

**To:** Kelly Johnson[KAJohnson@hollandhart.com]  
**From:** Cason, James  
**Sent:** 2017-05-14T11:59:49-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Outreach from Oneida County Executive  
**Received:** 2017-05-14T12:00:20-04:00

Thanks for the info.

On Fri, May 12, 2017 at 5:16 PM, Kelly Johnson <KAJohnson@hollandhart.com> wrote:

Jim -

A delayed thank you for taking the time (along with Michael Black, and the folks from the Solicitor's Office) to meet with me, Pete Carmen and Meghan Beakman earlier this week. If you have any questions, or need additional information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

I also wanted to give you the heads up about an announcement Oneida County Executive Tony Picente plans to make next week regarding the revitalization of downtown Utica. The Oneida Indian Nation has previously talked to Tony about these plans but thought they weren't going to go any where in the current session of the New York State legislature. That still may be the case but, given that Oneida County's plans include an off-reservation casino, I wanted to make sure you knew about next week's press conference. The Nation has made it clear to Oneida County that any effort to secure DOI approve for off-reservation Indian gaming will be a lengthy process and is far from a sure thing, even if New York State were to okay. Again, let me know if you have questions.

Enjoy your weekend.

Kelly

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Peter Carmen <pcarmen@oneida-nation.org>  
**Date:** May 12, 2017 at 3:42:21 PM CDT  
**To:** Kelly Johnson <KAJohnson@hollandhart.com>  
**Cc:** Thomas Sansonetti <tsansonetti@hollandhart.com>, Meghan Beakman <mbeakman@oneida-nation.org>  
**Subject:** Outreach from Oneida County Executive

Kelly – Oneida County Executive Tony Picente told me yesterday that he intends to announce his plans for revitalizing downtown Utica next week. He hopes his announcement will build momentum for state approvals. As part of Oneida County's plans, Picente has revived his request for the Oneida Indian Nation to apply to BIA for

off-reservation trust land to operate a casino in the city of Utica. (Recall that the state legislature did not approve the County's requested approval language during the recent budget process.) I reminded Picente that we cannot control whether any gaming will be authorized in Utica. He knows that we would be required to seek BIA approval, which is a lengthy process and far from assured.

Given our meetings this week in Washington, I think it's important that folks at BIA and DOI are not caught off-guard by Picente's announcement. While we're fully supportive of Picente's economic development efforts for Oneida County, that is separate from the on-reservation gaming development we discussed and we don't want them to be conflated. Please let me know how best to convey that information. Thanks, Kelly.

Pete

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