



Representatives from the over 150 member organizations listen closely to reports on CEDC's activities at the Annual Membership Meeting.

Annual Meeting survey: The members evaluate CEDC

What are the top priorities for rural Alaskans, and how is CEDC meeting those needs? The board and the staff wanted to know. So at the CEDC Annual Membership Meeting last February each member representative was asked to complete a questionnaire.

The results of the questionnaire do not necessarily represent an accurate picture of the opinions of the entire CEDC membership, because the answers were from an unscientific sample and were not anonymous. They do, however, indicate CEDC strengths and weaknesses and how many of the members evaluate the priorities in their communities.

1. What is the major source of jobs in your community?

- 71% — Fishing
- 65% — School district
- 46% — Government

2. Since 1985, what type of projects have been developed in your community?

- 51% — New housing
- 45% — More reliance on subsistence economy
- 43% — Water and sewer
- 40% — New or expanded small businesses

3. By 1995, what projects would you like to see developed in your community?

- 57% — New or expanded small businesses
- 54% — New housing

4. What industry or new business would you like to see developed in your community?

- 74% — Tourism related services
- 66% — Arts and crafts

5. Approximately how long has your organization been a member of CEDC?

- 39% — 1-4 years
- 61% — 5-22 years

6. Which of the following services provided by CEDC has your organization used during the past year?

- 34% — Have not used any services during the past year
- 22% — MBDC — Business technical assistance
- 17% — BDF grant program
- 17% — RDLF — Low interest loans

7. Have you participated in any of CEDC's membership activities during the past year?

- 65% — Attended CEDC Annual Meeting, February, 1989
- 57% — Read the CEDC Newsletter
- 40% — Attended CEDC Workshops, February, 1989

8. How would you evaluate CEDC as an enterprise development corporation providing services in rural Alaska?

- 29% — Excellent
- 54% — Good

9. What type of organization do you think CEDC is?

- 77% — Non-profit member organization owning for-profit companies

10. What role do you think CEDC should play in the development of the industry you would like to see developed in your community?

- 83% — Technical assistance
- 69% — Financing
- 62% — Grantwriting
- 58% — Assist in economic development and planning
- 57% — Education and training in business
- 51% — Business problem solving
- 42% — Consulting in co-operative development



Major General John Schaeffer, Alaska Commissioner of Military and Veterans Affairs, is awarded the "President's Knife" by CEO Perry Eaton while Board Chairman Frank Stein applauds.



The members were addressed by Lt. Governor candidates Willie Hensley and Glenn "Tiny" Fredericks. Here Hensley enjoys a joke with newly elected CEDC Board member Ruth Richardson representing Bethel Native Corporation.



Attendees are absorbed in learning the skills of successful grant writing, another popular workshop at the CEDC Annual Membership Meeting.

11. In the next years, what enterprise development services do you think your organization will need?

- 66% — Grant monies
- 66% — Financing
- 65% — Business technical assistance
- 55% — Tourism development services
- 46% — Management training
- 40% — Entrepreneurial training

12. Why are you a member of CEDC?

- 66% — Use the services provided by CEDC
- 48% — Believe in the mission of CEDC
- 40% — Interested in the BDF grant program

13. Why do you attend the CEDC Annual Membership Meetings?

- 80% — Interested in what CEDC is doing in rural Alaska
- 77% — To learn about economic development projects in other rural communities
- 46% — Like the workshops and the speakers