



**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
& WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

**Alaska Workforce Investment Board
Youth Council Committee Report
May 21, 2008**

The Youth Council met on March 20, 2008 (after postponement of regular scheduled February meeting due to transition of Youth Council Chair(s) position). There was a quorum present at the March 20th meeting. Todd Bergman and MJ Longley chaired this meeting as the new co-chairs of the Youth Council.

At the March meeting, there was a review of the Youth Council Bylaws and AWIB Bylaws to clarify Youth Council roles and responsibilities as a committee of the AWIB, and for youth participation. The Council is in the process of creating an application and solicitation for youth participation and would like to identify two youth for participation on the Youth Council. An ad hoc committee (MJ Longley, Diedre Bailey, and Jennifer Jones) is currently developing a youth participation application, position description and cover letter to send out for nominations for youth representatives on the council (participants may be in-school, out-of-school, or youth with disabilities- according to YC Bylaws). In addition, there was a youth participation ad hoc committee in the fall 2007 that explored questions and issues around the involvement of youth on the youth council. The work of this committee will be useful going forward.

The Youth Council reviewed their internal survey results from 2007 that resulted in the Youth Council's current strategic priorities/directives:

- Strategy #1 - Teach youth about basic employability and life skills (finances, teamwork, problem solving and work ethic.).
- Strategy #2 - Expand and improve career counseling in schools and youth programs (more than college prep).
- Strategy #3 - Educate parents regarding vocational (CTE) education training opportunities.

Presently the Youth Council is working on their reviewing milestones, resources, and success measures for these priorities.

There was a discussion on what constitutes an inventory of available youth workforce and training programs, as the Youth Council Bylaws call for YC recommending "eligible providers of youth activities to be considered for grants or contracts on a competitive basis."

The Youth Council has a meeting scheduled for May 15, 2008.