



CHEROKEE NATION

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Wilma P. Mankiller
Principal Chief

John A. Ketcher
Deputy Chief

May 4, 1993

Tim Giago, Publisher
Indian Country Today
P. O. Box 2180
Rapid, City, SD 57709

Dear Tim:

Thanks for your March 26, 1993 letter and the news that you and your wife are pooling your considerable resources to form a new company.

First, I am interested in hearing more about Lynn's work with retirement funds and investments. If she can send along some brochures, I will have a look at them.

Secondly, forming Indian Country Media Consultants is an outstanding idea and in general, I like your idea about training and technical assistance. I have passed on a copy to Alan Harder, Business Development, to review it and get back with me.

In the interim, I am exploring the idea of establishing an Indian controlled Institute of some sort based here in Oklahoma which would operate a state-wide weekly newspaper as well as a quarterly journal to examine Indian issues in more depth. This would eliminate my big concern, which is how to have an independent newspaper without tribal limitations or interference. In fact, as I write this, Dagmar Thorpe is speaking to the Kellogg Foundation about this idea. I know you don't entirely approve of businesses being started with grants instead of "real money" but I think the people who would work with the Institute know how to use grant funds for start up cash and then move away from that dependency immediately.

I know we are maddeningly slow, everybody says we are, but as soon as either of these options are fleshed out enough to give me guidance on whether they should be pursued, I will get back with you.

Best wishes to you and Lynn and much, much success in your new business.

Sincerely,

Wilma P. Mankiller
Principal Chief