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The MICHIGAN GAMING Newsletter



KBIC MEMBERS APPROVE NEW PLANS FOR CASINO PROJECTS IN U.P.

on August 13, 2016 the members of the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community ("Tribe") approved a ballot proposal supporting new casino development projects in Baraga and Marquette (at the Tribe's current casino locations) not to exceed \$40 million. The approval allocates the estimated cost of the Baraga project at \$6.5 million and the estimated cost of the Marquette project at \$33.5 million.

Previously, in 2015, the Tribe had voted and approved two casino ballot proposals totaling \$40 million for construction and renovation projects at the Tribe's existing casino facilities, which included a majority of the funds to be allocated to the Baraga facility. Since the 2015 approvals, revisions to the projects have been made based upon several developments including Gov. Rick Snyder's refusal to concur with the Tribe's request to relocate its Marquette gaming facility to an airport facility purchased by the Tribe in 1999. This was the second time that the Governor chose not to concur with the Tribe's plans after it had received its initial determination from the Department of the Interior ("DOI"). Under federal law, the land must be taken into trust by the DOI, and this process requires that the Governor concur with the DOI's determination in order to move forward.

According to the Tribe, the \$33.5 million revised **Marquette** casino project "would create a resort, an "Entertainment Mecca", that will include a 100 room branded hotel, 1,200 seat entertainment venue, a full service restaurant as well as a grill, a 400 seat conference center, and gaming space to accommodate up to 600 slot machines."

According to the Tribe, the \$6.5 million revised **Baraga** project plan includes “the construction of a new gaming facility added onto the existing facility. Renovations of current spaces would provide additional gaming areas for slots and table games and non-public space for staff and public access to the existing hotel, restaurant, and Pressbox Lanes and Lounge. The face of the facility will be redone to provide a cohesive appearance as well.”

According to *Casino City*, Ojibwa Casino Marquette’s 13,500 square foot gaming space currently features 293 gaming machines and 11 table games, and the Ojibwa Casino Baraga’s 17,000 square foot gaming space currently includes 316 gaming machines and 9 table games.

Both projects will be financed using trust funds held by the Tribe as well as casino cash flow. In addition, construction of both projects will begin as soon as possible with a targeted completion to occur in late 2017 or early 2018.

For renderings and floorplans for both projects, please visit the Tribe’s Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/KBICTribe/>.

MGCB AUTHORIZES ADDITIONAL RACE DATES AT HAZEL PARK RACEWAY

On Monday, August 15, the Michigan Gaming Control Board announced that it authorized Hazel Park to add seven days to its 2016 horse racing season through an amendment to the 2016 race meeting order. Specifically, the thoroughbred racing season will be extended to include the following race dates: Sept. 9, 10, 18, 23, 24 and 30 and Oct. 1.

“Hazel Park Raceway’s request to extend its 2016 season is good for Michigan’s horse racing industry,” said Richard Kalm, MGCB executive director.

The order initially granted Hazel Park’s request for

30 days of live thoroughbred and mixed breed race dates on Fridays and Saturdays from May 27 through Sept. 3. In addition it grants Northville Downs 60 days of live standardbred race dates on Fridays and Saturdays from March 18 through Oct. 8.

[Click here for the 2016 Horse Racing Calendar](#)

POKAGON DONATES \$82,000 TO MEMORIAL CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL

On August 17, 2016, the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians announced the donation of \$82,000 to Memorial Children’s Hospital, which reflects its proceeds of the 2016 Four Winds Invitational golf tournament. The funds will help fund the purchase of a portable ultrasound for the hospital’s MedFlight Helicopter Program and the purchase of goggles that will allow children to watch a movie during a MRI.

“We are pleased that the success of the Four Winds Invitational has enabled us to donate \$349,000 to Memorial Children’s Hospital over the past five years,” said John P. Warren, Chairman of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians. “There is nothing more important than the health of children, which is why we are proud to support Memorial Children’s Hospital.”

FREE REGISTRATION 2016 GLOBAL GAMING EXPO; NBA COMMISSIONER STERN TO DISCUSS SPORTS BETTING AT G2E

[Click Here to Register for Free Exhibit Floor Access](#)

The Global Gaming Expo (“G2E”), which is presented by the American Gaming Association (AGA), will be held in Las Vegas September 27 – 29 at the Sands Expo and Convention Center. NBA Commissioner Emeritus David J. Stern will be a

featured speaker and will discuss with AGA president Geoff Freeman the future of sports betting and its impact on major professional sports, as well as how the NBA's expansion parallels the casino gaming industry.

The AGA states that G2E 2016 will feature robust conversation on the industry's hottest topics with engaging programs by the nation's top experts to prepare attendees for the rapidly growing casino gaming landscape.

NIGA Chairman Ernest Stevens Jr. and AGA President and CEO Geoff Freeman will also appear on stage together to discuss the further unification and evolution of the relationship between the casino industry's two key sectors, Native American and commercial casinos

2016 Additional New Show Elements Include:

- Keynotes All Three Days
- Integrated Resort Experience Moves to the Main Show Floor
- Re-Introduction of Tuesday/Wednesday Tracks
- AGA Member Discount

Registration for the 2016 G2E exhibit hall and G2E seminars is now open. For Registration, Pricing Packages and Overview please visit:

www.GlobalGamingExpo.com



The banner is divided into three sections. On the left is a portrait of Jeff Nelson, a man with short brown hair wearing a blue shirt and a dark jacket. The middle section has a green background with white text: "G2E offers me solutions that will drive profitable players into the casino." Below this is his name and title: "Jeff Nelson, Regional Senior Director of Marketing, Isle of Capri Casino". The right section has a blue background with white text: "SEPT. 27 - 29 | LAS VEGAS" and the "global gaming expo" logo, where "global" is in white, "gaming" is in green, and "expo" is in white with a green diamond containing "G2E" above it.