Saturday, February 27, 2021

Tribal Citizens,

The Minor’s Trust Fund accounts are managed by Providence First Trust Company and the funds are invested by Edward Jones Financial. Providence First, our trustee, is responsible for the accounting of the portfolio and record keeping for each individual account.

My office has confirmed with our Edward Jones representative all of the deposits for the 2020 per capita year were properly made to Edward Jones. This is what made it possible for the Tribes to distribute our August Gaming Per Capita checks to all adults ages 18 and older. The remaining funds, held by Edward Jones, are what make up the minors share of the Net Gaming Revenue and are added to the minor’s trust accounts and invested. Our Edward Jones representative confirmed that for the 2020 per capita year, that they have $1.6 million dollars in minors trust funds that will be invested.

Due to an oversight, limited work hours/days, and limited staff caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the $1.6 million dollars in the minor’s trust funds that are currently held by Edward Jones were not added to the minor’s trust funds in August/September like they normally would.

However, the Tribes have forwarded the information needed by Providence that will allow Edward Jones to deposit the money into the minor’s trust accounts. Additionally, the minor’s share of the 2020 per capita monies will be reflected on each of their semi-annual statements that they will receive from Providence in July 2021.
Unfortunately, we are in an election year and there will be a lot of political post and assumptions made on social media leading up to the election that simply are not true. My administration has worked tirelessly to bring legitimacy back to the Tribes and despite the COVID-19 pandemic and a mass shortage of staff, we have continued to keep up with providing essential services to all of our tribal members.

My office would be happy to conduct a Minor’s Trust informational meeting to answer any concerns that tribal citizens have about the trust accounts.

We welcome your comments and suggestions not only on this statement but on all communications you receive throughout the year.

Hohóú/Né-á’eše!

Gov. Reggie Wassana