



TURTLE MOUNTAIN BAND OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS

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For Immediate Release

March 16th 2020

TMBCI Tribe will resume Tuesday, 3/16/20 with business as usual. This decision was made after a group discussion of Tribal Government and a large majority of Tribal Directors. Followed by individual discussion with many of those same directors. This was not an easy decision and we all understand the concern in the community and by our tribal employees. We need to plan for long term strain on the Tribe with the hope of, short term remedies to the COVID-19 virus.

We hope that many employees who are affected by the announcement of school closers this week, took this day to plan for the short term/long term as the Tribe did. If, however you are unable and have exhausted resources, please contact your direct supervisor and they will in turn contact Tribal Human Resources for your options. We are currently conferring with our Federal and State partners on solutions to accommodate our employees and the community as a whole. In the event that the schools are closed beyond the five days, the Tribe will seek waivers for some of the limitations on leave.

As you are all aware, the situation concerning COVID-19 is constantly evolving and Tribes are forced to react daily, in some cases hourly. Our expectation is that the employees of the Tribe will continue to engage in preventative hygiene practices in the workplace and continue to practice social distancing. Please exercise your best judgment when choosing to engage in all daily activities. We as Tribal employees must lead by example.

If you are in the age range and experiencing any of the symptoms of COVID-19 you must inform your supervisor and they will again reach out to Human Resources for your options.

Directors are directed to contact Human resources with any of the employees concerns so that the Tribe has a count of how many employees will be out for the day or a longer period of time.

Tribal Government is working with not only our directors but many partners in the community and off to find the best solutions to this new threat. No decision is taken lightly nor are the concerns from the Turtle Mountain people. Expect daily updates on the measures being taken by the Tribe and other community partners. A communication plan is in development to streamline information in a timely manner.

For any other questions, please contact TMBCI Human Resource Department at 477-2631 or 477-2659