



Chemehuevi Indian Tribe
Tribal Chairman
P.O. Box 1976
Havasu Lake, California 92363
Phone: 760 858-4219
Fax: 760 858-5400

Date: Apr. 21st, 2020

PRESS RELEASE

The Chemehuevi Indian Tribe cares deeply about our families, our employees and the greater Lake Havasu community. When we made the difficult decision to close our doors on Mar. 25th, 2020, we did so out of an over-riding concern for the health and safety of our employees and our two communities.

We followed California Governor Gavin Newsom who made the same difficult decision and took strong early action in the fight against the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic. I also commend Lake Havasu City Mayor Cal Sheehy and Arizona Governor Doug Ducey for their decisive action. Due to the fact that we are a recreational destination for so many, by issuing shelter-at-home orders, I believe we have saved lives by reducing the exposure to our communities.

We are now faced with the next question. While it is hoped that the worst of the COVID-19 coronavirus has passed, I must emphasize the need to protect ourselves from the lingering possibility of a second outbreak of the virus. For that reason, we will not be re-opening in early-May, but will remain closed until further notice. Please understand that if we re-open too soon, we might have to pull back if there should be a local spike in cases that jeopardizes the Lake Havasu communities. It is imperative that we wait and “flatten the curve” as much as possible so we do not re-open only to have to close once again. We cannot predict when sanctions will be lifted, so let’s all do the best we can. We want to emerge in a safe and sustainable way.

We monitor and rely on the best available science on sanitation and prevention methods as presented by the World Health Organization, the Center for Disease Control and the Indian Health Service. We hope to

coordinate our re-opening plans with the States of California and Arizona, and most importantly with our sister city across the lake, Lake Havasu City.

Thus far, everyone seems to be complying with the 'shelter-in-place' and 'no-gathering' requirements here on the Chemehuevi Indian Reservation, which is perhaps why no report of the virus has been made. It may be lonely, boring and depressing to remain at home but it is safe and we thank you for your sacrifice.

It is our sincere hope to see all of our employees back to work as soon as possible and to once again open our doors to our visitors – to resume our lives.

Thank you for understanding.

With respect, I am



Charles F. Wood, Chairman
Chemehuevi Indian Tribe