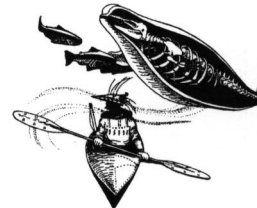


# Pratt Museum

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March 25, 2014

Representative Bob Herron  
Alaska State Capitol  
120 East Fourth Street, Room 411  
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representative Herron,

This letter is in support of House Bill 333, establishing a museum construction grant program. Thank you for your sponsorship of this bill, which provides the structure for establishing a systematic approach to prioritizing museum capital project funding requests in Alaska.

The nationally-recognized Pratt Museum serves as an anchor institution on the Kenai Peninsula, educating children and adults, and contributing to our community's sense of place and identity through history, art, and culture; and through exploration of the natural environment. Like museums all over Alaska, the Pratt contributes to the state's economy through employment and cultural tourism.

The Pratt Museum is one of the 50% of museums in Alaska currently raising funding for a new facility. With the passage of this legislation into law, construction projects will be funded by the merits of their projects, prioritized by their ability to match state funding, and where they are in the construction process.

Similar to the library construction statute, which has helped build 14 new libraries through \$50 million of awards, this legislation will allow museums to plan to protect valuable collections well into the future.

Again, thank you for your sponsorship of House Bill 333.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Diane Converse". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Diane Converse  
Museum Director/CEO