

Gov. Gives Natives Support on Claims

Don Wright told the Tundra Times that he, Rep. Willie Hensley and Cliff Groh met this week with Gov. Walter Hickel in Juneau and asked the governor to support the 40 million acres the natives of Alaska want and the \$500 million compensation.

Wright said that the governor was committed to supporting the native people on those requests from the federal government.

"He is going to press for 20 million acres to come from the federal government reserve lands as part of the award of lands for the native

people," Don Wright said. "He has sent wires to Sec. Stewart Udall, Sen. Jackson, Rep. Wayne Aspinall and James A. Haley, chairman of the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs."

He said that the state feels the native land claims issue was the biggest issue confronting all the people of Alaska and that the governor will publicly support speedy resolutions to the land claims and will take whatever action necessary within his authority as governor of the state.