

Rent survey targets Natives

Alaska Natives who have sought rental housing in Anchorage between the years 1984 and 1986 and have been discriminated against in the process are being asked to respond to a housing discrimination survey.

The 20-question survey is being sponsored by the Anchorage Community Housing Resources Board, a federally financed local agency that promotes fair housing.

There are several different organizations represented on the board, according to survey consultant Martha Upicksoun, an Alaska Native of Anchorage hired by the primary contractor, Bob McKnight.

They include the Alaska Human Rights Commission, the Anchorage Equal Rights Commission, Access Alaska, the Conflict Resolution Center, Alaska Legal Services, the Anchorage Board of Realtors and the Alaska Public Interest Research

Group.

"Alaska Natives might have been treated unfairly when they attempted to rent apartments in Anchorage," McKnight said.

"This study is trying to determine both the type of unfair treatment and the ethnic groups most affected. It is very important that Alaska Natives participate, even if the unfair treatment occurred two or three years ago," he added.

Those who feel they have been treated unfairly or unjustly in seeking Anchorage housing because they are Alaska Natives may obtain a survey by calling Upicksoun at 243-3895 in the evenings or leave a message at 243-7626.

A survey also may be obtained by writing to Upicksoun, Box 100540, Anchorage 99510 by the end of this month or early November.