

# Bethel conference aimed at development

Dr. George Kanahele of the Honolulu-based Hawaii Entrepreneurship Training and Development Institute will be the keynote speaker for a two-day conference Friday and Saturday in Bethel.

The regional economic development conference, sponsored by the Kuskokwim Community College and the Bureau of Indian Affairs, will be held at the VFW Hall in Bethel.

The first day will focus on the general principles of economic development, and the second day will be for technical assistance. The main audience will be village officials, but the conference is open to anyone at no charge.

Kanahele has been involved in economic development for more than 20 years. Most of his experience is as a private businessman, but for the past 10 years, he has worked in entrepreneurship training and development with people from subsistence based cultures in the United States, Guam, American Samoa, New Zealand and Canada.

Kanahele's philosophy of entrepreneurship is based on fostering traditional values as the foundation of economic development.

Among other speakers will be:

- Dee Olin Hoffman of Ruby, economic consultant and publisher of the *Interior Job Finder* and David Marshall of Aniak, economist and president of Marshall & Associates.

- Dale Fox, executive director of the Alaska Visitor's Association in Anchorage; Alexie Pleasant of Qanirtuuq Corp. in Quinhagak; Bill Peratrovich of Prince of Wales Island Tours of Klawock.

- Sam Lamabull, owner of Lamabull's Lodge and co-organizer of the Gambell Ivory Cooperative in Anchorage.

- Rodger Painter, executive director of the Alaska Mariculture Association in Juneau.

- Billy Morgan Sr., president of the Aniak Traditional Council; and Tim Myers, Bethel entrepreneur.

- A representative from the Alkali Lake Indian Band in British Columbia, Canada, who will discuss the economic benefits of sobriety.

- Larry Merculieff, director of the Office of Enterprise.

- Dan Morgan of the BIA in Juneau.

- Claude Demientieff Jr., special assistant to the president of the Community Enterprise Development Corp.

- Mike Harper, director of the Rural Development Division of the Department of Community and Regional Affairs; and Arvin Dull, manager of the Bethel Branch of the First National Bank of Anchorage.

- Dr. Lin Laughy, president of the

Kuskokwim Community College.

- Dave Pearson of the Fairbanks Native Association/Native Business Center; and Janet Nye of the Small Business Development Center in Anchorage.

- Steven Constantino, Bethel attorney.

- Sudy Sanders, owner of Innovative Record Services in Anchorage.

- Elston Laueson, statewide economic development coordinator for the Department of Community and Regional Affairs.

The conference begins at 8:30 a.m. Friday and ends that day after a group discussion at 7:30 p.m. Sessions start at 9 a.m. on Saturday and end after closing remarks at 4:45 p.m.

Co-sponsors of the conference in-

clude the Bethel Chamber of Commerce, the Association of Village Council Presidents, the Small Business Development Center and the Fairbanks Native Association/Native Business Center.

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