

Edgecumbe hospital evaluation

The Southeast Alaska Regional Health Corporation, the Native non-profit agency providing health services in Southeast Alaska, announced the award of a \$100,000 contract to the Anchorage office of Ernst and Whinney, a "big eight" financial services firm with extensive experience in hospital finance and marketing.

The contract will assist SEARHC in the analysis and evaluation of the Mt. Edgecumbe Service Unit Hospital in Sitka.

SEARHC intends to produce a definitive feasibility study to enable their Board of Directors to reach an understanding of the problems and potential for improved services that will accompany a transfer of the Hospital and its \$13 million budget to SEARHC management.

Under Public Laws 93-638 and 94-437, Native health corporations may elect to assume responsibility for delivery of health services presently managed by the Indian Health Service.

The study is expected to take seven months to complete.