our traditions, we build a stronger future for all Shareholders. A key aspect of this effort is our dedicated support for Camp Qangaayux, a vital program for transmitting Unangax language, values, and traditions to the next generation.

Our support for Camp Qangaayux is a powerful example of our Unangax values in action that help provide a stable and permanent home for this incredible cultural immersion camp. In 2013, Ounalashka Corporation entered into a landmark agreement with the Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska granting the Tribe a 99-year lease for the land at Humpy Cove, the cherished site of the camp.

The lease agreement covers

540,970 square feet of culturally significant land, provided to the Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska for just \$1 per year. This gesture goes



far beyond a simple land-use agreement. A standard ground lease of this nature would typically generate substantial revenue. By forgoing this income,

Ounalashka Corporation is making a significant, long-term investment in our shared cultural future.

This 99-year term provides the security and stability needed for the Qawalangin Tribe to confidently plan and grow Camp Qangaayux. It ensures that for nearly a century, Unangaꝥ youth will have a dedicated place to connect with their heritage, learn from their elders, and build a strong sense of identity. This is not just a lease, it is a promise to our children and grandchildren that their culture will always have a home.

OC's commitment extends beyond land and finances. We believe in providing practical, hands-on support that directly impacts the success of community initiatives. Each year, our maintenance team plays a crucial role in the

setup and teardown of Camp Qangaayux, demonstrating a true spirit of partnership.

Preparing the Humpy Cove site for dozens of campers and staff is a significant logistical undertaking. Our maintenance crew dedicates substantial resources to make it happen smoothly and safely.

The annual support includes:

- **Labor:** Four of our skilled employees spend between five and seven full days on-site, assisting with everything from infrastructure setup to general preparations.

- **Heavy Equipment:** We provide a loader for a day and a half and a flatbed truck for one full day, essential for moving supplies and equipment to the location.

This direct assistance frees up the Qawalangin Tribe's staff and volunteers to focus on what they do best: developing and delivering an exceptional cultural curriculum for the campers. It is a partnership where we contribute our operational strengths to support their cultural expertise.

While land and labor are foundational, we recognize

that cultural programs also require direct financial resources to operate and expand. Ounalashka Corporation is proud to also provide substantial monetary support to ensure the continuity and quality of these vital initiatives. These funds are critical for covering a wide range of operational costs, including purchasing supplies, supporting instructor stipends, and ensuring the camp experience is accessible to all Unangaꝥ youth who wish to attend. This financial backing is a direct investment in the knowledge, skills, and values being passed down



at Camp Qangaayux.

Our contributions, through land, labor, and capital, are guided by our Unangaꝥ values and a vision for a future

where our traditions are not just preserved, but are a living, breathing part of our community.

We are proud to partner with the Qawalangin Tribe in this important work. By working together, we are ensuring that the flame of Unangaꝥ culture burns brightly, illuminating the path for future generations and strengthening the bonds that connect us all.

The Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska will host their Annual Election and Meeting on November 15, 2025

Schedule of Events:

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.: Voting at the Father Gromoff Senior Center

2:00 p.m.: Annual Meeting in the Community Room at the Unalaska City Library

5:00 p.m. Potluck at the Father Gromoff Senior Center.

Please bring a dish to share!



Angaginangin Festival Celebrates Unanga Culture in Unalaska

From August 5–7, 2025, Unalaska came alive with the first-ever Angaginangin Festival, a vibrant celebration of Unanga culture, language, dance, and community pride. Hosted at the Parks, Culture & Recreation building in Unalaska, the festival brought together Unanga dancers, elders, and language keepers to share traditions, stories, and songs around Angaginangin, our people.

Throughout the weekend, attendees experienced powerful performances by Unanga dance groups from Anchorage, Akutan, Atka, and Unalaska, dressed in traditional regalia. Attendees also joined community gatherings that encouraged intergenerational learning. The spirit of the event was one of connection, not only between elders and youth but between culture and place, as the Aleutian landscape itself served as a living reminder of Unanga history and resilience.

The Angaginangin Festival represented more than just a series of performances, it re-affirmed the strength and endurance of Unanga identity, promoted pride among younger generations, and created opportunities for residents and visitors alike to experience the depth of Aleutian heritage.

With community support and participation, the festival's success has inspired hope that it will become an annual event. Plans for future gatherings include expanding workshops, storytelling and more representation from across the Aleutian region.



Congratulations to **Patricia Lekanoff-Gregory**, Ounalashka Corporation Board Member, region-wide mentor, Qawalangin Tribal Member, devoted community servant and strong advocate for education, for retaining your seat on the Aleut Corporation Board of Directors. We look forward to your continued leadership. Thank you for being willing to serve.



Upcoming Deadlines

- November 15**
Emil Berikoff Sr. Memorial Scholarship Spring Application Due
- November 30**
Edna P. McCurdy Scholarship Spring Application Due
- December 1**
APICDA's Gear Reimbursement Grant Applications Due
- December 15**
APIA Higher Education Scholarship Application Due
- December 3**
Ulakaia Center Spring Scholarship Application Due
- February 28**
Qawalangin Tribe Spring Scholarship Application Due

Estates

Unsettled Estates

Harry Anderson
Leon Anderson
Louise Bradley
Deanna Colbert
Gail Collins
Jalua Edison
Debra Fine-Moore
Richard Galaktionoff
Dawn Hutchinson
Johanna Joseph
Christopher Melovidov
Rita Perez
Charles Peterson
Paul Reedy
Vassa Robertson
Alex Sifsof
Arnold Sifsof
Lawrence Sifsof
Bert Stutsman, Jr.
Bert Stutsman, Sr.
Muriel Tumbloo

Estates in Progress

Arielle Auburn
Anna Jean Bereskin
William Berikoff, Jr.
Michael Carr
Raquel Castillo
Paul Daley
Karl D. Galaktionoff
Mary Galaktionoff
Robert Hoffman
Joanne Jeppesen
Hida Kudrin
Barbara Lopez
Jimmie McConnell
Barbara McLemore
Audra Mello
Anastasia Merculieff
Charles Nunn, Sr.
Patricia Rosson
Ernest Shaishnikoff
Pala Simeona
Alexey F. Stepetin
Marie Tickett
Emil Vinberg

Scholar Spotlight: Max Crawford, From Sociology Student to Future JAG Officer

Max Crawford's path to success at the University of Oklahoma exemplifies how scholarships can transform educational opportunities into lasting impact. As an Edna P. McCurdy Scholar, Max has maintained an impressive 3.9 GPA while pursuing a pre-law degree in sociology, demonstrating the kind of academic excellence that makes scholarship investments worthwhile.

Currently studying sociology with a focus on criminology, Max found his calling in understanding both human behavior and the justice system. His coursework, including a discussion-led class on the U.S. criminal justice system, has prepared him well for his ultimate goal: becoming a Judge Advocate General (JAG) in the military.

"I have always had an interest in people and why we are the way we are," Max explains. "The criminology classes have been very fascinating and beneficial for what I'd like to do after college."

Max's dedication extends beyond the classroom. While maintaining his academic schedule, he is preparing for the LSAT with a target score of 160, a benchmark that will significantly expand his law school options. Despite the prep course consuming most of his evenings, he continues to volunteer at the local animal shelter, showcasing his commitment to community service.

The Edna P. McCurdy Scholarship has been transformational for Max's educational journey. Without it, he candidly admits, "I would simply not be able to go to

college. At least not without taking out huge student loans which I did not even consider as an option."

The financial support has allowed Max to focus entirely on his studies rather than worrying about funding his education. This freedom has enabled him to develop crucial skills for his future career, including public speaking and writing abilities that will prove essential in law school and beyond.

One of Max's professors particularly noted his ability to "bring diverse perspectives together in a cohesive and respectful dialogue," that highlight his leadership and interpersonal skills that will serve him well as a future military attorney.

His approach to balancing academics and extracurricular activities demonstrates mature time management skills. He participates in OU's Spanish Club and various intramural sports, including beach volleyball, basketball, and pickleball, while maintaining his academic priorities.

"Academics come before all, then clubs and extracurriculars, and finally exercise to keep myself in shape," Max explains. "With that routine, I have found much more success than I did in high school."

Max's guidance for prospective scholarship applicants centers on authenticity and academic dedication. He emphasizes the importance of maintaining strong grades starting in high school, noting that "a person's GPA provides insight into a

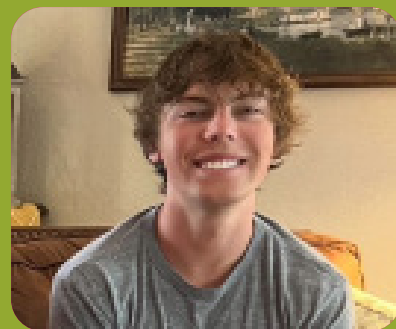
student's overall educational health."

For scholarship essays, he advocates vulnerability and honesty, even when discussing difficult topics. "I have written each essay honestly, even if some topics were uncomfortable," he shares, referencing his candid discussion of transferring schools during his freshman year.

Max's journey illustrates the ripple effect of educational investment. The Edna P. McCurdy Scholarship has not just funded his education, it has shaped his character, clarified his purpose, and positioned him to serve others in his future career.

"I'm so thankful for the investment and I hope to make the most of the opportunity I have been given and pay it forward," Max reflects. His story serves as a powerful reminder that scholarships do more than remove financial barriers, they create pathways for students to discover their potential and contribute meaningfully to society.

Please help us wish Max well, as he prepares for the LSAT and his next steps toward law school and future military attorney!





Meet Johanna Tellman: Newly Elected Member of the Ounalashka Corporation Board of Directors

The Ounalashka Corporation is proud to welcome Johanna Tellman as a newly elected member of its Board of Directors. A lifelong resident of Unalaska, Alaska, Johanna brings a wealth of experience, a deep connection to the community, and a passion for preserving Unanga values while driving progress for OC and its Shareholders.

Johanna has spent her life on the beautiful island of Unalaska, where she and her partner of over 25 years, Rodrigo, have raised their two daughters, Mercedes and Adrianna. Her family's legacy is deeply intertwined with the region. Her parents, Walter and Brenda Tellman, and her grandparents, Sergie Krukoff Sr. and Mariamna "Maryann" Krukoff (Merculief), have instilled in her the importance of respecting elders, cherishing family, and being mindful stewards of the land and ocean that sustain the community.

"My parents and grandparents taught me to always listen to the advice of our elders, stand up for them when they can't speak for themselves, and appreciate the environment we live in," Johanna shares. "They also showed me how crucial it is to be compassionate and empathetic toward people from all walks of life."

As a newly elected board member, Johanna is eager to make a meaningful impact. One of her primary goals is to enhance Shareholder engagement by creating more opportunities for Shareholders to voice their concerns

and be heard. "It would be nice to see more than one meeting a year for our Shareholders," she says. "I want to find ways to get our Shareholders more involved with the many things OC does."

Johanna is also passionate about addressing the critical housing challenges facing the community. "Housing is a huge issue for our Shareholders to be able to live here and raise their families," she explains. "I've had several friends and family move away due to this growing issue. If there's a way for me to voice those concerns and push for solutions, I'd like to be a part of it."

Johanna's professional experience is a testament to her dedication to the community and her ability to contribute to OC's strategic goals. She has served on the Unalaska Visitors Bureau Board of Directors for the past five years, where she has supported the growth of tourism, a sector OC has explored as a business opportunity. Additionally, her role on the Qawalangin Tribal Council has allowed her to advocate for land remediation and cultural initiatives, ensuring that Unanga values remain central to decision-making.

For the past 20 years, Johanna has worked at the Ugadaga Rock Quarry as a Scale Shack Operator and administrative assistant. This opportunity, created through a partnership between OC, Aleut, and the quarry operator, exemplifies the kind of workforce development Johanna hopes to expand for Shareholders and tribal members. "I would like to see more of

these opportunities made available to Shareholders in the region," she says.

Johanna's approach to leadership is rooted in collaboration and careful decision-making. "I try hard to look at all the facts before making a decision based on any emotion," she explains. "I believe in doing my due diligence by reading board packets ahead of time and planning out any questions I may have."

She also values the diverse perspectives of her fellow board members and looks forward to working closely with them to address challenges and opportunities. "I enjoy the opportunity to learn from different perspectives that each of our board members have," she says. "I strongly believe in collaborating to come to a sound decision."

Johanna's dedication to the community and her alignment with OC's values make her a natural fit for the Board of Directors. "OC's values align with our Unanga values," she says. "I would like to see the OC Board and the Qawalangin Tribal Council work more closely together and do all that we can for our people."

As Johanna steps into her new role, she brings with her a deep sense of responsibility, a commitment to preserving the culture and environment of Unalaska, and a vision for a stronger, more engaged Shareholder community. The Ounalashka Corporation is excited to have her on board and looks forward to the positive impact she will undoubtedly make.

"I want to find ways to get our Shareholders more involved."

Edna P. McCurdy Scholarship Foundation: 2025 Scholars

- Angelena Lekanoff
- Breanna Knecht
- Brody Dushkin
- Evan Syverson

- Kanesia McGlashan-Price
- Logan Dushkin
- Max Crawford
- Rachel Denham

- Rylee Lekanoff
- Tayla Kreuger
- Tiera Schroeder
- Torin Schroeder

Where'd They Go?

Missing Shareholders

If your name is listed, kindly contact Ounalashka Corporation to update your contact information.

Darryl Alleman
Cayce Bean
Brian Fink
Andrew Galaktionoff
David Galaktionoff
Christina Gordon
Alisa Mastenbrook
Daniel Mills
Timothy Reedy
Diana Shaishnikoff
Adam Shapsnikoff, Sr.
Virginia Sipary
David Stineburg
Samuel Svarny
Jason Svarny
Sienna Svarny
Andrew Yatchmenoff
Amaziah Yatchmenoff
Josephine Zanona

ANCSA's Most Recent Amendments: H.R. 42 and H.R. 43

The Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) has been a cornerstone of Alaska Native self-determination and economic development since its passage in 1971. Recent amendments through House Resolution 42 and House Resolution 43 mark significant steps forward in ensuring that ANCSA corporations can better serve their Shareholders and communities.

H.R. 42, the Alaska Native Settlement Trust Eligibility Act, was signed into law on July 7, 2025. This legislation ensures that certain payments from Alaska Native corporation Settlement Trusts to elderly, blind, or disabled Alaska Natives (or their descendants) are not counted as income when determining eligibility for federal need-based programs like Medicaid, SNAP, or SSI. By excluding these payments from income calculations, the law eliminates the difficult choice many vulnerable Shareholders previously faced between receiving

trust distributions or maintaining access to critical safety-net benefits.

This amendment strengthens the role of Settlement Trusts as tools for Shareholder well-being. ANCSA corporations, like OC, can now use these Settlement Trusts more effectively to provide support through distributions without unintentionally harming recipients' eligibility for federal programs. Beyond the immediate financial benefits, H.R. 42 has a broader community impact. This law keeps vulnerable Shareholders financially stable, supports household and community health, fosters local spending, participation in corporate governance, and cultural activities that strengthen the fabric of Alaska Native communities.

H.R. 43, also signed into law on July 7, 2025, addresses long-standing issues with land conveyances under ANCSA Section 14(c) (3). Previously, village corporations were required to transfer land to the State of Alaska to hold in

trust for future municipal corporations. In many cases, these municipalities never materialized, leaving the land in limbo and restricting its use. H.R. 43 eliminates the requirement for future conveyances and allows for the reversion of lands already conveyed if no municipality has been established. This change restores control of these lands to village corporations, subject to certain conditions.

Together, H.R. 42 and H.R. 43 address critical challenges faced by ANCSA corporations and their Shareholders. H.R. 42 ensures that vulnerable Shareholders can receive trust distributions without losing access to essential benefits, while H.R. 43 unlocks the potential of lands that were previously stuck in State Trust limbo. These changes strengthen the ability of ANCSA corporations to fulfill their mission of supporting Alaska Native communities, preserving cultural heritage, and delivering economic benefits to Shareholders.

OUNALASHKA CORPORATION

Board

Wendy A. Svarny-Hawthorne
Chairwoman

Brian D. Rankin
Vice Chairman

Nichole N. Sherebernikoff
Secretary & Treasurer

Nicholai E. Lekanoff

Shayla R. Shaishnikoff

Anfesia O. Tutiaikoff

Marii M. Swetzof

Johanna L. Tellman

Patricia O. Lekanoff-Gregory

We are deeply grateful for AB's many years of dedicated service and the wisdom shared with Ounalashka Corporation and our Shareholders. Congratulations, AB! This honor is truly well-earned!





Aqada Ukuda - Come and See

Celebrate the artwork of Shareholders and revered Unangax artists, Gert Svorny and Wendy Svorny-Hawthorne, at the Museum of the Aleutians. Their exhibit Aqada Ukuda (Come See) will be on display through February.

Beyond Maintenance: Supporting OC's Broader Goals

At OC, our maintenance team does far more than fix what is broken, they are a driving force behind our growth and sustainability. Their work extends beyond routine repairs, tackling critical challenges like mitigating sea level erosion, planning for utility expansion, protecting archaeological sites, and preventing storm water pollution. Jared Ingle, OC's Maintenance and Operations Manager, also plays a vital role in keeping capital projects on track and improving facilities such as Akuuḡaaluḡ, all while contributing to business planning for our subsidiaries. These efforts not only safeguard our assets, they align with OC's mission to grow responsibly and sustainably.

Safety is a top priority for the team, and they work closely with the local fire department, electricians, and contractors to ensure all properties meet compliance standards. Their proactive inspections and tenant engagement build trust and reinforce our commitment to tenant well-being. One standout example of their expertise is last year's sheet rocking and mudding of the shop, a project completed entirely in-house. By doing the work themselves, the team saved OC an estimated \$30,000 to \$50,000 in labor costs while improving the facility's warmth, saving money on heating costs, and reducing moisture issues.

The team's work does not stop at maintenance, they enhance the value of our properties. A recent renovation of the Biorka units A, B, and C apartments

included new siding and updated windows, improving both energy efficiency and aesthetic appeal. These upgrades are expected to boost tenant satisfaction and retention, ultimately increasing rental income and property value.

Collaboration is another key to their success. The maintenance team works hand-in-hand with the leasing department to address tenant concerns, partners with the land department to enhance signage and plan improvements, and supports the security team with on-site challenges. This teamwork ensures our properties remain functional, attractive, and aligned with OC's development goals.

Looking ahead, the team is excited about major projects, like the possibility of residing the new bunkhouse at Margaret's Bay. Initiatives like these not only keep OC's properties safe and functional, but also provide an opportunity for skill-building and knowledge-sharing among members.

From proactive maintenance and cost-saving repairs to large-scale projects and environmental initiatives, OC's maintenance team is an essential part of our success. Their dedication ensures our properties remain valuable, our tenants stay happy, and our business continues to thrive. Let us take a moment to celebrate their hard work and the vital role they play in keeping OC running smoothly!



OUNALASHKA CORPORATION Staff

Natalie A. Cale
CEO, COO, General Counsel

Laresa Syverson
President

Eric DeCook
Controller

Tammy Taylor
Human Resources Manager

Summer Smith
Board Secretary

Donna Van Flein
Corporate Affairs Coordinator

Chelsea Bramble
Shareholder Affairs Manager

Jared Ingle
Operations Manager

Maricel Tungul
Leasing Manager

Levi Vernon
Senior Accountant

Laura Danford-Meier
Accounts Payable Specialist

Susan Warner
Accounts Receivable Specialist

Kristine Balbarino
Residential Property & Leasing Coordinator

Sam Ahsan
Leasing Assistant

Anastasia "Sasha" Rankin
Lands Assistant

Emil Berikoff, Jr.
Maintenance Tech II

John Jason Bereskin
Maintenance Technician

Duane Johnson
Maintenance Technician

Jayden Lindseth
Maintenance Technician

Bea Sevilla
Receptionist

OCE Staff

Jason Westenskow
Environmental Project Manager

Elise Contreras
Environmental Scientist II

Morgan Buntin
Environmental Scientist I

Sylvia Taylor
Environmental Scientist I

Jose Lopez
Lead Heavy Equipment Operator

Felipe Lekanoff
Lead Heavy Equipment Operator



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Submit ideas, stories & recipes to
Shareholderinfo@ounalashka.com

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Edna P. McCurdy Scholarship Foundation

The Edna P. McCurdy Scholarship Foundation was established by Ounalashka Corporation and provides educational funding for tuition, books, housing, and other expenses to Shareholders and registered descendants. These generous scholarships are available to both full-time and part-time students in college, training, technical schools, and career development. The amount awarded for college students is based on GPA and funds available each year. Scholarships up to

\$500 per year are awarded for career development.

TO QUALIFY, YOU MUST BE ENROLLED IN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING PROGRAMS:

- College full-time (12+ credits)
- College part-time (6+ credits)
- Graduate or doctorate program (9+ credits or full-time as defined by the institution)
- Vocational one- and two-year programs
- Career development or short-term training

IMPORTANT DATES:

College or University

- Fall application deadline – June 30
- Winter/Spring application deadline – November 30
- Summer application deadline – April 30

Trade School

- Deadline – 60 days prior to class start date

Career Development

- Deadline – 15 days prior to class start date



**Contact 907-581-1276
for more information**

We want to hear from you!

OC wants to continue to promote and recognize our Shareholders and descendants. We have many Shareholders who have a variety of talents and expertise. Email us at Shareholderinfo@ounalashka.com to be featured online and/or in the Eider Pointer. Ounalashka Corporation reserves the right to alter or edit any submissions prior to publication.