

1996 AFN at a Glance, celebrations, sobriety, dancing and discussions on the past 30 yrs.

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This week, 3,000 people from all over Alaska will descend on Anchorage for the 30th Alaska Federation of Natives convention. The conventioners will have a variety of entertainment to choose from.

Most of the events will take place in downtown Anchorage at the Egan Center.

This year's theme is "Celebrating Success: Past, Present and Future."

Monday through Wednesday is the Youth and Elders Conference. 900 students and hundreds of elders will meet for workshops, discussions and entertainment.

The Silamiut Dancers from Greenland will perform Tuesday at 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday evening at 8:00, Native Vote '96 will host the "Native Voices" concert to promote voter registration. Jimmie Dale Gilmore will headline the show.

The Iqaluit Throat Singers from Iqaluit, Northwest Territories, Canada will also perform, as well as Pamyua from Bethel, and The Tulchinas from NonDalton, Alaska.

AFN president Julie Kitka said there will be "Lots of Encouragement and Enthusiasm" for Natives to vote.

There are 28 workshops scheduled for Wednesday on every conceivable topic.

The Quyanra Alaska celebration takes place Wednesday at the Sullivan Arena. Native dancers will perform to thank the Anchorage community for hosting the convention.

Many of the events will look back on 30 years of the AFN. Thursday at 11:00 a.m., there will be an hour long multimedia presentation on the history of the Federation.

And if you still have not found something to do, Kitka recommends the reindeer stew feast at the Downtown Deli on Thursday.