

DeGross departs ANHB after 7 years' leadership

The Alaska Native Health Board has announced the departure of Denny DeGross, executive director of ANHB for seven years.

DeGross will leave the statewide Native health agency March 15.

DeGross's tenure at ANHB saw great changes in Alaska Native health services, many brought about by direct action of ANHB, which was created in 1968.

From a staff of two and no projects in 1984, ANHB increased to a staff of 12 by 1990, with projects currently being conducted in AIDS prevention, Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, hazardous materials management and Native health careers.

Major projects completed between 1984 and 1990 include policy studies on topics such as suicide, alcohol abuse and rural health needs.

DeGross and ANHB also urged the Indian Health Service and the Alaska Congressional Delegation to replace the Alaska Native Medical Center, located on Third Avenue in Anchorage. The center has provided care services to Alaska Natives since the



Denny DeGross

early 1950s and is slated to be replaced sometime in 1995 by a new facility to be located on Tudor Road.

John Jemewouk, ANHB chairman, said ANHB appreciates DeGross's "solid performance."

A replacement has not yet been announced.