

*For Immediate Release – June 23, 2007*



## **Sealaska Shareholders Vote to Enroll Descendants and Leftouts**

### ***Historic Vote to Enroll Descendants of Original Shareholders Represented by 71% of Eligible Voting Shares***

**ANCHORAGE** – Sealaska Corporation Chairman Albert M. Kookesh announced that shareholders voted to issue life estate shares to eligible descendants of original shareholders at its annual meeting today. Shareholders also voted to issue life estate shares to “Leftouts”– Natives who were originally eligible in 1971, but did not enroll. A third resolution to issue 100 additional shares of nonvoting, life estate stock to Elders did not pass because it did not meet the supermajority voting standard.

“Our shareholders have spoken. Today is a historic day for Sealaska shareholders, descendants, and Leftouts,” said Chairman Kookesh. “This vote is the best expression of what the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act is about. It’s about our cultural values of togetherness, sharing between generations, inclusion and family that have been passed down by our ancestors.”

This vote comes after years of spirited shareholder dialogue and intensive outreach to shareholders including polling, focus groups and dozens of community meetings.

“I would like to extend the thanks of the Sealaska Board of Directors to all shareholders who voted on these historic resolutions, regardless of how they voted,” said Dr. Rosita Worl, Sealaska vice chair of the board. “The Sealaska board has heard and listened to this diverse community of shareholder and shareholder descendant opinions. This vote reflects shareholders’ strong commitment to Native cultural values and ties to our lands. This vote will only make Sealaska a corporation with a stronger Native identity. We look forward to the participation of our new shareholders in Sealaska.”

More than 71% of the overall voting shares were represented at the meeting and by proxy. Shareholders have been voting by proxy since early May. More than 700 attended to hear business reports and the results of the vote on the resolutions. 450 shareholders and guests attended in person, with another 278 households via live webcast.

Four directors were also elected to the Sealaska board to serve three-year terms ending in 2010. Patrick Anderson, Clarence Jackson, Jackie Johnson and Jodi Mitchell received the highest votes and were elected.

The board of directors re-elected Senator Albert M. Kookesh to serve as chair and Dr. Rosita Worl to serve as vice chair at a reorganization meeting following the adjournment of the annual meeting. Sealaska management was also re-elected by the board including: Chris E. McNeil, Jr., president and CEO; Rick Harris, executive vice president; Sam Landol, chief operating officer; Anthony Mallott, chief investment officer and treasurer; Nicole Hallingstad, vice president and corporate secretary; and Richard Rinehart, vice president and chief financial officer.

Sealaska is the Regional Native Corporation of Southeast Alaska formed under federal law in 1971. Products and services include forest products, plastic injection molding and manufacturing, machining and prototyping, fabrication, information technology and environmental services. Sealaska is owned by more than 17,500 shareholders of Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian descent. For more information please visit [www.sealaska.com](http://www.sealaska.com).

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*Contact:*

*Todd Antioquia*

*Director of Corporate Communications*

*907.586.1512 or [todd.antioquia@sealaska.com](mailto:todd.antioquia@sealaska.com)*

*Find Sealaska online: [www.sealaska.com](http://www.sealaska.com)*