

# Tribal updates



**DENNIS MCKELVIE, DIRECTOR,  
UNIT I**

I hope everyone had a merry Christmas and a happy new year and that everyone was able to spend them with their families.

The first area that I would like to give an update is the Sault Ste. Marie MidJim store. In mid December MidJim started the necessary replacements of their two gas tanks. The store is still open for cigarettes and convenience items. Normal gas operations are expected to be up and running by end of January. The total cost for this project replacement is \$557,000. It will take

MidJim 3.48 years to pay off the replacement costs of these tanks as the store only makes 12 cents for every gallon of gas sold.

The second area that I would like to discuss is treaty fishing. I received a call from a tribal fisherman who asked that I clarify a misconception regarding this program. The misconception being that the tribe gets a “cut” from the fishermen who pay for their licenses. There is a fee for the license holder to renew on a yearly basis but the fees collected do not cover the operational costs to administer the program.

Finally, I am happy to report that the tribe will have an outside firm conduct efficiency audits throughout several departments within the tribe to get a sampling of efficiencies and deficiencies within the tribal organization. Getting this information will help us maximize and more efficiently use our assets and manpower. I will give more details of the audit when it's completed.

Please feel free to contact me at (906) 632-7267 or (906) 203-6698 with any issues or questions you may have.