

# Kawerak to begin work on strategy

Kawerak Inc., the regional non-profit corporation serving the Nome area, will begin its work on the development of a long-range planning program for the Bering Straits Region with a meeting April 16 in Nome.

The meeting will choose an Interim Advisory Committee to direct the planning process until a formal steering committee is approved.

Caleb Pungowiya, Kawerak President, said objectives of the planning process include the establishment of economic development policies, projects appropriate for and consistent with local needs and conditions, and mechanisms for coordinating local, state and federal plans and proposed economic projects and preparing and updating a regional data base.

The Regional Strategy is funded by the Alaska Department of Community and Regional Affairs.

Pungowiya states firmly that, "The Bering Straits Regional Strategy meets Gov. Bill Sheffield's goals of encouraging local governments to determine their own needs and priorities and of long-range strategic planning.