

NORTHERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

MARQUETTE, MICHIGAN 49855

UNIVERSITY NEWS BUREAU

February 22, 1983

LaDonna Harris, President
Americans for Indian Opportunity
1140 Connecticut Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20036

Dear LaDonna:

It has been a long time since we've been in touch. I believe it was about 10 years ago when I was in Washington on university business and you invited me to accompany you and several others to a private party at a house of a teacher friend in Georgetown. I recall a dean from Antioch College was also there.

You are probably aware that Coy Eklund received an honorary degree here several years ago. Do you remember the evening in the old Heritage House here when you, Coy and I listened to Floyd Westerman play and sing until the wee hours? Those were some good times.

Right now, of course, times aren't so good--a reason for writing to you. The Nishnawbe News, the paper published by our American Indian students since 1971, is having very difficult going, due to phasing out of university budgetary support. This year President Jamrich made \$1,500 available on a one-time basis, to cover rent of the campus office. But we have been existing on subscription revenue, a few dollars from ads, and grant support.

For example, this year we received \$1,000 from Equitable Life through Coy, and \$1,900 from the National Self-Development of People in New York City. In 1981, there were similar-size grants from the Presbyterian Church and several grants from the Onaway Trust of Leeds, England.

This year, students have volunteered a lot of time to keep the paper going, even though some of them badly need paying jobs to supplement their income. Other students, who would like to work on the paper, can't because they have to get paid. One of our best former staffers now has to do janitorial work in a cafeteria because he needs the money.

The paper is published quarterly now. It's done on a "shoestring" considering the cost of newspaper publishing these days. We can do the job for between \$6,000 and \$7,000 annually, including student labor.

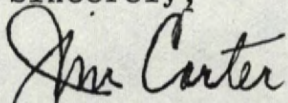
Circulation is mainly in the Great Lakes area of the U.S. and Canada, but subscribers are located in many states and provinces from coast to coast. The paper has proven to be a good training ground for Indian journalists, with a number of students going on to work on other Indian or non-Indian publications, and have helped start several new ones.

LaDonna Harris
February 22, 1983
page 2

If there are any possible funding sources you could recommend, we would be happy to contact them.

Best wishes, LaDonna. And for the many nice things you have done for us in the past, let me say "Migwitch"--thanks in Ojibwa.

Sincerely,



James L. Carter
News Director/
Advisor, The Nishnawbe News

JC/ch

enclosure