



## *Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma*

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**CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA**  
**APPLAUD COLORADO ASSEMBLY'S**  
**RECOGNITION OF THE HOMECOMING PROJECT**

**Assures Legislature of 'Fair Settlement that is Good for Colorado'**

**CONCHO, OK (March 16, 2004)** – The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma, today, applauded the Colorado General Assembly's recognition of the Homecoming Project and the Tribes' efforts to be responsive to the input of Colorado's elected officials in shaping a settlement proposal.

"We're pleased to see that the Colorado General Assembly seems to have accepted that the Southern Cheyenne and Arapaho will be returning to a meaningful economic and cultural presence on ancestral lands in Colorado and is already thinking about the terms of the Homecoming Project settlement," said Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma Chairman James Pedro.

"We want to assure the people and the elected officials of Colorado that we are preparing a settlement proposal that is responsive and that it will be a fair settlement that is good for both Colorado and the Tribes," said Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma Vice-Chairman Bill Blind. "The exact settlement process will be governed by federal law and will aim for the Tribes to be treated just like any other Colorado tribe- as would be the case if we had not been moved from Colorado."

"Congress and the American people have recognized that Indian gaming is a special tool to address the economic and community development needs within a particular tribe or reservation," Chairman Pedro stated. "The needs of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma are serious and we are confident that the fair-minded people of Colorado will recognize our settlement proposal's inherent evenhandedness."

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