



Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians

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

Virgil Wind
Chief Executive
Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe
43408 Oodena Drive
Onamia, MN 56359

Transmittal via e-mail

August 21, 2025

Mary Sue Anderson
Director, Minisinaakwaang Leadership Academy
20930 367th Lane
McGregor, MN 55760

Re: Letter of Support for Maada adoondaa Ojibwemokana Initiative

Aaniin Mary Sue,

As Chief Executive of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, I am happy to offer this letter of support for the Minisinaakwaang Leadership Academy's *Maada adoondaa Ojibwemokana Initiative*. This initiative represents an important step in the preservation and revitalization of the Ojibwe language by supporting the Academy's Ojibwe immersion kindergarten classroom. The plan to bring in community first language speakers to guide teachers and students will provide invaluable knowledge.

The Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe has a long history of supporting the Minisinaakwaang Leadership Academy, from its founding in 2007 to continued investments in academic, special education, and immersion programming. We recognize that the number of first language speakers is declining, and this initiative offers a pathway to preserve and transmit our language to the next generation.

I respectfully offer this letter of support as you pursue the Dakota and Ojibwe Language Revitalization Grant from the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council. Please contact me by email at virgil.wind@millelacsband.com or by phone at (320) 630-1428 if you have further questions.

Miigwech,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Virgil Wind", is written over a horizontal line.

Virgil Wind
Chief Executive
Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe