

HJR

58

Bristol  
Bay  
Native  
Corporation

P.O. BOX 237 / DILLINGHAM / ALASKA 99576 / PH. (907) 842-3070.

February 17, 1978

Representative Nels Anderson, Jr.  
Pouch V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Nels:

Just received your letter you wrote to Ted Angasan dated 14  
February, 1978.

I'm in full support of your Resolution #58. I don't want to  
see you withdraw your Bill or quit working for a Regional  
office for here. It's long overdue. Our people in the villages  
and here have contiruously asked for a BIA office in the Bristol  
Bay Region.

Things are okay here. Keep up the good work. Give Dorothy and  
the kids my best regards.

Regards,

BRISTOL BAY NATIVE CORPORATION

*Harvey*

Harvey Samuelsen  
President

HS:ms

## Recommendation

The Bristol Bay Native Association and the Alaska Federation of Natives should secure the cooperation of BIA and the state's Congressional Delegation in obtaining Congressional authorization and appropriation of funds under PL 93-638 to enable villages to hire a village leader and to establish a village administrative office.

## Meeting Local Needs — Three Examples

Communities should develop their priorities, then proceed to explore funding sources. A careful analysis of the project, both capital and operating costs and revenue, should be prepared. Alternative methods of accomplishing the objective should be evaluated. For example, the Alaska Village Electric Co-op, Inc. (AVEC) has found that it requires a village of 125 to 150 to economically justify the installation of a power system. Villages complain that if they receive their power from the local school, it is not available in the summer. Possibly AVEC could purchase the equipment from the school, add the necessary additional equipment and the school could purchase power from the community. In addition, if a community without power is located within 5-7 miles from a village with power, it may be economical for AVEC to install a transmission line. This additional load may also enable the village with power to better service and amortize their facilities.

A small village may desire a grocery store. Even if it is a co-op, analysis may indicate it is not economic in view of the capital requirements. However, a consumer buying co-op could be organized which would have many of the advantages of a store yet promise lower prices for food because of the absence of capital costs. A common desire of villages is to establish a bulk fuel storage tank. A word of caution — unless a careful analysis is prepared of the proposal, the resulting fuel may be more expensive than the present distribution system. Both Community Enterprise Development Corporation (CEDC) and Alaska Native Industries Co-operative Association (ANICA) are prepared to assist in evaluating the feasibility of a fuel oil operation. The feasibility of alternative methods of supplying fuel locally should be examined, with the attendant costs, before committing to a particular project.

## Recommendations

- 1) There are many possible sources of funding for local projects. BBNA should designate one individual to gather information on funding sources and to keep current on changes in regulations and development of new sources. The availability of this resource person should be publicized among the villages.
- 2) Many federal and state agencies have considerable impact on the Natives of Bristol Bay; however, BIA has a special relationship. BIA has regional offices in Alaska to facilitate communication with Natives and Native organizations. The Bristol Bay region is served by Anchorage and communication has been difficult. It is expensive for Bristol Bay residents to personally pursue problems or projects with BIA in Anchorage when other forms of communication fail. It is therefore recommended that BIA establish a Regional Office in Dillingham.
- 3) The importance to economic development of political and social development of the Region and villages should not be underestimated. It is recommended that BBNA and BBAHC develop additional strategies to stimulate local initiative in these areas while continuing to provide important direct services and resource assistance.

velopment of para-professionals supervised by a Registered Nurse. This RN has considerable nursing experience and background. Other programs of BBAHC include innovative approaches to Alcoholism and Drug Abuse, village health planning and village planning. BBAHC also has a unique and "vibrant" Medical Department that produces video and audio media and an Emergency Medical Services Planner.

The above organizations are serving many of the needs of the Bristol Bay region which reduces the need to develop an areawide borough. The residents should maintain the initiative on this matter, with discussions and proper planning, rather than allowing the decision on formation of a borough to be made externally.

With the development of oil and gas resources in Bristol Bay, the question of a region-wide taxing authority should again be reviewed. The North Slope Borough has recognized the advantage to be gained from mineral development in remote areas.

- 2) **Community Development.** An earlier study produced under this Act, *Bristol Bay: The Fisheries and Its People*, detailed the needs and priorities of each village in the region. The above study was a "grass roots" planning document in which the people in each village indicated their needs. Implementation remains.

Most villagers have neither the training nor access to information, agencies, etc. to prepare grant requests. This could be an important function of the Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation and the Bristol Bay Native Association, who could serve the needs of villages by assisting them in initiating grants. The existence of the planning, no matter how well prepared, will not build any houses, develop water and sewer systems or meet any of the other desired goals. Someone or some group must initiate the process and push for its implementation. Federal and State Agencies will respond, but it is very unlikely that they will initiate any of the projects.

### The Importance of Local Initiative

Probably the single most important ingredient in community development is local initiative and desire. An external group, such as a borough or BBNA, can assist the local community; however, the "driving force" needs to be the community leadership. An outside group does not want to be in the position of providing services to people who appear indifferent to the service. In addition, all outside agencies have more than enough to do without seeking to provide services to communities who do not really care.

Community leadership can be difficult when the planning, organizing and follow-through must depend entirely on volunteers who must support a family and where records are scattered in individual homes. Some villages are able to overcome these handicaps and effectively initiate and develop projects. Many other villages are not able to do so.

Public Law 93-638, the Indian Self Determination and Indian Education Assistance Act, was designed to encourage Natives to assume local control of many services previously provided directly by the federal government. An important contribution to local Native planning and implementing of projects would be the provision of funds under PL 93-638 to enable villages to employ a village leader and construction funds for a village office and meeting room. This leader would then have the time to coordinate planning and supervise implementation of projects.



## STIMULATING POLITICAL AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Political and social development should ideally proceed prior to or concurrently with economic development if the residents of Bristol Bay are to fully realize the benefits of economic development. An important step in this development would be the establishment of a regional municipal government. The Bristol Bay region, however, presently has neither the population nor economic resources to support an effective borough government. Several villages have incorporated as second class cities, however, and every effort should be expended to assist them in developing an effective local government. As additional villages incorporate and gain experience in government, a borough may become feasible and desirable.

Planning and discussion of a borough government should not be delayed until a borough is forced upon the region by external circumstances. The thinking should be long range and the concepts discussed at the village level. The establishment of the borough should be delayed, however, until the need for its services is recognized and the costs and benefits are known.

- 1) **Present Regional Infrastructure.** At the present time there are three organizations assuming many of the functions ordinarily performed by an areawide borough.
  - a) **Bristol Bay Borough.** The Bristol Bay region currently has one borough — the Bristol Bay Borough. The Bristol Bay Borough, however, includes only the communities of Naknek, South Naknek and King Salmon. The remainder of the region is unorganized; however the present borough has initiated action to expand its boundaries.
  - b) **Bristol Bay Native Association.** The Bristol Bay Native Association (BBNA) is composed of the representatives of the 29 Native villages of Bristol Bay. The BBNA Board of Directors meets three times yearly to discuss issues of a political nature, as well as to hear reports on current activities and to plan for future activities. The Executive Committee meets more frequently.

in the social development area, BBNA has spearheaded a regional housing authority, is actively involved (in cooperation with the Rural Alaska Community Action Program) in winterizing homes in the South Peninsula area and has introduced grants of local assistance to a number of villages. Additionally, BBNA is actively involved in employment assistance, job development, post-secondary classroom training, limited skills development; BBNA Education is involved in the administration of a bilingual, bicultural education programs to 18 villages directly, and four more indirectly. The Association also has an Office of Community Advocacy, specifically for the purposes of village and community planning activities.

BBNA is also involved in planning and helping to spearhead and coordinate the development of an economic system. Planning activities include coordinating the development of an overall development plan with village corporation development. Programs include Economic Planning, with input from a regionally composed OEDP Committee; employment and training services, including a DOC prime contract and several subcontracts; a Johnson-O'Malley educational enrichment program; village advocacy, local government assistance, grantwriting for villages, and other like activities.

- c) **Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation.** The Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation (BBAHC) is composed of representatives of all 29 Native villages of Bristol Bay. The BBAHC Board of Directors meets four times annually, with the Executive Committee meeting more frequently.

The spheres of activity are social and economic, i.e., improving the health standards and medical service delivery in Bristol Bay. Programs of this organization include a Community Health Aid Program which is geared toward de-

## SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

This section abstracts the recommendations from each of the following sections and organizes them by the responsible agency.

### FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

#### Department of Interior

It is strongly urged that D-2 legislation establishing future land use carry a provision that specifically guarantees traditional users the right to traditional usage of the land in federally withdrawn lands.

#### Bureau of Indian Affairs

It is urged that a Regional Office of BIA be established in Dillingham.

BIA is urged to request Congress to authorize and appropriate funds under PL 93-638, The Indian Self-Determination and Indian Educational Assistance Act, to allow small villages to hire a village leader and establish a village administrative office.

### DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

#### U.S. Forest Service

The U.S. Forest Service is requested to make an inventory of timber resources of Bristol Bay and determine the maximum sustainable yield.

The Forest Sciences Laboratory in Juneau is requested to evaluate the grazing potential of forest lands in the Bristol Bay region when funds are available.

#### Soil Conservation Service

The Soil Conservation Service is requested to make an Environmental Impact Statement of the effect of reindeer herding in Bristol Bay including an estimate of the carrying capacity.

### DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

#### Economic Development Administration

Funds should be sought from EDA to conduct a manpower assessment and training program to support a reindeer industry.

### STATE OF ALASKA

#### Department of Natural Resources

It is strongly urged that specific legislation be enacted guaranteeing traditional usage of the

land for designated state restricted lands, for example, the proposed Wood-Tikchik State Park.

#### Department of Education

Bilingual and bicultural curriculums should be developed which include industrial arts training.

Local schools foster community pride in educational achievement. We recommend that local school programs be strengthened and that additional local high schools be established.

The Department of Education and the University of Alaska are urged to jointly develop a program of vocational education and training for the Bristol Bay region.

#### Department of Labor

The Department of Labor is urged to develop a training program for vocational skills needed in construction and in possible oil and gas development.

#### Department of Aviation

A projected construction schedule for upgrading airports in Bristol Bay villages should be prepared and funds requested. Priority should be given to those villages needing these improvements in order to develop their business potential.

#### Department of Fish and Game

The Department of Fish and Game is urged to develop and initiate projects to replenish the stock of salmon.

The Department is also requested to evaluate the impact of reindeer herding on the game resources of Bristol Bay.

#### Department of Public Works

The Department of Public Works is urged to build a boat harbor at Perryville and Chignik so that local fishermen can fish on a year-round basis. Naknek and South Naknek also need boat harbors.

#### University of Alaska

The University of Alaska should develop training programs designed to develop entrepreneurial and management talent among



# ALASKA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Community and Regional Affairs Committee

LISA RUDD, Chair

Pouch V, State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99811  
(907) 465-3870

15 February 1978

TO: Representative Nels Anderson

FROM: Representative Lisa Rudd

RE: HJR 58 - Relating to the Bureau of Indian Affairs  
and Bristol Bay.

Your resolution relating to the BIA and Bristol Bay, HJR 58, has been referred to our committee and we will need some backup information on the bill before it is considered in committee.

Some specific questions occurred to me as I reviewed the bill and I wish you would include information about them in the backup material which you provide for the committee:

- 1) What is the population of the region?
- 2) How many villages are involved?
- 3) What do the terms "village leader" and "village administration" mean in lines 25 and 26?
- 4) What governmental services are presently being delivered by the BIA in the Bristol Bay area?

Thanks, Nels, for clarifying these points for me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lisa Rudd".

Lisa Rudd

LR/vb

3. Continued - Village Administration - This would tie in with the village leader (Last 4 paragraphs). Having local control, the people would naturally need an administrative office set up to administer the programs previously done by the federal government.

4. Mrs. Williams, Secretary of the BIA Area Director's office, Juneau informed me of what governmental services are presently being delivered by the BIA in the Bristol Bay area.

- 1) Higher education, Employment Assistance
- 2) Realators
- 3) Social Services - welfare, food stamps
- 4) 93-638 Grant Program - Indian Self-Determination Act

If this is not enough information I can call the Anchorage Area office and get all the governmental services being delivered by BIA.

Also, I can research how effective the Bristol Bay Area people think these BIA services are.

Most of this information was taken from the Study - "Bristol Bay - Its Potential and Development". Enclosed are excerpts from the study.



# Alaska State Legislature

## House

JUNEAU ALASKA

February 28, 1978

### MEMORANDUM

TO: REPRESENTATIVE LISA RUDD

FROM: REPRESENTATIVE NELS A. ANDERSON, JR.

SUBJECT: Backup material for HJR 58 - BIA in Bristol Bay

First, I will answer your questions in your memo of February 15, 1978.

1. The population of the Bristol Bay Region is approximately 5,000.
2. 29 villages are involved.
3. The Importance of Local Initiative - Probably the single most important ingredient in community development is local initiative and desire. An external group, such as a borough or BBNA, can assist the local community; however, the "driving force" needs to be the community leadership. An outside group does not want to be in the position of providing services to people who appear indifferent to the service. In addition, all outside agencies have more than enough to do without seeking to provide services to communities who do not really care.

Community Leadership can be difficult when the planning, organizing and follow-through must depend entirely on volunteers who must support a family and where records are scattered in individual homes. Some villages are able to overcome these handicaps and effectively initiate and develop projects. Many other villages are not able to do so.

Public Law 93-638, the Indian Self Determination and Indian Education Assistance Act, was designed to encourage Natives to assume local control of many services previously provided directly by the federal government. An important contribution to local Native planning and implementing of projects would be the provision of funds under PL 93-638 to enable villages to employ a village leader and construction funds for a village office and meeting room. This leader would then have the time to coordinate planning and supervise implementation of projects.

RECOMMENDATION - The Bristol Bay Native Association and the Alaska Federation of Natives should secure the cooperation of BIA and the state's Congressional Delegation in obtaining Congressional authorization and appropriation of funds under PL 93-638 to enable villages to hire a village leader and to establish a village administrative office.



# ALASKA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## Community and Regional Affairs Committee

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