



2014 Aleutian Marketplace Contest

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Aleutian Marketplace Competition Winners Announced

Anchorage, Alaska – The Aleutian Pribilof Island Community Development Association (APICDA) and the Aleut Corporation (TAC) are pleased to announce the inaugural Aleutian Marketplace Business Idea Competition winners.

Kristjan Laxfoss of Unalaska, Alaska won \$1,000 for his pollock fish hotdog idea. Kristjan's idea is to manufacture a healthy and tasty fish hot dog made out of pollock in St. George.

Anne Morris of Sand Point, Alaska won \$650 for her Aleutian burger concept. Anne's idea is to produce and market a burger product from a new and original secret recipe using two types of seafood from fisheries in the region.

Blaine Shaishnikoff of Unalaska, Alaska won \$350 for his hydroponic greenhouse submission. Blaine believes that the region needs a hydroponic greenhouse large enough to supply the Aleutians with fresh inexpensive produce.

Award winners presented their ideas to the APICDA Board and TAC staff on Dec. 5, 2014 in Anchorage. Judges Casey Campbell, Tim Pearson and Allan Johnston selected the three award winners out of 12 submissions for the first phase of the project that wrapped up Oct. 31, 2014. The structure of the Marketplace is two-tiered; the first tier has two business idea competition phases and the second tier is a business plan competition. The second idea phase starts on Jan. 15, 2015.

"The Aleutian Marketplace is a pilot project to generate a variety of innovative business concepts and provide start-up funds for viable businesses that will operate in the Aleutian region. We were pleased that 12 competitive ideas were submitted," said Larry Cotter, APICDA CEO.

Thomas Mack, President of the Aleut Corporation added "There is great innovation and talent in the Aleutian and Pribilof Islands region and we thank all those who participated in the first phase of the competition."

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Aleutian Pribilof Island Community Development Association (APICDA) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation incorporated in the state of Alaska. APICDA is one of six Western Alaska Community Development Quota (CDQ) Corporations established in 1992. The CDQ program allocates a percentage of all Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands quotas for ground fish, halibut and crab to eligible CDQ Groups. APICDA and its subsidiary companies generate proceeds through the management of the quotas and uses proceeds to achieve its charitable purpose which is to develop stable local economies in our member communities of Akutan, Atka, False Pass, Nelson Lagoon, Nikolski and St. George.

The Aleut Corporation is one of the 12 Regional Alaska Native Corporations formed under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971. Based in Anchorage, Alaska, the corporation represents 3,900 shareholders living in the Aleutian and Pribilof Islands region, the Pacific Northwest and the rest of the United States. Operating as a for-profit corporation, the Aleut family of companies offers product and service capabilities including environmental remediation, base operations support, mechanical contracting, oil field services, real estate management and water testing to a wide range of customers and government agencies throughout the United States.



Aleutian Marketplace business idea competition award winners pictured with Larry Cotter (APICDA), Anne Morris and teammate Eileen Dushkin (2nd place), Kristjan Laxfoss (1st place), Blaine Shaishnikoff (3rd place), Chris Lace (Aleut Corporation) and Tim Pearson (one of three independent competition judges).



Blaine Shaishnikoff presents to the APICDA board on his winning Aleutian Marketplace idea to build a hydroponic greenhouse in Unalaska.