



Yes to *Hard Rock* Kenosha

Hard Rock Kenosha Project Brings Promise of a Brighter Future

A new beginning.

That's what the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin will have with the Hard Rock Kenosha Casino.

Lost in the discussion lately is what the project will do for the Menominee people. The news has been dominated by topics like new jobs, higher payments to the state, Wisconsin vs. Illinois, economic development and bigger guarantees for other tribes.

Let's not forget that new income for the tribe will help it move from dependence to independence.

Right now life in Menominee County is hard.

Though the Menominee is one of the biggest tribes in Wisconsin it's also the poorest. Many members live in substandard housing. Some without running water.

While Menominee are proud of their educational advances with the tribal college, the youngest students attend school in a building that's 100 years old.

About half of grade school children come from families living below the poverty line.

It's no surprise that with poverty there's also serious health issues for Menominee families. A survey by the University of Wisconsin shows that Menominee County is the unhealthiest in the state. There are alarmingly high rates of obesity, diabetes, heart disease, alcoholism and abuse. All symptoms of the very poor.

By partnering with Seminole Hard Rock for the casino in Kenosha the Menominee will have the chance for a better life for elders, members with special

needs and children. New schools, upgraded clinics, improved housing, scholarships to colleges and trade schools, preservation of Menominee language and culture and more jobs. That's how the tribe promises to invest its improving good fortune.

This summer after a nine-year wait the Bureau of Indian Affairs approved the Menominee request to operate a casino in Kenosha. The dream of the tribe is so close to reality.

Both the tribe and Hard Rock leadership are grateful to Governor Walker for all the time and consideration he has shown in making his final deliberations. The leadership team pledges to continue working toward a creative solution that answers all remaining questions. **And helps the dream of the Menominee come true.**



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