



## **2020 Community Meeting Q & A**

Due to COVID-19 Sealaska was not able to hold community meetings this year. We held a virtual community meeting on May 20, 2020 from inside Shuka Hit (ancestors house) inside the Walter Soboleff Building. During community meetings there was an opportunity for Q & A. Below are written questions regarding shareholder benefits.

You can view the video from the Q & A from the community meeting at [MySealaska.com/FAQs/CommunityMeetingQA](https://MySealaska.com/FAQs/CommunityMeetingQA).

## **Strengthening Culture**

### **1. What is Sealaska doing to keep shareholders connected to culture?**

Sealaska took on the responsibility of protecting and strengthening the container of wisdom left by our Elders. As a result, Sealaska established Sealaska Heritage Institute in 1980 to administer cultural and educational programs. Since inception, Sealaska has donated roughly \$33.7 million in cash donations and in-kind services to SHI. A recent study found that SHI generated incalculable educational and cultural benefits. We have funded a number of paddle workshops throughout Alaska and the Lower 48 that have been very successful at bringing people together to learn their culture and art. We provide carving materials and cedar bark from our lands to schools and nonprofit organizations, so that students and adult learners can use the material to learn to carve and weave.

We have created a \$10 million language fund that will help promote the revitalization of our languages for the benefit of all our people.

We have worked across Alaska with youth to promote cultural awareness and educational success. We are open to more programs and ideas for ways to improve this important priority and SHI is currently moving many programs to a virtual platform so that many more shareholders can participate.

Visit [SealaskaHeritage.org](https://SealaskaHeritage.org) to learn more and review the cultural information, such as available language resources.

### **2. How does the pandemic affect the Sealaska store and overall situation?**

3. The pandemic has temporarily halted nearly all of the tourist traffic to southeast Alaska. Many businesses have been forced to close their doors to public traffic and find ways to continue operating safely. SHI moved nearly all of its programs to virtual platforms as we ride out this pandemic. SHI is also working to find innovative ways to help our artists through policy efforts and ideas for new or expanded market opportunities. Please visit the store online and continue supporting our artists.

## **Educational and Vocational Scholarships**

### **1. When is the scholarship deadline?**

Important Dates (every year)

December 15: Application Becomes Available

February 1: Early Bird Incentive Deadline

March 1: Scholarship Application Deadline

May 1: Scholarship Recipients Notified

## **CARES Act and COVID-19 Funding**

### **1. What has Sealaska done during COVID-19 to support people and communities?**

To support shareholder families and neighbors, Sealaska's board of directors approved a \$1 million COVID-19 relief and recovery package to help Alaska Native communities respond to the impact from the coronavirus. The pledge has provided emergency response funding for several nonprofit organizations delivering urgent recovery services. The donation is also intended to bolster efforts of tribes throughout Southeast Alaska and other support agencies across the state that are working to meet emergency needs.

The funding is intended to provide immediate support for shareholders who are disproportionately affected by the economic consequences of the crisis. Approximately \$500,000 was immediately disbursed to a number of organizations serving people across Alaska and the Seattle area. Sealaska also distributed \$10,000 to each of the 19 federally recognized tribes in Southeast, which is intended to help our traditional communities address critical needs.

### **2. If corporations are going to receive CARES Act relief funds, will the funds be distributed to shareholders?**

The funds are required to be spent on COVID-19 related expenses of Sealaska and our shareholders. We will utilize the funds in a way that maximizes the benefit to our shareholders and shareholder communities, most likely by supporting organizations that provide services to our shareholders.

### **3. Will shareholders receive any distributions from the CARES Act? Can Sealaska use the CARES Act to invest in new or existing businesses like a casino?**

To date, Sealaska has not yet received any CARES Act funding from the U.S. Department of the Treasury. If such funds are received, we will use them according to the restrictions outlined by the U.S. Congress and the U.S. Treasury. These restrictions require the use of funds only for COVID-related expenses/costs. If this allows for distributions directly or indirectly to shareholders, such use will be considered. It is unlikely that investment in a casino would be an allowable use of the CARES Act funds.

## **Entrepreneur Assistance | Spruce Root**

### **1. I have a patent pending for exercise equipment. Can Sealaska help me pursue this?**

Spruce Root has small business and startup resources that could be useful. There is also an annual competition for local entrepreneurs, called the Path to Prosperity, which Spruce Root can provide further information on. Visit [SpruceRoot.org](http://SpruceRoot.org) for more details.

**2. Does Sealaska support shareholder-owned businesses?**

Sealaska invests in entrepreneurs through a yearly financial commitment to Spruce Root, Inc., which provides local entrepreneurs with access to business development and financial resources in the form of loan capital, business coaching, workshops and competitions. Visit [SpruceRoot.org](http://SpruceRoot.org) for more details.

**Other Questions**

**1. Where can we find how much money is spent on the endorsed slate?**

Sealaska publishes details about proxy solicitation each year in the proxy statement. See page 28.

Shareholders have the right to view books and records of account of Sealaska Corporation per the state regulations. To do so, they must make a request in writing for the requested documents to the corporate secretary's office. They must state the reason for the review. To view the records requested, they must make an appointment and come to the office or send another representative on their behalf. Before they view, they have to sign an agreement stating their purpose for viewing and agreeing not to share except with other shareholders. They cannot take the documents with them but could request photocopies for a small fee.

We do not share documents with shareholders or anyone else by email/electronically, because the possible sharing of confidential records by social media or other means is too great.

The bylaws state that we are to put the resources of the corporation behind the board endorsed nominees. We have not spent more than usually expended for proxy solicitation and community meetings on an annual basis. In fact, we have spent less overall due to the lack of community meetings due to COVID-19.

**2. Please name the artist who created the Sealaska logo!**

Dick Paetzke and Mits Katayama.