



Muskegon County Casino in Fruitport Township

Proposed by Little River Band of Ottawa Indians (LRBOI)

Muskegon Casino Project Little River Band of Ottawa Indians (LRBOI) Historical Background

Extensive Historical ties to Muskegon region

- Comprised of the 9 bands of the Historic Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians.
 - We traditionally used lands for hunting, cultivating and gathering.
- Political successors to the Signatories of the 1836 Treaty of Washington.
- Political successors and descendants of the signatories of the 1855 Treaty of Detroit.
 - Prior to the 1855 Treaty, our people inhabited village sites from the Manistee River south to the Grand River, in the western Lower Peninsula of Michigan.
- Lived along Lake Michigan, including Muskegon County.

Reaffirmed as Federally Recognized Tribe in 1994

- LRBOI has a long-standing history of strong tribal leadership and the full support of our tribal membership.
- 3,996 enrolled members.
- LRBOI has tribal responsibility for 9 counties stretching from Manistee south to Muskegon.

Pursued gaming as an economic tool to strengthen governmental services

- Signed state gaming compact and amendment in 1998 to provide payments to the state of Michigan and local revenue sharing board.
- Opened Little River Casino Resort in Manistee in summer of 1999 with 600 slot machines. Expanded to more than 1,300 slots, 28 table games, 3 restaurants and 292-room luxury hotel.
 - 813 employees
 - Over 90% of casino employees are non-Tribal members
 - 10 % of county workforce are directly related to the Tribe
- Tribal Ogema Romanelli and Gov. Granholm signed amendments to the tribal gaming compact in March 2010, which allow for a second casino in the tribe's 9-county service area and establishes economic incentive payments to the state.
- Fruitport Township and Muskegon County unanimously approved the MSA and CLEA in March 2010 to offset burdens on local municipalities' emergency and public works.
- Project Labor Agreement will be part of project.

Strong Presence in Muskegon region

- Largest population of LRBOI citizens live in service area.
- The Little River Band's current Indian Health Services designated Contract Health Service Delivery Area includes 9 counties, stretching from Manistee to Muskegon.
- 660+ LRBOI citizens reside in Muskegon County.
- Operate a Muskegon Tribal office.

- Tribal Ogema and several Council members live in Muskegon County.

Only Tribe Legally Eligible to Develop Muskegon Casino

- Voters passed Proposal One in 2004, which limits the expansion of gaming in Michigan.
- Federally recognized Tribe.
- Muskegon County is within Service Area.
- State Gaming Compact.

Constitution of the Little River Band of Indians

PREAMBLE

We, the Little River Ottawa people have asserted our sovereignty throughout history including in the Treaty of Chicago [August 29, 1821; 7 Stat 218], the Treaty of Washington [March 28, 1836; 7 Stat 491], and the Treaty of Detroit [July 31, 1855; 11 Stat 621].

Between the last treaty and the present day, the Grand River Ottawa people who became the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians were known and organized under several names, including members of "Indian Village" on the Manistee River, residents of the Pere Marquette Village or "Indian Town", Unit No. 7 of the Northern Michigan Ottawa Association, the Thornapple River Band, and finally the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.

On September 21, 1994, Public Law 103-324 (108 Stat 2156) was enacted, reaffirming federal recognition of and confirming the sovereignty of the Grand River Bands comprising the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians (referred to as the Tribe or Little River Band).

As an exercise of our sovereign powers, in order to organize for our common good, to govern ourselves under our own laws, to maintain and foster our tribal culture, provide for the welfare and prosperity of our people, and to protect our homeland we adopt this constitution, in accordance with the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934, as amended, as the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.