

Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Reservation Business Committee

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Black Bear Casino Resort and Fond-du-Luth Casino to Temporarily Close In Response to Coronavirus Pandemic

Fond du Lac Reservation, Cloquet, MN (March 17, 2020) – The Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa announced today that it would temporarily close its two casinos in response to the coronavirus pandemic. The Band owns and operates the Black Bear Casino Resort in Carlton and the Fond-du-Luth Casino in downtown Duluth. The closures will be effective at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, March 18, 2020, and will last at least 14 days.

Conditions will be reassessed before a reopen date is determined. While there have been no reported cases of COVID-19 at either property, preventative measures are being made to ensure the safety of the community.

“Black Bear Casino Resort and Fond-du-Luth are social hubs where people come to see shows, eat, game and enjoy themselves,” said Kevin DuPuis, Tribal Chairman of the Fond du Lac Band Reservation Business Committee. “We’ve been monitoring the pandemic very closely and feel that it is in the best interests of our guests, our employees and the community at-large to temporarily close the casino.”

During the closure, casino staff will conduct a deep cleaning of the properties and will perform other maintenance tasks. “At this time, casino staff are asked to report for their regularly scheduled shifts,” said Terry Savage, Executive Director for Tribal Enterprises. “We are in the process of determining how we can best support casino staff during the closure.”

“We will do our best to minimize uncertainty during these challenging times,” added Chairman Dupuis. “We will continue to closely track developments of this pandemic and keep the public updated about the reopening of the Black Bear Casino Resort and Fond-du-Luth. Thank you for your patronage. Please follow the safety measures and directives of local and national health officials.”

Guests can stay up to date with information about Black Bear Casino Resort and Fond-du-Luth happenings when the doors reopen at <http://www.blackbearcasinoresort.com> and <http://www.fondduluthcasino.com> and Facebook pages for the both properties.



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Executive Director,
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About Fond du Lac Lake Superior Chippewa

The Fond du Lac Band (Nagaajiwanaang; where the water stops) is one of six Chippewa Indian Bands that make up the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe. The Fond du Lac Reservation was established by the La Pointe Treaty of 1854.

Archaeologists, however, maintain that ancestors of the present-day Chippewa (Ojibwe) have resided in the Great Lakes areas since 800 A.D. The Band includes 4,200 members.

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