



Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians

*Executive Branch of Tribal Government
Office of the Chief Executive*

Via E-mail

July 23, 2025

To: Mille Lacs Band Executive Branch Employees

Re: Mikwendaagoziwag Memorial 2025 Ceremony

Dear Executive Branch Employees:

The Mikwendaagoziwag Memorial will take place on Wednesday, July 30, 2025. Mikwendaagoziwag (They Are Remembered) focuses on the 1850 Sandy Lake tragedy and the struggle for Ojibwe (or Anishinaabe) to survive amidst forced assimilation. Today, many people, communities, and nations from across the central Great Lakes region, United States, and Canada come together to commemorate this chapter of survival at the annual Mikwendaagoziwag ceremony held at the Sandy Lake memorial in northern Minnesota.

We encourage all Mille Lacs Band employees to participate. Community Service hours may be used with prior approval from your supervisor. No registration is necessary.

Event Day Details

- Meeting Location: Savanna Portage State Park boat landing (east side of Big Sandy Lake)
- 9:00 AM: Morning Ceremony
- After Morning Ceremony: Canoe across lake to the Sandy Lake Recreation Area. Bring your own canoe. GLIFWC will try to arrange for a few canoes to be available at the lake. This is a 4-mile paddle.
- Approximately 11:30 AM: Arrival at Mikwendaagoziwag Memorial for a Ceremony and Feast.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Alyssa Welsh at (320) 532-4772 or via email at alyssa.welsh@millelacsband.com.

Miigwech,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Virgil Wind", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Virgil Wind
Chief Executive