

## Denali Commission Planning Work Group

Next meeting: 5/20/09

Draft - Notes for the meeting held 4/22/09

Tara Jollie, Division of Community & Regional Affairs (DCRA) – State Co-Chair (presiding)  
Berney Richert, Economic Development Administration – Federal Co- Chair

**In attendance:** Tara Jollie, Ruth St. Amour – Division of Community and Regional Affairs; Berney Richert, Shirley Kelly – U.S. Economic Development Administration; George Cannelos, Bob Pawlowski, Adison Smith – Denali Commission; Linda Ketchum, David Rodriguez – UA Center for Economic Development; Deborah Vo – Yukon Delta Fisheries Development Association; Coby Hanson – First Alaskans Institute; Clare Jaeger – Corps of Engineers; Deb Alston – HUD; Joe Sarcone – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Patrick Hatch – Alaska Clearinghouse; Alyssa Shanks – Alaska Department of Labor; Joan Hermann – Alaska Project Solutions, Inc.

**Via teleconference:** Ingrid Zaruba – Alaska Department of Labor; Jordan Marshall – Rasmuson Foundation; Gina Shirey-Potts – Alaska Department of Natural Resources; Anne Marbourg – Division of Community and Regional Affairs

### Update on legislative session – Bob Pawlowski, Denali Commission

- The Alaska Legislature adjourned on April 19 with a lean capital budget. Several items that provided a match to federal money were zeroed out.
- State receipt authority is in place for all of the federal stimulus funds, subject to the discretion of Governor Palin.
- The budget also includes \$25 million for the second round of projects under the Renewable Energy Fund,

### American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) – Adison Smith, Denali Commission

- The Alaska Clearinghouse website (see link at [www.denali.gov](http://www.denali.gov)) is intended to bring clarification to the ARRA.
- The Clearinghouse team includes Adison Smith, Denali Commission, John Bittner, legislative liaison; Patrick Hatch, HUD; and Chris Perez, Rasmuson Foundation.
- An important element of the Clearinghouse is conveying requirements, such as eligibility and application procedures. Some funding opportunities will require the use of grants.gov, which is not user-friendly for those with slow internet or older versions of software.
- Funding opportunities are listed by federal agency, and the calendar feature shows deadlines.
- The Congressional delegation has asked the Clearinghouse to identify obstacles to Alaskans in accessing the funds.

- The clearinghouse has received offers to provide technical assistance to applicants. As a federal agency, Denali Commission may not make referrals. The website may include a self-registry for those seeking or offering technical assistance.
- Those contacting the Clearinghouse are being recorded in a database, to provide for notification of future announcements. A bi-weekly Results Report will be prepared, and e-mail notifications sent when the report is posted to the website. Updates are also available by Twitter.

**The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 20, at 10 a.m., at the Denali Commission, and is to be chaired by Berney Richert.**