

Lang Resigns AFN Post

Roger Lang ended weeks of speculation by submitting his resignation as President of the Alaska Federation of Natives April 18. Lang took action at a meeting of the board of directors of AFN in Kotzebue.

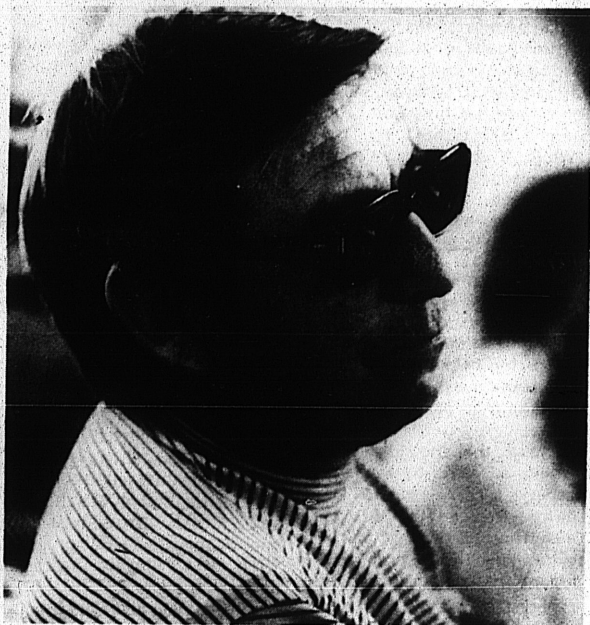
In an interview with Tundra Times, Lang said there is "never a good time to quit" but expressed satisfaction that most of the goals set at the beginning of his tenure nearly two years ago had been accomplished.

Lang said he will be moving back to Sitka to run a small business and "go fishing, go trolling".

Although Lang's resignation will be effective June 1, he said it does not mean he will be turning his back on the cause that has involved him for the last eight years. "One way or another, I'll keep my finger in the Native movement," he said.

Lang suggested there would probably be some administrative changes at AFN in the wake of his departure, but he stressed that his successor would inherit "one fine bunch of people" and a "financially viable outfit".

Lang lauded the unity and capability that Alaska Native have shown in meeting problems



ROGER LANG

created after the passage of the land claims act. He expressed distress that the state and federal governments have not shown

more interest or ability in helping solve Native problems.

Lang said although many people

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outside the Native movement thought AFN would fold up after passage of the land claims act, the need to be constantly vigilant of government bureaucracy in the delivery of social services has assured AFN a place in the affairs of the state.

"It boggles the mind to think of the potential of AFN," he said.

Lang said the vigilance pays off when dealing with legislators.

"When we come down and put the crunch down like in the old days, they're amazed."

He added that his job has been made easy by a board of directors that has been "above petty battles" and realized the danger of separation.