

# Who is ARA?

The ANCSA Regional Association Board of Directors is composed of the presidents and chief executive officers of the twelve land-based Alaska Native regional corporations that were created pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971. ARA member corporations are owned by over 160,000 Alaska Native shareholders.

### **Our Purpose**

To promote and foster continued growth and economic strength of the Alaska Native regional corporations for the benefit of their Alaska Native shareholders and communities.

### **Board of Directors**



Shauna Hegna (Chair) President Koniag



Aaron Schutt (Vice Chair) President/CEO Doyon, Ltd.



Andrew Guy (Secretary) President/CEO Calista Corporation



Skoey Vergen (Treasurer) President/CEO The Aleut Corporation



**Michelle Anderson** President Ahtna, Inc



**Katherine Carlton** Interim President Chugach Alaska Corporation



Rex Rock, Sr. President/CEO Arctic Slope Regional Corporation



Sarah Lukin President Cook Inlet Region, Inc.



**Cindy Towarak Massie** President Bering Straits Native Corporation



John Lincoln President/CEO NANA Regional Corporation



Jason Metrokin President/CEO Bristol Bay Native Corporation



Joe Nelson **Executive Chair** Sealaska



# 12 Alaska Native Regional Corporations

- Ahtna, Inc.
- Arctic Slope Regional Corp. (ASRC)
- The Aleut Corporation
- Bering Straits Native Corporation
- Bristol Bay Native Corporation
- Calista Corporation

- Chugach Alaska Corporation
- Cook Inlet Region, Inc. (CIRI)
- Doyon, Limited
- Koniag
- NANA
- Sealaska

# **ANCSA** and its Unique Features



#### 44 Million Acres of Land

• Land held in fee simple title



### **12 Regional Corporations**

• Private, socially responsible, for-profit corporations



#### \$962.5 Million Dollars

• Money paid for lands that could not be returned to Native ownership



#### 200+ Village Corporations

 Private, socially responsible, for-profit corporations

# Alaska Living: Unique Challenges

Alaska Native people have inhabited the area now known as Alaska for thousands of years. We're proud of our land and we work hard to sustain for it for future generations. While our unique geography makes Alaska a special place to call home, living here does not come without its challenges.

### Cost of Living

In the first quarter of 2020, the cost of living in Juneau, AK was **32.9% higher** than the national average.

Source: The Council for Community and Economic Research

### **Graduation Rate**

**16 percent** of Alaska Native males will drop out of high school before graduation (over twice as many as white males).

Source: National Center for Education Statistics

### Healthcare Costs

Alaska has the **highest per capita** health expenditures, higher than all other states except the District of Columbia.

Source: Kaiser Family Foundation

### **Geographic Accessibility**

Over **75 percent** of Alaska communities can only be accessed by air, boat, or snow mobile.

Source: American Society of Civil Engineers

#### **Internet Connectivity**

Alaska ranks last in internet connectivity with around **20% of the population** lacking access to broadband.

Source: Broadband Now

### Life Expectancy

Alaska Native people have a life expectancy that is **5.5 years less** than the U.S. all races population (73.0 years to 78.5 years, respectively).

Source: ihs.gov

### Water Access

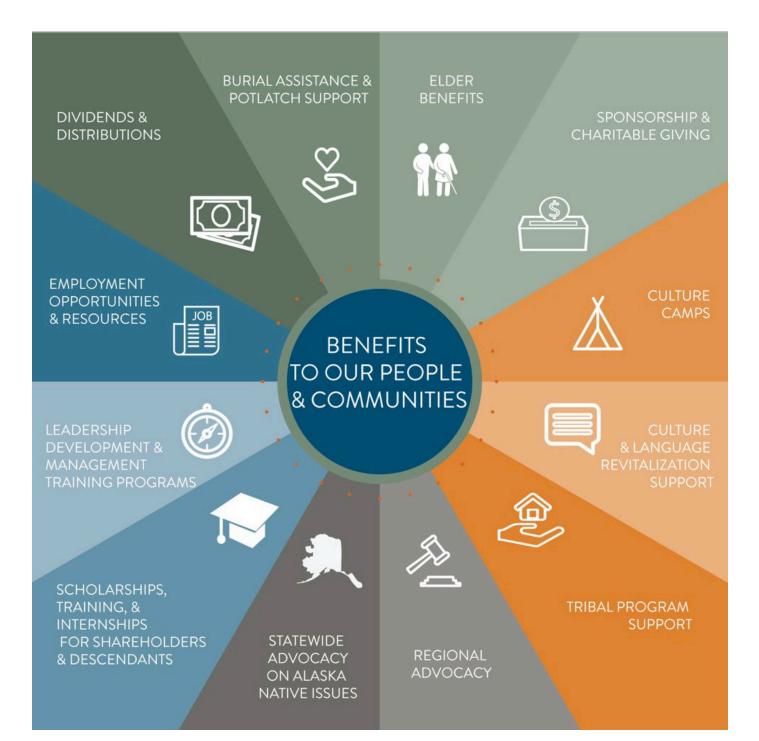
**3,300 homes** in rural Alaska lack running water and a flush toilet.

Source: Alaska.gov



# **Benefits to our People and Communities**

Alaska Native corporations work to create economic opportunities that benefit their Alaska Native shareholders and descendants while supporting important social and cultural programs that enrich the Alaska Native way of life.





## ANCSA: The Congressional Approach to Alaska Native Ownership

The Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971 (ANCSA) marked a new Congressional approach to Federal Indian policy. Unlike the reservation system, Congress sought to empower Alaska's Native people through ANCSA by giving them control over their own land and cash assets received through the settlement. In addition to resolving land claims, ANCSA mandated the creation of socially responsible, for-profit entities, which Congress termed "Alaska Native corporations," tasked with promoting the social, cultural, and economic advancement of their Alaska Native people and communities in perpetuity.

#### FROM CESSION TO CONGRESS





#### 1867

The United States purchases Alaska from Russia through the Treaty of Cession.

#### 1959

Alaska becomes the 49th state through the Statehood Act of 1958.

#### 1960s

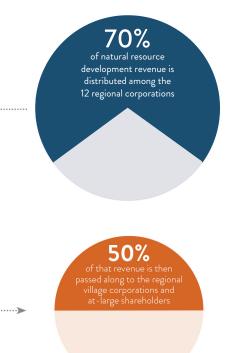
Oil is discovered in Alaska, but proposed pipelines can't be built due to long-unresolved land claims.

#### 1971

Congress passes ANCSA, extinguishing prior land claims and dividing Alaska into 12 regions based on the common heritage and shared interests of the Alaska Native people within the geographic area.

#### NOT YOUR AVERAGE CORPORATION

Through ANCSA, Congress created the first socially responsible, for-profit corporations.



#### **ANCSA TODAY**

In the 50 years since Congress passed ANCSA, Alaska Native people have built successful corporate operations on a foundation of Alaska Native values. Profits from these Alaska Native corporations are used to care for Elders, educate youth, assist communities, create jobs and perpetuate our cultural heritage for generations to come.

1 Alaska State Library, Historical Collections, ASL-P379-384

# Alaska Native Organizations: A Unique Constellation

Alaska's unique model of self-determination involves a constellation of state, tribal, regional, village, and nonprofit entities that work together to serve and represent Alaska Native people.





# More than 160,000 Alaska Native people are shareholders in their regional or village corporations.

Many are also members of their federally-recognized tribes, and receive services from regional nonprofits and statewide Alaska Native organizations. Every entity in this ecosystem supports and complements the others.

