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[00:00:00] **Speaker 1** D-A-N-I-E-L-L-E, last name, D-Long, D-E, capital L-O-N-G. And which tribe are you from? I'm with the Ho-Chunk Canadians.

[00:00:13] **Speaker 2** Okay, thank you so much. A powerful speech this morning. Coming out of it, what are some of your first thoughts?

[00:00:21] **Speaker 1** My first thoughts are, you know, his end note, you know, unifying, standing together in solidarity and moving forward together as tribal nations and as state representatives. respect and honor of our unique relationships between our nations.

[00:00:42] **Speaker 2** And in that unique relationship, he mentioned education quite a bit, and he mentioned UW-Madison offering free tuition to Native students, but he also mentioned students in reservations and in rural areas may be concerned or intimidated about coming to school in Madison. Do you think there should be more offerings like this to other campuses to meet Native students where they are?

[00:01:06] **Speaker 1** Absolutely, education is power and in order to empower all tribal individuals we need to best serve them as individuals. So college is sometimes a scary and threatening thought to think that you have to remove yourself from your family and your community and spread your wings and go to a large campus some place. But having that ability to stay within your community and continue to learn and be educated and bring that back to your community. or bring it out into, you know, here at the state capitol. So I think every opportunity we can provide for our students in seeking out higher education or even secondary education is beneficial in that tuition waiver. I want to thank UW for that is definitely appreciated and profound step towards educational equity.

[00:02:00] **Speaker 2** I also want to ask you again about education. He mentioned Act 31. Do you think that's enough to get out the knowledge that students need to understand Native American history, or should there be more?

[00:02:12] **Speaker 1** Act 31, I'm extremely grateful for. Wisconsin has been very progressive in making sure that our children get their rights within Indian education, but yes, there's always more to be done. I think, you know, so much of our tribal and cultural contributions need to be recognized in more classes than just history. We are alive. We are here today Thanks for watching! We have youth who deserve to see themselves in the curriculum, not only reflected in who their teachers or who their administration is or what their buildings look like, we need to have a wider curriculum that incorporates, you know, we as tribal nations have unique tribal relations with the state and our students and children are in every county except for two within the state as far as whole chunks are concerned. except for two counties. We have whole chunks living everywhere and going to public schools. So they deserve to see themselves not only in every subject matter, but in every school. And Act 31 has helped with that, but also providing for teachers, American Indian teachers to get.