

88-49-42

Sam Kido, A report from Senator Ted Stevens about the proposed amendment to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act

Moses Wassillie, moderator

Series: Potlatch series

Song by Cody Bear Paw

Shortly after being named president of the Alaska Federation of Natives Sam Kido was interviewed by Jeff Kennedy. Sam Kido talked about his background. He was trained in electronics in New York and went to work for RCA Service Company. He worked at a few places including Gilmore Creek outside of Fairbanks. He was also president of Fairbanks Native Association. He moved from RCA to become the executive director of the Fairbanks Native Association in 1971. He moved to the Tanana Chiefs Conference as executive director in 1972. He stayed there until he was employed by Doyon, Ltd. as the executive vice president which is where he is at present. He thinks it is a challenging position but he said one doesn't look at it as a permanent lifetime job. The board of directors hire on a year to year basis. There is no contract. He is looking at two or more years in his position. He isn't looking at extended tenure. It is a challenge to assume the position. He hopes to rise to the challenge. He looked at the operation of Roger Lang and said he did a commendable job. He does not foresee any major changes within the organization. He believes in the basic philosophy that Roger had. Anything that will change will be minor. It will be just a different way of operating internally. Mo Wassillie asked Sam Kido how the statewide organization began. Sam Kido said the major issue at the time of the foundation of the AFN was the land claims. The first convention was held in 1966. From that point on they had annual meetings. The first president was Emil Notti. Subsequent presidents were Don Wright, Willie Hensley and Roger Lang who has just resigned. In a capsule form AFN was basically founded to solve the issue of land claims, but additionally to delve into areas of concern for the Native peoples of Alaska such as health, education and social services. There is a multi-faceted relationship within AFN. The boards of directors are appointed by the regional corporations. They have divided the operation into two distinct areas. The first is the land claims area and the other is the human resource area. They each have an executive vice president director. The human resources department executive vice president director has as an advisory board to him the representatives from each of the associations which are the non-profit organizations representing each regional corporation involved in AFN. They have a relationship that integrates both the profit making corporations in each region and the non-profit associations within each region as a decision making process in the implementation of the board's directives or the advisory committees.

Song by Johnny Horton

Moses Wassillie said Senator Ted Stevens is trying to make amendments to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. He talked about the changes he wants to make. Senator Stevens said they want to extend the enrollment deadline to make certain those that were unable to register will be included in

the settlement, establishing an escrow account for revenues received by the Interior Department on federal lands for activities on land that will be deeded to Natives under the settlement, interest on the Alaska Native Fund while they are held, provisions to extend the Federal State Use planning committee, allowing village corporations to merge with regional corporations or other corporations in the same region for efficiency, exemption of stock of any merger consolidation for registration requirements by the FCC until 1991 when the stock is transferable, and grants for the four Native corporations, Juneau, Kodiak, Kenai, and Sitka, that did not get an advance assistance to help carry out their land selection program. He believes these are necessary amendments to carry out the intention of Congress.

Moses Wassillie said last July they attended the World Eskimo Indian Olympics where they had a competition for the selection of a queen.

Song by Buffy Sainte Marie

Moses Wassillie said Thea Owland of Ruby and Mary Keller of Nome introduced the 1975 contestants: Miss Arctic Circle, Arlene Curtis, Miss Arctic Native Brotherhood, Noreen Walters, Miss Bethel, Alice Nicolai, Miss Cook Inlet Native Association, Jennie Lynn Nathan, Miss Top of the World, Charlene Sageakok, Miss Fairbanks Native Association, Tina Long, Miss Arctic Slope Regional Corporation, Dora Edwardson, Miss Nuchalawoyya, Kathleen Peters, and Miss Northern Games from Canada, Gladys Alexie. One of the moderators talked about the selection of the queen and thanked the sponsors and donators of the competition. The queen contestants are introduced again. Miss Marilyn Pete who was the queen for 1974-1975 said a few words and welcomed the new queen. The contest winners are announced. Jennie Nathan was selected for Miss Congeniality. The second runner up was Tina Long. The first runner up was Gladys Alexie. The queen was Jennie Nathan.

Song by John Angaiak