

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Sault Tribe government extends temporary closure to May 18

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians' government extended its temporary closure of all governmental offices on April 27, with a planned reopen date of May 18. The closure began March 23 and has been extended twice. Kewadin Casinos has also extended its closure until May 15.

The tribe's highest priority is the safety of its employees and community members during the COVID-19 pandemic. The tribal Board of Directors declared a state of emergency March 17 and gave the tribe's Executive Director, Casino CEO and EDC Director temporary powers, including closures, "that are deemed essential to the protection of the public." On March 24, the board authorized \$5.5 million in Contract Support Cost Settlement Funds be used for team member wages during the state of emergency.

All personnel except essential services will stay at home to help limit the spread of the coronavirus. Tribal team members' emergency pay will continue with the exception of seasonal team members and those who may be given lay-off status. Team members should contact their supervisors with any questions.

Please check with the tribe's official website saulttribe.com and follow the tribe's official Facebook page @saulttribe for news and updates and helpful posts during the emergency shutdown. See the latest Sault Tribe newspaper at saulttribe.com under Newsroom.

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