

50 Young Natives Organize; Leadership, Education are Aims

Over 50 young persons attended the first meeting this week of the newly organized Native youth group, tentatively calling themselves the Alaska Native Youth Council.

With plans to eventually organize chapters in other areas of the state, the group met Thursday to work on their constitution. Chairing the new organization is a University of Alaska senior, Katie Egawa.

The group is open to "descendants of the aboriginal races of North America" between the ages of 16 to 36 and proposes to "develop leadership among our young people, encourage education and create employment opportunities."

Although the constitution still has to be passed by the general membership, the ten young adults drawing it up have incorporated ten purposes of the organization.

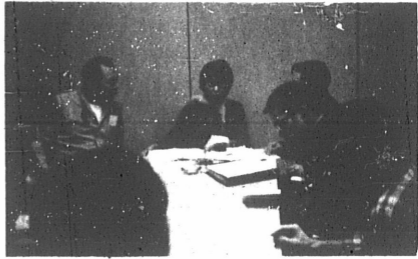
The purposes, as incorporated in the constitution, were suggested at the general membership meeting this week. They include:

1. To be a developing ground for potential leaders by providing opportunities for expression of personal convictions on issues, for committee work, group leadership and other worthy activities conducive toward the development of an independent thinker and doer.

2. To encourage the youth of Alaska to seek higher education by finding out all possible sources of scholarships and sharing same with high school students and other interested persons who may have dropped out of school.

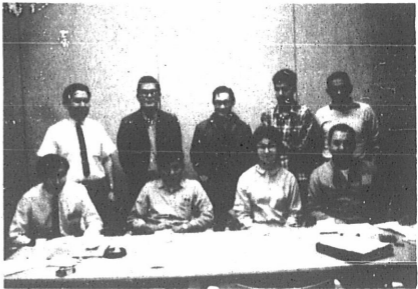
3. To work cooperatively with all other native organizations for the purpose of strengthening the common goals each has for assisting and encouraging the Alaska youth to get higher education vocational training and developing employment opportunities.

4. To work with existing federal and state agencies, the



DISCUSSING PURPOSES—Katie Egawa, chairman of the youth group, leads a discussion on the purposes of the newly formed Native youth organization. Over 50 young adults attended the first meeting of the organization this week. Another meeting will be held next Monday.

(Photo by Peter Threestars)



WORKING ON CONSTITUTION—Ten members of the newly formed Alaska Native Youth Council pose for a picture after a long session working on the group's constitution. Pictured are, from left, top: Leonard Hamilton, Ambrose Towarok, Herb Smeleer, Nick Francis and William Carb Jr. In bottom row, from left are: Phil Kelly, Luke Titus, Agnes Ivanoff, Bob Aloysius and Katie Egawa. (Photo by Peter Threestars)

State Legislature, and other groups and organizations in an effort to develop educational and employment opportunities.

5. To be a two-way oriented group which will receive questions, research them out from applicable agencies, persons or organizations, and distribute information to the questions.

6. To be a non-political body which will act as a catalyst for all views; that of providing information from all sides of the question without getting politically inclined or oriented.

7. To provide social and recreational activities for young

persons.

8. To assist VISTA volunteers in the village orientation program.

9. To foster Alaska Native arts and crafts.

10. To keep informed on activities in the State Legislature and in the U. S. Congress and pass on the information which may effect Alaskan Natives and their villages.

Helping to draw up the constitution were Katie Egawa, Agnes Ivanoff, Bob Aloysius, Luke Titus, Phil Kelly, Leonard Hamilton, Ambrose Towarok, Herb Smeleer, Nick G. Francis and William Carb Jr.