



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KBIC Tribal Council Holds Reorganizational Meeting, Elects 2025 Executive Board

Baraga, MI — The Keweenaw Bay Indian Community (KBIC) Tribal Council held its reorganizational meeting on January 4, 2025. During the meeting, the Council certified the election results and welcomed newly elected officials, including Chief Judge Violet Friisvall Ayres and Council Members Tony Loonsfoot, Elizabeth “Liz” Julio, Sam Loonsfoot, Jeremy T. Hebert, and Sue Ellen “Susie” Elmblad. Following the swearing-in ceremony, the Council elected the Executive Board for 2025.

The 2025 KBIC Executive Board is as follows:

- President: Robert "RD" Curtis, Jr.
- Vice President: Everett Ekdahl, Jr.
- Secretary: Sam Loonsfoot
- Assistant Secretary: Elizabeth "Liz" Julio
- Treasurer: Theodore "Austin" Ayres

The KBIC Tribal Council consists of 12 members elected by the voting membership to serve three-year terms. Tribal elections are held annually in December, with the reorganizational meeting taking place the following January.

Tribal President Robert “RD” Curtis, Jr. will lead Council business and oversee various departments that report to the Office of the Tribal President. With over 13 years of Tribal Council experience, he previously served as Secretary in 2023. In his free time, Mr. Curtis enjoys fishing, spearing, setting nets, hunting, shining, making maple syrup, crafting venison sausage, and drumming.

"President Curtis brings a wealth of positive experience to our community and is poised to lead the Tribal Council with vision and dedication. I am looking forward to collaborating with him to advance the priorities of the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community," said Brigitte LaPointe-Dunham, Chief Executive Officer.

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"I am honored to step into the role of KBIC President and to serve our community with dedication and respect," said Robert "RD" Curtis, Jr. "I am committed to working alongside our Tribal Council, our organizations, and our businesses to achieve our collective goals and strengthen our community."

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About Keweenaw Bay Indian Community:

The Keweenaw Bay Indian Community (KBIC) is a federally recognized Tribe and is signatory to the Treaties with the Chippewa of 1842 and 1854. Established under the Treaty of 1854, the primary land base of the KBIC is the L'Anse Indian Reservation. The L'Anse Indian Reservation consists of approximately 59,000 acres and services members within the boundaries of the reservation in Baraga County, as well as members in Marquette, Ontonagon, and Houghton counties. KBIC currently has over 3,500 enrolled members.

Keweenaw Bay Indian Community
16429 Beartown Rd.
Baraga, MI 49908

CONTACT:
Sheila Royal, KBIC, (906) 353-4109
sroyal@kbic-nsn.gov