# MILLE LACS BAND OF OJIBWE



Executive Branch of Tribal Government

### NON-REMOVABLE MILLE LACS BANDS OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

#### COMMISSIONER'S ORDER 2021-04

### A COMMISSIONER'S ORDER REQUIRING INDIVIDUALS TO WEAR A MASK OR CLOTH FACE COVERING IN GOVERNMENT FACILITIES AND BAND-OWNED BUSINESSES

#### **Section 1. Policy**

The Commissioner of Human Services finds the following:

- (1) the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") has determined that genetic variants of SARS-CoV-2, including the B.1.617.2 ("Delta") variant, have emerged and are now circulating around the world;
- (2) the CDC classifies the Delta variant as a "Variant of Concern", meaning that there is evidence of increased transmissibility, more severe disease, significant reduction in neutralization by antibodies generated during previous infection or vaccination, reduced effectiveness of treatments or vaccines, or diagnostic detection failures;
- (3) the CDC recommends wearing a mask in public indoor settings in areas of substantial or high risk of transmission;
- (4) the CDC has designated Aitkin County, Crow Wing County, Mille Lacs County, Pine County, and many others as areas of substantial risk of transmission;
- (5) a substantial number of Mille Lacs Band members, Band government employees, and employees of Band-owned businesses travel to and from the above named counties; and
- (6) it is necessary to take preemptive measures in order to protect the health and safety of Mille Lacs Band members and other individuals from transmission of the Delta variant.

#### Section 2. Requirements

- (a) Any individual who is over the age of two and able to medically tolerate a face covering shall be required to cover their nose and mouth with a cloth face covering or medicalgrade mask when in Band government facilities and Band-owned businesses within the Band's territorial jurisdiction.
- (b) All government personnel entering government facilities and employees of Band-owned businesses within the Band's territorial jurisdiction shall wear a cloth face covering or medical-grade mask when engaged in face-to-face contact with the public.

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(c) All government personnel who enter Band member residences for the purpose of providing any public services shall wear a cloth face covering or medical-grade mask.

#### Section 3. Definitions

The following meanings apply to this Commissioner's Order:

- (1) "cloth face-covering" means a covering that fully covers a person's nose and mouth, but is not a medical-grade mask;
- (2) "medical-grade mask" means an N95, KN95, surgical, or other mask that would be appropriate for a healthcare setting or a setting in which direct patient care is provided.

## Section 4. Effectiveness and Expiration

- (a) This Commissioner's Order will become effective on Wednesday, September 1, 2021.
- (b) This Commissioner's Order will expire on December 31, 2021.

Executed on September 1, 2021.

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Commissioner of Human Services, Nicole Anderson

Official Seal of the Band

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