

Native Co-op Managers After Education Program

Thirteen Alaskans, most of them managers of successful village cooperatives, will attend an intensive four week education program at the Western Cooperative College in Saskatoon, Canada.

The course, sponsored by the Community Enterprise Development Corporation of Anchorage, covers various areas of co-op activity, including concepts of management, adult education and cooperative bookkeeping and finances. Participants will have an opportunity to visit a number of nearby co-ops and learn from their experiences; Saskatchewan province has the most extensive and highly developed cooperative network in Canada.

The eleven men and two women who will attend this fall's course have been selected from fishery, consumer and arts-and-crafts cooperatives and from several government agencies.

They come from all over Western and Central Alaska.

Nels Franklin is the manager of the Manokotak Village Residents Co-op; Luther Nagrauk the manager of the Bering Sea Fish-

eries Co-op; Philip Guy the Regional Director of RurALCAP for Bethel and an organizer of the new Bethel Consumer Co-op;

Robert Nick a field support specialist for the Community Enterprise Development Corporation; Edna Ayek from the Emergency Food and Medical Program in Anchorage, Jacob Phillip the bookkeeper of the Akiachak Co-op,

Sylvester Ayek the manager of the Neuvaneavik-Hoonda Kahit Co-op, Thomas Menadelook the manager of Inupiat Arts and Crafts, Ind., in Teller, Richard Ketzler a member of the Koyukon Regional Development Board which has plans to establish a timber cooperative;

Gabriel Payenna from the King Island Carvers Association, Jacob Johnson and Bill Quinlaven the manager and bookkeeper of the Yukon Delta Fish Marketing Co-op, and Anna Sipary a VISTA Associate in Tookluk Bay who is investigating the possibility of starting a basket weaving co-op in her area.

The Western Cooperative Col-

lege is operated by the Canadian Federation of Cooperatives and provides basic training in necessary skills for co-op staff and members. Co-op personnel come to the college from all over the world—from Africa, Asia and Latin America as well as from the United States and Canada.

The college has developed a special training program for Canadian Eskimos and Indians; a group of Canadian Eskimo co-op leaders will be studying in Saskatoon at the same time as their Alaskan counterparts.

Last winter the C.E.D.C. set up a similar program at Western Cooperative College, in which eight Alaskan men and women participated.

Follow-up for this training

course has recently been completed and has proven very successful. Three W.C.C. faculty members came to Anchorage in September to conduct a one-week management training course and then traveled around the

state working directly with co-op managers and Boards of Directors in their own locations.

The same kind of on-the-spot training will eventually be provided for the graduates of the course beginning next week.