

AVCP ESTABLISHES TRANSLATION PROJECT

Important Information To Be Eskimo Taped to Span Language Barrier

As part of the work program for the Association of Village Council Presidents Community Action Program (AVCP CAP), a translation project is being implemented in the Bethel area.

Fifty tape records were sent to Bethel out of which 24 were distributed at the last AVCP meeting held on March 25, 26, 27 and 28 in Bethel.

One of the problems in many rural Alaskan villages is that a significant number of Native people do not read or speak English.

In order to overcome this

communication gap, the central staff of Rural CAP has encouraged the regions to buy tape records and begin translating important information on tape for distribution to the villages.

AVCP CAP knowing that communication is one of their problems, is trying to overcome this by implementing the project.

It was explained to those villagers, who were in attendance at the Bethel meeting, the purpose of the tape recorders and how to use them.

For those village council presidents who were not able to attend, Raphael Murran, AVCP CAP Regional Director, and his Area Community Developer will visit the villages to distribute the recorders.

Murran thinks that this translation project will be very helpful to his staff. He can now, from his Bethel office, communicate more effectively with villagers on important issues affecting them.

The type of information that will be translated includes: land claims, Native allotments, job openings, available training, minutes of meetings, etc.