

## Key Deadline Approaches for Native Americans in \$3.4 Billion Indian Trust Settlement

The Court-ordered process of notifying individual Indians of their legal rights in the historic \$3.4 billion class action Settlement, *Cobell v. Salazar*, is coming to a close. The Settlement resolves claims related to Individual Indian Money (or IIM) accounts and interests in land held in trust or restricted fee by the federal government for the benefit of individual Indians.

Class Members all over the country have received detailed information about their legal rights and options via U.S. Mail and through an extensive media campaign, which included Native American print media, television and radio ads, and online advertising.

Class Members who received a formal notice in the mail about the Settlement and who are currently receiving IIM account statements do not have to do anything to receive payment. Individuals who believe they should be part of the Settlement but did not receive a notice in the mail or are not receiving IIM account statements need to fill out a Claim Form as soon as possible, available at the Indian Trust website or by calling the toll-free number.

Class Members who wish to keep their right to sue the federal government over mismanagement claims covered by the Settlement must exclude themselves from the Settlement by April 20, 2011. Class Members can also submit written comments or objections about any Settlement terms that concern them by April 20, 2011.

The Settlement provides a \$1.5 billion fund to compensate an estimated 500,000 affected individual Indian trust beneficiaries who have or had IIM accounts or hold an interest in trust or restricted land. The Settlement creates two groups of Class Members eligible to receive money from the fund – the Historical Accounting Class and the Trust Administration Class.

The Historical Accounting Class comprises individual Indians who were alive on September 30, 2009, who had an open IIM account anytime between October 25, 1994 and September 30, 2009, and whose account had at least one cash transaction.

The Trust Administration Class comprises individual Indians alive on September 30, 2009, who had an IIM Account at any time from 1985 through September 30, 2009, recorded in currently available electronic data in federal government systems, as well as individual Indians who, as of September 30, 2009, had a recorded or demonstrable interest in land held in trust or restricted status.

The estates of deceased Class Members will also receive a Settlement distribution if the deceased beneficiary's account was open as of September 30, 2009, or their land interest was open in probate as of that date. Other eligibility conditions and requirements for each Class are

detailed in the Settlement Agreement.

Under the Settlement Agreement, \$1.9 billion will fund a Department of the Interior program to buy fractionated interests in trust or restricted land from willing sellers to benefit tribal communities and aid in land consolidation. Depending on the level of participation in the land consolidation program, up to \$60 million will be set aside to provide scholarships for higher education for American Indian and Alaska Native youth.

The website [www.indiantrust.com](http://www.indiantrust.com) and toll-free number (800) 961-6109 are available to provide more information about the Settlement and the legal rights of Class Members. Individuals who are unsure whether they are included in the Settlement should visit the website or call the toll-free number for more information.

## Joseph Eve Launches Tribal Finance & Accounting Outsourcing Practice

CEO and Managing Partner, Joseph Eve recently announced the official launch of its Tribal Finance & Accounting Outsource “FAO” Practice. Through its network of collaborative partnerships with various cloud solutions, Joseph Eve has built a sophisticated cloud computing infrastructure that enables them to provide real-time collaboration, complex workflows with multiple levels of approval, authorization and transparency to effectively improve the quality of finance and accounting offices, while significantly enhancing tribal operations.

As a business transformation leader, Joseph Eve is among the few CPA firms in the U.S. who are actually engaging tribal clients to take advantage of collaborative cloud technologies that integrate the technical and strategic competencies of a CPA firm into the day-to-day back-office operations. Joseph Eve employs a team of business professionals that have over a decade of tribal experience in finance and accounting outsourcing. The firm has developed best practices for tribal governments, tribal enterprises, tribal housing authorities, colleges, and tribal gaming operations including the most sophisticated client assessment methodologies to ensure delivery of services are maximized and highly efficient.

## Gun Lake Casino Selects FutureLogic's GEN2 Universal Printers

FutureLogic, Inc. recently announced that its GEN2 Universal printer has been chosen as the exclusive printer for Gun Lake Casino's gaming platforms. Gun Lake Casino, which opened on February 10, 2011, in Wayland Michigan, features a 76,000 sq. ft. facility offering 1,450 slot and video poker machines and 28 table games.

Louis Van Belkum, Gun Lake's Director of Slot Operations, said: “In addition to providing excellent support, FutureLogic has established itself as a provider of leading-edge technology. Their reputation of providing high-caliber

products and excellent customer service factored into our decision to use the GEN2 Universal printer in our new casino.”

“We are gratified that the executive team at Gun Lake Casino recognizes our commitment to delivering ‘future-proof’ printers,” said Nick Micalizzi, FutureLogic’s VP of Domestic Sales & Marketing. “And we look forward to providing them with our ongoing support.”

## Bally Technologies to Acquire Sightline Payments

Bally Technologies, Inc. recently announced it has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire Las Vegas-based Sightline Payments, a provider of innovative payment solutions.

Bally’s Chief Executive Officer, Richard Haddrill, said, “Sightline Payments is our latest strategic investment and continues to show our commitment to a comprehensive system product offering. Payment systems and gaming systems will continue to converge and incorporate privatized currency capabilities currently available in retail and online.”

“Our iVIEW™ network has been architected to serve customers at any point of play or point of purchase, and the addition of Sightline’s product offerings to these distribution channels will make for a powerful suite of products for our customers,” Haddrill added.

“Sightline and Bally belong together,” said Kirk Sanford, Chief Executive Officer, President, and Founder of Sightline Payments. “We know Bally’s unique capabilities, and now is the right time to combine both companies. Because of our shared vision of the future of payment services in gaming, we are on the verge of launching some very exciting cashless gaming products that we think can change the gaming payments industry in meaningful ways for our customers.”

Sightline Payments will remain in Las Vegas and brings to Bally significant gaming and payment industry experience from Kirk Sanford, Tom Sears, and Diran Kludjian.

## Ivan Makil Announces Campaign for Chairman of NIGA

Ivan Makil, former President of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, is a candidate for Chairman, National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA). Makil served as President of the Salt River Indian Community from 1990 to 2002 before founding Generation Seven Strategic Partners, LLC. G7 consults with national and international clients serving as a conduit between tribal governments and non-tribal entities to share its expertise in government affairs, business and economic development.

“If I am fortunate to be elected NIGA chair, my priority will be to create a policy agenda driven by the consensus of tribal leadership across the country that creates balance within the association. Together, we can identify goals so that

we can move forward to implement strategic policies in a strong, organized and bold manner,” said Makil. To renew and revitalize NIGA, Makil’s platform emphasizes clarity of issues, consensus building, a clear path to implementation, and time for a change.

The Tohono O’odham Nation and the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community recently passed unanimous resolutions supporting Ivan Makil for NIGA Chairman.

Born and raised on the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, Makil served his community for more than 20 years in leadership positions. Among his accomplishments, he developed and implemented the strategy that was the foundation for the negotiates that ultimately allowed a major freeway (Loop 101) through the Community. During his terms as President, the Community expanded and diversified its economic development base, from two to 12 enterprises, becoming a national model for economic development on tribal lands.

In 1996, Makil launched the first Indian gaming initiative in the country. The Fairness Initiative, which passed by a wide margin, gave the Community the right to its gaming compact which had been denied by the Governor of Arizona. In 2002, on behalf of the 17 tribes in Arizona, Makil successfully led Proposition 202, the Indian Gaming Preservation and Self Reliance Act, which enabled tribes to renegotiate their compacts with the State.

Makil has worked extensively and successfully in the national arena. He fought for and successfully led the contentious fight for negotiated rule-making for the Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act of 1996. Makil has been a strong advocate at the national level on self-governance, land-into-trust, business development and housing. With the late Tim Wapato and Congressman J.D. Hayworth, Makil helped to defeat the UBIT Tax which would have imposed a 34% tax on all economic development on tribal lands.

In 1994, Makil was one of 10 presenters during a White House Summit on Economic Development during President Clinton’s administration, the first time since the 1800s that tribes were invited to the White House. In March 2009, Makil was invited to attend the White House Summit for Small Businesses. Makil was one of six Native American representatives who were invited to participate.

Makil also brings international experience to his candidacy as well. He assisted the First Nations to develop and organize their First World Indigenous Forum (both the Business Forum and the Leadership Summit) which was held at the United Nations. He successfully resolved issues for clients in Mexico and Spain and he has organized seminars for Indigenous representatives from Canada and Columbia.

Ivan Makil believes that NIGA is facing serious issues such as online gaming and the public perception of gaming and tribes. Makil states, “NIGA needs to be transparent in its

decisions and focused on the business of protecting the Indian gaming industry for the best interest of our tribal Nations and Communities.”

### **Gold Series Awards Over \$1 Million to Lucky Oklahoma Player**

Rocket Gaming Systems® recently announced that its Gold Series has awarded another top progressive prize to a lucky player last month. This win marks the second \$1,000,000+ top progressive prize that Rocket's Gold Series has awarded in 2011.

The happy winner won \$1,032,526.12 playing Golden Sunrise, a Rocket Gold Series video title, at Miami Tribe Entertainment in Miami, OK. Miami Tribe Entertainment is owned and operated by the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma.

“We're thrilled to have the latest million dollar winner at our casino,” said Jim Barton, Casino Manager at Miami Tribe Entertainment. “We cater to local players and it certainly has paid off! We may not be the largest casino, but our players are definitely the luckiest.”

The Gold Series is comprised of Rocket's successful line of Class II titles, which are offered in both video and mechanical reel (stepper) editions. There are currently eight Gold Series video titles and three Gold Series stepper titles available for play. Each game provides players with a wide array of entertaining bonus rounds for a full featured gaming experience. Most importantly, all Gold Series players compete for a top progressive prize of over \$1,000,000.

### **Wright Casino Marketing to Present Two Valuable Workshops at NIGA Trade Show**

Wright Casino Marketing, the country's premier agency specializing in gaming, will present two workshops at the annual National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA) Trade Show on April 4 in Phoenix, AZ.

The sessions, to be presented at the Phoenix Convention Center, are Marketing Your Non-Gaming Tribal Enterprises and Planning & Buying Media in Today's Market.

“We're delighted to share valuable insight and knowledge for these two critically important areas for tribal operations,” said Jack Breslin, Senior Vice President of Wright Casino Marketing, which is also a NIGA Associate Member. “Attendees will gain valuable information to help them effectively market their non-gaming operations and how to use their media dollars for maximum efficiency.”

The presenters will include Wright Casino Marketing's Senior Vice Present Jack Breslin, WCM Media Director Melanie Lauck and Vice President and Group Leader Ryan Meister who also oversees the agency's new WCM Media Division. Other presenters are Stephanie Maddocks, President of Power Strategies, Inc. and Rahul Nawab, Co-Founders of IQR Consulting.

### **Fantasy Springs Wins Three 2011 ADDY Awards**

Fantasy Springs Resort Casino is pleased to announce the achievements of its Senior Graphic Designer at the 2011 ADDY Awards. A total of 176 local advertising and marketing-based entries were judged based on creativity, originality, and creative strategy by a team of five top advertising and creative professionals from outside of the Coachella Valley, as stated in a recent press release from the American Advertising Federation's Desert Cities chapter. Fantasy Springs' Senior Graphic Designer, Timothy Smith was called to the stage for a gold (first place) in logo design for the resort's LIT lounge. He took home a silver (second place) for the 2010 New Year's Eve invitation featuring a funky, “Prince” theme. His third ADDY at the event was a bronze (third place) for a promotional flyer created for guests at the 23rd Annual Frank Sinatra Starkey Hearing Foundation Celebrity Invitational. In all, 26 Gold, 24 Silver and 19 Bronze ADDY Awards were handed out during course of the evening. ADDY winners from the local competition will go on to compete regionally and nationally.

This is Timothy Smith's first ADDY award win. It is also the first time he has entered the creative competition. He's worked in the graphic design field for 16 years across southern California.

### **Gaming Standards Association Announces G2S Message Protocol v1.1**

The Gaming Standards Association (GSA), whose open standards are the driving force behind the new generation of interoperable devices and systems, recently announced that its globally accepted Game to System (G2S) protocol v1.0.3 has been re-released in a simpler packaging and will be referred to as G2S v1.1.

“Based on feedback we received from our members, the GSA Board of Directors decided to simplify the naming and streamline the multiple errata versions of the protocol,” said Peter DeRaedt, President of GSA. He added, “The G2S specification that the global gaming community has come to rely on, has not been changed – only the packaging. We believe that this change will provide the clarity that the industry needs to move forward.”

G2S is a communication protocol that unlocks the power of networked gaming and revolutionizes the way information is exchanged between Electronic Gaming Machines (EGMs) and back-of-house systems. It provides a common interface between devices and systems, as well as supports essential networked gaming functions, such as software download, remote configuration, and advanced features. With G2S certified systems, operators have the ability to control and extract information from their gaming floors.

## Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Hollywood Launches Mobile Apps and Mobile Site

Rock out with the official iPhone and Android apps and a BlackBerry accessible mobile site for the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Hollywood, Florida. The Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Hollywood, Florida has teamed up with MacroView Labs to develop mobile applications that give users instant access to the all of action, entertainment and luxury through hundreds of pages of dynamic content. The free mobile apps will serve as a mobile concierge, area tour guide, casino handbook, and social media hub - all rolled into one.

“Our new mobile applications are a fun and easy way for our guests and customers to explore all that the Seminole Hard Rock Hollywood has to offer - right from their mobile device,” said Jeanine Repa, Senior Vice President of Brand Marketing for Seminole Gaming. “Whether they are already at the Seminole Hard Rock or if they’re planning a visit, our mobile apps offer users from virtually anywhere, and at any time, the ability to access the information that they need for their stay.”

The mobile apps and site launch just in time for the busy winter and spring season. They contain useful information about the casino, concerts, hotel rooms, shopping, spa treatments, restaurants and bars, maps and more.

“Mobile technology is changing the travel experience, giving consumers immediate access to location-aware functionality and information,” said Aron Ezra, CEO of MacroView Labs. “We’re excited to be working with the Seminole Hard Rock to bring guests a whole new way to interact with each other and with the brand. There are some terrific features in these apps – with even more on the way.”

## NEWave Announces New Team, New Ideas, New Services

NEWave (formerly New Wave Automation) has been assembling a new leadership team, repositioning the company for expansion and continued innovations. As part of the new structure, NEWave has unveiled a new company name, logo, website and brand campaign.

NEWave Chief Executive and Technology Officer Bart Lewin said, “We conducted extensive research internally and externally, and we found that our company, especially with our new Professional Services organization, helps our clients with much more than ‘automation.’ We studied the results of that research and decided that calling our company simply ‘NEWave’ fits our brand much better.”

“The gaming industry can expect a continuous wave of new ideas, new technologies, new opportunities and ways of doing business from the new NEWave,” said company co-founder and CFO Jim Bach. “We are very excited about the

changes we have made, and those that we will reveal in the coming weeks, and we changed our name and look to ensure that the industry knew we are a dynamic, new company.”

NEWave’s new tagline is “creating innovative solutions together.” “This simple phrase clearly and concisely communicates exactly what the new NEWave does: we work with our customers to create solutions that best fit their unique needs,” said NEWave Senior Vice President of Professional Services Claudia Winkler. The new tagline will be featured in a new ad campaign that premieres in gaming industry magazines in April, and will also be on display in the company’s booth #1334 at the upcoming NIGA tradeshow.

“One thing that has not and will not change is NEWave’s absolute commitment to customer service. NEWave’s new website address, [www.mynewave.com](http://www.mynewave.com), was specifically chosen to give our customer the feeling that they have a direct involvement with our company,” Tom Bechtel, NEWave’s new COO said. The site will re-launch in the coming weeks.

## IGT and CNIGA EDC LLC Enter Partnership for Increased Placement of WAP/Contribution Games

International Game Technology recently announced that the company has formalized an agreement with the California Nations Indian Gaming Association Economic Development Corporation LLC (CNIGA EDC LLC). This mutually beneficial agreement provides CNIGA EDC LLC with monetary awards for increases in the number of IGT Wide Area Progressive/Contribution (WAP/Contribution) games in use at the casinos of CNIGA member tribes.

“IGT is proud of our history of support for the California Nations Indian Gaming Association,” said Eric Tom, Chief Operating Officer for IGT. “We deeply value our relationship with CNIGA EDC LLC as well as CNIGA’s member tribes, and this agreement will provide substantial support to CNIGA EDC LLC at levels not offered by any other gaming manufacturer. In addition, this partnership truly speaks to IGT’s longstanding commitment to tribal efforts and tribal sovereignty.”

In the agreement, IGT will provide financial support to CNIGA EDC LLC based on growth of the number of IGT WAP/Contribution games at the casinos of CNIGA member tribes. CNIGA EDC LLC will be rewarded as its member tribes add incremental IGT WAP/Contribution games to their casino floors. As a commitment to continuing IGT’s longstanding relationship with CNIGA EDC LLC and CNIGA and to help further their goals, the substantial monetary awards provided by IGT for incremental placement of WAP/Contribution games will be invested or spent in ways fully determined by CNIGA EDC LLC.

“We see this joint venture with IGT as truly beneficial for all parties,” said Daniel J. Tucker, Chairman for CNIGA. “IGT’s long history of proven themes and exciting new

games provides our tribal members with an unsurpassed list of new and popular game options. Through this agreement, we will be able to help our tribal members provide their players with the very best gaming experiences, and at the same time, generate revenue that will assist in our ongoing work to preserve and protect the inherent sovereign rights of Indian tribes."

### National Indian Gaming Commission to Resume Public Commission Meetings

Chairwoman Tracie Stevens announced that she, Vice-Chairwoman Steffani Cochran and Associate Commissioner Dan Little will resume public Commission meetings as part of the National Indian Gaming Commission's (NIGC/Commission) ongoing commitment to transparency and open government. These forums will be open to the public and provide an opportunity for tribal leaders and the Indian gaming industry to learn about Commission initiatives and activities.

"In the spirit of President Obama's Memorandum on Transparency and Open Government, the Commission is reinstating the open, public meetings format utilized years ago by previous Commissions to provide the public with clear and direct information on Commission activities" said Chairwoman Stevens. "The Commission firmly believes in being accountable and transparent."

The open meeting is scheduled for the day after the National Indian Gaming Association's Annual Convention and Trade Show in Phoenix, Arizona – on Thursday, April 7, 2011 at the Wyndham Hotel, North Ballroom 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Anticipated topics of discussion during the meeting include agency operations, training and technical assistance, and the Notice of Inquiry (NOI) Regulatory Review Agenda. Senior NIGC staff will also attend this meeting. (It should be noted that this meeting is separate from the NIGC tribal leaders Consultation being held the same day from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.) Agenda items are subject to change or may be taken out of order. This meeting will be transcribed and posted on the NIGC website under "Public Meetings." A draft agenda may be found by visiting the NIGC website at [www.nigc.gov](http://www.nigc.gov).

### WMS Gaming Pays Out 200th Wide Area Progressive Jackpot

WMS Gaming Inc., a leader in the design, manufacture and distribution of games and gaming machines to the global gaming industry, announced that it has awarded its 200th Wide Area Progressive (WAP) jackpot since the company's debut of WAP gaming machines in 2004. The watershed moment was achieved when, on March 5, a lucky winner from Kansas City, Kan., won a jackpot of more than \$600,000 on a Monopoly Advance to Boardwalk™ slot machine at Harrah's Casino, in North Kansas City, Mo. With

this win, total jackpot awards for WMS WAP gaming machines has surpassed \$115 million.

"Our 200th jackpot payout is a testament to the high level of player entertainment on the WMS WAP games, which create consistent product loyalty from slot players and drive higher coin-in for casino operators," said Orrin Edidin, President, WMS Gaming. "We continue to build on our proven reputation for coupling innovation and technology with an exciting and dynamic play experience that reflects our ability to anticipate and satisfy players' expectations."

Tom Cook, General Manager at Harrah's Casino said, "WMS machines have always been very popular on our floors. It's a thrill for us to be part of this exciting moment in history and we consider being the home of the 200th WMS Wide Area Progressive payout a truly celebratory occasion."

### Cherokee Nation Launches Gift Shop Website CherokeeGiftShop.com

Shopping for authentic Native American items just got easier with the recent launch of the all-new Cherokee Nation Gift Shop website at [www.cherokeegiftshop.com](http://www.cherokeegiftshop.com). In a continuing effort to expand its tourism efforts, Cherokee Nation has created an online destination for authentic Native American merchandise including apparel, art, books, gifts and jewelry.

"The all-new website launch reflects our commitment to offer authentic Native American items to people around the world," said Molly Jarvis, Vice President of Cultural Tourism at Cherokee Nation Entertainment. "Retail is a vital part of our cultural tourism efforts and many of the products featured online help promote our identity and share our stories."

Shoppers to the website will find a re-designed homepage that includes an area with sales information, a featured products section and a menu that provides links to the following: Apparel, including Cherokee Nation "Osioy" T-shirts; Art, featuring authentic baskets, sculptures, paintings and gourds among other items; Books and References, including historical literature, cultural CDs and other materials; Cherokee gifts, consisting of distinctive dolls, pins, blankets and mugs; Jewelry, showcasing a variety of handcrafted necklaces.

Guests can also share gift information with friends or family members through Facebook and email along with other social media options made available on the page.

"The online retail experience is designed as an extension of our great customer service found in-store matched with high quality merchandise that leads to happy, repeat customers," added Jarvis.

The Cherokee Nation Gift Shop website accepts all brands of credit card payment. Frequent shoppers are invited to register as returning customers to streamline the payment process, shop faster, obtain updates on current orders and to keep track of previous purchases. ♣