

Demientieff's Annual Report

In his annual report to the general membership, outgoing Tanana Chiefs Conference President Mitch Demientieff predicted that the coming years will see the TCC providing national leadership "in the realization of Indian self-determination. . ."

Demientieff noted expanded financial growth during his one-year tenure, from a \$427,075 budget during 1972 to more \$800,000 in 1973.

The organization's staff of four, plus 22 health aides, increased to a staff of 24 full-time employees as well as the health aides.

Demientieff said he lost a lot of sleep in the beginning over the "unstable financial status that loomed threateningly. . ." Only then did he understand why competition for the president's seat was relatively light, he said.

At 21, Demientieff directed a TCC organization having a near million dollar budget. The president pointed to the following accomplishments of his 1973 administration:

Birth of the TCC Health Authority to improve village health service delivery; plans to expand health aides training with a seminar in Fairbanks this week; a more (area) representative board of health; anticipated federal funds for a campaign on preventive alcohol abuse; development of the Tanana Survival School; hiring of a tutor-counselor to work with Native students at Lathrop High School and expected college accreditation for Native workers within the villages; Doyon Ltd., Fairbanks Native Center Community and TCC offices.

Also, a proposal, currently pending in Washington, for creation of a Tanana Chiefs Land Claims College to continue the education of persons with less than a high school education.

Other projects under Demientieff include the Nenana Learning Environment for 35 boarding students who will attend Nenana High School and participate in individualized learning; creation of a natural parent steering committee for the boarding home program to improve communications between foster parents, the school and the students; hiring of Iroquois Research Institute to develop a regional satellite communications network plan, and extension of a grant for Native planning.

During his tenure, Demientieff was appointed to the Alas-

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TO THE PEOPLE OF THE TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE REGION

The past year has been one of significant progress as Mr. Melvin Charlie begins his two-year term as President of the Tanana Chiefs Conference. I wish him and all of you the best of everything.

I appreciate the opportunity of serving you within the Tanana Chiefs Conference and will be patiently awaiting the chance of serving you further.

Thank you very much.

With Warmest Regards,
TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE
Mitch Demientieff

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ka State Commission for Human Rights and to the Alaska Federation of Natives Human Resources Committee of which he was elected chairman for 1974.
