

STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN CROSS-ADMIRALTY CANOE ROUTE TRIP

This past August, Kootznoowoo, Inc. collaborated with Southeast Alaska Expeditions (SEAK) to offer a four-day camp trip across Admiralty Island. Angoon high school students Beebuks Kookesh, Trevor Fredrickson, and Sam Fredrickson participated in the journey, along with SEAK guides Beth Fenhaus and Jeff Moskowitz.

The Route has historically been a popular visitor activity. It follows a traditional overland route from Mitchell Bay to the east side of the island at Mole Harbor.

The goals of this initial trip were to generate local interest and enthusiasm in the cross-island canoe route by reintroducing the tour to the community through the eyes of youth; to begin gathering information about what it would take to offer locally guided, commercial trips in the future; and to begin generating interest in developing a cohort of Angoon-based guides. All three students are interested in serving as paid Assistant Guides when the trip is offered again in May 2023.

Kootznoowoo, Inc. received funding through the Southeast Alaska Sustainable Strategies program to establish a wilderness guiding business based in Angoon, that would use the Cross-Admiralty Canoe Route that begins and ends in Mitchell Bay.

The trip was planned and carried out in partnership with Joe Oesterling from SEAK. An eight-minute video documenting the trip was produced and is available for viewing upon request.



SCHEDULE FOR THE 50TH ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

Kootznoowoo, Inc. will celebrate its 50th year at the 2023 Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held in-person in Angoon, Alaska on Saturday, June 17, 2023. Other important Annual Meeting and Election dates include:

- March 20 - Deadline for board candidates to submit completed Candidate Packets & Statements and Shareholder Resolution Proponent Statements
- April 3 - Deadline to seek removal of a director and have notice included in the Corporate Notice of Annual Meeting
- April 18 - Annual Meeting Record Date
- April 27 - Proxy & Annual Report Mailing and Voting Opens
- June 14 - Proxy Voting Deadline



Letter From The Chair

Hello Shareholders.

As the 2023 new year is upon us, I wish you all the best in this new year and what it has to bring us. I look forward to steps that will grow our corporation as efforts continue for the benefit of the corporation which in turn benefits shareholders. One of those steps include the efforts to hire a permanent President & CEO.

As this effort progresses toward bringing in a CEO, I would like to extend a thank you to Interim President & CEO Jon Wunrow for his work and efforts on behalf of Kootznoowoo that has kept us moving forward throughout the last 17 months and during the search for a CEO. The past couple of years has seen us through the pandemic. We are all hopeful of resuming some semblance of normalcy in our lives as well as in the business sector.

Some of the goals set by your board in 2022 that are currently in the works include:

- The Angoon Airport
- Create a Tourism and Natural Resources Division
- Thayer Project continues to remain at the forefront with the goal of obtaining full funding.
- Increase shareholder participation in the Annual Meeting.
- Grow the Shareholder Trust to increase dividend payments.



Last but not least, we remember Cooney Starr, his work, time and effort during his time served as a Director on behalf of Kootznoowoo shareholders.

2022 has been difficult for many. To everyone that has faced the loss of a loved one or multiple losses, may the beauty of our culture bring you comfort and strength.

On a brighter note, the board had the opportunity to witness the dedication of the canoe carved by the Angoon students through the teaching by Wayne Price. *Gunalchéesh* to Wayne Price for his teachings and dedication to our young students.

Gunalchéesh,
Eunice E. James
Board Chair

Tribute: COONEY C. STARR

Former Kootznoowoo Board Director, Cooney Charles Starr passed away on November 26, 2022, at his home in Mescalero, New Mexico. After serving several years on the board, in 2021 Cooney chose to retire from board service and not seek re-election.

At the 2021 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, Board Director and former Chair Melissa M. Kookesh said of Mr. Starr, "It has been a pleasure to work with Cooney on the Board. We will forever be thankful and grateful for his commitment to the corporation and for all that he has done to help move Kootznoowoo forward."



Letter From Interim CEO

Dear Shareholders,

I know that for many, the holidays can be a difficult time without loved ones who weren't able to come home for a visit, or who are no longer with us. I hope you were able to find just a little bit of peace and joy this past holiday season.

The end of December 2022, marks the end of a strong and successful year for Kootznوو, Inc. It also marks seventeen months that I have been honored to serve as the Interim President & CEO. My original intention in taking on this Interim role was to support the Corporation and shareholders, while the Board took the necessary time to find a permanent CEO. The process has taken a little longer than we all originally anticipated, but I trust that the Board will make the right decisions in this hiring process.

Here are just a few highlights that I'd like to share:

- In 2022 we contributed \$260,000 to the Shareholder Permanent Fund Settlement Trust to continue to increase the size of the Trust, so that the shareholder dividends that we pay will also continue to increase in future years.
- We're increasing our efforts in 2023 to explore small scale visitor opportunities to Angoon by offering two more cross-Admiralty Island canoe trips that will be co-led by Angoon youth; and two exploratory bear viewing trips with paying clients to help determine whether basing bear viewing tours in Angoon is a viable option. We are also in discussions with Allen Marine to host four very small boats for a half-day visit to the area. All of these opportunities will provide training and create employment opportunities for shareholders and local residents.



- We are collaborating with several partners to create a full-time Community Catalyst and a full-time seasonal Trail Crew Leader position in Angoon (see pg. 4).
- Your K-Plaza office building in Juneau, is 100% rented for the first time in several years. In January 2023 we welcomed Tongass Federal Credit Union as your newest tenant.
- The Raven Beaver building in Angoon is now renting an office space to Tlingit & Haida, and our downstairs efficiency apartment was rented out this past Fall.

*Gunalchéesh,
Jon Wunrow*



K-Plaza welcomed Tongass Federal Credit Union as our newest tenant. For the first time in several years, the building is fully occupied.

KCEF HOSTS MOCCASIN MAKING CLASSES IN ANGOON

This past October and November, the Kootznoowoo Cultural & Educational Foundation (KCEF) hosted two moccasin making classes for shareholders in Angoon.

“We had an awesome time in both classes,” said KCEF Chair Carmaleeda Estrada who taught the classes. “We are thankful to Kootznoowoo, Inc. and Interim President & CEO Jon Wunrow for the grant funding that made it possible to host these classes.”

The classes were hosted for three days over the weekend at the Angoon High School. Approximately 30 shareholders and descendants participated. The classes included all supplies and were offered free of charge.

“I’m excited to share that many of the students who took the class are already making more pairs of moccasins on their own,” said Carmaleeda. “We are hopeful that we can offer more classes in the future.”



KOOTZNOOWOO EXPLORES BEAR VIEWING TOURS



For visitors to Alaska, bear viewing has become one of the biggest draws. In Southeast Alaska, the limited number of established bear-viewing areas are currently not capable of meeting visitor demand.

Visitors, eager to view local wildlife often pay \$900 or more each to fly-in and spend approximately five hours in the field, all in the hope of seeing bears. Some operations in British Columbia are known to charge upwards of \$15,000 for five-day trips based out of a lodge.

In response to this demand, this past summer, Kootznoowoo began exploring the possibility of developing bear viewing

opportunities that would be based out of Angoon. “Bear viewing excursions for visitors to Alaska make sense for Kootznoowoo,” said Interim President & CEO Jon Wunrow. “In addition to meeting demand, this could not only bring valuable revenue to Angoon, but also enable the corporation to train and hire local bear guides and boat operators and help strengthen the local economy.” Establishing a bear viewing site near Angoon will build on Kootznoowoo’s already established Fortress of the Bears operations.

Kootznoowoo received funding from the U.S. Forest Service through the Southeast Alaska Sustainable Strategy Initiative to assess the potential of developing a new bear viewing area or areas near Angoon.

Bear guide Bjorn Dihle spent 10 days assessing locations during the spring and late summer of 2022. Dihle determined that Favorite Bay, specifically Sedge Meadows in the

month of May and Favorite Creek in August to be the most likely potential viewing sites. “The zone in Favorite Bay would allow for relatively easy access from Angoon, which would make operating guided viewing trips fairly easy,” said Dihle.

In May 2023, Dihle plans to spend time with Angoon students to share information about bear behavior and work with students to set “camera traps” to monitor bear movement and activity near the proposed viewing sites. The information that Dihle and the students gather will help determine viable viewing sites.

“As the demand for bear viewing continues to grow, successfully-developed, locally-led bear viewing in Favorite Bay could provide consistent, well-paying seasonal jobs for Angoon residents,” said Wunrow. “We are committed to exploring opportunities that can help support shareholders and grow Angoon’s local economy.”

CANOE PROJECT CONCLUDES WITH DEDICATION IN ANGOON

On October 26, which was the 140th anniversary of the U.S. Navy bombardment of Angoon, Kootznoowoo, Inc. was proud to help organize the dedication of the first canoe carved in Angoon since the bombardment.

The Canoe Project began in the fall of 2021 as a collaboration with Angoon Schools and Tlingit Master Carver Wayne Price. At the dedication event, the canoe was gifted to the Chatham School District and the youth of Angoon. “I am very, very proud of my teammates that helped me with the steaming process, and as a community just proud to finally have this new beginning,” Angoon student Shgein Kyle Johnson who helped carve the canoe said in an interview with *KTOO News*.

The dedication event included a walk to commemorate the bombardment, and to transport the canoe up Front Street in Angoon, to a dedication ceremony hosted by Kootznoowoo, Inc. at the Angoon High School.

“Once again, Angoon has a dugout—It took 140 years to bring it back—this is the beginning of your survival, your dances, your culture,” Mr. Price told the *Juneau Empire*. He spent over a year with students and community members to carve the red cedar canoe.

Though the formal dedication is complete, a final ceremony giving the canoe a name and entering it into the water for the first time will be held next spring 2023.



KOOTZNOOWOO OFFERS TOURISM RELATED JOB OPPORTUNITIES



Kootznoowoo, Inc. is pleased to offer four great employment and training opportunities to shareholders and descendants. Anyone who is interested in applying for any of these opportunities should contact the Corporate Office at (907) 790-2992.

Community Catalyst

Kootznoowoo, Inc. is partnering with Spruce Root, Inc. through the Sustainable Southeast Partnership, to hire a full-time, year-round “Community Catalyst”. The primary focus on this position will be to work with Kootznoowoo, Inc. and other community partners to help explore, create, and implement small-scale visitor opportunities in Angoon.

Initial work will focus on helping to develop an Angoon Walking Tour and opening an Artist’s Workshop. Salary range is \$48-52,000/year DOE. Applicants must be 18 or older. This position is based in Angoon, and will begin on or around March 1, 2023.

Stream and Forest Steward Crew Leader Trainee

Kootznoowoo, Inc. is looking to employ a shareholder who is passionate about fish, wildlife, land, and water to steward and restore fish and wildlife habitats. This position is being offered in partnership with the Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition and the U.S. Forest Service to help implement several habitat restoration projects at Florence Lake,

Ward Creek, Kathleen Lake, and Cube Cove on Admiralty Island. This full-time seasonal position will work May-September 2023, and April-September 2024.

Much of the 2023 field training will take place in Hoonah and Klawock. Transportation and lodging when working outside of Angoon will be provided. The Crew Leader Trainee will work with hand tool crews from the Hoonah Native Forest Partnership and Klawock Indigenous Stewards Forest Partnership to gain essential skills and knowledge to become a Crew Leader, to then lead an Angoon-based crew in 2024. The crew leader will also learn about Indigenous led land stewardship and how to foster community engagement. Salary: \$22-25/hour DOE, for 40 hours/week. Must be 21 or older. This position will begin on or around May 1, 2023.

Firewood Distribution Program

Through a grant from the Alliance for Green Heat, Kootznoowoo, Inc. is recruiting for a part-time position to develop and manage a Community Firewood Distribution Program in Angoon. Initial responsibilities will include purchasing power and hand tools, constructing a firewood processing and tool storage area, and developing a firewood distribution program for Elders and homebound in Angoon.

This part-time and initially temporary position is estimated at

6-10 hours/week for six months, to get the program up and running. Applicants must be 21 or older. This position will begin as soon as a qualified applicant has been identified.

Sea Kayaking Skills Course

Kootznoowoo, Inc. is seeking shareholders who are interested in completing a five-day Sea Kayaking Skills Course to be held in Haines, Alaska, April 28-May 2, 2023. Participants must be 17 or older. Completion of this course will qualify participants to seek seasonal jobs as kayaking guides around Southeast Alaska. Kootznoowoo, Inc. will pay expenses for up to two shareholders to attend this course.

For more information about the course, go to the website “www.seakexpeditions.com” and click on the “Courses and Events” link. Space is limited.



SETTLEMENT TRUST INVESTMENT UPDATE



In December 2021 and March 2022, the Kootznoowoo, Inc. Board of Directors passed resolutions committing 10 percent of all income received through the corporation's Carbon Credit Program and through the sale of land to the State of Alaska for construction of an airport in Angoon, into investments for the Kootznoowoo Shareholder Settlement Trust.

Since these resolutions were passed, \$265,272 in carbon credit income and \$183,500 in airport land sale income has been added to the

Shareholder Settlement Trust. These funds are added to what is referred to as the "corpus" of the Settlement Trust, which is the principal investment that the dividends that are paid to shareholders three times each year, are based upon.

The Board's commitment to add a percentage of income to the Settlement Trust corpus, helps to ensure that the Trust will continue to grow for the benefit of shareholders both now and in the future.

WELCOME ABOARD:

ROLANDA SCAIFE

JOINS THE CORPORATE TEAM



In October, Kootznoowoo descendant Rolanda Scaife joined the corporate team as the new office receptionist. In this role, Rolanda is responsible for providing front-line customer service and providing administrative support as needed.

"I am so excited to have the opportunity to connect with shareholders in my new role at Kootznoowoo," Rolanda said. "It's so nice to be able to speak with everyone who calls in, many who I already know personally. They are all so supportive and encouraging."

Prior to joining Kootznoowoo, Rolanda held positions at several different Juneau businesses including customer service-related positions at True North Federal

Credit Union, Breeze In, McDonalds, and Fred Meyers. "I've worked in customer service for about five years," said Rolanda. "I know I am still learning my receptionist duties, but I am happy that I can use the skills that I've learned so far to serve shareholders."

Rolanda is the proud mother of a five-year-old son, Masiah, who was born shortly after the passing of her father, Ronald Scaife. "Masiah brought light into my world when it was very dim," she shared. "And my mom's as well."

Rolanda is Raven and a child of the Deisheetaan. She was born and raised in Juneau but considers Angoon her hometown. Her mother is Gwendolyn George and grandmother is Marian George.

LOST SHAREHOLDERS

Brian Lee Abbott
Randy B. Begay
Lisa A. Braswell
Amberly Brown
Terra D. Bruer
Gertrude Carlin
Mickey Compton
Marian Donthnier
Elise Delores Gardipee
Gary M. Hansen
Harold Kenneth Hepler
Christina E. James

David John James Jr.
Lawrence B. James Jr.
Arnold W. Johnson Jr.
Robert D. Johnson
Jerusalem A. Kenworthy
Allan F. Lindstrom
Edward M. Maki
Clarissa L. Martin
Joshua E. Martin
Felomina G. Mazon
Michael L. Nelson
Kenneth Robert Olson

Charles J.P. Sr.
James D. M. Peterson
Ralph B. Scott-Ahmed
Triska Marie See
Kristen L. Shangin
Michael Martin Sokimi Jr.
Tawnia C. Tillotson
Tallon Colt Westlake
Dorothy M. Williams
Charles-Daniel Willis II
Kurt A. Wilson
Lawrence Richard Young

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