

Alaska Federation of Natives 1995 Awards

ROGER LANG YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARD

Samantha L. Ross
Steve Ginnis, II

CULTURE BEARER AWARD

Eileen E. Ewan
Clinton Swan and
his wife Charlotte

EDUCATION AWARD

Edna Ahgeak MacLean

PARENTS OF THE YEAR

Joseph & Lona Swan

PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

Samuel Simmonds

SMALL BUSINESS AWARD

Elia & Myrtle Anelon

HEALTH AWARD

Alicia N. Roberts

DELLA KEATS

"HEALING HANDS" AWARD

Clara "Ikiiyaq" Oyoumick

Heard at the 1995 AFN Convention

"I am going to take the liberty to share with you my tribe's unfortunate experience with outside developers for there are parallels to be drawn to your situation today.

"I share this because last June the AFN Executive Board voted to approve a resolution in support of oil and gas drilling on the coastal plane of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. I was deeply troubled by this decision for I know personally what a pro-development stance cost me, my family and my tribe. Though, first let me say I believe it is reprehensible to try and balance the budget by risking damage to the environment, the wildlife and traditional ways of some villages. There are better ways to balance the budget than risk that which is sacred and pristine.

"I have talked to the people from Kaktovik and from Arctic Village and I've listened to their stories. And I've talked to people after the vote who were uncomfortable

about being forced to take a side. It is apparent that this consensus was not evident."

~ Assistant Secretary Ada Deer

Dept. of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs

"Our forefathers did not have welfare, they had each other.

"We are tired of the BIA taking our money for their pay increases.

"We have proven that we Natives can run programs without layers and layers watching over us.

"From time immemorial, our people have changed with the times.

"Self-reliance is a relative term. Reliance on others is not only necessary, it results in a better way of living for all of us."

~ Edward Thomas, President

Tlingit & Haida Central Council

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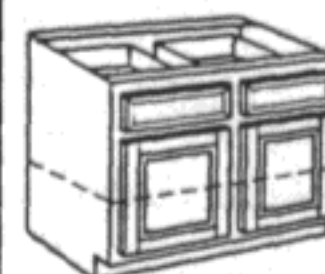
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