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November 30, 1993

Wilma Mankiller

Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation
P.O. Box 948

Tahlequah, OK 74464

Dear Wilma,

I very much enjoyed the opportunity to hear your presentation at the College of St. Catherine's luncheon and to meet and talk with you at the Sofitel while you were in Minneapolis.

I recognized many similarities in our tribal government experiences; tribal politics is difficult but as you have shown, persistence prevails. I particularly admire the greater challenges you have overcome, first in political gender issues then in your serious personal physical setbacks.

This is a critical time for Indian people. A few tribes, like mine, the Shakopee Mdewakanton Dakota are beginning to realize the benefits of tribal government gaming. Gaming is not only creating jobs and opportunity for Indian people, it is building pride and renewing hope on the reservation. The decisions made today about economic development and diversification are crucial as we take steps to build a solid economic base for the future.

There will always be those anxious to relieve tribes of this economic tool for self-sufficiency, and so the legislative struggles which lie ahead will be decisive.

Respectfully,

Leonard L. Prescott

Chairman & CEO, Little Six, Inc.

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