



**ALASKA FEDERATION
OF NATIVES**

July 13, 2011

Mr. Larry Echo Hawk
Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Echo Hawk:

RE: Assistance for the 13th Regional Corporation created by the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act

I am writing on behalf of the Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) concerning the current plight of the 13th Regional Corporation and its more than 4,400 shareholders. As we understand the situation, the 13th Regional Corporation ("13th") is insolvent and does not have the resources necessary to conduct business or even to hold an election. At the time of its insolvency, the Chairman of the Board, along with most of the then elected board of directors resigned. A group of "volunteers" were asked to serve until an election could be held and to secure what remained of the Corporation's assets. According to the Volunteer Board, there appear to be no free and clear assets save its shareholder records, its status as an ANCSA corporation and its unresolved land claims.

When Congress passed ANCSA it intended the settlement of land claims would be fair and equitable to all concerned. The consideration provided in the settlement involved cash, land and sharing of profits from natural resource development under Section 7(i). The 13th Regional Corporation was the only one that did not receive land and the benefits of profit sharing. The 13th Regional Corporation shareholders, many of whom still have close ties to Alaska, believe that they were not treated fairly in the settlement. They estimate that the 13th Regional Corporation should have received approximately 1.2 million acres.

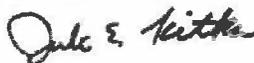
The Volunteer Board is interested in a comprehensive reorganization, including the election of a new Board of Directors. In order to accomplish that task, the Corporation needs accounting, legal and administrative assistance.

First, we formally request that the Department of Interior to consider this within their trust responsibility and look out for the Alaska Natives who are so disenfranchised. Please use everything within your power to help. One aspect, we are hoping there might be funding within the BIA that could be used to assist the Volunteer Board of the 13th Regional Corporation in its efforts to reorganize, prepare for new elections and pursue its ANCSA land claims. There may

be other options that the shareholders of the 13th Regional Corporation can pursue, but it cannot do so without assistance.

Thank you for your consideration of our request. Please let us know if you need additional information or if you have any ideas on what can be done to assist the Volunteer Board of the 13th Regional Corporation.

Sincerely,



Julie Kitka,
President

Cc: Tom Harris, Volunteer, 13th Regional Corporation
Will Anderson, Chairman, ANCSA Regional President & CEO Association