



MILLE LACS BAND OF OJIBWE

Executive Branch of Tribal Government

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2021-01

REPLACING EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-05 WITH A STAY AT HOME RECOMMENDATION AND AUTHORIZING GRADUAL RESTORATION OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES AND PUBLIC ACCESS UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS

Section 1. Findings

The Chief Executive finds and determines that:

- (a) the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Bands of Chippewa Indians is in a State of Emergency pursuant to Executive Order 2020-03 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, which remains in effect;
- (b) the Band Assembly passed emergency legislation amending Title 27, Section 1 of Band Statutes, authorizing the Chief Executive to "(f) control the movement of persons subject to the jurisdiction of the Band on all lands under the territorial jurisdiction of the Band" only when the Band is in a State of Emergency.
- (c) On March 25, 2020, the Chief Executive signed Executive Order 2020-05 which provides "A Stay At Home Order for all Persons Enrolled with the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Band of Chippewa Indians or any other Federally recognized Tribe."
- (d) Executive Order 2020-05 provides that "All persons enrolled with the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Band of Chippewa Indians or any other federally-recognized tribe residing within the territorial jurisdiction of the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Bands of Chippewa Indians are ordered to stay at home or place of residence" except to engage in allowable activities outlined in the Executive Order.
- (e) Allowable activities under Executive Order 2020-05 included but were not limited to obtaining necessary supplies and services for family or household members and pets; supplies and equipment needed to work from home; products necessary to maintain safety and essential home maintenance; activities essential for the health and safety of family, household members and pets; care for a family member, friend or pet in another household residence including transporting others for health or emergency services; engaging in outdoor exercise activities.
- (f) Executive Orders 2020-03 and 2020-05 provided the foundational basis for the Tribal Emergency Response Committee's ("TERC") actions intended to prevent community spread of COVID-19 by means which included restricting public access to government facilities except under certain specific circumstances; implementing a reduction-in-force through furlough; temporarily closing certain offices and issuing new hours of operation with enhanced safety restrictions; and taking other actions deemed necessary to protect the public health and well-being.
- (g) New safety procedures including entry to public buildings, restricting the number of persons allowed in certain areas, requiring the wearing of masks in public buildings and other Band facilities and businesses, limiting the number of persons allowed to gather in one space, renovation of work spaces to protect employees and numerous other safety restrictions implemented by the TERC and individual departments are now in place.
- (h) The TERC has determined that departments have made sufficient preparations and should be allowed to begin restoring more regular hours and regular scope of operations, gradually restoring staffing levels and gradually increasing public access to government facilities.

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Page 1 of 2

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Section 2. Sources of Authority

The Chief Executive issues this executive order pursuant to 4 MLBSA § 6(e) and 27 MLBSA § 4.

Section 3. Activities Outside of Home and Government Operations

- a) Executive Order 2020-05, which provided that “[a]ll persons enrolled with the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Band of Chippewa Indians or any other federally-recognized tribe residing within the territorial jurisdiction of the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Bands of Chippewa Indians are ordered to stay at home or place of residence” except to engage in specific activities is hereby lifted and replaced by this Executive Order 2021-01.
- b) All persons enrolled with the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Band of Chippewa Indians or any other federally-recognized tribe residing within the territorial jurisdiction of the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Band of Chippewa Indians are **encouraged** to continue remaining at home or place of residence, **whenever possible**, so as to minimize community spread of COVID-19.
- c) All departments within Band government which are prepared to gradually expand hours and scope of operation, staffing levels, reinstate specific services that had to be temporarily halted and begin allowing public access to government buildings are hereby authorized to do so, provided that strict COVID-19 Health and Safety Procedures are implemented, posted for the public and strictly adhered to and enforced.
- d) Each department’s COVID-19 Health and Safety Procedures must be reviewed and approved by the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Commissioner of Health and Human Services in advance of any changes going into effect as authorized by this executive order.
- e) The Commissioner of Health and Human Services is authorized to require and enforce additional safety procedures for any Band department, office or business in order to protect the health and safety of Band Members.

Section 4. Special Circumstances

- (a) This executive order does not apply to:
 - (1) **The Assisted Living Units (ALU) Facilities.** Restrictions remain in place for Mille Lacs Band Assisted Living Unit facilities. All previous restrictions on public access to Mille Lacs Band ALU’s remain in place. The Commissioner of Health and Human Services is hereby authorized with sole authority and discretion to authorize any changes to current restrictions specific to ALU’s.
 - (2) **Mino Bimaadiziwin:** Current restrictions on public access to Mino Bimaadiziwin remain in force. The Commissioner of Health and Human Services has sole authority and discretion to authorize changes to public access restrictions at this facility.

Section 5. Effective Date and Duration of Executive Order

This executive order shall effectuate on Wednesday, February 4th, 2021 at 11:59 a.m. and remain in effect until rescinded by subsequent executive order or termination of the current state of emergency.

Dated this 4th Day of February 2021



Official Seal of the Band

Melanie Benjamin
Chief Executive Melanie Benjamin