



ZIIBIWING CENTER
of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways

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The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan to Repatriate Ancestral Human Remains from Harvard University's Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology

Mt. Pleasant, Michigan – The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan and its Ziibiwing Cultural Society (Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways), in cooperation with five other Authorized Transfer Recipient Tribes (Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomis Indians – Gun Lake Tribe, Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi, Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians, and Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians), will lead an effort for the disposition of the physical human remains of 98 Native American individuals under 43 C.F.R. § 10.11 (c) (ii) from Harvard University's Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology in Cambridge, Mass. The Native American ancestral remains originate from the Michigan Counties of Alpena, Berrien, Kent, Newaygo, Saint Clair, Washtenaw, and Wayne, as well as one Unknown site. Some of the ancestors have been at Harvard University since as early as 1869. The eight Notices of Inventory Completion for the 98 ancestors posted to the Federal Register on October 3, 2016.

The Ziibiwing Cultural Society has been working diligently on behalf of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan, and in cooperation with the Michigan Anishinabek Cultural Preservation & Repatriation Alliance, to bring home ancestors and their associated funerary objects from the numerous museums, universities, and institutions across the country since the passage of the 1990 Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA).

NAGPRA requires museums and federal agencies to inventory and identify Native American human remains and cultural items in their collections and to consult with Federally-recognized Indian tribes, and Native Hawaiian organizations regarding the return of these objects to descendants or tribes and organizations.

"As a result of NAGPRA, more than 10,000 Native American human remains, one million funerary objects, and thousands of sacred objects have been united with tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations," said National Park Service Director Jonathan B. Jarvis.

A delegation from the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan will drive to Harvard University on Tuesday, November 8; and the other Michigan Tribal representatives will fly to Boston on November 9. The Transfer of Possession between the Michigan Tribes and Harvard University will take place on the afternoon of November 9. The planned repatriation and reburials will be executed in collaboration with Harvard University's Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology and the Michigan Anishinaabek Cultural Preservation & Repatriation Alliance.

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan invites the interested public to join with us for the *Recommitment to the Earth Ceremony* for 51 ancestors (originating from Alpena and Saint Clair Counties) to be held on Saturday, November 12 at 12pm in the Tribe's Nibokaan Ancestral Cemetery. The cemetery was established in 1995 for the explicit purpose of reburying repatriated Native American ancestral human remains and associated funerary objects. The Nibokaan Cemetery is located on the Saginaw Chippewa's Isabella Indian Reservation, behind the Tribal Campground located at 7525 East Tomah Rd., Mt. Pleasant, Mich. A *Journey Feast* to conclude the ancestral ceremonies and protocols will be held at 1pm on Saturday, November 12 at the Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways, 6650 East Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, Mich.

The reburials for the remaining 47 ancestors will be undertaken by the other five Authorized Transfer Recipient Tribes and will be within their respective Tribal territories. All repatriation activities are being supported by a grant from the Department of Interior, National Park Service, National NAGPRA Program.

The Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeway's in Mount Pleasant, Mich. is the Midwest's Premier American Indian Museum. Established in 2004, the Ziibiwing Center is a distinctive treasure created to provide an enriched, diversified and culturally relevant educational experience through its award-winning Diba Jimooyung (Telling Our Story) permanent exhibit, changing exhibits, research center, Ojibwe language immersion room, gift shop, and meeting rooms. The Ziibiwing Center is a non-profit cultural center and museum belonging to the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan who also owns the Soaring Eagle Casino and Resort, Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel, and Saganing Eagles Landing Casino located in Standish, Mich.

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TO HONOR & RESPECT

ANISHINABE ANCESTRAL REPATRIATION OBSERVANCE

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan and its Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways will recommit to the earth the ancestral human remains of 51 Native American individuals from Harvard University's Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology.

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan, in cooperation with five other Authorized Transfer Recipient Tribes (Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi Indians – Gun Lake Tribe, Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi, Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians, and Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians), will lead an effort for the disposition under 43 C.F.R. § 10.11 (c) (ii) from Harvard University's Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology and reburial of the physical human remains of 98 Native American individuals. The Native American ancestral remains originate from the Michigan Counties of Alpena, Berrien, Kent, Newaygo, Saint Clair, Washtenaw, and Wayne, as well as one Unknown site. The planned repatriation and reburials will be executed in collaboration with Harvard University's Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology and the Michigan Anishinabek Cultural Preservation & Repatriation Alliance. The eight Notices of Inventory Completion posted to the Federal Register on October 3, 2016.

"PREPARING FOR THE JOURNEY"

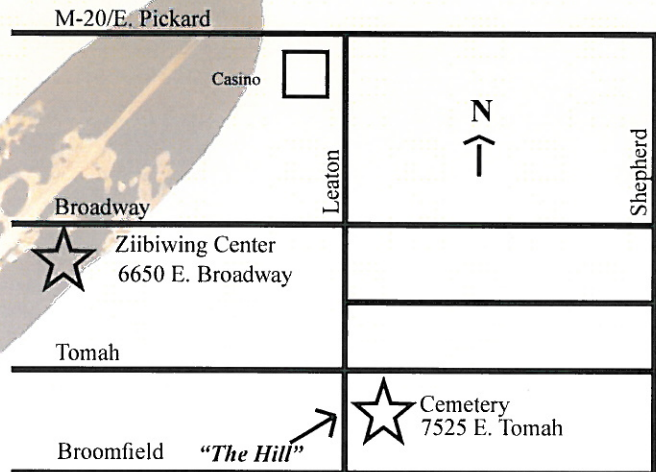
Saturday, November 12, 2016 • 10am
Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways
 6650 East Broadway • Mt. Pleasant, Michigan
Witness the final preparations and ceremonial protocols for the ancestors.

"RECOMMITMENT TO THE EARTH"

Saturday, November 12, 2016 • 12pm
Nibokaan Ancestral Cemetery
 7525 East Tomah Rd. • Mt. Pleasant, Michigan
The interested public is invited to attend.

"JOURNEY FEAST"

Saturday, November 12, 2016 • 1pm
Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways
 6650 East Broadway • Mt. Pleasant, Michigan
A Journey Feast will conclude the ancestral protocols.



**NOTTAWASEPPI HURON
 BAND OF THE POTAWATOMI**
A FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED TRIBAL GOVERNMENT



**ZIIBIWING
 CENTER**

For More Information Contact: Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways • William Johnson or Shannon Martin
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THE MIDWEST'S PREMIER AMERICAN INDIAN MUSEUM
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