

letters ...

AFN reorganization

Box 69
Tununak, Alaska 99681
May 4, 1977

Mr. Thomas Richards, Editor
Tundra Times
P.O. Box 1287
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Dear Editor:

Thank you very much for printing an article most newsworthy on AFN reorganization as being slowing down in your April 13, 1977 edition. I would like to address myself to one aspect of the plan -- the Human Resources Committee.

While I am for the reorganization and restructuring of the Alaska Federation of Natives systematically, I am not in the total agreement that the social programs of the Federation should be transferred over to Alaska Native Foundation, because of the time factor, and transfer of such programs will not achieve an effective delivery system, anyway. Obviously, the Human Resources committee might very well face the same problems under ANF. I agree with Mr. Black that the ANF serves a different purpose, and its Internal Revenue Service exempt status, I am sure, does not point to the interests of the Human Resources committee of AFN.

From the point of view of a villager, transfer of such social programs of AFN will not improve the delivery systems to the villages, because its programs are virtually unknown in the villages. Actually, that reorganization problem is an internal problem rather than external.

Herewith them, I submit my proposal to AFN, and ANF at least to get an "input" into the reorganizational plan:

1) the Human Resources committee would be in stronger bargaining power if it continues to operate under the auspicious of the Alaska Federation of Natives, but that the committee operate more independently with more brought powers of decision to better serve its very basic goal: the Native village(rs).

The Human Resources committee will not gain any further grounds than what it has established in the programs will be indefinitely halted if transferred due to the committee's own reorganization. Such halt and transfer would be costly in time and effort.

2) reorganization plan also means a plan in better delivery systems to the Native village(rs). Hard core village voice is absolutely needed in this effort, because of the absence of the village input of reasonably good mind, and logic. Also, this would be a profitable venture to involve a hard core village input.

3) AFN and ANF politically are out of touch, although technically vaguely visible from the villages. Their accountability is more visible to Federal, State and contributing private organizations.

Tom, I hope that you print my "villager" proposal clearly.
Thank you and sincerely,
John Angaiak

Letter of thanks

University of Alaska, Fairbanks
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
April 26, 1977

Tommy Richards Jr., Editor
Tundra Times
410 - 2nd Ave., Suite 205
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Dear Sir:

The Festival of the Native Arts Inupiaq Committee extends gratitude and appreciation for the loan of the skin blanket. The blanket toss added much to the participation enjoyment and success of our Festival activities and it helped in promoting this cultural event.

Thank you so much for your contribution. And special thanks to Olive Anderson for her assistance.

Sincerely,
Inupiaq Committee
Grace Penatac, Elmer Jackson,
Rose Fosdick, Emily I. Wilson,
Diane Stevens, Sue McHenry,
Ardys Akers, Karen Nagozruk