



Aleutian Pribilof Island Community Development Association

302 Gold Street, Suite 202 | Juneau, Alaska 99801 | Phone: (907) 586-0161 | Fax: (907) 586-0165

717 K Street | Anchorage, Alaska 99501 | (907) 929-5273 | Fax: (907) 929-5275 | www.apicda.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dec. 8, 2017

Media Contact: Ellen Krsnak

(907) 771-4210 direct, (907) 538-9793 cell, media@apicda.com

Long-time APICDA CEO Announces Retirement

Larry Cotter, Community Development Quota (CDQ) program pioneer, founding CEO of APICDA and APICDA Joint Ventures will retire Dec. 31, 2018.

Juneau, Alaska – Larry Cotter, CEO for the Aleutian Pribilof Island Community Development Association (APICDA) and APICDA Joint Ventures, plans to retire at the end of 2018. The APICDA board has formed a transition team and will launch a search for a new CEO in February.

“It’s been my pleasure and distinct honor to be involved with APICDA since its inception. Serving our communities, working alongside the entities devoted to sustainable communities throughout the Aleutian-Pribilof region and being immersed in the fishing industry at all levels has provided a wonderful career for which I am deeply grateful,” said Cotter. “It’s not an easy thing to retire from a company that you love, with a purpose that you love, filled with people that you respect and love. But everything has its time.”

“Larry is a true visionary and will be greatly missed by the residents of our communities, the fishing industry and the board and staff at APICDA. He was instrumental in the original formation of the Community Development Quota (CDQ) program. In the past 25 years, the CDQ organizations have generated over \$1 billion in assets, built needed infrastructure in the 65 participating villages to stimulate commerce and provided thousands of scholarships and workforce development opportunities,” said Mark Snigaroff, APICDA board chair. “It has been a program that has truly worked to sustain our western Alaska villages and Larry has been its greatest champion.”

“Larry’s unwavering commitment to our communities is reflected in every decision he has made over the course of his 25 years of service to the residents of the APICDA CDQ villages. The impact of his work will be felt for years to come in the region, state and industry,” said Justine Gundersen, APICDA Joint Ventures board chair.

Cotter has lived in Alaska and worked in the commercial fishing industry since 1974. He spent over four years as a seafood processing worker in Juneau, and eight years as a labor organizer and representative for seafood processing workers and longshoremen. Cotter served on the Advisory Panel to the North Pacific Fishery Management Council for six years and as a voting member of the council for an additional six years. This was during the transition years when foreign fishing was being phased out and domestic allocation issues were first coming to the forefront. During that time, he was chair of several committees including the Bycatch Committee and Crab Management Committee. Cotter also served as chair of the council’s Steller Sea Lion Mitigation Committee and Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute’s Responsible Fisheries Management Committee.

###

APICDA is a non-profit dedicated to sustaining the communities and cultures of rural Alaska villages in the Aleutian-Pribilof region. APICDA is one of six western Alaska CDQ organizations; the program allocates a percentage of all Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands quotas for groundfish, halibut and crab. The CDQ program was established to provide economically disadvantaged coastal communities the opportunity to generate capital to develop stable local economies based upon the fishing industry. APICDA and its subsidiary companies generate proceeds through the management of the quotas to achieve its charitable purpose of supporting the villages of Akutan, Atka, False Pass, Nelson Lagoon, Nikolski and St. George.