



MENOMINEE INDIAN TRIBE OF WISCONSIN

P.O. Box 910
Keshena, WI 54135-0910

Feb. 12, 2015

The Honorable Scott Walker
Governor of Wisconsin
115 East Capitol
Madison, WI 53702

Dear Governor Walker:

Welcome back to Wisconsin. We are hopeful that your trip overseas was successful in bringing jobs and tourists back to the Badger State. It is clear that we share compatible objectives for the State we both call home.

While you were overseas, the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin and our partners, Hard Rock International, announced a plan to assist in your laudable efforts to keep the Milwaukee Bucks in Wisconsin. I write to formally request an opportunity to meet and talk with you about the details of this offer to fully fund the State's share of a new, state-of-the-art Bucks arena in Downtown Milwaukee. We would not only pay the \$220 million that you offered the Bucks, but also the interest. The total contribution would be \$300 million in private-sector funding over a 25-year period.

This proposal is similar to the offer we made to you in October 2014. Like that offer, it means that Wisconsin taxpayers would be relieved of the cost for a new NBA arena. In your absence earlier this week, Secretary Huebsch stated publicly that he did not think Menominee or Hard Rock could afford to make this offer. The facts say otherwise, and we are willing to bring our financial advisers to a meeting to walk you through the numbers.

We would very much appreciate the opportunity to meet with you prior to the current Feb. 19 Bureau of Indian Affairs deadline, particularly since we have been unable to schedule a meeting with you since October 2013, more than one year ago. We understand you might be in Kenosha on Tuesday to announce that a small Zion, Ill., company will be moving to the area. We are able to meet with you while you are in Kenosha. If that does not work with your schedule, we can meet in Madison or wherever else you may be traveling prior to the 19th.

Because of your interest in Zion businesses, I wanted to share the attached email I received from the Economic Development Coordinator for the City of Zion inviting us to move the Menominee Hard Rock casino just a few miles south of the State line to their community. Hard Rock has received similar invitations. Obviously, we want to stay in Wisconsin, which has been our home for countless generations, or we would not have made this offer to ensure the Milwaukee Bucks stay here as well.

We look forward to meeting and talking with you, ideally on Tuesday.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gary Besaw", is written over a faint, larger signature.

Gary Besaw
Tribal Chairman

CC: James Allen
Secretary Michael Huebsch
Speaker Robin Vos
Majority Leader Scott Fitzgerald

From: Sonolito Bronson
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 3:39 PM
To: Gary Besaw
Subject: Hotel/Casino Project Alternative Location

Hello Mr. Besaw,

My office has been following the casino & hotel project in Kenosha, WI for some time now. I can only imagine how disappointing it was to hear that Governor Scott Walker rejected the project. Being only 20 minutes away from the potential site, communities in northern Illinois (especially Zion) and SE Wisconsin would have benefited greatly from this hotel & casino having an additional 3300 good paying jobs under the Hard Rock brand and 1400 construction jobs available in the area. I believe that this project belongs in this area.

With this in mind, I would like to offer an alternative location for your consideration that I believe would suit the projects needs. The City of Zion controls several hundred acres of developable land that would be well suited for this hotel/casino project. We are located in northern Illinois and we are only minutes from the previous site.

I look forward to discussing this further with you this afternoon. I can be reached at [REDACTED]

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Sonolito Bronson
Economic Development Coordinator
City of Zion
www.cityofzion.com

I proudly Buy Local and #shopzion!

