



Integrity, Pride in Heritage, Progress

AFN, Inc.

670 W. Fireweed

Anchorage, Alaska 99503

NEWSLETTER

Officers:

President — Sam Kito
 Chairman of the Board — Jack Wick
 Vice Chairman — Ted Angasan
 Secretary — Carl Moses
 Treasurer — Jim LaBelle

Vol. 3, No. 41

Wednesday, November 19, 1975

Anchorage, Alaska

OVERALL UNIFICATION OF FISHERIES POSED

Subject Discussed at
AFN Convention

The Technical Assistance Department held a meeting during the AFN, Inc. Convention regarding interest in an overall unification plan of the Fisheries Industry related to Native Involvement.

Representatives from 15 village corporations, representing seven regional corporations attended and expressed a desire to create a state-wide Native Fishery Organization.

A meeting for the development of this plan will be held mid-December.

The first day of the three day meeting will include formulating an agenda, establishment of a panel or board to further develop the organization and general discussion. Possible topics to be considered include marketing, volume, location, management,

plant utilization/construction, training, etc.

Also the development of a possible organizational structure will be obtained.

All interested persons are welcome to attend this meeting to express views and comments and become a part of this worthwhile venture.

More information may be obtained by contacting Mac Davis, Director, or Fred Chernikoff, Fisheries Specialist, Technical Assistance, 274-3611 ext. 234 or 325.

Berry, JOM Director
And Diane Burgin
Attend NIEA Meet

Frank Berry, JOM Director, and Diane Burgin, Education Officer, attended the 7th Annual National Indian Education Association Conference held November 6-8 in Oklahoma City.

Mr. Berry reported that the Conference had over 2,000 participants, all of whom were in some way connected with Indian Education.

Various workshops and sessions were held throughout the day dealing with such topics as: Early Childhood Development, Special Education; Bilingual Education; and Education for Incarcerated Indians.

Mr. Berry felt that the Conference had great possibilities, but that there was a lack of coordination and pre-planning in that some important workshops were scheduled for the same time, for example; the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act coinciding with the Johnson O'Malley Act.

Mr. Berry also noted that a number of the participants were discouraged because many of the important speakers did not attend, as indicated on the initial agenda.

An important movement within the NIEA is the development of the student faction. This year for the first time 5 students were elected to the Executive Committee of the NIEA.

A number of other important issues also came to light at the Conference. Most apparent of these was the recognized need for a lobbyist for Indian Education to be located in Washington, D.C.

The over-riding feeling was that the importance of Indian

Education was decreasing in the eyes of the U.S. Government and that funding is becoming more difficult to receive.

A number of Alaskans associated with Indian Education were in attendance, including: Representatives from Tanana Chiefs Conference; Representatives from Southeast; Elaine Ramos, Sheldon Jackson College; Eric Ekvall, Alaska Native Foundation; and Representatives from AFN, Inc.

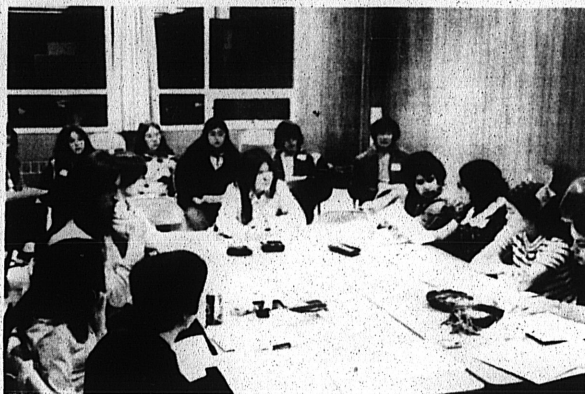
A Pow-Wow was held on the final night of the Conference with 500-600 people in attendance. Various dancers from lower 48 Indian tribes performed for the audience, although there were no Alaskan dancers Mr. Berry felt it would have added a variety to the performance.

AEDO, SBA, UA
In Accounting
Seminar

The Alaskan Economic Development Office (AEDO) in conjunction with Small Business Administration and the University of Alaska, Anchorage, is in the process of developing an Accounting Seminar for small businesses.

The Seminar will be designed to introduce owners and top managers of small business to accounting records and how they can be useful.

Further information will be disseminated as soon as the Seminar has been firmed up as to date and location.



WORKING ON THE BY-LAWS Left to right, AFN Youth Council member, Manuel Floresta, Clark's Point; Mary Walker, Holy Cross; an interested student, Jan Burgess, Treasurer, Hydaburg; Melvin Coghill, Dillingham; Aneisha Angasa, Naknek; Linda Dewitt, Wrangell; Karen Eddy, secretary, Sitka; Theresa Brandon, President of Cook Inlet Native Association's Susitna Youth Center Anchorage; and Vickie Burgess, President, Hydaburg. Missing members from the group are Steve Johnson, Vice-President, Angoon; Ida Bergamashi, Wrangell; Curtis Yaska, Fairbanks; Gwen Anakick, Unalakleet; John Heyano, Dillingham; Anna Friendly, Bethel; and Sherrie Moses, Fairbanks. Back row, Johanna Sava, Chaparrone for three unidentified students from So. Makner. Fourth from left is Violet Angasan, Anchorage; last one in back row on right, Tom McIntyre, Eek, interested student.

Board members have learned by practical experience the numerous problems that came up in attempting to carry out some of these suggestions. A large widespread representation is extremely difficult to organize and to work out communication details.

Communication, getting the information across, is the biggest hassle in organizing and getting the young people together.

A newsletter was suggested as one tool. An incentive for becoming a staff member was mentioned as something to think over — college credit to be given in journalism to this person for being a correspondent.

The need for a central place for interested youth become apparent. Presently, they have no key place to go to get or disperse information but must deal with many separate organizations such as Special Services, Housing and Welfare, State Boarding Home Program, Alaska Student Higher Education Services, Cook Inlet Native Association's Career Development Program, Johnson O'Malley Program, and the Indian Education Program.

All these programs deal with separate problem areas. The AFN Youth Council could conceivably work as a referral agency for these programs. They are also in a position to make suggestions and plans of action for services not presently offered to young consumers of educational services.

Young education consumers have definite ideas as to the type of education they want. They definitely want something in the area of a Native Studies degree or an Indian Education degree.

They also expressed a need for more meaningful programs for career development. Some young graduates find out too late that their education was not geared for the job they expected to get after completion of their

miseducation.

They find by practical experience that they need to explore long-term programs, so they would not be left floundering as to what they can do when they complete their education.

A concrete program for career development is a strong must for them. They want learning along with practical experience, such as the Co-Operative Education model, Universal Year in Action, and early involvement in the Rural University.

They already envision the Rural University with Alaska Natives on their staff.

As the President, Vickie Burgess, said, "A good curriculum with a goal in mind for the Native student is an area we need to concentrate on. This does not mean either Anchorage or Fairbanks or even out-of-state, but in his or her village if that student feels he can learn more — say in his language — or in a local job."

Young people today seem to feel this way about education. "We can only take what is available. What does this amount to? Acculturation may be the main goal of many educators but we feel that if we had our alternate education system it would be for our lifestyle."

The alternate survival schools is a good start but we also need to get more involved in a rural university education as well as better preparation in high schools."



In Scotland long ago to bite your glove was considered a pledge of deadly vengeance.

By NANCY BRELSFORD
 Self-Determination is a growing quality among most of the Alaska Native youth.

The passage of PL 93-638, the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, opens the door for them to gain Native control over Native programs in areas which directly touch them, such as health, education, and other human resources programs.

Their self-determined goal is to have the right to voice how certain programs in health, education, and human resources programs affect them as consumers.

This desire for self-determination created the formation of the Alaska Federation of Natives Youth Council which met initially on May 2-3, 1975 at Alaska Methodist University, Anchorage. The Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc., has supported the idea of Native youth's ideas, suggestions and actions.

A temporary executive board of the Alaska Federation of Natives Youth Council met in Anchorage, October 22, 1975, and drafted their by-laws. Their resolution was subsequently passed by the Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc., Board of Directors, October 24, 1975.

They met the challenge of forming a youth group. Now they are finding out what it needs to keep it going and to ensure its success. They are planning to do something about the emerged needs.

Presently, there is a temporary executive board servicing the group until a general election to be held sometime in May. This youth convention would hopefully include a representative from all the Native villages as well as the larger, urban centers.

The priority for the Council is to increase youth membership. Student interest in the formation of the Council has been high because the young people feel that it gives them a voice.

Before this Council, various agencies representing youth affairs have gone to the youth and said "Here's our program." The Council's main job is to get student/youth input for various issues affecting their education, or lack of it.

Last year, many suggestions for research and possible action were offered by the young participants. Here is a partial list:

1. Native Studies degree and/or Indian Education degree.
2. Adequate housing, transportation for students.
3. Career development for high school students and employment referral.

After the board members were elected last May for the purpose of drafting the by-laws, several members were asked to attend at their own cost. Representation by many of these towns and villages will be a problem due to transportation costs.