

Preliminary Report to the Alaska State Legislature on HCR 32

**Relating to Information Infrastructure
and the
Alaska Information Infrastructure Task Force**



Alaska's Mission

- ❑ To develop its IT potential and digital economy
- ❑ To help everyone, particularly rural Alaskans, use the Internet and digital technology to expand opportunities in employment, education, healthcare, and access to government
- ❑ To develop the leadership to make this happen



Task Force Mission

- ❑ Review and analyze Alaska's current and long-term information infrastructure needs
- ❑ Identify Alaska's existing public and private and broadband infrastructure
- ❑ Conduct a preliminary analysis of Alaska's long-term infrastructure needs



❑ Define Alaska's role and interest in information infrastructure development

❑ Encourage industry and government to take action either separately or through joint efforts such as pooling and integrated resource planning to meet those needs



□ Develop a long-term information infrastructure plan for Alaska that will efficiently enhance our economic future



Accomplishments to Date

AIP Task Force met three times in late November/December.

Initiated discussions centered around the services that could be provided with high-speed broadband connectivity in the areas of health care, education, homeland security, and economic opportunities.



What needs to be done now:

1. Extend Task Force through the end of the next Legislative session
2. Provide staff support and funding for research allowing the Task Force to identify existing public and private fiber and broadband infrastructure in Alaska, as charged



What a difference technology
can make....



Toksook Bay, Alaska

Population:

550 Residents, 55 Houses

80 Students Grades K-3

85 Students Grades 4-12

Economy:

Subsistence hunting, trapping,
and fishing; grass basketry,
ivory carving, two stores, one
airstrip

Demographics:

98% Yup'ik Eskimo

Juneau:

1000 Miles ==>

Seattle:

5700 miles ==>

Washington, D.C.:

5700 miles ==>

Russia:

<== 400 Miles



<http://www.toksookbayalaska.com/>

Even the nation notices....



OUTLOOK

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, 1998

Eskimos Warm to the Digital Age

By DOUG FINE

I had never seen a Web site materialize so fast. I was in Toksook Bay, a largely subsistence Yup'ik Eskimo village in western Alaska, 400 miles from Russia and 5,700 miles from Washington. My host, Greg Lincoln, a thirtyish Yup'ik man, was demonstrating the cutting edge of wireless digital technology.

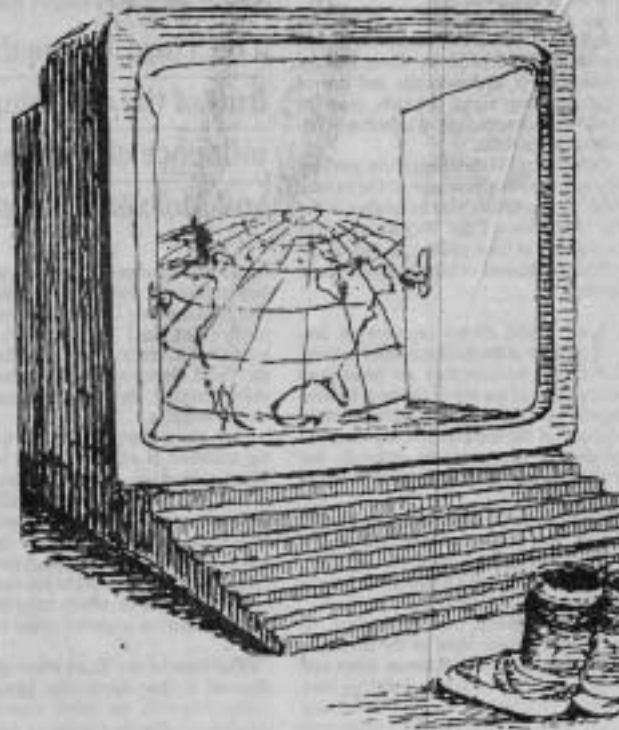
I was greeted by an immediate sound blast of Yup'ik voices accompanied by an animated image of Lincoln's daughter sleeping in traditional clothing. Lincoln's Web site (members.aol.com/glincoln45/frame.html) celebrates traditional Eskimo life by displaying dancing rituals and stereophonic singing. I clicked on at once, and was offered crafts made by his family and friends for sale in a "Village Mall." Chalk up one cluster of indigenous people who don't need to leave traditional lands in order to make a cash living.

The key to Lincoln's demonstration was a small box on the windowsill of his house which pulls down satellite-beamed transmissions powerful enough to provide him with Internet access at bandwidths something like three times faster than the current standard at American corporations and 10 times faster than in most American homes—all without a telephone line. What's more, Lincoln can keep his Internet connection all day—at no cost.

A fledgling company called Alaska Wireless is installing the boxes in Toksook Bay in the hope of show-

See CONNECTED, C5, Col. 1

Doug Fine, who has reported for The Washington Post from Burma, Laos and Rwanda, is directing a feature film in Alaska called "Migration."



Alaska
NETOLOGY
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RED BOUCHER:
 Alaska's Internet SAGE

Inside:

- The Lowdown on Alaska's ISPs
- Biometrics: High-Tech Fingerprints
- Alaskans Make "ThinkQuest" Finalist
- The Virtual Chocolate Emergency Incident

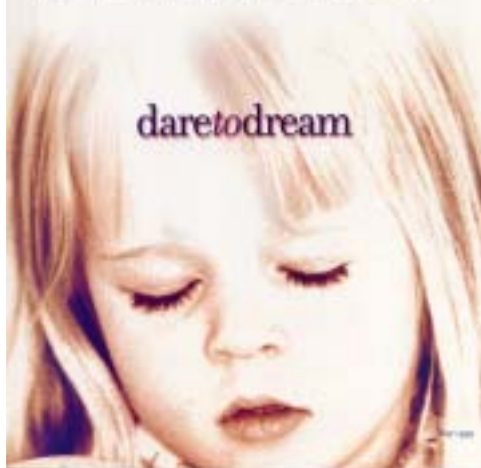
Win a Getaway Trip to Hawaii!
 INSIDE



From: Funding Technology

converge
 EDUCATION • TECHNOLOGY • FAST FORWARD

dare to dream



WORLD
 March 1998

Alaska's Big Connector

SCANS

By Dr. Herb Swanson is this state government's digital revolution for the "Last Frontier"?

Michael Kaufmann
 "The computer revolution and the digital revolution are two sides of the same coin. They are inseparable." —Herb Swanson, Governor of Alaska

Alaska's Big Connector
 Alaska's Governor, Michael Kaufmann, is a pioneer in the use of technology to improve the lives of Alaskans. He has led the state in the development of a digital infrastructure that will connect every Alaskan to the information highway.

Alaska's Big Connector
 The state's digital infrastructure is a key to its economic future. It will provide the foundation for a new era of growth and innovation. It will ensure that every Alaskan has the opportunity to succeed in the 21st century.



Providing Opportunities For Rural Alaska

Community Learning Center Partnership

Joint Partnership of: The Community of Aniak, Alaska;
HP Computer Corporation; and AT&T Alascom



The critical challenge
for Alaska's leaders today is
to define an economic, social,
secure, and political vision,
using broadband IT technology,
and

LEAD THE CHARGE

to enhance the quality of
life for all Alaskans



Now more than ever before
SECURITY of Alaska's Information Systems
is paramount

People tend to think that someone else is taking
care of it

Our leaders must be responsible and accept their
role as policy makers



“The attitude that digital security is someone else’s problem, or is something to be addressed after the real work gets done, is pervasive in the business world.”

Thomas J. Parenty
Harvard Business School

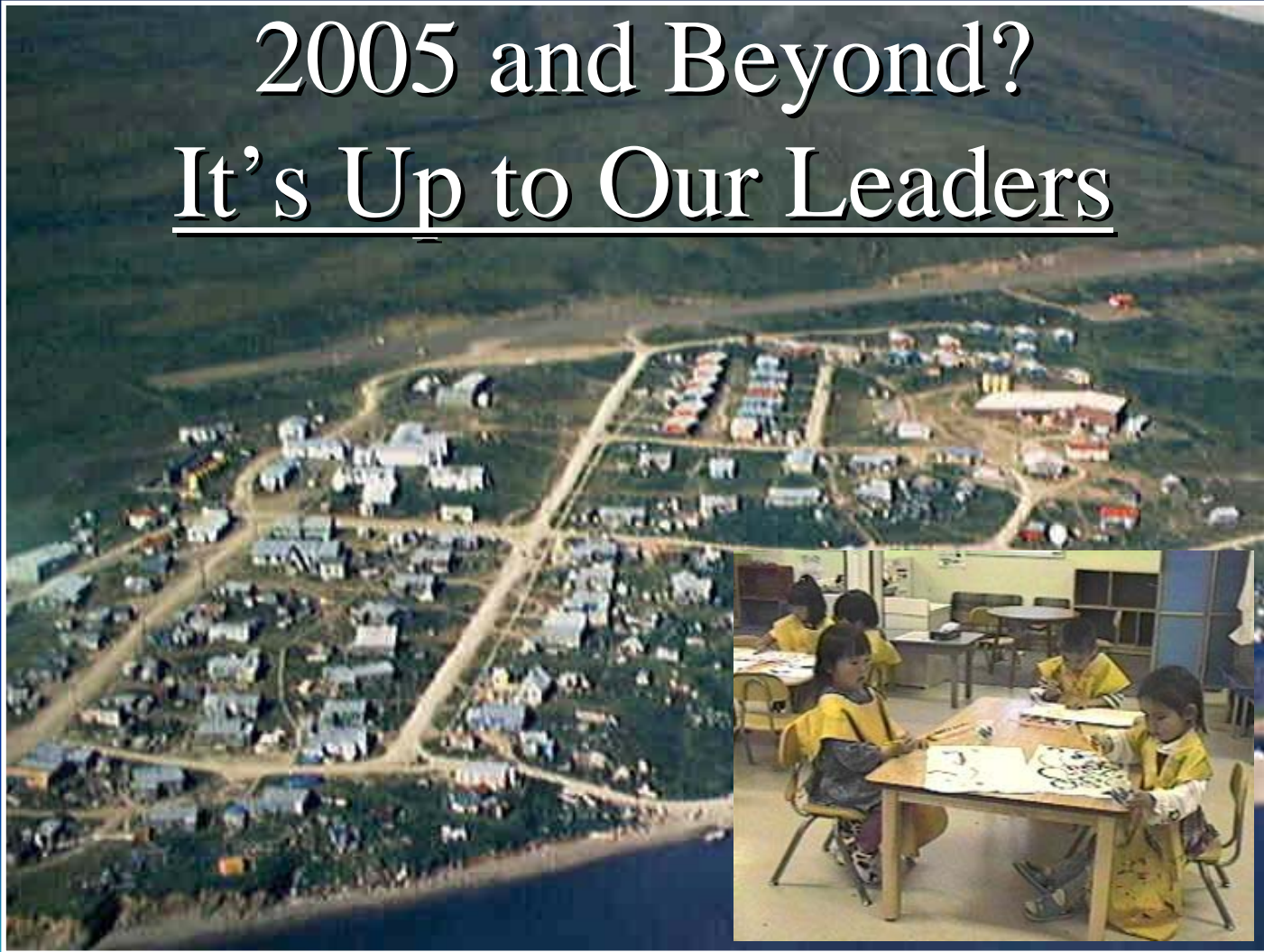


“The one thing we would recommend, particularly due to recent events within the state, is a comprehensive IT Security Audit/Assessment done by a reputable third party. One that covers People, Processes and Technology. Beyond just a network scan, but a good look at policies, procedures, security architecture, incident response and reporting, backup and contingency plans and procedures, patch procedures, and importantly, the ability of the people to manage, react to and get ahead of cyber threats. Their ability can be influenced by training, certification, rewards and accountability.”

**Cyber Security Research Department
National Security Division
Idaho National Laboratory**



2005 and Beyond? It's Up to Our Leaders



Respectfully Submitted

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