

A report on Native hire stats at new ANMC site

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Recently, contractors and subcontractors on the ANMC Hospital Project, along with their participating unions, were provided recognition by Cook Inlet Tribal Council (CITC) for their exemplary efforts to maximize Alaska Native and American Indian employment opportunities.

These contractors have achieved and maintained high levels of native hire by using current Alaska Native and American Indian membership within the participating building and construction trade unions and they coordinate with CITC/TERO who serves as the Indian Preference provision monitor and coordinator for the project under a contract from the owners USPHS, Indian Health Service.

To assure that the requirement of qualified native workers is statewide, candidates from around the state are screened and referred directly to the participating unions by CITC's Tribal Employment Office and other regionally based Alaska Native Tribal employment and training entities affiliated as the Alaska Native Coalition for Employment and Training (ANCET).

Stressing a "partnering approach", this cooperative system has produced an Alaska Native and American Indian participation rate of 54 percent among the 20-25 contractors and subcontractors on the project overall. The monthly Alaska Native workforce has been over the 100 worker level since April 1994 and a new high of 147 was reached during the month of June 1995. The project is expected to peak during the 1995 construction season with the workforce expected to reach 300 skill trade workers.

The project's large Alaska Native workforce needs has created shortages of journeymen level workers in the building trade occupations. Qualified Alaska Natives wanting to be a part of building this facility are being urged to contact their building trade local,

CITC, or the regional non-profit employment and training service provider in their area for details.

The contractors and subcontractors recognized for their achievement, have led the way and each has exceeded the project overall average by a substantial degree. Those singled out for exemplary effort are listed along with the primary construction trade unions who work closely with CITC and other Alaska Native entities around the state to provide the Alaska Native and American Indian workers.

Ellis-Don Construction Co. Inc., The general contractor on the project has achieved and maintained a participation rate of 79 percent Alaska Native and American Indian skilled trade workers. (Carpenters Local # 1281, and laborer's Local # 341).

Gagnon Masonry, an American Indian owned and operated subcontractor doing the brick exterior for Ellis-Don Construction Co. Inc. has achieved and maintained a participation rate in excess of 90 percent Alaska Native and American Indian skilled trade workers. Hodcarriers are provided through Laborers Local # 341.

Fischbach & Moore Inc. and their Indian owned subcontractor, McLean Electric Inc., has achieved and maintained a participation rate of 82 percent Alaska Native and American Indian skilled trade workers. (IBEW Local # 1547).

W.A. Botting/Poole & Kent Co., J.V. mechanical subcontractor on the project averaged nearly 60 percent and employs the largest average number of individual Alaska Native and American Indian skilled trade workers on the project (27). (Plumbers & Steamfitters Local # 367).

In addition to the high percentage of Alaska Native and American Indian workers employed on the project, over 30 percent dollars available for subcontracts on the project has been awarded to Alaska Native/American Indian owned businesses or joint ventures. This is double the amount originally forecast by the general

contractor Ellis-Don Construction Co. Inc., and represents in excess of 23 million dollars worth of goods and services associated with the project.

Additional highlights of the ANMC Replacement Hospital Project

* Many Alaska Native and American Indian women are

working on the project as either journeymen or apprentice level workers and have been or are currently employed on the project as carpenters, laborers, sheet metal mechanics, plumbers, fitters insulators, electricians, and masons.

* Alaska Native foremen on the project include: carpenters, laborers, electricians, sheetmetal

mechanics, plumbers, fitters, and masons.

* Alaska Native/American Indian Engineers, and Superintendents work for the following companies on the ANMC project: Ellis-Don Construction Co. Inc.; W.A. Botting/Poole & Kent Co., J.V.; USPHS/IHS Resident Engineers