

Educators meet to discuss

Last month approximately 25 educators from around the state met in Anchorage to discuss what they had been doing to provide business education and training to residents of rural Alaska.

Sponsored by the Alaska Native Human Resources Development Program (often referred to as the "Kellogg Project"), the meeting was held at the Alaska Federation of Natives and included representatives from the Fairbanks and Anchorage campuses of the University of Alaska, the community colleges of Bethel and Nome, Alaska Methodist University, Sheldon Jackson College and several village and regional associations.

The purpose of the meeting was to bring together people who have been involved in

teaching business, management, bookkeeping and other subjects critically important to Alaska

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Training rural residents . . .

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Natives today so that they could share their experiences and, hopefully, begin to coordinate their efforts more effectively throughout the state.

The meeting was a success in many ways. People from around the state with common interests were able to sit down together for the first time and talk to each other openly about their successes and failures.

Accountants and bookkeepers from several Native organizations had an opportunity to clear up misconceptions and assist some of the educators in understanding what the immediate as well as long-term training needs are in rural Alaska.

At the end of the meeting the acting director of the Kellogg Project, Eric Ekvall, was charged with appointing a Task Force to carry out the recommendations of the group.

The Task Force met May 7 in Anchorage. The members

are Omer Carey, U of A Anchorage; Milton Fink, U of A Fairbanks; Terry Hoefferle, Kuskokwim Community College; Daphne Gustafson, U of A Rural Educational Affairs; Pete Probasco, Cooperative Extension Service; Mary Stachelrodt, RurAL CAP; Jan Fredericks, Kuskokwim Management Association; and Francis Gallela, Coopers and Lybrand. The Task Force set as its first order of business the review of all existing instructional materials which have been used to teach business management, office management, board training and other related subjects in rural Alaska.

Although efforts are under way to contact agencies and organizations involved in this kind of training, the assistance of Tundra Times readers would be very helpful in identifying teaching materials which have been used to this end. If, as a shareholder, board member, or staff member of a village or regional