



## WHAT IS WEALTH?



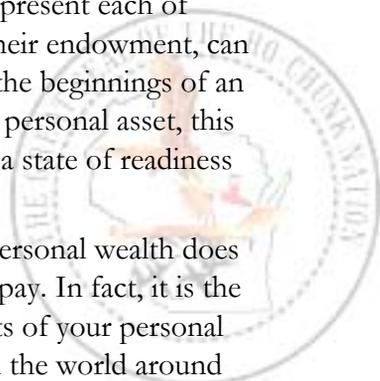
Robert Kiyosaki's national bestseller *Rich Dad Poor Dad* contrasts why some people are always struggling to make ends meet while others seem to naturally accumulate wealth. He explains that most people sink too much of their money into liabilities, rather than turning it into assets. Personal liabilities are expenses. These include new cars, new boats, fancy electronics, extravagant vacations: all that fun stuff.

Certainly, some liabilities are necessary for anyone living in the modern world. But too much non-invested spending will drag a person down into perpetual debt, creating a prisoner, hands on steel bars, who is always looking outside and waiting for the next paycheck.

**Personal assets**, on the other hand, are investments. They include stocks, bonds, mutual funds, real estate, and other purchases which will result in savings and future wealth. Burying the acorns in the fall means you will have oak trees come spring, provided that your seeds are planted in fertile soil. As in nature, the most fertile time of growth for personal assets is early on. The first investments of your life, the earliest acorns buried, build into the largest oaks of your later life. You can't build wealth after you retire. You need to invest your money and your time when you are young.

**Young adults of the Ho-Chunk Nation** have a tremendous opportunity. When they turn 18, the Children's Trust, their Nation's investment, will present each of them with a valuable, young oak sapling. This healthy little tree, their endowment, can be the start of the rest of their life. If it is used for Education, or the beginnings of an investment portfolio, or an investment in real estate, or any other personal asset, this money will help that young Ho-Chunk man or woman grow into a state of readiness for the world and all of the possibilities it contains.

**And too**, it can be said that wealth has a close, rhyming cousin. Personal wealth does not mean greed or wrongdoing or working too hard for too little pay. In fact, it is the opposite of all those things. For, it is absolutely true that the assets of your personal wealth are the cornerstones of your personal health. Even though the world around you is certain to change, the Ho-Chunk Children's Trust will help you invest in your total personal well-being.



# THE HO-CHUNK TRUST BULLETIN

How

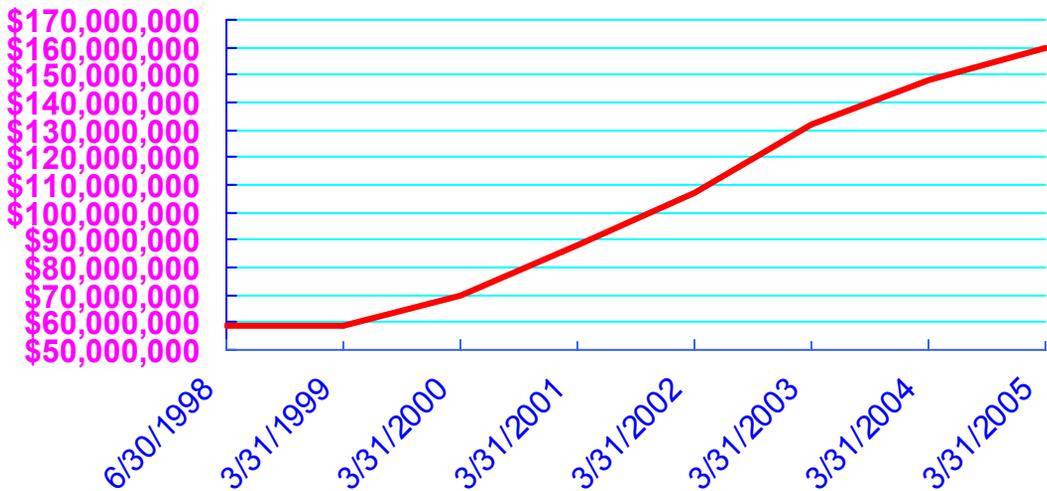
## has the Trust performed?

The Ho-Chunk Nation Minor's Trust Fund has continued to perform very well during our moderately growing economy. For the past 12 months, the portfolio's benchmark, the Lehman Brothers Intermediate/Corporate Index for A-rated or better bonds, was down -0.44%, while the Trust returned +0.24% before advisory fee. Even after subtracting the advisory fee, the Trust was still ahead of its index, with a net of advisory fee return of +0.15%.

The portfolio's holdings have been broadened to about 125 different bonds. This helps us avoid over-committing to any one sector of the bond market. Many of the new holdings are asset-backed securities, which means that the bond is secured by collateral, such as home mortgages. These asset-backed securities are attractive relative values at this time, in that most are rated AAA, but yet offer comparable yields to other corporate bond alternatives. A higher yielding, high quality portfolio is one of the strategies the manager is executing to provide total return from the portfolio. As always, we invest only in U.S. government bonds, as well as bonds issued by extremely creditworthy corporations. The Minor's Trust is well-positioned for the long term, and will continue to meet the needs of its participants for the years ahead.

## Historical asset growth: 6/30/98 to 3/31/05

Below is a graph of the Ho-Chunk Nation Minor's Trust Fund market value, since inception, *net of advisory fee*.



## Minor's Trust, actual performance 3/31/05 (12 mos.)

12 month return (net of advisory fee):

**0.15%**



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Trust Performance Update