Relationship Building
To Strengthen Partnerships
Mary David, Executive Vice President
• **Alaska tribal liaison** – This position plays a key role in relationship building/maintaining. This individual needs to spend time in the region. Our Kawerak full board meets twice a year. 23 member board is comprised of the 20 tribal council presidents or their designee, two elder and one representative from the local health care organization. The tribal liaison will meet key regional leadership; build relationships; learn about our region and people and hear our regional/local concerns. Stopping by our offices is good – but not enough.

• **Military Community Involvement** - Long history of Alaska Native military involvement. Arctic Care and Stand Down events benefit the children, families and veterans. A joint project is something to consider – maybe around recruitment. Kawerak often coordinates Outreach Events in our region’s communities, or possible project involvement with the Bering Strait Leadership Team.

• Continue clean-up of former military sites to prevent potential contamination of our land and resources.

• **Communication** – There needs to be sufficient communication. Too much communication and not enough communication generates fear, confusion, and mistrust. If true partnership is going to take place, communication & consultation is key. Our Kawerak staff is stable, developing a working relationship with a key staffer is beneficial for the military and the organization.