

88-49-25

David Smart, Phil Kelly, Ron Manook are interviewed by Jeff Kennedy; Donna John's report on the village corporation management course ; Dr. Walter Soboleff.

Jeff Kennedy, moderator and interviewer

Series: Potlatch tapes

1975

David Smart, Phil Kelly and Ron Manook talk about coming up to Fairbanks with forty Anchorage students during University Days. They helped set up some of the projects. The students will see what is going on at the university. David Smart said they get to see some classes and see the campus. Phil Kelly said he works for the Anchorage School District and runs a counseling group. He works with Alaska Native students. He volunteered to come to Fairbanks with the students. They will be in town for a couple of days. They have an eight hour bus ride. He graduated in 1969 with a degree in broadcasting from the University of Alaska Fairbanks. He talked about the changes in the program. They had a radio station but no television station. Phil Kelly said the state should give the student an option for their high school education. They can stay at home or region or attend school in an urban setting. He would like to see an exchange of video tapes about a normal school day in an urban school for rural community students. He would like help for instructors and principals to understand the lifestyle of the village so people in the city can understand it. He has talked to urban teaching staff about the village lifestyle. Urban school society encourages students to be aggressive, but village society does not encourage aggressive behavior. It is considered rude. The rural students come into an urban environment and see different behavior such as hurrying and talking too much. It can be a 180 degree change in lifestyle. In the city you are guilty until proven innocent. There's a lot of suspicion. In the village you are innocent until proven guilty. People accept you. He talked about Bethel being a semi-metropolitan area. Anchorage is a complete change for rural students.

John Angaiak song.

Public service announcement about fires and fire extinguisher use.

Donna John said she and 15 others have completed a village corporation management course. The Tanana Chiefs Conference sponsored a ten week training course to enhance their knowledge of business administration, corporation management, realty, grant writing, accounting, taxes, the Alaska Native Land Claims Settlement Act and taught them the Bureau of Land Management and Bureau of Indian Affairs operations. They had the opportunity to have instructors from Doyon, Alaska Federation of Natives, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, the state, Tanana Chiefs Conference, the Community College and the Fairbanks Realtors and surveyors. She reads comments from her classmates about the course.

Michael Murphy song.

Public service announcement about consumer news.

Dr. Walter Soboleff said art forms were owned by a tribe and a clan. A member of the raven or eagle tribe would an opposite clansman to make his emblem. He belongs to the raven tribe. It is customary to hire a member of the eagle tribe. They were paid during ceremonials. The first payment was made. The second payment would be a banquet with speeches and dancing. He talked about the price of a ceremonial hat. Their art was expressed in wood, painting, basket weaving, spruce root, red cedar bark, and rope. The predominant colors were green, red and black. Another art form developed in the metals including copper, gold and silver. An artist's work appeared on spoons, halibut hooks, ceremonial costumes, totem poles, tattoos, and petroglyphs. Because they lived close to nature the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian people learned to appreciate its beauty and strength. They adopted into their art forms the grace, strength and color of nature. They believed that all the world of nature spoke to them and they heard the word of nature speaking. They believed the world of nature could see each individual, too. Dr. Soboleff told a story of the mallard who adopted a piece of wood as his partner. He said the peoples of southeast Alaska felt that respect for one another was necessary to preserve their heritage. If war or discord happened then the council met to promote peace through ceremony. A raven would have to live at peace with the eagle and vice versa. His conduct would involve his clan. It was during this time that land, songs, dances, ceremonial pieces would change hands as part of the peace settlement.

Peter LaFarge song

The moderator said Potlatch is produced in the KUAC studios in College in cooperation with KTOO Juneau, KOTC Kotzebue and KYUK Bethel under Title One of the Higher Education Act.