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# KwnJa'

MCGRATH | TAKOTNA | NIKOLAI | TELIDA

Winter 2019



## MTNT Settlement Trust Established

**MTNT** Board of Directors are pleased to announce that MTNT Shareholders approved the formation of the MTNT Settlement Trust at the 2019 Annual Meeting of Shareholders held July 27, 2019.

Once approved, MTNT existing Shareholders automatically became the Primary Shareholder-Beneficiaries under the Trust Agreement and MTNT Directors became the Trustees of the Trust. Distributions from the Trust to the Beneficiaries are expected to replace some or all of MTNT's Dividends to Shareholders.

The MTNT Settlement Trust was established to ensure long-term sustainable benefits to its

Shareholders. As an Alaska Native Claims Settlement Trust, there are many tax benefits to both Shareholders and the corporation under the recent Tax Cuts and Job Act of 2017. For example, when dividend distributions are made through the MTNT Settlement Trust, the dividend income will no longer be taxable to Shareholders. Furthermore, when MTNT contributes to the Trust, the corporation will be taxed at a much lower rate compared to the normal corporate income tax rate.

Further information about the benefits of establishing the Settlement Trust are available on the MTNT Shareholder portal at <https://MyMTNT.com>.

## Dividend Announcement

The MTNT Board of Directors approved a contribution to the MTNT Settlement Trust in order to issue December 2019 dividend distributions. In commemoration of the establishment of the Trust, the Board also approved an additional contribution to the Trust to provide a special Elder dividend distribution in December.

Upon approval, the MTNT Settlement Trustees have declared a December dividend to MTNT Shareholders in the amount of \$3.80 per share to be distributed on December 13, 2019. A Shareholder with 100 shares will receive \$380.

The Trustees have also declared a special Elder dividend distribution in the amount of \$4.30 per share to each eligible Elder (an MTNT Shareholder age 65 or older on December 1, 2019). An Elder owning 100 shares will receive an Elder dividend of \$430.

To update your mailing address, call (907) 644-1200, email [info@MTNT.net](mailto:info@MTNT.net) or login to the Shareholder portal at <https://MyMTNT.com>.

Please submit your change of address to MTNT by December 11, 2019.

**KWNJA'** KwnJa' is pronounced "KwinJa" and means "News" in the upper Kuskokwim Athabascan dialect.

# MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Shareholders,

We hope this newsletter finds you well and enjoying the holidays.

Thank you to all of the Shareholders and their families that were able to join us at the MTNT Annual Meeting of Shareholders held July 2019 in McGrath, Alaska.

Since the Annual Meeting, it has continued to be a successful year for MTNT from the establishment of the MTNT Settlement Trust, to being named a recipient of the USDA High Energy Cost Grant as well as strengthening our revenue base to support MTNT's mission.

We are happy to report that MTNT subsidiaries continue to receive contract awards while positively building on past performance. In September, MTNT Construction, LLC won a firm fixed price contract from the Defense Logistics Agency to install security enhancements and provide maintenance and repair work at the Defense Supply Center located in Columbus, Ohio.

Also in September, MTNT IT & Communications, LLC won a firm fixed price contract from the Department of the Army, USACE to provide renovations to buildings in Fort Bliss, Texas. The objective of this project is to renovate the buildings to provide administrative space with functional areas (e.g. physical exams)

for the U.S. Army Support Soldier Readiness and Resiliency Center.

Additionally, as you will read in this issue of the newsletter, we are excited to announce the first dividend distributions from the MTNT Settlement Trust, including a special Elder dividend distribution to be distributed on December 13, 2019. These will be nontaxable distributions paid to MTNT Shareholders. If your address has changed, please make sure your change of address is received by the MTNT Anchorage office no later than **Wednesday, December 11**.

The Board and Management team have also been working diligently to settle the ANCSA 14(c)(1) land reconveyances in Nikolai. The process has been long and arduous but well overdue. MTNT is now working to expedite the issuance of Quit Claim Deeds for 19 lots in Nikolai to the original homesite owners and/or their beneficiaries – individuals who made claims to land in Nikolai prior to and/or on December 18, 1971 (the date ANCSA was enacted) based on their use of the land as a primary place of residence, business, subsistence campsite and/or for reindeer husbandry use.

It's an exciting time as we close out 2019 and plan for the new year. We look forward to continuing to explore



a diverse array of opportunities, streamline business processes and improve operational efficiencies to continue to provide meaningful benefits to our Shareholders and their families.

If you have any questions or need further information, please call MTNT at (907) 644-1200 or email [info@MTNT.net](mailto:info@MTNT.net).

On behalf of the entire MTNT team, we wish you a Merry Christmas and new year filled with peace, love and happiness.

Sincerely,

Michele Christiansen  
Chief Executive Officer



## Contact Us

**MTNT's Mission** is to increase corporate profitability, provide Shareholders with economic benefits and social opportunities, while protecting our corporation assets and land base, at the same time, recognizing the traditional cultural values and subsistence lifestyles of our Shareholders.

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## CORPORATE NEWS

### ANCSA 14(c)(1) Claims in Nikolai

Prior to enactment of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA), there was often no simple and reliable way to obtain title to lands occupied by individuals whether as a primary place of residence, business, subsistence campsite or for reindeer husbandry use. Many of these lands were subject to selection by ANCSA village corporations.

ANCSA land selection regulations required village corporations to select all the available lands within its "core township"—the six-mile square of lands in which the village was located. Therefore, when occupied lands were located in the core township and there was not a title assigned to an owner prior to the date ANCSA was enacted (December 18, 1971), the village corporations were obligated to select these lands.

In order to provide a remedy for this dilemma, ANCSA 14(c)(1) mandated reconveyances to the original homesite owners who made claims to land prior to and/or on December 18, 1971 (the date ANCSA was enacted) based on their use of the land.

While MTNT Ltd. was able to fulfill their 14(c)(1) reconveyances for McGrath, Takotna, and Telida, and while MTNT filed its map of boundaries for Nikolai's 14(c) reconveyances in 2006 with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), thus triggering the one year statute of limitations under ANCSA, Nikolai's 14(c)(1) reconveyances have not

been completed.

The MTNT Board and management team have been working diligently to fulfill Nikolai's 14(c)(1) reconveyances. MTNT worked with BLM and outside counsel to determine rightful ownership and the appropriate process for MTNT to transfer 14(c)(1) properties to the original homesite owners and/or their beneficiaries.

Through this process, MTNT has identified 19 original homesite owners who made 14(c)(1) claims and their respective lots of land located in Nikolai. Each lot varies in size; however, the combined total is approximately 11 acres.

MTNT believes it has resolved all potential claims to these reconveyances and has identified the correct grantees of these parcels. While this has been a long and arduous process, it is well overdue. The MTNT Board of Directors and management team are honored to announce that the Board has approved issuing Quit Claim Deeds for the identified lots in Nikolai to the respective original occupants and/or their beneficiaries.

MTNT is in the process of notifying the eligible recipients and working to expedite the issuance of Quit Claim Deeds.

If you have any questions, please contact MTNT at (907) 644-1200 or [info@MTNT.net](mailto:info@MTNT.net).

### Award Announcement

#### NEW POWER PLANT & UPGRADES

On behalf of McGrath Light & Power (ML&P), MTNT Energy, LLC was awarded a \$2.9M High Energy Cost Grant (HECG) by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The USDA grant will provide financial assistance over a three year-term to build a new ML&P power plant in McGrath with more fuel-efficient generators and to upgrade distribution lines.

ML&P is one of six organizations in Alaska to be awarded the HECG with the intent to offset high energy costs in some of the most remote parts of the state. The grantees', including ML&P, communities annual home energy costs exceed 275 percent of the national average.

The terms of the grant require MTNT to match funding in the amount of \$47,317 prior to the advancement of funds. The tentative plan is to build the new power plant by the end of 2020 and then complete the distribution upgrades throughout 2021.

To read the full USDA press release online, visit <https://www.rd.usda.gov/newsroom/news-release/>.

For further information, please contact MTNT at (907) 644-1200 or [info@MTNT.net](mailto:info@MTNT.net).

### Important Dates



**December 11**

Change of Address Deadline

MTNT Offices Open

**December 13**

Dividend Distribution

MTNT Offices Open

**December 16**

MTNT Spring Scholarship Deadline

MTNT Offices Open

**December 24**

Christmas Eve Holiday

MTNT Offices Closed

**December 25**

Christmas Day Holiday

MTNT Offices Closed

**January 1, 2020**

New Year's Day Holiday

MTNT Offices Closed





## SHAREHOLDER NEWS

### Scholarship Deadline, Dec. 16

MTNT Foundation is accepting scholarship applications for the Spring 2020 semester. To receive consideration, applications must be received by 4 p.m. AKST on December 16, 2019.

You may download the application online at <https://MTNT.net>.

MTNT Foundation offers basic and vocational scholarships to MTNT Limited original enrollees and their descendants. Awards range from \$500 per semester for part-time and vocational students to \$1,000 per semester for full-time enrollment.

If you need further assistance, please contact MTNT at (907) 644-1200, (877) 238-6868 or email [info@MTNT.net](mailto:info@MTNT.net).



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#### MTNT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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**Director**

Robert Strick  
**Director**

Claude "Joe" Petruska  
**Director**

James "Jim" Vanderpool  
**Director**

#### Estate Settlement

MTNT is looking to contact the below individuals in connection with the following estates of:

- Tim Akers – Karrie Akers-Friday
- Alburn A. Anderson – Rayne Simpson
- Rachel A. Dunkin – Amanda K. Landon and Matthew T. Johnson
- Katrina M. Jewell – Kohl K. Jewell
- Marie L. Lee – Laura A. Lee, Daniel A. Lee, Joseph W. Lee Sr., and Lawrence H. Lee Jr.
- Irene Nikolai – John P. Nikolai, Joshua D. Nikolai, Jeremy G. Nikolai, Jimmy A. Nikolai, Steven Nikolai Jr., Shalmarie J. Nikolai, and Timothy Nikolai
- Betty L. Stonefield – Roxi Harper and RL Hutchison
- Joseph J. Vanderpool – Emma S. Twitchell
- Theresa L. Williams – Kevin and Emmitt Williams
- Doris B. Moellenberndt – Roland W. Moellenberndt Jr., Wanda S. Peatross, and Katherine A. Gage
- Mary E. Ivey-Williams – Donna Driskill, Bruce C. Williams, and Albert R. Williams

If your name appears above or you know the whereabouts of an individual listed above, please contact MTNT Shareholder Relations at (907) 644-1200.

#### Missing Shareholders

The following MTNT Shareholders do not have a current mailing address on record:  
**Kami Lee Folger and Cecelia M. Dennis.**

It is important to keep your information current with MTNT. We want to make sure you are getting the information we send you, i.e. dividends, newsletters, proxy packets, flyers for informational meetings, etc.

Shareholders with a MyMTNT web portal account may update their addresses online at <https://MYMTNT.com/>. Alternatively, Shareholders may visit MTNT's website at <https://MTNT.net> or call Shareholder Relations at (907) 644-1200 for address change forms and information.

