



Another deadline in offing

Selection of cemetery Sites, historic places By natives on July 1

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) proposal concerning Section 14(h) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) sets July 1, 1976, as the new deadline for land selection applications for existing cemetery sites and historic places by Native groups and by

Natives residing in Sitka, Kenai, Juneau, and Kodiak.

Under the ANCSA, Alaska Natives have a land entitlement of 44 million acres and two million of those are for cemetery sites and historic places.

The BLM proposed regulations clarify the selection process for cemetery sites, historic places, and lands for Native groups under Section 14(h). After July 1, 1976 the land selections for these purposes could be made on lands that Native village and regional corporations could have selected but did not.

If the total land selections for cemetery sites, historic places, and similar purpose do not total the two million acres provided by law, the proposed regulations could establish the process for regional corporations selections to make up the difference.

The proposed regulations would also establish new procedures designed to the public informed about what is happening on Native claims.

Under the proposed rules, BLM would publish a summary of each decision concerning the conveyance of land to Alaska

Natives in local newspapers.

Interested persons can get a complete copy of the complete decision from BLM and anyone with an affected property interest could appeal the decision to the Alaska Native Claims Appeals Board.

Copies of the proposed Department of the Interior regulations affecting land selections by Alaska Native Corporations and other Native groups under Section 14(h) of the ANCSA are now available from BLM offices in Anchorage and Fairbanks.



TRIBE MEMBERS of the Association of Interior Eskimos picketed the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Fairbanks area office. They claimed that BIA in Fairbanks, Juneau and Washington, D.C. have ignored their requests. Picketing are left, Joe Tegossak, secretary of the Eskimo Village Council and, right, Arnold Egowa.

— Photo by SUE GAMACHE

BLA won't listen says John Heffle

By SUE GAMACHE

"We're tired of empty promises," John Heffle, president of the Association of Interior Eskimos said, "If the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) won't listen to the tribal representatives, maybe they will listen to the whole group."

Heffle said that the Interior Eskimos are picketing Bureau of Indian Affairs offices because "we have been trying to strengthen our tribal government so we can break away from BIA-supported programs and through joint ventures and business enterprises enable us to support our own people through profits."

Heffle said that the tribe wants to be treated on an equal basis. "They are trying to force us to change our ways to meet theirs. Eskimo traditions are

completely different."

"BIA has determined that the term Indian will be used for all Native groups for administration purposes," Heffle explained, "yet the people are really Eskimo."

"They are trying to keep us under their thumb," Heffle added.

Heffle cited the Indian Self-Determination Act as a waste of taxpayer money with white people making the laws that govern Natives.

"Congress and BIA do what they please. I think it's about time they let the Native people decide what is best for themselves."

Superintendent of the Fairbanks area office of BIA, Fred Baker, denied charges of discrimination by the Bureau.

He said that "there has been

much confusion because services for people living in the North Slope area cannot be provided unless there is a resolution from governing bodies authorizing contractual services."

Baker said that the Association of Interior Eskimos is not being excluded, "but I want to be sure the people of the Arctic Slope are fully informed and exercise their self-determination prerogative."

Indian Financing Act Questionable in Alaska

A question has been raised concerning reservation area in Alaska for the purpose of the Indian Financing Act of 1974, Morris Thompson, Commissioner of Indian Affairs in Washington, D.C. wrote in a letter to the Juneau area director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, particularly under Title IV of the Act, the Indian Business Development Program.

The Financing Act states in section 3(d) in defining reservations that it includes land held by incorporated groups, regional corporations, and village corporations under the provisions of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA).

Commissioner Thompson pointed out that based on the definition, in order for an area to be considered a reservation, it must be held by one of the incorporated groups, regional corporations or village corporations authorized and established by the ANCSA.

He went on to say that land

held by an Indian Tribe as a reservation and those communities now recognized by the Bureau would also qualify as reservations. This also includes public domain allotments.

However, cities such as Anchorage, which are not held by one of the Native groups would not qualify as a reservation for purposes of the Financing Act, he added.

Thompson said that the purpose of the Financing Act is to improve and promote the economic development of reservations. To carry out this purpose the Act requires in Section 401 pertaining to grants that the economic enterprise to be funded must be on or near a reservation, which is also the regulatory requirement for all programs under the Act.

He concluded saying that an enterprise located in a non-reservation area must be near a reservation and have a direct economic benefit to a qualified reservation area.

UA tuition Increase not UA policy

FAIRBANKS—The state administration's proposal to increase University of Alaska tuition 25 per cent runs contrary to university policy, which is to reduce and eventually eliminate it, Brian J. Brundin, president of the Board of Regents, pointed out today.

"Students have to scratch to meet tuition costs—I had to when I attended the University of Alaska," he said. "It's tough to find those dollars."

The state "should explore every other avenue" of financing before considering raising tuition, said Brundin. One possibility would be to overhaul the state scholarship loan program which annually siphons away from the state about twice as much as the governor is asking the university to raise through a tuition increase, he said.

"There's nothing wrong with sending students outside for programs they can't get here—such as law and medicine—but there is in sending them out for programs offered in the state," he said. "That's paying for the same program twice."

Dr. Robert W. Hiatt, president of the state university, pointed out that state loans to Alaska college students in 1973-74 totaled \$2.9 million, 7th \$1.9 million of this total going to students attending out-of-state institutions and \$1 million to students attending college in the state.

Another Brundin
(Continued on Page 6)

To Seward Peninsula— Moose on the move

While the news about big game in some parts of Alaska seems to all be grim, the picture is by no means true statewide. Recently conducted fall surveys on the Seward Peninsula, and in some other parts of western Alaska, have again pointed to "booming" moose populations.

Fish and Game Nome biologist Carl Grauvogel reports that some 2,000 or more moose reside on the Peninsula, and that the number appears to be increasing.

"Our moose population seems to almost fit the classic case of an animal moving into new territory, finding excellent

range conditions and minimal predation. As a consequence, they are rapidly increasing," he said.

Grauvogel said that moose apparently are relative newcomers to the Seward Peninsula, and that reports of moose there first began to trickle in sometime in the 1950's, although old-timers report having seen tracks before that time.

"There may have been moose here in small numbers during the gold mining days, but I suspect the demand for meat was so high at the time that any moose on the hoof would have been converted fairly rapidly

(Continued on Page 6)