

Yupik corporation receives loan for snowgos

The Nunakauiak Yupik Corporation of Toksook Bay has received a \$150,000 loan from First National Bank of Anchorage for the purchase of 63 Polaris and Skidoo snowmachines.

Toksook Bay is a small village located approximately 120 miles west of Bethel on Nelson Island. The population of the village is about 400. Situated in a mostly barren area of rocky hills, the Toksook Bay community counts on dependable snowmachine transportation for subsistence hunting during the winter months.

With the First National loan, Nunakauiak Yupik Corporation will be able to offer snowmachines for sale to residents for upcoming winter seal hunting along the coast, or for trips to nearby villages for

supplies and visits with family and friends.

"Snow machines are real important to our lives here," said Alexie Jimmie, General Manager of Nunakauiak Yupik Corporation. "In winter, if a person didn't have a snow machine they would have to stay in the village. They wouldn't be able to hunt or travel to other villages for things like groceries, hardware or potlatches. Many families have three or four so the whole family can travel together."

Arvin Dull, First National Bank's Kuskokwim branch manager, said the Nunakauiak Yupik Corporation is a very good customer and he was happy to help put the loan together for them.

"The corporation is involved with the aviation industry, retail

sales, and commercial real estate," Dull said. "This is another way they are looking to serve their community. It is a pleasure to do business with them."