



## *Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians*

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

*Via E-mail*

**To:** North American Indigenous Athletic Hall of Fame

**From:** Virgil Wind, Chief Executive, Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe

**Re:** Letter of Support for Induction of Harry Davis into Minnesota Boxing Hall of Fame

**Date:** April 10, 2025

I am writing to recommend that Harry Davis be inducted into the North American Indigenous Athletic Hall of Fame. An enrolled member and long-time District Representative of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, Representative Davis has also contributed to amateur and professional boxing for more than three decades.

Representative Davis originally founded his boxing club in 1989 to teach Band members self-defense and develop confidence. The newest iteration of the club has been operating since 2023 at Meshakwad Community Center in Hinckley, Minnesota. As such, Representative Davis continues to promote boxing within his tribal community as a method of self-improvement.

The Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe is home to the second tribal athletic commission to ever exist within the United States, behind only the Mohegan Tribe from Connecticut. This feat was largely thanks to Representative Davis, who sponsored legislation establishing the Band's Department of Athletic Regulation in 2006. Since then, the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe has assisted a multitude of tribes in establishing their own athletic commissions, including the Red Lake Nation, Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin, Fort Belknap Indian Community, Pawnee Nation, Wichita and Affiliated Tribes, Comanche Nation, and Meskwaki Nation.

Representative Davis's legacy within the boxing community is further demonstrated by the respected stature which the Band's Department of Athletic Regulation has obtained since its founding nearly 20 years ago. Not only does the Mille Lacs Band regulate several boxing events each year in Hinckley, Minnesota; it has also regulated boxing events on behalf of at least ten other tribal nations. All this has emerged from Representative Davis's passion for boxing and the vision he set forth so many years ago.

For all of the reasons stated above, I enthusiastically support and recommend the induction of Representative Harry Davis into your prestigious Hall of Fame. If you have any questions or would like to engage in further conversation, please feel free to contact me by phone at (320) 630-1428 or by e-mail at [virgil.wind@millelacsband.com](mailto:virgil.wind@millelacsband.com).

**Letter from Chief Executive Virgil Wind to North American Indigenous Athletic Hall of Fame**  
**Re: Letter of Support for Induction of Harry Davis into North American Indigenous Athletic Hall of Fame**

**April 10, 2025**

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Miigwech,

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

Virgil Wind  
Chief Executive  
Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe