

Information Paper #2

Prospectus for an
INUPIAT/INUIT CENTER for INFORMATION, CULTURE, and LANGUAGE
(ICICL)
facilities for the Inupiat Renaissance and related activities

Prepared
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by
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Prospectus for
INUPIAT/INUIT CENTER for INFORMATION, CULTURE, and LANGUAGE

I. INTRODUCTION

Needs of North Slope residents have been enumerated a number of times for a variety of purposes. They include economic development, improved job opportunities, increased skills for job responsibilities, preservation of selected aspects of language and culture, linkages with related Inuit peoples throughout the circumpolar world, and improvements in housing, communication, transportation, and other aspects of life. All these advancements are closely linked with education and research, since these are the requisites which must underlie effective planning and the successful implementation of those plans.

A comprehensive approach is necessary if these desired goals are to be attained. Narrow, limited vision will not do the job.

Based on what has been gathered from the people of the North Slope and their leaders, Inupiat University of the Arctic herein proposes such a comprehensive approach.

II. OVERVIEW

We envision a complex covering 10-15 acres to be developed near Barrow on the shores of the Chukchi Sea and called the Inupiat/Inuit Center for Information, Culture, and Language (ICICL). Focus of the complex will be education and research, conducted in such a way as to provide for economic development, create more jobs, preserve culture and language, and contribute to many other desired improvements.

The complex will include both indoor and outdoor aspects, for all seasons of the year, and will be architecturally designed to fit within the Inupiat and Arctic environment. Major elements of the complex will include:

1. Museum, exhibit, and demonstration; including general areas for the Inuit of Alaska, Canada, Denmark, and Russia, each incorporating the many culture variations which exist within those nations.
2. Library and study center, with special collections of publications and media regarding such topics as the Inuit throughout the circumpolar world, Arctic science, Arctic survival, economic development, Alaskan Natives, Native Americans, and other topics of special interest.
3. Research laboratories and other special research areas, including Inuit-related topics such as language, archaeology, anthropology, culture, and history; Arctic science; wildlife management; animal husbandry; aquaculture; sanitation; construction; and others.
4. Production, including commercial arts and crafts, publishing, and audiovisual materials.
5. Instruction, inseparably integrated with all the above.
6. Space for meetings and other community activities.

The complex will be generally operated by Inupiat University of the Arctic, since the functions envisioned are essentially the same as the educational and research purposes for which the University was established. It will be controlled by a board or council representing the people, through membership of the major related entities, such as the North Slope Borough, Arctic Slope Regional Corporation, Ukpeagvik Inupiat Corporation, and other entities.

Funding will be sought from all available sources, including grants, contracts, appropriations, and/or gifts from federal, state, and local government, and from various private sources.

III. PURPOSES

The proposed approach will provide needed services to North Slope residents in the area of education, research, culture, community development, and employment. It will also strengthen the various entities which exist to serve the people.

GENERAL GOALS

1. Provide an information and learning center.
2. Conduct research related to improvement of the people's welfare.
3. Provide employment for University students and others.
4. Provide a special visitor attraction, and develop year-round visiting.
5. Provide a market for local arts, crafts, manufactures, and visitor services.
6. Enhance local pride in community and heritage.
7. Preserve those elements of the Inupiat heritage which the people desire to maintain.
8. Present a more positive image for visitors.
9. Tell the local story so that people understand such needs as whaling, caribou hunting, etc., and are supportive of the local position.

III. PURPOSES (Continued)

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES, June 1977

	Museum, exhibits, demos.	Library, study area	Research labs, etc.	Production, media, and arts/crafts	Instruc- tion
1. <u>Production:</u> Arts & crafts workshop. Writers workshop, Inupiat & Arctic topics, Audio- visual presentations. Inuit Circumpolar Journal. Inuit Dictionary & Grammar (comprehensive, compar- ative, interdialectical)				x x x x	x x x x
2. <u>Sales Outlets:</u> Airport, hotel, etc.				x	x
3. <u>Materials for Inuit Circumpolar Conference:</u> Recommendations for common orthography					x
4. <u>Library:</u> Special collections start- ed, in temporary quarters.		x			x
5. <u>Museum, Exhibits, and Demonstrations:</u> Initiate survey of arti- fact location and potential acquisition. Obtain & display artifacts as the beginning of a museum	x x		x		x x
6. <u>ICICL/Renaissance Planning and Development:</u> Initial contact made with all identified potential sources of aid. Identification & analysis of potential locations. Sketches of general layout options & architectural options, with cost esti- mates for completing architectural work. Plan for funding search, in- cluding applications, legislative proposals, news releases, journal articles, talk show visits, etcetera.			x x x x		x x x x

III. PURPOSES (Continued)

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES, June 1977

	Museum, exhibits, demos.	Library, study area	Research labs, etc.	Production, media, and arts/crafts	Instruc- tion
7. <u>Curriculum Development:</u>					
Further identification of learning/training needs					x
Design of new courses to meet needs, e.g.,					x
tourism					
arts and crafts					
business					
dog sledding					
whaling					
planning					
management					

III. PURPOSES (Continued)

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES, August 1977

	Museum, exhibits, demos.	Library, study area	Research labs, etc.	Production, media, and arts/crafts	Instruc- tion
1.	<u>Visitor Continuation:</u>				
	Travel packages				
	Advertising program				
	Activities for visitors,				
	Fall-Spring				
	Local travel office				
2.					

INUPIAT RENAISSANCE

A comprehensive Plan for the Resurgence of Inupiat Language & Culture

After listening for some time to the goals and ideas of the North Slope Borough Mayor, the Board of Directors of Inupiat University of the Arctic, University staff members who are themselves Inupiat, and other Inupiat people, it seems there is a very strong interest in revitalizing and preserving the Inupiaq language and much of the Inupiat culture. Since so much of the work required for such accomplishments is closely linked with its postsecondary educational mission, Inupiat University of the Arctic has drafted a tentative plan for achieving what seems to be desired.

GOALSGENERAL GOALS

1. Preserve for this generation and future generations the Inupiaq language and selected elements of Inupiat culture.
2. Coordinate all projects and activities for language preservation and development, cultural preservation, and information gathering in regard to the Inupiat people.
3. Provide programs which will result in young Inupiat retaining or regaining fluency in the Inupiaq language, as well as knowledge and skills in various aspects of traditional Inupiat culture.
4. Provide necessary information about the Inupiat and their environment to all agencies and institutions requiring such information for planning, decision-making, and/or program operation affecting the Inupiat.
5. Provide expertise in regard to the Inupiat, to aid in such areas as planning, training educational personnel, conducting research, developing programs and materials, and variously assisting those who will work with the Inupiat.

6. Develop opportunities for employment, primarily for Inupiat University students, both as a means of livelihood while attending the University and as learning experiences.
7. Contribute informational and other assistance to the successful planning and implementation of the first Inuit World Conference (June 1977) and activities deriving therefrom.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

1. Inupiaq, official usage:

Within ten years,

- a. all permanent, full-time instructional personnel (elementary, secondary, postsecondary) will be bilingually competent to conduct instruction in either Inupiaq or English.
- b. all permanent, full-time legislative and administrative personnel (Borough, School District, University, Regional and village corporations) will be capable of conducting daily business in either Inupiaq or English.
- c. at least 75% of those doing business on a regular basis within the North Slope Borough will be able to do so in either Inupiaq or English.

2. Inupiaq, student usage:

Within five years, all students attending schools in the North Slope Borough will be literate in Inupiaq, as well as in English, and within ten years all students will be able to converse and participate in learning activities in both Inupiaq and English.

3. Inupiaq, general usage:

Within two years,

- a. each year, at least 10% of North Slope residents who do not now speak Inupiaq will achieve at least a minimum competency (to be established) in conversational Inupiaq and other Inupiaq speaking and listening.

- b. each year, at least 10% of North Slope residents who speak Inupiaq but were not previously literate in it, will achieve at least a minimal competency (to be established) in Inupiaq literacy.

PROGRAMS

ACTIVITY

FUNDING

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| 1. Inupiaq dictionary & grammar (research level) | Nat'l Endwmt for Hum. |
| 2. Training Inupiaq speakers to be teachers | US Office of Ed. (nucleus) |
| 3. Materials & programs for learning spoken Inupiaq: | |
| a. Levels: | |
| (1) Kindergarten thru 3rd grade | Alaska Native Language Ctr. |
| (2) 4th-6th grades | |
| (3) 7th-12th grades | |
| (4) University students | |
| (5) General Public | |
| (6) Public employees | |
| (7) Teachers | |
| b. Materials | |
| (1) Educational dictionaries and grammars | |
| (2) Lessons via TV, radio, audio tape | |
| (3) Berlitz-type materials | |
| (4) Structured tutoring materials | |
| (5) Printed self-instructional materials | |
| 4. Materials and programs for learning Inupiaq literacy: | |
| (see sub-items under 3, above) | |

5. College of Inupiat Studies, Inupiat
University of the Arctic

Nat'l Endwmt for the Humanities

6. ICICL (Inupiat Center for Information,
culture, & Language), Inupiat University
of the Arctic:

- a. Library & study center
- b. Museum
- c. Research areas & laboratories
- d. Cultural center areas:

- (1) dog sledding

Barrow Lions Club

- (2) whaling

- (3) skin sewing

- (4) baleen

- (5) ivory

- (6) games & recreation

- (a) dancing

- (b)

- (c)

- (d)

- (7) religion, shamanism, etc.

- (8) houses, shelters:

- (a) igloo/ice houses

- (b) sod houses

- (c)

- (d)

- (9) food preparation

- (10) light and heat

- (11) hunting and trapping

- (12) animals of the arctic

- (13) plants of the arctic

- (14) storytelling

- (15) music and songs

- (16) arctic survival

(17)

(18)

(19)

7. Inuit Journal Circumpolar Eskimos: the people, and their language, culture, and environment.

8.

9.