

Alaska Natives pass measures to promote welfare of children

Alaska Natives were successful at the recent National Congress of American Indians 44th Annual Convention in getting resolutions passed dealing with the Indian Child Welfare Act and several Alaska villages.

Also, Emily Brower of Barrow was named first runnerup in the Miss NCAI contest at the convention held in Tampa, Fla., Sept. 21-25.

The new Miss NCAI is Devonne Murdock, a Ute, replacing Valerie Davidson of Alaska, last year's Miss NCAI. Davidson stated in her closing speech that a permanent committee needed to be set up to raise funds for Miss NCAI's travel. That evening, through organization and tribal commitments and by passing the hat, Davidson raised \$3,500 for the new travel budget.

The Cook Inlet Tribal Council submitted two resolutions:

- To reinstate the full faith in credit application of tribes adopting the Indian Child Welfare Act by the federal government, state governments, their agents and contractors.

- To require the Bureau of Indian Affairs to recognize the importance of all children to all tribes and to take Indian Child Welfare Act funding out of competitive bidding and put those dollars into the direct line budget.

The Tanana Chiefs Conference



resolution asked to have Kaltag put back in the Federal Register. The North Pacific Rim and Kodiak Tribal Council asked that a list of 25 villages not included in the Federal Register be placed in it.

Eric Morrison submitted a resolution to put money in programs and studies to look for alternative energy to fuel powered generators.

Also, this year was an election year at the convention. John Gonzales of Albuquerque, Ariz., is the new president of NCAI. First vice-president is Guy Oshbgosh. Other officers include Gay Kingman, recording secretary; and Roland Buford, treasurer.

Will Mayo of Tanana is the new Alaska area vice-president, and Eric Morrison is the alternate.

The 1988 convention will be held in Sioux Falls, S.D., and the 1989 convention will be held in Oklahoma City, Okla. The new president and the new executive body committed support in bringing the annual convention to Anchorage in 1990 where they will show NCAI support on the 1991 issues.