

# NANA, Aleut boards sign 7i pact

The boards of directors of two Regional Corporations have approved the proposed 7i settlement agreement previously signed by the representatives of all 12 Alaska-based regional corporations.

Under terms of the 121-page settlement agreement which was signed in June by the 12 Regional Corporations' representatives, each regional corporation board has until Oct. 1 to sign the agreement.

If any Regional corporation doesn't sign, it must continue with legal action which started several years ago to get a court determination of what 7i meant.

Signing the 7i settlement were the Aleut Corp. and the NANA Regional Corp. NANA

earlier this spring had approved any 7i agreement that was reached but reaffirmed its approval last week.

The settlement agreement outlines in many pages of legalese the interpretation of one paragraph of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act concerning the sharing of revenue by regional corporations. Revenues to be shared include timber and subsurface estate resources on corporations land.

Leo Merculief, chairman of the Aleut Board of Directors, said "The signing of this settlement agreement is viewed as the first step for all regional corporations to begin an era of cooperation, and development of land received pursuant to the terms of the Alaska Native

Claims Settlement Act.

"We hope the action of the Aleut Corporation encourages other regional corporations to approve this historic agreement."

As the individual corporations start meeting to ratify or disapprove the 7i settlement proposal, several village corporations have met to ask the regionals to delay signing until the villages can discuss the 7i agreement with them.

Many of the villages feel that potential money that is due them is being decided upon by the regional corporations.