WHITE EARTH RESERVATION

CHAIRMAN Michael Fairbanks **SECRETARY-TREASURER** Leonard Alan Roy
DISTRICT I Raymond Auginaush, Sr. **DISTRICT II** Kathy Goodwin **DISTRICT III** Eugene "Umsy" Tibbetts

Attention all,

I have seen many reports regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. This outbreak has spread worldwide with more cases evolving each day across the nation and in Minnesota.

What we know:
The Coronavirus (COVID-19) is a respiratory illness that is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person contact, as well as touching contaminated surfaces or objects. Below are simple preventative actions you can take to help prevent the spread of this virus, including:

1. Avoid close contact with people who are sick (keep a distance of about six (6) feet)
2. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
3. Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol
4. If you are sick, stay home to rest and get well
5. Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough/sneeze or use the inside of your elbow
6. Clean AND disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily; this includes counters, doorknobs, light switches, bathrooms, etc.

What we have done so far:
Below are preparedness measures/actions we are taking to lessen the impact of the virus for our employees and communities:

- Development and training of a COVID-19 screening flow chart, training, and collaboration with White Earth entities
- Daily updates from the White Earth Health Division based upon the most recent CDC information
- The White Earth Emergency Management Team will continue collaboration efforts between various government health departments and all state/regional governments to coordinate services and responses
- Monitor scheduled out-of-state travel; no new out-of-state travel requests; monitor in-state travel
- Distribute COVID-19 prevention information and updates
- All programs will work closely with the Emergency Management Team to deploy staff and resources to assist if an event or emergency is declared
- Development of a policy that addresses paid time off for employees who may be quarantined
- Identification of remote work sites to ensure services continue if a mandatory quarantine is enacted by the White Earth Reservation Business Committee during a reservation-wide state of emergency
- Development of cultural medicines and practices for our elders regarding staying healthy and combating viruses

I understand and appreciate the concern you all may have regarding this outbreak. Furthermore, I wish to reassure everyone that my fellow RBC members and I are working proactively to plan for the continued health and welfare for our people in this outbreak. If anyone has any questions or concerns about our COVID-19 plan, please contact my office.

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Michael A. Fairbanks
Chairman

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