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NEWSLETTER

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JACKSON TO FILL HIGHER EDUCATION POST

Effective, Responsive Educational System Called For By AFN

Land Use Commission Opposes Corridor Plans

Gordon Jackson, Executive Vice-President, Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc. received word from Governor Jay Hammond of his appointment recently to the Alaska Commission on Post-Secondary Education to fill a term ending March 1, 1978.

"The appointment is timely," said Jackson after receiving his letter of appointment. "We, in the Alaska Federation of Natives, have been strongly advocating a more effective and responsive State education delivery system in Alaska.

"This advocacy includes elementary, secondary, and post-secondary education. I intend to continue seeking input and proposals from my Board and feed our proposals and concerns into this Commission.

"Hopefully the result will be some strategy and action to make the higher education delivery system more responsive to the higher education needs of Alaska's Native people."

The State law creating this Commission passed during the 8th Alaska Legislature and was signed by the Governor on May 9, 1974.

The Commission functions in an advisory capacity to the governing boards of institutions of public and private higher education in Alaska, to the Governor, the Legislature, and to other appropriate State and Federal officials. Other functions include:

- Coordinating the development of comprehensive plans for the orderly, systematic growth of public and private postsecondary education, including community colleges and occupational education in the State and submit recommendations on the need for, and location of, new facilities and programs;

- Advise as to the functions and purposes of the colleges and universities, both public and private, in the State and counsel as to the programs appropriate to each;

- Review the annual budgets and capital outlay requests of the University of Alaska and of each of the private colleges and



GORDON JACKSON

universities in the State, and present comments on the general level of support sought;

- Review and advise as to the workings of all consortia and other cooperative agreements between the institutions of higher education in the State that are parties to them;

- And, submit to the Governor and to the Legislature within 10 days after the beginning of each regular session of the Legislature, a report which recommends necessary or desirable changes, if any, in the functions and programs of the several segments of the total complex of both public and private postsecondary education in Alaska. "I'm naturally pleased and excited about the appointment," said Jackson, "and am anxiously awaiting word regarding the initial meeting so we can organize and begin the enormous task of carrying out the charge of this Commission."

When asked about the controversial Conflict of Interest forms, Jackson said, "It's no hassle or problem. Besides, I don't mind disclosing to the public how poor I am."

ANCHORAGE — David S. Jackman, State Co-Chairman of the Joint Federal-State Land Use Planning Commission for Alaska, in a 19-page letter to Secretary of the Interior Rogers C.B. Morton, stated the Commission's opposition to Bureau of Land Management plans for reserving broad transportation corridor easements across Native lands. Such corridors would be available for use in the future for oil and gas pipelines and, in some cases, highways and railroads.

Commenting upon a general theme expressed in the letter, Jackman said:

Legislative Advocate Hired

During the past year, the Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc. and State Department of Community and Regional Affairs have cosponsored a series of conferences on Education, the Fuel Crisis, Fisheries, Justice, and recently one on Rural Legislative Priorities.

In Juneau, during the last conference on Legislative Priorities in March, many participants expressed the need to follow-up and inform the AFN and RURAL CAP regions and central staff of hearings, status of legislations, and others.

In response to this need, an "advocate" was hired to be in Juneau at all times. His primary goal is to advocate the passage of State legislation that has been determined a high priority by participants in a recent conference on Legislative Priorities.

The advocate's name is Richard Listowski and he can be reached at 465-4761 or Pouch B, Juneau, Alaska 99811.

If you have any comments to make about legislation, particularly legislation that relates to rural Alaska, please transmit those comments to Rich. Those comments will be extremely helpful in the first "advocacy" effort.

"There is no reason to believe that the reservation of these corridors by the Federal Government will in any way speed the development of Alaska's resources. That will depend on marketplace forces and on other political decisions.

"What the establishment of federal transportation corridors would do is pre-empt the state's role in major land planning and transportation decisions."

The Commission's basic position is stated at the beginning of the letter:

"We do not believe that there is sufficient information at this time regarding the location of oil and gas reserves to justify the reservation of specific corridors to transport these resources, nor is there enough information presently available upon which to base an adequate discussion of the social, environmental and economic consequences resulting from certain corridor reservations."

Taking issue with the BLM assertion that corridors should be

reserved, Jackman concludes the Commission recommendations by stating:

"On the other hand, we believe that a decision against reserving corridor easements would constitute an affirmative choice designed to prevent the premature foreclosure of transportation options.

"Such a choice would promote the reasoned discussion of transportation needs and alternatives within the general context of land use planning, and would be consistent with the principle that land use decisions should determine the placement of transportation facilities and not the reverse."

"Deadlines for implementing the Settlement Act should not become the excuse for making major transportation decisions without adequate knowledge of the long-term costs and benefits for all Alaskans."

According to Jackman a final decision on corridor easements should come from the Interior Department within the next few weeks.

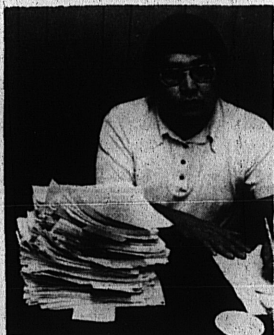


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THIS EMBLEM

Kito to Serve on UA's Board of Regents

Sam Kito, executive vice-president of Doyon, Ltd. has been appointed by Gov. Jay Hammond to serve on the University of Alaska's Board of Regents. Kito will replace Edith Bullock on the board to serve an eight year term.

Kito said he views the post as a significant one and expressed particular interest in the rural post-secondary education plan being developed by the university. He said the position offered "a wealth of opportunities to be



reviewed and utilized."

Kito is also president of the Fairbanks North Star Borough School Board.

Of Tlingit-Japanese ancestry, Kito is a graduate of Petersburg High School. He is a former director of the Alaska Federation of Natives, and a past president of the Fairbanks Native Association.

Kito, who resigned several positions to take the new post, must be confirmed by the legislature.