

Unanswered Questions About Native Land Claims

The following questions must be answered by each region in order to properly prepare for implementing the provisions of the land claims bill and to emphasize their importance they are being republished.

Rural Alaska Community Ac-

tion Program in conjunction with the Alaska Federation of Natives and the Bureau of Indian Affairs prepared this list of ques-

tions. Those agencies and the 9 corporations of RurAL CAP may be contacted for assistance. RurAL CAP agencies are located

in Bethel, Dillingham, Copper Center, Nome, Kotzebue, Kodiak, Galena, Juneau, Fort Yukon

Land Issues Facing Natives

Will Natives be allowed surface and subsurface rights?
Will all Natives share in land provisions, or will it be limited to only the village "users" of the land?

How will your land rights be protected after legislation is passed?

How much land will your village be entitled to after the settlement?

Which lands can you select from?

How much land will your regional allocation be entitled to after the settlement?

How many acres are available for your village and region to select from?

What lands does your village presently use that it will want to select?

What lands within your region and around your village contain potentially valuable resources?

Must abandoned or historically important sites be established (grave yards, fishing sites, exhausted mines)?

Are there any legal existing claims for lands prior to Natives selection?

Mining claims throughout Alaska number in the thousands; are you aware of all past mining activity within lands that you desire for selection?

What existing claims or land rights will be given up by this bill?

How are the Indian Reserves to be treated?

Who will settle land disputes between villages when townships to be selected are within more than one village allowable limits?

How long will villages and regional native associations have to select their individual land?

When will title be granted to the individual villages and regional Native Associations so that Natives can start economic activity?

How will individuals receive title to land?

What if there isn't sufficient available amounts of open land for a village to select?

What are provisions for taxes on the lands granted to Natives?

When will Natives be expected to pay taxes on their land holdings?

Will a pending Indian allotment be given final approval or will it be revoked in light of claims legislation?

Can a Native acquire land outside of his village allocation under any circumstances?

Will Natives be allowed any land for subsistence campsites—fishcamps?

What will the relationship be between PHS and BIA to the Natives after the settlement?

How will the settlement affect the State's activities in relation

REGIONAL CORPORATIONS:

What are these corporations' functions?

Who are its members?

Is the village corporation represented in this?

What determines their boundaries?

Does this corporation deal directly with the village?

What programs does it offer?

How large is a regional corporation?

Is it non-profit or business oriented?

What is its relationship with a state-wide corporation and/or the Alaska Federation of Natives?

Can money be made available sooner than provided in the land claims bill.

VILLAGE CORPORATIONS:

What number of Natives are required to incorporate?

What is the process used to incorporate?

How would a Native corporation relate with village or city government?

Will the corporation have powers to invest their monies?

Who is eligible to become a member of the corporation?

Will it have title to land, other than that which belong to the members?

Will it have a budget of its own?

What guide lines might the corporation have in land and money distributions?

Who would it contact for assistance?

Will the corporation officers be paid? If so, by whom?

Are there training programs for its officers?

What is its relationship with regional corporations and other larger corporations?

When will money become available to the village corporations.

Can money be made available now to organize.

to Natives?

How will the settlement affect the housing programs slated for the bush (BIA's remote housing, AFN-ASHA Indian Housing Program, HUD's mutual help and other programs)?

What are Federal and State agencies doing to include Natives in land planning for settlement activities?

Does your village have the Bureau of Land Management and the United States Geological Survey maps of village and region lands that are essential to the land selection process?

Does your village have BLM townsite As-Built maps (maps showing actual locations of man-made buildings, roads, and topographic features, streams, lakes)?

Does your village have BLM townsite survey maps (maps showing lot and blocks and lot lines etc.)

Are air photos available that cover your village?

FINANCES:

How will the Village Councils participate in the land claims funds?

How much money will the Native villages obtain—if any?

What funds will be allocated to each regional corporation?

Who will determine how the money is spent?

When will the money be obtained by the regional corporations, villages and individual Natives?

What is an investment plan and will a village need one?

What is "revenue sharing"?

Will the individual Natives receive cash after the bill becomes law? If not, how will he benefit?

How long will it take for the individual to benefit?