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For more information on Michigan's gaming industry, please visit [www.michigangaming.com](http://www.michigangaming.com)

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# The \_\_\_\_\_ MICHIGAN GAMING \_\_\_\_\_ Newsletter



## **GUN LAKE AND SAGINAW CHIPPEWA TRIBES RELEASE DETAILS OF STATE AND LOCAL REVENUE SHARING PAYMENTS**

On Monday, November 28, 2011, Gun Lake Tribe announced its second revenue sharing payment to the state and local governments. Additionally, on November 30, 2011, the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe released its semi-annual distribution to schools and local governments as well.

Under its state compact, the Gun Lake Tribe paid its allotted percentage of electronic gaming revenues to state and local governments. According to the Gun Lake Tribe, the state received \$6,241,766 or 8 percent of net win from electronic gaming revenue, while local governments received \$1,560,441 or 2 percent of net win. These totals are calculated based upon total electronic gaming revenues from April 1, 2011 to September 30, 2011.

The revenue paid to the State will go toward economic development and job creation programs administered by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, while the local revenue will be split between local municipalities, school districts, and civic groups.

Gun Lake Casino opened in February 2011, and employs more than 900 workers. The Tribe will make state and local revenue payments semi-annually, and has paid a total of \$10,376,560 to state and local governments.

According to *The Morning Sun*, the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe distributed more than \$2.95 million dollars to schools and local governments this week, which is equivalent to 2 percent of its net electronic gaming win. The recent distribution brings the total local revenue for 2011 to nearly \$5.9 million, which is the lowest full-year total since 1997.

## **THE MICHIGAN GAMING NEWSLETTER ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2011 MICHIGAN GAMING INDUSTRY RECOGNITION AWARDS**

The publishers of *The Michigan Gaming Newsletter* are proud to announce that the Newsletter will be accepting nominations for its first annual *Michigan Gaming Industry Recognition Awards*. These awards recognize those individuals who are committed to furthering and preserving the vitality of casino gaming in the state of Michigan. Nominations will be accepted through December 15, 2011.

Categories include:

### **Gaming Executive of the Year**

This award will recognize a senior casino executive who has helped shape the Michigan casino-gaming landscape over the past decade with exceptional leadership and innovation.

### **Gaming Manager of the Year**

This award will recognize associate casino management personnel who have been recognized for their early success in the Michigan casino gaming market.

We ask for your help in nominating candidates for the *2011 Michigan Gaming Industry Recognition Awards*. To make a nomination, please fill out and submit the nomination form, which may be found by clicking [HERE](#) or email Mr. Blaine DeGracia for a ballot at [degracia@rmclegal.com](mailto:degracia@rmclegal.com).

## **HARD ROCK CAFÉ COMING TO FOUR WINDS CASINO**

On Monday, November 14, 2011, the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians (“Tribe”) announced that its Four Winds Casino Resort in New Buffalo will feature a Hard Rock Café as part of ongoing expansion projects at the casino.

The Hard Rock Café Four Winds will be located next to the casino floor and will feature music memorabilia from the famous Hard Rock collection. The location will be approximately 12,000- square-feet and will have seating for 275 patrons across two levels. Restaurant options will mirror other Hard Rock locations and will feature classic American-style foods.

In addition to the new Hard Rock Café, the casino expansion project will add an additional 250 hotel rooms and a multi-use event center to the existing New Buffalo facilities. Construction is currently underway and is expected to be completed in summer, 2012. In addition to the expansion projects, the Tribe announced in July the early buy-out of its agreement with Lakes Entertainment, Inc., the company which provided development and management services for its Four Winds Casino Resort in New Buffalo, Michigan since opening in August of 2007.

The Four Winds Casino currently features a 130,000 square foot gaming floor with over 3,000 slot machines and 100 table games. The casino gaming facilities, coupled with a 165-room hotel and events center, employ more than 2,000 workers. For more information please visit: [www.fourwindscasino.com](http://www.fourwindscasino.com).

*The Michigan Gaming Newsletter would like to thank Sydney Terenzi for her contributions to this Newsletter.*