

Agribusiness Development Corporation

AG NOTES

December 2023 Newsletter

HOLIDAY MESSAGE FROM ADC BOARD CHAIRMAN WARREN WATANABE

Happy Holidays ADC Friends!

In reflecting back over the Calendar Year 2023, it has been a year of incredible change. In January, with the change in administration, we welcomed Hawaii Department of Agriculture Chairwoman Sharon Hurd and Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) Deputy Director Dane Wicker to our ADC board.

We would also like to say a heartfelt Mahalo to outgoing ADC board chair Fred Lau and board members State Agriculture Chairwoman Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser, Kaleo Manuel and Mary Alice Evans who gave their time and talent to support the mission of the ADC.

In April, we were saddened with the sudden passing of ADC Executive Director James Nakatani, who headed our agency from 2012 to 2023.

In the latter half of the year, we welcomed new ADC Executive Director Wendy Gady, in addition to Linda Goto Accountant V, Lolita Cabante, Accountant IV, and Ingrid Hisatake, Executive Secretary to our staff team.

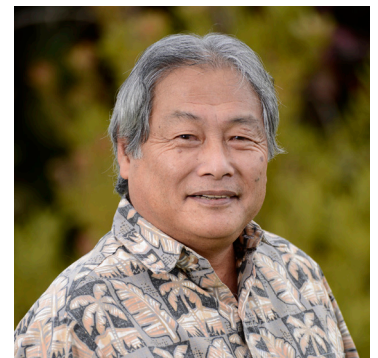
We were also delighted to welcome new members to the ADC Board of Directors at-large members Jason Okuhama and Karen Seddon from Oahu, Jayson M. Watts board member from Maui, and Russell Tsuji, State Lands Administrator at the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

The ADC Board of Directors is overwhelmed with appreciation for the Expressions of Interest (EOI) and Land Applications and is beginning to review the information from agribusiness entrepreneurs across the state. The quality and content are exciting to witness, and we continue to welcome entrepreneurs on all islands to fill out either the EOI or Land Application forms found on our website.

We hope this holiday season will bring laughter and memories with family and friends. We look forward to an exciting 2024 we can all build together.

Happy Holidays!

Warren Watanabe
Chair, Agribusiness Development Corporation



ADC WANTS TO WISH EVERYONE A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS!