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Media Release

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RETIRED SENATOR BEN NIGHTHORSE CAMPBELL HONORED BY CASINO ENTERPRISE MANAGEMENT AS INDIAN GAMING ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR

NIGA Chairman Ernie Stevens, Jr., presents award as the 2007 Award Recipient

TEMECULA, CA, (Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indian Nation) September 17, 2008 - Ernie Stevens, Jr., Chairman of the National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA) awarded retired Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell (R-Colo.) the "Indian Gaming Advocate of the Year Award" on behalf of Casino Enterprise Management magazine (CEM) at their annual Casinofest7 convention at the Pechanga Resort and Casino in Temecula, California.

This is the second annual Indian Gaming Advocate of the Year Award, by CEM, an international trade journal, which honors an individual who has dedicated his or her life to the advancement of sovereign nations, peoples and gaming enterprises. Chairman Stevens was the first recipient of the prestigious award in 2007.

Mark Macarro, Chairman of the Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians, and host of the Casinofest7 convention joined Chairman Stevens in presenting the award. Upon presenting the award, Stevens said, "Senator Campbell is an example for all of us. He continues to live a remarkable life of service; with a wealth of achievements and accomplishments for America and Indian Country. He has been without a doubt a true advocate for Indian gaming and there is no better choice for this award."

In 1988, Congress enacted the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) which Campbell co-authored, while serving in Congress in response to several lawsuits by Indian tribes seeking to

operate gaming activities on tribal lands in the face of opposition by states. IGRA provides the regulatory framework for Casinos on Tribal lands.

Indian gaming has grown into a \$27 billion dollar industry in the 20 years since the passage of IGRA.

"This international recognition by CEM of our friend and champion, not only acknowledges his true dedication, to Indian gaming, but sets a stage to serves as an inspiration to our young Indian leaders; the next generation who will inspire to following the footsteps of Senator Campbell and walk the corridors of the Capital on our behalf." said Chairman Stevens.

Chairman Macarro, echoed and said, "It should be noted that during his time in the Senate, Campbell was a prolific legislator, who not only championed Indian gaming, but Indian healthcare legislation, Indian education, and many other issues of importance to Indian people."

Campbell retired from the Senate in 2005, and currently serves as a Senior Policy Advisor with Holland & Knight's Indian Law Practice group. Chairman Stevens said, Today, Campbell continues to work closely with NIGA in his present capacity by providing us greater access and insights, which has given us a great impact on Capitol Hill.

"While Indian gaming is become a multi-billion dollar industry, due great in part to visionaries like Senator Campbell and others, our work is not done. We must all continue to advocate on behalf of the true sovereignty of our people and work towards providing enough jobs and opportunities for all of Indian country." Chairman Stevens said.

Upon receiving his award, Senator Campbell said, "I am very proud and honored to accept this award. I have enjoyed working with Chairman Stevens and others at NIGA on issues vital to Indian Country and I hope to keep fighting the good fight for many years to come."

"When we passed IGRA 20 years ago, most of us were hopeful it would provide a few much needed jobs for Indian people. Nobody could foresee that one day we would be standing in such amazing facilities, such as this one at Pechanga or that gaming would provide nearly 700,000 jobs nationally, not to mention the positive multiplier effect that those incomes and taxes would have in the surrounding communities."

"Anytime you are successful, you will elicit petty jealousies and other forms of challenges. However, our critics are not aware that in Indian Country, wealth is not measured in dollars earned or possessions owned, rather it is measured in how much we can give to others." Campbell continued.

"It is exciting to see that the fortunate Indian tribes have not just helped themselves, they have invested in businesses and partnerships with other tribes, given to help charitable

causes for Indians and non-Indians alike, and been supportive and helpful neighbors to nearby communities."

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About the National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA)

The National Indian Gaming Association is a nonprofit trade association comprised of 184 American Indian Nations and other nonvoting associate member. The mission of NIGA is to advance the lives of Indian people – economically, socially and politically. NIGA operates as a clearinghouse and educational legislative and public policy resources for tribes, policymakers and the public on Indian gaming issues and tribal community development. For more information, visit www.indiangaming.org.

About Casino Enterprise Management Magazine (CEM) & CASINOFEST7

Casino Enterprise Management magazine is an international trade journal serving the gaming industry. CasinoFest7 is a part of the CasinoFest conference series dedicated to furthering the education of those men and women who work in all facets of the gaming industry through interactive lectures and hands-on training by the best and brightest professionals in the fields of casino management, marketing, slot operations and table games.