

## **CHEROKEE NATION**

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Wilma P. Mankiller Principal Chief

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November 28, 1994

Ms. Elizabeth Carp 100 Vuelta Susana La Tierra Santa Fe, NM 87501

Dear Liz:

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to comment on the proposal for a film project. I also appreciate the information about Nedra's former role in the film.

With regard to the film proposal, your comparison of the community projects to the 1990 movie "Field of Dreams" is apparently a fitting one. The correlation between "Field of Dreams" and these projects has been made by virtually everyone who has visited the projects, especially Cherry Tree, for the past two years. I hope to see the film soon.

I think the film should probably concentrate on one project instead of numerous projects as you have proposed. By focusing on one project, a relationship between the audience and community people can be developed and a fuller story can be told. That is not possible if the film moves from Cherokee history to the police force to several different projects and then Charlie and I talking all in a half an hour.

It would make more sense for Cherry Tree to be the heart of the film and then toward the end of the film (to further illustrate the hopeful nature of the work) have a sequence of shots showing scenes from other successful projects - the Wickliffe School Computer Program, Sallisaw Youth Project footage, Kenwood Choir, Parent Committee meetings, children using playground equipment or parents using walking trails and so on. Perhaps as these scenes from other projects unfold, Charlie's voice describing each of these projects could serve as a backdrop.

Though I would be happy to speak on camera my role has been largely peripheral and unimportant and I am not sure what I could add to the wisdom and insight of people who actually work in these projects. I have introduced the Mott Foundation and Jack Litzenburg to Cherry Tree, advised on the land deal, taken some