

Wisconsin
State
Assembly



State Representative
SHARON K. METZ
90th Assembly District

Member:
Joint Finance Committee
Coastal Management Council

Gordon Mc Lester
P.O. Box 365
Oneida, WI

November 14, 1984

Dear Gordon:

It is with deep gratitude that I write this. The support and financial donation for my campaign was incredibly helpful, timely, and very generous. Some heavy last minute and unanticipated expenses were covered by the Oneida contribution.

You might be interested in knowing that I carried the Green Bay districts that have significant Indian populations by 59%, 60% and 61%. This helped offset my losses in Ashwaubenon and the far west side of Green Bay for a total of 53.5% of the vote... 11,134 to 9,652.

Now that the election is over, let me once again express my willingness to help the Oneida people in any way possible. Do not hesitate to contact me.

It is my opinion that the next two years at the state level will be critical in terms of Indian issues. I say this because we lost some real legislative friends of the Indian people (seven seats in all in the Assembly) and also because organizations like Equal Rights for Everyone will be lobbying heavily for their own agendas. The Assembly will have the narrowest majority of Democrats since the early 1960s -- 52 to 47. Policy making will be difficult under those conditions. It means that only three Democrats have to vote with the Republicans to pass bad legislation. We must then depend on the Senate and/or the Governor's veto to stop it.

As always, my staff and I will try to keep you alerted to pertinent matters. In light of the times, the local situation and the new legislative member, you may want to consider at some point having an official Oneida liaison to work with the Legislature and Paul De Main. The knotty legal situations regarding treaty rights and jurisdiction will need careful scrutiny and a strong public relations effort here. Because there is a tendency by lawmakers to lump all of the tribes together in terms of their needs, I want to be sure that Oneida's views are adequately articulated.

The Governor is now in the process of preparing his budget for the next biennium. It is the best time for input on those initiatives you want included.

Again, I appreciate your support and value the friendship you have shown.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Sharon'.

SHARON K. METZ
State Representative
90th Assembly District

SKM:j

Capitol Address:
13 East Capitol
Madison, Wisconsin 53702
Telephone: (608) 266-5840

Residence:
816 Shawano Avenue
Green Bay, Wisconsin 54303
Telephone: (414) 432-0008