



Aaron A. Payment, MPA
Tribal Chairperson
“Representing All
Members Everywhere”

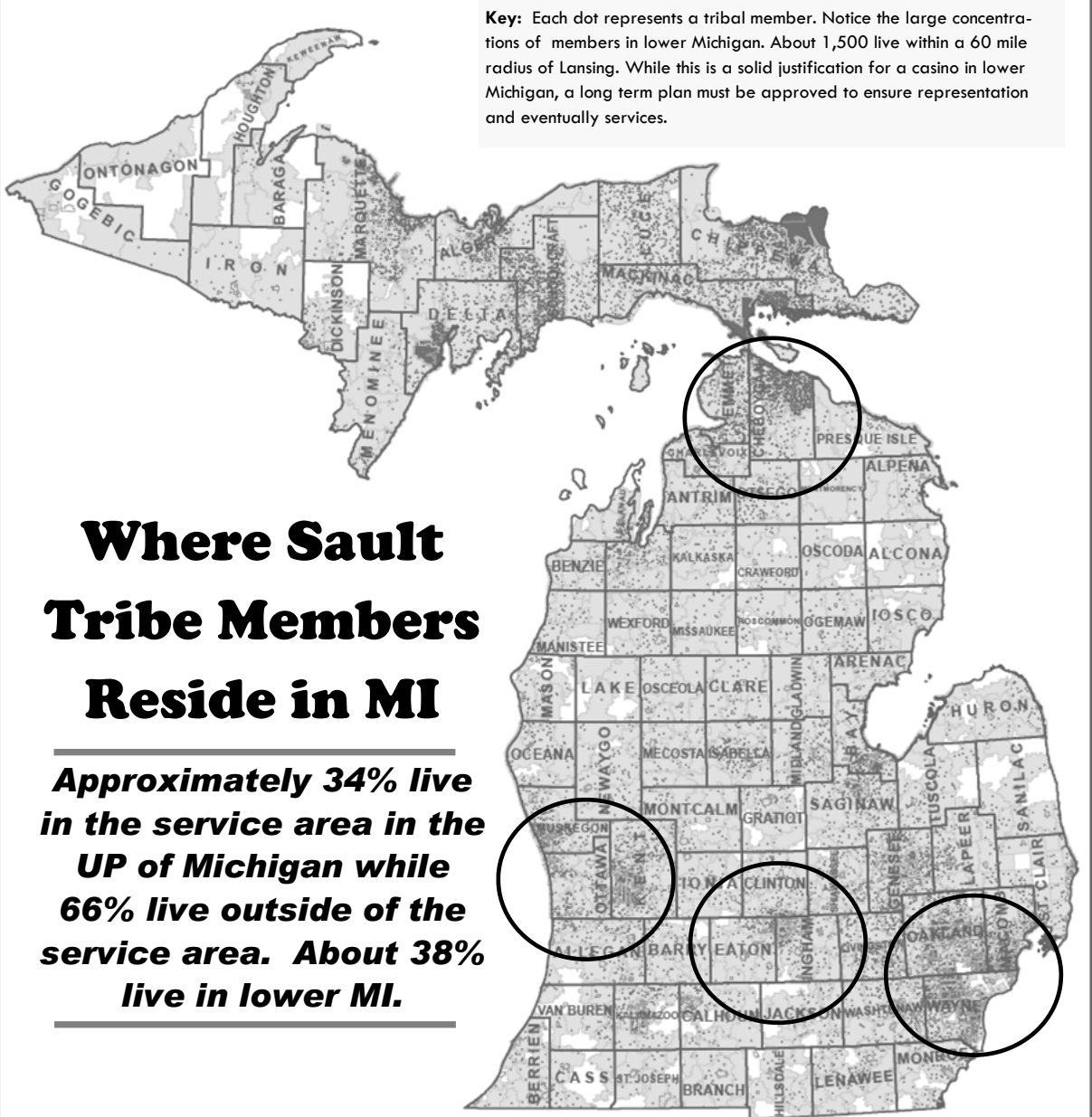
Last month, I published a survey link for you to weigh in on the direction of the Tribe. **The deadline is March 15** to be entered into the draw chance to win a \$1,000! However, I would still like to know your opinion. I am publishing the results so far with a total of 1,736 responses with representation from all units.

AND THE SURVEY SAYS...

MEMBERS EXPECT A PROGRESSIVE APPROACH

For now, I will present the results as of this date. I have the ability to run data reports per individual Units and will provide this information for your respective Unit Board reps. For now, the data is not disaggregated by Unit. What follows is the results with only a minimal explanation and analysis.

Above in Graph 1, you can see the percentage breakdown of those who took the survey by unit. Graph 2 shows an age breakdown of those who responded. Beyond basic demographics, Members were surveyed on their opinions of the general direction of the Tribe. Graph 3 shows some positive results with 6.9 percent strongly agreeing



Does Where You live Make You Less of a Member?

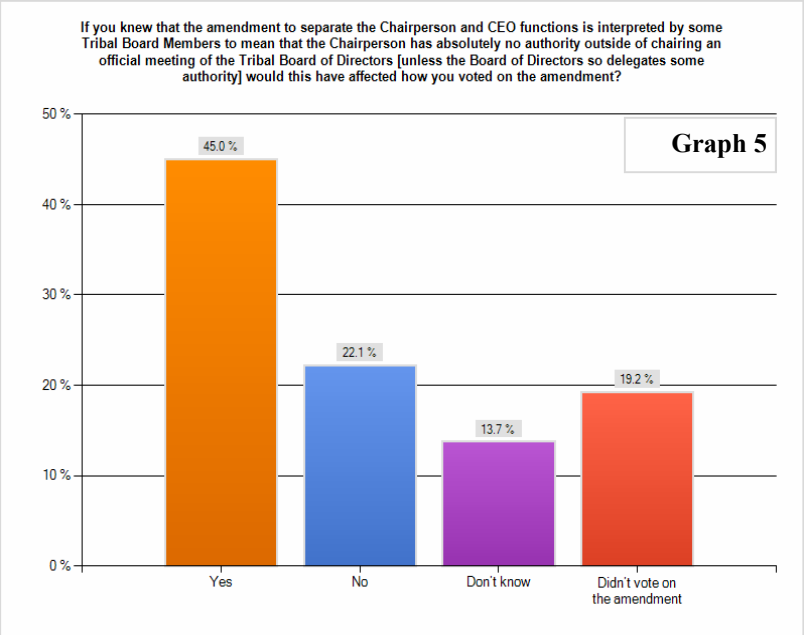
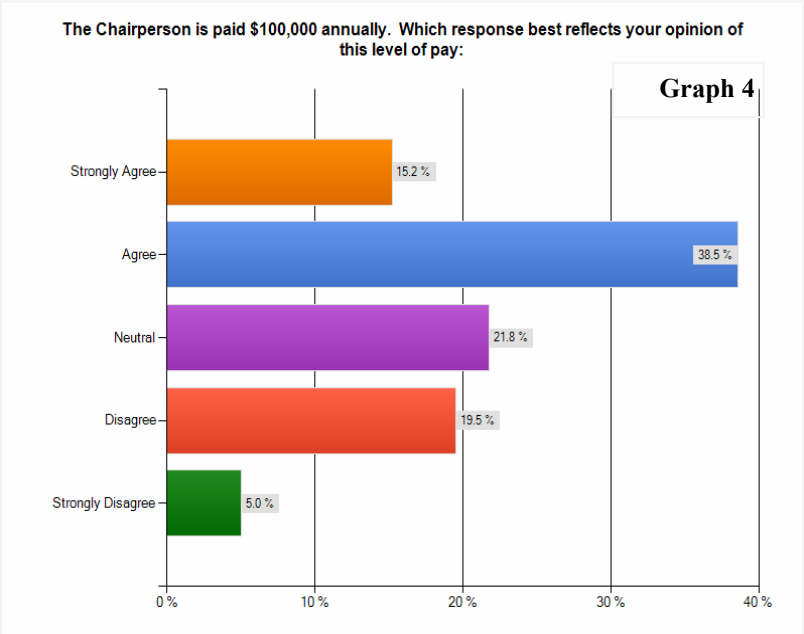
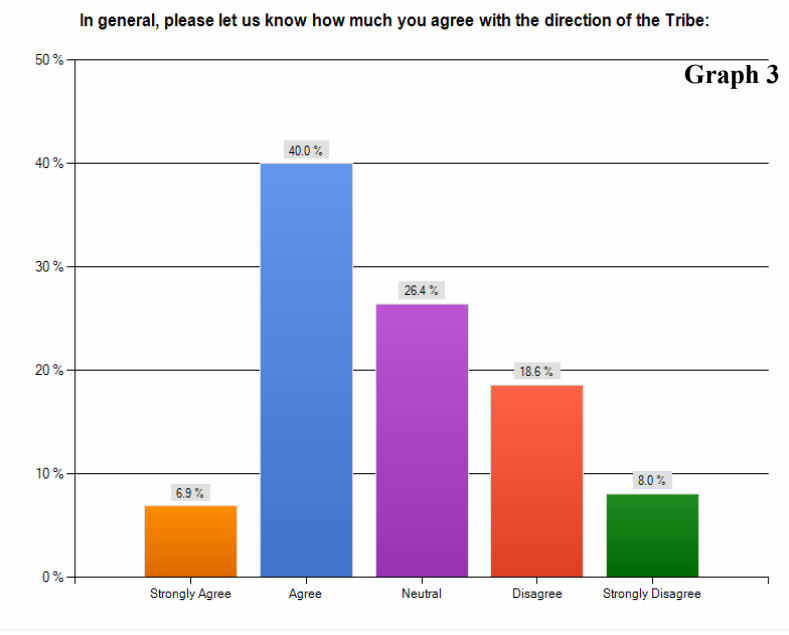
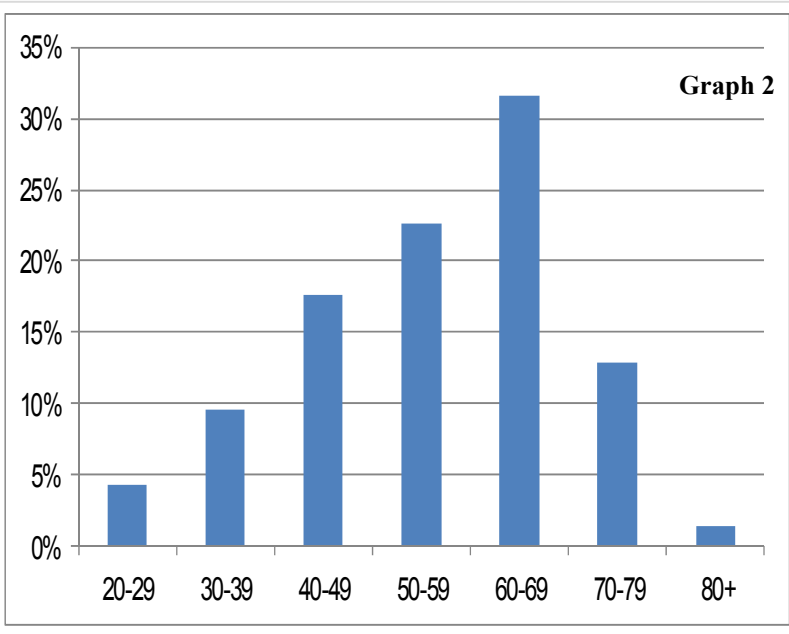
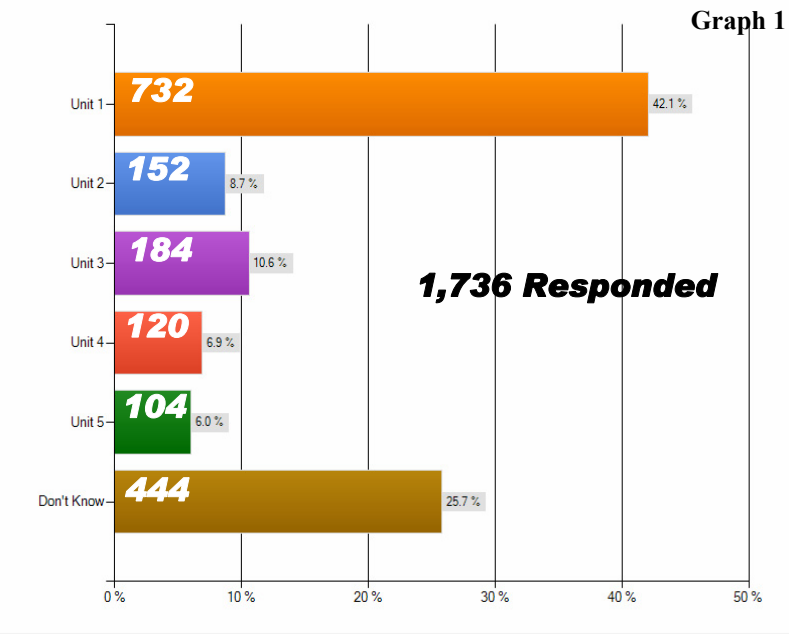
and 40 percent agreeing or a 46.9 percent total. Compared to the total who disagree (26.6 percent) the margin of those agree over those who disagree with the direction of the Tribe is greater than 20 percent.

Graph 4 shows that a majority (53.7 percent) support the Chairperson’s pay at the current rate while less than one-half of this (24.5 percent) disagree. This is called a “positive quotient” where the positives outweigh the negatives — in this case, two to one.

Regarding the question of how you voted in the 2010 Constitutional Amendment to separate the Chair and CEO functions, you get one result with 38 percent reporting they voted for the measure; 18.3 percent voting against, 17.2 percent who did not want to answer the question and 25.5 percent saying they did not vote. What is unusual is only a minority reporting they approved. With the large number of who said they would rather not say, this may suggest they did not understand the amendment question. This would reinforce widespread reports from a number of Members who said they did not understand the

question posed in the amendment. Graph 5 reinforces this notion. With 45 percent suggesting they did not realize the amendment

would strip the chair of any direct authority and render the Chairpersonship as serving at the pleasure of the board.



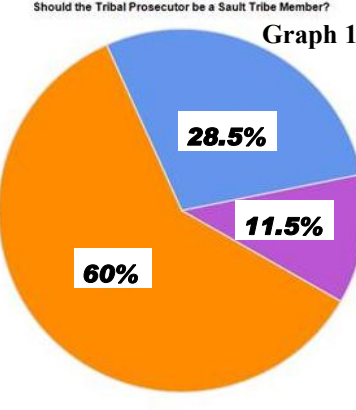
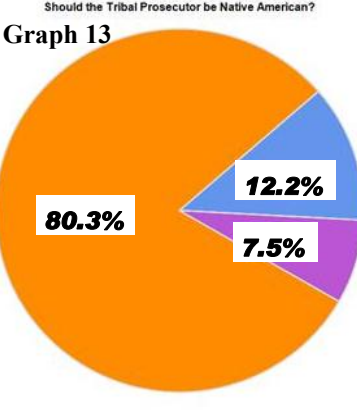
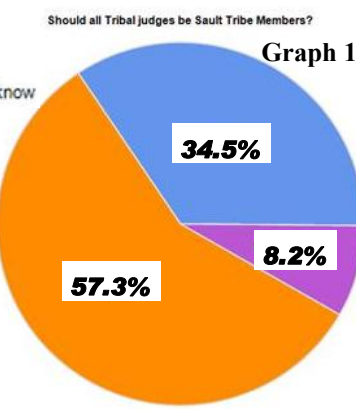
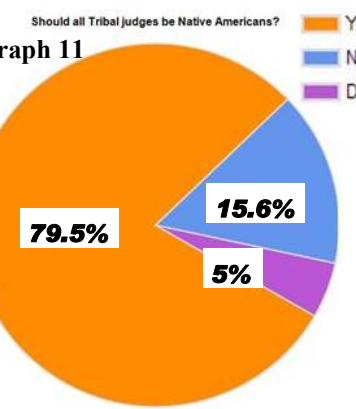
The following series of graphs deal with responses to questions related to the Tribal Constitutional amendment process. Graph 6 shows that our people recognize that we do not have a separation of powers in our Tribal Constitution. Over 60 percent see this. It also appears to matter to our Members with 85.7

percent reporting (Graph 7) that it matters to them and over 90 percent feel it is important (72.3 percent said very important and 18% said somewhat important). A very small 2.3 percent total said it was not important (Graph 8). Graph 9 reveals what elected Tribal officials should heed with a phenomenal 75.4

percent asserting that they will not vote to re-elect a seated Board Member if they do not support a separation of powers doctrine. So not only is it the right thing to do, it is also a politically wise thing to do.

Through the Constitutional review process, some Board Members have claimed to support a separation but that the Court should continue to serve under the Board. This is in stark contrast with the collective will of the Membership with just about 25 percent saying Tribal Judicial Staff should be hired or fired by the Board (Graph 10).

The Constitutional Review Committee has then wrestled with the idea to have elected judges. A subsequent question of who should be eligible to run was then posed. The results for Tribal Judge was that nearly 80 percent felt that judges should be Native American but about 60 percent concede that if they are not Sault Tribe, they would be satisfied if they are at least



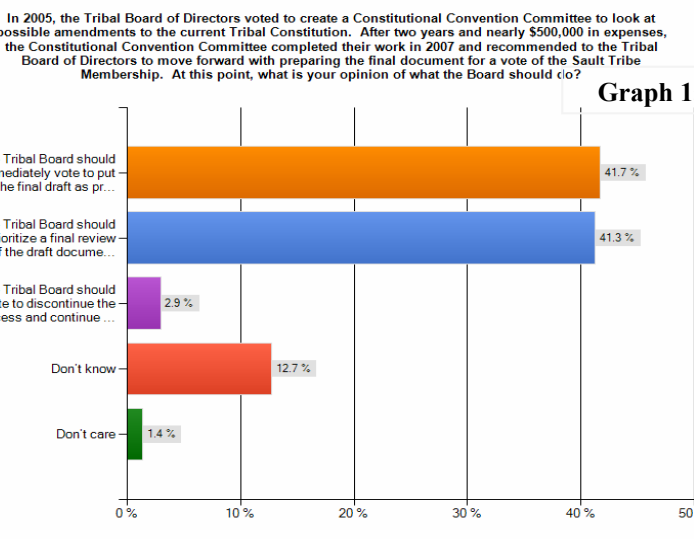
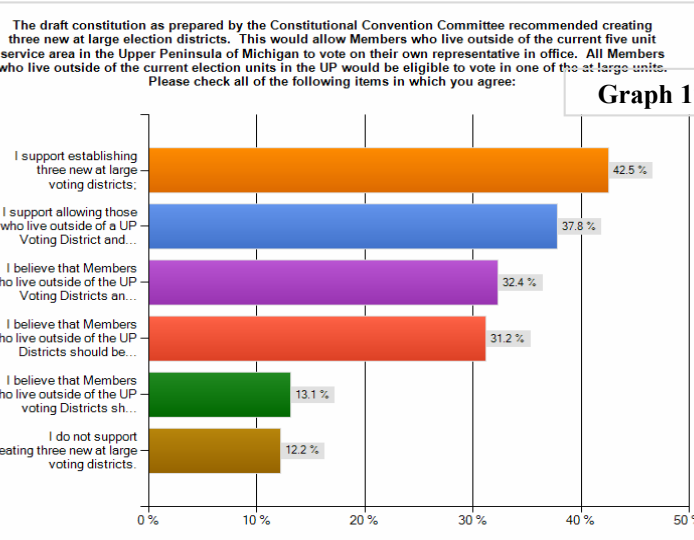
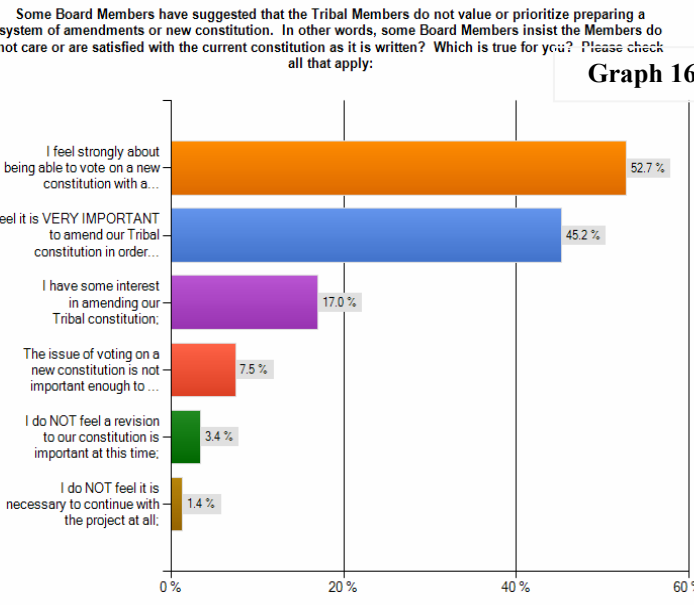
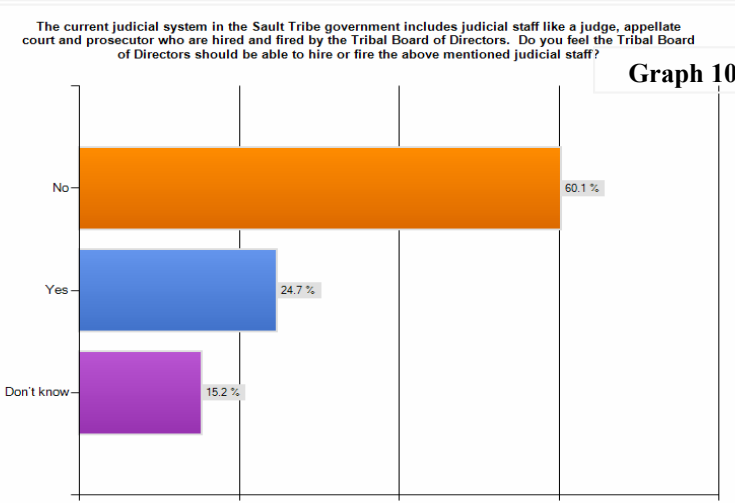
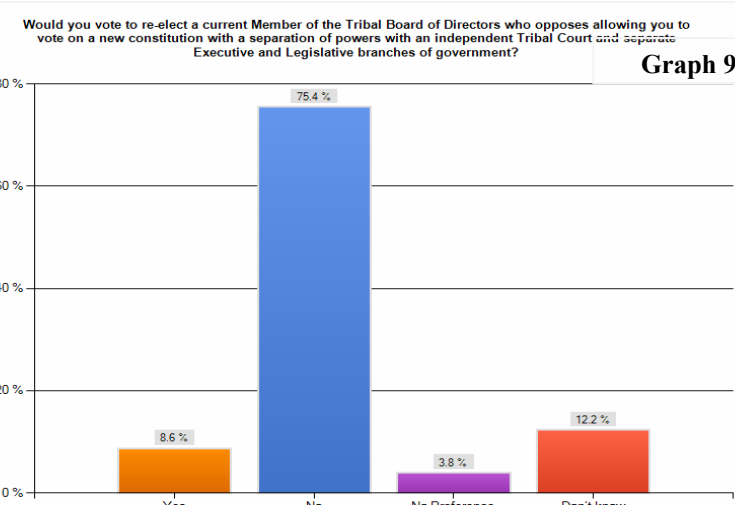
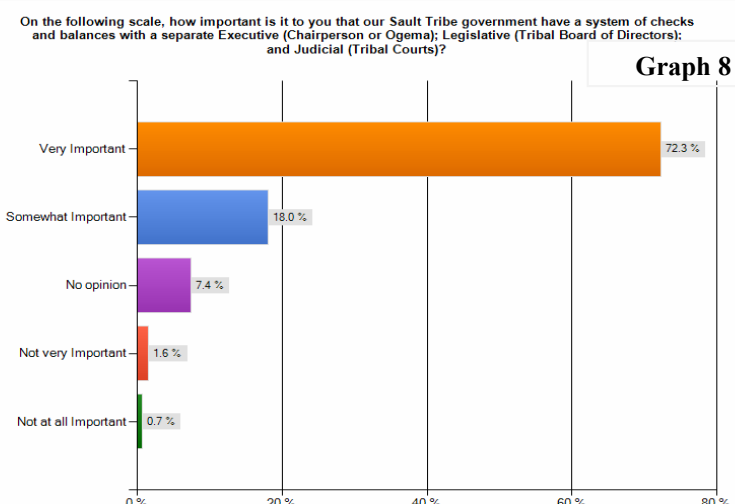
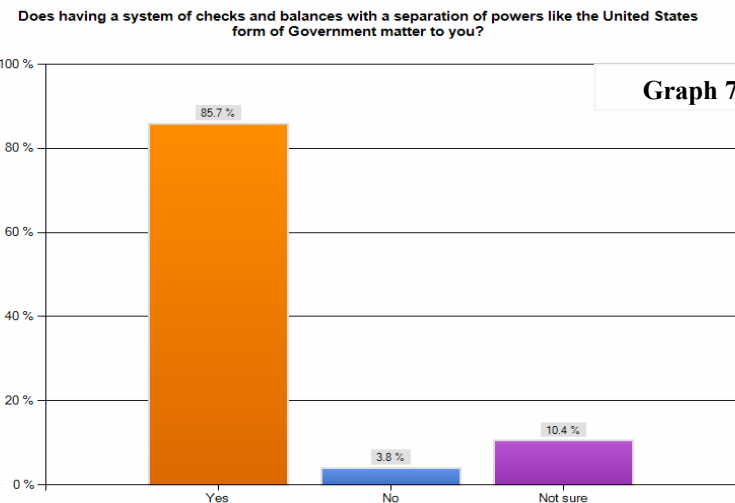
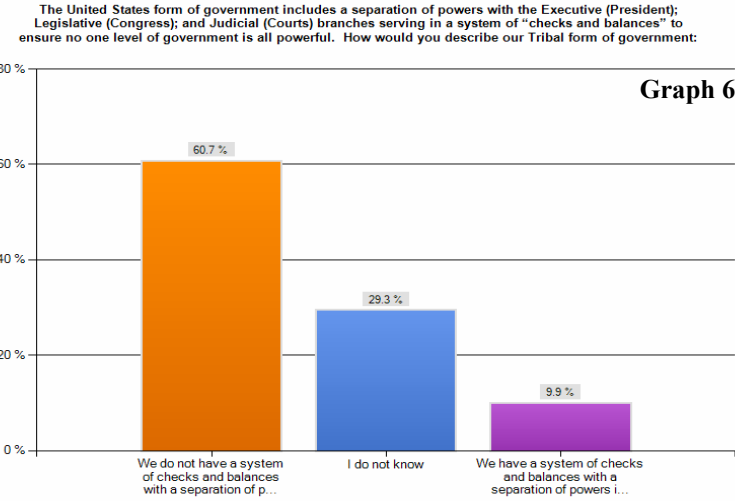
Native American in general. This is important to know as there may not currently be a cadre of Tribal Members who are attorneys who are interested in being either a judge or a prosecutor.

When asked how the Board should proceed with respect to how to move forward on the constitutional project (Graph 15), only 2.9 percent feel the process should be halted while the percentage who feel the document should simply be to put to a vote of the people “as is” versus a final mark us is virtually identical. Again, as an internal validity check, 53.7 percent said (Graph 16) they would not vote to re-elect a Board Member who denies voters the right to decide this issue.

Finally, there is strong support for creating one to three at large voting districts for Members who reside outside of the seven county service area of the UP of Michigan. As you can see on the map to the far left of where our people live, a greater percentage live in lower MI than in the voting districts. The Board members, the Constitutional Committee and the Elder Advisory Board are in agreement that at least one at large representative is needed. Graph 17 shows that there is support for allow those currently register in their unit of choice to remain registered there unless they so choose to register in an ‘at large’ district. Once they do, however, they would be locked in.

The deadline is March 15. Please go to the link below to fill out the survey. And you will receive instructions of how to enter to win a \$1,000. As usual, I am interested in your input. The new results will be presented to the Board and in a power point on the tribal website.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/>



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