Native women to convene

A statewide conference for all Alaska Native women will be held in Anchorage on May 10, 11, and 12, at Alaska Pacific University (formerly Alaska Methodist University).

The Task Force created at the AFN Convention in October has been working on funding and informing people about the convention. Volunteers are helping to provide housing in Anchorage for women from throughout the state, and working on different projects. Some of these include developing a 30-minute program for satellite television telling about the convention and the concerns of a diverse group of Native women; having fund raising activities to pay for convention attendance; seeking financial assistance for convention expenses such as speaker travel, agenda printing, etc.

The convention is for all Alaska Native women and will attempt to address the concerns of women from all cultural groups and regions.

Many issues will be discussed at the convention, including the statewide organization to be created, violence against Alaska Native women, culture shock, subsistence, employment, child care, changing roles of Native men and women, assertiveness training, and others. The Alaska Federation of Natives Board has passed a resolution concerning violence against Alaska Native women, demonstrating their concern about this vital issue.

Any questions about the convention can be addressed to AFN, 274-3611. Those wishing to register, call 272-8055 in Anchorage.