

88-49-29

Bill Means, Molly Alexi, Nicholai Peter, Alexi Andrew, Maureen Holden

Jeff Kennedy, moderator

Series: Potlatch series

Chet Atkins song.

Bill Means is interviewed by Levi Lott in Bethel. Bill Means said basically the Human Rights Commission is there to serve the Bush areas. They investigate complaints about discrimination in housing, employment and public accommodations. Levi asked him what else he did. Bill said they are trying to provide all the services available in the state and with the federal government to people living in this area. He is helping out with things that come up. He has his office with Vista in Bethel. He said people can get in touch with him there. Levi asked about what sort of discrimination he is talking about. Bill said if someone is looking for a job or had a job and feels they were fired because of their sex then he investigates the complaint. If someone wasn't hired because they were Native or didn't have the proper skills they will investigate the requirement or see if they needed training. If programs for skills aren't available to the people in the Bush then they see if the programs can be brought to the area. Levi Lott asked if he thought people understand about the Human Rights Commission. Bill said most people haven't heard about it and he is trying to publicize the information. He is trying to work with the Consumer Protection Agency. He is here to provide the resource for people or find someone who can be of help. His two main areas are employment and housing.

Johnny Cash song.

Jeff Kennedy said Levi Lott went back to his hometown of Tuluksak to ask people what they knew about the Human Rights Commission and what services they offered. An unidentified person said she didn't know what they were. She said it would be better if they came to their village and tell them about the Human Rights Commission. Levi asked who should work for the Human Rights Commission. The interviewee said Eskimos and gussucks should work together in the office. They are all human and they should work together. Another person said they should come to their village and let them know who they are. He said Eskimos should work in the office. Another person said they should come to the village. He thought gussocks and Eskimos should work together in the Human Rights Commission office so they can understand each other. Several people said no they didn't know what the Human Rights Commission is.

John Denver song.

Public service announcement.

Charlie Rich song.

Maureen Holden talked about the 4H program. She said it is a youth program for young people ages 9-19. Dave asked where people can write to about the program. Maureen said they have eight district offices in the extension service: Nome, Bethel, Aniak, Palmer, Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau and Homer. She talked about 4H standing for head, heart, hand and health. She discussed the different kinds of projects the kids do. They work with adult leaders. People that want to start a 4H program can write to Maureen for information. Maureen said the program is entirely up to the leader. She said it is important to enjoy working with kids. Sometimes the Extension Service has identified an organization leader in the villages. Sometimes an older youth can start a program. They like everyone to know who their extension agent is. Levi asked about the goal of the program. Maureen said it is for youth development – they learn knowledge and skills about new things or areas of their interest. They learn about working with people and gain new skills.