

KEWEENAW BAY INDIAN COMMUNITY

2016 TRIBAL COUNCIL

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DOREEN G. BLAKER, Treasurer

Keweenaw Bay Tribal Center
16429 Beartown Road
Baraga, Michigan 49908
Phone (906) 353-6623
Fax (906) 353-7540

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GARY F. LOONSFOOT, SR.
DONALD SHALIFOE, SR.

Contact: Warren C. Swartz, KBIC President
Phone: (906) 353-6623 ext. 4112
Email: tcchris@kbic-nsn.gov

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The Keweenaw Bay Indian Community reaches out to Governor Snyder and asks him to reconsider his stance on Negaunee Airport Property.

KBIC has been developing plans to expand our current Ojibwa Casino II in Chocolay Township, but before finalizing those plans we wanted to make one last attempt at moving our facility to a more centralized, larger property. We believe that with operation of the Empire Mine ending and the loss of nearly 400 jobs, we can develop a Regional Hospitality/Entertainment Complex in Negaunee. Our new Complex will provide 200 new jobs, bringing our total to 350 Full Time jobs and another possible 100 part time jobs in the summer tourism season. We also anticipate at least 230 construction jobs created during development.

Based on more in-depth economic studies we are now looking to develop a spectacular major 5 Star Tourism Entertainment Destination Resort in which gaming would only be a small part of the overall economic development plan, benefitting the entire region. We would like to transform our property into a tourism and entertainment complex which would include:

- 3 Star Major Branded Hotel Lodge and Proposed Waterpark Resort
- Chef Inspired Award Winning Restaurants featuring wholesome farm to table foods
- Spa, Fitness Center and Salon
- State of The Art Business Conference Center
- 19 Hole Golf Course
- Indoor and Outdoor Entertainment Venue featuring Touring National Acts
- 5 Star RV Resort
- Retail outlets
- State of The Art Gaming including a Smoke Free Room

LAKE SUPERIOR BAND OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS
"Home of the Midnight Two-Step Championship"

We purchased the Airport Parcel in 1999, with the sole intent to relocate the Marquette Casino, from Chocolay Township to the Airport Parcel. This relocation would greatly benefit not only the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community but the surrounding community as well. In June 2013, after an extensive fifteen year process which resulted in approval by the Secretary of the Interior, KBIC learned that Governor Snyder would not agree to move the casino.

Currently, 75% of those employed at Ojibwa Casino II are not Tribal Members; the move will create jobs for members of the surrounding community who are not even affiliated with the KBIC. The Resort Gaming Complex at the Airport Parcel will also generate more revenue than the existing Ojibwa Casino II, increasing the 2% distributions for the local community and the 8% distributions to the Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

Any new development in Marquette County will benefit the area. However, a facility of this size will provide much needed amenities to support Marquette's growing economy and aid in the loss of badly needed jobs. Our proposed Entertainment Complex promises to offer an enormous opportunity for economic growth greatly benefitting the surrounding community and businesses. This is a win-win opportunity for the local community, the State, and the Tribe.

We have respectfully requested an answer from Governor Snyder by April 22, 2016. Please show your support for this project and the potential growth in Marquette County by contacting the Governor at rick.snyder@michigan.gov or (517) 335-7858.

This exciting project could be a chance for KBIC to do something very positive for Marquette County, the Upper Peninsula and the State of Michigan.