

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CONTACT: Susan Anderson
President & CEO, The CIRI Foundation
(907) 793-3575
sanderson@thecirifoundation.org**

**NEW PUBLICATION BY THE CIRI FOUNDATION
REVISED & EXPANDED GUIDE TO ALASKA NATIVE CULTURES, CORPORATIONS,
ORGANIZATIONS AND THE ALASKA NATIVE CLAIMS SETTLEMENT ACT**

(ANCHORAGE, AK – September 2, 2008)—“Na’eda, Our Friends,” by A.J. McClanahan and Hallie Bissett is now available from The CIRI Foundation and select book stores throughout Anchorage.

“We are pleased to offer the expanded and revised third edition of Na’eda, Our Friends.” More than a directory, “Na’eda provides historical, geographical, and cultural context. It is a reference that is of value to everyone, whether you’re a life-long resident or a first-time visitor to Alaska” said Susan A. Anderson, President & CEO of The CIRI Foundation.

Alexandra J. McClanahan, former CIRI Historian and CIRI shareholder Hallie Bissett share the honors as authors of the publication. The third edition edited by Veldee Hall includes addresses and phone numbers for the 13 Native regional corporations, 168 village corporations, 226 traditional/IRA councils, urban corporations, former reserves and reservations. Also listed are the major statewide and regional nonprofits, members of the Alaska Native Education Consortium, and museums and cultural centers.

In addition to listing the addresses and phone numbers of the Native entities, the revised and expanded third edition features an overview of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971 (ANCSA) and its key components. Brief descriptions of the cultural groups of Alaska are accompanied by a map of traditional territories. Maps are included for each ANCSA region to show village locations, and when available the traditional village names

are provided. Additions to the third edition include mission statements for each regional corporation, a full index of book contents, and an expanded museum and cultural center listing. A community reference guide provides an 'at-a-glance' listing of village corporations, non-profits and cultural centers for each rural community in the state.

"Our goal is to combine maps, a basic primer on Alaska Native issues surrounding ANCSA and a directory comprising a handy reference that is transportable" said Susan Anderson, President/CEO of The CIRI Foundation. Information is presented with cross-references so that each entry can be easily accessed by the name of the village or by the region or tribal name.

The title was suggested by Alberta Stephan, Eklutna elder who is familiar in the Upper Cook Inlet Dena'ina dialect, and by Professor Alan Boraas, who teaches anthropology at Kenai Peninsula College, a branch of the University of Alaska Anchorage. Boraas has taught a Dena'ina language and mythology class since 1988, first with Peter Kalifornsky of Kenai and later with Donita Peter from Tyonek, both of whom are Dena'ina elders. Stephan points out that the apostrophe in "Na'eda" indicates that the phrase included two words.

"Na'eda, Our Friends" third edition retails for \$12.95 with proceeds from the sale of the book benefitting The CIRI Foundation. The book available at select book stores, or it may be purchased at The CIRI Foundation website or by contacting The CIRI Foundation directly at (907) 793-3575.

For more information visit The CIRI Foundation web site www.thecirifoundation.org.

ISBN number: 978-0-983227-09-0.

#