

Tony Stewart letter to Coeur d'Alene Indian Tribe (7.14.14):

TO: Heather Keen, Coeur d'Alene Tribe Public Relations Director, The Coeur d'Alene Tribal Council and all members of The Coeur d'Alene Tribe

FROM: Kootenai County Task Force on Human Relations BY: Tony Stewart, Board member and Board secretary

Dear Heather and the Coeur d'Alene Tribe:

It is with great sadness and concern that we have learned about the hate message scrawled on the Coeur d'Alene Tribal historical sign. It is obvious that the perpetrator or perpetrators have engaged in the most hideous form of racism that has emerged from their deep seated bigotry and prejudice. This is clearly a hate crime with the intent to promote anger and hatred directed at the good people of the Coeur d'Alene Tribe. It is unfortunately another example to remind us that we still have a challenge in eradicating racism from the world's society.

We condemn and denounce in the strongest terms this act of hatred.

We call upon anyone with knowledge of the crime to immediately contact law enforcement with that information. There is no place in our communities for these acts of violent language or any illegal action that could be encouraged by such words. We stand ready to help in any way that we can to stand up against this hate crime.

We will stand shoulder to shoulder with our Coeur d'Alene Tribal friends. We all should be thankful and grateful for all the remarkable contributions the Coeur d'Alene Tribe makes to the betterment of our region and state.