

**For Immediate Release
December 17, 2015**

Alaskan Marie Greene Appointed to US Arctic Research Commission

Washington, DC - President Obama appointed Marie "Kasannaaluk" Greene, of Kotzebue, Alaska, to serve as a Commissioner on the US Arctic Research Commission (USARC) beginning December 17, 2015. Greene will replace the Honorable Edward Saggan Itta, of Barrow, Alaska, who made inestimable contributions to the Commission and to Arctic research.

USARC Chair Fran Ulmer, commends the President's choice, and remarked, "Marie is well poised to make a significant contribution to the work of the Commission, as she will add an experienced and compelling perspective from Alaska's Arctic. As a respected Alaska Native leader, she understands the region through her many civic, cultural, and business associations."

From 2002 until 2015, Greene served as President and Chief Executive Officer of the NANA Regional Corporation in northwest Alaska.

During Greene's tenure at NANA:

- Expanded the Red Dog Mine, which is one of the world's largest producers of zinc ore.
- Established an agreement with NovaCopper to examine the potential of mineral projects in the Upper Kobuk region.
- Advanced shareholder employment and development programs at Red Dog Mine.
- Developed and funded the Rosetta Stone Iñupiaq Language project in both Iñupiat dialects.
- Established the NANA Elders' Settlement Trust, with an initial investment of \$32.5 million, to provide needed income for shareholders, age 65 years or older.

Greene, originally from Deering, AK, the smallest village in NANA's region, has also served on a number of state and regional organizations including the advisory committee for Wells Fargo Bank and the board of Alaska Federation of Natives.

USARC's mission is to develop and recommend US Arctic research policy to the President and to Congress and to build cooperative links in Arctic research within the federal government, with Arctic residents, the State of Alaska, researchers and international partners. Visit the USARC at <http://www.arctic.gov> and subscribe to our daily electronic newsletter, the "[Arctic Update](#)," which provides useful information about recent events, upcoming conferences, research initiatives and news.

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