



THE AFOGNAK ALUTIIQ PEOPLE OUR HISTORY & CULTURE

JULY 2008

The Alutiiq people, or *Sugpiaq* in our Native language, are the indigenous people of the Kodiak Island Archipelago. We, the Alutiiq people, have inhabited our traditional lands for over 7,500 years. Afognak Native Corporation represents over 700 Native shareholders, which are descended specifically from the Village of Afognak, on Afognak Island, in the northern part of the Archipelago. Afognak's wholly-owned subsidiary, Alutiiq, is named after our people.

LOCATION



The Kodiak Archipelago is located 225 air miles south of Anchorage in the Gulf of Alaska. Kodiak is a temperate rain forest with a mild climate. Afognak Island, our shareholders traditional home, is the second largest island of the Archipelago.



HISTORY & CULTURE OF THE ALUTIIQ PEOPLE



The Alutiiq people traditionally carved petroglyphs into rocks all over the Kodiak Archipelago. These petroglyphs are the oldest representations of our culture and some of them have become our Alutiiq company logo.

Alutiiq people have been typically defined by our connection to land and sea. Traditionally, Alutiiq people lived in villages. The houses, called *ciqlluaq*, were sod covered structures built partially underground. Each person held a position within the community and was responsible for some aspect of life, be it hunting, fishing, cooking, sewing or gathering. Everyone was important and had a role in the village's survival.

Traditionally the Alutiiq people's primary food sources were marine mammals, fish, and migratory birds. These were hunted from kayaks with *atlatls* (throwing boards) and spears or fishing hooks. Subsistence activities were, and continue to be, the fundamental foundation of Alaska Native cultures.

At the time of pre-contact, the Alutiiq people's population was between 15,000 and 18,500. After 50 years of resistance survivors gathered at "Refuge Rock" where, in August of 1784, Russian fur trader Captain Grigori Shelikov



Petroglyphs carved in rock near the Village of Afognak

and his men claimed Kodiak as the capital of Russian America after defeating our people at "Refuge Rock" or what we Alutiiq have termed *Awa'uq* "To be Numb". It is

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HISTORY & CULTURE OF THE ALUTIIQ PEOPLE



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estimated that between 2,500 and 3,000 Alutiiq people perished, primarily women and children. There were no Russian casualties. Over one hundred years later, in 1867, the United States purchased Alaska for \$0.02 an acre from Russia.

However, Alaska Native people were not allowed to vote until the Indian Citizenship Act of 1924. And it was not until January 3, 1959 that President Eisenhower signed the proclamation admitting Alaska as the forty-ninth state.

On March 27, 1964, one of the largest natural disasters in U.S. history destroyed our traditional home of Afognak with the “Good Friday” earthquake and tsunami. Following the destruction of our village many chose to relocate and build a new village on the main island of Kodiak, assisted by the philanthropic “Kodiak Island Lions Club”, hence named Port Lions. Others moved to the City of Kodiak and other parts of Alaska and the Lower 48.



A home lay destroyed from the 1964 tsunami, Afognak Village, located on Afognak Island, Alaska



Village of Port Lions, located on Kodiak Island, Alaska

ALASKA NATIVE CLAIMS SETTLEMENT ACT



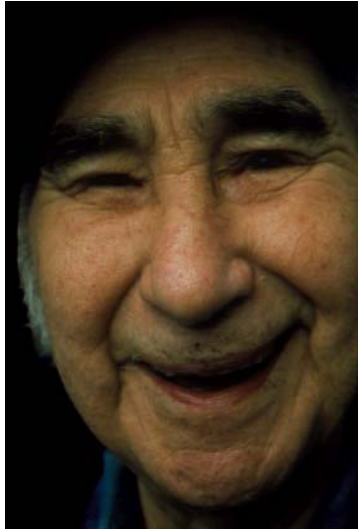
After oil was discovered in Prudoe Bay in 1967, Congress realized indigenous land claims had to be addressed before any developments could occur. This led to the passage of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) in 1971. ANCSA made a settlement of 44 million acres of land (making Alaska Natives the largest private land owner in the U.S.) and \$962.5 million in cash to 12 regional and 200 village corporations. ANCSA was an attempt by the federal government to try something different from the reservation system in the lower 48, which was viewed by many as a failure at that time. Native corporation enrollees were those Alaska Natives who were alive or born on or before Decem-

ber 18, 1971, and proved their lineage to their respective region and village. Congress termed Native corporation enrollees as “shareholders” — it is a lifetime enrollment that cannot be bought or sold. Most Alaska Natives enrolled in both a regional and village corporation. The 13th Regional Corporation was later included in the settlement to represent those Alaska Natives who, for various reasons, had lost their village and/or village affiliation. ANCSA, although not perfect, provided Alaska Natives with an avenue of economic development and

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self-sufficiency. Some Native corporations have succeeded, while many others have struggled. Congress amended ANCSA to help Alaska Natives overcome barriers to economic development in rural Alaska by making Alaska Native Corporations eligible to participate in the Small Business Administration's 8(a) Program. This change made it clear that the government had an obligation to promote a long-term revenue stream as an integral part of the original ANCSA economic settlement.



Afognak Shareholder & Alutiiq Elder
John Pestrikoff



Beach at the Afognak Village, located on Afognak Island, Alaska

AFOGNAK NATIVE CORPORATION



Afognak Native Corporation was organized in 1977 through the merger of two ANCSA village corporations: Port Lions Native Corporation and Natives of Afognak, Inc. Afognak Native Corporation is governed by a nine member Board of Directors. All Board Members are Native shareholders and are elected by their fellow shareholders, serving 3 year terms.

Afognak owns 160,000 acres of land in the Kodiak Archipelago, primarily on Afognak Island. Our lands represent our most valuable asset, have formed the core of our financial success as a corporation, and demonstrate value through shareholder use for culture, subsistence, and recreation activities as well as the opportunity for economic development.

For 18 years Afognak participated in, and profited from, timber development ventures on Afognak Island. Then, in 1999, as Afognak's timber development opportunities began to wane, we launched our 8(a) business. Today we continue to grow our key competencies as we learn to compete in the government and commercial contracting arenas. Today Afognak employs approximately 5,000 people in nearly every state, and several foreign countries with operations in: security, logistics/operations & maintenance, information technology, technical services and construction.

Alaska Native People

Alaska Natives represent approximately 20 percent of Alaska's residents, and are a major portion of the population in over 200 rural villages and communities. Many Alaska Natives continue their traditional ways through hunting, fishing, language and customs. There are ten cultural groups in Alaska based upon cultural similarities or geographic proximity.



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A Wholly Owned Subsidiary of Afognak Native Corporation

SHAREHOLDER BENEFITS



Shareholder descendants in a field of forget-me-nots at the Afognak Village

Afognak, as an Alaska Native Corporation, is responsible for meeting economic, social, and cultural obligations to its shareholders. Afognak is accomplishing this by providing benefits to individual shareholders and strengthening *Aq'wanermuit* "our community". It is important that these two areas co-exist because by unifying *Aq'wanermuit*, we develop a collective strength and by providing benefits to individual shareholders we empower every shareholder. Afognak's success has provided many benefits to our shareholders, including:

Dividends. In 2007 Afognak paid \$12.2 million in dividends, providing the average shareholder (holding 100 shares) with \$23,860. In 2006 Afognak paid \$11.1 million in dividends, providing the average shareholder with \$21,688.

Shareholders Permanent Fund. The Board designed the Shareholders' Permanent Fund so that dollars from our business development operations provide long-term economic benefit to the shareholders. As of December 2007 our Permanent Fund was valued at \$81.7 million.



Alutiiq Museum located in the Afognak Alutiiq Center Office Building, Anchorage, Alaska

Scholarship Programs. Afognak offers two scholarship programs for shareholders and shareholder descendants who want to attend traditional universities or vocational school. Since 2004 Afognak has helped students pursue 4 doctorate degrees; 14 masters degrees; 52 bachelors degrees; and 25 associates degrees.

Shareholder Hire/Internships. Afognak is committed to providing qualified shareholders, their descendants, Alaska Natives, and American Indians positions within our family of companies and has recently established a position to assist shareholders with job placement. Afognak also has a formal internship program for our shareholders and descendants, providing college students the opportunity to gain on-the-job skills, competitive pay and full benefits while earning their degree.



Alutiiq dancer performing in traditional regalia

Cultural and Social Programs. Each year Afognak supports programs and organizations that promote Alutiiq culture, traditional language revitalization, and community unity. Some of Afognak's prominent donations in 2007 included over \$200,000 to the Native Village of Afognak in land, facilities and cultural program support and \$60,000 to the Alutiiq Museum and Archeological Repository for operations and support of various cultural programs.



Afognak's Lands Security Officer, Shareholder Andy Christofferson, Patrolling Afognak Lands

Shareholder Hunting and Subsistence. Provides housing and transportation for Shareholders wanting to do subsistence activities of Afognak Island.

Land Management. Afognak manages and protects our traditional lands, providing opportunities for shareholders and their families to use the lands for subsistence, recreational and economic opportunities.