



DENADOLALE'

"OUR VOICE"

SUMMER 2026

Leadership Transition Announcement

The Gana-A'Yoo, Limited Board of Directors announces that Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Dena Sommer-Pedebone has stepped down from her role as CEO, effective July 24, 2026, to pursue other endeavors.

The Board of Directors extends its sincere appreciation to Dena for eight years of dedicated leadership and service to Gana-A'Yoo. Under her leadership, Gana-A'Yoo successfully navigated the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, became the first village corporation in the Doyon region to implement Open Enrollment for descendants, achieved record-setting financial results including the highest net income to date and largest dividend distribution in the Corporation's history, and advanced the successful approval of the Settlement Trust through a historic virtual shareholder vote. Dena's leadership helped position Gana-A'Yoo as one of the fastest-growing Alaska Native corporations and established a strong foundation for continued success.

The Board thanks Dena for her many contributions and wishes her well in her future endeavors. As a shareholder, Dena will remain a valued member of the Gana-A'Yoo community.

To ensure continuity of leadership and business operations, the Board has established a comprehensive transition plan and has worked closely with Dena to facilitate the orderly transfer of responsibilities and institutional knowledge.

Effective July 25, 2026, Board President Melissa McGinty has been appointed Interim Chief Executive Officer. Melissa brings extensive knowledge of Gana-A'Yoo's operations, strategic priorities, governance, and business objectives. The Board has full confidence in her leadership and ability to provide continuity while executing the Corporation's strategic direction during this transition.

Gana-A'Yoo's strategic priorities, operations, and commitment to its shareholders, employees, customers, and communities remain unchanged. The Corporation's experienced leadership team will continue executing its strategic plan while maintaining the high level of service and performance stakeholders expect.

The Board has initiated the process to identify Gana-A'Yoo's next Chief Executive Officer. The search will

focus on selecting an exceptional leader who will build upon the Corporation's strong foundation, advance its long-term strategic objectives, and create lasting value for shareholders.

The Board appreciates the continued dedication of its employees and the confidence of its shareholders, customers, and business partners during this transition.

Questions regarding the leadership transition may be directed to Interim Chief Executive Officer Melissa McGinty at mmcginty@ganaayoo.com.



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Stock Will Drawing Winners

Thank you to the 275 shareholders who have updated their stock wills in the last five years! Congratulations to the recent \$500 prize winners:

- » Alice M. Demoski
- » Gloria D. George

The next stock will drawing will be November 5, 2026, so be sure to continue submitting valid stock wills. The form can be found in your Shareholder Portal at ganaayoo.com.

Galena Road Closure

Every year, Gana-A'Yoo is required by law to close our privately owned road next to Galena. This year, the road will be closed for one day, for a period of 24 hours, after which it will remain open again for the next year.



2026 Annual Meeting of Shareholders

The Gana-A'Yoo Board of Directors and staff traveled to Fairbanks for the 2026 Annual Meeting of Shareholders on Friday, June 26. Thank you to all who joined in person and virtually. With your participation, we reached a 53.1% quorum! We also extend our thanks to guest speaker Ronald Burgett II for sharing on our theme, *Strength in Unity*.

ELECTION RESULTS

Congratulations to this year's elected board members: Linda Fleury, Melissa McGinty, and Thomas Neglaska. Thank you to the candidates who ran for the Board.

PRIZE WINNERS

Congratulations to all prize winners!

EARLY BIRD PRIZE WINNERS:

- \$1,500** - Jarrod F. Charge
- \$1,000** - Chase R. Pritchard
- \$500** - Larissa L. Sommer, Parker J. E. Pitka
- \$250** - Francis A. Madros, Doreen Maisner, Ethan A. Pilot

EPROXY PRIZE WINNERS:

- \$1,000** - Declan W. Jenkins
- \$500** - Amber K. Allen, Leanne F. Dapcevich, Stephan G. Roberts, Jr., Darren J. Silas
- \$250** - Frederick W. Sommer III, Steven Sommer, Kenneth L. Stickman

ANNUAL MEETING PRIZE WINNERS:

- \$1,000** - Eliza Jones
- \$500** - Leona Peter, Allison M. Kelliher, and Neil J. Sommer

DOOR PRIZE WINNERS:

- Hunting Bundle** - Lisa Phillips
- Canning Bundle** - Kathleen E. McCormick

SPLIT-THE-POT RAFFLE:

Miranda Wright. The pot was **\$695**, with half of the proceeds going to the winner and the other half going to Gana-A'Yoo Foundation.

Lifetime Achievement From UAF

Maurice "Morris" McGinty

Congratulations to Maurice "Morris" McGinty for receiving the University of Alaska Fairbanks Meritorious Service Award.

A Koyukon Athabascan educator and UAF alumnus, Morris served the Yukon-Koyukuk School District as a teacher, guidance counselor, basketball coach, principal, and school board member, including 10 years as board chair. Throughout his career, he has championed cultural preservation, community involvement, and educational opportunities that have helped generations of students develop a strong sense of identity and purpose. His leadership has also extended beyond education through his service as Second Chief of the Nulato Tribal Council and his work supporting Tribal self-determination, community wellness, and socioeconomic development.

We celebrate this well-deserved recognition and thank Morris for his lifelong commitment to uplifting Alaska Native communities and future generations.





Shareholder of the Year: Cecelia Jones

The Gana-A'Yoo Board of Directors selected Cecelia Jones as the 2026 Shareholder of the Year.

Originally from Koyukuk, Jones is the daughter of Eliza and the late Ben Jones, and has dedicated her life to serving others through healthcare and community leadership.

As a Physician's Assistant in Nenana, and previously serving in Koyukuk and Galena, she is known for promoting healthy lifestyles and providing compassionate, ethical care. She brings people together through events such as Fourth of July gatherings featuring a community softball game, as well as snowshoeing challenges. Deeply grounded in her cultural roots, she practices a subsistence lifestyle, participates in potlatches, and remains an active and supportive presence in every community she serves.

Cecelia Jones exemplifies the spirit of Gana-A'Yoo through her humility, respect for others, and commitment to holistic wellness.

"Cecelia has always encouraged everyone around her to dive into cultural activities that feed your mind, body, and soul ... [she] is overall a joy to be around with the most love and respect to give."

~ Jaylein Kriska



Student of the Year: Savannah Ivanoff

Gana-A'Yoo Foundation's Board of Directors selected Savannah Ivanoff as the 2026 Student of the Year.

Ivanoff, the daughter of Shelley Block and Alex Ivanoff, has demonstrated exceptional dedication to her education and career goals. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Health Services in 2020,

followed by her Doctorate in Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) in May 2025. She is currently completing a pharmacy residency at Alaska Native Medical Center (ANMC) in Anchorage, gaining advanced clinical training in a diverse patient care setting. A recipient of Gana-A'Yoo Foundation scholarships throughout her academic journey, Ivanoff remained focused on her goal of returning to Alaska to serve in her home state. Along the way, she worked as a pharmacy technician at ANMC and the Unalakleet health clinic, volunteered with Elders, and stayed closely connected to her roots by participating in traditional subsistence activities in Unalakleet and Galena.

Savannah Ivanoff exemplifies the spirit of the Gana-A'Yoo Foundation through her strong work ethic, dedication to learning, and commitment to improving the health and well-being of herself and others. Her achievements reflect both personal determination and a deep connection to her community, making her an inspiring role model for future generations.

"She is definitely a star when it comes to goal setting, taking action and achieving them... the opportunities for our young people to succeed is there, as proven by students like Savannah."

~ Betty Huntington



Reducing Trespassing

Public use of Gana-A'Yoo lands requires prior approval and is limited to the following:

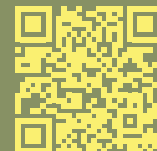
- » Sport fishing;
- » Short-term camping (max 5 days, permit required);
- » Boat launching and landing;
- » Picnics; and
- » Subsistence berry-picking.

**COMMERCIAL GUIDING AND
NON-SHAREHOLDER HUNTING
ARE PROHIBITED ON
GANA-A'YOO LANDS**

All additional uses require a permit. Permits are available to Gana-A'Yoo shareholders and descendants.

- » **Seasonal Use Permit:** For camping over five days or seasonal subsistence (fishing, hunting, trapping).
- » **Extended Use Campsite Permit:** For camping up to 10 years for the purposes of subsistence activities.
- » **Timber Use Permit:** For harvesting wood (firewood, lumber, house logs) for personal or commercial use.

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO
DOWNLOAD PERMITS
OR REPORT SUSPECTED
TRESPASSING >**



Individuals reporting trespassing on Gana-A'Yoo lands are urged to prioritize Safety First and to avoid approaching suspected individuals.

📞 907-569-9599

✉️ lands@ganaayoo.com



WWW.GANAAYOO.COM

Toll-Free | 1-888-656-1606

Anchorage | 907-569-9599

Galena | 907-656-1606



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kimberly Bower, Chair

Melissa McGinty, President

Maurine McGinty, Vice President

Linda Fleury, Treasurer

Sharon Hildebrand, Secretary

Frederick Huntington Sr., Director

Shay Huntington McEwen, Director

Thomas Neglaska, Director

Leann Sommer, Director

Condolences

Our sympathies to the family and friends of:

Winifred A. Demoski, 90

Koyukuk Stock

Elsie Simon, 66

Nulato Stock

Philomena Sommer, 79

Nulato Stock

GANA-A'YOO



Gana-A'Yoo, Limited

3035 C Street

Anchorage, AK 99503

Mark Your Calendar

Please visit the Shareholder Portal for the most up-to-date information.

Aug 13	Gana-A'Yoo Board Meeting
Sept 7	Labor Day Gana-A'Yoo Offices Closed
Oct 12	Indigenous Peoples' Day Gana-A'Yoo Offices Closed
Oct 20	Spring 2027 General Scholarship Application Opens

Stay tuned for upcoming shareholder informational meetings in your community.

New Scholarship Opportunities Available

Gana-A'Yoo Foundation has introduced **two new employment-related scholarships!** Explore our scholarship opportunities and find the one that's right for you.

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Covers training costs, program supplies, travel, food, and lodging

\$1,500

TRAVEL & LOGISTICS

Covers airfare, mileage reimbursement, and lodging for attending a job training or education program

Up to \$1,500

WORK CLOTHES

Helps cover required work gear and job entry costs, including clothing, certifications, union dues, etc.

\$1,000

APPLICATIONS OPEN YEAR-ROUND

Apply online: www.ganaayoo.com/gana-ayoo-foundation/

Questions? Call us at 907-569-9599

