

DEAR  
Editor...



Dear Editor;

Recently we have heard and read so much about having an All-Indian Police Force on our reserve. Our Chief, Mr. Isaac stated that we did not have the funds for such a project. We realize what this would involve -- office staff - cars - special office and two-way radio equipment. Does this also mean our own Jail and perhaps courts? Where will all this money come from? In a few years we would have to tax our people in order to pay our policemen.

I think the A.I.A.I. have stepped a bit too high when THEY passed this motion. Surely they should realize our reserve is unique in itself in many ways and one is that our reserve is perhaps the largest in Canada and that where things like this would work on smaller reserves where the population is probably not a quarter of ours, it might not work on our reserve.

Also the A.I.A.I. are trying to overstep the Council. If they are going to start telling the Elective Council what to do, what is the point in having a Council? Can the Council not think at least once in awhile for the good of our people in stead of being true puppets as they have been called? With all the money a Police Force would involve, why can't we have this put on our roads? Our roads have never been worse than they are now. The roads were like this all summer. They are actually nothing but potholes. What does this do for our image to the visitors coming to our "prosperous Six Nations", who cannot at least have decent roads. The village roads alone are a pathetic sight. Are the A.I.A.I. a political group? I have always believed that they were working for crafts and

culture and involved in work with other reserves as well as ours in this field.

I would like to see the A.I.A.I. along with all the many Indian organizations throughout North America try to do something about the so-called 'Indian Crafts' coming from Japan. I am sure if they were united we could ban all of this beadwork, totem poles and all Indian crafts that are being imported from Japan and Hong Kong. We are all working so hard for preserving our crafts and culture and this should be the first step toward our goal. Just think what this would do for our own people who work so hard in doing perhaps one beaded medalion and charge \$3.00 for maybe 6 hours work. And yet anyone can pick up a beaded medalion in Woolworths for \$1.00 "MADE IN JAPAN".

Perhaps with this ban achieved it would show us that there is hope in unity among our own people.

-PROUD IROQUOIS-

Dear Readers:

The above letter was sent in unsigned except for 'Proud Iroquois'. It has been the policy not to print any letter without a covering note and signature. However, in this case an exception has been made because this letter contains suggestions for improvement on our reserve.

As far as the A.I.A.I. and Six Nations Council are concerned in this letter, they are both well-organized groups and should be able to accept constructive criticism from the people whom they represent.

Please note that in future, no letter will be printed unless accompanied by the signature of the writer, which, if requested, will be kept in confidence.

-C. Beaver-  
Editor