

Alaska Natives eye media association

A no-host luncheon for members of the Alaska Native media was held Friday noon in the lounge of the Sheraton during the annual Alaska Federation of Natives Convention.

Rafael Gonzales, public affairs technician of the Sealaska Corporation, said the luncheon was formed simply to determine whether there is sufficient interest to form a Native media association. About a dozen individuals from Native profit and nonprofit corporations attended the luncheon meeting.

Sealaska public affairs director Ross Sobeloff and public affairs technician Rafael Gonzales provided the leadership for deter-

mining whether there is sufficient interest to form the association.

Many of the thirteen Native profit and nonprofit corporations have expressed interest in forming a Native media group, Gonzales said. Within the Native community, there are many Natives with expertise in the field of journalism, in news photography, writing and reporting; there are film and video tape camera crews and production people; and there are Natives who produce newsletters for the corporations, Gonzales said.

Represented at the luncheon were Sealaska, Calista, Bering Straits, Tundra Times, Chugach, Doyon, Arctic Slope Regional Corporation and Tlingit-Haida Association.