

September 4, 1973

Mr. David Batiste, President  
Organization of North American  
Indian Students of N. M. U.  
120 University Center  
Marquette, MI 49855

Dear Dave:

The U. S. Post Office here has informed me that the application of the Nishnawbe News to mail under Second Class Postage rates stands little chance of approval because the paper accepts paid advertising. The Post Office does not object to advertising in itself, but when advertising is accepted, the paper must be sold on a paid subscription basis only, according to Second Class Postage rules. As the Nishnawbe News is technically a "free" paper, mailed under a non-profit permit, the only advertising it can accept for a fee is that for the organization (ONAI) and other strictly Indian groups, such as the Michigan Indian Commission--if it wants to qualify for a Second Class permit.

As you know, the savings in mailing under a Second Class Permit would be substantial in both the U. S. and Canada, the permit being recognized by both countries. A rough estimate of these savings would be about \$120 per month. If your organization feels that it would be more advantageous to drop paid advertising on an unlimited basis (you still could charge Indian-related groups) and to qualify for a Second Class Permit, please let me know so that the proper forms can be filled out and submitted to the Post Office.

If, at some future date, the paper would want to reinstate paid advertising on a general basis, it would have to make definite subscription charges to all readers in order to retain the Second Class Permit.

Sincerely,

James L. Carter  
Assistant Director

JLC:hc

cc: Bailey - Knight

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