

include a consumer representative, a representative of the Black community and a representative of the Joint Labour Council. There have been several changes in membership but this broad representation has been maintained.

The Center began with a staff of two, a veteran political journalist, Joe La Rocca, as Information Officer, and a secretary. Soon after, an applied anthropologist, Dr. Mim Dixon, joined the staff. Eight months later it was decided that there was a need for a rural impact information programme for the interior of Alaska beyond the area of Fairbanks North Star Borough. By a contractual agreement, Mim Dixon served as consultant to this programme which was organised through the Fairbanks Town and Village Association for Development Inc.

At the end of the fiscal year state impact funds lapsed and the Borough Assembly decided to appropriate funds out of general revenue to continue the programme. The State of Alaska added \$10,000 to the budget as it was thought the Center was providing valuable information to state agencies. Additional funds were obtained through contractual arrangement with Fairbanks TVA for the rural impact programme. Mim Dixon was appointed Director when Joe La Rocca left and the secretarial position was amalgamated into an Information Assistant position with responsibilities for working with the public and assisting with research as well as clerical duties. On 31 March 1976 Mim Dixon resigned to work full-time on a book on pipeline impact. The new director is Sue Fison, an economist with experience both in research at the Institute for Social and Economic Research and working in a local government authority.

Staff in the Center in mid 1976 comprised the Director, Information Assistant (both full-time) and a part-time secretary. Accommodation was provided in the Fairbanks North Star Borough offices on 2nd Avenue in downtown Fairbanks. The Center functions as an autonomous office within the Borough administration and the Director is responsible to the Mayor and the Impact Advisory Committee. Reports are issued at the discretion of the Director. There is no formal vetting procedure although the work of the Center is discussed regularly by the Impact Advisory Committee and all reports are submitted initially to