

Calista shift before meeting

By NANCY HARVEY

A three day Board of Directors meeting in Anchorage has resulted in a top level management change at Calista Corporation. Martin Moore, president of the corporation, has been replaced by Oscar Kawagley as head of the Bethel area regional corporation.

Kawagley, former executive director of the region's non-profit corporation, Yupiktak Bista, has more recently been directing Eskatech, an earth science consulting and technology firm, which is a Calista subsidiary. Also actively involved in education, Kawagley has served as the state boarding home supervisor and as director of the Indian Education Program for the Anchorage School District.

According to Kawagley, who is acting president for an unspecified amount of time, the change in leadership was made to give the corporation a more positive image. And, more changes are possible when shareholders hold their annual meeting December 10 in Bethel.

Four board members, including Vice-President of Finance Fred Notti, are up for re-election. Besides Notti, other incumbent candidates include Showalter Smith, Henry Roberts and Phillip Guy. Altogether, 24 shareholders have declared their candidacy for the four director slots.

Martin Moore, who came on board as Calista president less than a year ago, contends he was not fired from the presidency but is on a leave of absence. He did not say, however, whether the decision to take the leave was made by himself or the board of directors. The ultimate decision on who will lead the corporation will be made when the new board of directors meets after the shareholders meeting.

The top level change in Calista may have been influenced at least in part by difficulties the corporation is having in financing additions to its Anchorage Sheraton Hotel project. Construction of the hotel has been halted for several weeks and may not resume until after Christmas.