

Help him help us

A good thing appears to have happened to the Anchorage city administration with the election of Tony Knowles to the mayor's job.

Replacing George Sullivan who has been almost a father to the city for years will be no small task but Knowles seems to be interested in opening the gates of city hall to input from all sides.

One first step was the hiring of Patrick Anderson of Anchorage to be lobbyist for the city in Juneau. Anderson is a dedicated and bright young attorney and the fact that he is a Native portends well for the openness of the city administration to the affairs of the many Alaska Natives in the city.

The fact that Knowles addressed the Alaska Federation of Natives convention in December on the importance of Native business to Anchorage and attended the National Congress of American Indians banquet in October also are good omens.

Both events seem to show that Knowles is interested at least in learning what these groups have to say. We wish him luck, and hope that the large and important community of Alaska Natives in Anchorage will take his lead and begin to increase their participation in city affairs.