

MEMORANDUM
March 30, 1982

TO: Nancie Hatch

FROM: Karen Reese *K. Reese*

RE: Nishnawbe News

Recently, I reviewed the newspaper published by the Sault Tribe of Sault Ste. Marie to assess whether or not it could meet the needs of NMU American Indian Students if the Nishnawbe News were no longer published. In reading the paper's general purpose statement, I felt that the paper was very similar in purpose to that of the Nishnawbe News. Although the paper is geared primarily to Sault Tribe members, subscriptions are available. The fact that two free issues will be sent upon request before a subscription is required implies that there is an eagerness to obtain additional subscribers. My conclusion is that the paper is very well done and that it could meet the needs of NMU students for access to a culturally oriented newspaper.

After the budget cuts have been deducted that were included in earlier rounds of reductions, the University is still contributing \$2101.00 in office rental and \$1507.00 in other support to publication of the Nishnawbe News. Another consideration is the amount of your time required to advise the News staff and to problem-solve related concerns.

In view of the worsening economic situation in the State and the seriousness of the financial situation that the University faces, I feel that I have little choice but to recommend to Dr. Hefke that the Nishnawbe News no longer receive any financial assistance from the University. If the American Indian students were able to generate sufficient outside financial support to continue publication of the paper, I would support continuation of office space for them. However, in view of the serious financial problems faced by the State, it is hardly realistic to think that students would meet with much success in obtaining funding.

The students who are currently employed by the Nishnawbe News are Work-study qualified. Unless Work-study funds are seriously decreased for next year, these students would not have difficulty finding Work-study positions elsewhere in the University.

Dr. Hefke and I have discussed this decision extensively, and we agree that this is the most prudent action under the existing financial circumstances. I would like to meet with you this week to discuss informing the O.N.A.I.S. and the News staff of this decision. I am sure that they will be disappointed, but I am hopeful that they will understand the necessity of it.

KMR/smy