

HB

314

<TARGET><BILL>HB 314</BILL><SUBJECT>HB
314</SUBJECT><COMM>SFIN29</COMM></TARGET>

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE: 4/13/16

FURTHER:

DATE TURNED
IN TO OFFICE: _____

Finance Committee considered HOUSE BILL NO. 314

HB 314-AK REG ECON ASSIST. PROGRAM; EXTEND

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

and recommends:

- be replaced with SCS HB 314 (FIN) Same Title Technical Title Change
 New Title/SCR No. _____
- adopt previous SCS _____ (_____) Same Title Technical Title Change
 New Title/SCR No. _____
- attached amendment(s)
- adopt _____ Letter of Intent
- further referral to _____ Committee

Dept Abbr.	
ADM	LWF
CED	LAW
COR	LEG
EED	MVA
DEC	DNR
DFG	DPS
GOV	REV
DHS	DOT
AJS	UA

NEW FISCAL NOTE(S)				
Dept.	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN #

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S)				
Dept.	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN #
CED	X			1

APPROPRIATION - no fiscal note

SIGNATURES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:	PRINTED LAST NAME	DO PASS	DO NOT PASS	NO REC	AMEND
<i>[Signature]</i>	MICCHEE	✓			
<i>[Signature]</i>	Bishop	✓			
<i>[Signature]</i>	Dunlap			✓	
<i>[Signature]</i>	Owson			✓	
<i>[Signature]</i>	Hoffman			✓	
CO-CHAIR: <i>[Signature]</i>	Kelly				
CO-CHAIR: <i>[Signature]</i>	Mackinnon	✓			

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2016 Legislative Session

Bill Version:	HB 314
Fiscal Note Number:	1
(H) Publish Date:	3/23/2016

Identifier: HB314-DCCED-DED-3-8-16
 Title: AK REG ECON ASSIST. PROGRAM; EXTEND
 Sponsor: HUGHES
 Requester: (H) LABOR & COMMERCE

Department: Department of Commerce, Community and
Economic Development
 Appropriation: Economic Development
 Allocation: Economic Development
 OMB Component Number: 2743

Expenditures/Revenues

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below. (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2017 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2017 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates					
			FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
OPERATING EXPENDITURES								
Personal Services								
Travel								
Services								
Commodities								
Capital Outlay								
Grants & Benefits		774.1						
Miscellaneous								
Total Operating	0.0	774.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Fund Source (Operating Only)

1004 Gen Fund		774.1						
Total	0.0	774.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Positions

Full-time								
Part-time								
Temporary								

Change in Revenues								
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Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2016) cost: 0.0 *(separate supplemental appropriation required)*
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2017) cost: 0.0 *(separate capital appropriation required)*
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency? No
 If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version:

Not applicable, initial version.

Prepared By:	Britteny Cioni-Haywood, Director	Phone:	(907)465-2625
Division:	Economic Development	Date:	03/08/2016 06:00 PM
Approved By:	Catherine Reardon, Director	Date:	03/08/16
Agency:	Division of Administrative Services, DCCED		

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2016 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Analysis

This bill extends the sunset of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program to July 1, 2021 and lessens the reporting requirements in the absence of a state appropriation for grants to ARDORs.

Grant funding was included in the Governor's request but was removed in both the House and the Senate subcommittee budgets.

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

SESSION ADDRESS:

Alaska State Capitol
Juneau Alaska 99801
Phone: 907-465-3743
Toll-free: 1-800-565-3743
Fax: 907-465-2381

Rep.Shelley.Hughes@akleg.gov



INTERIM ADDRESS:

600 E Railroad Avenue
Wasilla AK 99654
Phone: 907-376-3725
Fax: 907-376-4768

Representative Shelley Hughes
House District 11 ~ Greater Palmer

HB 314 Extending the Alaska Regional Economic Assistance Program

Sponsor Statement

HB 314 extends the sunset date of the Alaska Regional Economic Assistance (ARDOR) program to July 1, 2021 and allows the designations of the 10 existing ARDORs even when state funds are not appropriated by the legislature.

The ARDOR program was established in 1988 under AS 44.33.895 to encourage the formation of regional development organizations in locations across the state. This bill aims to ensure that the ARDORs can continue their work at no cost to the state.

ARDORs are the primary economic development agencies in their regions providing support services for economic development projects.

Recognizing that the state of Alaska is in the midst of a major revenue shortage, HB 314 provides a necessary change in statute to alleviate the costly reporting and assistance requirements for DCCED during years that funding is not awarded to the ARDOR program. The bill also relieves the ARDORs of their reporting requirements during years that funding is not provided by state, thus freeing up resources to focus on projects and pursuing federal and private grant funding.

HB 314 will allow the ARDORs to continue operating without state funding by extending the sunset date of the ARDOR program, which allows the ARDORs to retain their designation. The designation will enable ARDORs to seek federal and private grant funding.

HB 314 facilitates a state general fund savings while still preserving the ARDOR program, which has proven to be an effective investment into local economies throughout the state.

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

SESSION ADDRESS:

Alaska State Capitol
Juneau Alaska 99801
Phone: 907-465-3743
Toll-free: 1-800-565-3743
Fax: 907-465-2381
Rep.Shelley.Hughes@akleg.gov



INTERIM ADDRESS:
600 E Railroad Avenue
Wasilla AK 99654
Phone: 907-376-3725
Fax: 907-376-4768

Representative Shelley Hughes
House District 11 ~ Greater Palmer

HB 314

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

Sectional Analysis

Section 1. Lists the duties of the department in providing assistance to new and existing ARDORs. New language added to make duties "subject to appropriation".

Section 2. Provides the department with the authority to make regional development grants to ARDORs. Limits the number of grants that the department can make, and allows the department to set procedures for grant applications.

Section 3. Sets reporting requirement deadline of February 1 of each year for the department to compile a report on the activities of ARDORs that have received funding in the preceding fiscal year. Also establishes requirement for ARDORs that have received assistance or funding in the preceding fiscal year to provide information to the department to assist in the compiling of the department's report.

Section 4. Extends the sunset date of program to July 1, 2021

Section 5. Retroactivity clause.

Section 6. Effective date.

REPRESENTATIVE
SHELLEY HUGHES

Transportation
Co-Chair
Labor and Commerce
Vice Chair
Unmanned Aircraft Systems Legislative Task Force
Co-Chair
Military & Veterans' Affairs Committee
Community & Regional Affairs Committee
Transportation Finance Subcommittee
Corrections Finance Subcommittee
Fish & Game Subcommittee

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
District 11 – Greater Palmer

Session:
State Capitol, Room 13
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
907-465-3743

Interim:
600 E. Railroad Ave.
Wasilla, AK 99654
907-376-3725
1-800-565-3743

Rep.Shelley.Hughes@akleg.gov
housemajority.org/members/ShelleyHughes
facebook.com/AKShelleyHughes

April 12, 2016

Summary of Changes to HB 314 from ver N to ver P

Page 3, Line 6-11: The Senate Labor & Commerce CS reinstates the requirement that the Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development compile and deliver a report to the senate secretary and chief clerk on regional development organization activities. It does so by removing language from the original bill starting on page 3, line 9, stating "that, in the preceding fiscal year, received assistance under (a) of this 10 section or a grant under (b) of this section"

Page 4, line 9: Repeals the sun set clause.

*adopted
4/17/16*

29-LS1381\G
Shutts
4/16/16

SENATE CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 314(FIN)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Offered:
Referred:

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES HUGHES, Colver, Josephson, Tilton

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

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

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

5 * Section 1. AS 44.33.896(a) is amended to read:

6 (a) Subject to appropriation, the [THE] department shall

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

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

14 (A) is of sufficient geographic size and contains a large enough

1 population to form an economically viable unit with shared interests,
2 resources, traditions, and goals;

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

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

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

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

12 (5) assist each organization to

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

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

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

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

22 * **Sec. 2.** AS 44.33.896(b) is amended to read:

23 (b) Subject to appropriation and to (c) of this section, the department may
24 make regional development grants to organizations for projects the department
25 determines will be of value in encouraging economic development. During a fiscal
26 year, the department may make not [NO] more than 15 grants and may only make
27 grants to one organization from a particular region. An organization that is designated
28 an economic development district under 42 U.S.C. 3171 qualifies for grants under this
29 subsection. The department shall by regulation adopt procedures for applying for
30 regional development grants, including application deadlines. The department may by
31 regulation establish additional grant eligibility requirements.

1 * **Sec. 3.** AS 44.33.896(e) is amended to read:

2 (e) Not later than February 1 of each year, the department shall compile a
3 report [ON STATEWIDE AND REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
4 PROJECTS AND] on the activities of regional development organizations [THAT
5 HAVE RECEIVED ASSISTANCE UNDER (a) OF THIS SECTION OR A GRANT
6 UNDER (b) OF THIS SECTION]. The department shall deliver the report to the
7 senate secretary and the chief clerk of the house of representatives and notify the
8 legislature that the report is available. The report must include the information listed in
9 (1) - (3) of this subsection. To compile the report, the department shall require each
10 regional development organization to provide the following information to the
11 department on or before a date set by the department:

12 (1) an assistance and funding summary for the previous fiscal year that
13 includes

14 (A) the assistance provided to the organization by the
15 department, the amount and purposes of grants made to the organization by the
16 department, and a statement of any other funding received by the organization
17 from the state;

18 (B) the amount of federal funding and grants received by the
19 organization; and

20 (C) the amounts and sources of private sector sponsorships;

21 (2) an activity summary that includes

22 (A) a summary of the meetings of the board of the regional
23 development organization held during the past year, including the number of
24 meetings and the date, location, and a brief description of the agenda of each
25 meeting;

26 (B) a summary of economic development initiatives being
27 undertaken and services being provided by the regional development
28 organization at the time of the report;

29 (C) a work plan containing goals, objectives, and strategies for
30 addressing regional economic needs;

31 (D) a summary of any comprehensive economic development

1 strategy being implemented by the board at the time of the report; and

2 (E) the status of projects funded by grants from the state or the
3 federal government; and

4 (3) an economic development summary that includes

5 (A) potential projects identified by the board that may enhance
6 economic development; and

7 (B) challenges to regional economic development identified by
8 the board.

9 * **Sec. 4.** Section 21, ch. 2, SLA 2014, is amended to read:

10 Sec. 21. AS 44.33.896 is repealed July 1, 2021 [2016].

11 * **Sec. 5.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
12 read:

13 **RETROACTIVITY.** If sec. 4 of this Act takes effect on or after July 1, 2016, it is
14 retroactive to July 1, 2016.

15 * **Sec. 6.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).



ALASKA

NORTH TO OPPORTUNITY

Fiscal Year 2015 Annual Report

Alaska Regional Development Organizations



Juneau

Bill Walker, Governor
State of Alaska

Chris Hladick, Commissioner
Department of Commerce, Community,
and Economic Development

Brittney Cioni-Haywood, Director
Division of Economic Development

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ARDOR representatives at the annual meeting



Attendees at the Anchorage Economic Development Corporation's Economic Forecast Luncheon

ALASKA

NORTH TO OPPORTUNITY

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The Alaska Regional Economic Assistance Program was established in 1988 under AS 44.33.895 to encourage the formation of regional development organizations in locations across the state. These Alaska Regional Development Organizations (ARDORs) prepare and implement regional development strategies that incorporate local knowledge. Qualified ARDORs receive annual base project funding from the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development (DCCED) that may be leveraged for grants from other federal and private grant programs. All ARDORs are required to provide matching funding equal to a minimum of 20 percent of the grant amount; in practice, many ARDORs match at far greater levels.

ARDORs are the primary economic development agencies providing support services for their regions, communities, and businesses. ARDORs throughout the state have similar challenges and implement similar scopes of work, but the form and function of each ARDOR is customized to each specific region. As partners of the State of Alaska, ARDORs encourage economic development and growth in their regions and are strengthened by their connections to other regions and efforts through the statewide program.

ARDORS are directed at the local level by elected or appointed boards of directors that reflect the economic diversity and the character of the region. Some ARDORs have achieved additional federal designations which enable the organizations to qualify for federal funding. ARDORs have also developed business, municipal and private memberships that reflect the distinct needs of each region.

The ten currently designated ARDORs represent areas that range in size from the Municipality of Anchorage to the sparse and sprawling southeast, southwest and western regions of Alaska. Several rural regions like the Arctic Slope and large expanses of the Interior do not currently have designated ARDORs.

Acting upon, maintaining and updating a region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs), is an ongoing responsibility for the organizations and a requirement for many federal funding programs. A CEDs provides a clear understanding of current economic situation and potential strategies forward that encourage economic growth. In FY15, the Northwest Arctic Borough Economic Development Commission completed a CEDs while Fairbanks North Star Borough and Kenai Peninsula Economic Development District began the updating process of their CEDs.

ARDORs use state government grant funds to leverage federal grants, local grants, tribal contributions, and private-sector sponsorships. During FY15, ARDORs collectively leveraged \$3.39 for every \$1 the State of Alaska invested.

In FY15, four ARDORs pursued Business Retention and Expansion (BRE) as a focus. BRE offers the opportunity for ARDORs to partner with community organizations in their region to gather data and assess the health of the business community. The goal of the BRE project is to provide assistance and influence change based on the data. The ARDORs collected information on the business climate in their regions from a collective 287 businesses.

The Yukon-Kuskokwim Economic Development Council (YKEDC) is the newest organization to receive ARDOR status. The organization's application was approved in FY15 and replaced two previous organizations that were representing the region. YKEDC works through the Alaska Council of Village Presidents and represents 56 federally recognized tribes within a 58,000 square mile region in western Alaska. YKEDC immediately began work on a project for the region that incorporates harvesting timber, milling lumber and assembling trusses for cold climate housing design that will eventually be utilized to address the housing shortage and energy efficiency needs in the region.

In early FY16 the ARDOR designation was removed from the Mat-Su region's ARDOR because it was not meeting the program requirements. The Division of Economic Development is working with business and community leaders in the region to identify and assist a qualified organization to fill the ARDOR role in this fast-growing and integral region of the state.

In September of 2014 Southeast Conference released The Arts Economy of Southeast Alaska report providing a first-time look at the artist economy of the region and analyzing and quantifying the economic impacts of this industry. Per the report, \$57.8 million of total direct art expenditures were made in 2013. There were over 2,000 full and part-time artists working within the southeast region and total art-related earnings by artists was \$29.9 million for the same year.

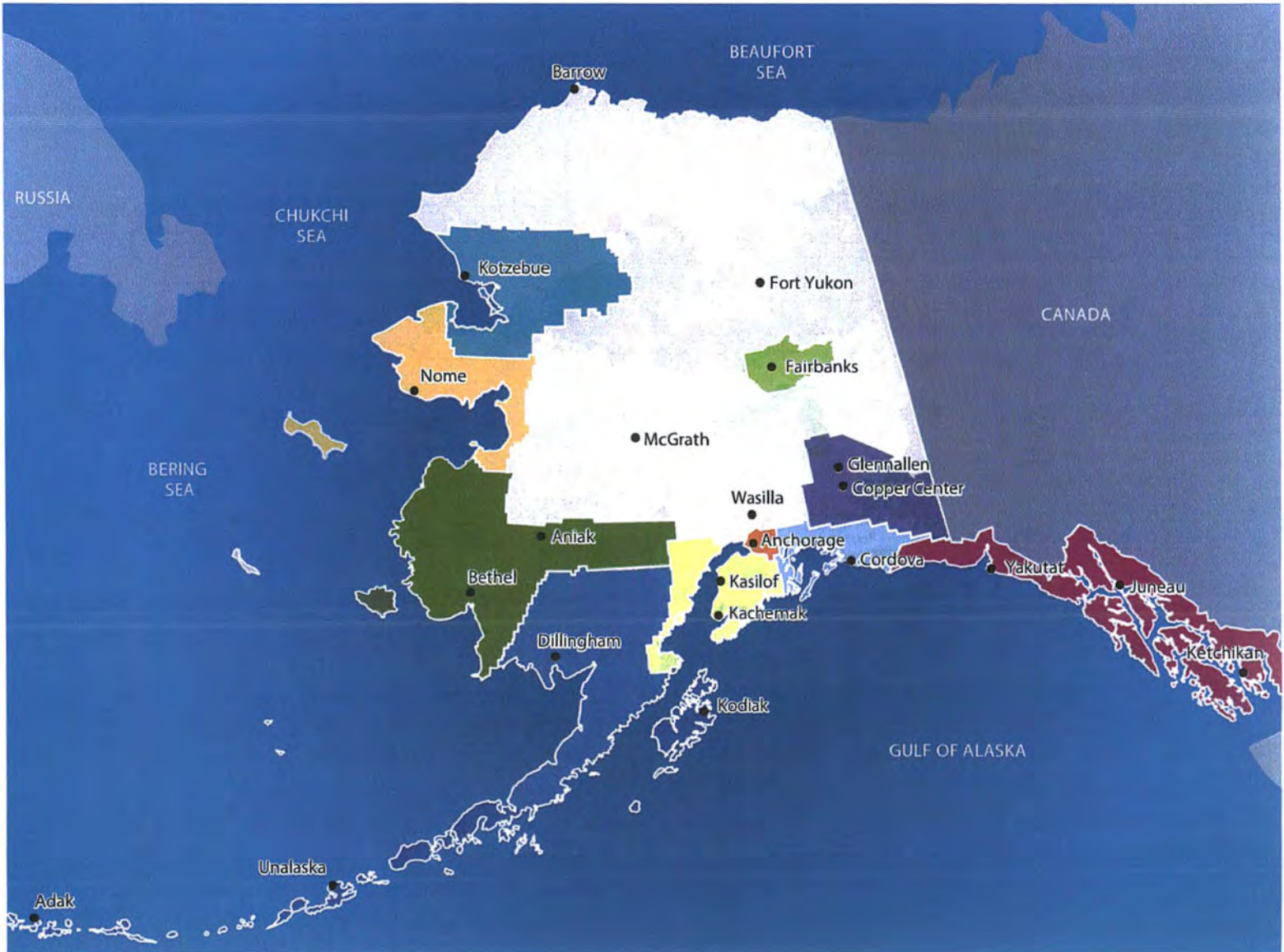


Prints from I Love Anchorage Instagram

Bering Strait Development Council has followed the state's BRE model and has conducted 59 one-on-one business engagements with businesses inside of Nome and throughout the Bering Strait region.

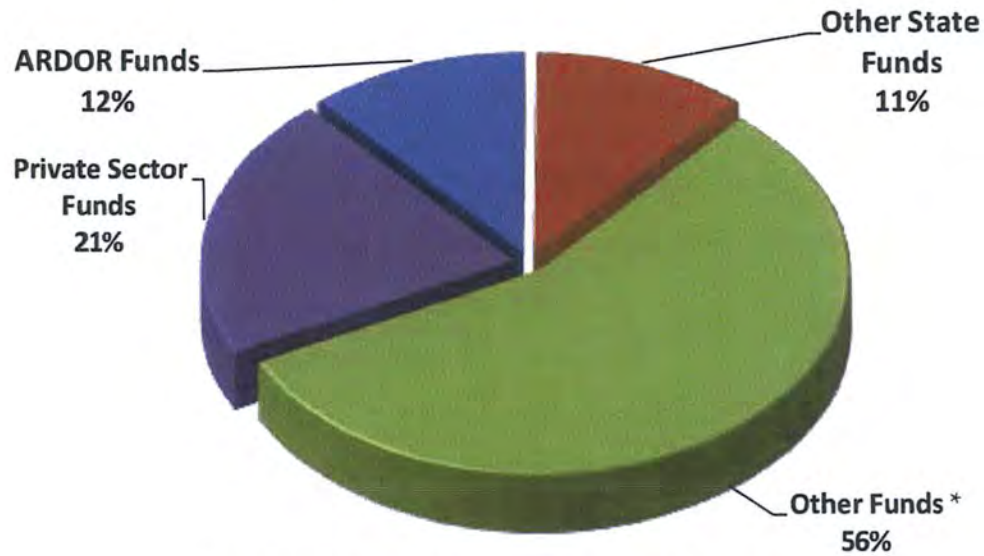
Alaska Regional Development Organizations

- Anchorage Economic Development Corporation (AEDC)
- Bering Strait Development Council (BSDC)
- Copper Valley Development Association (CVDA)
- Fairbanks North Star Borough Economic Development Commission (FNSBEDC)
- Kenai Peninsula Economic Development District (KPEDD)
- Northwest Arctic Borough Economic Development Commission (NWABEDC)
- Prince William Sound Economic Development District (PWSEDD)
- Southeast Conference (SEC)
- Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference (SWAMC)
- Yukon-Kuskokwim Economic Development Council (YKEDC)
- Region without designated ARDOR



The State of Alaska invested a total of \$1,522,553, including ARDOR program grants and other state funds which were used to generate an additional \$5,157,886 from outside sources. The State of Alaska contributed approximately one-quarter of total ARDOR revenue (22.79 percent). The private sector contributed slightly less than ARDOR program funding at nearly one-fifth (21.05 percent) of all ARDOR revenue. A majority of ARDORs combined revenue portfolio (56 percent) comprises other revenue, including tribal funds, federal funds, investment revenue, sponsorships, conference fees and in-kind contributions.

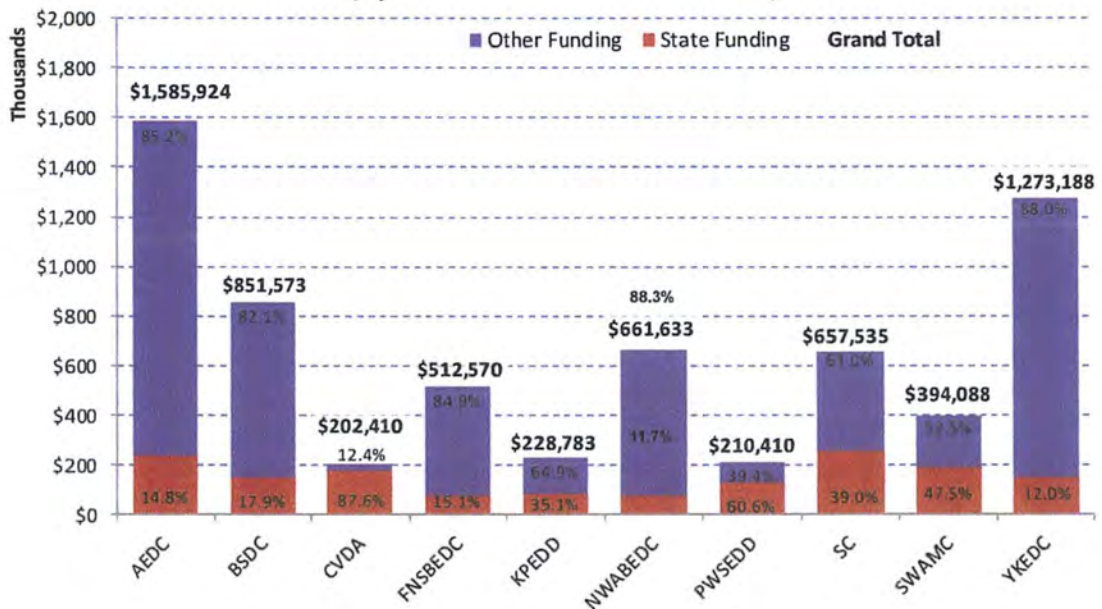
FY2015 ARDOR Program Funding Sources



* Other funds includes all other revenue including tribal funds, federal funds, investment revenue, sponsorships, conference fees and in-kind contributions.

FY2015 ARDOR Program Funding

(By source - dollars in thousands)





Anchorage Economic Development Corporation



Mission: To grow a prosperous, sustainable and diverse economy.

Board of Directors

Executive Committee

Voting Members:

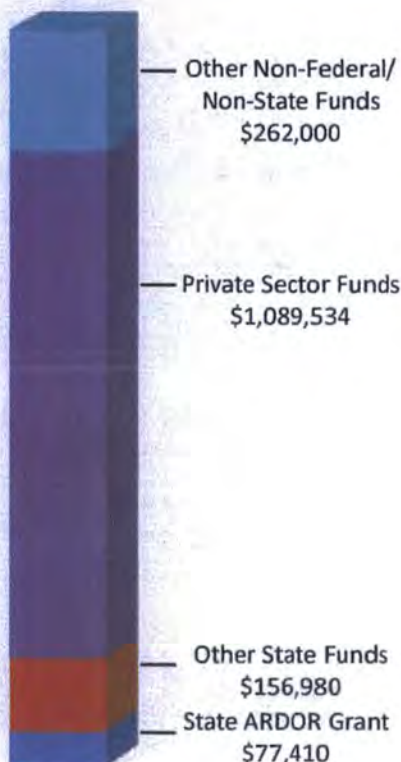
Michael Prozeralik
James Hasle
Marilyn Romano
Timothy Vig
Dale Wade
William Dann
Raquel Edelen
Steve Noble
Joseph Everhart

Executive Committee

Ex-Officio Members:

Larry Cash
Brian Nerland
Chris Schutte
Lon Wilson
Greg Pearce

Revenue Portfolio



The Anchorage Economic Development Corporation (AEDC) was incorporated in 1987 to advocate for economic development and diversity in the Anchorage area. In 1989, it became a member-based 501(c)6 non-profit corporation that today comprises 247 investor companies.

AEDC provides a variety of types of economic development support for Anchorage, including research, educational outreach events, business consulting, startup financing, a strong marketing and social media presence and other business resources. All efforts focus on growing a diverse, prosperous, and sustainable economy. ARDOR program funding is used for AEDC's Business Retention and Expansion (BRE) activities that provide survey results to support economic activities and initiatives such as AEDC's Live. Work. Play. (LWP).

Economic Development Challenges in the Region

The Anchorage Economic Development Corporation identifies several key challenges for the region. Shipping costs for out-of-state exports are prohibitively high and add a significant barrier to the manufacturing sector in the region. However, there is potential to develop and implement a shipping backhaul strategy that could lower these costs and make manufacturing in the region more cost effective. Anchorage unemployment rates continue to be extremely low – causing a workforce shortage that needs to be addressed for all sectors.

Current Activities

AEDC's BRE efforts were highly successful and generated 332 survey responses. Survey respondents identified the recruitment of skilled and unskilled employees as a major challenge to the region. The AEDC board has directed staff to draft a strategic plan to address this challenge for the business community.

AEDC releases a number of reports annually which highlight the current economic conditions in Anchorage and Alaska. Over the next fiscal year AEDC will investigate additional options for formatting and delivery of reports to reach a broader audience and focus on expanding the metrics.

AEDC continues to focus on airport business development as a target area for economic diversification in Anchorage. AEDC will refine the identified target opportunities, gain additional insight from local business leaders through the Economic Development Advisory Committee, and build an in-depth analysis of supply chain characteristics of target companies.

Activities and Results in FY15

- AEDC assisted 192 in-state and 56 out-of-state businesses seeking information, and connected them to resources and contacts in the business community.
- The Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport (TSAIA) Economic Development Study was completed in 2014 and AEDC, in partnership with the Alaska Department of Transportation and the TSAIA are moving forward with airport business

development initiatives that will target key industry opportunities.

- In July 2014, AEDC co-hosted a familiarization tour for CAE. CAE is a provider of flight simulator training products and services. The company was exploring the possibility of establishing a unmanned aerial systems-based training program in Alaska, with training services expanding into additional business lines. AEDC assisted by providing original research regarding site identification, extensive compilation of existing research regarding the Alaska market, meetings with targeted high-level business leaders, potential partners, infrastructure executives, and event planning services.
- AEDC hosted the Economic Forecast Luncheon on February, 5, 2015. This was the largest attended business luncheon of the year with over 1,550 attendees.

Board Activities and Meetings Summary

A continuous theme of the quarterly AEDC board meetings was the LWP initiative and matching it to AEDC's strategic plan. The board also received a presentation on the planning and hosting of the International Economic Development Council Annual Conference. Several resolutions, including the vision navigation and strategic plan for the 2015 calendar year, were approved. The board approved the FY13 audit report and received quarterly financial updates. AEDC CEO Bill Popp's contract was renewed in May of 2015.

Continuing and Future Projects

Development and implementation continues for AEDC's LWP goal of making Anchorage the number one city to live, work and play by 2025. AEDC will create and strengthen ties with organizations and community members to find creative approaches to improve the metrics used to rank the fifty most populous cities in each state. One hundred fifty-six businesses have signed a memorandum of understanding in support of the initiative and over 200 individuals are LWP committee members. FY16 will see the re-launch of the LWP survey and formation of a narrative review committee to update the initiative's narrative.

AEDC is currently pursuing opportunities to bring together transportation leaders in Anchorage to discuss and identify new or potential growth opportunities. In addition, AEDC will continue to expand the reach of Entrepreneur Week throughout the state and continue to develop educational tools to assist entrepreneurs located in more rural parts of Alaska.



CONTACT

Bill Popp, President and CEO
510 L St, Suite 603
Anchorage, AK 99501
(907) 258-3700
www.aedcweb.com

Bill Popp has spent more than 40 years in both the Alaska private and public sectors. As president and CEO of the Anchorage Economic Development Corporation, he sets the strategic direction in marketing Anchorage and Alaska to companies and global industries considering Anchorage as a place in which to do business and assists local businesses looking to expand both within Anchorage and Alaska as well as Lower 48 and international markets. Popp is a past elected and appointed municipal government official for the Kenai Peninsula Borough and is currently chairman of the Governor's Broadband Task Force and a board member of the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce, Visit Anchorage, Anchorage Downtown Partnership, the Alaska Partnership for Economic Development, and Anchorage Concert Association. Popp is also a member of the Alaska Command Civilian Advisory Board. He is the co-chair of the 49th State Angel Fund Advisory Committee and a member of the leadership team for the United Way 90% by 2020 initiative.

STAFF

Bill Popp
President & CEO

Jon Bittner
Vice President

Will Kyzer
Airport Business
Development Director

Bridgette Coleman
Business & Economic
Development Director

Brooke Taylor
Communications Director

Tammy Gossett
Operations Coordinator

Bering Strait Development Council

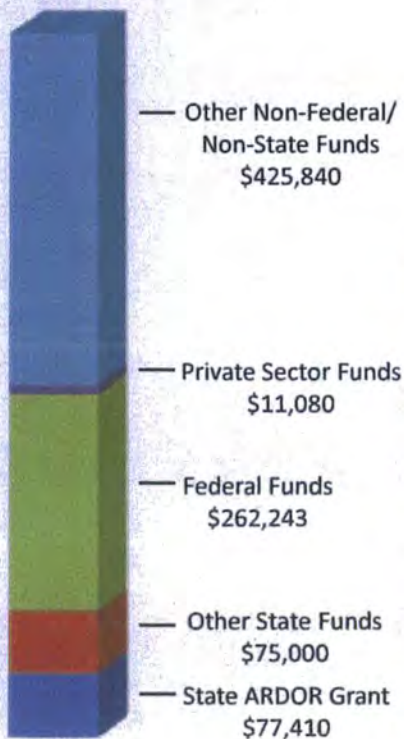


Mission: To advance the capacity of our people and tribes for the benefit of the region.

Board of Directors

Paul Kosto
Sterling Gologergen
John Odden
Richard Beneville
Kevin Zweifel
Frank Johnson
Bryant Hammod
Frank Katchatag
Wesley Okbaok
Peter Buck
Jacob Ivanoff
Larry Kava
Kirstin Timbers
Vickie Erickson
Kevin Bahnke
Carol Gales

Revenue Portfolio



The Bering Strait Development Council (BSDC) was formed in 1997. The BSDC serves as the forum for economic development in the Bering Strait region and as the advisory committee to the regional nonprofit Kawerak and its Community Planning and Development Department (CPD). Leveraging the resources of the CPD, BSDC provides planning and technical assistance to communities and organizations throughout the region focusing on entrepreneurship, Native arts business opportunities, grant writing, and economic project development.

Economic Development Challenges in the Region

Limited infrastructure and distance to markets combined with the high cost of living and doing business are constant challenges within the region. New challenges to the region include increased traffic at the Port of Nome and difficulty securing a stable workforce. Decreasing fish runs and declining numbers of visitors are also challenges to the region's economic health.

Current Activities

BSDC launched a BRE program in early 2015. Twenty-five targeted business engagements happened in FY15; 14 of these were in Nome and 11 of them were in other communities. In addition, BSDC input 200 contacts into the contact management software used statewide by the Alaska Division of Economic Development (DED) to track engagements and activities. Opportunities identified by the regional BRE program include the need for expanded business training offerings; technical assistance for purchasing more energy efficient equipment; sustainability planning and methods to develop better relationships between small businesses and the BSDC, as well as regional, state and federal organizations. BSDC and DED will work collectively to deliver more resource opportunities to the region in FY16.



Activities and Results in FY15

- BSDC hosted three Starting a Business workshops with a total of 29 participants (17 of which are long-term clients).
- BSDC coordinated the update of four local economic development plans. Golovin and King Island updated their entire plans, and Solomon and White Mountain updated their project priority lists within established plans.
- BSDC hosted Native arts business training that focused on technical business assistance with 11 attendees. Follow-up technical assistance was provided to participants.
- BSDC led and coordinated a regional waste backhaul program. The program sent 20,000 pounds of electronic waste out of the region.

Board Activities and Meetings Summary

The council met two times during FY15 to approve the ARDOR funding resolution and to receive updates on maritime activities, backhaul program, and activities to update CEDS. CPD updates were given at all meetings. Regional priorities were discussed pertaining to application for U.S. Economic Development Administration funding.

Continuing and Future Projects

BSDC, in partnership with Pilgrim Hot Springs Development, Unaatuq LLC, Bering Straits Native Corporation and Alaska Center for Energy and Power, is exploring development potential for Pilgrim Hot Springs. The current focus is exploring the agricultural potential of the site which is located 60 miles outside of Nome. Three grant proposals for feasibility analysis and field preparations have been submitted and are pending.



Obie Simonis rejoined Kawerak's Community Planning and Development Department as program director. Obie previously served in this capacity and as director of BSDC from 2010 until transferring in 2012. Obie has experience in the banking and mortgage industries and previously managed Westar Escrow Services in Anchorage for two years before moving to Nome and managing the local branch of Wells Fargo Bank for four years.

STAFF

Obie Simonis
Executive Director

CONTACT

Obie Simonis, Executive Director
P.O. Box 948
Nome, Alaska 99762
(907) 443-5231
www.kawerak.org





Copper Valley Development Association

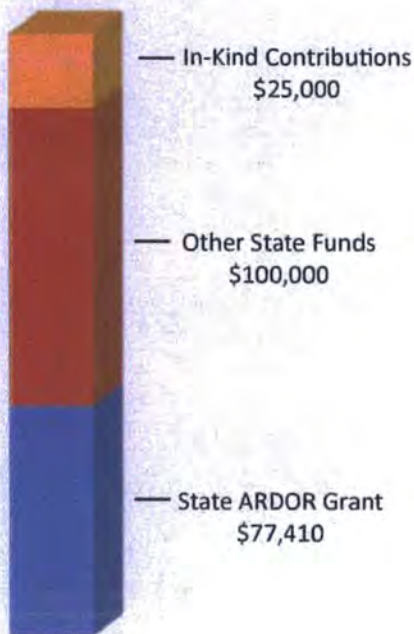


Mission: Facilitating public-private partnerships to improve quality of life through promoting economic development while protecting cultural and natural resources.

Board of Directors

Gary Hay
Pat Anderson
Theresa Absher
Ben Siefert
Steve Gallagher
Joe Bovee
Mercedes Knighten
Shelia Hay

Revenue Portfolio



The Copper Valley Development Association (CVDA) serves the Copper River Valley, an area encompassing approximately 20,649 square miles. CVDA functions as a public and private partnership for natural resource development and other development opportunities. CVDA does this by information gathering at the local, state and federal levels and disseminating it to all interested parties. CVDA is a liaison between organizations with the goal of creating self-sufficiency throughout the region through development and wise use of sustainable resources.

Economic Development Challenges in the Region

Diminishing population in the region has led to lack of customer base for small businesses, utilities, business expansion and retention, school student population, and other services. The housing market is flooded with vacant homes due to the exodus of people to urban areas or out of state. The lack of infrastructure and access to affordable energy are also legacy challenges in the region.

Current Activities

CVDA provides business planning, pro-forma budgeting, and other start-up support for new businesses. CVDA connects businesses, community and tribal organizations to state and federal programs and funding opportunities offered by these agencies.

Activities and Results in FY15

- CVDA coordinated the analysis of opening an Agriculture Business and Natural Resource (ABNR) center in an unused school building. Electrical, heat and building analysis indicated that it is not feasible to reopen and reuse the existing building.
- CVDA coordinated and hosted a regional energy planning summit to develop short, mid- and long-term goals to alleviate the high cost of energy. The association completed phase II of the Alaska Energy Authority regional energy plan in May 2015; phase III will begin in FY16.
- CVDA assisted seven businesses with planning, pro-forma budgeting and start-up activities.
- CVDA assisted five businesses in understanding and adhering to state regulations and permit requirements.
- CVDA assisted 11 businesses with attaining federal energy assistance. Loans and grants totaling \$281,000 have been secured from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Energy for America Program (REAP).

Board Activities and Meetings Summary

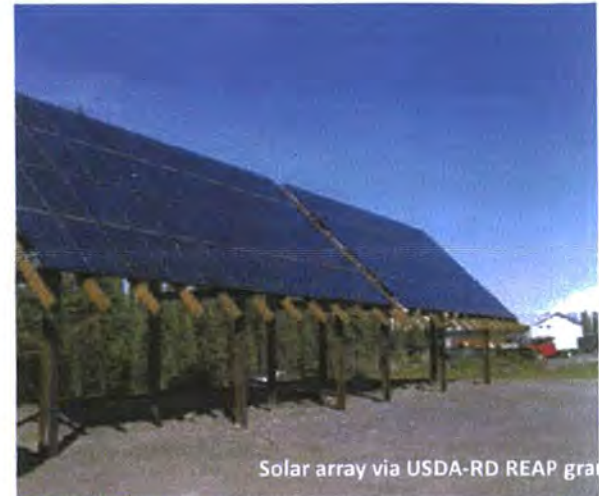
The CVDA board met at least bi-monthly during FY15. The board was consistently updated on the financials of the organization, the status of phase II of the energy plan, and the progress determining if the old Copper Valley School could house the ABNR center. The board was also given updates on the status of the contained grow-unit that was purchased by CVDA and used for feasibility studies, instruction, and as agriculture business incubator. The board made the decision to sell the unit to a local small farming business when CVDA projects were complete.

Continuing and Future Projects

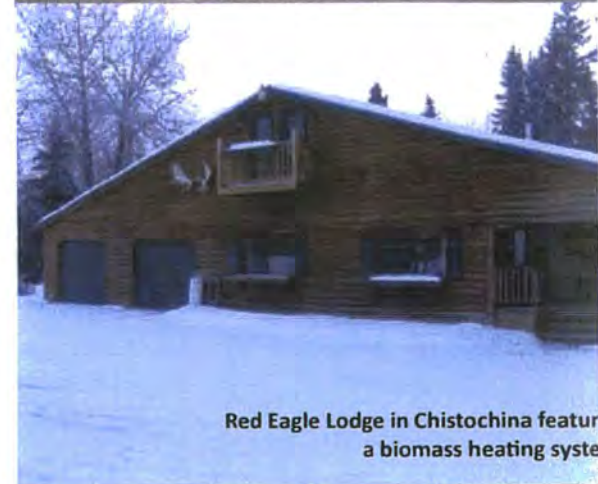
CVDA will continue working with the Alaska Energy Authority on phase III of the regional energy plan which includes developing working groups to identify regional energy priorities and developing current data for resource inventory and feasibility.

In FY16 CVDA will build upon the success of the energy assistance program and will continue to assist small businesses with pursuing energy efficiency, exploring alternative energy systems, and applying for federal or state sources of funding new systems. CVDA will continue to contribute staff time to the Kenny Lake Community League Hall for energy upgrades and value-added uses for its Department of Environmental Conservation-approved kitchen.

CVDA will apply for a USDA Community Programs, Rural Community Development Initiative grant to assist communities develop hydroponic growing systems or greenhouses. This will assist rural communities in food security, job creation and healthy food.



Solar array via USDA-RD REAP grant



Red Eagle Lodge in Chistochina featuring a biomass heating system



CONTACT

Jason Hoke, Director
Mile 111 Richardson Highway
P.O. Box 9
Glennallen, Alaska 99588
(907) 822-5001
www.coppervalley.org

Jason Hoke arrived in Copper Valley in 1996 as a teacher and administrator in Chistochina for the Copper River School District. Jason later served as tribal administrator for Cheesh'na Tribal Council. He has a bachelor of arts in sociology/criminology, masters of science in special education/behaviorism, and graduate work in behavioral psychology. Jason has experience working with federal, state, municipal, tribal, and private entities throughout the United States, in a multitude of professional capacities. He is on the boards of directors for Copper Valley Telecom and Local Emergency Planning Committee, and volunteers with various other organizations. Jason was named executive director of the CVDA in 2010.

STAFF

Jason Hoke
Director

Naomi Young
Executive Assistant



Fairbanks North Star Borough Economic Development Commission

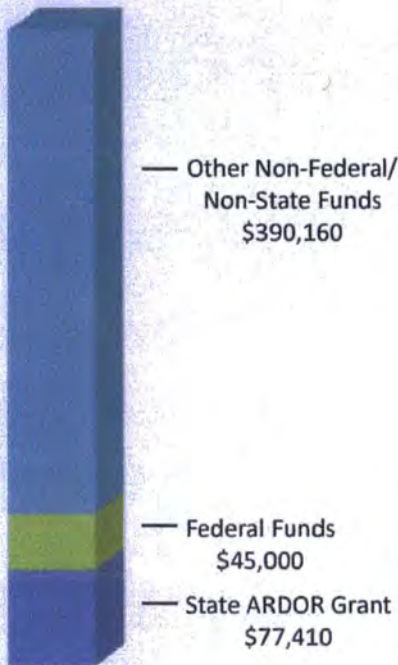


Mission: Creating and sustaining a fertile business environment through policy and planning.

Board of Directors

- Karl Kassel
- John Eberhart
- Bryce Ward
- Kelly L. Brooks
- Van Lawrence
- Christopher Quist
- Paul Robinson
- Fred Schlutt
- Russel Talvi

Revenue Portfolio



The Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB) was incorporated in 1964. Approximately 15 years later, regional economic development planning was officially integrated into the borough's portfolio of municipal services with the founding of the Economic Development Commission in 1980. Today, the Fairbanks North Star Borough Economic Development Commission (FNSBEDC) comprises nine commissioners appointed by the borough assembly. The organization is housed in the mayor's office with a full-time dedicated community and economic development specialist. FNSBEDC focuses on coordinating economic development initiatives that increase employment opportunities and improve the borough's standard of living and quality of life.

Economic Development Challenges in the Region

The region's legacy challenges are obtaining access to clean, affordable, and sustainable energy and diversifying the economy in a region that is highly reliant on public-sector expenditures.

Current Activities

FNSBEDC research has guided the process for the FNSB administration to request changes to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Environmental Impact Statements regarding Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) Zone bidding preference. If enacted, these changes will allow local businesses to compete for the \$2.5 billion in military construction projected for the next decade, maximizing the local benefits of these projects.



Alaska booth at the Unmanned Systems

Activities and Results in FY15

- FNSBEDC co-hosted a trade show exhibit at the Unmanned Systems Conference in Atlanta, Georgia. Staff attended the conference and promoted Alaska as a destination for unmanned aircraft vehicle testing, research and development. Two hundred unique business contacts were made during the conference; post-conference follow-up is ongoing.
- FNSBEDC is working with a coalition of local peony growers to meet the expanding needs of the industry in the borough.
- FNSBEDC continues to be an active participant in the Tiger Team, a collaboration of government and business leaders, who promote the Interior training and proving grounds with military officials and Alaska's congressional delegation. In 2015 the Army announced that 128 personnel and nine Gray Eagle drones would be assigned to Fort Wainwright, which will also receive millions of federal dollars for construction of new facilities to service these specific aircraft.

Board Activities and Meetings Summary

The commission met eight times in FY15. Topics of discussion included: marijuana-related business potential with proposed marijuana regulations and potential impacts; unmanned aircraft economic potential and outreach efforts; agriculture workforce development opportunities; and a presentation by the University of Alaska Office of Intellectual Property and Commercialization regarding university projects that could benefit local businesses.

Continuing and Future Projects

FNSBEDC will partner with the Fairbanks Pipeline Training Center to offer welding classes for military members leaving the service. This training is intended to prepare former service members for careers in Alaska's natural resource development industries. FNSBEDC will also partner with Arctic Alaska Peonies Cooperative to expand the grower and harvester schools that are offered annually. The projected growth in the peony industry will require up to 225 additional harvesters to maximize the upcoming crops.



CONTACT

Jeff Stepp, Director, Special Assistant to the Mayor
 P.O. Box 71267
 Fairbanks, Alaska 99707
 (907) 459-1351
www.co.fairbanks.ak.us/mayor/EconomicDevelopment/default.htm

Jeff Stepp became the ARDOR Program Director for the Fairbanks North Star Borough in November of 2015. Jeff worked in Juneau during six sessions of the Alaska State Legislature, including two years as the aide to the Senate Labor & Commerce Committee and two years as the co-aide to the Senate Resources Committee. He has also worked at the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) in student affairs, where he served as president of the UAF Staff Council and chair of the UA Staff Alliance. Jeff enjoys volunteering in the community and has served on the boards of directors of the Yukon Quest, Fairbanks Folk Fest and Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living.

STAFF

Jeff Stepp
 Director, Special Assistant to the Mayor

Shellie Severa, Grants Writer/Coordinator



Kenai Peninsula Economic Development District

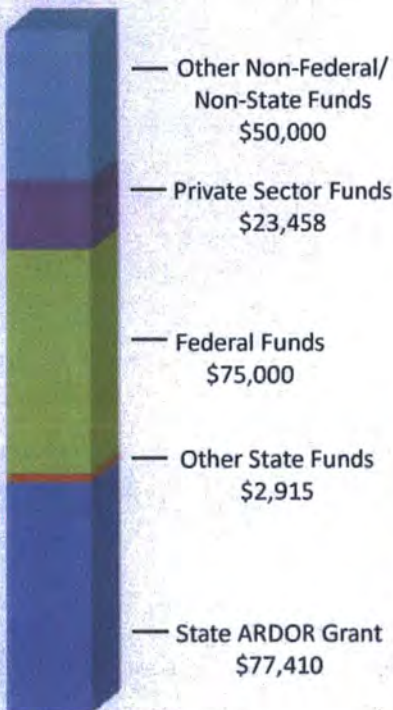


Mission: To serve Kenai Peninsula Borough residents by enhancing their quality of life through responsible and sustainable regional economic and workforce development.

Board of Directors

- Dale Butts
- Tim Dillon
- Mark Dixon
- Mike Dye
- Todd Smith
- Cheryle James
- Rick Koch
- Katie Koester
- Stan Mishin
- Joe Rybak
- Brendyn Shiflea
- Dale Bagley
- Julie Woodworth

Revenue Portfolio



Recognized as an ARDOR in 1989, Kenai Peninsula Economic Development District (KPEDD) serves residents of the Kenai Peninsula Borough in southcentral Alaska. The borough is home to approximately 49,600 people residing in a land area of 16,100 square miles. As the first federal Economic Development District and ARDOR, KPEDD has actively pursued development opportunities and diversification for the region since its inception. Over its lifetime, KPEDD has been involved in a variety of projects, including public works projects, shellfish industry development, international trade, promoting a North Slope natural gas pipeline to Cook Inlet, building infrastructure, and assisting with industry recruitment.

Economic Development Challenges in the Region

Expanding the economic base beyond those dependent on external factors such as oil, gas and fish prices is a legacy challenge to the region. Demographic trends on the peninsula are also a challenge. The population is getting older and school enrollments are down. Twenty-three percent of the borough population will be over the age of 65 by 2027.

Current Activities

KPEDD is spearheading BRE efforts for the region, providing team leadership for the cities of Kenai and Soldotna, the Chambers of Commerce of Kenai, Seward, and Soldotna, and the Small Business Development Center in Homer. Thirty business engagement interviews have been conducted for the BRE effort. KPEDD will be engaging areas not represented by partners in the region's BRE group. KPEDD continues the landlord function for the business incubation center attached to the KPEDD offices.



Activities and Results in FY15

- The Situations and Prospects report was completed. The report includes data on population, business activity, property sales tax, taxes, oil and gas, healthcare, fishing, tourism, construction and education. This report focuses on economic trends and the most recent data to assist business, cities, chambers, elected officials and influencers in their decision making. One hundred and fifty copies of the report have been distributed and over 100 online downloads have been made.
- KPEDD hosted the Industry Outlook Forum in January, which provided an agenda of policy and operational updates from all economic sectors on the Kenai Peninsula. Over 150 people attended each of the two days of the conference.

Board Activities and Meetings Summary

The KPEDD board met 10 times in FY15. The board received frequent updates on the rewriting of the CEDS document, updates on the Situations and Prospects report and BRE project. A contractor was approved to assist with the Situations and Prospect report and strategic planning for the organization.

Continuing and Future Projects

KPEDD will update its CEDS document in 2016 with emphasis on resiliency, sustainability, redundancies and impacts from climate change. KPEDD will continue to lead the BRE team efforts in the region and continue to update and maintain the Situation and Prospects report that provides economic and demographic information to interested community members, elected and business leaders.



New Walgreens in Soldotna



CONTACT

Rick A. Roeske, Executive Director
14896 Kenai Spur Highway
Suite 103A
Kenai, Alaska 99611
(907) 283-3335
www.kpedd.org

Rick Roeske attended Eastern Michigan University where he earned a bachelor of arts in business administration. Thirty-four years ago, he visited Alaska on vacation and has made his home on the Kenai Peninsula for the past 30 years. Rick's background includes working with his family corporation, private industry, the nonprofit sector and business consulting. The diversity of his work background has afforded him the advantage to observe the highs and lows of the Alaskan economic landscape over the years. Rick has a daughter and two grandchildren and would like his family to enjoy the same opportunities for growth that were available to him in Alaska. He feels the future holds many options and choices for Alaskans, and wants to continue to be involved in helping create a viable economic future throughout the Kenai Peninsula.

STAFF

Rick A. Roeske
Executive Director

Caitlin Coreson
Administrative Assistant

Northwest Arctic Borough Economic Development Commission

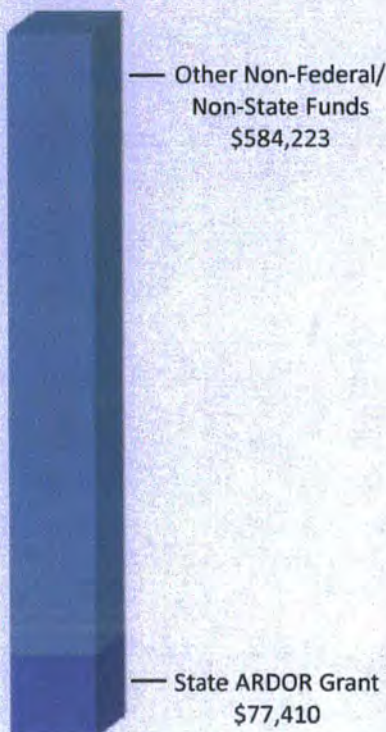


Mission: Promote economic enhancement, research and development consistent with the traditional culture and values of the people of the region.

Board of Directors

Delores Barr
 Verna Westlake
 Matt Bergan
 Joseph Bia
 Kelson Phillips
 Millie Hawley
 Gladys Jones
 Daisy Weinard

Revenue Portfolio



The Northwest Arctic Borough Economic Development Commission (NWABEDC), established in 1989, is housed within the Northwest Arctic Borough. With 36,000 square mile of area and 3,560 miles of coastline, Northwest Arctic Borough is the second largest borough in the state. The region contains a wealth of minerals and approximately 65 percent of the land is managed by the federal government. A population of 7,500 residents is spread throughout 11 villages. Eighty percent of residents are direct descendants of Iñupiat who settled this region many generations ago; many residents lead a subsistence lifestyle. As a rural ARDOR, NWABEDC works to achieve a higher quality of life through promoting economic development while protecting Iñupiat cultural values and traditions.

Economic Development Challenges in the Region

This region is challenged by a limited market base, high cost of infrastructure development, lack of housing, and the dependence on public funding to build infrastructure that would encourage economic growth and opportunity. The ability of the local market and private investment to economically develop projects in a traditional investment/recovery/profitability structure is limited. The high cost of energy is a legacy challenge, however, energy efficiency and renewable energy projects are being implemented throughout the region.

Current Activities

Cultural tourism potential continues to be an opportunity pursued by NWABEDC. Staff conducted meetings about tourism potential in Ambler, Kiana, Kobuk, Kotzebue and the Native Village of Kotzebue during FY15. There is interest in most communities but many questions and concerns persist about the level of infrastructure needed to effectively provide tourism products and offset possible negative impacts.



Activities and Results in FY15

- NWABEDC assisted five new businesses through the process of completing a business plan and obtaining business licenses.
- The commission compiled pictures and produced a video for the borough website to promote visitation to the region. NWABEDC also hired a contractor to create new visitor-related webpages.
- NWABEDC developed guidelines for sustainable tourism within the borough along with a marketing plan with next steps identified.

Board Activities and Meetings Summary

The commission met two times in FY15. Expanded village infrastructure, energy, transportation, bulk fuel, water and sewer, erosion, electricity infrastructure, ports, public facilities, landfill and other needs for funding were discussed as it pertained to updating the CEDS document. Tourism development and marketing were also discussed by the commission.

Continuing and Future Projects

NWABEDC will focus on expanding opportunities in the region for visitors to visit cultural camps and National Park recreational sites. NWABEDC will explore outlets to promote existing guided tours and explore aviation options for transportation of guests to visitor locations in the region.



Mayor Reggie Joule welcomes President Obama to Kotzebue



Culture camp ecotourism



CONTACT

Kathleen McConnell, Economic Development Director
 P.O. Box 1110
 163 Lagoon Street
 Kotzebue, Alaska 99752
 (907) 442-2500
www.northwestarcticborough.org/edc/

Kathleen McConnell is an Iñupiaq from northwest Alaska. Kathleen has lived in Kotzebue, 30 miles above the Arctic Circle, for most of her life. Her Iñupiaq name is Ayagiaq. She is the proud mother of four children. Kathleen began her career at the Native Village of Kotzebue, Kotzebue IRA, as an office manager. Her career moved quickly as the corporate office manager for the Southcentral Foundation, and on to NANA Development Corporation as a compensation manager. After obtaining her bachelor's degree in business, Kathleen returned home to Kotzebue in the fall of 2014 to join the Northwest Arctic Borough. Kathleen brings her developed project management skills, budgeting experience, and strong management style to this role. While focusing on the completion of her master's degree, Kathleen looks forward to helping advance the communities in which she was raised.

STAFF

Kathleen McConnell
 Economic Development
 Director





Prince William Sound Economic Development District

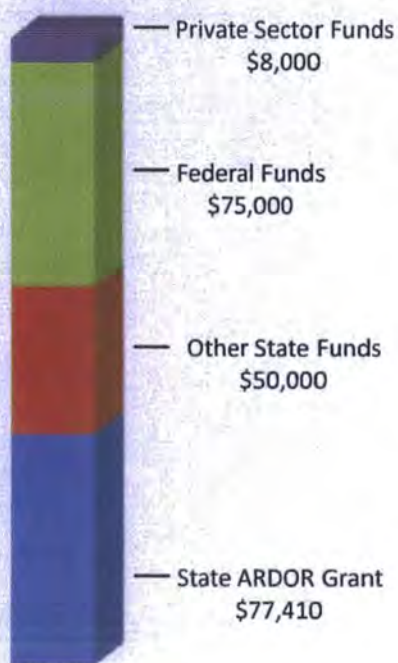


Mission: To serve as a forum for the discussion of regional economic issues and to foster economic growth and job creation through strategic planning and infrastructure development.

Board of Directors

Dave Dengel
Lloyd Komkoff
Captain Marilyn Heddell
Patience Andersen Faulkner
David Totemoff
Larry Weaver
Randy Robertson

Revenue Portfolio



Prince William Sound Economic Development District (PWSEDD) was established in 1991 to address the need for a coordinated region-wide planning authority. It received designation as an ARDOR at that time. In 2001, the agency received federal designation as an Economic Development District. PWSEDD serves the communities of Chenega Bay, Cordova, Tatitlek, Valdez, and Whittier with a combined population of 6,700. Situated on a deeply notched inlet off the Gulf of Alaska, the region comprises an area roughly seven times the area of the Municipality of Anchorage. The Chugach National Forest surrounds the region's coastal communities. Economic activity is focused on oil distribution and support services; the maritime sector, including seafood harvesting and production; and tourism and outdoor recreation. PWSEDD provides a forum for leaders to gather and discuss economic development challenges and implement strategies to overcome them.

Economic Development Challenges in the Region

Energy costs vary across the region; there is ongoing reliance on diesel for power generation and space heat. Cordova, Valdez and Whittier benefit from a mix of energy sources including natural gas, hydro, and wind. Reducing the cost of power generation, space heat, and other fuels is a continuing challenge within the region.

The cost of transporting passengers, materials and other freight to and from the region represents a significant business expense and increases the cost of living. The Alaska Marine Highway System provides critical transportation infrastructure for the region. The impact of state funding on the availability, frequency, and dependability of ferry service is a critical economic risk factor for the region.

Sixty percent of employers report the need to recruit workers from outside of the region. Lack of general and technical skills as well as worker availability are cited as reasons for recruiting outside of the region.

Declining throughput in the Trans Alaska Pipeline System continues to impact the state economy, the Prince William Sound region, and the city of Valdez. Developing a strategic response to maintain or reposition Valdez as an ongoing oil and gas service and distribution center is an important regional priority.

Current Activities

PWSEDD provides planning and grant information to the five communities in the region, following priorities listed within the organization's CEDS. PWSEDD pursues grant opportunities that align with the district's priorities and strategic focus areas. PWSEDD communicates these opportunities through board members and other regional stakeholders.

Most recently, PWSEDD successfully partnered with the city of Whittier on pursuing a brownfield assessment grant. In addition to a first round \$45,000 assessment award, PWSEDD and the city of Whittier have applied for a second round award for further assessment and project planning. The Chugach Energy Plan is a key effort of the PWSEDD. The plan will benefit each community by providing current strategies to reduce the high cost of heating and implementation costs for pursuing cost-saving projects.

PWSEDD works with school districts on various projects to compliment STEAM (Science Technology Engineering Arts Math) and is a member of the Prince William Sound Science Center.

Activities and Results in FY15

- PWSEDD partnered with the Alaska Energy Authority and its contractor, WHPacific, on various aspects of the Chugach Region Energy Plan. The goal is to provide recommendations for activities and actions that will lead to reducing the long-term cost of power and dependence on fossil fuel, as well as improving energy systems in the region. PWSEDD helped to develop the plan's goals and objectives as well as coordinating local input and feedback on the planning process.
 - Phase I – compilation of the detailed information for each community. This has been completed to support implementation of the plan. The community information was vetted through the PWSEDD board of directors and other regional contacts.
 - Phase II – includes site visits to each community with AEA and began in July 2015. PWSEDD is working with AEA to select appropriate dates for on-site visits to communities to meet with village and city leadership, and local residents.
 - Phase III – technical and economic analysis of priority projects and plan finalization. The final report will be available at the end of FY16.

Board Activities and Meetings Summary

The PWSEDD board met five times in FY15. The board approved the Chugach energy plan as the ARDOR project. Energy Plan updates were given at all board meetings. The board was presented with new reporting requirements for the federal Economic Development District designation and was updated on the CEDS revision process that will occur in FY16.

Continuing and Future Projects

PWSEDD will complete the Prince William Sound Business Retention, Expansion and Resiliency Survey. PWSEDD will increase business resilience through business planning, succession planning and emergency preparedness assistance. PWSEDD initiated a business survey distributed to 750 businesses in the region. The survey closes in FY16. The information will be used to conduct business workshops on resources needed as identified by the regional survey results.



CONTACT

Sue Cogswell, Director
2207 Spenard Road, Suite 207
Anchorage, Alaska 99503
(907) 222-2440
www.pwsedd.org

Sue Cogswell joined PWSEDD in 1998. She previously served as curator at the Alaska Aviation Museum in Anchorage and as the membership director at the Buffalo Bill Historical Center in Cody, Wyoming. From an aviation family, she is extremely interested in arctic aviation and has traveled to Spitzbergen, Norway to visit landmarks of first polar flights.





Southeast Conference



Mission: Undertake and support activities that promote strong economies, healthy communities, and a quality environment in Southeast Alaska.

Board of Directors

Garry White
 Chelsea Goucher
 Merrill Sanford
 Joe Jacobson
 Shelia Kleinschmidt
 Patty Phillips
 Carol Rushmore
 Dr. Gordy Wrobel
 Glen Thompson
 Dennis Watson
 Bryce Dahlstrom
 Liz Cabrera
 Jan Hill

Revenue Portfolio



Southeast Conference (SEC) incorporated in 1958, long before the State of Alaska's ARDOR Program was established, to advocate for the marine transportation needs of Southeast communities; in 1989, SEC became the state-designated ARDOR and a federal Economic Development District. Today, SEC combines state and federal support with private-sector investment to serve as southeast Alaska's economic development planning engine, providing a forum for community development leaders to gather, set regional priorities, and implement strategies to improve the social and economic well-being of Southeast Alaskans.

Economic Development Challenges in the Region

SEC has identified numerous challenges to economic growth within the region, including legacy challenges such as transportation and energy costs and developing challenges like cost of living and doing business as well as declining public sector jobs and spending. Another challenge is the disconnect between the region's workforce needs and regional educational programs. In general, the maritime sector is underdeveloped and the region's dependence on marine transportation has increased concerns surrounding food security and the competitiveness of the region's manufacturers.

Current Activities

SEC is working to develop the region's maritime industry through the creation of the Southeast Alaska Marine Industry Council (SEAMIC). Recognizing the significant value of maritime industries in the region, SEAMIC works to increase opportunities for southeast Alaska maritime businesses and attract new businesses to the region. SEC is also working to promote a resilient food system and implement a regionally integrated resource energy plan.

Activities and Results in FY15

- In an effort to expand the maritime sector, SEC published *The Maritime Economy of Southeast Alaska* to change the way we think about our economy; approximately one-quarter of southeast Alaska's economy was driven directly by its ocean-related commerce. In addition, SEAMIC was formed to support this industry; SEAMIC hired a coordinator to work with industry and communities. Nine hundred new maritime jobs were added to the region.
- SEC hired a food security coordinator to increase food-related sustainability in southeast Alaska to promote self-reliant communities. To increase the production and accessibility of healthy local foods across the region, SEC recently released the *Southeast Alaska Food System Assessment*. This pilot project identified actions that promote self-sustaining communities by examining local food systems throughout the region.

- SEC analyzed local and regional southeast Alaska economies to provide analysis of regional demographics, employment, and earnings in the key economic sectors: maritime, visitor, seafood, mining, timber, health care, and government.

Board Activities and Meetings Summary

In its bi-monthly meetings, the SEC board worked to update the region's CEDS, discussed food security issues, and adopted the Alaska Maritime Workforce Development Plan. The board followed energy-related projects in the region including the Sitka Blue Lake Dam. The board also serves as the facilitator to the regional network for discussions regarding transportation, energy projects and sustainability.

Continuing and Future Projects

The Regional Integrated Resource Energy Action Plan will provide a framework to support economic revitalization efforts in the region. Implementation of the plan will support reliable energy and attempt to reverse the decreasing population trends experienced over the last ten years.

SEC continues its efforts in the area of timber industry development. The effort is to establish a sustainable and renewable timber industry in southeast Alaska through collaboration with the U.S. Forest Service, the State of Alaska, private land owners, and Alaska Native organizations. Establishing a predictable and reliable timber supply sufficient to sustain the region's timber economy and timber-dependent communities is of primary importance to the region.

BRE has been identified as a regional priority. SEC will use BRE to track and support the growth of the maritime economy as well as other sectors throughout the region. SEC will assist communities and organizations that want to implement BRE activities.



Vigor Shipyard in Ketchikan



CONTACT

Shelly Wright, Executive Director
612 West Willoughby Avenue
Suite B
Juneau, Alaska 99801
(907) 586-4360
www.seconference.org

Shelly Wright has worked for the betterment of southeast Alaska for nearly 40 years with employment spanning multiple economic sectors including transportation, hospitality, and logging industries. Her experience in Southeast has provided her with a strong connection to the people, knowledge of how they live and work, and the big picture vision. Shelly was named executive director of Southeast Conference in 2007.



STAFF

Shelly Wright
Executive Director

Cheri Lancaster
Finance Officer

Robert Venables
Energy and Transportation
Coordinator

Kaleigh Holm
Southeast Alaska Maritime
Industry Coordinator

Meilani Schijvens
Rain Coast Data Director



Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference

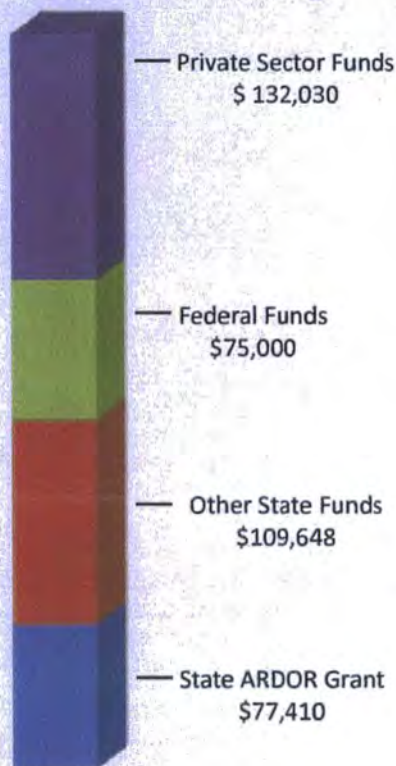


Mission: Advancing the collective interests of Southwest Alaska people, businesses, and communities, promoting economic opportunities to improve quality of life, and influencing long-term responsible development.

Board of Directors

- Layton Lockett
- Carvel Zimin
- Rebecca Skinner
- Mayor Shirley Marquardt
- Glen Gardner
- Mayor Dan Clarion
- Cynthia Berns
- Joe Sullivan
- Christina Salmon
- Mayor Alice Ruby
- Paul Gronholdt

Revenue Portfolio



In 1988 municipal leaders created the partnership of the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference (SWAMC) to advocate for rural community needs and the responsible development of the region's core economic sector: commercial seafood harvesting and processing. Today, SWAMC's membership comprises business, education, municipal and tribal members. SWAMC is a critical liaison between state government and regional leaders by hosting summits, communicating concerns and opportunities, implementing initiatives, and acting as a unified regional voice. SWAMC remains committed to issues associated with commercial fishing, telecommunications, and energy infrastructure in the region.

Economic Development Challenges in the Region

The cost of doing business represents a significant challenge that comes from southwest Alaska's overall lack of infrastructure, affordable energy and accessibility. All of these challenges create a large barrier of entry into any business. This limits the range of opportunity for entrepreneurs and limits the expansion of economic opportunity within the region.

Current Activities

SWAMC is engaged with two southwest Alaska companies to address issues associated with transportation and communication costs by obtaining data related to moving people and equipment. Through these activities SWAMC seeks to identify cost sharing opportunities for improving service delivery while maintaining or reducing costs.

SWAMC is scheduling more visits to rural locations for BRE interviews. The current itinerary includes site visits to Cold Bay and King Cove, where SWAMC will talk to 75 percent of all local business owners and operators. Overall, SWAMC has a goal to conduct 40 BRE interviews before the start of FY17.

SWAMC plans to visit hub cities such as Sand Point, Unalaska, St. Paul, and Dillingham in coordination with workforce development projects. Dillingham and Unalaska both have capacity to recruit volunteer interviewers, and staff is reaching out to develop partnerships.



Activities and Results in FY15

- SWAMC coordinated three energy outreach summits in the Aleutian Islands, Bristol Bay and Kodiak with the intent to update community and energy profiles, update regional energy roadmaps, and propose energy solutions based on community priorities.
- SWAMC coordinated three BRE outreach opportunities with board members, member communities and attendees to annual SWAMC conference.
- SWAMC conducted 22 BRE survey engagements.
- The Annual Summit and Membership Meeting, a conference hosted by SWAMC, is the largest gathering of Southwest Alaskans each year. The 2015 conference in March was attended by over 200 people and coordinated workshops related to the BRE program as well as regional energy planning.

Board Activities and Meetings Summary

The board met eight times in FY15. The board received a presentation from Division of Economic Development staff about BRE. Presentations were also given to the board about the U.S. Economic Development Administration and a capital management organization about grant and investment funds available to SWAMC. The board was briefed about the regional energy survey and plans drafted from the surveys. The board elected new officers on March 7, 2015.

Continuing and Future Projects

SWAMC is committed to strengthening the BRE program and community outreach with the knowledge that many partner organizations lack the knowledge or capacity to assist in efforts. SWAMC has interest in supporting the development of a program that will subsidize aviation education and training to assist aspiring commercial pilots in obtaining the base level of hours for employment. This is a conceptual idea that will require a feasibility study before moving forward.



CONTACT

Doug Griffin, Executive Director
3300 Arctic Boulevard, Suite 203
Anchorage, Alaska 99503
(907) 562-7380
www.swamc.org

Doug moved to Alaska with his parents, teachers with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, in 1964. He graduated from high school in Sitka and has lived in nine different communities in his 50 years in Alaska. Doug is a graduate of American University in Washington, D.C. with a bachelor's in political science and a master's in public administration. While attaining his degrees he worked in the office of Alaska Senator Mike Gravel. Doug has abundant experience over his 36-year career working in management and policy positions for the State of Alaska and various cities. He has worked for the Department of Community and Regional Affairs, the City of Valdez, the Alaska Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, the City of St. Mary's, and the City of Palmer. He has worked extensively with the Alaska Legislature in each career position and is knowledgeable about state and local government, economic development, and issues confronting rural Alaska. Doug has lived in Anchorage for 18 years with his wife Barbara and has a grown daughter, son-in-law, son, and three young granddaughters that also reside in Anchorage.

STAFF

Doug Griffin
Executive Director

Erik O'Brien
Economist

Brianna Dym
Office Administrator

Laura Vaught
Energy Coordinator

Hope Broecker
Workforce Development
Coordinator

Yukon-Kuskokwim Economic Development Council

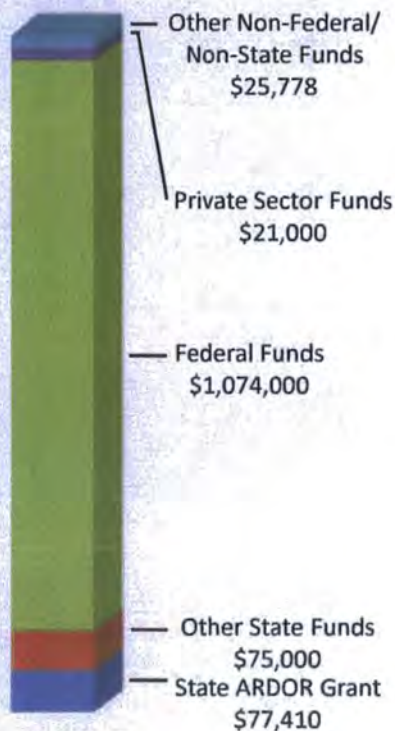


Mission: Advance the collective economic development interests of the Yukon-Kuskokwim people, businesses, and communities by promoting economic opportunities to improve the quality of life and influence long-term responsible development.

Board of Directors

Vivian Korthuis
 Jack Schulthies
 Jeremy Osborne
 Tiffany Zulkosky
 Bob Walsh
 Clarence Daniel
 Lisa Wimmer
 Robert Herron
 Edgar Hoelscher
 Marc Stemp

Revenue Portfolio



The Yukon-Kuskokwim Economic Development Council (YKEDC) is the regional economic development organization working in conjunction with the Alaska Council of Village Presidents (ACVP)/Calista Region. YKEDC's boundary is defined as that area of western Alaska that conforms to the boundaries of the Kusilvak and Bethel census areas and encompasses 48 communities and 56 federally recognized tribes. The region is approximately the same size as Wisconsin at nearly 60,000 square miles. The population is approximately 26,000 (the largest rural population in Alaska) and 86 percent are Alaska Native.

YKEDC is an essential partner in AVCP's Community Development Resource Center. The resource center has various partners with similar purposes in community development and work to leverage one another's resources and capacity to serve the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta more efficiently and effectively.

Economic Development Challenges in the Region

YKEDC encompasses two census areas including one of the poorest in the nation with a combined poverty rate of 24.9 percent. Forty percent of housing units are considered overcrowded and approximately 3,000 homes are in need of replacement. Most of the region's 48 communities face inadequate transportation facilities, housing, and energy due to the high cost of construction that can be attributed to energy and transportation costs.

Current Activities

YKEDC provides outreach and technical assistance for U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Business Development, Housing, and Community Facilities programs through a cooperative agreement with the USDA-Rural Development (USDA-RD). YKEDC is facilitating the application of two USDA-RD Community Facilities applications in Oscarville and Upper Kalskag. YKEDC is a stakeholder with three other organizations assisting the community of Oscarville in preparing a proposal for a multi-use facility that would house a health clinic, Village Public Safety Officer office, and tribal social services programs. The new facility would be constructed utilizing the integrated truss design, which is considered a 6-star energy rating design. This would help in the sustainability of the facility through low-cost overhead.

Through the resource center, YKEDC staff implements and updates the AVCP CEDS. This document has goals, objectives and an action plan that guides staff in economic development activities. The CEDS meets the requirement for applying for U.S. Economic Development Administration grant funding.

Activities and Results in FY15

- YKEDC became a recognized ARDOR in December 2014.
- YKEDC contracted with the University of Alaska Center for Economic Development (UACED) for the development of two business plans as well as an implementation and strategy plan for an integrated truss manufacturing facility and a timber mill supply center. The integrated truss manufacturing plant is feasible and can achieve profitability by its third year of operation.
- The council finalized a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Indian Energy in May of 2015. The agreement will provide technical assistance in the area of community energy planning and initial energy project development. YKEDC staff is currently undergoing capacity building and have begun initial data gathering for the communities of Oscarville, Tuluksak, and Tuntutuliak for community energy planning.

Board Activities and Meetings Summary

The board met seven times in FY15. The first meeting reviewed and approved bylaws for the ARDOR application. The following meeting discussed possible project proposals for ARDOR grant application. Subsequent meetings featured the business planning contract with UACED, project updates, and approval of the next steps for the integrated truss plant and presentation of the finalized business plan.

Continuing and Future Projects

The YKEDC board of directors chose to focus on continuing the support of an integrated truss manufacturing plant and sawmill. The feasibility of an integrated truss manufacturing plant is very promising and YKEDC is committed to the next steps in determining the use and retrofit of a shuttered fish plant for the project. The proposed location for the truss manufacturing plant is on the banks of the Kuskokwim River, which offers convenient barge access. This strategic location would allow for easy loading of trusses and equipment onto a barge and would reduce overland transport costs and logistics for raw materials sourcing or delivery of finished products.



Brent Latham resides in Bethel but is from Akiachak. His parents are Brian and Carrie Latham. Brent has two sons with his wife Deanna Latham, originally from Quinhagak. He graduated from the University of Alaska Fairbanks with a bachelor of arts in rural development with an emphasis in community business and economic development. Brent has worked for Alaska Village Council Presidents since January of 2010. He enjoys all subsistence activities such as hunting, fishing, trapping, and bringing his family berry picking.



CONTACT

Brent Latham, Economic & Energy Development Director
P.O. Box 219
Bethel, AK 99559
(907)543-7300
info@avcp.org

STAFF

Brent Latham
Economic & Energy Development Director

Pete Keller
Community Development Specialist

Steven Whitman
Community Development Specialist

Jason Smith
Community Development Specialist

Contributors

BRITTENY CIONI-HAYWOOD - Division Director
Division of Economic Development

ETHAN TYLER - Development Manager
Division of Economic Development

STEPHEN SUEWING - ARDOR Program Coordinator
Division of Economic Development

DAVE WORRELL - Development Specialist
Division of Economic Development

GRETCHEN FAUSKE - Business Development Officer
Division of Economic Development

BILL POPP - President/CEO
Anchorage Economic Development Corporation

OBIE SIMONIS - Community Planning and Development Director
Bering Strait Development Council

JASON HOKE - Executive Director
Copper Valley Development Association

JEFF STEPP - Special Assistant to the Mayor
Fairbanks North Star Borough Economic Development Commission

RICK A. ROESKE - Executive Director
Kenai Peninsula Economic Development District

KATHLEEN McCONNELL - Director of Economic Development
Northwest Arctic Borough Economic Development Commission

SUE COGSWELL - Executive Director
Prince William Sound Economic Development District

SHELLY WRIGHT - Executive Director
Southeast Conference

DOUG GRIFFIN - Executive Director
Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference

BRET LATHAM - Economic and Energy Development Director
Yukon-Kuskokwim Economic Development Council

Editors

STEPHEN SUEWING - ARDOR Program Coordinator
Division of Economic Development

ETHAN TYLER - Development Manager
Division of Economic Development

DAVE WORRELL - Development Specialist
Division of Economic Development

JEFF WHITE - Development Specialist
Division of Economic Development



14896 Kenai Spur Highway, Suite 103-A • Kenai, AK 99611

Phone: (907) 283-3335 • Fax: (907) 283-3913

www.kpedd.org

Leadership to enhance, foster and promote economic development

Greeting Chair Olson and committee members, thank you for your time of service during this year of financial turmoil. My name is Rick Roeske, Executive Director of KPEDD, Kenai Peninsula Economic Development District for the past two and one half years. I will make a brief statement and answer any questions I am able to.

ARDORS are unique to each region of Alaska that they represent, which is good since they are flexible and adaptable to each region. Staff works with a variety of issues to each area and no one approach works best for all areas. For over 25 years ARDORS have developed programs and techniques to expedite the necessary processes needed to encourage and foster growth in their individual areas of the state. We work cooperatively as a group, sharing information and contacts to assist each other.

ARDORS use their State of Alaska funding to leverage Federal EDA monies and other local monies and or grant opportunities. This seed money from SOA ARDORS often exceeds four or five times the initial base amount of state monies. EDA money is an important source of federal revenues to the SOA, extending state dollars with federal match dollars. ARDORS work with private, public sector, local and state government to provide many bridge services. ARDORS act as an additional resource for people that need information but are not always sure where to get it.

KPEDD has pivoted with new initiatives to support the Kenai Peninsula with projects like the Situation and Prospects report produced in 2015. This was a borough project that was dropped in 2009. KPEDD restored five years of data, interpreting the nine key areas that presented SWOT, strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. The PDF of this report is available at our website at KPEDD.ORG.

BR&E is a program that KPEDD is using with DCCED to connect with individual businesses to identify impediments to business with the goal of retaining and increasing employment. Adding one additional employee increases payroll and circulation of monies in the local economies and has been used very effectively outside for two decades. KPEDD has used its onsite interviews to identify nearly six months ago the rapid reduction in private oil and gas work force in the Cook Inlet. We communicated this to local policy makers in an effort to show a slowing local economy.

I have worked with two nonprofits that were developed and housed in the BIC in 2007-2008 and 2009 so I know the supports needed by businesses in the initial phase are sustained locally and receive support needed from staff. Several private industry businesses that still exist in the central Kenai Peninsula staff employees that are very successful due to their start with KPEDD and its BIC system. Two past Executive Directors have written initial grant applications that have been very effective models in their respective areas of expertise, providing dental and medical care and overseeing the preservation of the Cook Inlet for transit of gas and oil shipping.



Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR)
The State of Alaska Department of Commerce, Community
and Economic Development certified KPEDD as an
ARDOR in 1989.



Economic Development District (EDD)
The U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic
Development Administration (EDA) recognized KPEDD
as an Economic Development District in 1988.

Alaska State Legislature

Juneau Delegation
Senator Dennis Egan
Representative Cathy Muñoz
Representative Sam Kito III



State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska
99801-1182

October 29, 2015

Ms. Shelly Wright,
Executive Director, Southeast Conference
P.O. Box 21989
Juneau, AK 99802

Dear Ms. Wright:

We are writing to express our support for the work of Southeast Conference and other Alaska Regional Development Organizations (ARDORs.)

We were pleased in 2014 to join our colleagues from around the state supporting reauthorization of the ARDOR program. We did so because ARDORs can be a powerful tool to serve all Alaskans by helping to strengthen our regional and state economies in many ways. By providing data and reliable information, ARDORs can give the private sector what it needs to make critical investment decisions. The planning work ARDORs do can provide a framework for local entrepreneurs, established businesses, and those interested in locating new ventures here – charting a path forward for jobs and prosperity.

We also appreciate the work Southeast Conference in particular has done to bring our region together. In addition to physical gatherings to discuss opportunities and challenges in Southeast Alaska, you've worked to bring industry and government together on energy and transportation issues. Without intelligently built, efficient systems, no regional economy can thrive. We are grateful for Southeast Conference's work with the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority's Alaska Energy Agency, and on behalf of the Alaska Marine Highway System.

Please feel free to share our support with potential funders and others who can advance the vital work Southeast Conference and other ARDORs do to build Alaska's bright future.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Senator Dennis Egan.

Senator Dennis Egan
Senate District Q

Handwritten signature of Representative Cathy Muñoz.

Rep. Cathy Muñoz
House District 34

Handwritten signature of Representative Sam Kito III.

Rep. Sam Kito III
House District 33



January 6, 2016

Bill Walker, Governor
State of Alaska
P.O. Box
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Governor Walker:

I am writing this letter in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the work and support the ARDORs are able to provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy.

The ARDOR program was created in 1988, with the goal of supporting regional economic development organizations' efforts to grow and strengthen their local economies. The 11 organizations that currently hold ARDOR status work diligently to uphold that mission. Leveraging a relatively modest investment by the state (roughly \$70,000 per ARDOR), these organizations have been able to match the state funds they receive by almost three to one. ARDORS utilize their funding to do a range of important projects which have improved local economies and driven economic development efforts statewide.

Ahtna, Incorporated supports the ARDORs efforts to ignite local economic development. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs at this time.

Please support the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This program is not only a good use of state dollars, but an excellent development resource for the state and private sector.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michelle Anderson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Michelle Anderson
President

1/11/16

Lee Nash
740 Pelican Way
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709

Hello!

Please reauthorize of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. While pursuing Economic graduate work in the Econ Development vein, I was able to see at ground level how the Comprehensive Economic Study compilations led to ARDOR status and continued work through planning to contribute to regional economies being robust. The legislative support to continue with the elements of this program is a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the Statewide economy.

Through the smart leveraging of this investment (only ~\$70,000 per ARDOR), I understand that the match to state funds is just about three to one. They've utilized this funding to do a range of projects to thus drive economic development efforts statewide.

I'm proud to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live. This is exactly what Alaska needs at this time, as we try to figure out how to survive in a world driven and heavily influenced Pacific Rim economy.

Please utilize your legislative clout to see that the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level is maintained.

Sincerely,
Lee Nash
Alaskan resident (quarter of a century)
907-322-2309

November 6, 2015
Quinn M. Hay-Falkner, Owner
Alaska Copper River B&B
P.O. Box 123/0001 Rose's Ave.
Glennallen, Alaska 99588

Dear Lisa Murkowski, Don Young, and Alaska State Legislature:

I am writing this letter in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the work and support the ARDORs are able to provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy.

I can personally say that this program in the Copper River Valley has helped us grow our B&B business and improved our economy here in interior Alaska in many ways. This includes working closely with many other entities for positive economic impact in our community.

The ARDOR program was created in 1988, with the goal of supporting regional economic development organizations' efforts to grow and strengthen their local economies. The 11 organizations that currently hold ARDOR status work diligently to uphold that mission. Leveraging a relatively modest investment by the state (roughly \$70,000 per ARDOR), these organizations have been able to match the state funds they receive by almost three to one. They have then utilized this funding to do a range of important projects across the state which have improved the local economies and driven economic development efforts statewide.

Alaska Copper River B&B is proud to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live, work and play. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs at this time.

I hope that you will join us in the Copper River Valley in supporting the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This project is not only a good use of state dollars, but an excellent resource for the state and private sector.

Sincerely,

Quinn M Hay-Falkner
Owner
Alaska Copper River B&B



**COPPER BUSINESS
AND TAX**

November 23, 2015

Tamara Hamby, small business owner
Copper Business and Tax
PO Box 226
Glennallen, Alaska 99588

Dear Alaska State Legislature:

I am writing this letter in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the work and support the ARDORs are able to provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy.

The ARDOR program was created in 1988, with the goal of supporting regional economic development organizations' efforts to grow and strengthen their local economies. The 11 organizations that currently hold ARDOR status work diligently to uphold that mission. Leveraging a relatively modest investment by the state (roughly \$70,000 per ARDOR), these organizations have been able to match the state funds they receive by almost three to one. They have then utilized this funding to do a range of important projects across the state which have improved the local economies and driven economic development efforts statewide.

Copper Business and Tax is proud to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live, work and play. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs at this time.

I hope that you will join me in supporting the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This project is not only a good use of state dollars, but an excellent resource for the state and private sector.

Sincerely,



Tamara Hamby
Owner
Copper Business and Tax



November 10, 2015

Glen Holt, UAF-CES Eastern Alaska Forester
University of Alaska Fairbanks
313 O'Neil Building
P.O. Box 757200
Fairbanks, AK 99775-7200

Dear Jason Hoke and the Alaska State Legislature;

I am writing this letter in support of reauthorizing funding of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the work and support the ARDORs are uniquely able to provide, offers great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy statewide.

The ARDOR program was created in 1988, with the goal of supporting regional economic development organizations' efforts to grow and strengthen local Alaskan economies. The University of Alaska Fairbanks works with many of the 11 organizations that hold ARDOR status and they work diligently to uphold that mission. Leveraging a relatively modest investment by the state (roughly \$70,000 per ARDOR), these organizations have been able to match the state funds they receive by almost three to one. They have then utilized this funding to do a range of important projects across the state which have improved the local economies, improved their local quality of life and driven economic development efforts statewide.

The University of Alaska Fairbanks is very pleased to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live, work and raise families. We believe that this collaborative statewide, economic development effort is more important than ever for Alaska and it's economic future.

Please join us in supporting the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. The ARDOR's are an excellent investment of state dollars that provide significant local returns on that investment. These monies passed through the ARDOR's have proven to be an excellent resource for the state and private sectors in developing local economies.

Sincerely,

Glen Holt
Cooperative Extension Service Forester
University of Alaska Fairbanks



COPPER COUNTRY ALLIANCE

HC 60 Box 306T
Copper Center, Alaska 99573
Phone (907) 822-3644
cca@coppervalleyak.net

a 501 (c) (3) non-profit corporation

*"Protecting the rural and wild natural environment of the
Copper River/Wrangell Mountains region."*

November 23, 2015

Re: Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) Program

To Whom it May Concern:

Copper Country Alliance supports the reauthorization and funding of the Alaska Regional Development Association (ARDOR) program.

Through hard work, imagination, and a persistent dedication to our region's economic and social well-being, our local ARDOR, Copper Valley Development Association (CVDA), has accomplished a lot, and has done so frugally. One of this region's many challenges is the high cost of energy, one of the highest in the state. Our ARDOR has teamed up with the Alaska Energy Authority to produce an energy plan for this region. It is not just another plan that sits on the shelf. Even before starting the plan, and before its completion, our ARDOR has addressed energy needs of specific businesses and organizations and helped them obtain the funding and expertise to make important cost-cutting changes.

We have appreciated our ARDOR's efforts to establish open and effective working relationships with this region's businesses, organizations, and agencies. This year, for example, it was the driving force and co-sponsor of a regional energy conference. It brought together experts in many energy fields with members of tribal groups, businesses, and organizations such as ours in an informative and worthwhile forum.

The ARDOR program costs very little and delivers a lot. We encourage you to support the ARDOR program with reauthorization and continued funding at its present level.

Sincerely,

COPPER COUNTRY ALLIANCE

Cliff Eames, Board Chairman

Ruth McHenry
Volunteer Staff

November 11, 2015

Elizabeth Bengtson
Copper River LEPC Coordinator
Copper River Local Emergency Preparedness Committee
PO Box 5
Glennallen, Alaska 99588

Dear Alaska State Legislator,

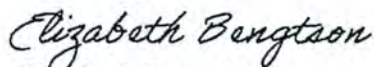
I am writing this letter in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the work and support the ARDORs are able to provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy.

The ARDOR program was created in 1988, with the goal of supporting regional economic development organizations' efforts to grow and strengthen their local economies. The 11 organizations that currently hold ARDOR status work diligently to uphold that mission. Leveraging a relatively modest investment by the state (roughly \$70,000 per ARDOR), these organizations have been able to match the state funds they receive by almost three to one. They have then utilized this funding to do a range of important projects across the state which have improved the local economies and driven economic development efforts statewide.

The Copper River LEPC is proud to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live, work and play. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs at this time.

I hope that you will join us in supporting the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This project is not only a good use of state dollars, but an excellent resource for the state and private sector.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Bengtson
Copper River LEPC Coordinator
Copper River Local Emergency Preparedness Committee



Office of the Superintendent • PO Box 108 • Glennallen, AK 99588
(907)822-3234 ext. 223 • mjohnson@crsd.us

November 16, 2015

Dear Legislators,

As Alaska faces what is arguably its greatest fiscal challenge since statehood, rural Alaska will have to confront this reality with limited resources and infrastructure. The Copper Valley is fortunate to have the Copper Valley Development Association (CVDA) as a guiding organization to help our communities adjust to the new economic context and properly plan for a sustainable future.

CVDA is partially supported through the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. Without this small investment by the AK Legislature, CVDA would not be available in this time of significant economic disruption. Even as the elected officials grapple with difficult budget decisions, they can look to the ARDOR program to help rural Alaska navigate this time of economic transition.

The Copper River School District has benefited from CVDA's work in our community. Funding the ARDOR program is an efficient and effective way for the AK Legislature to provide meaningful support to the rural Alaskan economy during this unprecedented economic crisis.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Michael Johnson
Superintendent



December 1, 2015

Jason Hoke,
Executive Director
Copper Valley Development Association, Inc
P.O. Box 9
Glennallen, Alaska 99588

Dear Jason,

I am writing this letter in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the work and support the ARDORs provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy.

Leveraging a relatively modest investment by the state (roughly \$70,000 per ARDOR), these organizations have been able to match the state funds they receive by almost three to one. They have then utilized this funding to do a range of important projects across the state which have improved the local economies and driven economic development efforts statewide.

Copper Valley Telecom is proud to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live, work and play. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs at this time.

Sincerely,

David Dengel
Chief Executive Officer
Copper Valley Telecom

CRITR

Copper River-Ahtna Inter-Tribal Resource Conservation District
P.O. Box 613
Glennallen, AK 99588
907-822-8126

January 6, 2016

Bill Walker, Governor
State of Alaska
P.O. Box
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Governor Walker:

I am writing this letter in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the work and support the ARDORs are able to provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy.

The ARDOR program was created in 1988, with the goal of supporting regional economic development organizations' efforts to grow and strengthen their local economies. The 11 organizations that currently hold ARDOR status work diligently to uphold that mission. Leveraging a relatively modest investment by the state (roughly \$70,000 per ARDOR), these organizations have been able to match the state funds they receive by almost three to one. They have then utilized this funding to do a range of important projects which have improved local economies and driven economic development efforts statewide.

CRITR is proud to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live, work and play. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs at this time.

I hope that you will join us in supporting the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This project is not only a good use of state dollars, but an excellent resource for the state and private sector.

If you have any questions, please give me a call.

Sincerely,


Karen Linnell, Executive Director



November 23, 2015

Jason Hoke, Executive Director
Copper Valley Development Association
Mile 111 Richardson Highway
Glennallen, AK 99588

Dear Mr. Hoke,

I am writing this letter in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the work and support the ARDORs are able to provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy.

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The Native Village of Gakona is proud to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live, work and play. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs at this time.

I hope that you will join us in supporting the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This project is not only a good use of state dollars, but also an excellent resource for the state and private sector.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charlene Nollner", is written over a horizontal line.

Charlene Nollner,
Tribal Administrator

11/10/15
Eric D. Lutz
Glennallen's Rustic B&B Resort
P.O. Box 741 Mi.187.5 Glenn Hwy.
Glennallen, Alaska 99588

Alaska State Legislature,

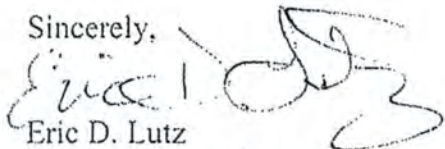
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The ARDOR program was created in 1988, with the goal of supporting regional economic development organizations' efforts to grow and strengthen their local economies. The 11 organizations that currently hold ARDOR status work diligently to uphold that mission. Leveraging a relatively modest investment by the state (roughly \$70,000 per ARDOR), these organizations have been able to match the state funds they receive by almost three to one. They have then utilized this funding to do a range of important projects across the state which have improved the local economies and driven economic development efforts statewide.

The Rustic B&B Resort is proud to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live, work and play. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs at this time. Our business has benefitted by several of the opportunities which the ARDOR program has provided which has improved our business and helped us to be more economically strong and energy efficient. Our area, Copper Basin, is struggling with the high costs of energy and the ARDOR program is actively working for solutions that work to improve the conditions in our area and statewide. They are actively working for increased energy efficiency and economic development which are crucial to the survival of the residents who call this state home.

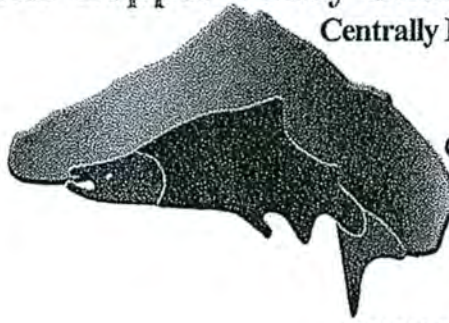
I believe so strongly in the ARDOR program that I have recently become a board member, not only to support this program but to ensure that the effort that is already established continue. As you are aware, our time is the most precious commodity that we have and I will use it to support the ARDOR program because I know it works. I only ask that you continue to support it at the same level which you are currently. Thank you for spending your time reading and acting on this matter.

Sincerely,



Eric D. Lutz
Small Business Owner
Glennallen's Rustic B&B Resort

Greater Copper Valley Chamber of Commerce
Centrally Located At The Hub Junction



Box 469
Glennallen, Alaska 99588
822-5555
chamber@cvinternet.net

www.coppervalleychamber.com

January 6, 2016

Bill Walker, Governor
State of Alaska
P.O. Box
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Governor Walker:

I am writing this letter in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the work and support the ARDORs are able to provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy. The ability of the ARDOR model to leverage funds is very important in today's fiscal climate and is a tremendous asset to the State at this time.

The ARDOR program was created in 1988, with the goal of supporting regional economic development organizations' efforts to grow and strengthen their local economies. The 11 organizations that currently hold ARDOR status work diligently to uphold that mission. Leveraging a relatively modest investment by the state (roughly \$70,000 per ARDOR), these organizations have been able to match the state funds they receive by almost three to one. They have then utilized this funding to do a range of important projects which have improved local economies and driven economic development efforts statewide.

The Copper Valley Chamber of Commerce is proud to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live, work and play. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs at this time.

I hope that you will join us in supporting the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This project is not only a good use of state dollars, but an excellent resource for the state and private sector.

If you have any questions, please give me a call.

Sincerely,

Bruce Cain, President

December 9th, 2015
Rebekah Donohue, Secretary
Kenny Lake Community League
HC 60 Box 231
Copper Center, Alaska 99573

Dear Alaska State Legislature,

I am writing this letter in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the work and support the ARDORs are able to provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy.

The ARDOR program was created in 1988, with the goal of supporting regional economic development organizations' efforts to grow and strengthen their local economies. The 11 organizations that currently hold ARDOR status work diligently to uphold that mission. Leveraging a relatively modest investment by the state (roughly \$70,000 per ARDOR), these organizations have been able to match the state funds they receive by almost three to one. They have then utilized this funding to do a range of important projects across the state which have improved the local economies and driven economic development efforts statewide.

The Kenny Lake Community League is proud to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live, work and play. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs at this time.

I hope that you will join us in supporting the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This project is not only a good use of state dollars, but an excellent resource for the state and private sector.

Sincerely,
Rebekah Donohue
Secretary
Kenny Lake Community League

Lappi Self Storage
PO Box 194
Mile 129 Richardson Hwy
Gakona, AK 99586

November 23, 2015

Jason Hoke, Executive Director
Copper Valley Development Association
Mile 111 Richardson Highway
Glennallen, AK 99588

Dear Mr. Hoke,


I am writing this letter in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the work and support the ARDORs are able to provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy.

The ARDOR program was created in 1988, with the goal of supporting regional economic development organizations' efforts to grow and strengthen their local economies. The 11 organizations that currently hold ARDOR status work diligently to uphold that mission. Leveraging a relatively modest investment by the state (roughly \$70,000 per ARDOR), these organizations have been able to match the state funds they receive by almost three to one. They have then utilized this funding to do a range of important projects across the state which have improved the local economies and driven economic development efforts statewide.

The owners of Lappi Self-Storage in Gakona are proud to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live, work and play. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs at this time.

We really hope that you will join us in supporting the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This project is not only a good use of state dollars, but an excellent resource for the state and private sector.

Sincerely,



Suzanne Lappi
Lappi Self Storage

November 10, 2015

Tom and Kimberly Huddleston, Proprietors
Old Town Copper Center Inn & Restaurant
(formerly Copper Center Lodge)
Mile 101 Old Richardson Loop Road
Copper Center, AK 99573

Dear Jason

I am writing this letter in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the work and support the ARDORs are able to provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy.

The ARDOR program was created in 1988, with the goal of supporting regional economic development organizations' efforts to grow and strengthen their local economies. The 11 organizations that currently hold ARDOR status work diligently to uphold that mission. Leveraging a relatively modest investment by the state (roughly \$70,000 per ARDOR), these organizations have been able to match the state funds they receive by almost three to one. They have then utilized this funding to do a range of important projects across the state which have improved the local economies and driven economic development efforts statewide.

Old Town Copper Center Inn & Restaurant is proud to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live, work and play. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs at this time.

I hope that you will join us in supporting the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This project is not only a good use of state dollars, but an excellent resource for the state and private sector.

Sincerely,

Tom & Kimberly Huddleston
Proprietors
Old Town Copper Center Inn & Restaurant



VERTICAL HARVEST HYDROPONICS

Vertical Harvest Hydroponics,
2431 Hillbrook
Anchorage, AK 99504
(907) 331-8509
dan@vhhydroponics.com

Date: November 30th 2015

To the Alaska State Legislature:

I wish to give my professional endorsement to the Copper Valley Development Association. I reached out Jason Hoke in early 2015 to discuss the work he did with the contained growing system at Glennallen. Jason and the entire CVDA have been extremely helpful as I've brought my business from an idea to a going concern. The team has been nothing less than totally and completely supportive of our efforts in every way, and they represent a significant asset to interior Alaska. They have been instrumental in our early stage growth.

I am writing this letter in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the work and support the ARDORs are able to provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy.

Jason and his team were able to assist us with our business planning and connect us to multiple development initiatives throughout the state, opening doors for us to pursue our development goals as a business. I have never met a group of people who care so much about the work they do and its significant and tangible impact on their communities. It has been a pleasure to work with the Copper Valley Development Association over the last year, and we look forward to working with them in the years to come. I sincerely hope that you will support reauthorization of the ARDOR at its current funding levels.

I welcome the opportunity to discuss the CVDA at your convenience. Please contact me at dan@vhhydroponics.com or (907) 331-8509.

Dan Perpich
Founder/CEO
Vertical Harvest Hydroponics

STATE CAPITOL
PO Box 110001
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0001
907-465-3500
fax: 907-465-3532



550 West 7th Avenue # 1700
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
907- 269-7450
fax: 907- 269-7463
www.gov.alaska.gov
Governor@alaska.gov

Office of Governor Sean Parnell
STATE OF ALASKA

May 19, 2014

Mr. Jason Hoke
Executive Director
Copper Valley Development Association, Inc.
Mile 111 Richardson Highway
P.O. Box 9
Glennallen, AK 99588

Dear Mr. Hoke,

I wanted to thank you for your hospitality while Wayne and I visited Glennallen for the Choose Respect March. I appreciate the time you put into arranging visits to make our stay in Glennallen especially productive.

It is extremely exciting to see the economic development initiatives and creativity exhibited by the Copper Valley Development Association (CVDA). From agriculture to energy planning, CVDA is a great resource and advocate for the region.

We sincerely appreciate your dedication to the people and businesses of the Copper Valley. We hope to see you again this summer on our various Alaskan adventures. Please feel free to contact me at 907-269-7450 or by email at Rachel.Bylsma@alaska.gov if I can be of assistance. Best wishes in your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rachel Bylsma".

Rachel Bylsma
Special Assistant



October 27, 2015

RE: ARDOR Reauthorization Support

To Whom It May Concern:

Sealaska Corporation is one of 12 Alaska Native Regional Corporations established pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA). Our shareholders are descendants of the original inhabitants of Southeast Alaska – the Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian people.

I am writing to convey Sealaska's strong support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. The work and support the ARDORs are able to provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy. Although ARDORs have much in common and implement similar scopes of work, the form and function of each ARDOR is customized to their region.

Over the past two decades ARDORs have become regional leaders in economic development planning and advocacy. The 11 organizations that currently hold ARDOR status work diligently to uphold that mission. Leveraging a relatively modest investment by the state (roughly \$70,000 per ARDOR), these organizations have been able to match the state funds they receive by almost three to one. They have then utilized this funding to do a range of important projects across the state which have improved the local economies and driven economic development efforts statewide.

Please consider supporting the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This project is not only a good use of state dollars, but an excellent resource for the state and private sector. We believe this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs.

Sincerely,
Sealaska Corporation

Anthony Mallott
President & CEO



CITY OF THORNE BAY

P.O. BOX 19110
THORNE BAY, ALASKA 99919
(907) 828-3380
FAX (907) 828-3374
email: ctbclerk@thornebay.net

October 26, 2015

Shelly Wright, Executive Director
Southeast Conference
P.O. Box 21989
Juneau, Alaska 99802

Dear Alaska Legislator;

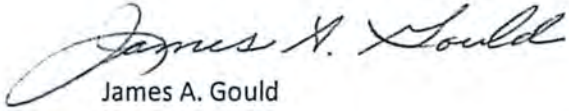
I am writing this letter in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the work and support the ARDORs are able to provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy.

The ARDOR program was created in 1988, with the goal of supporting regional economic development organizations' efforts to grow and strengthen their local economies. The 11 organizations that currently hold ARDOR status work diligently to uphold that mission. Leveraging a relatively modest investment by the state (roughly \$70,000 per ARDOR), these organizations have been able to match the state funds they receive by almost three to one. They have then utilized this funding to do a range of important projects across the state which have improved the local economies and driven economic development efforts statewide.

The City of Thorne Bay is proud to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live and do business. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs.

I hope that you will join us in supporting the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This project is not only a good use of state dollars, but an excellent resource for the state and private sector.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James A. Gould". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

James A. Gould

Mayor

City of Thorne Bay

November 2, 2015
Shelly Wright, Executive Director
Southeast Conference
P.O. Box 21989
Juneau, Alaska 99802

Dear Alaska Legislator;

I am writing this letter in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the ARDOR program is one of the few programs that directly supports the diversification and growth of Alaska's economy, and should be expanded to ensure all regions are covered.

The ARDOR program was created in 1988, with the goal of supporting regional economic development efforts to grow and strengthen their local economies. Leveraging a relatively modest investment by the state (roughly \$70,000 per ARDOR), these organizations have been able to match the state funds they receive by almost three to one. ARDORs have then utilized this funding to undertake a range of important projects across the state which have improved the local economies and driven economic development efforts statewide.

Huna Totem Corporation is proud to support the ARDORs' efforts to make Alaska a better place to live and do business. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs.

I hope that you will join in supporting the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This project is not only a good use of state dollars, but an excellent resource for the state and private sector.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joseph Jacobson', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Joseph Jacobson
Vice President of Business Development
Huna Totem Corporation

Julie Decker
Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation (AFDF)
P.O. Box 2223, Wrangell, AK 99929
jdecker@afdf.org



RE: Support for ARDOR reauthorization

Dear Alaska Legislators,

January 19, 2016

I am writing this letter in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the work and support the ARDORs are able to provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy.

The ARDOR program was created in 1988, with the goal of supporting regional economic development organizations' efforts to grow and strengthen their local economies. The 11 organizations that currently hold ARDOR status work diligently to uphold that mission. Leveraging a relatively modest investment by the state (roughly \$70,000 per ARDOR), these organizations have been able to match the state funds they receive by almost three to one. They have then utilized this funding to do a range of important projects across the state which have improved the local economies and driven economic development efforts statewide.

I am writing on behalf of my experiences with ARDORS as the executive director of the Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation (AFDF), although I have also worked with ARDORS in many other capacities, including as a municipal Assembly member. AFDF supports the ARDORS' efforts to make Alaska a better place to live and do business. We believe that this type of regional and statewide collaborative economic development is exactly what Alaska needs.

I respectfully urge you to support the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. The current fiscal situation emphasizes the importance to work toward economic diversification in Alaska.

Thank you for your time and service to Alaska.

Sincerely,



Julie Decker, Executive Director

Filename: Letter of Support SEC 2016-01-19
Directory: D:\Documents\SEC\2016
Template: C:\Users\Julie
Decker\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Templates\Normal.dotm
Title:
Subject:
Author: Shelly Wright
Keywords:
Comments:
Creation Date: 1/19/2016 5:09:00 PM
Change Number: 4
Last Saved On: 1/19/2016 5:26:00 PM
Last Saved By: Julie Decker
Total Editing Time: 19 Minutes
Last Printed On: 1/19/2016 5:26:00 PM
As of Last Complete Printing
Number of Pages: 1
Number of Words: 291 (approx.)
Number of Characters: 1,659 (approx.)



City of Coffman Cove

PO Box 18047

102 Denali

Coffman Cove, AK. 99918

Phone: (907) 329-2233 Fax: (907) 329-2212

Email: coffmancove@ccalaska.com

November 3, 2015

Shelly Wright, Executive Director
Southeast Conference
P.O. Box 21989
Juneau, Alaska 99802

Dear Alaska Legislator;

I am writing this letter in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the work and support the ARDORs are able to provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy.

The ARDOR program was created in 1988, with the goal of supporting regional economic development organizations' efforts to grow and strengthen their local economies. The 11 organizations that currently hold ARDOR status work diligently to uphold that mission. Leveraging a relatively modest investment by the state (roughly \$70,000 per ARDOR), these organizations have been able to match the state funds they receive by almost three to one. They have then utilized this funding to do a range of important projects across the state which have improved the local economies and driven economic development efforts statewide.

The City of Coffman Cove is proud to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live and do business. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs.

I hope that you will join us in supporting the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This project is not only a good use of state dollars, but an excellent resource for the state and private sector.

Sincerely,

Perry Olson
Mayor



October 27, 2015

Shelly Wright, Executive Director
Southeast Conference
P.O. Box 21989
Juneau, Alaska 99802

Dear Shelly:

I am writing this letter in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the work and support the ARDORs are able to provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy.

The ARDOR program was created in 1988, with the goal of supporting regional economic development organizations' efforts to grow and strengthen their local economies. The 11 organizations that currently hold ARDOR status work diligently to uphold that mission. Leveraging a relatively modest investment by the state (roughly \$70,000 per ARDOR), these organizations have been able to match the state funds they receive by almost three to one. They have then utilized this funding to do a range of important projects across the state which have improved the local economies and driven economic development efforts statewide.

The City of Craig is proud to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live and do business. The city believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs. I hope that you will join the city in supporting the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This project is not only a good use of state dollars, but an excellent resource for the state and private sector.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jon Bolling".

Jon Bolling, City Administrator



City of Hydaburg
8th Street Extension
P.O. Box 49
Hydaburg, AK 99922-0049
(907) 285-3761(voice)
(907) 285-3760(fax)

October 26, 2015

Shelly Wright, Executive Director
Southeast Conference
P.O. Box 21989
Juneau, Alaska 99802

Dear Alaska Legislator,

I am writing this letter in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the work and support the ARDORs are able to provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy.

The ARDOR program was created in 1988, with the goal of supporting regional economic development organizations' efforts to grow and strengthen their local economies. The 11 organizations that currently hold ARDOR status work diligently to uphold that mission. Leveraging a relatively modest investment by the state (roughly \$70,000 per ARDOR), these organizations have been able to match the state funds they receive by almost three to one. They have then utilized this funding to do a range of important projects across the state which have improved the local economies and driven economic development efforts statewide.

City of Hydaburg is proud to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live and do business. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs.

I hope that you will join the City of Hydaburg in supporting the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This project is not only a good use of state dollars, but an excellent resource for the state and private sector.

Sincerely,

Natasha Peele
City Administrator
City of Hydaburg



January 6, 2016

Bill Walker, Governor
State of Alaska
P.O. Box
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Governor Walker:

I am writing this letter in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the work and support the ARDORs are able to provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy.

The ARDOR program was created in 1988, with the goal of supporting regional economic development organizations' efforts to grow and strengthen their local economies. The 11 organizations that currently hold ARDOR status work diligently to uphold that mission. Leveraging a relatively modest investment by the state (roughly \$70,000 per ARDOR), these organizations have been able to match the state funds they receive by almost three to one. ARDORS utilize their funding to do a range of important projects which have improved local economies and driven economic development efforts statewide.

Ahtna, Incorporated supports the ARDORs efforts to ignite local economic development. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs at this time.

Please support the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This program is not only a good use of state dollars, but an excellent development resource for the state and private sector.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michelle Anderson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Michelle Anderson
President

1/11/16

Lee Nash
740 Pelican Way
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709

Hello!

Please reauthorize of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. While pursuing Economic graduate work in the Econ Development vein, I was able to see at ground level how the Comprehensive Economic Study compilations led to ARDOR status and continued work through planning to contribute to regional economies being robust. The legislative support to continue with the elements of this program is a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the Statewide economy.

Through the smart leveraging of this investment (only ~\$70,000 per ARDOR), I understand that the match to state funds is just about three to one. They've utilized this funding to do a range of projects to thus drive economic development efforts statewide.

I'm proud to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live. This is exactly what Alaska needs at this time, as we try to figure out how to survive in a world driven and heavily influenced Pacific Rim economy.

Please utilize your legislative clout to see that the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level is maintained.

Sincerely,
Lee Nash
Alaskan resident (quarter of a century)
907-322-2309

November 6, 2015
Quinn M. Hay-Falkner, Owner
Alaska Copper River B&B
P.O. Box 123/0001 Rose's Ave.
Glennallen, Alaska 99588

Dear Lisa Murkowski, Don Young, and Alaska State Legislature:

I am writing this letter in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the work and support the ARDORs are able to provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy.

I can personally say that this program in the Copper River Valley has helped us grow our B&B business and improved our economy here in interior Alaska in many ways. This includes working closely with many other entities for positive economic impact in our community.

The ARDOR program was created in 1988, with the goal of supporting regional economic development organizations' efforts to grow and strengthen their local economies. The 11 organizations that currently hold ARDOR status work diligently to uphold that mission. Leveraging a relatively modest investment by the state (roughly \$70,000 per ARDOR), these organizations have been able to match the state funds they receive by almost three to one. They have then utilized this funding to do a range of important projects across the state which have improved the local economies and driven economic development efforts statewide.

Alaska Copper River B&B is proud to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live, work and play. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs at this time.

I hope that you will join us in the Copper River Valley in supporting the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This project is not only a good use of state dollars, but an excellent resource for the state and private sector.

Sincerely,

Quinn M Hay-Falkner
Owner
Alaska Copper River B&B



**COPPER BUSINESS
AND TAX**

November 23, 2015

Tamara Hamby, small business owner
Copper Business and Tax
PO Box 226
Glennallen, Alaska 99588

Dear Alaska State Legislature:

I am writing this letter in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the work and support the ARDORs are able to provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy.

The ARDOR program was created in 1988, with the goal of supporting regional economic development organizations' efforts to grow and strengthen their local economies. The 11 organizations that currently hold ARDOR status work diligently to uphold that mission. Leveraging a relatively modest investment by the state (roughly \$70,000 per ARDOR), these organizations have been able to match the state funds they receive by almost three to one. They have then utilized this funding to do a range of important projects across the state which have improved the local economies and driven economic development efforts statewide.

Copper Business and Tax is proud to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live, work and play. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs at this time.

I hope that you will join me in supporting the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This project is not only a good use of state dollars, but an excellent resource for the state and private sector.

Sincerely,



Tamara Hamby
Owner
Copper Business and Tax



November 10, 2015

Glen Holt, UAF-CES Eastern Alaska Forester
University of Alaska Fairbanks
313 O'Neil Building
P.O. Box 757200
Fairbanks, AK 99775-7200

Dear Jason Hoke and the Alaska State Legislature;

I am writing this letter in support of reauthorizing funding of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the work and support the ARDORs are uniquely able to provide, offers great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy statewide.

The ARDOR program was created in 1988, with the goal of supporting regional economic development organizations' efforts to grow and strengthen local Alaskan economies. The University of Alaska Fairbanks works with many of the 11 organizations that hold ARDOR status and they work diligently to uphold that mission. Leveraging a relatively modest investment by the state (roughly \$70,000 per ARDOR), these organizations have been able to match the state funds they receive by almost three to one. They have then utilized this funding to do a range of important projects across the state which have improved the local economies, improved their local quality of life and driven economic development efforts statewide.

The University of Alaska Fairbanks is very pleased to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live, work and raise families. We believe that this collaborative statewide, economic development effort is more important than ever for Alaska and it's economic future.

Please join us in supporting the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. The ARDOR's are an excellent investment of state dollars that provide significant local returns on that investment. These monies passed through the ARDOR's have proven to be an excellent resource for the state and private sectors in developing local economies.

Sincerely,

Glen Holt
Cooperative Extension Service Forester
University of Alaska Fairbanks



COPPER COUNTRY ALLIANCE

HC 60 Box 306T
Copper Center, Alaska 99573
Phone (907) 822-3644
cca@coppervalleyak.net

a 501 (c) (3) non-profit corporation

*"Protecting the rural and wild natural environment of the
Copper River/Wrangell Mountains region."*

November 23, 2015

Re: Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) Program

To Whom it May Concern:

Copper Country Alliance supports the reauthorization and funding of the Alaska Regional Development Association (ARDOR) program.

Through hard work, imagination, and a persistent dedication to our region's economic and social well-being, our local ARDOR, Copper Valley Development Association (CVDA), has accomplished a lot, and has done so frugally. One of this region's many challenges is the high cost of energy, one of the highest in the state. Our ARDOR has teamed up with the Alaska Energy Authority to produce an energy plan for this region. It is not just another plan that sits on the shelf. Even before starting the plan, and before its completion, our ARDOR has addressed energy needs of specific businesses and organizations and helped them obtain the funding and expertise to make important cost-cutting changes.

We have appreciated our ARDOR's efforts to establish open and effective working relationships with this region's businesses, organizations, and agencies. This year, for example, it was the driving force and co-sponsor of a regional energy conference. It brought together experts in many energy fields with members of tribal groups, businesses, and organizations such as ours in an informative and worthwhile forum.

The ARDOR program costs very little and delivers a lot. We encourage you to support the ARDOR program with reauthorization and continued funding at its present level.

Sincerely,

COPPER COUNTRY ALLIANCE

Cliff Eames, Board Chairman

Ruth McHenry
Volunteer Staff

November 11, 2015

Elizabeth Bengtson
Copper River LEPC Coordinator
Copper River Local Emergency Preparedness Committee
PO Box 5
Glennallen, Alaska 99588

Dear Alaska State Legislator,

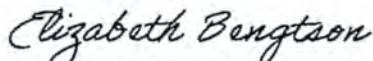
I am writing this letter in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the work and support the ARDORs are able to provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy.

The ARDOR program was created in 1988, with the goal of supporting regional economic development organizations' efforts to grow and strengthen their local economies. The 11 organizations that currently hold ARDOR status work diligently to uphold that mission. Leveraging a relatively modest investment by the state (roughly \$70,000 per ARDOR), these organizations have been able to match the state funds they receive by almost three to one. They have then utilized this funding to do a range of important projects across the state which have improved the local economies and driven economic development efforts statewide.

The Copper River LEPC is proud to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live, work and play. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs at this time.

I hope that you will join us in supporting the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This project is not only a good use of state dollars, but an excellent resource for the state and private sector.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Bengtson
Copper River LEPC Coordinator
Copper River Local Emergency Preparedness Committee



Office of the Superintendent • PO Box 108 • Glennallen, AK 99588
(907)822-3234 ext. 223 • mjohnson@crsd.us

November 16, 2015

Dear Legislators,

As Alaska faces what is arguably its greatest fiscal challenge since statehood, rural Alaska will have to confront this reality with limited resources and infrastructure. The Copper Valley is fortunate to have the Copper Valley Development Association (CVDA) as a guiding organization to help our communities adjust to the new economic context and properly plan for a sustainable future.

CVDA is partially supported through the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. Without this small investment by the AK Legislature, CVDA would not be available in this time of significant economic disruption. Even as the elected officials grapple with difficult budget decisions, they can look to the ARDOR program to help rural Alaska navigate this time of economic transition.

The Copper River School District has benefited from CVDA's work in our community. Funding the ARDOR program is an efficient and effective way for the AK Legislature to provide meaningful support to the rural Alaskan economy during this unprecedented economic crisis.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael Johnson
Superintendent



December 1, 2015

Jason Hoke,
Executive Director
Copper Valley Development Association, Inc
P.O. Box 9
Glennallen, Alaska 99588

Dear Jason,

I am writing this letter in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the work and support the ARDORs provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy.

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Copper Valley Telecom is proud to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live, work and play. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs at this time.

Sincerely,

David Dengel
Chief Executive Officer
Copper Valley Telecom

CRITR

Copper River-Ahtna Inter-Tribal Resource Conservation District

P.O. Box 613

Glennallen, AK 99588

907-822-8126

January 6, 2016

Bill Walker, Governor
State of Alaska
P.O. Box
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Governor Walker:

I am writing this letter in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the work and support the ARDORs are able to provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy.

The ARDOR program was created in 1988, with the goal of supporting regional economic development organizations' efforts to grow and strengthen their local economies. The 11 organizations that currently hold ARDOR status work diligently to uphold that mission. Leveraging a relatively modest investment by the state (roughly \$70,000 per ARDOR), these organizations have been able to match the state funds they receive by almost three to one. They have then utilized this funding to do a range of important projects which have improved local economies and driven economic development efforts statewide.

CRITR is proud to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live, work and play. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs at this time.

I hope that you will join us in supporting the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This project is not only a good use of state dollars, but an excellent resource for the state and private sector.

If you have any questions, please give me a call.

Sincerely,


Karen Linnell, Executive Director



November 23, 2015

Jason Hoke, Executive Director
Copper Valley Development Association
Mile 111 Richardson Highway
Glennallen, AK 99588

Dear Mr. Hoke,

I am writing this letter in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the work and support the ARDORs are able to provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy.

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The Native Village of Gakona is proud to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live, work and play. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs at this time.

I hope that you will join us in supporting the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This project is not only a good use of state dollars, but also an excellent resource for the state and private sector.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charlene Nollner", is written over a horizontal line.

Charlene Nollner,
Tribal Administrator

11/10/15
Eric D. Lutz
Glennallen's Rustic B&B Resort
P.O. Box 741 Mi.187.5 Glenn Hwy.
Glennallen, Alaska 99588

Alaska State Legislature,

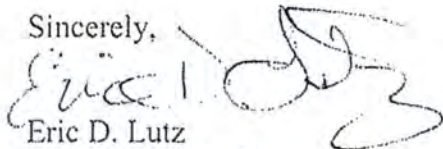
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The Rustic B&B Resort is proud to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live, work and play. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs at this time. Our business has benefitted by several of the opportunities which the ARDOR program has provided which has improved our business and helped us to be more economically strong and energy efficient. Our area, Copper Basin, is struggling with the high costs of energy and the ARDOR program is actively working for solutions that work to improve the conditions in our area and statewide. They are actively working for increased energy efficiency and economic development which are crucial to the survival of the residents who call this state home.

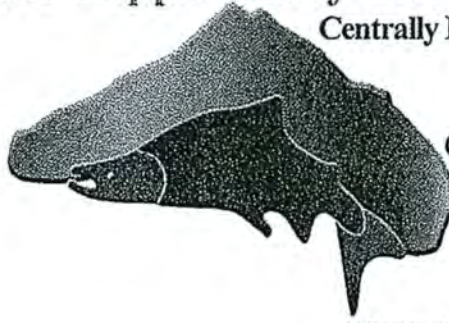
I believe so strongly in the ARDOR program that I have recently become a board member, not only to support this program but to ensure that the effort that is already established continue. As you are aware, our time is the most precious commodity that we have and I will use it to support the ARDOR program because I know it works. I only ask that you continue to support it at the same level which you are currently. Thank you for spending your time reading and acting on this matter.

Sincerely,



Eric D. Lutz
Small Business Owner
Glennallen's Rustic B&B Resort

Greater Copper Valley Chamber of Commerce
Centrally Located At The Hub Junction



Box 469
Glennallen, Alaska 99588
822-5555
chamber@cvinternet.net

www.coppervalleychamber.com

January 6, 2016

Bill Walker, Governor
State of Alaska
P.O. Box
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Governor Walker:

I am writing this letter in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the work and support the ARDORs are able to provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy. The ability of the ARDOR model to leverage funds is very important in today's fiscal climate and is a tremendous asset to the State at this time.

The ARDOR program was created in 1988, with the goal of supporting regional economic development organizations' efforts to grow and strengthen their local economies. The 11 organizations that currently hold ARDOR status work diligently to uphold that mission. Leveraging a relatively modest investment by the state (roughly \$70,000 per ARDOR), these organizations have been able to match the state funds they receive by almost three to one. They have then utilized this funding to do a range of important projects which have improved local economies and driven economic development efforts statewide.

The Copper Valley Chamber of Commerce is proud to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live, work and play. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs at this time.

I hope that you will join us in supporting the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This project is not only a good use of state dollars, but an excellent resource for the state and private sector.

If you have any questions, please give me a call.

Sincerely,

Bruce Cain, President

December 9th, 2015
Rebekah Donohue, Secretary
Kenny Lake Community League
HC 60 Box 231
Copper Center, Alaska 99573

Dear Alaska State Legislature,

I am writing this letter in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the work and support the ARDORs are able to provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy.

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The Kenny Lake Community League is proud to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live, work and play. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs at this time.

I hope that you will join us in supporting the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This project is not only a good use of state dollars, but an excellent resource for the state and private sector.

Sincerely,
Rebekah Donohue
Secretary
Kenny Lake Community League

Lappi Self Storage
PO Box 194
Mile 129 Richardson Hwy
Gakona, AK 99586

November 23, 2015

Jason Hoke, Executive Director
Copper Valley Development Association
Mile 111 Richardson Highway
Glennallen, AK 99588

Dear Mr. Hoke,

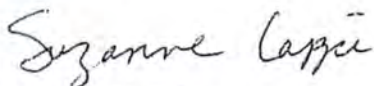
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The owners of Lappi Self-Storage in Gakona are proud to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live, work and play. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs at this time.

We really hope that you will join us in supporting the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This project is not only a good use of state dollars, but an excellent resource for the state and private sector.

Sincerely,



Suzanne Lappi
Lappi Self Storage

November 10, 2015

Tom and Kimberly Huddleston, Proprietors
Old Town Copper Center Inn & Restaurant
(formerly Copper Center Lodge)
Mile 101 Old Richardson Loop Road
Copper Center, AK 99573

Dear Jason

I am writing this letter in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the work and support the ARDORs are able to provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy.

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Old Town Copper Center Inn & Restaurant is proud to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live, work and play. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs at this time.

I hope that you will join us in supporting the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This project is not only a good use of state dollars, but an excellent resource for the state and private sector.

Sincerely,

Tom & Kimberly Huddleston
Proprietors
Old Town Copper Center Inn & Restaurant



Vertical Harvest Hydroponics,
2431 Hillbrook
Anchorage, AK 99504
(907) 331-8509
dan@vhhydroponics.com

Date: November 30th 2015

To the Alaska State Legislature:

I wish to give my professional endorsement to the Copper Valley Development Association. I reached out Jason Hoke in early 2015 to discuss the work he did with the contained growing system at Glennallen. Jason and the entire CVDA have been extremely helpful as I've brought my business from an idea to a going concern. The team has been nothing less than totally and completely supportive of our efforts in every way, and they represent a significant asset to interior Alaska. They have been instrumental in our early stage growth.

I am writing this letter in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the work and support the ARDORs are able to provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy.

Jason and his team were able to assist us with our business planning and connect us to multiple development initiatives throughout the state, opening doors for us to pursue our development goals as a business. I have never met a group of people who care so much about the work they do and its significant and tangible impact on their communities. It has been a pleasure to work with the Copper Valley Development Association over the last year, and we look forward to working with them in the years to come. I sincerely hope that you will support reauthorization of the ARDOR at its current funding levels.

I welcome the opportunity to discuss the CVDA at your convenience. Please contact me at dan@vhhydroponics.com or (907) 331-8509.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Perpich". The signature is stylized and somewhat abstract, with overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Dan Perpich
Founder/CEO
Vertical Harvest Hydroponics

STATE CAPITOL
PO Box 110001
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0001
907-465-3500
fax: 907-465-3532



550 West 7th Avenue # 1700
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
907- 269-7450
fax: 907- 269-7463
www.gov.alaska.gov
Governor@alaska.gov

Office of Governor Sean Parnell
STATE OF ALASKA

May 19, 2014

Mr. Jason Hoke
Executive Director
Copper Valley Development Association, Inc.
Mile 111 Richardson Highway
P.O. Box 9
Glennallen, AK 99588

Dear Mr. Hoke,

I wanted to thank you for your hospitality while Wayne and I visited Glennallen for the Choose Respect March. I appreciate the time you put into arranging visits to make our stay in Glennallen especially productive.

It is extremely exciting to see the economic development initiatives and creativity exhibited by the Copper Valley Development Association (CVDA). From agriculture to energy planning, CVDA is a great resource and advocate for the region.

We sincerely appreciate your dedication to the people and businesses of the Copper Valley. We hope to see you again this summer on our various Alaskan adventures. Please feel free to contact me at 907-269-7450 or by email at Rachel.Bylsma@alaska.gov if I can be of assistance. Best wishes in your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rachel Bylsma".

Rachel Bylsma
Special Assistant



Alakanuk Traditional Council

PO Box 149 Alakanuk, AK 99554

November 12, 2015
Marc Stemp, Chairperson
Yukon-Kuskokwim Economic Development Council
101 A Main Street
Bethel, AK 99559

Dear Marc,

I am writing this letter in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the work and support the ARDORs are able to provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy.

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Alakanuk Traditional Council is proud to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live, work, and play. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs at this time.

I hope that you will join us in supporting the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This project is not only a good state dollars but an excellent resource for the state and private sector.

Sincerely,



ANIAK

TRADITIONAL COUNCIL

November 12, 2015
Marc Stemp, Chairperson
Yukon-Kuskokwim Economic Development Council
101 A Main Street
Bethel, AK 99559

Dear Marc,

I am writing this letter in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the work and support the ARDORs are able to provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy.

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Aniak Traditional Council is proud to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live, work, and play. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs at this time.

I hope that you will join (US/ME) in supporting the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This project is not only a good state dollars but an excellent resource for the state and private sector.

Sincerely,

Laura Simeon
Tribal Administrator
Aniak Traditional Council

Henry Hunter Sr., Chairperson
Myron P. Naneng Sr., President
Phone: (907) 543-7300
Fax: (907) 543-3369
Web: www.avcp.org

AVCP
Association of Village Council Presidents
Economic & Energy Development
Department
Pouch 219, Bethel, AK 99559



November 12, 2015

Marc Stemp, Chairperson
Yukon-Kuskokwim Economic Development Council
101 A Main Street
Bethel, AK 99559

Dear Marc,

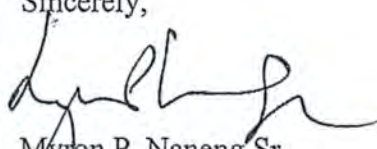
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The Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP) is proud to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live, work, and play. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs at this time.

I hope that you will join AVCP in supporting the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This project is not only a good state dollars but an excellent resource for the state and private sector.

Sincerely,



Myron P. Naneng Sr.
President

Association of Village Council Presidents

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ony River
lulksak
nututuliak
nunak
mkumiut



*Native Village of Hooper Bay
P.O. Box 69
Hooper Bay, Alaska 99604
PH: (907) 758-4915 FX:(907) 758-4066*

November 12, 2015

*Marc Stemp
Yukon-Kuskokwim Economic Development Council
101 A Main Street
Bethel, Alaska 99559*

Dear Marc,


We are writing this letter in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. We believe the work and support the ARDORs are able to provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy.

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Native Village of Hooper Bay is proud to support the ARDORS efforts to make a better place to live, work and play. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs at this time.

We hope you will join us in supporting the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This project is not only a good state dollars, but an excellent resource for the state and private sector.

Sincerely,

Edgar Hoelscher 
*Edgar Hoelscher
Tribal Chief
Native Village of Hooper Bay*

Native Village of Kalskag

Traditional Council:

Julia Dorris, President
Henry Aloysius, Vice President
Michelle Samuelson, Secretary
Dinah Samuelson, Member
Loreen Steeves, Member



Bonnie Persson,
Tribal Administrator

PO Box 50,
Kalskag, AK 99607
(907)471-2207 phone
(907)471-2399 fax

kalskagtribal@yahoo.com

Marc Stemp, Chairperson
Yukon-Kuskokwim Economic Development Council
101 A Main Street
Bethel, AK 99559

November 13, 2015

RECEIVED

Dear Marc,

I am writing this letter in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the work and support the ARDORs are able to provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy.

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The Native Village of Kalskag is proud to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live, work, and play. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs at this time.

I hope that you will join (US/ME) in supporting the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This project is not only a good state dollars but an excellent resource for the state and private sector.

Sincerely,

Henry Aloysius
Tribal Vice President

Native Village of Eek

November 16, 2015

Marc Stemp, Chairperson
Yukon-Kuskokwim Economic Development Council
101 A Main Street
Bethel, AK 99559

Dear Marc,

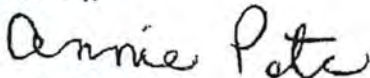
I am writing this letter in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the work and support the ARDORs are able to provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy.

The ARDOR program was created in 1988, with the goal of supporting regional economic development organization's efforts to grow and strengthen their local economies. The 11 organizations that currently hold ARDOR status work diligently to uphold that mission. Leveraging a relatively modest investment by the state (roughly \$70,000 per ARDOR), these organizations have been able to match the state funds they receive by almost three to one. They have then utilized this funding to do a range of important projects across the state which have improved the local economies and driven economic development efforts statewide.

The Native Village of Eek is proud to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live, work, and play. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs at this time.

I hope that you will join (US/ME) in supporting the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This project is not only a good state dollars but an excellent resource for the state and private sector.

Sincerely,



Annie Pete
President



*P. O. Box 1301
Bethel, AK. 99559
Ph: (907)545-2887 (Bet.) / (907)222-5058 (Nap.)
(907) 545-2877 (Cell)
Email: napaimute@gci.net
www.napaimute.org*

November 12, 2015

Marc Stemp, Chairperson
Yukon-Kuskokwim Economic Development Council
101 A Main Street
Bethel, AK 99559

Dear Mr. Stemp,

I am writing this letter in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the work and support the ARDORs are able to provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy.

The ARDOR program was created in 1988, with the goal of supporting regional economic development organization's efforts to grow and strengthen their local economies. The 11 organizations that currently hold ARDOR status work diligently to uphold that mission. Leveraging a relatively modest investment by the state (roughly \$70,000 per ARDOR), these organizations have been able to match the state funds they receive by almost three to one. They have then utilized this funding to do a range of important projects across the state which have improved the local economies and driven economic development efforts statewide.

The Native Village of Napaimute is proud to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live, work, and play. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs at this time.

I hope that you will join us in supporting the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This project is not only a good use of state dollars but an excellent resource for the state and private sector.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Leary", is written over a large, stylized flourish.

Mark Leary
Director of Development and Operations
The Native Village of Napaimute

Cc: Napaimute Traditional Council



Organized Village of Kake

P.O. Box 316

Kake, Alaska 99830-0316

Telephone 907-785-6471

Fax 907-785-4902 / www.KakeFirstNation.org

(Federally Recognized Tribal Government serving the Kake, Alaska area)



October 26, 2015

Shelly Wright, Executive Director
Southeast Conference
P.O. Box 21989
Juneau, Alaska 99802

Dear Alaska Legislator:

On behalf of the Organized Village of Kake (OVK) I am writing in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. Our tribal government has worked for many years along with others in our community on economic development for Kake which and in turn, affects the region. Part of making all this happen includes working with Southeast Conference and OVK values the work we do with them as a vital part of the process. Given that and knowing that the ARDOR program is an important piece of keeping Southeast Conference working with all of us, we support the ARDORs. This program offer great benefit to the state, and will continue to be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy.

The ARDOR program was created in 1988, with the goal of supporting regional economic development organizations' efforts to grow and strengthen their local economies. The eleven organizations that currently hold ARDOR status work diligently to uphold that mission. Leveraging a relatively modest investment by the state (roughly \$70,000 per ARDOR), these organizations have been able to match the state funds they receive by almost three to one. They've been able to utilize this funding to do a range of important projects across the state, which have improved the local economies and driven economic development efforts statewide.

The Organized Village of Kake is proud to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live and do business. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs.

We urge your support for the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This project is not only a good use of state dollars, but an excellent resource for the state and private sector.

Sincerely,

Casimero A. Aceveda

President

Organized Village of Kake



ORGANIZED VILLAGE OF KASAAN

P. O. Box 26-Kasaan
(907) 542-2230

■ Ketchikan, Alaska 99950-0340
■ (fax) 907-542-3006

October 21, 2015

Ms. Shelly Wright
Southeast Conference
PO Box 21989
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Shelly,

Subject: Alaska Regional Development Organization Reauthorization

The Organized Village of Kasaan (OVK) is a federally-recognized Tribe organized pursuant to the Indian Reorganization Act. OVK is *"committed to promoting, preserving, and protecting indigenous Haida identity and values. For our elders and youth, we look to the future in unity, by developing economic opportunities, promoting education, and utilizing our cultural, natural, and social resources."*

This letter is to provide support for the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. The work that the ARDORs provide through this program offers great benefit to the state and has been a crucial component in Alaska's efforts to diversify and grow the economy since it was created in 1988.

Southeast Conference has worked very diligently on the goal of successfully supporting regional economic development organizations and communities, tribes and other entities to grow and strengthen local economies.

By leveraging relatively modest investments by the state, the ARDORs have been able to match the funds by almost three to one. They have then utilized this funding to do a range of important projects across the state, which has improved the local economies and driven economic development efforts statewide.

The Organized Village of Kasaan is committed to promoting, preserving, and protecting indigenous Haida identity and values. For our elders and youth, we look to the future in unity, by developing economic opportunities, promoting education, and utilizing our cultural, natural, and social resources.

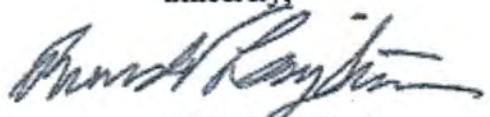
a federally recognized tribe

OVK is proud to support the ARDOR's efforts to make Alaska a better place to live, work and play. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs, especially at this time.

OVK supports the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This program is not only a good use of state dollars, but also an excellent resource for the state and private sector! Thank you for your continued support for a better economy for southeast Alaska.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ronald Leighton".

Ronald Leighton
Tribal President