



Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation

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President Bernadine Burnette
Council Member Gerald Doka

Vice President Paul J. Russell
Council Member Ruben Balderas

Treasurer Pamela Mott
Council Secretary Verlene Enos

March 18, 2020

Dear Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation Tribal and Community Members,

Today, March 18, 2020, after careful consideration and evaluation of the evolving concerns of the global coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the Tribal Council declared a state of emergency and approved by resolutions to temporarily close for two weeks (14 days) the We-Ko-Pa Casino Resort and Tribal Government with the exception of essential personnel and services for our tribal and community members. Essential personnel and services include, but are not limited to, the Nation's Fire Department, Police Department, Wassaja Family Services, Wassaja Memorial Health Center/Clinic as well as certain personnel in the Finance Department, Human Resources (HR) and Community and Economic Development Division (CEDD).

The temporary closure of the We-Ko-Pa Casino Resort began today, March 18, and the Tribal Government begins tomorrow, March 19, 2020, with an anticipated reopening on April 2, 2020 for both the Casino Resort and Tribal Government. Employees are expected to be available to return to work on April 2, 2020. Please know this is all subject to change as the COVID 19 pandemic continues to evolve.

The Tribal Council's goal in implementing these temporary closures is to adhere to recommendations by public health officials to practice "social distancing" and other responsible hygiene practices. So, please be safe and care for yourself and family members by limiting your exposure to others, avoid social gatherings and crowds, wash your hands frequently with soap and supplement with alcohol-based hand sanitizer, and avoid persons known to be exhibiting symptoms consistent with the COVID-19, and discourage travel (out of state and in state) to areas that are associated with high incidence of COVID-19.

Your health and safety is our main priority. If you become ill or are exposed to the coronavirus, please seek medical attention as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, please call General Manager, Phil Dorchester, at (480) 266-4616.

Sincerely,

Bernadine Burnette, President
Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation

Cc: FMYN Tribal Council

Diandra Benally, General Counsel