

Get involved and be sure to exercise your vote!



**Cathy Abramson, Unit I
Sault Tribe Board of Directors**

It's tribal election season again! I want to wish the best

of luck to all of those who are running for board seats and the chairman's seat. Already, you are seeing signs in yards, candidates asking you to sign their petitions and newspaper advertisements with candidates' platforms.

Important dates that you need to know are as follows:

May 2 – Your primary ballot will be mailed out to you.

May 24 – Primary election date. All ballots will be counted on that date. Please note, in order to be counted, your ballot must be received by the tribal Election Committee by 5 p.m. at the United States Post Office in the Sault Ste. Marie location on May 24, 2012, for the primary

election and on June 28, 2012, for the general election.

June 6 – Your ballot for the general election will be mailed to you.

June 28 – General Election Day. Make sure you mail your ballot in on time!

Please make sure that your address is correct by contacting the Enrollment Office at 635-3396 or (800) 251-6597.

At this time, I would like to thank our Election Committee for all the time and effort that they put into running a fair election. It is an extremely thankless job and when tensions get high, as they do when election time comes around, they take a lot of undeserved hits.

This committee is made up of volunteers who are appointed by the board of directors. They follow the election ordinance they helped develop (with assistance by our legal staff). While they are appointed by the board, they are a very independent group. Believe me, they are not afraid to voice their opinion to the board when it comes to ensuring there is a fair election. I, for one, appreciate that.

Throughout the years, our election process has been immensely refined from when our tribe held its first election. It's been refined because our committee members worked hard to establish rules to ensure that a fair election is conducted.

Just think, we have only had primaries for a little over 10 years. Also, ballots are counted electronically and all ballot counting is open for all the public to view. The ballot counting is even videotaped. I highly recommend that when there is an opening on the committee, our citizens step up to the plate and get involved. The work of this committee is very important. Again, thank you to the members of our Election Committee!

If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at (906) 322-3823 or email me at cabramson@saulttribe.net. I look forward to hearing from you!