I. Authority
In accordance with 22 AAC 05.155, the Department will maintain a manual comprised of policies and procedures established by the Commissioner to interpret and implement relevant sections of the Alaska Statutes and 22 AAC.

II. References
Alaska Statutes
AS 33:30.030

III. Application
To all staff.

V. Definitions
As used in this policy, the following definitions shall apply:
A. Tribe
Tribe means any tribe in Alaska that is on the list of federally recognized tribes published by the federal Department of Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs.

VI. Policy
The Department of Corrections seeks to communicate, consult and work cooperatively with organizations which represent primarily Alaska Native and/or rural communities and individuals, including tribes and local governments, with a goal of seeking ways to better serve a population that is overrepresented in the prison population.

VII. Procedures
The Commissioner or designee shall serve as liaison between the Department and organizations which represent primarily Alaska Native and/or rural communities and/or individuals. In this role, the Commissioner or designee may address local, regional and statewide meetings of organizations which represent and advocate for Alaska Native or rural residents, upon invitation, including tribes and local governments.

VIII. Implementation
This policy and procedure is effective as of the date signed by the Commissioner. Each Manager will incorporate the contents of this document into local policy and procedure. All local policies and procedures must conform to the contents of this document; any deviation from the contents of this document must be approved in writing by the Commissioner.

4/4/2013
SIGNATURE ON FILE

________________________________________________________
Date
Joseph D. Schmidt, Commissioner
Department of Corrections

Original 4/22/2002