

AFN Form Letter For Enrollment

(Editor's Note: The following form letter will be mailed to villagers throughout Alaska for the purpose of enrolling the people for the native land claims. The Officials of the Alaska Federation of Natives feel that response to the letter is definitely needed.)

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
1689 C Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear _____:

Please be advised that your enrollments have been received and that you have been placed on an overall native roll. All due consideration will be placed with this enrollment.

Because of the number of enrollees for the land claims, we are, unfortunately, unable to give adequate time to each person. We would, however, advise you to subscribe to the TUNDRA TIMES for more information on native affairs. Please see the blank below.

Thank you for your cooperation in our efforts.

Sincerely,
ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
Emil Notti
President

Sheldon Jackson College President Denies Institution Closure Rumors

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE LEGISLATORS OF THE STATE LEGISLATURE

It is always an interesting experience for the head of any organization to be informed by concerned but unrelated individuals that the organization he has responsibility for is "closing its doors." I have heard rumors to the effect that Sheldon Jackson College is closing. The rumor has even spread among the legislators currently in session in Juneau.

LET ME EMPHATICALLY STATE THAT THIS RUMOR HAS NO FOUNDATION IN FACT. I would like to enumerate some factors that will substantiate the fact the Sheldon Jackson College intends to remain in the important business of higher education in Alaska as free, innovative and creative institution.

1. A Task Force has been appointed for review and development by the Board of National Missions for twenty-five or more institutions throughout the United States. A Task Force Group for Sheldon Jackson College was on the campus March 4-7 to begin their work of evaluation. A false assumption has evidently been made by some that the purpose of the Task Force Group was to close S.J.C. Contrary to this false assumption the preliminary discussions of the Task Force Group have not even considered closure, but have been focused upon the future work and mission of S.J.C. in higher education in Alaska. The testimony by natives before the group, have highlighted again the crucial importance of education for the rural native Alaskan and particularly his future need in post-high school education. The emerging goals include: an emphasis in this area of native education; an integrated, multi-cultural institution that meets the higher educational needs of all the rural and urban Alaskan youth; and an opportunity for the community of Sitka to pursue higher educational interests and needs.

2. In a recent meeting in New

York, Dr. Kenneth Neigh, Executive Director of the Board of National Missions, stated that no National Missions Institution would be closed because of financial limitations.

3. New Programs and services to the State and community will continue to be explored and developed. Recent examples are: affiliation with the State Troopers Academy and New Careers Program, Development of curricula in Forestry, Fisheries, and Logging Management, F.A.A. Certified Flight Training, and affiliation with Alaska Methodist University in curricular offerings in upper division and graduate courses in night and summer school. This summer in cooperation with A.M.U. graduate work leading to an M.A. in teaching will be offered in Summer School.

We are grateful for our collegiate accreditation by the Northwest Association for Secondary and Higher Schools. We are grateful for our excellent staff, increased student enrollment, outstanding library and other physical facilities. We intend, to the best of our ability, to use these assets to serve the community of Sitka and all of Alaska.

I am writing this open letter to you because I would not want you to make legislative decisions or projections regarding higher education in Alaska under the false assumption that S.J.C., one of the accredited higher educational institution is closing.

Sincerely yours,
/s/ Orin R. Stratton
President

Letters to the Editor

March 9, 1969

Dear Editor:

The weather is pretty fair. Today was warm and sunny. Most of the snow has melted.

Our class is making reports on the U.S. Each person chose the State they wanted to write about. I chose Kentucky because I like Abe Lincoln. My sister Margaret chose Minnesota because that's where our Gram and Gramp Riach and our Gram and Gramp White live. We visited them in 1967. It was fun.

We listened to the Lions Gold Medal Tournaments on Juneau radio. Boy, that Mr. Billy Bean from Kake is good!!! I sure wish I could see him play sometime. This is the second year that he was chosen most valuable player.

Enclosed is a check for the 60 newspapers.

Sincerely,
Ernie Riach