

R.D. file

MEMO TO: Dr. Roland S. Strolle, 140 Jones La., Detroit, MI, Bureau of Indian Affairs Support, DAWA, 4/24/72

MEMORANDUM
May 31, 1972

I would assume that, should we have more than 14 students renewing BIA assistance in the fall, the support grant would be proportionately larger.

TO: Dr. Roland S. Strolle
V. P., Continuing Education
FROM: James L. Carter
Assistant Director

RE: Bureau of Indian Affairs Support

Several months ago, Mr. Paul Melcher, regional director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Minneapolis, visited the campus and told us the Bureau was "highly pleased" with the university's American Indian Program. He had a great deal of praise for the *Nichawbe News* and indicated the BIA would fund a portion of the newspaper budget for the upcoming year.

In order to make plans for the continuance of the paper, I wrote Melcher last week requesting a formal commitment. He replied yesterday by phone. Taking part in the three-way conversation was Mr. Richard Wolff, who I assume is in charge of the BIA region's scholarship program.

Melcher said that funding of the paper would have to be considered a "new program" and that funds for such programs are expected to be limited in the 1972-73 Fiscal Year. If approved, they could not be made available until November. He then suggested that funds could be provided through the BIA scholarship program, already established at Northern, if the Financial Aids office would request a \$500 "supplemental expense grant" for each of the 14 students currently receiving scholarships. Wolff said that there would be "absolutely no problem" in going this route. However, the funds could be used only for direct support of students working on the paper; the students should be aware that money for the paper's staff was being made available via their grant.

Melcher said that the BIA had adequate funding in the scholarship program at this time, due to refunds from students not completing the school year. The monies would be returned to Washington if not expended before July 1. He further said that the same procedure would be followed in the upcoming Fiscal Year, making a like amount (or more) available this fall.

In order to set the wheels in motion, Melcher asked that a letter originate in Bob Pecotte's office requesting the \$500 supplemental expense grant per student. A check for \$7,000 will be sent to Financial Aids upon receipt of the letter. This can be expended when and as we see fit, as long as it is used for direct support of Indian students on the newspaper, who are otherwise receiving BIA scholarship support.

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