

Clarence Alexander, chairman

Yukon Flats villages form tribal council

Representatives from nine villages in the Yukon Flats area met earlier this month in Fort Yukon and formed the Council of Athabascan Tribal Governments.

Participating in the meetings were Paul Williams and Earl Adams of Beaver; Betty and Henry Wiehl of Rampart; Robert Joseph of Stevens Village; Stanley Jonas and Susan James of Birch Creek; Wayne Williams and Peter Druck of Chalkyitsik; Norman Carroll of Circle; John Titus of Venetie; and Jonathon Solomon, Clarence Alexander, Ron Solomon, Mary Beth Solomon, Sarah Knudson and Pat Stanley, all of Fort Yukon.

The purpose of the Council of Athabascan Tribal Governments is to:

- Conserve and protect tribal land and resources.
 - Encourage and support tribal self-government.
 - Urge and support economic development for the Yukon Flats area.
- Interim officers are Clarence Alexander, chairman; Earl Adams, vice-chairman; and Susan James, secretary-treasurer.

In addition to forming the council, resolutions were addressed by the group, including:

- Tanana Chiefs Conference recognition and support of the council.
- Support for Haskell Indian Junior College as an Indian organization.
- Support for the state Power Cost Equalization Program.
- Support of fur industry development in the Yukon Flats area.
- Opposition to the implementation of a Bureau of Indian Affairs initiative to charge tuition at BIA schools.
- Support of Gwandak Public Broadcasting Inc. to apply for a public radio station construction grant.
- TCC technical assistance to strengthen tribal government by promoting economic development.
- Support for membership in the Alaska Native Coalition.
- Support for the Rural Alaska Community Action Program.
- Opposition to the opening of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge until further hearings are held.
- Support for Birch Creek village efforts to comply with federal water quality standards by placer miners.



Interim officers are, from left, Earl Adams, vice chairman; Susan James, secretary-treasurer; and Clarence Alexander, chairman.

- Support for Birch Creek village efforts to establish a specialized tourism industry as an economic development project.

Those who want additional information concerning the Council of

Athabascan Tribal Governments may contact Clarence Alexander in care of the Native Village of Fort Yukon, Box 126, Fort Yukon 99740; or call 662-2581.