

AFN Board hosts reception for governor, Legislature

The AFN Board of Directors held their annual reception for state legislators in Juneau on February 12, culminating two days of meetings with Gov. Steve Cowper, key commissioners in the new administration and Bush Caucus members.

The Land Claims Board of AFN heard reports on navigability and submerged lands by Don Mitchell, a legislative issues report by Sam Kito and the dispute over opening the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge coastal plain to oil and gas exploration and development.

Board members also met with state commissioners Rocky Gutierrez of the Department of Transportation; Judy Brady of Natural Resources; Dennis Kelso of Environmental Conservation and Tony Smith of Commerce and Economic Development.

The Human Resources Board discussed its legislative priorities for this year, both on the state and federal level. In addition, they had discussions with commissioners David Hoffman of Community and Regional Affairs, Myra Munson of the state Department of Health and Social Services, and Jake Lestenkof, area director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The Statewide Village Board continued its discussion of primary issues that board members thought might provide a focus for AFN's newest board. Among the possible issues to be taken up by the SVB are: the distribution of clear and concise information about the 1991 amendment package currently before the Congress, and how the amendments would affect residents of Alaska Native villages; economic development;

ANCSA implementation issues; enhancing local government control; and subsistence.

Action taken by the Statewide Village Board included the

resolution passed by AFN convention delegates in 1986 in support of the Alaska Native Leadership Project.

The 1991 Steering Committee,
