

**SB**

**254**

**SFIN**

**FILE**

# ALASKA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS (ARDOR)

A Network:

- Regional economic development organizations
- Plan and implement regional economic development
- Represent both urban and rural Alaska
- Partner with State and others

# ALASKA LEADERS

## 11 ARDORs

150 Board members

Experts in

- Health
- Transportation
- Tourism
- Chamber of Commerce
- Municipalities
- Natural resources
- Workforce development
- Education
- Fisheries
- Mining
- Native Corporations
- IRAs

# ARDORs Partner to Develop Regional and State Economy

- ▶ Alaska Manufacturing Extension Partnership
- ▶ Denali Commission
- ▶ Economic Development Administration
- ▶ US Department of Agriculture
- ▶ US Small Business Administration
- ▶ UA Center for Economic Development
- ▶ Coordinates regional efforts and  
More than 500 local, regional, private,  
municipal and State organizations

# ARDOR Information

- Established by Legislature in 1988
- Organizations certified as ARDORs
  - 11 ARDORs
  - Represent local and regional public & private organizations and interests
- Reauthorized every three years
- Funded through AIDEA Receives \$650,000 annually
  - \$56,363/organization
  - \$30,000 /state for administration



# Return on the State's Investment 8:1

▶ State ARDOR Program Funds	\$ 650,000
▶ Other State Funds	\$ 239,561
▶ Total Non-State Funds	\$1,904,076
▶ Federal Funds	\$ 904,667
▶ Private Sector Funds	\$1,108,558
▶ Other Non-Federal /Non State Funds	\$1,665,316
▶ In-Kind Contributions	\$ 417,238

## TOTAL ARDOR BUDGET

\$4,476,914



# ARDOR REAUTHORIZATION REQUEST

- ◆ Program up for Legislative reauthorization  
July 1, 2008

Typical reauthorization:

- Three years
- \$650,000 (\$56,363/ARDOR, \$30,000 / State)

ARDORs and partners recommend:

- Five year reauthorization
- \$650,000 (\$56,363/ARDOR, \$30,000 / State)

# ARDOR PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Provides training to 650 individuals statewide

Financial literacy

Business planning

Marketing strategies

Business start-up opportunity workshops

Hosts Annual Economic Development luncheons/meetings


Works on fisheries regulatory, management, and marketing issues – over 250 seasonal jobs created

Develop and market

Regional tourism

Locally created art

Locally available natural resources



# ARDOR PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS CONT.

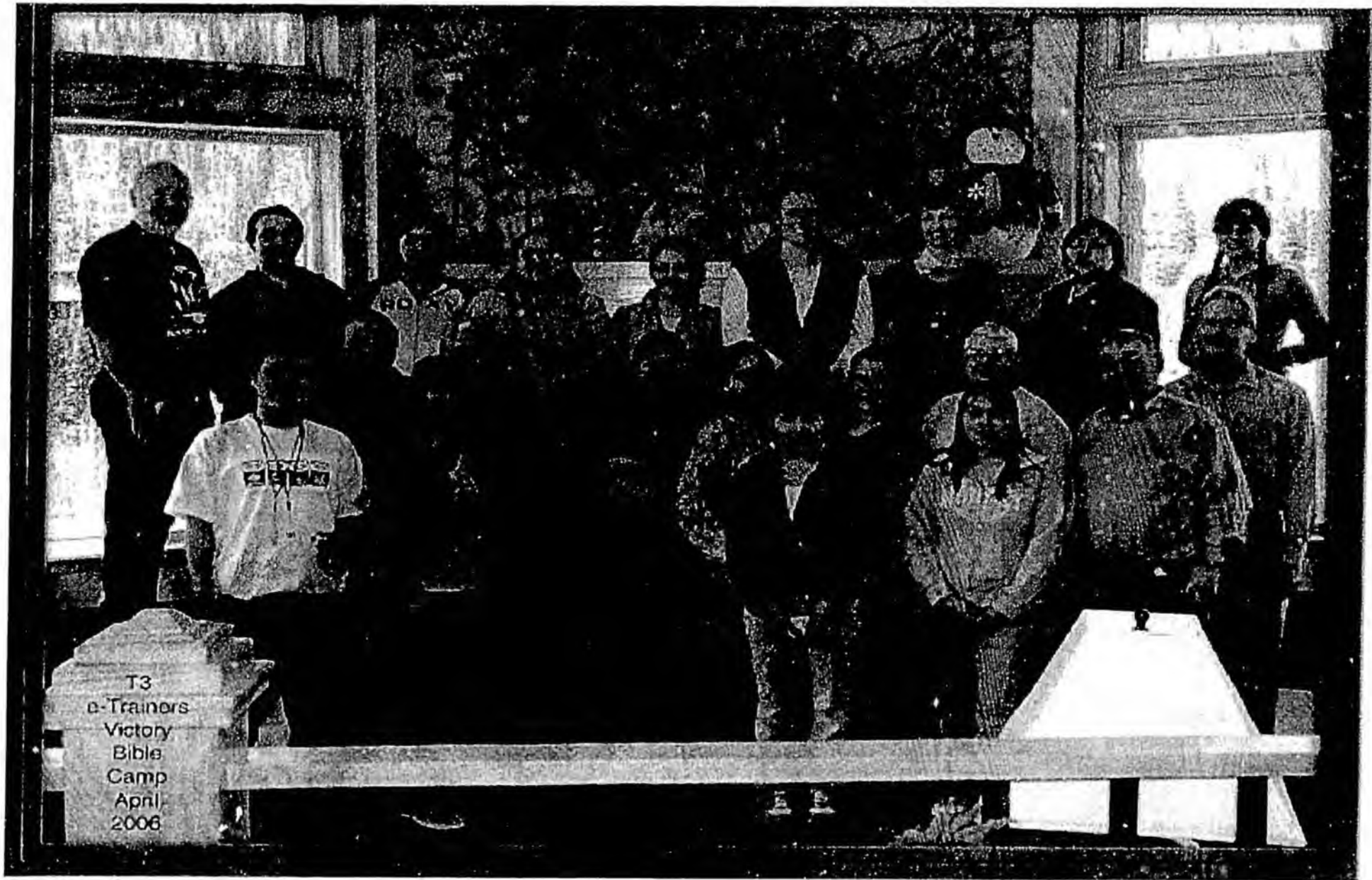
Support and assist in promotion of:

- Regional economic development projects
- Natural resource products (salmon, mining, etc.)
- Regional infrastructure expansion efforts (transportation, housing, etc.)

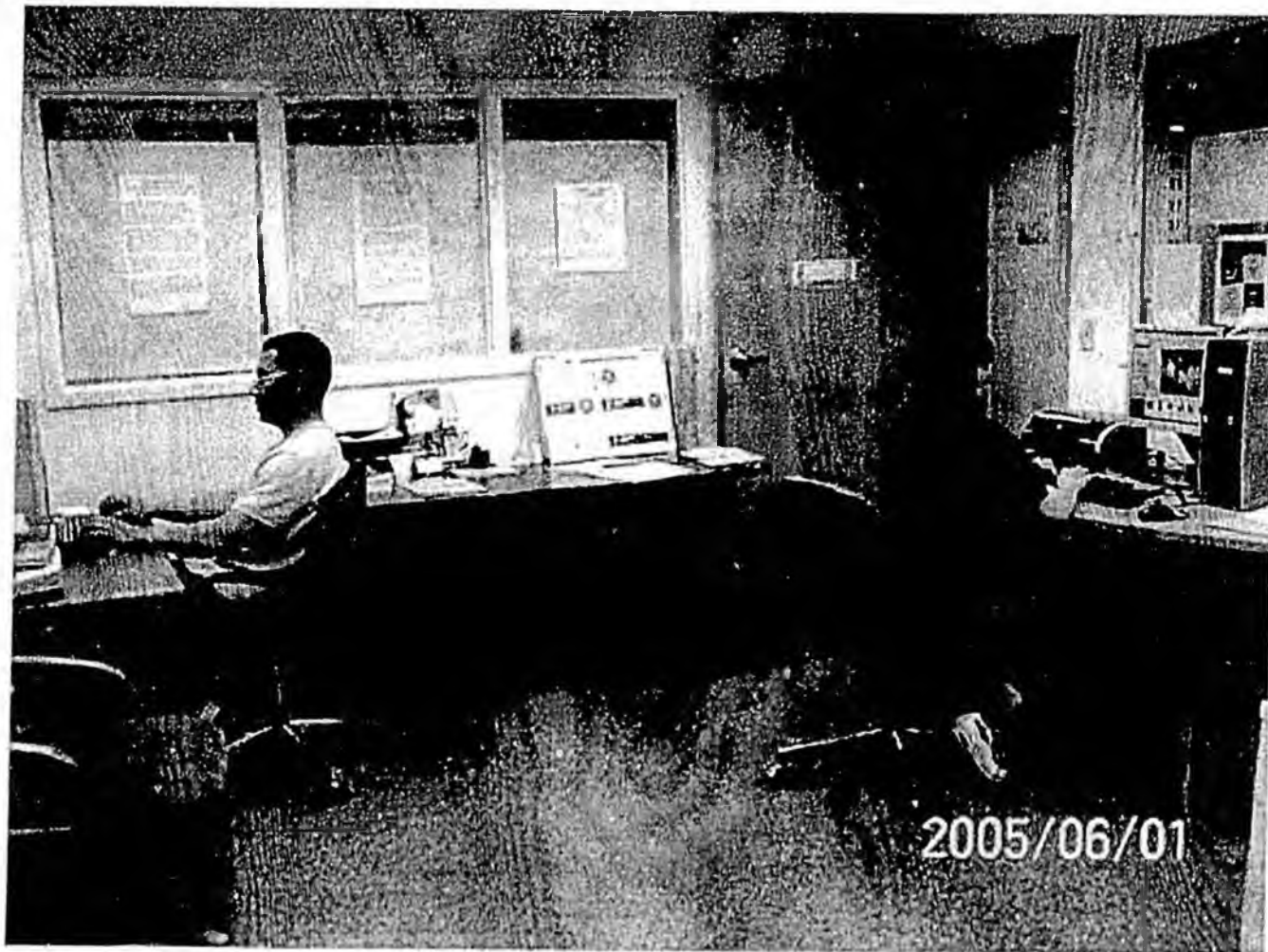
Worked with partners to develop

- Community based seafood processing facilities
- Multipurpose facilities
- Harbor infrastructure projects
- Municipal services for increased job creation
- Establish E-Commerce Centers
  - Developed 400 small business people

# Bering Strait Development Council: E-Commerce Train the Trainer



# BERING STRAIT DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL: E-Commerce Centers



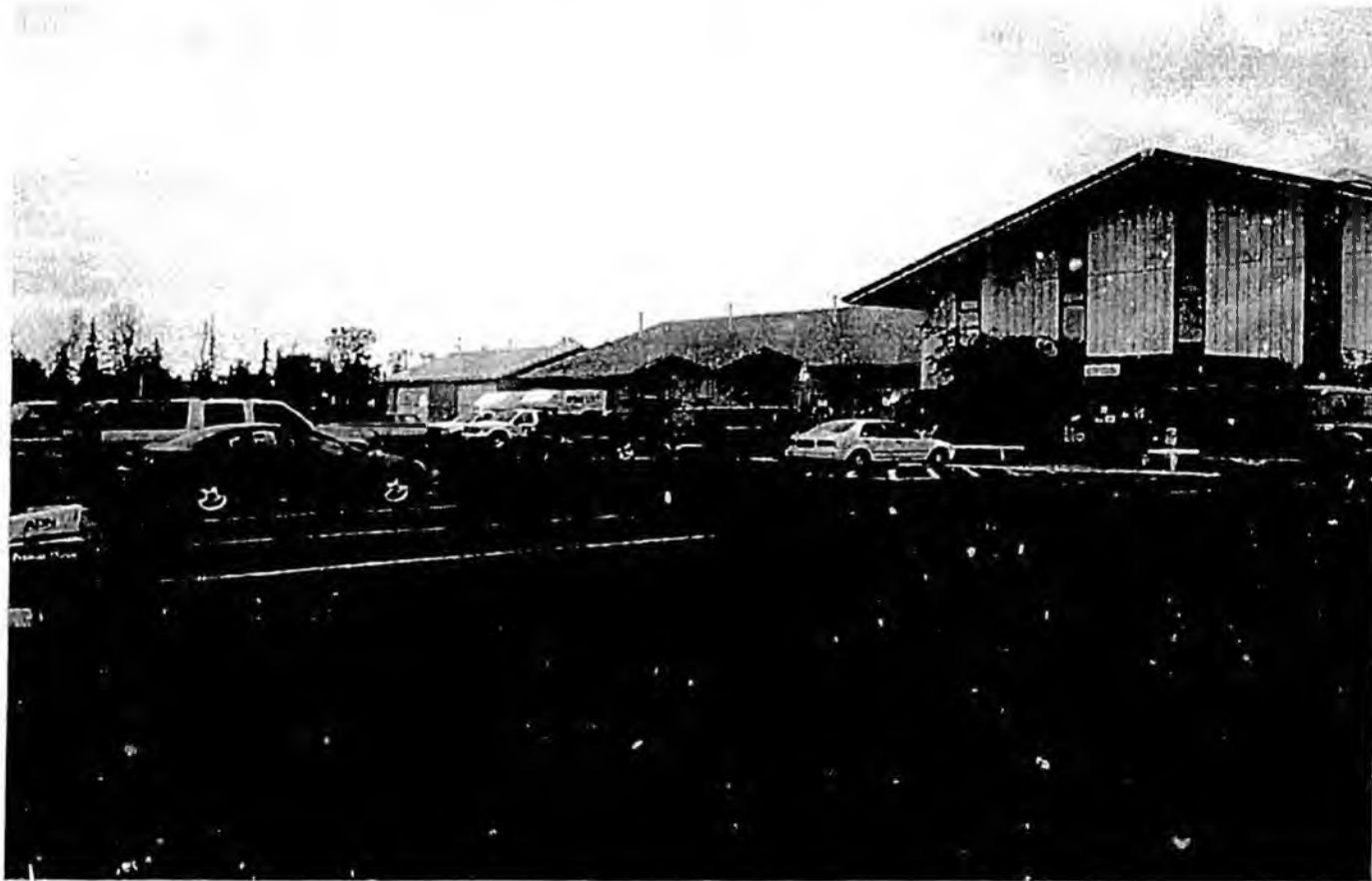
# Copper Valley Development Association Arts & Agricultural Fair



# FNSB Cold Climate Housing Research Center



# Kenai Peninsula Economic Development District



Small Business Incubator created over 70 new  
Alaska jobs in a year

# Kenai Peninsula Economic Development District – Safety Classes



# Lower Kuskokwim Economic Development Council: Planning Committee



# Constructed Carving Center in Kotzebue



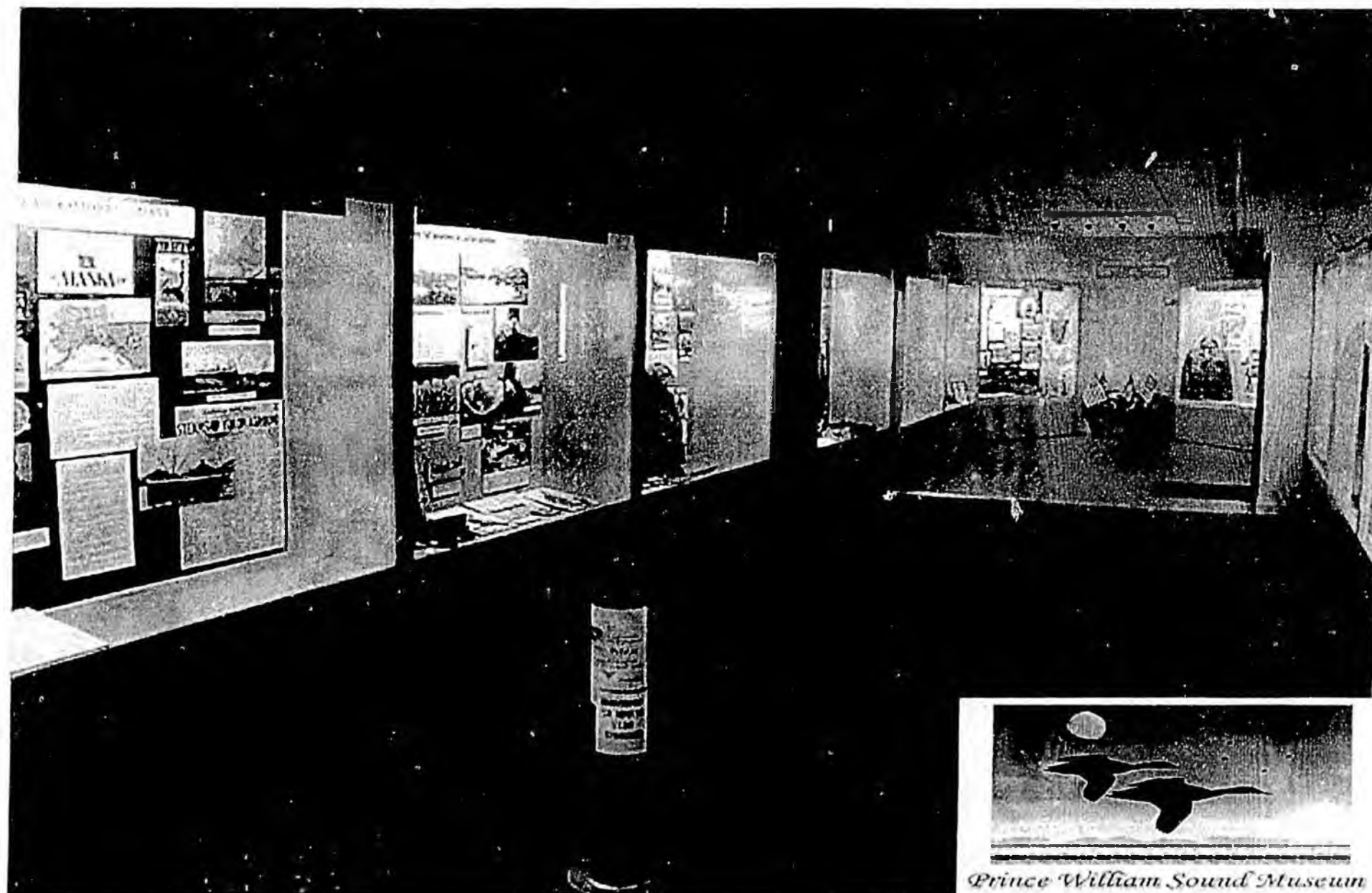
# NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOUROUGH: Sulianich Arts Center Opening



# Prince William Sound Museum - Before



# Prince William Sound Museum - After



*Prince William Sound Museum*

# Current ARDOR Projects:

- Copper Valley Development Association
  - Abandoned Vehicle and Scrap Metal Removal Project
- Fairbanks North Star Borough
  - Sustainable Energy Center
- Lower Kuskokwim: People's Learning Center
  - Vocational opportunities to residents
- Prince William Sound EDD
  - Valdez Fisheries cold storage plant using PetroStar waste heat
- Southeast Conference
  - Funding for Transportation in Southeast Alaska
- Southwest Municipal Conference
  - Seafood Harvesting Labor Data Collection Project



# Abandoned Vehicle & Scrap Metal Removal Project



since 2004

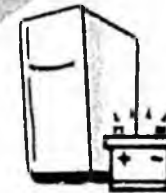
1041 Vehicles

188 Tons of scrap metal

1522 Lead-acid batteries

420 Refrigerators

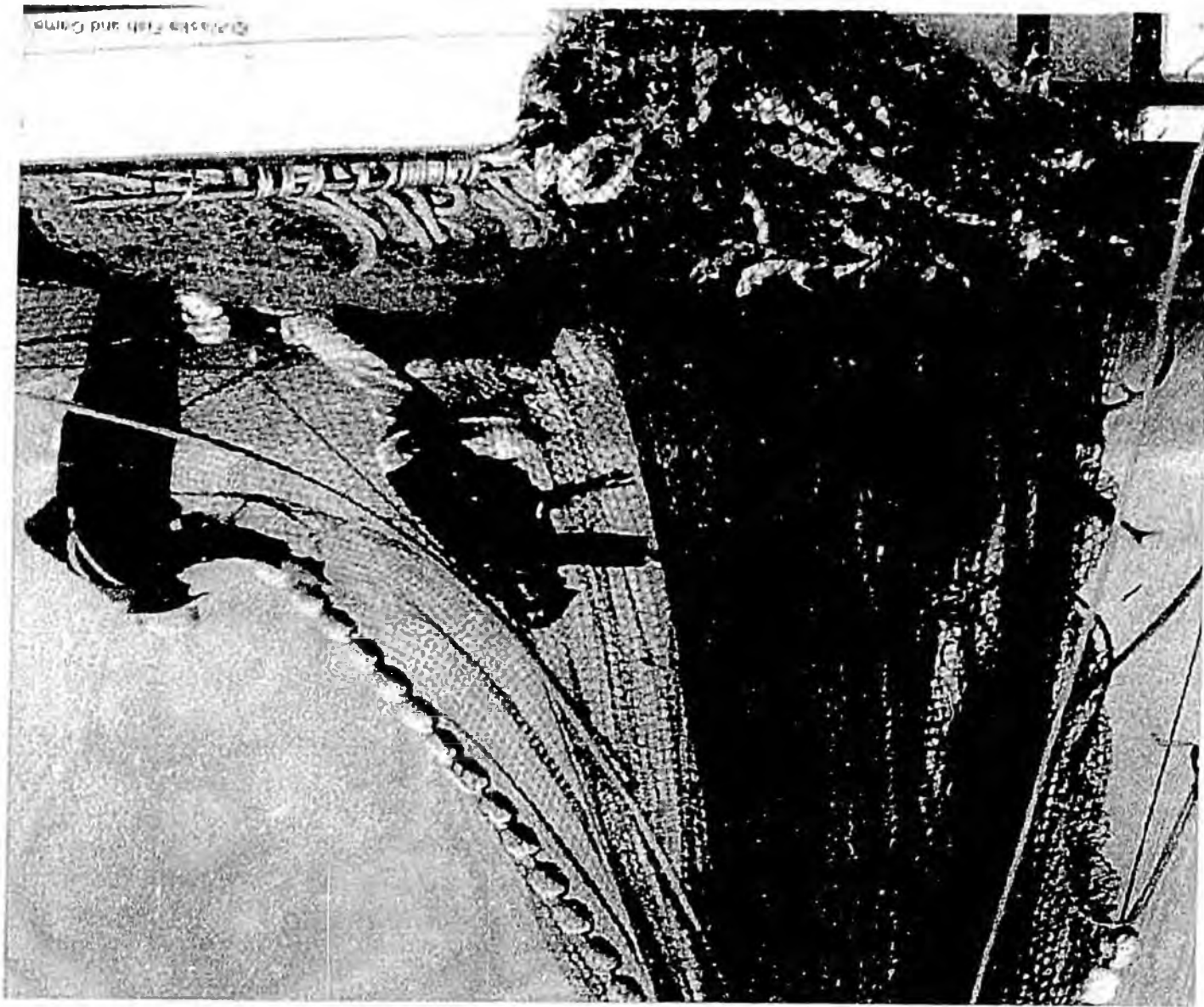
removed from the Copper Valley



Copper Valley Development Association, Inc.

With support from:

*Environmental Protection Agency • State of Alaska • Chitina Traditional Indian Village Council  
Bureau of Land Management • Natural Resources Conservation Service • Kenny Lake Soil &  
Water Conservation District • National Park Service • ConocoPhillips Alaska • Local Landowners*



SWAMC Seafood Harvesting  
Labor Data Collection Project

sec

# SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE: 2/29/08

FURTHER:

DATE TURNED  
IN TO OFFICE: 3/15/08

Finance Committee considered

SENATE BILL NO. 254

## SB 254 AK REGIONAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

"An Act extending the termination date of the Alaska regional economic assistance program; and providing for an effective date."

and recommends:

be replaced with  SCS or  CS \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_)

adopt previous  SCS or  CS \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_)

attached amendment(s)

adopt \_\_\_\_\_ Letter of Intent

further referral to \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

**SENATE BILL:**

- Same Title
- New Title

**HOUSE BILL:**

- Same Title
- Technical Title Change
- New Title w/ SCR # \_\_\_\_\_

**NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):**

Department	Date	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN#

**PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S):**

Department	Date	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN#
DCCED	2/4/08	✓			1
DCCED	2/4/08	✓			2

APPROPRIATION - no fiscal note

SIGNATURES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:	PRINTED LAST NAME	DO PASS	DO NOT PASS	NO REC	AMEND
	EITAN	✓			
	THOMAS	✓			
	DUZAN	✓			
	HUGGINS	✓			
	OLSON			✓	
CO-CHAIR:	HOFFMAN	✓			
CO-CHAIR:	SEAMAN	✓			

# FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA  
2008 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 1  
Bill Version: SB 254  
(S) Publish Date: 2/29/08

Identifier (file name): SB254-CED-OED-02-04-08 Dept. Affected: DCCED  
Title: AK Regional Economic Assistance Program RDU: Comm Assist & Ec Dev (405)  
Sponsor: Huggins Component: Office of Economic Development  
Requester: Senate Community & Regional Affairs Component Number: 2743

**Expenditures/Revenues** (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

	Appropriation Required	Information						
		FY 2009	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>								
Personal Services	13.1	30.0	43.1	43.1	43.1	43.1		
Travel								
Contractual								
Supplies								
Equipment								
Land & Structures								
Grants & Claims	0.0	620.0	620.0	620.0	620.0	620.0		
Miscellaneous								
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>650.0</b>	<b>663.1</b>	<b>663.1</b>	<b>663.1</b>	<b>663.1</b>	<b>663.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>

<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>								
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<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES ( )</b>								
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**FUND SOURCE** (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts								
1003 GF Match								
1004 GF								
1005 GF/Program Receipts								
1037 GF/Mental Health								
1007 Inter-agency Receipts	13.1	650.0	663.1	663.1	663.1	663.1	663.1	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>650.0</b>	<b>663.1</b>	<b>663.1</b>	<b>663.1</b>	<b>663.1</b>	<b>663.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>

Estimate of any current year (FY2008) cost: 0.0

**POSITIONS**

Full-time		0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5		
Part-time								
Temporary								

**ANALYSIS:** (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This legislation extends the Alaska Regional Economic Development Organizations (ARDORS) through June 30, 2013. An additional \$13.1 of AIDEA receipts would be transferred to the Office of Economic Development via inter-agency receipts from AIDEA to keep the position 50% funded by AIDEA. ARDORS are not subject to AS 08.03.020, therefore, funding is not extended one year following the termination date of the program.

Prepared by: Joe Austerma, Manager  
Division: Office of Economic Development  
Approved by: Emil R. Notti, Commissioner  
Commerce, Community, and Economic Development

Phone 907.269.4568  
Date/Time 2/4/08 8:05 PM  
Date 2/4/2008

# FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA  
2008 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 2  
Bill Version: SB 254  
(S) Publish Date: 2/29/08

Identifier (file name): SB254-CED-AIDEA-02-04-08 Dept. Affected: DCCED  
Title: AK Regional Economic Assistance Program RDU: AIDEA (125)  
Component: AIDEA  
Sponsor: Huggins  
Requester: Senate Community & Regional Affairs Component Number: 1234

## Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

	Appropriation Required	Information						
		FY 2009	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>								
Personal Services								
Travel								
Contractual	13.1	650.0	663.1	663.1	663.1	663.1	663.1	
Supplies								
Equipment								
Land & Structures								
Grants & Claims								
Miscellaneous								
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>650.0</b>	<b>663.1</b>	<b>663.1</b>	<b>663.1</b>	<b>663.1</b>	<b>663.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>

<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>								
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<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES ( )</b>								
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## FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 2009	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
1002 Federal Receipts							
1003 GF Match							
1004 GF							
1005 GF/Program Receipts							
1037 GF/Mental Health							
1102 AIDEA Receipts	13.1	650.0	663.1	663.1	663.1	663.1	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>650.0</b>	<b>663.1</b>	<b>663.1</b>	<b>663.1</b>	<b>663.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>

Estimate of any current year (FY2008) cost: 650.0

### POSITIONS

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

**ANALYSIS:** *(Attach a separate page if necessary)*

This legislation extends the Alaska Regional Economic Development Organizations (ARDORS) through Juno 30, 2013. An additional \$13.1 of AIDEA Receipts is requested to keep the position 50% funded by AIDEA. ARDORS are not subject to AS 08.03.020, therefore, funding is not extended one year following the termination date.

Prepared by: Sara Fisher-Goad, Deputy Director - Operations Phone: 907-771-3012  
Division: Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority Date/Time: 2/4/08 8:07 PM  
Approved by: Emil R. Nutti, Commissioner Date: 2/4/2008  
Commerce, Community, and Economic Development

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Senate District H  
600 E. Railroad Avenue  
Wasilla AK 99654  
907-376-4866  
907-373-4724 :Fax



State Capitol  
Juneau AK 99801-1182  
907-465-3878  
Fax: 907-465-3265  
800-862-3878

## Charlie Huggins Senator

### SPONSOR STATEMENT: SENATE BILL 254

*"An Act extending the termination date of the Alaska regional economic assistance program; and providing for an effective date."*

The Alaska Regional Economic Assistance Program was created by the Legislature in 1988 to promote the economic development of Alaska's urban and rural areas. This program enables the creation of Alaska Regional Development Organizations (ARDORs). Each ARDOR is guided and directed by a board of directors composed of the economic development interests in the region. To carry out their mission, the State provides funding in the form of grants for the ARDOR program. In turn, the ARDORs use that money to leverage, on average, eight times the State's investment in private, federal, and other funds.

Currently, there are 11 ARDORs across the state. These ARDORs:

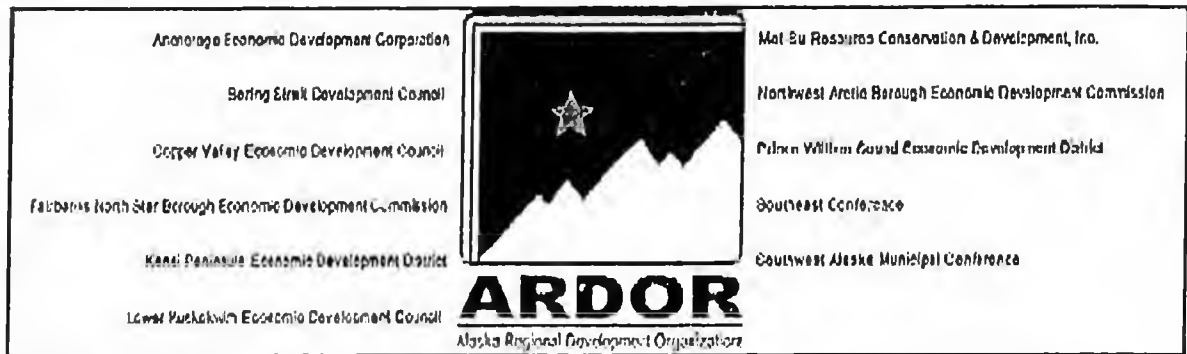
- Enable local officials and businesses to pool their limited resources and work together on economic development;
- Develop partnerships among public, private and other organizations; and
- Provide technical assistance via direct links with local citizens.

SB 254 is a companion bill to House Bill 272, which is sponsored by Rep. Bill Stoltze.

The Alaska Regional Economic Assistance Program and its ARDORs are an important part of the economic development of their regions. I ask your support in extending this program to 2013.

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Contact: Jody Simpson  
907.465.2661  
Version 25-LS1367 \ A  
January 28, 2008



**STATE OF ALASKA ARDOR PROGRAM** - The Alaska Legislature established the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) Program in 1988.

- The ARDOR program receives \$650,000 annually. The State receives \$30,000 of this for administrative costs and the remainder is split, awarding each organization \$56,363, pending the States approval via an application process.
- The 11 designated ARDORs create a network of regional economic development organizations, representing numerous local public and private interests to plan and implement economic development at the regional level for both urban and rural Alaska.
- This program continues to play an integral role in driving local initiatives and furthering economic diversification in partnership with the State and other entities.
- The ARDOR program is the State's contribution to economic development in Alaska's urban and rural regions.

**ARDOR PROGRAM GOALS** - Each ARDOR represents a unique region and develops an annual work plan. The ARDOR program goals continue to be in line with the original intent of the Legislature. Program goals:

- Facilitate development of a healthy economy that results in sustainable business growth, attraction of new business investment, and further economic diversification in the State.
- Identify and eliminate regional economic development barriers.
- Develop and implement a comprehensive economic development strategy.
- Coordinate regional planning efforts resulting in the creation of new business opportunities.
- Achieve goals identified through regional processes; enable communities to pool their limited resources.
- Develop partnerships among public, private and other organizations.
- Establish a Board of Directors with 10-20 professional members constituting 150+ representatives of the region's economic, political and social interests, partnering to achieve a stronger economic base in their region.
- Provide technical assistance via direct links with local citizens.

**RETURN ON THE STATE'S INVESTMENT** - The ARDOR Program provides a positive fiscal impact by leveraging the funds received for economic development throughout the state's regions. In FY 07 funds were leveraged by nearly 800%, turning \$620,000 into \$4,476,914.

→ State ARDOR Program Funds	\$ 620,000
→ Other State Funds	\$ 239,561
→ Total Non-State Funds	\$1,904,076
→ Federal Funds	\$ 904,667
→ Private Sector Funds	\$1,108,558
→ Other Non-Federal/Non State Funds	\$1,665,316
→ In-Kind Contributions	\$ 417,238
→ TOTAL ARDOR BUDGET	\$4,476,914

**REAUTHORIZATION** - The ARDOR Program is up for reauthorization by the Legislature July 1, 2008. The ARDOR Program has continuously been reauthorized by the Legislature for three year periods.

- THE ARDORs are recommending reauthorization for five years so that more effective long term planning can be accomplished.

**PLEASE SUPPORT A 5 YEAR REAUTHORIZATION OF THE STATE'S ARDOR PROGRAM FOR MORE EFFECTIVE LONG TERM PLANNING**

**ARDOR PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS** -- The ARDOR Program is responsible for many accomplishments over the years. Here is a representation of accomplishments and on-going activities from the 11 designated Alaska Regional Development Organizations:

- Provides technical training, financial literacy, credit reform, business planning, marketing strategies, and business start-up opportunity workshops. Services have been delivered to more than 650 individuals across the State.
- Hosts the Annual Economic Forecast Luncheon in Anchorage which was attended by more than 1000 local business and community leaders.
- Monitors fisheries regulatory, management, and marketing issues that impact Alaska fisheries and influence policies, management, and marketing initiatives to create a more stable fisheries economy in the regions. Over 250 seasonal jobs resulted; more fisherman bonuses were obtained from processors and substantial revenue to airlines and other local service providers was obtained.
- Supports Economic Development Administration (EDA) funding for development of community based seafood processing facilities, multipurpose facilities, harbor infrastructure projects and municipal services for increased job creation.
- Supports and assists in the promotion of regional economic development projects, natural resource products (salmon, mining, etc.) and, supported and promoted regional infrastructure expansion efforts (transportation, housing, etc.)
- Establishes E-Commerce Centers in rural villages to enable Alaska Native artists to sell their art globally to increase cash income in predominantly subsistence based economy regions, resulting in more than 400 participants. Eight E-Commerce Centers and an artist carving center have been established
- Creates Small Business Incubators; over 70 new Alaska jobs were created in one year. Multiple other small businesses created through business planning assistance.
- Markets ongoing regional tourism efforts and has resulted in increased businesses and inquiries by consumers, travel trade and travel media.
- Coordinates regional efforts and partners with more than 500 local, regional, private, municipal and State bodies to pool resources, decrease duplication of efforts and create new business opportunities.

**ALASKA REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT  
ORGANIZATIONS  
(ARDORS)**

ANCH. ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT  
CORPORATION  
907/258-3700

BERING STRAIT  
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL  
907/443-4248

COPPER VALLEY  
DEVELOPMENT ASSOC.  
907/822-5001

FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR  
BOROUGH ECONOMIC DEV.  
COMMISSION  
907/459-1309

LOWER KUSKOKWIM  
ECONOMIC DEV. COUNCIL  
907/543-5967

KENAI PENINSULA  
BOROUGH ECONOMIC DEV.  
DISTRICT  
907/283-3335

MAT-SU RESOURCE  
CONSERVATION &  
DEVELOPMENT  
907/373-1062

NORTHWEST ARCTIC  
BOROUGH ECONOMIC DEV.  
COMMISSION  
907/442-2500

PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND  
ECONOMIC DEV. DISTRICT  
907/222-2440

SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE  
907/463-3445

SOUTHWEST ALASKA  
MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE  
907/562-7380

STATE OF ALASKA  
DEPARTMENT OF  
COMMERCE, COMMUNITY  
AND ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT  
907/269-8104

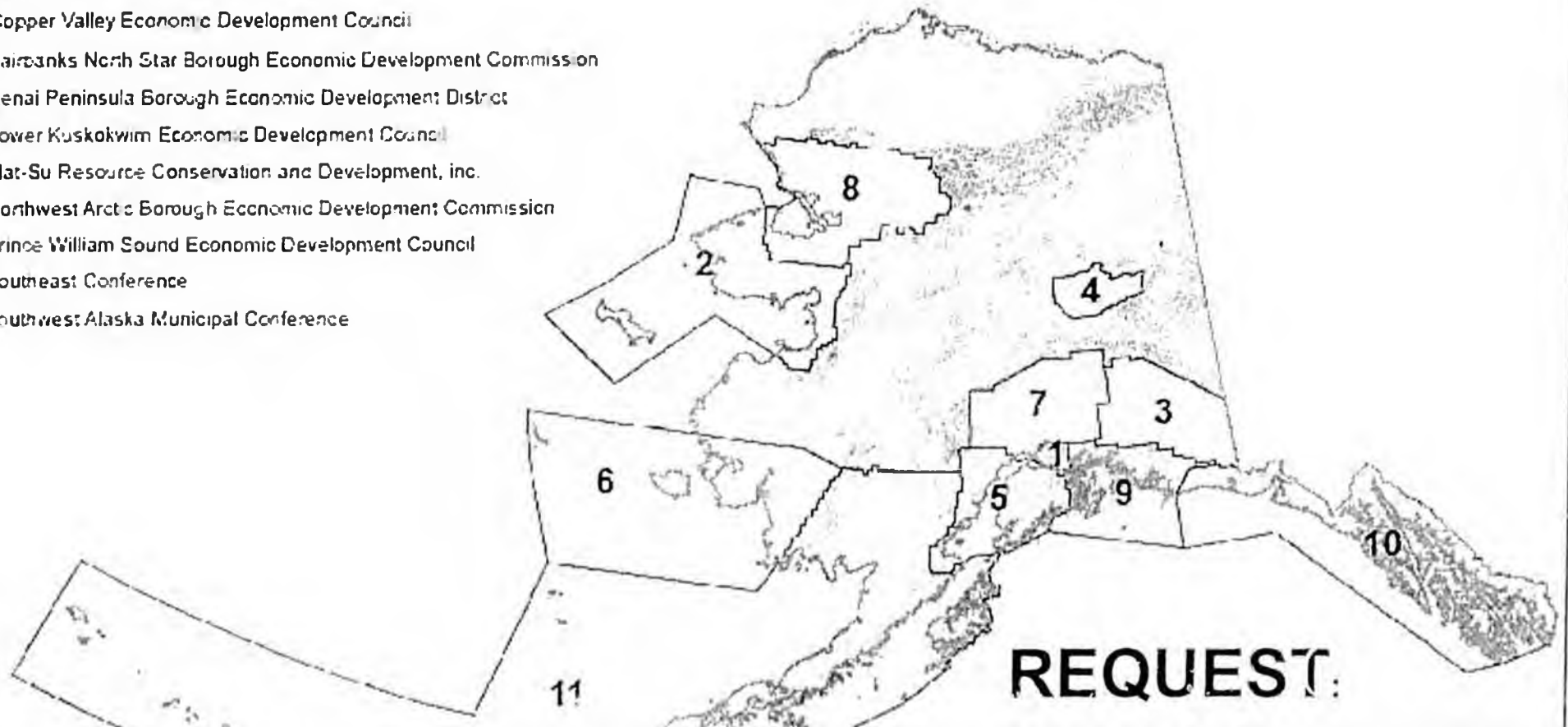
# Alaska Regional Development Organizations (ARDORS)

Partners in developing our state and regional economies.

## Legend

### ARDORS

- 1** Anchorage Economic Development Corporation
- 2** Bering Straits Development Council
- 3** Copper Valley Economic Development Council
- 4** Fairbanks North Star Borough Economic Development Commission
- 5** Kenai Peninsula Borough Economic Development District
- 6** Lower Kuskokwim Economic Development Council
- 7** Mat-Su Resource Conservation and Development, inc.
- 8** Northwest Arctic Borough Economic Development Commission
- 9** Prince William Sound Economic Development Council
- 10** Southeast Conference
- 11** Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference



162.5 325 650 Miles

**FIVE YEAR REAUTHORIZATION  
\$53,363 / ARDOR**

Anchorage Economic Development Commission  
Denali Area Development Council  
Copper Valley Economic Development Council  
Fairbanks North Star Borough Economic Development Commission  
Kodiak Island Economic Development District  
Lower Kuskokwim Economic Development Council



Mat 24 Resource Conservation & Development, Inc.  
Northwest Arctic Borough Economic Development Commission  
Peters Wildlife Board Economic Development District  
Southeast Conference  
Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference

## RESOLUTION 2008-01

### ARDOR JOINT RESOLUTION SUPPORTING STATE OF ALASKA ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION

WHEREAS, we are the recognized Alaska Regional Development Organizations (ARDORs) for the State of Alaska's Regional Economic Development Assistance Program, and

WHEREAS, the State's Regional Economic Development Assistance Program grant makes a significant portion of an ARDORs unencumbered budget available for ARDORs to use in pursuit of identified regional economic development goals, and

WHEREAS, this seed funding supplies an excellent source of match for grant funding from other sources and for projects that might not otherwise be undertaken, thus leveraging the state's investment; and

WHEREAS, the ARDORs in the state have made significant progress on economic development, as evidenced in annual reports summarizing cost effective achievement of regional economic development goals; and

WHEREAS, without this source of funding, ARDORs would have to divert their energies from economic development to finding other funds to maintain their level of development, and

WHEREAS, many of the smaller ARDORs could be impacted to the point where they might have to dissolve if the program is not renewed, putting further hardship on rural areas that most need economic development; and

WHEREAS, the ARDORs participate fully in developing and implementing a five-year regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies, (CEDs), and

WHEREAS, the ARDORs are a critical partner in developing regional economies to help offset declines in traditional industry and commerce. Further, recognizing that the ARDOR program returns eight dollars in economic development efforts for every one dollar invested by the State of Alaska, thus realizing its goal of cost effective statewide economic development

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the ARDORS urge the Governor and the Alaska State Legislature to reauthorize the ARDOR program for an additional five (5) years in the interest of more effective planning for economic development for all Alaskans

PASSED AND ADOPTED by a duly constituted quorum by the directors of the following ARDORS on January 21, 2008.

*Bob Uebels*

Bering Strait Development Council

*Harold S. S. S. S.*

Fairbanks North Star Borough

*[Signature]*

Kenai Peninsula Economic Development District

*Michael Kato*

Southwest AK Municipal Conference

*[Signature]*

Southeast Conference Development

*Carl Berger*

Lower Kuskokwim Economic Council

*[Signature]*

Prince William Sound Economic Development District

*Clair Scribner*

Copper Valley Development Association

*[Signature]*

Anchorage Economic Dev. Corporation

*[Signature]*

Northwest Arctic Borough Economic Development Commission

*Marty Melosa*

Mat-Su Resource Conservation & Development, Inc.



Sec. 44.33.895. Alaska regional economic assistance program. [See delayed repeal note].

(a) The department shall

(1) encourage the formation of regional development organizations by providing assistance in forming organizations to interested individuals, including information on how to qualify and apply for regional development grants and federal funding under 42 U.S.C. 3121 - 3246 (Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965), as amended;

(2) assist an interested individual in establishing boundaries for a proposed organization to ensure that the region

(A) is of sufficient geographic size and contains a large enough population to form an economically viable unit with shared interests, resources, traditions, and goals;

(B) contains at least one municipality that serves as a regional center; and

(C) contains the entire area of each municipality included in the region;

(3) gather information about regional economic issues, international trade, and tourism from organizations;

(4) serve as liaison between organizations and other state agencies and encourage other agencies to make resources available to help accomplish goals of the organizations;

(5) assist each organization to

(A) provide services designed to encourage economic development to local communities and businesses;

(B) collect and distribute economic information relevant to the region;

(C) participate in state marketing campaigns and join state trade missions that are relevant to the region; and

(D) develop and implement strategies to attract new industry, expand international trade opportunities, and encourage tourism within the region.

(b) Subject to (c) of this section, the department may make regional development grants to organizations for projects the department determines will be of value in encouraging economic development. During a fiscal year, the department may make no more than 15 grants and may only make grants to one organization from a particular region. An organization that is designated an economic development district under 42 U.S.C. 3171 qualifies for grants under this subsection. The department shall by regulation adopt procedures for applying for regional development grants, including application deadlines. The department may by regulation establish additional grant eligibility requirements.

(c) To qualify for a grant, a regional development organization must match the grant by providing an amount of money from nonstate sources. The department shall establish by regulation a formula that determines the amount of the match required under this subsection based on the capability of each organization to generate money from nonstate sources. The amount of match required may not exceed the amount of grant money and may not be less than 20 percent of the grant. The total amount of grant money provided to an organization during a fiscal year may not exceed \$100,000.

(d) There is established in the department the regional development fund consisting of appropriations to the fund. Money from the fund may be used only for regional development grants.

(e) In this section,

(1) "department" means the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development;

(2) "regional development organization" or "organization" means a nonprofit organization or nonprofit corporation formed to encourage economic development within a particular region of the state that includes the entire area of each municipality within that region and that has a board of directors that represents the region's economic, political, and social interests.

## Article 12. ALASKA FOREST PRODUCTS RESEARCH AND MARKETING PROGRAM

Sec. 44.33.900. Alaska forest products research and marketing program.

(a) The Alaska Forest Products Research and Marketing Program is established in the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development.

(b) The program is established to provide a statewide information clearinghouse and coordinator to gather and disseminate information relating to research and development, including technical, logistical, financing, marketing, and other relevant information regarding the manufacture of specific value-added wood products and the establishment of new high value-added manufacturing facilities in the state, and to assist in coordinating existing research and development efforts by state and federal agencies and other public and private entities.

(c) The program coordinator shall identify unfilled needs and problems impeding the development of a high value-added wood products industry in the state, gather information and conduct analyses, and propose solutions by exploring successful models in other states and nations.

### Chapter 44.35. DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS

#### Article 01. DEPARTMENT FUNCTIONS

Sec. 44.35.010. Adjutant general.

The principal executive officer of the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs is the adjutant general.

Sec. 44.35.020. Duties and powers of department.

(a) The Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs shall