

# PAC APPROVES HEAD START PROPOSAL

## Grant Request for Slope Inupiat Planning Division Also Approved

The Executive Committee of the Rural CAP Board of Directors met May 16 in the Anchorage office. One of the main items on the agenda was consideration of the renewal application for the 1972-73 Head Start program.

Director John Shively stated that the refunding proposal was essentially the same as last year, covering 38 Head Start programs in villages throughout the state.

The State Parents Advisory Committee (PAC) met May 10-11 and approved the Head Start proposal. Approval was given by the executive committee for the agency to submit the refunding application.

Also approved was a proposal for a grant request which would fund a new region on the North Slope, the Inupiat Planning Division, to become one of Rural CAP's regions.

Frank Peterson, former employee of the agency, explained the concept of a proposal he has developed for a Rural Alaskan Fellowship. He said the program is designed to educate rural people in administering their own affairs.

A sponsor is needed for this program to receive funds from a private foundation which has committed \$50,000 as seed money. Twenty-four people would be involved, two from each of the Native regions which are being set up under the Land Claims Act.

Selection of participants would be made by regional board chairmen and the program coordinator. The main emphasis is to have the participants gain knowledge about private and public agencies, how it will affect rural Alaska and have these people return to their regions and apply what they have learned.

There will be academic courses relating to the Land Claims Settlement Act, public and business administration, and land management studies.

Also planned are seminars and speakers on corporate structure, banking, investments, and other topics relating to the Land Claims. After the academic session the participants would be assigned to public and private agencies to serve an internship on the job.

It is a year-long program with an estimated budget of \$300,000. A source of funds for this is still uncertain, but the seed money would provide a skeleton staff to work on the program and find necessary funds. Peterson commented that strong sponsorship would be needed.