



*“Advocating for Alaskans to Pursue Postsecondary Workforce Development Pathways”*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – November 1, 2023**

Subject: **AlaskaCAN Updates Strategic Plan to Demonstrate Alaska “CAN”!**

Fellow Alaskans,

The Alaska Postsecondary Access and Completion Network (AlaskaCAN) has launched an exciting new direction as an organization. During its 2023 Annual Conference, AlaskaCAN (formerly referred to as “The Network”) announced an updated Strategic Plan, vision statement, and operating priorities to Alaska’s education and workforce partners in attendance.

Since its inception, AlaskaCAN has created significant and meaningful partnerships to support its original goal of **65% by 2025** – where **65% of working-age Alaskans hold a postsecondary credential by 2025**. However, in recent years the AlaskaCAN Board of Directors and AlaskaCAN members alike began to ask; *What happens after 2025? Is 65% still the correct goal? What will the workforce needs be in 2030 and beyond? Will our high-growth industries look the same 10 years from now?*

As a result, AlaskaCAN has chosen to redefine its original goal of 65% by 2025. Instead, this will be used as a benchmark on the journey to increase postsecondary credential attainment in Alaska, but it is no longer a singular goal. **AlaskaCAN has created a new Envisioned Future that is relevant, responsive, and aspirational in nature.**

In alignment with the theme of the AlaskaCAN! 2023 Conference – *Moving Forward Together*, AlaskaCAN’s new direction is built on the shared collaboration and vision between Alaska’s education and workforce stakeholders. If we are to find ways to improve postsecondary attainment and workforce readiness in Alaska, we must do so together!

**ENVISIONED FUTURE:** AlaskaCAN envisions a future in which it is Alaska’s recognized strategic partner, supporting an equitable culture in which all Alaskans have access to meaningful postsecondary workforce pathways. As Alaska’s recognized strategic partner, AlaskaCAN is a knowledgeable guide, respected convener, and trusted resource in a culture shift based on acknowledging and sharing the value of postsecondary, workforce-connected learning, wherever and however it is accomplished.

**VISION:** Alaska’s Economy is Driven by a Trained and Educated Alaskan Workforce

**CORE PURPOSE:** Advocating for Alaskans to Pursue Postsecondary Workforce Development Pathways

**CORE VALUES:** Accessible | Collaborative | Connected | Diverse | Equitable | Inclusive | Relevant

To learn more about AlaskaCAN’s new Strategic Plan and operating priorities, visit [65by2025.org/about-alaskacan](https://65by2025.org/about-alaskacan).