Northern Arapaho Business Council

P.O. Box 396

Ft. Washakie, Wyoming 82514

Phone: 332-6120 — 332-5006 - 307-856-3461

September 10, 2014

Dear Northern Arapaho Members and Friends:

The Northern Arapaho Business Council on Monday unanimously adopted a resolution demanding that sports teams and educational institutions abandon derogatory, race-based logos, mascots and team names.

The high-profile controversy over the Washington, D.C., professional football team name and logo helped catalyze Monday's official tribal action. We also identified a number of deeper reasons for taking an official stand now.

In particular, the NABC believes derogatory slurs, logos, mascots and names are forms of modern-day discrimination, the origins of which lie in the historical mistreatment of Native American tribes and people.

The NABC also believes that continual use of negative stereotypes of Native Americans is particularly damaging to Indian children who seek to maintain a connection to their cultures, to their languages and to their communities. We have seen this harm first hand.

We believe sports franchises and especially schools should be promoting understanding and reconciliation between tribes and the broader society. Instead, many are inflicting very real injuries caused by reducing us to caricatures.

We now join millions of others across the country in asking for something that has long been granted to other groups, but has so far been denied to Native American people and tribes.

Sincerely,

Darrell O'Neal, Sr., Chairman

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Anthony Addison, Sr., Member

Willard Gould, Member

Ronald K. Oldman, Co-Chairman

Mean Soggles
Dean Goggles, Member

Rnald Eclely

David McElroy, Sr., Member