

## LUCAS ST. CLAIR, QUIMBY-ST. CLAIR FAMILY

December 15, 2019

Chief Kirk Francis  
Penobscot Indian Nation  
12 Wabanaki Way  
Indian Island, Maine 04468

Dear Chief Francis:

We hope this letter finds you well. Our being in touch arises from the work of the Native Advisory Council of the Abbe Museum. Early this year, as Executive Director of Elliotsville Foundation (EFI – formerly Elliotsville Plantation), I approached the Abbe to request engagement with the Native Advisory Council at the suggestion of David Goldstein with the National Park Service. EFI is a Quimby family philanthropy, the group who purchased and then donated land to the National Park Service (NPS) that is now Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument.

EFI is currently exercising time-limited Reserved Rights as a private party to build a Visitor Contact Station in the Monument. Once Reserved Rights expire in August 2023, EFI will donate the Visitor Contact Station to NPS who will then assume its ongoing operation and upkeep. To ensure the Visitor Contact Station represents Wabanaki people appropriately, EFI is seeking the ongoing involvement, input, and advice of a group of Wabanaki advisors during the four years of the Reserved Rights period. During this time, the Contact Station will be designed and constructed, its various uses will be outlined, and its welcome, orientation, and educational messages will be developed.

The Abbe Museum Native Advisory Council considered our request and members agreed to an initial convening with participants from EFI. Suzanne Greenlaw (NAC member), due to her experience of working with the National Park Service (NPS) on Wabanaki cultural issues, was selected to work with EFI to develop and facilitate the convening and help chart next steps forward.

The convening was held November 7-8 with 12 Wabanaki participants (see listing, next page). I attended, as did EFI's construction architect, and 11 others representing Quimby philanthropies, Friends of Katahdin Woods and Waters, Abbe Museum, and the National Park Service. Discussions focused on the preliminary architectural designs for the Visitor Contact Station, tribal history and experiences in the Monument area and in this broader territory, and interests in the future uses and messages of the Contact Station and Monument as a whole.

In addition to the convening, tribal participants have met directly with the EFI chief architect. The convening and direct meetings with tribal participants have resulted in the commissioning of two further design ideas for the Visitor Contact Station to incorporate newly gained perspectives.

Participants at the convening expressed enthusiasm for the project and for continued dialogue with EFI and others as the final Contact Station design is developed. Native Advisory Council members expressed uncertainty in their authority to speak for their respective communities without being specifically appointed to do so in this matter. They have requested a Chief-appointed council be created, separate from the Chief appointed Abbe Museum Native Advisory Council they currently serve on; so that they may act as advisors for the KWWNM Visitor Contact Station and associated

EFI projects. It is our understanding that additional tribal members may be invited to also provide their input and advice. You, as Chief, are cordially invited to attend and participate at any time you may choose.

A meeting schedule has not yet been set, however it is anticipated there may be periods of intensive involvement over the next four years. Advisors will receive honoraria for their participation as well as travel reimbursements. Quimby Family philanthropy is underwriting the effort. Lucas also serves as co-chair of a capital campaign to support this and other projects in the new Monument. Wabanaki advisors will be welcome to join the fundraising team as it is formed.

Accompanying this letter is an EFI Wabanaki Council Delegation Form. If you would like to talk about this invitation or the Delegation Form, please let myself or Suzanne know. We would be happy to meet with you. I can be reached at 207-401-8270 and [lusasstclair12@gmail.com](mailto:lusasstclair12@gmail.com). Suzanne can be reached at 207-694-1052 and [suzanne.greenlaw@maine.edu](mailto:suzanne.greenlaw@maine.edu).

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

Lucas St. Clair, Executive Director

Suzanne Greenlaw, Maliseet



WIPHUNAKSON LLC

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Tribal members invited to Nov 7 – 8, 2019 convening with EFI, Friends of Katahdin Woods and Waters, Abbe Museum, and National Park Service:

*Invited and attended:*

Natalie Dana, Passamaquoddy/Penobscot  
John Dennis, Micmac  
Gabe Frey, Passamaquoddy  
Suzanne Greenlaw, Maliseet  
Newell Lewey, Passamaquoddy  
Dale Mitchell, Passamaquoddy  
Brenda Moore Mitchell, Passamaquoddy  
Jennifer Neptune, Penobscot  
Richard Silliboy, Micmac  
Chris Sockalexis, Penobscot  
Sue Young, Maliseet

*Invited - unable to attend:*

James Francis, Penobscot  
Jennifer Pictou, Micmac  
Nick Francis, Penobscot  
Donald Soctomah, Passamaquoddy

**Wabanaki Council for Engagement with Elliotsville Foundation**

**Delegation Form – Penobscot Indian Nation**

This form is to be completed by the Tribal Chief or his or her designee. Individuals who have been involved to-date are listed in the cover letter to this form. Please list the individuals you designate and confirm your delegates by signing at the end of this form and returning it to Suzanne Greenlaw; 4 Sunrise Terrace; Orono, Maine; 04473 or [suzanne.greenlaw@maine.edu](mailto:suzanne.greenlaw@maine.edu).

**Delegate 1.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Delegate 2.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Delegate 3.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Delegate 4.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

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**The Tribal Chief's signature is required.**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_