



2009 TAX INFORMATION

Issue # 38
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WHAT ARE THE TAX CONSEQUENCES OF THE TRUST?

Each minor invested in the Trust must have a return filed on their behalf every year. Federal withholding taxes are automatically deducted from payments, but each individual return will vary. You may need to pay more taxes, or you may be eligible for a refund. State taxes may also be applicable. Please consult your tax advisor for specific information.

WHO MAY PREPARE YOUR TAX RETURN?

You can prepare your tax return yourself, or enlist the help of a tax professional. A Certified Public Accountant (CPA) will charge you a modest fee, but will greatly simplify the process. Although a CPA is always an accountant, not every accountant is a CPA, a professional meeting exceptionally rigorous national standards. Your particular return may also require state tax, so be sure your tax preparer knows and understands your state's law. Finally, a CPA can help you if you are delinquent, need to prepare prior years' returns, and assist with any notices that you may have received from the IRS and/or state agencies regarding the Trust.

WHY DO YOU RECEIVE A "CERTIFICATE OF ADDITIONAL TAX DUE?"

You will receive a Tax Information Letter and a Certificate of Additional Tax Due. The Tax Information Letter lists taxes withheld on investments and contributions. The Certificate is for your tax preparers, and informs Fifth Third Bank of how much tax to release from the Trust. Although federal taxes were withheld, some minors—especially those under the age of 18—may owe more. The IRS imposes a so-called "Kiddie Tax" for minors who are 17 and under at the end of a calendar year. The Kiddie Tax causes the income of these minors to be taxed at the same rate as their parents. The Kiddie Tax does not affect the parent's tax return, only the minor's. State tax may also be due, and the Certificate authorizes Fifth Third Bank to make those estimated payments on your behalf.

Send Certificate to: Fifth Third Bank/ Attn: Curt Ballast MD # RMNR1C/
111 Lyon Street, NW/ Grand Rapids MI 49503 **or fax it to Curt at:** (616) 653-5239

WHEN ARE THE TAXES DUE?

Please try to have the return prepared as soon as possible and notify us to fund any tax due. Fifth Third Bank will assure those requests for checks received by **Friday, April 2, 2010** will be returned to the parents or tax preparer to meet the April 15, 2010 tax-filing deadline. Last minute requests for funding may be difficult for the Trustee to process and it is your responsibility to get the return filed on time. Substantial late filing charges, interest, and late fees may apply if you do not file your Ho-Chunk Nation Minor's Trust tax forms every year in a timely fashion.

THE HO-CHUNK TRUST BULLETIN

How

HAS THE TRUST PERFORMED?

For all investors, 2009 was a much better year than the previous one. Heavy U.S. Government intervention in the financial markets not only prevented a system-wide collapse but helped boost returns after a tough 2008.

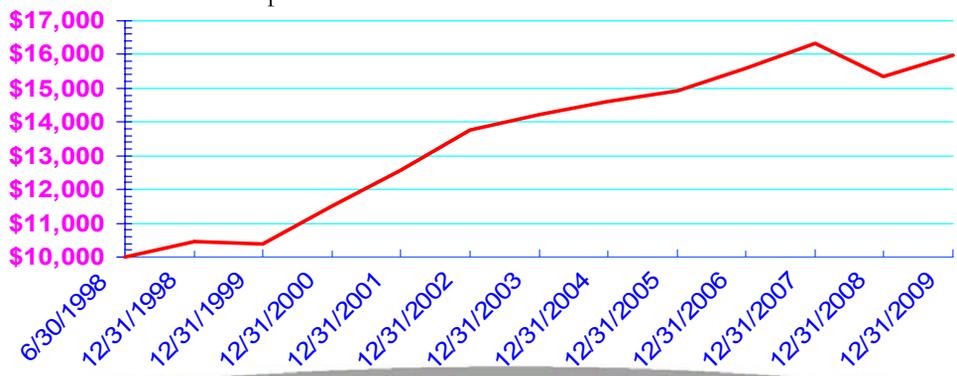
We manage the Ho-Chunk Minor's Trust with the goals of maintaining safety and strong investment income over time. We have continued to succeed, even during difficult times, with the portfolio producing consistent interest payments while maintaining high quality and good diversification. Though we would like to see both strong income and a stable market value in the Trust, bonds fluctuate in value, and these conditions force us to concentrate on steady income. Over 2009 some of the non-U.S. Government bonds which declined in prior years have gone back up in value over this past year as investor confidence returned along with the market. Our biggest concern going into 2010 is the impact of a huge amount, nearly \$2 trillion, of additional U.S. Government debt being printed over the upcoming year. In these unusual times, it is necessary to manage through these challenges.

In spite of these unusual and historically unprecedented challenges facing bond investors, we stayed ahead of our benchmark this year. Our gross of fee return for the Minor's Trust, year-to-date ending on December 31, 2009, was 4.46%. Even subtracting all fees the return was 4.31%, leading the Trust's benchmark, the Barclays Intermediate Government/ Credit (A or better) Index, which returned 2.85% during this same period.

We greatly value our long relationship with the Ho-Chunk Nation, and look forward to serving the needs of its Minor's Trust in the most appropriate manner.

GROWTH OF THE TRUST: 6/30/98 TO 12/31/09

Below is a graph of the Ho-Chunk Nation Minor's Trust Fund market value, representing the growth of a hypothetical \$10,000 investment made at the Trust's inception. The graph only represents market value growth and/or interest earnings on that single \$10,000 deposit. The graph does not take into effect quarterly per-cap deposits, tax payments or any other type of additional investment or deposit.



Trust Performance Update

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