New Tax Officer & Reminders

Manido Giizis (Spirit Moon)
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Aanii fellow tribal members,
You now have a new, yet familiar face in the Tax Office – Valerie Chandler. As some of you already know, our long-time Tax Officer, Barb Czarnecki, retired on October 1, 2015. Her many years of service is much appreciated! After interviewing for the position, I officially started November 23, 2015.

Many of you are already familiar with me as the Historic Preservation Coordinator and previously from the Accounting department. I am a Little River tribal member and am proud to say that I have been an employee of our Tribe since October 1996. Transferring into my new position has been exciting and at times overwhelming with all of the information, procedures, and reports, but I'm confident that with time, it will all flow smoothly.

As tax season approaches, below are some friendly reminders and information to be aware of for 2016:

Tax-Exempt Quotas

Tax-exempt motor fuel monthly limit is 175 gallons per Tribal member.
Tax-exempt cigarette monthly limit is 25 packs per Tribal member.

Income Tax Reminder: Per Capita Payments are Taxable

The tribe is obligated to notify you that Per capita payments are subject to federal taxation. Per capita is taxable income and the taxes assessed depend on your income bracket and location. The payments may be subject to state tax if you do not live in the tribal tax agreement area. All Per capita payments will be reported on the appropriate tax form and mailed to you from the Accounting office by January 31st. We encourage you to contact a tax preparer for further tax questions.

Michigan Income Tax Reminder
Per capita payments are subject to state tax if you do not live in the tribal tax agreement area. Per capita payments are includable in household income for Michigan taxpayers filing for property tax and/or home heating credits.

Resident Tribal Members Can File For Annual Sales Tax Refund
If you are a Resident Tribal Member (living within the tax agreement area and registered with the Tax Office) you can receive a sales tax refund from the State of Michigan. There is no need to send in receipts. The refund is based on a percentage of the Resident Tribal Member's income. The Tax Office will be mailing Form 4013 to all Resident Tribal Members by the end of January. Please call the Tax Office at (231) 723-8288, ext. 6874 if you are a Resident Tribal Member and do not receive Form 4013 for the Resident Tribal Member Annual Sales Tax Credit by the 1st of February.

It's Time to Check your W-4 Status

Income tax time is a good time to check your W-4 withholding amounts. If you owe state or federal income tax on your return, you may want to reduce your exemptions or have additional tax withheld for 2016. If you're getting a refund, you may want to increase your exemptions.

It's also a good time to check your beneficiary designations, update your physical and mailing address if necessary, update and/or register your motor vehicle(s) for the tax-exempt motor fuel program, and make sure all of your other important documents are up-to-date.

Remember, forms that may be needed can be found on the Tribe's website or simply by calling or stopping by the government offices.

Miigwech,
Valerie Chandler
Staff Accountant / Tax Officer

LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS
TRIBAL COUNCIL
MEETING SCHEDULE FOR THE YEAR 2016

Regular Tribal Council Meetings have been established for every Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. Departmental Reports and Minutes of various entities of the Tribe will be accepted during the third meeting of each month.

ALL REGULAR MEETINGS SHALL BE HELD AT THE GOVERNMENT CENTER LODGE

January 06	May 04	September 07
January 13	May 11	September 14
January 20	May 18	September 21
January 27	May 25	September 28
February 03	June 01	October 05
February 10	June 08	October 12
February 17	June 15	October 19
February 24	June 22	October 26
March 02	July 06	November 02
March 09	July 13	November 09
March 16	July 20	November 16
March 23	July 27	November 30
April 06	August 03	December 07
April 13	August 10	December 14
April 20	August 17	December 21
April 27	August 24	