FALL 2026

KOOTZNOOWOO News



FAVORITE BAY CELEBRATES MAJOR MILESTONE WITH SBA 8(A) CERTIFICATION

After several years of preparation, persistence, and significant challenges, Kootznoowoo, Inc. is pleased to announce that its subsidiary, **Favorite Bay Government Solutions, LLC** (FBGS), has officially received certification from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) under its 8(a) Business Development Program.

"This has been a long road, and we're extremely pleased to have finally reached this milestone," said Kootznoowoo President & CEO J. Keith Greene. "Our team has dedicated years of work toward establishing our presence in federal contracting. This certification is an important step toward creating new business opportunities that can strengthen Kootznoowoo and provide long-term benefits for shareholders."

A Long Road to Certification

Kootznoowoo began laying the groundwork for Favorite Bay's entry into federal contracting several years ago. What is ordinarily a relatively straightforward certification review became an extended process marked by federal administrative delays, changes to the SBA's certification system, and a prolonged slowdown in new 8(a) approvals.

Under federal regulations, the SBA is generally required to process an 8(a) application within 90 days after it has been determined complete. However, Kootznoowoo's broader certification effort stretched over several years as the Corporation navigated challenges beyond its control.

Among those challenges was a nearly yearlong delay associated with the SBA's transition to a new certification portal. The process was further complicated by a slowdown in new 8(a) approvals beginning in 2025.

Despite these obstacles, Kootznoowoo remained committed to its federal contracting strategy and continued working toward certification.

"There were certainly challenges along the way, including delays that were beyond our control," Greene said. "But we remained focused on the bigger picture. We knew that gaining our 8(a) certification was an important part of our long-term business strategy, and our persistence has finally paid off."

What 8(a) Certification Means for Kootznoowoo

The SBA's 8(a) Business Development Program is designed to help eligible small businesses compete in the federal contracting marketplace. Certification provides access to specialized business development assistance and opportunities to compete for certain federal contracts, including eligible sole-source and set-aside awards. For Kootznoowoo, this certification positions FBGS to pursue federal contracting opportunities in several areas.

FBGS is headquartered in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where Kootznoowoo owns the Kootz Defense Campus, a 73,000-square-foot commercial facility located approximately two miles from Kirtland Air Force Base. The property houses several defense contractors and provides a strategic location for building relationships within the federal contracting industry.

What's Next for Favorite Bay?

With certification now secured, FBGS is shifting its focus from completing the application process to actively pursuing federal contracting opportunities.

The company's next steps include identifying federal agencies and contracting opportunities that align with its capabilities, establishing relationships with government contracting officers, developing strategic teaming partnerships, and competing for its first federal contract.

FBGS will initially focus on opportunities within defense and national security, civilian federal agencies, public health, and professional and administrative support services.

The company's strategy emphasizes disciplined project management, customer service, and the ability to assemble qualified teams through experienced personnel and strategic business partners.

"Receiving our certification is a major accomplishment, but it's also just the beginning," Greene said. "Now the real work begins. Our focus is on building relationships, identifying the right contracting opportunities, and positioning Favorite Bay to successfully compete for federal work. Our goal is to build a sustainable business that generates revenue and supports future growth."

While certification does not guarantee federal contract awards, it gives FBGS an important tool to compete in a specialized marketplace and represents meaningful progress toward Kootznoowoo's long-term business development goals.

"This is an exciting step forward for Kootznoowoo," Greene added. "We have a lot of work ahead of us, but we're encouraged by the opportunities this certification creates and look forward to sharing our progress with shareholders."

For more information about FBGS, visit **FavoriteBayUSA.com.**

A Message from the Chairman

Dear Shareholders,

As another beautiful Southeast Alaska summer has recently come to an end and we were glad to welcome the fall season, I hope you and your families are doing well. This time of year brings cooler temperatures, shorter days, and a reminder that winter is just around the corner. I want to take a moment to share a few important reminders as we prepare for the months ahead.

Preparing for Winter

For those of us who live in Southeast Alaska, we know how important it is to be prepared for the winter months. Many families rely on woodstoves to heat their homes, and I encourage everyone to take the time to clean their stovepipes and chimneys before the heating season begins. If you use an oil furnace or another heating system, make sure it has been properly inspected and serviced. A little preparation now can help prevent fires, heating emergencies, and other problems when temperatures drop.

Keeping Our Children Safe

With daylight hours getting shorter, I also want to remind everyone to be especially mindful of our children traveling to and from school. Many students will soon be walking home or waiting at bus stops in the dark. Please slow down, watch carefully for children along our roads, and be extra cautious around school buses. Parents and caregivers can also help by making sure children wear bright or reflective clothing so



drivers can see them more easily. Looking out for our young people is a responsibility we all share.

Make Your Voice Heard

With the November 3 General Election now behind us, I want to thank all shareholders who took the time to participate and make their voices heard. Voting is an important responsibility and an opportunity for each of us to help shape the future of our communities and our state.

That same responsibility extends to our role as Kootznoowoo shareholders. Participating in our annual Board of Directors election by voting your proxy is an important way to have a voice in the future of our Corporation. I also encourage shareholders to consider taking that involvement a step further by exploring the opportunity to serve on our Board of Directors someday. We need shareholders who are willing to step forward, share their perspectives, and help guide our Corporation for future generations.

Whether participating in local, state, or corporate elections, your voice matters. I encourage everyone to remain involved, take an interest in the decisions that affect us, and look for opportunities to make a positive difference in our communities and our Corporation.

Welcoming Our Newest Board Member

I also want to take this opportunity to welcome Nadja Kookesh to the Kootznoowoo Board of Directors. Nadja was elected at our Annual Meeting in June, and we are pleased to have her join us. She brings valuable experience, knowledge, and a strong connection to Angoon and our shareholders. I believe she will be a great asset to our Board as we continue working to strengthen Kootznoowoo.

I would also like to thank all of our shareholders who participated in this year's Annual Meeting and election. Your involvement is important to the continued success of our Corporation.

As we head into winter, I encourage everyone to check in on our Elders and neighbors, and look out for one another. Our strength has always come from our people, our families, and our community.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I wish you and your families a safe, healthy, and enjoyable season ahead.

Sincerely,

Frank Jack III

Chairman of the Board
Kootznoowoo, Inc.

Stone Lion Environmental Approaches First Anniversary as a Kootznoowoo Company

STONE LION
ENVIRONMENTAL LLC.
A Subsidiary of Kootznoowoo, Inc.

As Kootznoowoo approaches its first anniversary of acquiring Stone Lion Environmental, LLC, the company is proving to be a valuable addition to the Corporation's growing business portfolio.

Acquired in November 2025, Stone Lion is an Albuquerque, New Mexico-based environmental services company specializing in environmental restoration, hazardous waste management, safety services, and project management. With more than 20 years of industry experience, Stone Lion has helped strengthen Kootznoowoo's presence in the federal contracting market, including work supporting Sandia National Laboratories.

"We're very pleased with how Stone Lion has become part of the Kootznoowoo family," said Dr. J. Keith Greene, President and CEO. "This acquisition has opened new doors for our Corporation, and we're excited about the opportunities ahead as we work to build on the company's experience and reputation."



Board members met with Stone Lion on a recent trip to Albuquerque.

Looking ahead, Stone Lion is pursuing certification through the U.S. Small Business Administration's 8(a) Business Development Program. If approved, this certification could create additional opportunities to compete for federal contracts and expand the company's customer base.

The team is also exploring ways to expand Stone Lion's services into new geographic regions, building on its existing expertise and relationships to pursue additional business opportunities.

As Kootznoowoo continues to diversify its investments, Stone Lion represents an important part of the Corporation's strategy to build successful businesses, strengthen revenue opportunities, and create long-term value for shareholders.

Holiday Office Closures

November 11	: Veterans Day
November 13	: Walter Soboleff Day
November 25	: Office Closes at 1 p.m.
November 26	: Thanksgiving Day
November 27	: Black Friday
December 24	: Office Closes at 1 p.m.
December 25	: Christmas Day
December 31	: New Year's Eve

A Message from the President & CEO

Dear Shareholders,

As we approach the holiday season and the end of another year, I want to take a moment to share some exciting news about Kootznoowoo and the opportunities we're exploring as we look toward the future.

One of our biggest priorities continues to be finding new ways to grow our Corporation and create reliable revenue and lasting benefits for our shareholders. That means looking beyond our existing operations to explore new industries, build new relationships, and find opportunities that will help make Kootznoowoo stronger for future generations. I'm pleased to share that we're making some encouraging progress.

One of our biggest accomplishments this year is that Favorite Bay Government Solutions, LLC (FBGS), our first federal contracting subsidiary, has officially received its certification under the U.S. Small Business Administration's 8(a) Business Development Program.

This milestone has been years in the making, and reaching it has truly been a team effort. Despite the challenges along the way, the dedication and persistence of our current and former Board members, executives, and staff have helped turn a longstanding vision for Kootznoowoo into reality. I want to sincerely thank everyone who played a part in bringing us to this important moment.

Throughout the years, we've watched other Alaska Native Corporations build successful businesses through the federal 8(a) program. In fact, Alaska Business magazine recently announced its 2026 Top 49ers, recognizing Alaska's largest locally owned companies by revenue. Of those 49 companies, 26 are Alaska Native Corporations, a remarkable reflection of their economic success. For most, federal contracting, including opportunities through the 8(a) program, has played an important



role in their growth. We've long believed Kootznoowoo could follow a similar path, and now we have the opportunity to turn that vision into reality.

Of course, receiving our certification is just the beginning. The real work starts now. Our team is shifting its attention toward finding federal contracting opportunities, meeting with potential customers, and building partnerships with companies that have experience in this industry. Our first big goal is to secure a contract and begin building a track record that will help us grow.

Much of this work will focus on Albuquerque, New Mexico, where Kootznoowoo already has a presence through our Kootz Defense Campus, a property many shareholders know as Favorite Bay. Located near Kirtland Air Force Base, this facility puts us in a good position to connect with companies and federal agencies involved in government contracting.

We're also working with experienced partners, including TJFACT, a company that has successfully completed the 8(a) program. Relationships like these will help us learn the business, identify opportunities, and build the experience we need to compete.

Our hope is to develop a federal contracting business that will continue providing opportunities for Kootznoowoo well into the future. We have a lot to learn and accomplish, but I'm excited about the possibilities ahead.

We're still in the early stages of exploring this opportunity, so there's more work to be done before any decisions are made. However, I believe it's important that we continue looking for new ideas and opportunities that could benefit our Corporation. We'll share more information as things develop.

Our team also recently attended the Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) Convention in Anchorage. AFN is always a great opportunity to reconnect with friends, colleagues, and leaders from across Alaska's Native community. It's also a chance to hear what other corporations and organizations are doing, exchange ideas, and make connections that could lead to future business opportunities. Those relationships are important, especially as we begin this next chapter of growth and business development.

As I look ahead to 2027, I'm encouraged by the direction we're heading. We have some exciting opportunities in front of us, and while success won't happen overnight, we're working to build a stronger foundation for Kootznoowoo's future. At the heart of everything we do is a simple goal: to grow our Corporation, create new opportunities for our shareholders, and build something that will benefit generations to come.

Finally, with the holidays just around the corner, I want to thank our shareholders for your continued support. I also want to recognize our Board of Directors and employees for their hard work and dedication throughout the year. During the holiday season, I hope you all have an opportunity to slow down, spend time with family and friends, and appreciate the people who mean the most to you.

Sincerely,

Dr. J. Keith Greene

Dr. J. Keith Greene
President & Chief Executive Officer

Vest-Making Workshop Brings Cultural Learning to the Artist's Workshop

This fall, families in Angoon had an opportunity to learn traditional vest-making skills during a class held October 18–23, 2026, at the Artist's Workshop.

This hands-on class was led by Kathleen *Laa.éi* John, a Tlingit artist and Cultural Heritage Coordinator with the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska's Indigenous Trades program. Kathleen is *Wooshkeetaan* of the Toos' Hit from the Juneau-Douglas area and has family ties to Angoon through her father, Charlie John, who is *Deisheetaan.*





Kathleen brings more than a decade of experience working with Indigenous youth and sharing Tlingit culture, language, art, and history. An experienced seamstress, she creates traditional dance robes, tunics, vests, and hats and has taught workshops in sewing, garment construction, and cultural arts throughout Southeast Alaska.



During the Angoon workshop, Kathleen shared her knowledge and guided participants through the vest-making process, providing hands-on instruction and an opportunity to connect with traditional cultural practices.

The free workshop was organized through a partnership between Tlingit & Haida's Indigenous Trades & Early Education programs, with Kootznoowoo, Inc. supporting the effort by donating the use of the workshop space. The class was offered primarily to Head Start families, with additional community participation welcomed if space was available.

More Opportunities at the Artist's Market!



Community members are encouraged to watch for upcoming workshops, classes, and other activities at the Artist's Market in Angoon. These programs offer opportunities to learn from experienced artists, develop new skills, and help carry Tlingit cultural traditions forward to future generations.

For more information, contact Kootznoowoo's Community Catalyst Samanta Ramey at (907) 738-2307 or sramey@kootznoowoo.com.

Angel Jack's Award-Winning Film Highlights Healing, History, and Resilience



Angoon student Angel Jack is helping preserve her community's history and share an important story of healing through her award-winning short film, *Healing Through Time.*

The film explores the lasting impact of the 1882 U.S. Navy bombardment of Angoon, a devastating event that claimed the lives of at least six children and destroyed clan houses, food supplies, and canoes. In October 2024, 142 years after the tragedy, the U.S. Navy formally apologized to the community.

Jack, now 18, was among several Angoon students who created films documenting the historic apology and its significance to their community. Her film went on to receive an award at the Hawai'i International Film Festival and was featured at the Banff Mountain Film Festival in 2025.



Angoon student and filmmaker Angel Jack. Photos courtesy of Seth Bader, via KTOO Public Media.

In an October 26, 2026, article by KTOO Public Media reporter Clarise Larson, Jack emphasized the importance of preserving and sharing the stories of her people.

"Sharing the history of my community is very important to me," Jack told KTOO.

With support from See Stories, an Alaska nonprofit that provides digital storytelling opportunities for youth, Jack interviewed community members, tribal leaders, and U.S. Navy representatives to capture different perspectives on the tragedy and the healing process.

The experience also deepened her own understanding of Angoon's history. As Jack shared with KTOO, "I'm learning something new that I've never known."

Her accomplishment demonstrates the important role young people play in preserving cultural knowledge, honoring those who came before us, and ensuring our history continues to be shared with future generations.

Source: Clarise Larson, KTOO Public Media, October 26, 2026. To view the full article, go to https://www.ktoo.org/2026/10/26/angoon-students-award-winning-film-spotlights-healing-after-1882-navy-bombardment/

KCEF Announces 2026–2027 Scholarship Recipients

The Kootznoowoo Cultural & Educational Foundation (KCEF) is pleased to announce that 15 Kootznoowoo shareholders and descendants received higher education scholarships for the 2026–2027 academic year.

KCEF's scholarship funding is provided by Kootznoowoo, Inc. KCEF is overseen by Trustees Tia Payton, Chair; Konrad Frank, Vice Chair; and Shgendootan George, Secretary.

Congratulations to this year's scholarship recipients:

Laura Blankenship
University of Alaska Anchorage

Tyler Frisby
Corban University

Shaenel Gamble
University of Kansas

Breven Jackson
University of Alaska Anchorage

Kyle Johnson Jr.
Northwest Indian College

Tatum Johnson
University of Alaska Fairbanks

Hailey Kahklen
University of Washington

Tatiana-Diamond King
University of Alaska Southeast

Kendra Klotz
Haskell Indian Nations University

Edward Kookesh III
Northwest Indian College

Shaylianna Kookesh
University of Alaska Southeast

Chloe Lane
University of Alaska Southeast

Natalia Martin
Fort Lewis College

Tracy Nelson
University of Alaska Southeast

Faith Ramey
Graceland University

















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FALL 2026

Kootznoowoo, Inc. is seeking information about the following list of shareholders whose contact information is out-of-date or invalid. If you have any information about where we can locate any of the following, please contact Shareholder Services at (907) 790-2992 or at info@kootznoowoo.com.

Lost Shareholders List

Brian Lee Abbott
Jeanette A. Bardi
Andrew Lawrence Beaman
Randy B. Begay
Hayden K. Brown
Christopher Stephen Burke
Gilbert Peter Dick
Zachary Nicholas Edwards
Tabitha Marlene Faber
Byron I George II
Dixie Lynn George II
Martin William George
Naomi Gabrielle George
Noah George
Angelica Gil
Georgeanna B. Heinz
Katherine Louise Lillian Howard
Brandon W. Jack
Kayley James
Marcus Eddie Jamestown
Leonard G. John
Johnnie Little George Johnson
Shaylee Johnson
Ethan Kanosh
Jerusalem Augustus Kenworthy
Evangeline Lee
Amelia Merculief
Isiah John Merculief III
Karen Marie Miller
Kenneth Robert Olson
Jason Brent Paddock
Clarissa Peratrovich
Lisa Marie Pohawpatchoko
Isaiah Prescott Sokimi
Tawnia C. Tillotson
Tori Don Tyler
Tallon Colt Westlake
Hailey Elizabeth Williams
Rodney Willis
Johnessa B.H. Woodbury

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