

"I may not agree with a word you say but I will defend unto death your right to say it." — Voltaire

# Tundra Times



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## Many thanks to those who made Eskimo-Indian Olympics a success

August 3, 1976

The world Eskimo Indian Olympics was, again for another year, a huge success. Despite the pleasant warm weather that usually draws many people out side to pick blueberries or, generally, just to enjoy the calm and late summer evenings, the attendance at the Native games was high and very near to record-breaking capacities.

This year's games had many high points that will be remembered for years to come—from the crowd exploding into cheers and applause after new records were broken in the High Kick events to the crowd standing in silence paying respect to the man who originally spearheaded the annual event's sponsor, the Tundra Times. For this reason, the event was renamed the Howard Rock Memorial World Eskimo Indian Olympics.

To the spectators viewing the event, many from out of state as well as from Alaska, they saw it as a unique and novel get-together of Native athletes.

To the contestants, it was a time of fun and happiness in meeting old friends from all over Canada and Alaska.

The mood and atmosphere to both the spectator and contestant was definitely easy-going and relaxed—it was an atmosphere that was bred in Alaska.

It is not known how many hours were devoted to the organization of this year's games, but one could have expected that co-chairmen John Heffle and George Bell must have signed with relief after the games were over. It was these two and many others under their direction that put together this year's event.

It is to these people that we give thanks for a successful Olympics.

—Chris Anderson  
TT Chairman of the Board

## Job of regional corporations questioned

Editor's note: the following letter is reprinted with permission from the Daily News-Miner, July 27, 1976:

### Native spending

1012-5th Ave., Apt. 4  
Fairbanks, Alaska  
July 15, 1976

Dear Editor:

I feel it is extremely unfair to all Native Organizations and corporations because you have never once, to my recollection, mentioned or printed any of the fine and noble things that are being done with Native money. Certainly somewhere there is a school being built or a hospital or even a wing being added. There is no mention of it in any news media.

I am not referring to B.I.A. projects as these are funded with tax dollars and provided by all working people of this country. I am specifically referring to the settlement funds which the natives have

received.

We are all aware the native groups control one of Alaska's largest banks, at least 50 per cent (fifty per cent) of Alaska's fishing and canning industry, and just recently acquired a controlling interest in Sea-Train lines and a prefabrication plant somewhere in Washington or Oregon.

Why is it I never see an article stating that natives are building x number of housing units in a village? Why not an article stating that native groups have set aside a disaster fund for foodless or fuel-less villages? Why don't you print the stories about the schools that are being built where the native language will be perpetuated? Certainly these things are being done—somewhere.

Judging from what we read in the papers one would conclude the native funds are not being spent to the greater advantage.

One would conclude that only a handful of the native

people have derived any benefits from this huge fortune. We know this is not so.

We know the Alaskan native as a proud and hard-working individual. We know them as a people to shun charity. We know them as an independent people.

Please be fair, therefore, when the natives use their money for education; medicine; housing and village improvements and etc., inform us thru your columns that we may maintain, in a generous fashion, the good will that exists between us.

It is my desire to invite anyone, native or non-native, that has knowledge of self-help projects undertaken by native corporations to inform us of them through this column. Letter to the Editor, as you have been more than fair in making this space available to all.

Sincerely,  
Tad E. Neil

## Actions refute spirit of ANCSA

STATEMENT OF ROBERT F. CARROLL, SR. AT OPEN MEETING IN SITKA BEFORE SENATOR GRAVEL 7/9/76

My name is Robert Carroll, Sr., Board member and Secretary of Shee Atika, Inc., the Sitka Native Corporation. Our question is: Why are members of Alaska's congressional delegation consorting with environmentalists to cause unwarranted delay of our land conveyance? This action refutes the spirit of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

Legitimate environmental concerns. We are speaking now of legitimate Native concerns. We are very unhappy with the Secretary of the Interior's decision regarding Shee Atika's land withdrawal. It is clear to Natives that the Secretary and certain members of our Washington delegation have taken a position of delaying or stopping settlement by proposing endless committee hearings, and by creating gerrymandered task forces to permit the Sierra Club additional time to ferment chaos, thus blocking conveyance of Native lands and reducing the value of settlement provisions.

An old Indian saying is "The white man has no eyes or ears when the Indian speaks." When the Sierra Club speaks the government listens! We are being pitted against Congress, the Interior's Department's BLM and the Alaska Task Force, and the State of Alaska by an elite faction of affluent environmentalists, including the Sierra Club.

Shee Atika has moved and guided itself within the limits of regulations that have been developed since December of 1971. Now it is July 1976 and still there are no land conveyances.

We have heard the term "high national interest" about some of our land selections;

this smacks of the Nixon administration labeling of high national interest, thereby making information to the public inaccessible, making a criminal of anyone who tried to expose the government's incompetencies.

This serves only to make us more suspicious of the politicians that are in control of our destiny. We would like to see a poll taken—Harris or other—across the U.S. to identify what portion of the Nation has even heard of Admiralty Island in Alaska, how many know where Admiralty Island is located, and what do they know about the island. Admiralty Island contains our primary land selection.

The concept of arbitrary action on our land selection in the name of "national interest" is as hard to swallow as the idea that "national interest" justified the Watergate coverup or the latest coverups that are going on in Washington, D.C., even with exposure by the Common Cause organization.

We have spent hundreds of thousands of dollars to defend our interests against those who would deny us the basic rights as established by the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

Let us remind ourselves of the spirit of the Act as outlined in Section 2 titled "Declaration of Policy."

Sec. 2 Congress finds and declares that—

(a) there is an immediate need for a fair and just settlement of all claims by Natives and Native groups of Alaska, based on aboriginal land claims;

(b) the settlement should be accomplished rapidly, with certainty, in conformity with the real economic and social needs of Natives, without litigation, with maximum participation by Natives in decisions affecting their rights and property, without establishing any permanent racially defined institutions, rights, privileges, or obligations, without creating a reservation system or lengthy wardship or trusteeship, and without adding to the categories of property and institutions enjoying special tax privileges or to the legislation establishing special relationships between the United States Government and the State of Alaska.

(c) no provision of this Act shall replace or diminish any right, privilege, or diminish any obligation of Natives as citizens of the United States or of the State of Alaska, or relieve, replace, or diminish any obligations.

The Tundra Times asked Doyon President Tim Wallis if he had read the letter and he said he had. He said it was from a non-native he had known for some time and who he knew had been in the area for quite awhile. Wallis felt it was a good letter and one that showed genuine concern. But it had been written by someone "who has not been informed." Regional corporations have to be in the business of spending money to make more money, not in the business of social services, Wallis said.

tions of the United States or of the State of Alaska to protect and promote the rights or welfare of Natives as citizens of the United States or of Alaska; the Secretary is authorized and directed, together with other appropriate agencies of the United States Government, to make a study of all Federal programs primarily designed to benefit Native people and to report back to the Congress with his recommendations for the future management, and operation of these programs within three years of the date of enactment of this Act;

(d) no provision of this Act shall constitute a precedent for reopening, renegotiating, or legislating upon any past settlement involving land claims or other matters with any Native organizations, or any tribe, band, or identifiable group of American Indians;

(f) No provision of this Act shall be construed to constitute a jurisdictional act, to confer jurisdiction to sue, nor to grant implied consent to Natives to sue the United States or any of its officers with respect to the claims extinguished by the operation of this Act.

I thank you, ladies and gentlemen.

## Someone enjoys reading Tundra Times

July 22, 1976

To the Editor:

Just a note to let you know how much I enjoy reading the Tundra Times. So that more people learn about the "real" Alaska, I donate my copies to the main library here after I am through reading them.

I read, with much sorrow, the passing of Howard Rock, I am sure he will be missed by many.

Because there are many people of Indian extraction here, I feel by putting your newspaper at public disposal they too will make an effort to help Indian (and Eskimo) peoples to attain their rightful place in the American way of life.

Keep up the good work.

Sincerely,  
Ruth E. Vaughn  
(Bonigrak)  
352 1st Avenue, N.  
St. Petersburg, Fla. 33701

## Tlingit/Haida voice serious concerns

July 23, 1976

The Honorable Jay S. Hammond  
Governor of Alaska  
Pouch A  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Governor Hammond:  
The Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indians of Alaska has serious concerns in relationship to what appears to be the planned reduction of manpower services in rural Alaska.

These concerns spring from the content of the Assurances to the Work Experience Program which were recently distributed by the Manpower Division of your office.

In our opinion, the Assur-  
(Continued on page 16)