

## 2015 Aleutian Marketplace Contest

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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 second round of Aleutian Marketplace Business Idea Competition winners.

Anne Morris of Sand Point, Alaska won both first (\$ 1,000) and second (\$ 650) place in the innovative idea competition. She successfully submitted *JD BELTZ*, a safety improvement alteration for a knife sheath on a belt that fishermen currently use, and *Simply Homemade*, the selling of baked goods such as Alaadikax (fry bread), and salmon and rice filled Piroshkies seasoned with wild herbs from Sand Point.

There was a tie for third (\$ 350) place with Ivan Hoblet of False Pass, Alaska and Priscilla Miller of King Cove, Alaska. Ivan presented *Unanga* \*\*Berries\*, a sustainable tourism company where participants harvest berries and are taught the cultural aspect of homemade jam making. Priscilla submitted *The Yin Yang Floating Food Truck* concept where customers can select a juicy all American burger and fries which is called Yang. Or a more healthy nutritious option called Yin such as a wrap, soup or smoothie. The truck will be reaching customers across the state of Alaska by boat via the Alaska State Ferry System and stationed in communities along the Aleutian chain during the summer months.

The former resident prize (\$ 500) was captured by Evangelina Kenezuroff formerly of King Cove, Alaska with *Aleutian Mobile Auto Repair*. Evangelina's idea focused on a tow truck that would travel on the ferry to pick up vehicles in need of repair. A key component of Evangelina's plan is to send mechanics out to give community presentations in order to teach individuals the basics of general automobile maintenance to increase the life of their vehicles.

Award winners presented their ideas to the APICDA Board and representatives from the six APICDA CDQ communities in Anchorage on April 28. Judges Casey Campbell, Tim Pearson and Allan Johnston selected the three award winners out of 11 submissions for the second phase of the pilot project that wrapped up March 13, 2015. The structure of the Marketplace is two-tiered; the first tier has two business idea competition phases now complete and the second tier is a business plan competition. The second tier business plan competition kicks off at the Aleut Corporation shareholder meeting in October.

"We are pleased that the first tier of this competition yielded 23 unique business concepts. Promoting commerce and innovation in the Aleutian and Pribilof Islands region is tied very closely to APICDA's purpose to stabilize the local economies of our member communities," said Larry Cotter, APICDA's CEO.



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Thomas Mack, President of the Aleut Corporation added, "The residents of our region have great talent and resourcefulness and it's been meaningful for us to be invested in the success of this pilot project."

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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 Competition winner, Priscilla Miller, with APICDA CEO Larry Cotter.



Aleutian Marketplace Competition winners Anne Morris, Priscilla Miller and Evangelina Kenezuroff with contest judge Allan Johnston (Ivan Hoblet not pictured).