

Good to meet with Elders again

Director Keith Massaway's May 2022 Unit Report



**KEITH MASSAWAY,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

It was so nice to finally have the privilege to give an update to our elders at their meeting after a 2-plus year hiatus. The gathering had many of the same faces and friendly smiles we took for granted before COVID. Giving updates and getting questions is always a honored and important part of my job. We have again had a setback in the infection rate in our area but we

will work through it and hopefully have regular meetings once again. The questions posed were related to Housing, which Bridgett was extremely helpful on because she is on the Housing Commission, and finances, which I am the chair of the Audit Committee and Tax Committee. I am also the Treasurer of the tribe and with this experience I can actually give detailed explanations to their inquiries.

I have now reached an age to be called an elder but when we interact with our true teachers and our members who guide us with their wisdom, I realize that being older does not make me an elder. I have much to learn and much to give before I can call myself an elder of our tribe.

You may have noticed other units of the tribe are working on plans to put housing and cultural infrastructure in their units. Bridgett and myself have also been working on these same things but are work-

ing on making them fit with all the needs of the community we live in and try to partner to get the most we can from our resources. We don't want to rush into something that we cannot complete or worse waste dollars on. Please know that we are working together and we will come out with a plan in short time.

We have had our employee recognition this week of writing this unit report and I would like to congratulate all of them on their years of service. I could not attend as I am under quarantine at this time for COVID. I thank all our employees for the work they do to make our tribe as great as it is.

Stay safe and healthy and thank you for all the e-mails and calls.

Keith Massaway,
702 Hazelton St.,
St. Ignace MI 49781,
(906) 322-3802,
kmassaway@saulttribe.net