



Utqiagvik, Alaska

# Regional Alaska Native Organizations of the North Slope

Atautchimunmunı̄nı̄q suan̄jatauruq

The Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971 (ANCSA) was a dramatically different approach to federal Indian policy. It created a fragmented system of Alaska Native representation and required a coordinated approach to effectively serve Alaska Native people.

The Iñupiat of the North Slope region were the only Native people to oppose ANCSA, but upon passage of the Act, worked to create a mechanism for the long-term sustainability of our communities. Today, we all work together to provide for and enhance the lives of the Iñupiat.



The North Slope region is roughly the size of Minnesota and encompasses eight villages. Communities are remote and not connected by a permanent road system.

NON-PROFIT NETWORK



**VOICE is comprised of twenty-four member organizations from the North Slope.**

In 2015, VOICE was formed to establish a unified voice for the North Slope region and people. Member organizations work collaboratively to ensure the North Slope’s collective voice is heard locally, regionally, and nationally.

**VOICE serves to protect the interests of the North Slope Iñupiat** by providing local advocacy and engagement; promoting an understanding of the North Slope economy and encouraging culturally responsible development for economic sustainability; developing content to support activities that allow for protection of land, waters, and subsistence resources; and acting as an information bridge between outside organizations and the North Slope.



**Arctic Slope Native Association (ASNA) is an Alaska Native-owned, nonprofit health and social services organization that serves the villages of the North Slope.**

Originally formed in 1965 to protect the lands of the North Slope, ASNA was reactivated in 1991 to pursue goals of self-determination for health and social services programs.

Today, ASNA employs over 300 staff to manage the Samuel Simmonds Memorial Hospital (IHS) in Utqiagvik – the only Level IV Trauma Center in the region. It also **administers social services programs for Indian child welfare, medical travel, funeral assistance, assisted living and preventative behavioral health.**



**Iñupiat Community of the Arctic Slope (ICAS) is a federally-recognized regional tribal government.**

Established in 1971, ICAS has a government-to-government relationship with the U.S. Government. As a sovereign tribe, ICAS defends the aboriginal rights of its membership to promote security and social welfare, and is **a strong voice on subsistence and resource management.**

The mission of ICAS is to exercise its sovereign rights and powers for the benefit of tribal members and to establish and carry out justice systems, including social services pursuant to Iñupiat tribal law and custom.



**Arctic Slope Regional Corporation (ASRC) is owned by and represents the business interests of its over 14,000 Iñupiaq shareholders.**

ANCSA extinguished aboriginal land title and conveyed nearly 5 million acres of fee-simple land to ASRC for the cultural and economic benefit of its Iñupiaq shareholders. **Mandated by Congress through ANCSA to operate as a for-profit corporation,** ASRC is committed to providing financial returns to its shareholders and to preserving the Iñupiaq culture and traditions.

Since its incorporation in 1972, ASRC has partnered with local Tribes, governments and tribal nonprofits by investing in initiatives that promote and support education, language preservation, healthy communities, and sustainable local economies.



**The North Slope Borough (NSB) is a home rule government that represents roughly 10,000 residents located above the Arctic Circle.**

In 1972, the Iñupiat of the North Slope formed the Borough to ensure their communities would properly benefit from oil and gas development on their ancestral homelands. It was the first time Native Americans took control of their destiny through the use of a municipal government.

**More than 90% of property tax receipts come from taxes levied on oil and gas infrastructure,** which has enabled the NSB to invest in public infrastructure and utilities, support education, and provide police, fire, emergency and other services.



**Iñisaġvik College is the only tribal college in Alaska and was founded to provide an education based on Iñupiat cultural heritage.**

Iñisaġvik College, **the only tribal college in Alaska,** was formed under the authority of the NSB in 1996, and was officially authorized as a tribal college by ICAS in 2005.

Iñisaġvik College provides quality post-secondary academic, vocational and technical education in a learning environment that perpetuates and strengthens Iñupiat culture, language, values and traditions.