



OFFICE OF THE CHAIR
**MENOMINEE INDIAN
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Statement from the Chair

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Menominee Tribal Legislature Elects 2017 Executive Council

(Keshena, WI) – On February 9, 2017, the Menominee Tribal Legislature convened at the Annual Reorganizational meeting at the Menominee Nation Casino-Convention Center. Today, Eugene Caldwell, Ronald Corn Sr., and incumbent Craig Corn were sworn into office to serve a three-year term on the Menominee Tribal Legislature. Additionally, the Tribal Legislature held the election of the new Executive Council who will be seated for the 2017 Legislative year. In an election among their Legislative peers, the following were elected to Executive Council: Gary Besaw as Chairman, Craig Corn as Vice-Chair and Eugene Caldwell as Tribal Secretary.

Chairman Besaw stated the following, *“Maec Waewaenen, which means “thank you” in our language. I am honored to once again serve as Tribal Chairman for the Menominee Nation. I would like to congratulate and welcome Craig Corn (D), Eugene Caldwell and Ron Corn to the Menominee Tribal Legislature.”* Chairman Besaw went on to say, *“As a Nation, we have faced many obstacles and challenging times and this Legislative year will prove to be no different with the changing climate concerning preservation and protection of our natural resources, culture, sovereignty, and the needs of our tribal membership. Our Tribal Legislature will continue to do the work necessary to ensure that Menominee sovereignty, culture, and resources are protected. In addition, we will work to provide needed assistance and opportunities for our membership.”*

Chairman Besaw replaces 2016 Chairwoman Joan Delabreau. She will continue to serve on the Tribal Legislature as a Legislator for the remainder of her term. Legislator Delabreau stated the following,

“I would like to congratulate Chairman Besaw on the election and wish him well. His past experience serving not only as a Legislator, but on the Executive Council, will continue to benefit the Menominee Nation. I wish him well and look forward to continuing my service working with the Tribal Legislature.”

Chairman Besaw has culminated many years of service to the Menominee Nation. He had previously served on the Executive Council as Tribal Chairman during the 2015 Legislative Year, Vice Chairman in 2003, and Tribal Secretary in 2004. Chairman Besaw was first elected to the Tribal Legislature in 2002 and served through 2008. He was re-elected to office in 2012 and has served since.

For more information, please contact the Menominee Tribal Chairman's Office at (715)799-5114.

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