



awib review

Alaska Workforce Investment Board
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Upcoming Board Meeting

The next AWIB meeting will be on October 23 and 24 at UAA's Commons Conference Center in Anchorage. The board will hold a new member orientation and a strategic planning session on the afternoon of Thursday, October 23. Friday, October 24 will be devoted to committee meetings and board business.

Election of Officers will take place at this meeting. Nominations should be forwarded to Kris Forrester at kristen.forrester@matsuk12.us or call her at 907/746-9238. An agenda is forthcoming.

Strategic Planning

All board members should have received, by fax or e-mail, a memo and survey concerning viewpoints on strategies and policies that will be part of a new board strategic plan. The survey is due back to this office on September 19 so the Policy & Planning Committee can do some pre-work before the meeting on October 23-24. Please take some time to reflect on the survey questions and respond appropriately.

Marketing and Communications

AWIB staff is aggressively pulling together information to rework and create new marketing materials. They will be used for a series of presentations to interest groups around the state including Chambers of Commerce, Alaska Regional Development Organizations (ARDORs), the Alaska Native Coalition on Employment & Training, the Alaska Federation of Natives and the Alaska Municipal League. The Board is anxious to showcase our training and employment initiatives and programs. It is important to link with businesses and industry to

introduce our programs and coordinate investment strategies for tomorrow's workforce.

Regional Investment Councils

Earlier this year the AWIB implemented the Governor's vision of a single statewide policy-making board governing a statewide planning area. In order to ensure a regional and local voice, the board is now assisting in developing regional investment councils. The development is guided by three principles: build on what works, create connections, and be demand driven. Regional leaders will be encouraged to identify or create the councils and align them with key economic development entities and regional/local leadership. The councils will prioritize and coordinate investment choices. The AWIB will have limited involvement and allow the local and regional leaders to shape the development in a way that makes sense for the region. More information on this concept is available on the AWIB website.

Mark Your Calendar:

- ✓ **September 17** ~ Assessment & Evaluation Teleconference (3rd Wednesday)
- ✓ **September 25** ~ Employment & Placement Mtg., Muldoon Mall, 10 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (last Thursday)
- ✓ **September 26** ~ 10 a.m. Policy & Planning teleconference (last Friday)
- ✓ **October 7** ~ Workforce Readiness, 10:30 a.m. (1st Tuesday) - tentative
- ✓ **October 14** ~ Executive Committee Teleconference, Noon (2nd Tuesday)
- ✓ **October 15** ~ Assessment & Evaluation
- ✓ **October 23 & 24** ~ AWIB Strategic Planning and Business Meeting, The Commons Rm. 107, The Commons/UAA, Anchorage

Training Grants

The Division of Business Partnerships developed a plan for investments in employment and training, including WIA funds, STEP and the Denali Training Fund. In total, roughly \$27M has been allocated in a way that minimizes administrative dollars, retains Individual Training Account alternatives for individuals and organizations and continues some grants based on performance. All programs are at reduced funding levels in light of the 43% federal cut. RFP's for Dislocated Worker grants and STEP are expected to be released in the next month. AWIB members are encouraged to participate in the review of proposals and the design of strategies for these investment decisions.

AWIB Interns

The AWIB office is benefiting from the Division of Business Partnerships' volunteer internship opportunity for Alaska's college students with an interest in government, office procedures, business, computer applications, human resources, workforce development, communications, marketing and economic development. The volunteer intern learns from a variety of experiences in the AWIB office setting. The interns have the opportunity to learn and practice the skills necessary to be workforce ready, as well as assist staff and committees to do their work.

Our first intern, Lynelle Philemonoff, returned to school this month. Sponsored by the Aleutian Pribilof Island Community Development Association, she is beginning her 3rd year at the University of Alaska Anchorage where she is majoring in Engineering and part of the highly successful Alaska Native Student Engineering Program. Lynelle was a great help this summer preparing materials for meetings, setting up filing systems, and answering the phones among many other duties.

Currently, Rut Ocasio is completing a Career Academy 'externship' in the AWIB office. She has been assisting Youth Program Manager Diedre Bailey and learning office procedures at the front desk.

"The internship program is a win-win with the intern learning work readiness skills in a lively

office environment to add to their resumes, and staff getting needed help with the many projects we're engaged in," said Pennelope Goforth, AWIB



Pennelope & Rut

Communications, who supervises the interns. "They receive a stipend from their sponsoring agency so there is no direct cost to the state."

Youth Employability Standards

A Youth Employability Skills Institute was held at UAA Commons August 12th and 13th to develop standards to use for measuring youth work readiness skills. A national skills standards expert, Joyce Malyn-Smith, facilitated the process, while AWIB member Colleen Ward did over-all meeting facilitation. On the first day, business participants defined what was acceptable and what was unacceptable regarding seven work skill areas. A grid was developed for these seven skills areas, with educators taking the lead on the second day to completely fill out the grid with its ranges of: exemplary - acceptable - developing - deficient. Measurable standards will be developed from the grid.

Pilot projects in at least three school districts will occur during the 2003-04 school year. The pilots will use the standards developed and integrate the teaching of the skills into their curriculum. This project is funded in part by an AWIB grant to the Alaska Process Industry Careers Consortium. An exciting development at the Institute occurred when Ron Gleason, executive director of the Re-Inventing Schools Coalition, announced that they want to partner with the APICC on this project. It is anticipated that the Bering Straits School District, the Lake and Peninsula School District, and the Kenai Peninsula School District will be participating in the pilots. The APICC is also discussing piloting with the Matanuska Susitna Borough School District, who had three educators attending the institute.

Did You Hear?

Sharron Laster, Administrative Clerk II for AWIB, recently accepted a position at DHSS's Division of Public Health. Sharron and her many talents will be sorely missed.

Trina Ivy, administrative assistant extraordinaire, is whipping the AWIB office (and staff) into shape. Thanks, Trina!

Laraine Derr, AWIB member representing the private sector, will retire from the Alaska State Hospital and Nursing Home Association at the end of September.

Mark Mickelson has transferred from Division of Business Partnerships to the Employment Security Division.

David Stone, Policy and Planning Committee Chair, and Vice-President of Alaska Electric Light and Power has filed to run for a Juneau Assembly seat in this fall's municipal election.

Karen Turner, AWIB's project coordinator, resigned in June. Karen is now Director of the Office of Economic Opportunity for the Municipality of Anchorage.

AWIB Committees

The Alaska Workforce Investment Board's committees are organized and meeting on a regular basis. If you haven't heard from the committee of your choice, or would like to join a committee, please contact Patrice Parker at 269-7486 and she'll make sure you have an assignment and committee staff has your contact information.

July 2003 Board Meeting

The first meeting of the newly appointed board was held at the Alaska Pacific in Anchorage. Board actions included:

- ◆ Resolution 04-01, approving WIA Unified Plan Modification Plan #1.
- ◆ A successful motion to establish the Vocational Technical Education Providers group as an ad hoc subcommittee to the Workforce Readiness Committee.

- ◆ A successful motion to allow draft regulations, option A, to go forward to Dept. of Law.



Com. Sampson, Laraine Derr, Colleen Ward, Barbara Stallone, Dick Cattanach, Rachael Petro

- ◆ A motion to endorse AVTEC's proposal to form a nonprofit corporation was tabled. It will go to the Executive Committee for more study and eventual action.
- ◆ A successful motion to approve the Draft State Unified Plan Modification #2.
- ◆ Committees met and identified "burning" issues to address (see minutes).
- ◆ The board should begin strategic planning (led by Policy & Planning Committee).
- ◆ The board should capture corrections into CWN Report.

Surf's Up!

β AWIB - <http://labor.state.ak.us/awib/>

β Workforce Excellence Promising Practices - http://www.workforce-excellence.net/content/tool_promising.asp

β Federal Apprenticeship, Training, Education, Labor Services -

http://www.doleta.gov/atels_bat/

β Workforce ATM -

<http://www.workforceatm.org/>

β Washington State's Workforce Board -

<http://www.wtb.wa.gov/>

β Florida Workforce Development Education Clearinghouse -

<http://www.flstw.fsu.edu/>

β Fresno, CA Workforce Investment Corp.-

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

β San Francisco PIC Corporation -

<http://www.picsf.org/about/pic.htm>