

Forest County Potawatomi Community

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For Immediate Release: February 3, 2014

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Forest County Potawatomi Withdraws Membership in National Indian Gaming Association

The Forest County Potawatomi Community (FCPC) has withdrawn its' membership in the National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA) over concerns with how the organization has handled issues related to off-reservation casino developments.

NIGA was established in 1985 to be a voice for all members on Indian gaming issues and tribal community development and has never publicly advocated for or against specific off-reservation casino proposals. Unfortunately, it has come to FCPC's attention that a number of NIGA's consultants and contractors have significant involvement in a controversial off-reservation casino project in Wisconsin which compels the Tribe to question the neutrality of the organization. FCPC questions how NIGA can remain neutral on off-reservation gaming projects when NIGA's consultants are simultaneously employed to advocate for them.

The FCPC were longtime members of NIGA and a major contributor to the ongoing renovation of the association's Capitol Hill headquarters.

The Forest County Potawatomi Community is a federally recognized Native American tribe located in Northeastern Wisconsin with a membership of about 1,400. The Potawatomi operate several tribal enterprises, including casinos in Milwaukee and Carter, Wisconsin, and a Health & Wellness Center in Crandon, Wisconsin. The tribe employs approximately 3,500 people in its government operations, casino operations, social services and additional business. For more information on the Potawatomi, please visit <u>www.fcpotawatomi.com</u>.

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