



# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
Washington, D.C. 20240

MAY 3 2000

Honorable Marc Racicot  
Governor of Montana  
Helena, Montana 59620I

Dear Governor Racicot:

On March 23, 2000, we received an Amendment to the Interim Agreement between the State of Montana (State) and the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (Tribe), dated March 21, 2000. We have completed our review of this Amendment and conclude that it does not violate the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988 (IGRA), Federal law, or our trust responsibility. Therefore, pursuant to Section 11(d)(8)(A) of IGRA, 25 U.S.C. § 2710(d)(8)(A) and delegated authority in 209 DM 8.1, we approve the Amendment. The Amendment shall take effect when the notice of our approval, pursuant to Section 11 (d)(3)(B) of IGRA, 25 U.S.C. § 2710(d)(3)(B), is published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

We wish the Tribe and the State continued success in their economic venture.

Sincerely,

Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs

Enclosure

Identical Letter Sent to: Honorable D. Fred Matt  
Chairman  
Confederated Salish and Kootenai  
Tribes of the Flathead Nation  
Pablo, Montana 59855

**AMENDMENT TO INTERIM  
AGREEMENT AND RENEWAL BETWEEN THE  
CONFEDERATED SALISH KOOTENAI TRIBES  
AND THE STATE OF MONTANA  
REGARDING CLASS III GAMING ON THE FLATHEAD RESERVATION**

**RECITALS**

The state of Montana ("Montana") and the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes ("Tribes") entered into an Agreement ("Agreement") dated March 14, 1997, to authorize under specific conditions Class III gaming on the Flathead Reservation. The Agreement expires May 8, 2000. Montana and the Tribes are engaged in on-going discussions and preparations to negotiate another long-term compact. The Tribes are continuing its investigation of viable options for Tribal gaming operations to provide needed revenue and jobs to the Reservation community.

To enable current gaming on the reservation pursuant to the existing Agreement while discussions and negotiations continue, the parties have determined to extend the Agreement on the terms and conditions set forth below.

This Amendment is entered into in furtherance of Montana Governor Marc Racicot's Proclamation dated March 10, 1993 affirming the principle and integrity of government-to-government relationships between the State of Montana and federally-recognized tribes located within the borders of Montana.

**Agreement**

In furtherance of good relations and mutual cooperation between the parties, and in accordance with Article XI (A), "Effective Date and Term," of the existing Agreement, by this writing the parties hereby renew and extend the term of the Agreement to November 7, 2000. Further, the parties agree that the Tribes may continue to attempt to negotiate proposed changes in the Agreement and Montana will engage in good faith negotiations with respect to the proposed changes. All terms and conditions of the Agreement remain in full force and effect and shall govern the conditions of Class III gaming on the Reservation until November 7, 2000, or until a revised or a new compact has been executed by the parties, whichever first occurs.

Montana and the Tribes indicate their consent to be bound to this Renewal by signature of their authorized representatives below.

STATE OF MONTANA

FLATHEAD TRIBE

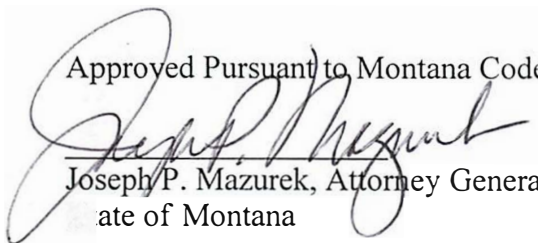


Marc Racicot, Governor  
State of Montana



D. Fred Matt, Chairman  
Confederated Salish-Kootenai Tribes

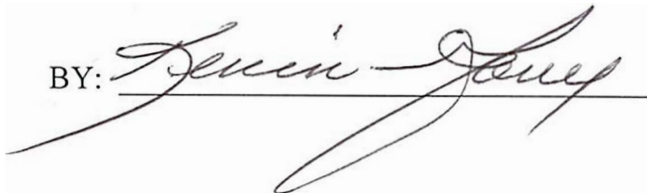
Approved Pursuant to Montana Code Annotated 18-11-105 (1993)



Joseph P. Mazurek, Attorney General  
ate of Montana

DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

BY:



DATED: MAY 3, 2000.