

# AFN CELEBRATES TENTH ANNIVERSARY

This week's front page might suggest that the Alaska Native Claims Act has been repealed and the AFN is repeating the efforts of the Native Land Claims

struggle.

The stories on page one this week are reprinted from Tundra Times' coverage of the birth of the AFN 10 years ago this

month and commemorate the event in this special AFN Convention issue.

Selected photos from the files of the Tundra Times and

other sources as credited highlight major events of the past decade and the role of the Alaska Native leadership on the page 6 and 7 photo page.

Serialization of the ALASKA NATIVE LAND CLAIMS textbook scheduled to begin with this issue has been delayed until the Nov. 10 issue.

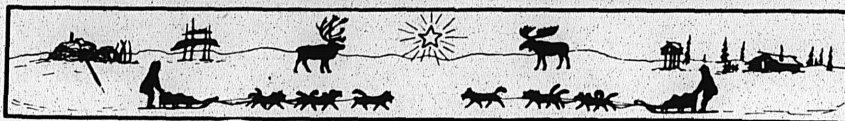
## Tundra Times

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Inupiat Paitot People's Heritage

Den Nena Henash Our Land Speaks

Unanguq Tunuktauq The Aleuts Speak



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# STATEWIDE NATIVE UNITY ACHIEVED AT CONFERENCE



## Land Act Drawn Up By Delegates At Anchorage Meet

Alaska's Native leaders are hopeful of quick Congressional action on their proposed legislation giving the U. S. Court of Claims jurisdiction over Native land claims.

Support of the act has been given by incumbent Governor William Egan and GOP gubernatorial candidate Walter Hickel.

Although many of the key leaders realize the extent of the problems to be ironed out by the Court of Claims, especially in regards to lands claimed by Natives but already sold to a third party, they are certain that fast action by Congress will protect all parties until the Court of Claims can begin hearings.

Legal advice on the wording of the Act was worked out by attorneys hired by various Native Associations but the content of the Act was worked out in the Land Claims Committee of the Statewide Native Conference by the leaders themselves.

## Historic Meet to Continue into Weekend

The historic Anchorage meeting of more than 200 Alaskan Native leaders will continue into the weekend, according to sources in Anchorage. Flore Lekanof, Aleut from the Pribilof Islands now residing in Fairbanks, was

yesterday voted acting chairman of the meeting.

Nick Gray, a founder of the Cook Inlet Native Association was named honorary chairman.

(continued on page four)

## Political Power One Purpose Of Organization

The largest gathering of Native leaders ever held in Alaska ended in Anchorage last weekend with the formation of a statewide Native organization.

There were few dissenting voices heard against the action according to the new group's chairman Flore Lekanof and representatives for each of the organized Native associations throughout the state spoke in favor of the move.

Lekanof, a Pribilovian now living in Fairbanks, said the group was "primarily to exert political pressure."

The chairman said the organization would be non-partisan.

"We will support the people who support our programs."

The 22-member board of directors will probably meet two weeks before the state legislature opens, Lekanof said.

"We already have a commitment from Alfred Fothergill, temporary director of the Alaska State Community Action Program, that transportation costs of the board will be paid under the Grassroots Program."

Lekanof said the action to form the statewide organization

(continued on page four)

## Politicians Woo Native Leaders

By Howard Rock  
Tundra Times Editor

Anchorage (SPECIAL)—The statewide Native convention being held here this week got front page newspaper coverage all over the state and the 250 delegates received VIP treatment from politicians running for election in November.

The stellar treatment the delegates received led chairman Emil Notti to remark, "one good thing about this conference is that you don't have to spend money for meals."

The remark was made after all the delegates were hosted at dinners and luncheons by political groups. On the first day of the conference Governor William Egan gave a luncheon hosted by Mike Gravel, speaker of the State House of Representatives.

That same night Republican Sen. Howard Pollock, candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives, hosted a buffet dinner for the delegates.

At noon Wednesday Sen. E. L. (Bob) Bartlett gave a luncheon for conference members in the ballroom of the Anchorage-Westward Hotel and at noon Thursday, Rep. Ralph Rivers hosted a luncheon. That night the First National Bank of Anchorage hosted a dinner at the Captain Cook Hotel.

Today Walter Hickel, Republican gubernatorial candidate, was the host for a dinner banquet.

The political wooing of the largest gathering of Native leaders ever held in Alaska.

(continued on page four)

## Native Leaders Set Down Policies

EDITOR'S NOTE: Following is the complete text of the policy statement of the Statewide Native Conference on Land. The statement was prepared by delegates to the conference held in Anchorage last week and was approved by all 250 Native leaders present.

### POLICY STATEMENT OF THE STATEWIDE NATIVE CONFERENCE ON LAND

In the recent past the Eskimos, Indians, and Aleuts had undisturbed possession of all of Alaska, but the encroachment of an alien civilization has reduced the customary use and enjoyment of our land and threatens the continuation of our culture.

Treaties and laws of the United States and Russia were passed to protect the rights of Natives to our lands, but these measures have over the years been ineffectively enforced. It has now become necessary for the Native people of Alaska to make a determined stand to protect what is rightfully ours.

THEREFORE, the first statewide conference of Alaska Natives seeks legislation in the Congress of the United States as follows:

1. To seek legislation granting jurisdiction to the United States Court of Claims to render judgment in any and all

(continued on page five)

# LAND CLAIM SOLUTION PROPOSED BY NATIVES

Alaskan Native leaders, meeting in Anchorage yesterday, decided to ask Congress to enact legislation giving the U. S. Court of Appeals jurisdiction in settling land claims against the United States.

According to Stanley McCutcheon, Anchorage attorney for the oil-rich Tyonek

Indians of Cook Inlet, who are hosting the meeting, "All land claims will be made against the United States, which had original jurisdiction in land disposal. Where there is a conflict between the Natives and the State of Alaska over land areas, it will still be the responsibility of the United States to

resolve the problem."

William Hensley of Kotzebue, a candidate for the State House of Representatives in the November election, was named chairman of the land committee by the assembled delegates.

In its recommendations to Congress the group asks

(continued on page four)