

STATE OF THE TRIBE ADDRESS

January 29, 2011

SEC&R – Entertainment Hall

Good morning and welcome to the State of the Tribe Address. Tribal Council finds itself looking forward to another year with very cautious optimism. We have met some challenges over the past year and remain confident that our future is bright and secure. We will, however, continue to need your understanding and patience as we work towards stabilizing our per-capita accounts. Our Treasurer, Sheila Leauteaux, will be coming up shortly to review our trust accounts and their current status.

We have had some very monumental events since our last time together. Ziibiwing, on behalf of the Tribe, was able to repatriate over 140 individual and family remains that had been collected and held by Central Michigan University and other institutions from around our region. This event is one of the first of its kind in Michigan and our appreciation was conveyed to Central Michigan University appropriately for taking another step forward with respect and reverence for our ancestors.

In early December 2010, the UAW announced that it was discontinuing its current attempt to organize the Soaring Eagle

Casino & Resort due to not having the support needed to win their campaign. Although this was very good news, we must remain committed to staving off these types of efforts and continue to maintain that we as a sovereign tribe are exempt from union rules and requirements.

On December 17, 2010, the Honorable Thomas Ludington, Judge of the Eastern District of Michigan ruled from the bench to accept settlement agreements on several key topics contained within the boundary litigation satisfying that suit. These agreements have measurable benefits to the Tribal community. We will hear from our Legal Council on these agreements in more detail further down on our agenda.

There have been several attempts over the years from other Tribal reservations to attempt to establish gaming operations within our aboriginal lands. They are working very hard to establish recognition for their false claims on Indian land settlements. Your Tribal Council is working with like minded groups to combat these

attempts and we will continue work in the Nations Capital to further define the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act and its intent for Indian and trust lands with regard to gaming.

Tribal Council is working with the facilities committee to complete contracts with the Saginaw Midland Water Authority that will enable us to connect to the raw fresh water line that passes adjacent to the Saganing Eagles Landing Casino. This will allow us to develop the infrastructure needed to expand our efforts in Saganing. Saganing Eagles Landing Casino has the potential for further growth and further revenue generation. Tribal Council is hopeful that we will be able to begin construction on those infrastructure components this spring.

Migizi is currently working with other departments to plan the groundbreaking for the Soaring Eagle Inn Water Park. We will be able to announce that date toward the end of winter and plan on making that event something to remember. The water park will

bring a completely different offering to Mid-Michigan and make our area more of a destination selection for most families. Other holdings within the umbrella of Migizi are holding their own and in some cases becoming profitable once more. We will work directly with their efforts to ensure policy and business planning remains on its corrective course. Jennifer Turner, our CEO for Migizi is here today and will provide a brief update for you shortly.

We are very pleased to announce to you today that the Eagle Federal Credit Union will be opening its doors on February 7th with operating hours from 9-5 Monday through Thursday, 8-6 on Friday with Saturday drive through service only from 9-12 noon and can be reached by calling (989) 775-5070. Eagle Federal Credit Union is the only Chartered Credit Union to be opened with full financial services. The benefits to the membership and associates alike will be tailored made banking, lower interest rates and less restrictive criteria for loan approvals. The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe is

proud to be a member and is looking forward to a very productive relationship with Eagle Federal Credit Union.

In closing I would like to remind every one that the Soaring Eagle Casino and the Saganing Eagles Landing Casino have partnered with the Tribe to bring to you the 1st Annual “Battle on the Bay”, a winter festival with snowmobile poker run, ice golf, snowmobile powder and ice drag racing along with many other attractions this February 12th and 13th, 2011 at Eagle Bay Marina off of Saga too road in Standish, Michigan. Please try to join us for this 1st ever event.

Remember “working together we have a future”. Thank you very much.