

# BLA Area Director On Enrollment

We're hoping that through articles in your paper and other papers, radio interviews throughout the state, through wires to people who haven't returned their applications from out-of-state yet, and through an AP story we've released, that the word will get out to people to let them know that March 30 is the final cutoff date to make application to be eligible to participate in the Native Claims Settlement Act.

It's an exceedingly important deadline. We're concerned that

everyone in the state, out of the state, and in the many countries of the world are aware of the deadline so that if any of them still have their applications for some reason they they would get to work on them and get them in to Anchorage by the 30th. They have to be **RECEIVED** in Anchorage by the 30th. The regulations say "received at the Enrollment Office by March 30."

During this final drive we're sending wires to all of the

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# Thompson

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regional corporations, asking the superintendants of the Bureau to make contact with the native associations. We're asking them to make contact with the radio stations in their area to attempt to get radio time announcing that the 30th is coming.

We're asking them (the regional corporations and native associations) to have their staff and their members to go out in the community and urge their friends and relatives to get their applications in.

Last week, we sent out news articles to 1600 newspapers throughout the country, attempting to get the word out. We're attempting to send wires to people who haven't responded. I thought we might take this opportunity to utilize the Tundra Times as it is a voice that is widely read to encourage everyone to please get their applications in before the cutoff date. That determines, of course, whether they will be participating under the Native Claims Bill. Conceivably, if they don't file by the March 30 deadline date, they may NOT participate even though they are eligible otherwise.

We initially worked out with the AFN that our enrollment people be allowed to get their list, and we would write to these people to let them know that they had to enroll officially.

By MORRIS THOMPSON