



# KOOKÉNAA

## MESSENGER

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# VOTING INFORMATION

## **Board Members**

Todd Antioquia  
*Chair*

Richard A. Beasley  
*Vice Chair*

Lori Grant  
*Treasurer*

Leilani Wilson Walkush  
*Secretary*

Ben Coronell  
*Director*

Gail Dabaluz  
*Director*

Katherine Eldemar  
*Director*

Lisa-Marie Ikononov  
*Director*

Craig Kahklen  
*Director*

## **VOTE IN THE ELECTION AND SAVE THE DATE FOR THE 49<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING**

Goldbelt mailed out the 2022 Annual Report, 2023 Proxy Statement, and Goldbelt Corporate Proxy on Friday, May 19, to all voting shareholders on record as of May 9. The mailing of election materials marks the beginning of the election process. All shareholders, even those with electronic delivery, were mailed a proxy card and return envelope. Shareholders are encouraged to vote online at [goldbeltvote.com](https://goldbeltvote.com).

Online and paper voting instruction videos can be found on the Election Connection page at MyGoldbelt. Scan the QR code to watch the videos and view the most recent election-related information.

Goldbelt's 49th Annual Meeting of Shareholders will be held on July 8, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. via remote delivery on MyGoldbelt. The annual meeting will discuss the past year's performance, announce the results of the election of the board of directors, and provide information for the upcoming year. The Goldbelt Board encourages all shareholders to attend and participate.

Scan the QR codes to watch videos on how to vote.



How to Vote Online



How to Vote by Mail

## **Upcoming Important Dates:**

July 6, 2023  
*Proxy Deadline*

July 8, 2023  
*49<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of  
Shareholders*

## **53 VOTING PRIZES**

Grand Prize of \$5,000  
Runner Up Prize of \$3,500  
2nd Runner Up Prize of \$2,000  
Seven \$1,000 Prizes  
Nine \$500 Prizes  
Twenty-Four \$250 Prizes  
Ten \$100 Prizes

## **PROXY INCENTIVE**

Shareholders who successfully submit their proxy by the proxy deadline of July 6, 2023, will receive a \$100 voter incentive.

# LEADERSHIP UPDATES



## LETTER FROM DIRECTOR LEILANI WILSON WALKUSH

Six years ago, I learned that a shareholder nominated me as a candidate for the Goldbelt board of directors. That nomination, and the support of shareholders who cast their votes for me, inspired me to serve with determination and to apply my experience and wisdom to build a brighter future for Goldbelt and its shareholders.

Completing my second term, I submitted my candidacy for the 2023 election – but after careful consideration, I notified the Inspector of Elections that I will not seek re-election for a third term.

My name was removed from the 2023 Goldbelt proxy card but the 2023 proxy statement was printed and still includes my original letter asking for support. I humbly ask you to disregard my candidate page in the proxy statement, but not the

review of the commitments I made.

I am proud to have served during this time in Goldbelt's history and to have contributed to unprecedented changes and growth - the experience was beyond my own expectations.

I am excited to focus on new personal goals and opportunities and will remain an engaged shareholder. Gunalchéesh for the opportunity to serve you, it has been an honor and a journey I will forever cherish.

## BRUCE SWAGLER RETIRES AS VP OF TIDEWATER GROUP

Over a decade of dedication and service to Goldbelt, Bruce Swagler looks forward to spending time with his four grandkids and two granddogs fishing and enjoying water sports. Bruce's last day in corporate is July 28th, leaving a legacy of camaraderie and respect.

"Bruce Swagler is an exceptional leader," said Vice President of Business Development Pat Higgins. "His steady, calm, and savvy business handling has been noted by everyone he works with and for. As he ends his service with Goldbelt, he has performed superbly for the entire corporation, especially our shareholders."



Five years after starting his Goldbelt career with Goldbelt Hawk, Bruce was promoted to his current position as Vice President of the Tech Services Group, which evolved into the Tidewater Area Group. While McHugh Pierre was on parental leave, Bruce served as Acting President & CEO, which he described as the "capstone of his career." To read more about Bruce's legacy at Goldbelt, visit [goldbelt.com](http://goldbelt.com).



# ALASKA BUSINESS UPDATES

## GOLDBELT COMMITS \$10 MILLION TO EAGLECREST

Goldbelt invested \$10 million in a revenue-sharing agreement with the City and Borough of Juneau to support the completion of Eaglecrest's gondola project.

"The future of tourism is a bright spot for the economy of Juneau!" said Goldbelt's President & CEO McHugh Pierre. "As Juneau's Alaska Native Corporation, we recognize the immense potential of tourism as a catalyst for economic growth. With our established expertise in the tourism industry, Goldbelt is poised to invest in the community strategically, creating profitable ventures, like the gondola development, while developing job opportunities that benefit both our shareholders and the economy."

With the already successful Goldbelt Tram providing an accessible experience for summertime visitors, the investment



in Eaglecrest will offer a unique and thrilling adventure for visitors seeking a different kind of uphill experience. With its substantial carrying capacity, the gondola will transport guests to the top of Douglas Island, opening opportunities for further activities on Goldbelt land on the backside of Douglas.

The cruise industry has projected a maximum large-ship capacity of 2.5 million visitors. The Eaglecrest gondola will provide additional shore excursion opportunities for these visitors while maintaining the experience offered by the Goldbelt Tram.

Goldbelt envisions the potential development of Douglas Island as a factor in the future of tourism and sees the investment in Eaglecrest as the first step towards creating an economy of scale for further opportunities to benefit both residents and visitors alike.

## GOLDBELT SIGNS MOU FOR CASCADE POINT DEVELOPMENT



Goldbelt signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) to

explore developing a new ferry facility at Cascade Point. Governor Mike Dunleavy and Goldbelt's Acting President & CEO, Bruce Swagler, signed the MOU on March 9 while aboard the M/V Tazlina Ferry.

The continued focus from Goldbelt's current board and past directors, spanning decades, has been instrumental in realizing development on Goldbelt lands. A new terminal would shorten the route between Juneau, Haines, and Skagway.

"This partnership is illustrative of a profound future with us working together to strengthen our communities with robust transportation and economic development," said Todd Antioquia, Chairman of the Goldbelt Board. "It fills my heart with joy and pride to walk on the land in the footsteps of our ancestors, knowing that what we have done for our lands in the last 50 years has had a profound and positive impact on our community."

Goldbelt plans to develop Cascade Point as a mixed-use marine port, providing the potential to expand maritime operations. The development of Cascade Point has been a standing priority for Goldbelt, with initial discussions originating more than 20 years ago. "The development at Cascade Point has been a long time coming," said Bruce Swagler. "I'm excited to participate in this project to improve opportunities for the Juneau community."

Bruce Swagler served as Acting President & CEO between January and April while President & CEO McHugh Pierre was on parental leave.

# SHAREHOLDER UPDATES

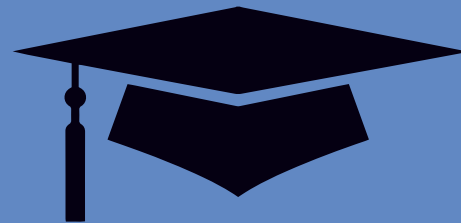


## SHAREHOLDER OPPORTUNITY MEETINGS

Goldbelt hosted three spring opportunity meetings, in Juneau on April 22, Seattle on April 29, and Anchorage on May 6—Gunalchéesh to all the shareholders who attended.

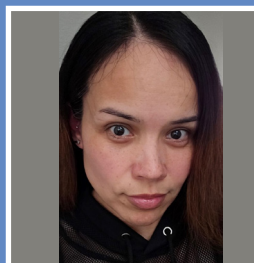
During the events, President & CEO McHugh Pierre presented on the business performance of Goldbelt and highlighted many shareholder benefits. Shareholders had the opportunity to visit

several booths that offered various services. There were multiple booths, including Goldbelt's human resources department to promote the shareholder hire, Goldbelt's shareholder services department to assist in form completion, and a photographer who took professional portraits.

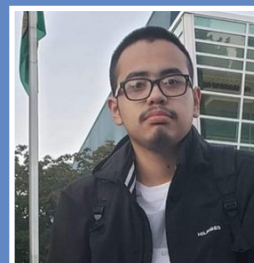


## CELEBRATING RECENT GRADUATES

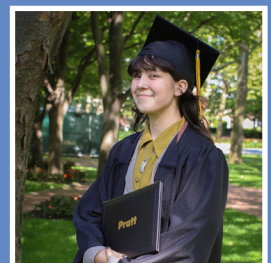
*Goldbelt is proud to spotlight a few of the 2023 shareholders and descendants graduating this year. Congratulations, Jessica, Ricardo, and Kelly!*



**Jessica Wheaton**  
Everett Community College  
Associates degree in  
Business Administration



**Ricardo Garcia Jr.**  
Mariner High School  
Graduating class  
of 2023



**Kelly Boal**  
Pratt Art Institute  
Bachelor of Fine Arts  
Communications  
Design



# WELCOME SUMMER INTERNS

Summer interns have been placed in the summer internship program. Interns will gain valuable mentorship and hands-on experience. Goldbelt looks forward to welcoming the following interns:

**Brandon Gomez**

*Nisga'a Group - Herndon Office*

**Kaida Irvin**

*Accounting Department*

**Anna Kahklen**

*HR Department*

**Amber Kahklen**

*IT Department*

**Abby Kahklen**

*Shareholder Services*

**Maranda McGowan**

*Goldbelt Heritage Foundation*

**Sterling Zuboff**

*Communications Department*

## KOOTÉYAA DEIYÍ - TOTEM POLE TRAIL

Shareholders Michael Beasley *Daanawáak* of Juneau and Nathan Jackson of Ketchikan were among the artists represented in Sealaska Heritage Institute's newest initiative. The first 12 of 30 poles in Sealaska's *Kootéeyaa DeiYí* (totem pole trail) were raised on Saturday, April 23, 2023. Mick Beasley and Nathan Jackson each carved a pole representing a story of their clan. The totem pole trail is visible along Juneau's waterfront and is an important representation of native culture for locals and visitors alike to learn about Alaska Native culture.

## CULTURE CYBER YOUTH CAMP

Save the date for the 2023 Culture Cyber Youth Camp with Goldbelt Heritage Foundation, CP Marine and Peregrine Technical Solutions. The camp is for rising middle and high school students, July 10-14. For more information email [goldbeltcyber.culturecamp@goldbelt.com](mailto:goldbeltcyber.culturecamp@goldbelt.com) or register on the Goldbelt Heritage Foundation Portal.

# SHAREHOLDER SPOTLIGHTS



## ANNA MARIE EHLERS AWARDED AN HONORARY DOCTORATE

Anna Ehlers received her honorary doctorate of fine arts from University of Southeast Alaska (UAS) on May 7, 2023. UAS honored Anna for her significant contributions preserving Tlingit traditional arts and culture. Anna, a master of Chilkat weaving, uses various textiles to create clan regalia.

## SHAREHOLDER OPPORTUNITIES

### GOLDBELT IS HIRING

Join the Goldbelt team in Juneau! Goldbelt is now hiring for:

- Human Resources Specialist
- IT Administrative Assistant
- IT Support Technician I
- Special Assistant

Learn more and apply today at [goldbelt.com/careers](https://goldbelt.com/careers).



Formline by Nick Vonda

### ARE YOU AN ARTIST?

Goldbelt is looking for artists to spotlight for the upcoming 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary! Email [shareholder@goldbelt.com](mailto:shareholder@goldbelt.com) with your portfolio, social media page or website, and medium(s) of your choice. Goldbelt is looking for talented shareholders to commission.



Pictured above is Lisa in her shop Dei L'e.ann. Photo taken by Kerry Tasker.

## SHAREHOLDER ARTIST SPOTLIGHT: LISA ANDERSSON

Shareholder Lisa Andersson was recently highlighted for her craftsmanship in an article by Travel Alaska. Lisa is quick to express her gratitude to elders for teaching her the essentials of her business and preserving native culture. In her shop, Lisa sells salves and beauty treatments, along with her own formline art. She currently has a shop at Icy Strait Point in Hoonah, Alaska, and you can find her art online.



# KOOKÉNAA MESSENGER



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## Goldbelt's 50th is January 4, 2024!

Submit artwork for the 50th anniversary artist spotlight initiative and pictures for the archive to [shareholder@goldbelt.com](mailto:shareholder@goldbelt.com)



## Do you have old photos from Goldbelt's past?

Goldbelt is collecting photos and stories for a digital archive. Digitizing old photos from past shareholder events, meetings, or from past Goldbelt locations is an important way to preserve native culture and pass down stories for future generations. Goldbelt is looking for photos of past generations, artwork, landmarks, and more to add to the database. These photos and stories may also be featured in our 50th celebration and/or annual report. Please consider sharing these important stories.

*Pictured left is Goldbelt Tram in 1996.*

## SHAREHOLDER QUARTERLY PRIZE DRAWING

All shareholders with a completed testamentary disposition on file will be entered into a quarterly prize drawing. Shareholders will earn an additional entry if they are signed up for direct deposit or electronic delivery preference.

Log on to [MyGoldbelt.com](http://MyGoldbelt.com) to download the testamentary disposition form. Shareholders can also update their direct deposit and electronic delivery status online.

This quarter's winners of \$50 Visa gift cards are: **Lawrence Marvin, Emily Bennett, Gregory Jones, and Kelly Bacon-Taff**