

Chugach Alaska Corp. continues substantial growth

After a close encounter with financial disaster, Chugach Alaska Corp. is continuing its dramatic climb to profitability. The company is especially proud of its management of the Alaska Job Corps Center in Palmer, but three other long-term management contracts worth \$93.5 million aren't too shabby, either.

Chugach Alaska, through its subsidiaries Chugach Development Corp. and Chugach Engineering Inc., has entered into contracts to provide military base operations services and environmental services consisting of:

- a two-year contract with four two-year renewal options to maintain base infrastructure at Wake Island in the mid-Pacific;
- a five-year contract in joint venture with the Andrews Group to maintain military family housing at Fort Richardson, Fort Wainwright and Fort Greely; and
- a contract to provide environmen-

tal cleanup and soil remediation services for British Petroleum in Cordova.

After only two years in operation, the Alaska Job Corps Center ranks among the top five most successful programs nationwide which provide vocational training and job placement to disadvantaged youths.

"By scoring fifth highest in terms of student accomplishments out of 110 programs across the country, the center is another example of a successful Native-run program which benefits not only Native Alaskans, but all Alaskans," said Michael Brown, president of Chugach Alaska.

The corporation's subsidiary, Advanced Concepts in Education, was formed in January to handle the Alaska Job Corps contract for the U.S. Dept. of Labor. The contract was moved from Chugach Development to ensure optimum performance. Currently, Advanced

Concepts in Education is in a Mentor/Protégé program with Management Training Corp. of Ogden, Utah, and shares responsibility for running the center. Advanced Concepts will assume full management in August.

The first of its kind in the state, the Alaska Job Corps Center opened in 1994 to assist young men and women aged 16-24 who lack opportunities for education and job preparation. The Job Corps program provides an open-entry, open-exit educational and vocational training environment in which each student progresses at his or her own pace in a competency-based curriculum. Each student's academic needs are addressed first, followed by enrollment in the student's choice of one of ten different vocations.

Job Corps curriculum includes courses in alcohol and drug abuse, parenting, cultural awareness, leadership, as well as reading, math and vocational

training in business, health and construction-related industries. All students attend classes eight hours a day year round for up to two years.

More than 250 Alaska residents participate in the Alaska Job Corps program. Students who complete the vocational program work throughout the state in a variety of businesses, industries and in government agencies. Of the students who have gone on to attend college, all have grade point averages above 3.0.

Since coming out of bankruptcy and reorganizing in 1992, Chugach Alaska Corp. has made a concerted effort to diversify the corporation by building on four main themes: tourism, timber resource development and services to both the governmental and petroleum sectors.

Brown said the recent management contracts are "significant in that they show phenomenal growth, successful management plans and continued success."

Kake Tribal Corp. announced recently that its subsidiary, Kake Tribal Logging and Timber, is the third-ranked logging company in the state. According to a list published by the Alaska Journal of Commerce, Kake's logging outfit outpaced other Native-owned firms, including Klukwan Forest Products, Sealaska Timber Corp. and Cape Fox Corp., which ranked sixth, eighth and eleventh, respec-

tively. The rankings were based on peak number of employees as reported by the Alaska Forest Association.

Sitnasuak Native Corp. recently distributed dividends to shareholders of \$81 per hundred shares. The distribution was based on net

1995 earnings of \$877,456, and another \$601,008 in revenue sharing funds from regional Native corporations. Sitnasuak, the village corporation for Nome, has 2,434 shareholders.

Angela C. Merculief was recently

elected to the board of directors of **The Aleut Corp.** She works for Wright Runstad and Co. as assistant property manager for a medical office building in Redmond, Washington. Born on St. George Island, Merculief has also held several staff positions with The Aleut Corp. She believes it is imperative to preserve Aleut culture to ensure that this rich legacy is passed on to future generations.



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