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The history of Alaska dates back to the Upper Paleolithic period (around 14,000 BC), when foraging groups crossed the Bering land bridge into what is now western Alaska. At the time of European contact by the Russian explorers, the area was populated by Alaska Native groups. The name "Alaska" derives from the Aleut word Alaxsxaq (also spelled Alyeska), meaning "mainland" (literally, "the object ... Why Don't Alaska Governors Last Longer Than One Term? Incoming Gov. Mike Dunleavy is the sixth person to win the office in as many elections. 6 Governors Who Choose Pragmatism Over Ideology In this era of partisan politics, some are bold enough to take a bipartisan path. The North West Company was a fur trading business headquartered in Montreal from 1779 to 1821. It competed with increasing success against the Hudson's Bay Company in what is present-day Western Canada. With great wealth at stake, tensions between the companies increased to the point where several minor armed skirmishes broke out, and the two companies were forced by the British government to ... - Alaska Politics & Government, By Mcbeath