

# **KING ISLAND LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2010-2014**



## **Top Priorities:**

1. Extend the meeting hall in the new community building for dancing, potlucks, and other cultural and community functions.
2. Increase housing in Nome by 20 new homes, which will be available for King Island Native Community members.
3. Increase educational opportunities and more incentives for King Island students to receive continued education.
4. Improve access to King Island in spring and summer by obtaining 60'-100' boat that would be available as a ferry in the summer and could be used regionally for tribal functions.
5. Maintain road access to Cape Woolley and larger well-maintained van to take community members to and from Cape Woolley.
6. Build a drug and alcohol rehabilitation center and/or homeless shelter in Nome to assist needy tribal members.
7. Increase cultural activities (i.e., dance group, Inupiaq language revival, learn to make kayaks and mukluks, and leadership classes for youth).
8. Relocate Cape Woolley camp site by moving the structures that are in danger of erosion to higher ground with good soil.
9. Build new homes at King Island.

*Submitted to:*  
**The King Island Native  
Community and  
The Bering Strait  
Development Council**  
*Submitted by:*  
**Kawerak Incorporated**  
**June 21, 2010**



# King Island Local Economic Development Plan 2010-2014

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**Resolution 10-04**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE KING ISLAND NATIVE COMMUNITY IRA ADOPTING THE 2010 LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN (LEDP) PRIORITIES APPLICABLE FROM July 1, 2010 TO December 31, 2015.**

**WHEREAS**, the King Island Native Community IRA Council is the federally recognized governing body of the members of the King Island tribe; and,

**WHEREAS**, the King Island Native Community IRA Council's purpose is to serve the people, community, and businesses of the tribe by promoting economic opportunities that improve the economic, social, and environmental quality of life; and,

**WHEREAS**, the King Island Native Community IRA Council is responsible for the planning and implementation of economic development activities for the tribe in Nome, Alaska; and,

**WHEREAS**, the King Island Native Community IRA Council is responsible for the development and implementation of a community economic development strategy to guide the economic growth of the tribe in order to help increase local employment opportunities, foster a more stable and diversified economy, and improve the quality of life for residents, while maintaining the cultural heritage of the community; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Local Economic Development Plan provides the factual data support necessary to qualify for assistance in funding local projects; and,

**WHEREAS**, the King Island Native Community IRA Council with assistance from Kawerak Community Planning and Development Program staff has developed a five-year Local Economic Development Plan that states the community's values, goals, objectives, and strategy necessary for guiding future growth and economic development of the tribe; and,

**WHEREAS**, the 2010 economic development priorities (9) listed in this Local Economic Development Plan were developed, reviewed, and approved by the community during public meetings held on June 15, 2010; and,

**WHEREAS**, we ask all public, private, and non-profit entities serving our community to recognize and use this plan; and,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the King Island Native Community IRA Council approves and adopts the 2010 five-year Local Economic Development Plan and priorities for the tribe in King Island, applicable between July 1, 2010 and December 31, 2015.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THE NINE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES LISTED BELOW FOR THE KING ISLAND NATIVE COUNCIL MEETING AS REVIEWED, UPDATED AND RE-PRIORITIZED, AND WERE APPROVED ON JUNE 15, 2010 ARE:**

1. Extend the meeting hall in the new community building for dancing, potlucks, and other cultural and community functions.
2. Increase housing in Nome by 20 new homes, which will be available for King Island Native Community members.
3. Increase educational opportunities and more incentives for King Island students to receive continued education.
4. Improve access to King Island in spring and summer by obtaining a 60-100' boat that would be available as a ferry in the summer and could be used regionally for tribal functions.
5. Maintain road access to Cape Woolley and a larger well-maintained van to take community members to and from Cape Woolley.
6. Build a drug and alcohol rehabilitation center and/or homeless shelter in Nome to assist needy tribal members.
7. Increase cultural activities (i.e.: dance group, Inupiaq language revival, learn to make kayaks and mukluks, and leadership classes for youth).
8. Relocate Cape Woolley camp site by moving the structures that are in danger of erosion to higher ground with good soil.
9. Build new homes at King Island.

**CERTIFICATION:** I certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted at a convened meeting of the King Island Native Community IRA Council on June 15, 2010 at which a quorum was present, by a vote of 6 for and 0 against, and 1 abstaining.

Marilyn Koezuna-Irelan

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief, King Island Native Community

June 15, 2010

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Carmelita Nattanguk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

June 15, 2010

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

# **King Island 2010-2015 Local Economic Development Plan**

## **1.0 Introduction**

King Island is located in the Bering Strait, approximately 40 miles due south of Cape Prince of Wales and the village of Wales. The village site on King Island was located on the south side facing Russia. King Island was located and named by Captain James Cook in 1778. Photography of King Island in the late Nineteenth Century indicated a settlement of walrus-skin dwellings lashed to the face of King Island's cliffs.

By the early Twentieth Century, King Island was reported as the winter home of 200 Eskimos, proving a good base for walrus and seal hunting. Each summer the entire population voyaged by kayak and umiak to the Alaskan mainland for a few months of fishing and gathering. After Nome was founded, they summered near the town, where they sold intricate ivory carvings and seal skin sewing to tourists and locals.

In 1937 there were 190 residents on King Island, 45 houses, a Catholic church, and a school. In the early 1960's, social and economic pressures and opportunities persuaded King Island residents to relocate to Nome. Today in Nome, King Islanders continue to maintain a distinct community identity. After moving to Nome, the former residents still visit King Island in the spring and summer months to hunt walrus, pursue other subsistence activities, and maintain dwellings. Although vacant most of the year, King Island is recognized as a distinct village corporation under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA), has an operative IRA Council, and conducts itself as a community organization based in Nome, Alaska. The King Island Native Corporation was incorporated in 1973 and has 206 shareholders and owns several businesses.

### **1.1 Purpose of the 2010-2015 Local Economic Development Plan**

As a federally recognized tribe, the King Island Native Community IRA Council has assumed diverse powers under the Indian Reorganization Act. These include the protection of life, property, and the environment threatened by natural or technological disasters. The King Island Native Community IRA Council contracts with various federal, state, and other organizations to administer education, economic, social, and cultural programs.

A.S. 29.40.030 requires communities such as King Island to adopt comprehensive plans that define policy statements, goals, and standards for the physical, social, and economic development of the community. The comprehensive plan is a critical step in the on-going development of the tribe and its efforts to improve community conditions and the well being of its members. This comprehensive plan is structured to:

- Provide the tribe with a complete inventory of existing demographics, races, social conditions and services, economic conditions and activities, public services provided, and public and private facilities;
- Equip the tribe with the basic informational tools of local planning that accurately show land status and ownership as well as traditional resources and subsistence areas;

- Provide a section setting forth policies, goals, and standards for the community relative to each major component of the plan;
- Provide action plans to accomplish and implement policies and goals for each major plan component; including land use, public facilities and services, capital improvements, economic development and community governance;
- Place emphasis on the crucial development issues; economic and resource development, land use planning and needs of the community with regards to transportation, and priority capital improvement projects; and
- Involve key decision makers to assist in the identification of common goals and direction to achieve those goals.

## **2.0 Planning Process and Public Involvement**

The Kawerak Community Planning and Development Program (CPD) worked with the community of King Island in developing and updating its Local Economic Development Plan (LEPD). LEPD's analyze local conditions, identify problems and opportunities, and develop goals, strategies and outcomes to address community issues, on-going development, and future development. King Island's first LEDP was developed in 1999. The tribal council has also regularly updated the priorities of the tribe. Below are some of the major accomplishments toward these goals since 1999.

- **PRIORITY #1: Community building**-The IRA received an Economic Development Administration (EDA) grant and other grant funds to build a community building in Nome for the tribe. The grand opening of the new building was in February of 2006 and the name chosen was Ugiuvangmiut. The tribe would like to expand the community building to include space for their men, dancers, tribal members and women to meet in the spirit of the Qagzhi.
- **PRIORITY #2: Housing**-Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funding and the Bering Straits Regional Housing Authority (BSRHA) removed many of the old dilapidated homes in Nome for low-income residents and built new units in 2005. These homes were unique in that they used new technology in the way the foundations were built and they were properly insulated for the arctic climate. Two tribal members the beneficiaries of these new homes. Three elders are living in senior apartments. The tribe would like to increase housing in Nome by 20 new homes for King Island tribal members.
- **PRIORITY #3: Education** – The King Island Native Community would like to see more educational opportunities and incentives for their youth and adults alike. They would like to hire a higher education specialist to work with tribal members to identify vocational opportunities, colleges, scholarships and incentives that will enable their members to obtain a better education and brighter future.
- **PRIORITY #4: Boat for travel** – Access to King Island is limited because of the lack of boats owned by King Islanders.
- **Access to King Island**-Improved transportation services in Nome has slowly increased tribal access to King Island's traditional lands and subsistence areas. More tribal members are able to visit the island and Cape Woolley. Some programs with Kawerak, the National Park Service, Oregon State University, and other organizations have helped to preserve the historical

information on King Island. Kawerak's Transportation Program worked with the tribe to repair the road to Cape Woolley during the summer of 2007.

- **PRIORITY #4: Higher education and training-**The opening of the Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC) program (now ended) and Northwestern Arctic Career and Technical Center (NACTEC) at Nome-Beltz Jr/Sr High School provide an excellent opportunity for tribal members to receive training for useful skills. Some local scholarships have been awarded to tribal members by various organizations in Nome. The tribe contributed to a program at the Nome Eskimo Community so that tribal members could apply for scholarships for Basketball Camp. New programs include the after school programs, NWC-NSHC nursing training, and airplane mechanic training. The high school was renovated and expanded.
- **PRIORITY #5: Cultural activities-**The King Island Carvers and the King Island Dancers are two groups that have formed to promote cultural activities. The dancers practice in Dec and Apr. The new IRA building has a carving room where tribal members can work on artwork. The tribe also works with the Nome Community Schools program and Nome-Beltz Jr/Sr High School to promote cultural activities in the schools. The tribe participates in the Native Youth Olympics, local parades, and pageants. Some local churches, the DAWN Camp, Kawerak, and the Nome Community Center host various Youth Camps in Nome that tribal members may attend. Kawerak received a three-year ANA planning grant for the Beringia Museum of Culture and Science, which will promote cultural activities for all tribes of the Bering Strait region. The King Island community managed a diabetes grant in 2006 that included cultural activities like gathering greens and berries with elders and classes on butchering seal and oograks.
- **PRIORITY #6: Language preservation-**The Native Education Program in the Nome Public Schools is an advocate for bilingual programs provides tutoring and provides some language and cultural literature. One King Island woman is working to develop language resources for the tribe.
- **PRIORITY #7: Traditional healing-**Norton Sound Health Corporation has re-instated the funding of a tribal healer. They also provide health aide training for tribes.
- **PRIORITY #8: Tourism development-**The Nome Visitor's Center, City of Nome, Kawerak, National Park Service, Bering Strait Development Council, Nome Chamber of Commerce, and tribal organizations have met in Nome with the goal of developing tourism. The City of Nome's port improvement project will enable more cruise ships to dock in Nome each summer. There have also been improvements to the runways and terminal of the airport. The King Island dance group participates in regional and local community activities and promotes cultural activities for both residents and tourists. There is a display case of traditional art and artifacts, as well as beautifully framed historical photos on display at the new King Island community building. The Nome Chamber of Commerce has received a grant from Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation (NSEDC) to produce an educational DVD that will highlight tourism opportunities for King Island, Nome, Diomedea, Gambell, and Savoonga.
- **PRIORITY #9: Grant writers and training-**Kawerak's Community Planning and Development program (CPD) has a Grant Writer's Assistance Program. King Island has applied to this program and utilized it to provide the tribe with short-term grant writers who assist in applying for various funding opportunities.



## Other Accomplishments in Nome

- Transportation – New harbor and improvements, airport improvements, parking area in front of new IRA building
- Tribal Government/Ordinances – Took on the IRR program, ordinance updates in progress, TERO policies
- Natural Resource Development – hunting trips to King Island for subsistence
- Housing – Renovations to teacher housing at Nome-Beltz. Several new homes built in Nome
- Employment – Two tribal members employed at the Rock Creek mine,
- Power and Fuel – NSEDC wind project at King Island IRA building, upgrades at the Nome Joint Utilities, various wind and solar projects in Nome
- Health – GOCADAN, new hospital in progress, new hospice center,
- Business and Tourism – Renting part of the new IRA building, New Theater, new Restaurants, ACS, more B&B's, GCI and TelAlaska improvements, more tribal dancers and artists, new snowmachine shop, New gold mine in operation, more beach miners in Nome, new laundromat, new grocery store, new seafood plant, new hotel
- Communication – Two new high speed internet companies, more Dish network and Starband customers
- Waste management – new land fill
- Public Facilities – New city park, renovated Old St. Joes as a historical building, new community hall for tribes of council, new Sitnasuak buildings, renovated BSNC buildings
- Public Safety – Safety Patrols, investigation of missing persons,
- Water and Sewer – Installation of new system at new IRA building

### 2.1 Planning Committee & Staff Description

Realizing that changes within the community and some current public service facilities are not adequate to achieve program parity, the tribe held a public meeting to discuss and analyze how current infrastructure affects the King Island Community in Nome. On July 6, 2006, a few members of the tribe met to discuss the need for a new Local Economic Development Plan for the community. As a result, the King Island Native Community held a public meeting on December 16, 2006 to develop priorities for the 2010 LEDP. With assistance from Kawerak's Community Planning and Development Program staff a draft was written and presented to the King Island Native Community IRA Council for review. The plan was adopted and approved on June 15, 2010.

### 2.2 Method for Plan Development

The King Island Native Community sought a strategic planning process based upon:

- Technology of Participation methods developed by *the Institute of Culture Affairs*
- Denali Commission, United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development
- Alaska Humanities Forum *Community Strategic Plan Guide and Form*

These methods are proven effective in encouraging full participation from diverse groups and are best applied within community-based settings. This process was implemented among the participant's by first brainstorming ideas individually, then sharing ideas through small group discussions, and finishing with review among all participants confirming new resolves and decisions.

The following Foundational Values or Ground Rules were applied during each planning session:

- Participation: each person brings a different insight, perspective and knowledge that for mulates the larger picture
- Respect: respect and honor each person’s views and ideas, empower each other
- Teamwork: each person works with everyone else in their role to accomplish the goals of the Community
- Creativity: giving permission for the dialogue between the rational (mind) and intuitive (heart) perspectives, keep our eyes open, new ways of thinking
- Action: moving economic development towards local responsibility and accountability

### **2.3 Planning and Components**

The following three-part planning process helped provide a comprehensive planning approach.

- LEPD Vision, Values and Goals - Developed the direction for the community’s social and economic development with an overall vision, guiding community values, and development goals.
- Strategic Action Plans for Community Implementation - Created strategic action plans that the community can take in the coming 5 years to begin the actions and movement toward the vision and development goals.
- Funding and Land Use - Identified potential funding and community investments to implement development goals. Recommended application of community values during implementation of development activities.

It is expected that the Local Economic Development Planning document should include:

- Community profiles
- Community assessment data
- Community vision, value statement and goals
- Updated community priorities for community and economic development
- Top priority implementation strategies to guide project development.

#### **Initial Meeting Participants - June 6, 2006:**

Attendees:

Ruth Ojanen  
Janice Knowlton

Jennifer Carlisle-Little  
Jennifer Alvanna

**Synopsis:** On June 6, 2006 a few members of the tribe reviewed the top priorities from the 1999 Local Economic Development Plan and the 2000/2003 LEDP notes and concluded that they were out-dated. The participants brainstormed a few possible improvements to the priority list. These were only preliminary suggestions to give to the tribal council. They knew more sessions would be needed with more involvement to establish the final top priorities. The following are some the ideas presented, listed in no particular order.

## Top Priorities Identified in the Public Meeting:

1. Tourism Development/build an adjoining dance and music hall to the community meeting building.
2. Winter Trail Staking/Shelter cabins-coastal and overland road routes
3. Upgrade Community Center at Cape Woolley
4. Preservation of historic buildings on King Island
5. Dump Site Improvement/Development at Cape Woolley
6. Water access at Crete Creek-platform and bucket

## Public Meeting Participants-December, 16, 2006:

### Attendees:

Lisa Ellanna-Brandt  
Marie Redington  
Dorothy Thomas  
Leona Mayac  
Vince Pikonganna

Caroline M. Brown  
Janet Carlisle  
Dan Koonuk  
Kristine Carlisle  
Rose Koezuna



King Island Community Annual Meeting

## Top Priorities Identified in the Public Meeting:

1. Extend the Meeting Hall in the new community building for dancing, potlucks, and other cultural and community functions.
2. Increase housing in Nome by 20 new homes, which will be available for King Island community members.
3. Increase educational opportunities and more incentives for King Island students to receive continued education.
4. Improve access to King Island in spring and summer by obtaining a 60-100' boat that would be available as a ferry in the summer and could be used regionally for tribal functions.
5. Improve road access to Cape Woolley and a larger well-maintained van to take community members to and from Cape Woolley.
6. Build a Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation Center and/or Homeless Shelter in Nome to assist needy tribal members.
7. Increase cultural activities (i.e., dance group, Inupiaq language revival, learn to make kayaks and mukluks, and leadership classes for youth).
8. Relocate Cape Woolley Camp Site by moving the structures that are in danger of erosion to higher ground with good soil.

### 3.0 Community Description

#### 3.1 Location

King Islanders are Inupiat Eskimos that relocated to Nome, Alaska in the early 1960's. King Island is located 40 miles west of Cape Douglas in the Bering Sea, south of Wales. The Island is primarily precipitous rock, 700 feet high and approximately one mile long. It lies at approximately 64.969370° North Latitude and -168.064930° West Longitude. (Sec. 18, T006S, R046W, Kateel River Meridian.) King Island is located in the Cape Nome Recording District.

Nome, where the King Island tribe now lives, was built along the Bering Sea, on the south coast of the Seward Peninsula, facing Norton Sound. It lies 539 air miles northwest of Anchorage, a 75-minute flight. It lies 102 miles south of the Arctic Circle, and 161 miles east of Russia. It lies at approximately 64.501110° North Latitude and -165.406390° West Longitude. (Sec. 26, T011S, R034W, Kateel River Meridian.) Nome is located in the Cape Nome Recording District. The area encompasses 12.5 sq. miles of land and 9.1 sq. miles of water.

#### Community Overview – Nome Alaska

Current Population:	3,540 (2006 State Demographer est.)
Incorporation Type:	1st Class City
Borough Located In:	Unorganized
School District:	Nome City Schools
Regional Native Corporation:	Bering Straits Native Corp.



King Island's location in Northwestern Alaska

### 3.2 History and Culture

King Island was historically occupied by Inupiat Eskimos. Captain James Cook named the Island in 1778 for Lt. James King, a member of his party. In 1900, the Eskimo name was reported to be "Ukiwuk." The village was occupied during the winter by approximately 200 Eskimos, who achieved fame as hunters and ivory carvers, and who lived in walrus-skin dwellings lashed to the face of the cliff. The Islanders subsisted on walrus, seal, birds, berries and green plants. Every summer the entire population would travel to the mainland by kayak and umiak, and remained for a few months. Once Nome was founded, they customarily camped near town each summer to sell their intricate ivory carvings. In 1937, Lt. Commander R.C. Sarratt reported that the village was comprised of 190 residents, 45 houses, a Catholic Church, and a school with electric lights, heat, and running water. During this time, the Navy Cutter Northland was transporting King Islanders to Nome for their annual summer trek. Beginning in the 1950s, fewer and fewer residents returned to the Island each fall. In 1960, the U.S. Census enumerated 49 residents. By 1970, no residents continued to live on King Island. Today, the King Islanders are year-round residents of Nome.

The population of Nome is a mixture of Inupiat Eskimos and non-Natives. Although many employment opportunities are available, subsistence activities are prevalent in the community. Former villagers from King Island also live in Nome and have maintained themselves as a unique and separate community within Nome. Nome is the finish line for the 1,100-mile Iditarod Sled Dog Race from Anchorage, held each March.

Malemiut, Kauweraamiut and Unalikmiut Eskimos have occupied the Seward Peninsula historically, with a well-developed culture adapted to the environment. Around 1870 to 1880, the caribou declined on the Peninsula and the Eskimos changed their diets. Gold discoveries in the Nome area had been reported as far back as 1865 but a strike at Anvil Creek in 1898 by three Scandinavians brought thousands of miners to the Nome. A narrow-gauge railroad and telephone line from Nome to Anvil Creek was built in 1900. The City of Nome was formed in 1901. By 1902 the more easily reached claims were exhausted and large mining companies with better equipment took over the mining operations. Since the first strike on tiny Anvil Creek, Nome's gold fields have yielded \$136 million. The gradual depletion of gold, a major influenza epidemic in 1918, the depression, and finally World War II, each influenced Nome's population. A disastrous fire in 1934 destroyed most of the City.

### 3.3 Governments and Service Providers

King Island is unincorporated and the tribe re-located to Nome, so there are no city or borough "officials" on King Island. The community resides under the jurisdiction of the City of Nome. The federally recognized King Island Native Community IRA Council governs the tribe, but most community infrastructure issues are handled by the City of Nome and Nome-based service providers.

#### **Governments and Service Providers**

City of Nome

P.O. Box 281, Nome, AK 99762

Denise Michels, Mayor

Phone: 907-443-6663, Fax: 907-443-5349

E-Mail: [clerk@ci.nome.ak.us](mailto:clerk@ci.nome.ak.us)

Web: <http://www.nomealaska.org>

King Island Native Community (Recognized IRA Council)

P.O. Box 682, Nome, AK 99762

Marilyn Koezuna-Irelan, Chief

Phone: 907-443-2209 Fax: 907-443-8049

E-Mail: [jknowlton@kawerak.org](mailto:jknowlton@kawerak.org)

King Island Native Corporation (Village Corporation)

P.O. Box 992, Nome, AK 99762

Jennifer Carlisle Little, President

Phone: 907-443-5494, Fax: 907-443-5400

E-Mail: [kingisland@gci.net](mailto:kingisland@gci.net)

### 3.3.1 King Island Native Community IRA Council

Pursuant to an order, approved May 15, 1939 by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, the Constitution and Bylaws for the King Island Native Community IRA Council was submitted for ratification to the group of Eskimos having a common bond of residents in the village of King Island, Territory of Alaska, and was on January 31, 1939 duly ratified in accordance with section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), as amended by the Act of June 15, 1935 (49 Stat. 378). An IRA Council composed of a 7-member board was formed as the elected governing body.

The enrolled members of the King Island Native Community, who are eighteen years old or older, elect council members. Council member qualifications and election procedures are governed by an election ordinance passed by the membership. Elections are held every year as the Council members seated have rotating two-year terms. The Council hires all employees, which includes office clerical and administrative personnel. There are currently 489 members enrolled to King Island Native Community. King Island Native Community IRA Council meets once a month. Kawerak, Inc. hires one staff person to serve as a tribal coordinator for the IRA council.

By law the IRA Council has assumed diverse powers and has the responsibility for the protection of life, property, and the environment of its tribal members. The King Island Native Community IRA Council contracts with various federal, state, and other organizations to administer education, economic, social, and cultural programs. These resources are limited to specified purposes and activities.

Incorporation Classification:	501 (c) (3)
Incorporation date:	1939
Current Tribal Enrollment:	489
IRA Council Meetings:	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday
Regular Election:	During the annual meeting in December.

#### IRA Council 2010

Position Held	Name	Term Ending
Chief	Marilyn Koezuna-Irelan	2010
Vice-Chief	Ruth Ojanen	2011
Secretary	Carmelita Nattanguk	2011
Treasurer	Benjamin Payenna	2011
Member	Bernadette Alvanna-Stimpfle	2010
Member	Pauline Marble	2010
Member	Lisa Ellanna	2011

#### Local and Regional Planning Organizations

King Island Native Community	Bering Straits Regional Housing
King Island Native Corporation	Norton Sound Health Corporation
Bering Strait Development Council	Nome Public Schools
Kawerak's Community Planning and Development Program	

## King Island Native Community Elders Advisory Committee

Chair - Agatha Kokuluk  
Vice-Chair - Lucy Koyuk  
Secretary - Vacant  
Member - Edward S. Muktoyuk, Sr.  
Member - Rose Koezuna  
Member - Agatha Ford  
Member - Gemma Carlisle

### 3.3.2 City of Nome

#### Nome Municipal Officials and Employees - General Municipal Information:

Year of Incorporation:	1901
Manager or "Strong Mayor"	Manager
Form of Government:	
Regular Election Held:	1st Tuesday in October
Assembly/Council Meets:	2nd & 4th Mondays
Sales Tax:	5%
Property Tax:	11.0 mills
Special Taxes:	4% Accommodations Tax

#### Nome Municipal Contact Information:

Address:	City of Nome, P.O. Box 281, Nome, AK 99762
Phone/Fax:	Phone-907-443-6663, fax-907-443-5349
E-mail:	<a href="mailto:admin@ci.nome.ak.us">admin@ci.nome.ak.us</a>
Web Page:	<a href="http://www.nomealaska.org">http://www.nomealaska.org</a>

#### Elected/Appointed Officials:

Mayor:	The Honorable Denise Michels (2011)
City Council (term ends):	Jerald Brown and Jon Larson (2010) Mary Knodel and Jim West, Jr. (2011) Stanley Andersen (2011) Randy Pomeranz (2012)
School Board (term ends):	Albert McComas and Barb Nickles (2011) Heather Payenna and Gloria Karmun (2012) Kirsten Timbers (2010)



Nome Municipal Employees:

Position:	Employee Name:
Assessor	Appraisal Co. of Alaska
Attorney	Boyd, Chandler & Falconer
Administrative Assistant	Candace Weidler
City Clerk/Treasurer	Sandy Babcock
Controller	Caroline Kauer
Fire Chief	Matt Johnson
Manager	Josie Bahnke
Museum	Laura Samuelson
Police Chief	John Popasodora
Port Director	Joy Baker
Recreation Director	Chip Leeper
Superintendent of Schools	Stan Lujan
Utilities Manager	John Handeland
Visitor Center Director	Mike Cavin
Building Inspector	Pat Hahn
Planner	Eileen Bechtol, Bechtol Planning and Development
Ambulance Chief	Charlie Lean
Engineering	Bristol Environmental and Engineering Services

**Nome Planning Organizations**

City of Nome Planning Commission, Bering Strait  
Development Council

Kawerak Community Planning and Development Program

Planning Commission (term ends):

Jerald Brown (2011)

Charlie Weiss (2011)

Jeff Darling (2012)

Gregory Smith (2012)

Irene Anderson (2012)

James Adams (2010)

Tom Sparks (2010)

**Regional Services & Facilities**  
BSRHA, NSHC, Kawerak, Inc, NSEDC, UAF

**State of Alaska Services & Facilities:**  
Nome Courts, State District Attorney, Alaska Troopers -Nome,  
Anvil Mountain Correctional Center, Nome Youth Facility,  
Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game, DOT, OCS, DMV,  
Alaska Health & Social Services, Alaska Army National Guard

**Federal Services & Facilities:**  
National Coast Guard, Army Corp. of Engineers, HUD U.S. Post Office,  
US Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, FAA, BIA, BLM, US Customs, USDA,  
National Park Service, National Weather Service,

**3.3.2 IRA or Traditional Councils located in Nome**

The federally recognized councils conduct tribal government affairs for their membership. The councils own and operate various buildings, businesses, or programs. Some work with Kawerak, Inc., the regional non-profit Native organization.

- Nome Eskimo Community
- King Island Native Community
- Native Village of Council
- Village of Solomon

**Nome Port Commission (term ends)**

Jim West, Jr. and Jim Rowe (2010)  
Jeff Darling, Charlie Lean and Jim Adams (2011)

**Carrie McLain Museum Commission**

Ron Engstrom, John Handeland, Charlene  
Saclamana, Cussy Kauer, Mary Knodel, Vera  
Metcalf, and Jim West, Jr.

**Other Nome Information**

Police:	City Police Dept. (443-5262); State Troopers Post (443-2835)
Fire/Rescue:	Nome Volunteer Ambulance Dept (443-7824/5262); Norton Sound Health Corp. Medevac (443-3311)
Court/Magistrate:	State Superior Court; Anvil Mountain Correctional Center, Cornell Companies, Inc.-Seaside Center

### 3.3.3 King Island Native Corporation

On December 18, 1971, Congress passed the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA), which provided for the creation of 210 Village Corporations and 13 Regional Corporations as profit-making land-holding corporations. King Island Native Corporation was incorporated in 1973 and has a current enrollment of 206 shareholders. The corporation was entitled to 115,200 acres of land. Under the terms of ANCSA, the King Island Native Corporation is entitled to surface estate, while the Bering Straits Native Corporation received rights to the sub-surface estate.

Incorporation Classification:	Profit
Incorporation Date:	1973
12 (a) Land Entitlement:	115,200 acres
12 (b) Land Entitlement:	6,080 acres
Current Shareholders:	206
Manager Form of Government:	Yes
Regular Elections:	During the annual meeting
Planning & Zoning Committee:	Yes
Planning Team	Personnel Policy Committee



An old picture of skin boats in the water at King Island.

### 3.3.4 Regional and Tribal Organizations

<p>Kawerak, Incorporated  P.O. Box 948  Nome, Alaska 99762  Phone: (907) 443-5231  Fax: (907) 443-4452  E-mail: <a href="mailto:webmaster@kawerak.org">webmaster@kawerak.org</a>  Web Site: <a href="http://www.kawerak.org">http://www.kawerak.org</a></p>	<p>King Island Native Community  IRA Council  P.O. Box 682  Nome, Alaska 99762  Phone: (907) 443-2209  Fax: (907) 443-8049  E-mail: <a href="mailto:jknowlton@kawerak.org">jknowlton@kawerak.org</a></p>
<p>Norton Sound Health Corporation  P.O. Box 966  Nome, Alaska 99762  Phone: (907) 443-3311  Fax (907) 443-3139  Web Site: <a href="http://www.nshc.org">http://www.nshc.org</a></p>	<p>King Island Native Corporation  P.O. Box 992  King Island, Alaska 99762  Phone: (907) 443-5494  Fax: (907) 443-5400</p>
<p>Bering Straits Native Corporation  P.O. Box 1008  Nome, Alaska 99762  Phone: (907) 443-5252  Fax: (907) 443-2985  Web Site: <a href="http://www.beringstraits.com">http://www.beringstraits.com</a></p>	<p>Norton Sound Economic Development Corp.  P.O. Box 906, Nome, AK 99762  1-907-443-2304  Phone: (907) 443-2477  Fax: (907) 443-2478  Website: <a href="http://www.nsedc.com">http://www.nsedc.com</a></p>

### 3.3.5 Local Contacts and Regional/State Organizations with Local Offices

Alaska Legal Services Corp. (Nome Office)  
P.O. Box 1429, Nome, AK 99762-1429  
Phone: 907-443-2230, Fax: 907-443-2239  
E-Mail: [nome@alsc-law.org](mailto:nome@alsc-law.org)  
(Legal)

Bering Strait Dev. Council- Obie Simonis, Program Director  
P.O. Box 948, Nome, AK 99762  
Phone: 907-443-4248, Fax: 907-443-4449  
E-Mail: [cpd.pd@kawerak.org](mailto:cpd.pd@kawerak.org), Web: <http://www.kawerak.org>  
(Regional Development)

## Local Contacts and Regional/State Organizations with Local Offices Continued

USDA Rural Development – Bob Strunz, Loan Specialist  
P.O. Box 1009, Nome, AK 99762, Phone: 907-443-6023, Fax: 907-443-6024  
E-Mail: [robert.strunz@ak.usda.gov](mailto:robert.strunz@ak.usda.gov), Web: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ak>  
(Rural Development)

Bering Straits Foundation – Carolyn Crowder, Board President  
P.O. Box 1008, Nome, AK 99762  
Phone: 907-443-5252, Fax: 907-443-2985  
E-Mail: [foundation@beringstraits.com](mailto:foundation@beringstraits.com), Web: <http://www.beringstraits.com>  
(Regional Native Corporation)

Bering Straits Regional Housing Authority- Bob Mocan, President/CEO  
P.O. Box 995, Nome, AK 99762, Phone: 907-443-5256, Fax: 907-443-8652  
Email: [bmocan@bsrha.org](mailto:bmocan@bsrha.org), Web: <http://www.bsrha.org>  
(Housing Authority)

Alaska Nanuuq Commission- Jack Omelak, Deputy Director  
P.O. Box 946, Nome, AK 99762, Phone: 907-443-5044, Fax: 907-443-5060  
E-Mail: [jo.aknanuuq@gci.net](mailto:jo.aknanuuq@gci.net), Web: <http://www.nanuuq.info/index.html>  
(International and Federal co-management of marine mammal populations)

Nome Chamber of Commerce- Mitch Erickson, Executive Director  
P.O. Box 250, Nome, AK 99762  
Phone: 907-443-3879, Fax: 907-443-3892  
E-Mail: [nomechamber@gci.net](mailto:nomechamber@gci.net), Web: <http://www.nomechamber.org>  
(Business Advocacy)

Nome Convention & Visitors Bureau-Mike Cavin, Director  
P.O. Box 240, Nome, AK 99762  
Phone: 907-443-6555, Fax: 907-443-5832  
E-Mail: [nomeinfo@gci.net](mailto:nomeinfo@gci.net), Web: <http://www.visitnomealaska.org>  
(Economic Development)

### 3.4 Community Infrastructure

There are no public facilities on King Island as the community has re-located to Nome. The tribe must use a boat or airplane to reach the island. All community infrastructure and facilities are located in Nome where the tribe lives.

#### 3.4.1 Residential Housing Development

There is a need for more housing units that are available to low-income members of the tribe.

Nome Housing Characteristics:	
Total Housing Units:	1,356
Occupied Housing (Households):	1,184
Vacant Housing:	172
Vacant Due to Seasonal Use:	39
Owner-Occupied Housing:	530
Median Value Owned Homes:	\$110,600
Renter-Occupied Housing:	654
Median Rent Paid:	\$939
Total Households:	1,184
Avg. Household Size:	2.79
Family Households:	750
Avg. Family Household Size:	3.45
Non-Family Households:	434
Pop. Living in Households:	3,303
Pop. Living in Group Quarters:	202

The following Census figures are estimates, based on a sample. The percent of all households sampled in Nome during the 2000 Census was 26.6%.

Structure Types	
Single Family Detached):	750
Single Family Attached:	27
Duplex:	98
3 or 4 Units:	207
5 to 9 Units:	104
10 to 19 Units:	120
20 plus Units:	5
Trailers/Mobile Homes:	57

Total Households:	1,184
Percent of Households That	
Lack Complete Plumbing (lack sink, bath/shower or flush toilet):	5.3%
Lack a Complete Kitchen (lack stove, fridge or running water):	5.2%
Lack Phone Service:	2.5%
Heat Using Electricity:	2.6%
Heat Using Fuel Oil, Kerosene:	92.9%
Heat Using Wood:	0.3%
Heat Using Piped Gas (utility):	0.3%
Heat Using Bottled, Tank, LP Gas:	1.8%
Heat Using Coal or Coke:	0.0%
Heat Using Solar Energy:	0.0%
Heat Using Other Fuel:	2.2%
Use No Fuel:	0.0%

### 3.4.2 Commercial Buildings Development

The tribe has applied for funding for several capital projects in the past. It also benefits from the many public and private businesses located in the city of Nome.

#### Capital Projects and Grants – RAPIDS (Rural Alaska Project Identification and Delivery System)

For more information on a specific project, contact the lead agency.

Lead Agency	Fiscal Year	Project Status	Project Description	Project Stage	Agency Cost	Total Cost
EDA	2001	Funded	King Island Community Building	Preliminary	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
BIA	2001	Funded	King Island - Sinuk River Road - 14.9 mi. Seeking cost sharing	Preliminary	\$965,000	\$965,000
HUD	2003	Funded	Indian Housing Block Grant - NAHASDA administration, operating & construction funds	Completed	\$115,095	\$115,095
HUD	2002	Funded	Indian Housing Block Grant - NAHASDA admin., operating & construction funds	Completed	\$102,861	\$102,861

### 3.4.3 Education

**Nome Public Schools** - Contact information for Alaska School Districts and Schools is available at the Department of Education and Early Development's <http://www.nomeschools.com>

#### Nome School District:

District Name:	Nome City Schools
Operated By:	City
Total Number of Schools:	5
Total Number of Teachers:	52
Total Number of Students:	657
Student/Teacher Ratio:	13.3
Dropout Rate (9-12 Grade):	7.4 %
Percent Native Students:	69.0%
Geographic Cost Differential:	1.402
Expenditures Per Student (FY 2008):	\$15,163

#### Schools Located in Nome:

School Name	Grades Taught	Number of Students	Number of Teachers
Anvil City Science Academy	5 thru 8	44	3
Nome Correspondence School	7 thru 12	9	0
Nome Elementary School	P thru 6	348	25
Nome Youth Facility	5 thru 12	12	1
Nome-Beltz Jr./Sr. High School	7 thru 12	273	23

#### Other education facilities or programs available in Nome:

University of Alaska Fairbanks – Northwest Campus  
 Norton Sound Health Corporation-Health Aide Training Program  
 Norton Sound Health Corporation-Infant Learning Program  
 Kawerak Head Start Program and Child Care Center  
 Northwestern Alaska Career and Technical Center (NACTEC)  
 Kawerak’s Education, Employment, and Training Division  
 Nome Community Schools Program  
 Nome Seventh Day Adventist School  
 Nome Preschool  
 Cooperative Extension Program-Northwest Campus



### 3.4.4 Health Care

Clinic/Hospital in Community: Norton Sound Regional Hospital

Operator: NSHC (907-443-3311)

Owner: Private

Facility Status: The clinic was renovated in 1994

Alternate Health Care: Nome Volunteer Ambulance Dept (443-7557);  
Norton Sound Health Corp. Medevac (443-3311)

The hospital is a qualified Acute Care facility and Medevac Service. Long Term Care is performed by the Quyaana Care Center. Specialized Care is performed by Norton Sound Community Mental Health Center, Turning Point - Saquigvik (transitional living 443-5577), and the XYZ Senior Center 5238. Nome is classified as a large town/regional center. It is found in EMS Region 5A in the Norton Sound Region. Emergency services have limited highway, coastal and airport access. Emergency service is provided by 911 Telephone Service and volunteers. There are about 7 doctors, 15 nurses, and 4 PA's. Some are long term local employees with excellent training and experience. Specialty clinics occur on a regular basis. Public health nurses administer vaccinations. The hospital has a dental, eye, and audiology department. It is estimated that the average family in Nome makes several trips per year to Anchorage or elsewhere depending on the medical needs of each family member.

### 3.4.5 Water/Sewer & Solid Waste

A well at Moonlight Springs supplies water to the community, which is treated at the Snake River Power Plant and stored in a 50,000-gallon tank. A million-gallon back-up tank is also available. Water is heated and pumped to residences via a wooden utilidor; trucks also deliver water. Sewage is piped from most homes. Over 95% of residences currently have complete plumbing. Construction has begun on a six-phase upgrade to drill additional wells at Moonlight Springs, replace the water storage tank and pumping station, and to replace the 1960's-era wooden utilidor distribution system with buried Arctic piping. The City wants to develop a water source closer to the city. Some homes still haul their own honeybuckets and have water delivered to home tanks. Funds have been requested to expand water and sewer to these areas. Refuse collection services are provided by a contractor, hauled to the landfill on Beam Road.

#### Water Distribution, Source & Treatment Systems:

Water System Operator:	Nome Joint Utility System
Piped Water System:	Yes
Water Truck (Delivery):	Yes
Community Well Source:	Yes
DEC Water Permit Number:	340010
Water Is Filtered:	No
Water Is Chlorinated:	Yes

#### Sewage Collection Systems:

Sewer System Operator:	City
Piped Sewer System:	Yes
Honeybucket Haul:	Yes
Honeybucket Pits:	No
Individual Septic Tanks:	Yes
Community Septic Tank:	No
Sewage Pumper:	No
Sewage Lagoon:	Yes
Sewage Lift Station:	No
Refuse/Landfill System:	
Refuse Collector:	Andersen, Inc (City Contract)
Landfill Operator:	City;
DEC Landfill Permit:	Yes
Type of Landfill:	Class 2, 0032-BA003

### 3.4.6 Transportation

Nome is a regional hub of transportation for surrounding villages.

**Air Service:** There are two State-owned airports. The Nome Airport has two paved runways, one is 6,001' long and 150' wide, and the other is 5,576' by 150' wide. An \$8.5 million airport improvement project is nearing completion. Scheduled jet flights are available, as well as charter and helicopter services. The City Field offers a 1,950' long by 110' wide gravel airstrip.

**Port:** The Nome Harbor Improvements Project in 2006 added a 3,025 foot breakwater east of the existing causeway and added a 270 foot spur extending the causeway to 2,982 feet. The City dock typically receives bulk cargo, bulk fuel deliveries and hosts the cruise ships, USCG Cutter's and research vessels. The Westgold dock handles the majority of the exported rock/gravel and does the loading/unloading of heavy equipment. The Outer Harbor Entrance is 500 feet wide and serves as access to the deep water docks, the Snake River entrance, and Small Boat Harbor. A 60 foot wide concrete barge ramp was built to provide a suitable location trans-load village cargo and equipment and serves as our boat launch. About two acres of uplands are nearby for storage. Village cargo, equipment and fuel can also be handled at the harbor sheet pile docks, east beach landing, and west barge ramp for delivery in the region. Moorage, dockage and wharfage fees are collected by the Port of Nome. Amenities available include fresh water, toll restricted phone lines, line handling for large ships, security fees for cruise ships, receptacles and/or dump trucks for refuse, and a small waste oil tank in the harbor for small vessels. Third party companies are available for haul-outs, fuel delivery, water and sewage, trucking, limited repair facilities, air transport, medical services, and fish and game commercial fisheries.

The entire seaward side of the City of Nome is protected by a 3,350-foot-long sea wall of granite boulders. These huge rocks were trucked in from Cape Nome, 13 miles distant, at a cost of more than one million dollars. Local development groups, federal sources and the City are funding the remaining construction that includes another seasonal floating dock, a low level dock in the harbor, additional bollards/fenders on the Westgold Dock and repairs to the City Dock. Construction is expected to occur in 2008.

**Roads:** No road system connects Nome to any major city. Local roads lead to Teller, Council and the Kougarok River. There are several unimproved earth roads in the area. Nome-Teller: 72 miles west, Nome-Council: 73 miles east, Nome-Taylor: 87 miles north. Local car rentals, taxi service and tour buses available.

### 3.4.7 Bulk Fuel Storage and Power

Tank Owners (Number of tanks / Total capacity): Crowley (5,233,000 gals.); Nome Joint Utility Systems (4,000,000); Bonanza Fuel (3,055,000); Air National Guard (20,000)

Electric Utility Name:	Nome Joint Utility Systems
Utility Operator:	City
Power Source:	Diesel
KiloWatt Capacity:	15,600
Rate/KiloWatt Hour:	16.99 cents/KWH ( <i>Only data for PCE Communities is available on this system</i> )
Power Cost Equalization (PCE) Subsidy:	Yes

### 3.4.8 Communications

In-State Phone:	TelAlaska/ Mukluk Telephone Co.
Long-Distance Phone:	AT&T Alascom; GCI
Internet Service Provider:	GCI (www.gci.net); TelAlaska Arctic Net
TV Stations:	ARCS; KUAC; KYAC
Radio Stations:	KICY-AM/FM; KNOM-AM/FM
Cable/Satellite TV Provider:	GCI Cable, Inc., Dish Network
Teleconferencing:	Alaska Teleconferencing Network; Legislative Information Office

## 4.0 Population and Economic Data

### 4.1 Nome Census Data

Population by Race:	
Population in 2000:	<b>3,505</b>
White:	1,328
Alaska Native or Amer. Indian:	1,789
Black:	30
Asian:	54
Hawaiian Native:	2
Other Race:	15
Two or More Races:	287
Alaska Native alone or in combination with one or more races	58.70%
All or Part Alaska Native/Indian:	2,057
Hispanic Origin (Any Race):	72
Not Hispanic (Any Race):	3,433

#### Nome Census Population History:

1880:	0	1950:	1,876
1890:	41	1960:	2,316
1900:	12,488	1970:	2,488
1910:	2,600	1980:	2,544
1920:	852	1990:	3,500
1930:	1,213	2000:	3,505
1940:	1,559		

Population by Gender and Age:	
Male:	1,876
Female:	1,629
Age 4 and under:	273
Age 5 - 9:	353
Age 10 - 14:	299
Age 15 - 19:	282
Age 20 - 24:	193
Age 25 - 34:	488
Age 35 - 44:	636
Age 45 - 54:	512
Age 55 - 59:	154
Age 60 - 64:	96
Age 65 - 74:	119
Age 75 - 84:	68
Age 85 and over:	32
Median Age:	32.4
Pop. Age 18 and over:	2,387
Pop. Age 21 and over:	2,268
Pop. Age 62 and over:	272

## 4.2 Employment and the Economy

The Census did not measure King Island as a "community" during April 2000. No community-level economic data are available however, block-level data may be available. The village corporation has 206 shareholders, and owns several businesses in Nome. Their exceptional ivory carvings and crafts are sold to tourists in Nome and Anchorage. Nome is the supply, service and transportation center of the Bering Strait region. Government services provide the majority of employment. Sixty retail services, transportation, mining, medical and other businesses provide year-round income. Several small gold mines continue to provide some employment. Nome residents hold commercial fishing permits and subsistence hunting, fishing and gathering contribute to the local diet.

The King Island tribe's economy is also based on subsistence, supplemented by full and part-time wage earnings. Subsistence resources include: seal, beluga whale, caribou, reindeer, moose, fish and a variety of edible greens. In addition, there is a group of traditional dancers and several skilled tribal members that carve or do traditional sewing or arts and crafts. The need for cash is critical; many people depend on both cash and subsistence economies for their livelihood and survival. It is necessary for many residents to combine subsistence practices with a cash income in order to purchase hunting equipment such as tents, stoves, guns and ammunition, all terrain vehicles, boats and outboard motors. Additional items such as food, fuel, supplies, material parts, and seasonal clothing contribute to the expenses necessary for participation in a mixed economy. High transportation costs associated with shipping these items to Nome compounds the need for cash income even greater.

The following Income and Employment data is from the 2000 U.S. Census. Additional detail is available from the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Census and Geographic Information Network and the U.S. Census Bureau's American Fact Finder. These figures are estimates based on a sample, and are subject to sampling variability. The percent of all households sampled in Nome was 26.6%. Note: Current socio-economic measures could differ significantly.

Nome Income and Poverty Levels:

Per Capita Income:	\$23,402
Median Household Income:	\$59,402
Median Family Income:	\$68,804
Persons in Poverty:	212
Percent Below Poverty:	6.3%

Nome Employment:

Total Potential Work Force (Age 16+):	2,547
Total Employment:	1,544
Civilian Employment:	1,535
Military Employment:	9
Civilian Unemployed (And Seeking Work):	189
Percent Unemployed:	11.0%
Adults Not in Labor Force (Not Seeking Work):	814
Percent of All 16+ Not Working (Unemployed + Not Seeking):	39.4%
Private Wage & Salary Workers:	971
Self-Employed Workers (in own not incorporated business):	94
Government Workers (City, Borough, State, Federal):	456
Unpaid Family Workers:	14

Nome Employment by Occupation:

Management, Professional & Related:	530
Service:	310
Sales & Office:	403
Farming, Fishing & Forestry:	2
Construction, Extraction & Maintenance:	137
Production, Transportation & Material Moving:	153

Nome Employment by Industry:	
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting, Mining:	36
Construction:	55
Manufacturing:	9
Wholesale Trade:	3
Retail Trade:	156
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities:	183
Information:	53
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate, Rental & Leasing:	40
Professional, Scientific, Management, Administrative & Waste Mgmt:	24
Education, Health & Social Services:	474
Arts, Entertainment, Recreation, Accommodation & Food Services:	170
Other Services (Except Public Admin):	109
Public Administration:	223

### 4.3 Regional Economy

The economic base of the Bering Strait region is relatively small, and has only slightly increased over the last five years. A mixed economy based on cash earnings and subsistence practices are vital to the survival of the communities in the region. According to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game surveys, the total annual harvest of subsistence foods is about 4.8 million pounds or about 519 pounds per person. Subsistence practices are higher in the villages of the Bering Strait region outside the hub city of Nome. The average annual harvest of subsistence foods in Nome was 240 pounds per person, compared to the annual averages in the region ranging from 580 to 997 pounds per person. The nutritional contribution of the annual subsistence harvests of food is about 45% of the average caloric intake of the residents in the region. Declining natural resources, pollution, and extensive subsistence regulations are a concern to communities struggling to survive on limited economies.

The rural cash economy in the Bering Strait region consists mainly of job opportunities created by federal, state, local, and tribal governments. Native organizations, transportation businesses, and other local businesses in Nome provide jobs. Some tribal members earn money from arts and crafts, seasonal jobs in the fishing industries such as salmon, herring, halibut and crabbing, construction work and other part-time employment. Construction, mining, commercial fishing, and tourism provide seasonal employment opportunities as well.

### 4.4 Tourism

Tourism has increased in importance in the recent years. According to the 2003 Nome Area Tourism, Demand & Infrastructure Study, it is estimated that tourism brings in approximately 10,000 visitors annually to the region, contributing \$3,775,000 into the regional economy. Tourism jobs are seasonal, catering to independent tourists and cruise passengers. Independent tourists generally visit the areas for birding, fishing, and hunting activities in the summer and fall months. Carved ivory and other Native crafts have also become an important part of the tourism as well. Current resources to visiting tourists are local tour guides, the Carrie McLain Museum, the National Park Service, Nome Chamber of Commerce, The Nome Visitor's Center, The Nome Arts Council, community activities and events,



Nome-based Native organizations, local artists and entertainers, the Nome Recreation Center, Nome-Beltz Swimming Pool, local churches, and local businesses. Much could be done to further develop cultural activities and tourism as much of the focus is around the annual Iditarod Dogsled race, the unique natural resources of the area, and gold mining history.

Nome Visitor Accommodations and Information:

- Airline Services: Alaska Air, Bering Air, Hageland Aviation, Evergreen Helicopter, Frontier Flying, ATS, Northern Air Cargo, Lynden Air, Everts Air Cargo
- Taxis: Checker; Louie’s Cab, Go Cab, EZ Enterprises
- Car Rentals: Stampede Ventures
- Accommodations: Nome Nugget Inn; Polar Arms Hotel, Polaris Hotel; Ponderosa Inn; Mai's Guest House; Aurora Inn and Executive Suites; Chateau de Cape Nome; Serenity Lodge; Trails End; Sweat Dreams B&B; Weeks Apartments.
- Visitor Attractions: City Convention & Visitors Center; Gold Rush History; Alaska's largest gold pan; 300 miles of local roads for wildlife and bird viewing; Iditarod Dog mushing; Eskimo culture.
- Cultural Events: Gold Rush Classic Iron Dog Snowmachine Race (Feb. - finish line); Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race (finish line in March); Iditarod Basketball Tournament (Mar); Bering Sea Ice Gold Classic/Golf Tournament (Mar); Nome to Golovin Snowmachine Race (Mar); Midnight Sun Festival (June); Fourth of July/Anvil Mtn. Run; Nome River Raft Race (June); Nome Theater Guild; Iditaswim; Iditabike; Miners and Musers Ball (Mar); Polar Bear Swim (May); Midnight Sun Softball Tournament (June); Bathtub Race (Sept); Fireman's Carnival (Dec).

**4.5 Other Facilities in Nome**

- Youth Center: City Recreation Center; Comm. Center; Boys and Girls Club
- Community Hall: Community Center; City Hall
- Senior Services: Nome Community Center, Inc./Senior Center; XYZ Program, Norton Sound Health Corp.
- Gym or Pool: City Recreation Center, Nome-Beltz Swimming Pool
- Bingo: Solid Green Bingo
- Movie Theater: Gold Coast Theater
- Museum: City/Carrie McLain Museum
- Library: City Public Library, College & School Libraries

**5.0 Environmental Scan**

**5.1 Soils/Topography**

The Seward Peninsula consists of sedimentary, metamorphic, and volcanic rocks, which intertwine with boggy tundra to form a landscape mosaic of coastal lowlands, expansive convex hills with scattered broad valleys, and small isolated groups of rugged mountains. Soils are often wet, shallow, and organic

because of the permafrost. Ice-related features such as pingos and patterned ground (raised polygons outlined by rock-filled ditches) are present.

In Nome at least six distinct geographic beaches exist on the coastal plain inshore from the present day beach. These ancient marine beaches represent different sea levels that once occurred in the region during Pliocene and Pleistocene times. A mantle of glacial till and outwash deposits between 50 to 60 feet thick overlies the ancient beaches. The coastal plain, which is approximately a 4-mile wide stretch of poorly drained lowland, extends from Cape Nome to the hills just west of Cripple River. Bordering the coastal plain is a series of hills, which were formed by folded and faulted interbedded schists and limestones. Primarily, the soils along the hillsides are rubble or gravel overlying shallow bedrock. These soils are typically well drained.

The entire Seward Peninsula falls within the continuous permafrost zone. The permafrost is continuous throughout the coastal plain except under deep lakes and major streams. This permafrost ranges in depth and is known to reach thicknesses of up to 300 feet in some areas. The potential flooding from surrounding rivers and coastal storm surges exists; however, there is little documentation of serious flooding within the city. Coastal storms have breached the manmade seawall and caused damage and erosion.

## **5.2 Vegetation**

Vegetation on the Seward Peninsula is principally tundra, with alpine dryas-lichen tundra and barrens at high elevations and moist sedge-tussock tundra at lower elevations. Patches of low-growing ericaceous and willow-birch shrubs occur on better-drained areas. The primary vegetation cover in the Nome region is tundra. There are very few trees in the Nome-area. Vegetation is generally limited to lichens, shrubs, mosses, low bush berries, and various grasses. Local residents harvest a variety of berries, roots, mushrooms, and greens from the land. There is some success transplanting trees from other areas and raising flower and vegetable gardens if special precautions are observed to choose hardy varieties and protect from frost.

## **5.2 Climate**

The climate is best classified as moist polar. The Chukchi Sea and the Bering Strait affords very little climatic moderation since ice spans these waters over much of the year allowing direct passage of bitterly cold air from Siberia. Persistent cold, windy conditions occur in the winter and fog blankets the coastlines in the summer. January temperatures range from -3 to 11; July temperatures are typically 44 to 65. Average annual precipitation is 18 inches, including 56 inches of snowfall.

## **5.3 Archeological**

In the summer of 2005 thirty tribal members and ranging in age from 15-80 visited King Island for the first time in over 40 years. A team of scientists, including anthropologists, biologists, arch archaeologists, geographers, oral historians, and linguists accompanied the tribal members to King Island to gather information before it is lost with the passing of the oldest generation. One of the goals was to study the effects of diaspora in a Native community. This is important to other tribes in Alaska, like Shishmaref, which is facing the need to relocate their community.

## 5.5 Land Status

### Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) Land Status and Entitlement:

Village Corporation:	King Island Native Corporation
12(a) Land Entitlement*:	115,200 acres
12(b) Land Entitlement**:	5,760 acres
Other Land Entitlements:	
14(c)(3) Status***:	No Activity
14(c)(3) Comments:	Island abandoned due to population emigration; housing is dilapidated; used as summer subsistence site only; villagers waiting for State to build a road to new village site before starting 14(c) process
14(c)(3) Agreement Signed:	No
14(c)(3) Acres:	0.0
Map of Boundaries done:	No
Date Plat Filed:	
Plat Number:	
Recording District:	
Municipal Land Trust:	Yes
Authorized Village Entity Type:	

\* ANCSA 12(a) land entitlement to village corp. from federal government. \*\* ANCSA 12(b) land reallocated to village corp. from Reg. Native Corp. \*\*\* Under ANCSA 14(c)(3), villages must reconvey surface estates to the local city government to provide for community use and expansion

## 5.6 Natural Resources

### 5.6.1 Gold, Tin, and Other Mineral

Following the discovery of gold at Anvil Creek in 1898, (approximately 2 miles east of Nome) 10,000 miners hoping to strike it rich arrived into the Nome River area by 1899. Once the “golden sands of Nome” were discovered west of Anvil Creek, miners with shovels, buckets and wheelbarrows extracted \$1 million dollars worth in gold (at \$16 per ounce) within 2 months (Bell’s Mile By Mile 1997). Since the first strike on Anvil Creek, mining efforts in the Nome area have yielded over 6.8 million ounces of gold (20% of the state's total production) at a total of \$136 million.

The Nome Census area has been the center of placer mining since 1900 according to the Alaska Department of Community and Economic Development. A byproduct of gold mining is millions of tons of washed gravel and sand, which has some potential if a market could be found. Very few prospect areas or mineral occurrences in the region are likely to be developed due to low metal prices, market demand, lack of power supply, and other infrastructure.

While some of the placer deposit areas may be rich they are not large enough to support a large operation for any length of time. Only areas nearest the road system are likely to be developed. There are five placer districts in the region:

1. Cape Nome
2. Council-Solomon District
3. Koyuk District
4. Port Clarence district
5. Kougarak district

Over four million pounds of tin, in both placer and lode forms have been mined on the Seward Peninsula. Known tin deposits exist at Cape Mountain, Potato Mountain, Brooks Mountain, Lost River, Black Mountain, Ear Mountain, Kougarak Mountain, and at the Oonatut Granite Complex. If the price for tin should increase, the western Seward Peninsula would be an attractive target for further exploration. Nova Gold is investigating the possibility of shipping sand and gravel from Nome to outside markets. The Bering Straits Native Corporation produces good quality rock for public works at Cape Nome. Graphite was once mined in Teller and has some potential still. There are four types of hard rock prospects in region:

1. Vein gold prospects: Rock Creek, Big Hurrah, Mount Distin (Divide), Daniels Creek, Bluff and Koyana Creek
2. Tin deposits: Cape Mountain, Potato Mountain, Lost River, Ear Mountain, Kougarak
3. Poly metallic and base metal veins: Serpentine Hot Springs, Omilak area
4. Uranium-bearing deposits: Death Valley, Eagle

### **5.6.2 Oil and Gas**

Some potential gas and oil potential exists offshore in the Norton Basin and even more in Hope Basin further north according to a 2000 assessment by the Minerals Management Service. Neither gas nor oil development is feasible economically at the current market prices. There is no infrastructure in place to begin such development.

### **5.6.3 Wildlife and Marine Resources**

**Subsistence Resources-**King Island members rely on cash as well as subsistence for food, clothing, and in producing cash items for sale. In the spring and fall walrus, bearded seal, and a variety of birds are hunted. The seal meat is dried and the blubber is rendered. From the walrus, the ivory tusks are used to carve tools, jewelry, and various art figures. There are many carvers and people who sew (animal skins), and other people who do arts and crafts, sewing and beading. Some build boats and sleds.

There are dozens of different birds caught for food including: Brandt geese, Canadian geese, snow geese, emperor geese, eider duck, mallard ducks, pintail ducks, and ptarmigan. Bird eggs are also gathered and eaten fresh at certain times of the year.

Moose, caribou, musk ox and rabbit provide the meat for eating, drying or freezing for later consumption, but very few residents have access to reindeer as the herds are privately owned. Reindeer meat is usually available for sale in the store. Wolves, wolverine, beaver and fox are hunted for the skins. The skins are used for the parka ruff and trim, fur hats and mittens which are widely used for traveling in the countryside by snowmachine or dog sled.

During the summer months, a variety of salmon are caught dried, salted, or smoked. Pike and trout are also caught and stored. In the winter, tomcod and smelt are caught using ice-fishing hooks. The tomcod are eaten frozen, dried, or cooked and the smelt are cooked.

From May to September various greens are picked and stored in seal oil. In late August and September salmon berries, blue berries, and black berries are also picked and stored for the winter. Roots from tundra plants are, dug up, and stored in seal oil.

**Wild Birds**-Alaska is home to a huge variety of birds – 468 species have been identified making Nome a paradise for birders and a destination for many who hope to see rarities like the Bluethroat, Whiskered Auklet, and Bristle-Thighed Curlew. The Bering Strait region is home to a variety of rare migratory birds. Ducks, geese, swans and cranes reside in fresh water habitats, while seabirds such as eiders, murres and auklets concentrate in great numbers along the coastline.

**Reindeer History**-During the late 1800's, according to historians, commercial whaling, walrus hunting, decreasing caribou herds, and epidemics threatened the survival of Alaska Native people in the Bering Strait region. Sheldon Jackson, General Agent of Education, believed reindeer would provide a stable and reliable food supply for Alaska Natives. He also wanted a means to facilitate their conversion to Christianity and acculturation into Euro-American society. On July 4, 1892, the first group of reindeer was transported from Siberia to Port Clarence on the Seward Peninsula. The Teller Reindeer Station was constructed and became the primary headquarters for training Alaska Natives in herding techniques. By 1895, Alaska Native apprentices were trained, and began owning herds.

Since their introduction, reindeer herding has played an important part in the region's history, culture and economy. Herding operations fulfill the market for reindeer products, place a demand for local services and suppliers and provide local employment. The reindeer industry is a sustainable industry that uses the rich range resources of the Seward Peninsula and in return provides red meat and other by-products. The economic contribution of the reindeer industry in the early 1990's, when 15 herds were active, was estimated at \$1 million annually. This annual contribution fluctuates with antler prices, meat prices and caribou impacts on the reindeer population. The entire Bering Sea region serves as range to approximately 10,000 of the state's reindeer, with herds existing near Wales, Shishmaref, White Mountain, Brevig Mission, Stebbins, Teller, Nome, and on St. Lawrence Island.

Kawerak's Reindeer Herders Association (RHA) consists of 21 members of which three are tribal councils; members are owners and managers of reindeer herds. The Reindeer Herders Association was formed to encourage, foster and facilitate the orderly and efficient production, distribution and marketing of reindeer products. RHA provides administrative, logistical, advocacy and field support to its members. An Executive committee provides policy and direction to the staff located in Nome under Kawerak, Inc., a regional non-profit corporation.

**Muskoxen History**-The return of muskoxen to Alaska is applauded as an important success story in wildlife conservation. The number of muskoxen had greatly reduced worldwide which led to a move to restore protected populations to Alaska. In the 1930's, 34 muskoxen captured in Greenland were brought to Fairbanks and later moved to Nunivak Island where they adapted, thrived and increased to about 750 by 1968. In the 1960's animals were transported to other areas in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, Cape Thompson, the Seward Peninsula, Nelson Island, Wrangell Island, and even the Taimyr Peninsula in Russia. In 1990, approximately 2,220 free-ranging muskoxen resided in Alaska with about 700 on the

Seward Peninsula. Despite increased numbers, today few King Island Community members benefit as a limited number of hunting permits are issued. The muskoxen also compete with the moose, reindeer, caribou, and humans for tundra vegetation, greens and berries.

**Commercial Fishing**-According to Census Data analysis provided by the Alaska Department of Community and Economic Development, crab, herring, and salmon were the three highest-ranking valued fisheries in 2000 and have dominated the regional fishing activities. Yet the number of jobs fishing jobs decreased from 451 in 1995 to 210 in 1999. Since 1990, the Nome Census area has experienced widely fluctuating commercial seafood harvests. The earnings are down from a gross earning in 1995 of \$3 million down to less than \$700,000 annually in 1998-2000. The instability of the fish stocks and prices has hurt the region.

## 5.7 Geological Hazards

Erosion-The potential flooding from surrounding rivers and coastal storm surges exists. Coastal storms have breached the manmade seawall and caused damage and erosion.

## 8.0 Opportunities and Barriers to Development

### 8.1 Development Opportunities, Trends, and Strengths

What are our development opportunities, current trends in Nome, or strengths and assets that will help us as we plan and complete projects in our community?

- *People and Organizations* – close knit community, talented artists, great dance groups, strong active educated individuals, positive role models, skilled workers, people working together, volunteers, sharing of information, inter-agency agreements
- *Health and Safety* - increase in health education, prevention and screening, better dental care, better emergency care, better volunteer fire department and search and rescue volunteers, playgrounds, recreation center and pool, youth activities
- *Economy, Education, and Training* – better job opportunities, job training opportunities, tourism opportunities
- *Culture* - community gatherings, respect for our Elders and one another, sharing of subsistence foods, bicultural programs in the community,
- *Environmental* - wide variety of subsistence foods available animals, birds, eggs, berries and plants, good gravel and mineral sources, cleanup and recycle programs, community education on the proper disposal of wastes
- *Infrastructure* – new community building, new housing, water and sewer, electricity, landfill, bulk fuel tank farm, communications, new hospital being built, schools, heavy equipment, air and marine transportation systems, public buildings, library, post office, correctional facilities, city office, tribal buildings, churches, stores, restaurants, hotels, internet, roads, cemetery

### 8.2 Development Barriers, Hazards, and Areas of Concern

What are development barriers, hazards, or areas of concern that we need to consider as we begin development projects?

- *People and Organizations* – dropouts, fewer going to college
- *Health and Safety* – substance abuse
- *Economy Education and Training* - budget cuts, tax increases, rising energy costs, rising food costs,

- *Cultural* – loss of language, need for language revitalization program, need a dance hall, need for transportation to take members to visit King Island, need for men’s programs
- *Environmental* – climate changes, ice melting earlier and coming later, decline of fish populations,
- *Infrastructure* – roads, housing, frequent power outages,

## **6.0 King Island Native Community’s Mission Statement, Goals, and Values**

### **6.1 King Island Native Community Mission Statement**

The King Island Native Community sought to develop priorities for future projects and activities which the King Island Native Community can use to enhance the local economy and build on the identified cultural strengths, economic opportunities, and current community assets over the next five years, 2010-2015. Guidance was given to participants that cultural heritage and economic development can work together. This may take creative innovation approaching community development. Brainstorming is oriented to the future, but grounded on our history. Participants were also encouraged to think of ideas that would be responsive to the tribal surroundings and to be realistic and practical. Based upon this, the overall community mission statement was developed in 2009:

*Ugiuvangmiut shall encourage positive change while preserving our cultural heritage, language and values for future generations with perseverance and self governance.*

### **6.2 King Island Native Community Goals and Objectives**

#### *King Island Native community Development Goals*

- *Learn and preserve our language.*
- *Provide homes and shelter for the needy.*
- *Have adequate access to our home on King Island.*
- *Will have opportunities and resources for vocational and higher education.*

#### *King Island Native Community Development Objectives*

- *To build homes for families; shelter the homeless and build a community hall.*
- *To promote family wellness and community healing.*
- *To preserve, practice and pass on our traditions.*
- *To revitalize our Inupiaq language.*
- *To foster leadership through guidance in service to our community.*
- *To access our ancestral lands.*
- *To provide opportunities and resources for vocational and higher education.*
- *Publish each family’s story.*

### 6.3 King Island Native Community Values

The following values were developed as the cultural and community values for King Island in 2002 and updated in 2009 at a public meeting attended by the following members of the tribe:

Marilyn Koezuna-Irelan	Frances Muktoyuk	Janice Knowlton
Rose Koezuna	Mathilda Roberts	Bernadette Alvanna-Stimpfle
Tom Ellanna	Antoinette Smith	Jennifer Avessuk
Gabriel L. Muktoyuk	Benjamin Payenna	Renee Carlisle
Krista Nattanguk	Pauline G. Marble	Harry Muktoyuk
John Kokuluk	Ruth Ojanen	Yvonne Muktoyuk
Carmelita Nattanguk	Lisa Ellanna	

### King Island Community Values

Strong environmentalists  
Compassion for the needy  
Spiritual foundation/religion  
Protect the King Island name  
Caring for Elders and children  
Knowledge and respect of Elders  
Pride in who you are/cultural identity  
Being able to hunt to support families  
Inupiaq language, singing and dancing  
Knowledge of kinship and family trees  
Continuum of learning-always learning  
Keeping up with education, ability to adapt  
Recognize seasons by subsistence activities  
Preservation and preparation of native foods  
Subsistence lifestyle and weather predictions  
Support families through carving, arts, and crafts (sewing)  
Optimism and humor-sense of hope no matter what happens

### 7.0 Development Priorities and Implementation

There were eight priorities identified by the King Island Planning Committee and approved by the community in order to improve the economic development for the tribe of King Island Native Community. In order to provide a thorough understanding of each project, the following information is given:

1. Project Description
  - Background
  - Needs and Benefits
  - Potential Constraints to Project Development
2. Project Implementation
  - Plan of Action
  - Project Timeframe
  - Funding Sources



Participants then made recommendations in applying the community values in King Island's economic development plan. This provided methods to apply the values and guide the implementation of the vision and development goals.



King Island men working together to launch a skin boat.

## **7.1 Priority # 1 Extend the meeting hall in the new community building for dancing, potlucks, and other cultural and community functions.**

### **Extend the meeting hall in the new community building.**

#### **7.1.1 Project Description**

**Background** – The original plans for the existing community building included a meeting hall. However, shipping problems and funding issues required adjustments to the plans to reduce the size of the building eliminating the proposed meeting hall.

**Project Needs and Benefits** – The tribe currently has no place to hold larger events for cultural activities. Meeting places to rent in Nome are limited, especially during certain times of the year. The meeting hall would benefit the tribe and provide a place to hold potlucks, meetings, classes, and cultural events. It would also provide an opportunity for income as the meeting space could be rented to other organizations in Nome, as had been planned in the original design of the facility.

**Potential Constraints to Project Development** – Land issues and some of the preliminary planning for the meeting hall extension are completed. Management of the current facility's maintenance, assuring the existing offices are rented year-around, and identifying funding sources for the extension are the major constraints.

#### **7.1.2 Project Implementation**

##### **Plan of Action** –

- ❑ Review policies and business plan to assure efficient management of the community hall to be in financial compliance for potential funding sources for the extension project.
- ❑ Identify partners and funding sources for the planning of extension revisions from original building plan.
- ❑ Identify partners and funding sources for construction phases and make the necessary agreements and applications.

##### **Organizations Responsible and Contact Information** –

King Island Native Community  
P.O. Box 682, Nome, AK 99762  
907-443-2209

### **Other Funding Possibilities –**

ICDBG-the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) comes out in April and is usually due by June 30. <http://www.hud.gov/offices/adm/grants/>

EDA- <http://www.eda.gov/InvestmentsGrants/Investments.xml> Funding for multi-purpose buildings has decreased.

Rasmuson Foundation <http://www.rasmuson.org/>  
301 West Northern Lights Blvd. Suite 400  
Anchorage, AK 99503  
(907) 297-2700 or (877) 366-2700 (toll-free within Alaska)

Denali Commission <http://www.denali.gov/> King Island is not listed as a distressed community so would need to work with advocates and agencies to assure they will be considered in updates to the list. Steps can be taken according to Denali Commission guidelines to collect supporting data to determine eligibility.

NSEDC <http://www.nsedc.com>  
P.O. Box 906, Nome, AK 99762, 1-907-443-2304 or 1-800-650-2248 (Anchorage)

Fund raisers and or donations from local organizations in Nome.

## **7.2 Priority # 2 Increase housing in Nome by 20 new homes, which will be available for King Island Native Community members.**

### **Increase housing in Nome by 20 new homes.**

#### **7.2.1 Project Description**

**Background** – The current process of obtaining new housing units for any tribe is a complex and lengthy system. The Bering Straits Regional Housing Authority operates on the system called the Mutual Help Model based on block grants. With this funding, eligible families are approved for housing units and an aggregate 6-10 new homes are built in Bering Strait communities about every 10 years. The King Island tribe has 8 current (2007) applications on file with the BSRHA. However, funding for this continues to decrease over the years while construction costs are rising. There is a newer method of funding housing called leveraging, which is more complex. It has had some success in other areas of the country.

**Project Needs and Benefits** – The King Island Community has grown, which increased the need for more low-income housing. If more housing units were available to the tribe than more families and elders would remain in the community and contribute to the culture. Also many of the current homes are not large enough for the family size or are not adequately insulated to conserve fuel costs.

**Potential Constraints to Project Development** – Some constraints would be that eligible families are denied because they do not obtain assistance to properly fill out applications and qualify for new housing. Often it takes a while for the community to receive enough applications and funding to begin construction. Other constraints would be the bureaucratic process of leveraging options or other assistance options to obtain new housing for Native communities. Some funding sources also have stringent compliance regulations. The high cost of shipping also reduces the funding available to build homes.

#### **7.2.2 Project Implementation**

##### **Plan of Action** –

- ❑ Kawerak’s Community Planning and Development Program has obtained an Energy Specialist. This staff person can be available to assist families with filling out housing applications. Call 907-443-4366 or email [wrose@kawerak.org](mailto:wrose@kawerak.org)
- ❑ Conduct a survey to determine the needs and number of housing units needed.
- ❑ Seek funding to train staff to assist eligible families in applying, or distribute information to eligible families as to where they can go to outside agencies for assistance in applying.
- ❑ The tribe can apply for the ICDBG grant on its own with assistance from the BSRHA, which feasibly could build two houses in Nome for eligible King Island tribal members each year.
- ❑ The tribe can look into leveraging options for the tribe.
  - Title VI options – This is a program where the tribe borrows against future block grant allocations to build new housing units.

- Partnering – There are USDA programs for low interest loans to build houses for eligible families.
- Section 184 – There is a program where the tribe can use a commercial bank to obtain funds for new housing.
- Investigate Down Payment Assistance Programs as a means to help higher income families obtain more housing.

**Organizations Responsible and Contact Information –**

King Island Native Community  
 P.O. Box 682, Nome, AK 99762  
 907-443-2209

BSRHA  
 P.O. Box 995, Nome, AK  
 99762, 907-443-5256

**Other Funding Possibilities –**

HUD <http://www.hud.gov/>

ICDBG-the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) comes out in April and is usually due by June 30. <http://www.hud.gov/offices/adm/grants/>

USDA <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/>

AHFC <http://www.ahfc.state.ak.us/home/index.cfm>

Wells Fargo Bank <https://www.wellsfargo.com/>

### **7.3 Priority #3 Increase educational opportunities and more incentives for King Island students to receive continued education.**

#### **Help King Island youth receive better educational or vocational opportunities.**

##### **7.3.1 Project Description**

**Background** – Some King Island tribal members do not complete, do not obtain job training, or attend college. Consequently some tribal members do not have good career opportunities.

**Project Needs and Benefits** – There is a great need to improve opportunities and encourage tribal members toward completion of high school or obtaining a G.E.D. and specialized technical training or college education. This would improve the social and economic well being of the entire tribe, as well as provide a qualified workforce for tribal organizations in the community. Seeing more educated tribal members in key positions in the community will give the tribe a sense of pride and self-sufficiency.

**Potential Constraints to Project Development** – The rural aspect of Nome offers many challenges for all members of the community in regards to education. Funding sources are limited and competitive or only focus on certain demographic groups. The economic opportunities are limited even for educated people. However, improving education is still the best option to increase opportunities and build capacity for the tribe.

##### **7.3.2 Project Implementation**

**Plan of Action** –

- The tribe will use tribal enrollment records and tribal surveys to work with families to track the ages and educational progress of tribal students. The tribe will publish or distribute all information available about education assistance, opportunities, and funding opportunities.
- The tribe will work with existing organizations in the community to encourage tribal members toward continued education.
- The tribe will set funds aside, do fundraisers, and diligently seek outside help in areas related to education, technical training, and college.
- The tribe will assist successful students by providing opportunities for internships or work-study opportunities to work for the tribe. The tribe will also give serious consideration to employ graduates when positions become available.

**Organizations Responsible and Contact Information** –

King Island Native Community  
P.O. Box 682, Nome, AK 99762  
907-443-2209

**Other Organizations** –

Nome-Beltz high School <http://www.nomeschools.com/>  
UAF Northwest Campus <http://www.nwc.uaf.edu/>  
WIA Program <http://www.doleta.gov/usworkforce/wia/>

AVTEC <http://avtec.labor.state.ak.us/>  
NACTEC <http://nactec.bssd.org/>  
U.S. Job Corps <http://jobcorps.dol.gov/>  
America's Job Bank <http://www.ajb.org/employer/>  
AmeriCorps/VISTA Program [http://www.ruralcap.com/cod/AmeriCorps\\_vista/](http://www.ruralcap.com/cod/AmeriCorps_vista/)  
Alaska's Job Bank (ALEXsys) <http://alexsys.labor.state.ak.us/>

**Other Funding Possibilities**

NSHC – Health Aid training <http://www.nortonsoundhealth.org/>  
Kawerak's Education, Employment, and Training Division-phone: 907-4434367  
Kawerak's Vocational Rehabilitation Program-phone: 907-443-4362  
Kawerak's Vocational Training Assistance Program  
<http://www.kawerak.org/servicedivisions/eet/vta/index.html>  
Federal Pell Grants <http://www.ed.gov/programs/fpg/index.html>  
Indian Health Services Scholarships <http://www.ihs.com> or call Michael Jerue or Krista  
Hepworth at 1-800-684-8361 or email [mjerue@anhc.org](mailto:mjerue@anhc.org)  
Health Resources and Services Administration Grants  
<http://www.bhpr.hrsa.gov/nursing/scholarship/> or call 1-877-464-4772

**Some Scholarship Programs available to Nome students**

GCI	JROTC
TelAlaska	NSEDC
Kawerak Direct Employment Program	Alaska State Employee Lindsay Reader Memorial Fund
Kawerak Higher Education Program	Subway Scholar Wells Fargo
Bering Straits Native Corporation	Nome Volunteer Fire Department
Sitnasuak Native Corporation	Nome PTSA
Nome Rotary Club	NSHC
Bering Sea Lions Club	Nome Alumni Association
Nome VFW	

**The following Scholarships are available through UAF**

Charles and Hortense Lewis Fund  
Mike Saclamana Northwest Campus Scholarship  
Bon V. and Bernice Davis Scholarship  
Horning Memorial Scholarship

**7.4 Priority #4 Improve access to King Island in spring and summer by obtaining 60'-100' boat that would be available as a ferry in the summer and could be used regionally for tribal functions.**

**Improve access to King Island in spring and summer.**

**7.4.1 Project Description**

**Background** – Since the tribe relocated to Nome by the 1960's, few tribal members have access to King Island camps or hunting areas. The journey to the King Island across open sea is too dangerous in the small boats that many tribal members use in the Nome area for subsistence purposes.

**Project Needs and Benefits** – A larger boat is needed to make the journey to the King Island over open sea. Few tribal members can afford a boat of that size. Also, the journey is more worthwhile and practical if larger groups go to share the work and cultural experience.

**Potential Constraints to Project Development** – Funding sources for cultural preservation are limited and very competitive. The shipping or delivery cost to obtain a boat of this size is very high.

**7.4.2 Project Implementation**

**Plan of Action** –

- Write policies that identify the purpose, type of boat needed, costs, plan and cost for winter storage, usage plan for summer, and maintenance plan.
- Use Kawerak's grant writer assistance program to hire a grant writer to explore funding sources, seek matching funds from the community, and apply for funds.

**Organizations Responsible and Contact Information** –

King Island Native Community  
P.O. Box 682, Nome, AK 99762  
907-443-2209

King Island Native Corporation  
P.O. Box 992, Nome, AK 99762  
907-443-5494

**Other Funding Possibilities** –

NSEDC <http://www.nsedc.com>  
P.O. Box 906, Nome, AK 99762  
1-907-443-2304 or 1-800-650-2248 (Anchorage)

Rasmuson Foundation <http://www.rasmuson.org/>  
301 West Northern Lights Blvd. Suite 400  
Anchorage, AK 99503  
(907) 297-2700 or (877) 366-2700 (toll-free within Alaska)

National Park Service <http://www.nps.gov/bela/>  
P.O. Box 220, Nome AK 99762, 904-443-2522

Local fundraisers and donations



## **7.5 Priority #5 Maintain road and obtain a van to access Cape Woolley**

**Maintain road access to Cape Woolley and obtain a large well-maintained van to take community members to and from Cape Woolley.**

### **7.5.1 Project Description**

**Background** – King Island members own camps at Cape Woolley, which lies west along the coast between Nome and Teller. Travelers take the Teller Road and then must take a 7.5-mile unimproved earth road to Cape Woolley. The tribe has worked with the Kawerak Transportation Program to improve the road from the Teller Road to Cape Woolley by getting it placed on the priority list in their long-range transportation plan. From there the Kawerak Transportation Program presented suggested summer road projects to the Kawerak Board of Directors for approval. The project was approved and will be completed in the summer of 2007. The Cape Woolley project is classified as a road repair project, but it is a bit more intensive as the project will build up the road surface enough to raise the class of the road.

**Project Needs and Benefits** – The tribe hopes to extend the road even further, which will improve tribal access to subsistence areas and camps. Bigger roads will allow larger vehicles and boat trailers to access the area, prevent damage to the tundra and trails, and assure the safety of travelers to the area. A tribally owned van would allow larger groups of members to travel to camp to share the hunting and subsistence work and have a cultural experience together at camp. More children would be able to accompany the families and be involved in healthy summer activities.

**Potential Constraints to Project Development** – The process to assist tribes with road development is costly and time consuming. Construction costs have risen and funding had been reduced to transportation programs. Further, the Kawerak Transportation Program serves nineteen tribes in the region, all of which have transportation needs just as serious as King Island. Easement and land ownership issues can delay projects for years. Also, since the population at Cape Woolley is zero year-around residents, it was not included in Kawerak's 2004 aerial mapping project, which raises the cost of any road project in this area for planning costs.

### **7.5.2 Project Implementation**

**Plan of Action** –

- ❑ Keep communication lines open with the Kawerak Transportation Program and inform the tribal members about the 2007 Cape Woolley road improvement projects.
- ❑ Work with Kawerak and prioritize future road project ideas to be written into the long range transportation planning documents, so they can be recommended and approved by the Kawerak Board of Directors.
- ❑ Write policies that identify the purpose, type of van needed, costs, plan and cost for storage, usage plan for summer, and van maintenance plan.
- ❑ Use Kawerak's grant writer assistance program to hire a grant writer to explore funding sources, seek matching funds from the community, and apply for funds for van.

**Organizations Responsible and Contact Information –**

King Island Native Community  
P.O. Box 682, Nome, AK 99762  
907-443-2209

King Island Native Corporation  
P.O. Box 992, Nome, AK 99762  
907-443-5494

Kawerak Transportation Program  
P.O. Box 948, Nome, AK 99762  
907-443-4395

**Other Funding Possibilities for the Van Purchase –**

NSEDC <http://www.nsedc.com>  
P.O. Box 906, Nome, AK 99762  
1-907-443-2304 or 1-800-650-2248 (Anchorage)

Rasmuson Foundation <http://www.rasmuson.org/>  
301 West Northern Lights Blvd. Suite 400  
Anchorage, AK 99503  
(907) 297-2700 or (877) 366-2700 (toll-free within Alaska)

National Park Service  
<http://www.nps.gov/bela/>  
P.O. Box 220, Nome AK 99762  
904-443-2522

Local fundraisers and donations

## **7.6 Priority #6 Build a drug and alcohol rehabilitation center and/or homeless shelter in Nome to assist needy tribal members.**

### **Build a Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation Center and/or Homeless Shelter in Nome.**

#### **7.6.1 Project Description**

**Background** – The King Island tribe is very concerned for the tribal members who are homeless and/or suffering from the affects of drug and alcohol addiction. No agency in Nome is adequately serving this faction of the community. Norton Sound Health Corporation and the Bering Sea Women’s Group provide some services, but there are few other services available in Nome, especially for men. Low education and training levels limit the job opportunities, and the tribe is seeing more young men ending up in distressed situations.

**Project Needs and Benefits** – It saddens the tribe to see members suffer due to lack of services in Nome to address these issues. A facility with well trained staff is needed to help address the problem. Facilities and programs in other communities have helped many to become healthy productive members of the community. Since no agency in Nome has taken on this project, the tribe feels it is time to begin planning ways to address the problem. The tribe seeks to operate a facility or partnered with other agencies to do so. A facility of this nature would serve the needs of the entire community of Nome and be a profitable business for the tribe.

**Potential Constraints to Project Development** – Projects of this size take extensive planning, skilled project managers, a solid business plan, and trained staff in order to be successful. Funding sources are limited, and the application process is competitive. Some funding sources also have stringent compliance regulations. The high cost of shipping also reduces the funding available for building materials to build the facility.

#### **7.6.2 Project Implementation**

##### **Plan of Action** –

- ❑ Develop a survey to determine the current services and needs of the tribe and the community. Identify current solutions that can be used to address the problem. Show the cost analysis and comparison if such services were available locally. Hold public meetings to get community input into the planning.
- ❑ Write a plan that identifies the purpose, type of building needed, floor plan, land options, business plan, potential funding sources and potential partners.
- ❑ Use Kawerak’s grant writer assistance program to hire a grant writer to explore funding sources, seek matching funds from the community, and apply for funds for the various stages of planning and construction.

**Organizations Responsible and Contact Information –**

King Island Native Community  
P.O. Box 682, Nome, AK 99762  
907-443-2209

King Island Native Corporation  
P.O. Box 992, Nome, AK 99762  
907-443-5494

**Other Funding Possibilities –**

ICDBG-the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) comes out in April and is usually due by June 30. <http://www.hud.gov/offices/adm/grants/>

EDA- <http://www.eda.gov/InvestmentsGrants/Investments.xml> Funding for multi-purpose buildings has decreased.

Denali Commission <http://www.denali.gov/> King Island is not listed as a distressed community so would need to work with advocates and agencies to assure they will be considered in updates to the list. Steps can be taken according to Denali Commission guidelines to collect supporting data to determine eligibility.

Rasmuson Foundation <http://www.rasmuson.org/>  
301 West Northern Lights Blvd. Suite 400  
Anchorage, AK 99503  
(907) 297-2700 or (877) 366-2700 (toll-free within Alaska)  
(907) 297-2770 FAX  
[rasmusonfdn@rasmuson.org](mailto:rasmusonfdn@rasmuson.org)

Private foundations

Local fundraisers and donations

## **7.7 Priority #7 Increase cultural activities (i.e., dance group, Inupiaq language revival, learn to make kayaks and mukluks, and leadership classes for youth).**

### **Increase year-round cultural activities.**

#### **7.7.1 Project Description**

**Background** – For over thirty-five years the King Island tribe has maintained a unique and separate identity and culture in Nome. This task has not always been easy as Nome has grown and spread out. Many tribal members have even left Nome to go live in other areas of the state and country. As elders pass on, the traditions, cultural practices, and depth of the language is slowly being lost. Nome offers many social and recreational activities for the diverse residents. However, the tribe has noticed that there are fewer organized cultural activities for the King Island tribe. When the tribe lived on King Island it was easier to do things as a community and keep the culture and language.

In Nome today, much of the focus is on making a living and surviving in this modern world. Each year it seems like fewer tribal members are going out to camp and participating in subsistence hunting and gathering of berries and greens. Fewer young people are learning to dance, drum, or sing, and fewer tribal members are learning to fish, hunt, butcher and store food, cook traditional foods, carve, bead, sew, and make sleds or boats.

**Project Needs and Benefits** – It has always been important to the King Island tribe to include elders and youth in cultural activities so that traditions, cultural skills, and language are not lost. Having organized activities on a regular basis in Nome will give the tribe more opportunities to share and learn from each other like they used to on King Island. The young people will be able to interact with role models in the tribe, and elders will be able to pass valuable knowledge on to the next generation. Activities at Cape Woolley or King Island would strengthen the tribe's identity and unique culture. Cultural activities in Nome will provide healthy activities for the members of the tribe. The skills gained will help the tribe to preserve the culture and share it with others.

**Potential Constraints to Project Development** – The rural aspect of Nome offers many challenges for all members of the community in regards to cultural, social, and recreational programs. Funding sources are limited, competitive, or only focus on certain demographic groups or themes. Few funding sources will finance activities for extended periods of time. The King Island tribe will need to seek funding from a variety of sources and be creative to design and implement sustainable cultural programs.

## 7.7.2 Project Implementation

### Plan of Action –

- Form a King Island Cultural Planning Board and develop a work plan schedule for cultural activities that do not require much funding using donated space, supplies, and volunteers. Work with other tribes and organizations to have joint cultural activities.
- Prioritize a list of activities, which require outside funding. Use Kawerak’s grant writer assistance program to hire a grant writer to explore funding sources, seek matching funds from the community, and apply for funds for the various cultural activities selected in the priorities.

### Organizations Responsible and Contact Information –

King Island Native Community  
P.O. Box 682  
Nome, AK 99762, 907-443-2209

### Other Funding Possibilities –

NSHC <http://www.nshc.org>  
P.O. Box 966, Nome, Alaska 99762, 907-443-3311

NSEDC <http://www.nsedc.com>  
P.O. Box 906, Nome, AK 99762  
1-907-443-2304 or 1-800-650-2248 (Anchorage)

National Park Service <http://www.nps.gov/bela/>  
P.O. Box 220, Nome AK 99762, 904-443-2522

AmeriCorps/BIRCH <http://www.ruralcap.com/cod/BIRCH/index.cfm>

AmeriCorps/VISTA Program [http://www.ruralcap.com/cod/AmeriCorps\\_vista/](http://www.ruralcap.com/cod/AmeriCorps_vista/)

Boys and Girls Club <http://www.bgcalaska.org/>

Cooperative Extension Program-Northwest Campus  
[http://www.nwc.uaf.edu/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=category&sectionid=5&id=53&Itemid=33](http://www.nwc.uaf.edu/index.php?option=com_content&task=category&sectionid=5&id=53&Itemid=33)  
Pouch 400, Nome, AK 99762, 907-443-8400

Private foundations

Local fundraisers and donations

**7.8 Priority #8 Relocate Cape Woolley camp site by moving the structures that are in danger of erosion to higher ground with good soil.**

**7.8.1 Project Description**

**Background** – Campsite owners at Cape Woolley have noticed the shoreline eroding closer to campsites. Storm damage has increased over the last few years and three houses were washed into the ocean.

**Project Needs and Benefits** – Since the King Island tribe relocated to Nome they have used the land at Cape Woolley as a camp and subsistence area. It is considered a vital part of the culture and lifestyle to continue going to Cape Woolley as a means to keep traditional practices strong within the tribe.

**Potential Constraints to Project Development** – Solving the land issues and acquiring funding to move campsites will be a challenge. Some of the buildings may be difficult to move as they are old or in areas where it will be difficult to get equipment to in order to move the structures.

**7.8.2 Project Implementation**

**Plan of Action** –

- Identify all the potential sites to be moved.
- Develop a preliminary plan of the project with estimated costs. Determine how homeowners will be involved and develop some policies for the project.
- Select possible sites to relocate the structures. Collect data on land and easement issues.
- Use Kawerak’s grant writer assistance program to hire a grant writer to explore funding sources, seek matching funds from the community, and apply for funds for the project.

**Organizations Responsible and Contact Information** –

King Island Native Community  
P.O. Box 682, Nome, AK 99762  
907-443-2209

King Island Native Corporation  
P.O. Box 992, Nome, AK 99762  
907-443-5494

**Other Funding Possibilities** –

NSEDC <http://www.nsedc.com>  
P.O. Box 906, Nome, AK 99762  
1-907-443-2304 or  
1-800-650-2248 (Anchorage)

National Park Service  
<http://www.nps.gov/bela/>  
P.O. Box 220, Nome AK 99762,  
904-443-2522

Private foundations

Local fundraisers and donations

## 7.9 Priority #9 Build new homes at King Island

### Build new homes on King Island for summer use.

#### 7.9.1 Project Description

**Background** – The homes that are currently on King Island are no longer suitable for living. The King Island Community would like to have new homes on King Island to go home to. Having homes on King Island would help instigate a return to cultural roots as people would have a place to return to during the summer months.

**Project Needs and Benefits** – A major undertaking such as this will require good planning and a thorough needs assessment. Getting supplies out to King Island will be difficult as well as having the infrastructure to facilitate the construction (e.g. a steady power supply, construction crew, landing station for larger boats, etc.). A project like this would have many benefits including many jobs for construction crew, bringing life back to the old site and a way for people to spend quality time out at King Island.

**Potential Constraints to Project Development** – There may be many challenges with rebuilding homes at King Island such as those that were mentioned above. The weather and sea conditions can dominate construction progress in a remote location such as King Island.

#### 7.9.2 Project Implementation

##### Plan of Action –

- ❑ Identify how many houses need to be built.
- ❑ Develop a preliminary plan of the project with estimated costs. Determine how homeowners will be involved, if old homes need to be torn down and removed and develop policies for the project.
- ❑ Select suitable sites for building the new homes.
- ❑ Use Kawerak’s grant writer assistance program to hire a grant writer to explore funding sources, seek matching funds from the community, and apply for funds for the project.

##### Organizations Responsible and Contact Information –

King Island Native Community  
P.O. Box 682, Nome, AK 99762  
907-443-2209

King Island Native Corporation  
P.O. Box 992, Nome, AK 99762  
907-443-5494

##### Other Funding Possibilities –

NSEDC <http://www.nsedc.com>  
P.O. Box 906, Nome, AK 99762  
1-907-443-2304 or  
1-800-650-2248 (Anchorage)

National Park Service  
<http://www.nps.gov/bela/>  
P.O. Box 220, Nome AK 99762,  
904-443-2522

Private foundations  
Local fundraisers and donations



## **8.0 Review of all New and Previously Identified King Island Project Ideas from the King Island Local Economic Development Plan 2009.**

### *Future Project Ideas for King Island*

#### **To build homes for families; shelter the homeless and build a community hall**

- Homeless shelter: feed the homeless, feed and shelter our homeless.
- Home construction: build new homes, new energy efficient homes in Nome for King Islanders, new homes at King Island, weatherizing homes, build weather-tight homes in Nome and King Island, 20 new homes.
- Community hall – Qagzhi: Hall (games, dancing, storytelling by elders), community meeting hall, new community building (locate funding, locate grant writer), a community/dance hall, new community hall for King Islanders, meat cutting building

#### **To promote family wellness and community healing**

- Tribal Doctors and health aide for King Islanders: Tribal doctors, health aides
- Physical fitness: Have teenage men/women spend one summer on King Island, King Island style exercising, support young men – physical exercise,
- Family Service Program for King Islanders: Detox and adult treatment center – culturally relevant, teen residential treatment, strengthening family ties.

#### **To preserve, practice and pass on our traditions**

- Subsistence traditions: Help hunters to prepare for seasonal hunting, food preserving and preparing, gathering of Native foods, help show “how to” and “when to” get,
- Cultural activities: Mukluk making class, school to teach tool/equipment making, Inupiaq activities with elders, arts and craft store, sewing lessons for our tribe, traditional Eskimo dancing, get or be more involved, fabric/carving Native garment shop, Native garment making.

#### **To revitalize our Inupiaq language**

- Traditional Inupiaq Education: Language immersion school, Inupiaq daycare, after school Inupiaq classes, King Island immersion school, children’s books in King Island Inupiaq, teach our children Native tongue, more cultural education in Nome Public School system, Inupiaq language classes.

#### **To foster leadership through guidance in service to our community**

- Leadership: More native leaders in Nome, leadership time with kids, get more youth involved about being council members, healthy role models, respect everyone in community, community mentorship, improve/better involvement of community members about important issues, respect everyone in community, help elders by volunteer group.

### **To access our ancestral lands**

- Transportation: Helipad at King Island, Summer job for road maintenance, helicopter for King Island, a transportation system that includes Cape Woolley, Lund boats equipped for each family, ferry boat, improved and well-maintained road to Cape Woolley, ferry system to King Island.

### **To provide opportunities and resources for vocational and higher education**

- Higher Education: Better education after high school, more scholarships for education.

### **Publish each family's story**

- Stories of each family published

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