

Letters from Here and There

Community Museum

October 12, 1973

Dear Editor:

In the last issue of the Tundra Times you announced the publication by Kate Duncan on initiating a "Community Museum." It is an excellent bit of work and I highly recommend it. However, it may give the impression that there is not too much training required to administer a museum properly. In Alaska, with our rich archaeological sites, a museum (with hotel accommodations, good presentations, etc.) in a small community can attract many tourists. The profit to the community can far exceed the income a few get by selling precious artifacts piecemeal — which incidentally is contrary to State and Federal Law. But for a museum to preserve, catalog, maintain and utilize these things requires that you have an administrator trained in archaeology, history, museum science and office administration.

For over a year, I have advocated not only a regional policy for the protection of archaeological sites, but a two-year training program for Native technicians. A two-year program could train them to operate a museum properly, but also leave the graduates the option of going into historical - anthropological research or private business. Perhaps now it is time for Native corporations to pick up the ball and run with it — by providing funding for a limited number of training programs so that if the community has a museum, it can really be a benefit to all the people.

Kate Duncan's booklet is a good start, but trained personnel can carry out her ideas to the long-term benefit of the communities.

Yours truly,
Wally Olson
Asst. Professor of
Anthropology
Juneau-Douglas
Community College

More About Claims Act

7th & 8th Bilingual Class
Allakaket School
Allakaket, Alaska 99720

To Everyone who's concerned:

This is about the letter "Getting Involved" by James Huntington. We read the letter by James Huntington. Where did you get the Education?

We would like to know more about Land Claims Act. How else would we get involved if we don't know anything about it.

We hope we don't stay home and eat of mom and dad's table. We have to learn to make our own living, so help us now, to learn more about the Land Claims Act.

We'd like to go to Fairbanks to tour the Doyon Limited and Tanana Chiefs Offices and the staffs who are working in person.

We would like to see how they work The Boarding Home Program, since most of our students go through there and we will be the next ones to go.

And we would like to see what they are working on. But due to lack of funds we couldn't go as everyone knows or does anyone have the time to show us these things that are valuable

to us.

The total weight of 13 of us is 702 pounds in case you are trying to figure out how big airplane to send.

Henry Williams
Christine Williams
Sally Sam
Morris Bergman
Sharon Williams
Emily Bergman
Rudy Moses
David David Jr.
Chuck Edwards
Valerie Williams
Catherine M. Henzie
Lindberg Bergman

Stickman: I'm Also Out of Oil

Nulato, Alaska
Nov. 21, 1973

Dear Friend Mr. Howard Rock:

Well, I see where Ugashik and Pilot Point ran out of fuel. How about Fred Stickman here at Nulato? I bought 13 drums of fuel oil, 2 drums of gas and a case of lubricating oil from Standard Oil Co. of California, two months before freeze-up time. I didn't get my order and I don't get my money back yet. Maybe National Guard will haul it.

Anyway I'm able to haul wood yet and buy oil from the Mission here, but when you have to keep house for yourself, wash clothes, cook, water and wood, etc. It's miserable. I also had cabin fever, started to be an alcoholic, lazy to get up, till I got a job on the new school. After I got to work, got in shape, they closed the job down. I worked 20 days and felt like a new man. Quit alcohol for 20 days.

I'm still living in the same house that was built before I was born. Unalakleet, Kalfag, Holy Cross, they have all running water, new houses, etc. Nulato, Alaska, nothing.

I'm still drinking Yukon River muddy water. Too lazy to go to Nulato River. Also too far for me.

I haven't got anything from the Land Claims Settlement. So I am starting a new corporation. The name: Gains Group of Alaskan for Individual Native Settlement, Stickman, President. Maybe we'll have some action then. Then young fellows president like Doyon, Tanana Chief, Fairbanks Native, etc., all they're doing up there is sitting down talking and answering the phones. They have no time to talk to me as a visitor from Nulato. I feel sorry for them.

That's why I'm writing this letter. What they're going to be

at 66 years old. I'm still working 6 days a week, 9 hours a day, all for tax, manual labor not sitting behind the desk answering telephones. Where is physical condition? They have to have more hospitals for them.

Fred Stickman, Sr.