

Tribal providers focus on services

A multi-agency gathering is scheduled Dec. 7-10 in Anchorage at the Egan Center.

The second Tribal Service Providers' Conference will bring together representatives from the Bureau of Indian Affairs (B.I.A.), the Inter-Tribal Council (ITC), and participating for the first time will be the Indian Health Service (IHS) and the Alaska Area Native Health Service according to Francis Dunne, BIA's meeting coordinator in the agency's Juneau office.

"Several hundred people are expected," says Dunne.

Topics on the tentative agenda include economic and business development, training and employment, health, education, social concerns and tribal priorities. General sessions, workshops and a ban-

quet are planned.

The conference plans to maximize the use of Native owned businesses, such as the Anchorage Hilton says B.I.A. Area Director Niles Cesar. Trade tables for Native owned businesses are provided free of charge on a first come, first serve basis and can be reserved by calling Dunne's office at 907-586-7600. The conference is open to the public for a small fee says Dunne.

The Tanana Chiefs Conference, Johnson O'Malley contractors, U.S. Dept. of Labor, tribal and non-profit organizations and Native corporations are among the many expected delegates. Because 1992 is proclaimed "Year of the American Indian" by Pres. George Bush, "We want to make the conference meaningful and special," writes Cesar. The first tribal providers' conference was last Jan.