



THE MILLE LACS BAND OF
OJIBWE INDIANS
Legislative Branch of Tribal Government

RESOLUTION 19-04-89-21

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR FOR THE PURPOSE OF SEEKING A CORRECTION TO THE LIST OF FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED TRIBES

- WHEREAS, the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Band Assembly (“Band Assembly”) is the duly elected legislative body of the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe (“Band”), a federally recognized Indian Tribe; and
- WHEREAS, according to 3 MLBS § 3(d), the Band Assembly is empowered to adopt resolutions; and
- WHEREAS, according to 4 MLBS § 2 the Chief Executive is the duly elected leader of the executive branch of government; and
- WHEREAS, according to 4 MLBS § 6, the Chief Executive may “conduct external relations with all other governments and their political subdivisions[;]” and
- WHEREAS, the United States enacted into law the “Federally Recognized Indian Tribe List Act of 1994”, which directed the Secretary of the Interior to annually publish by January 30 in the Federal Register a list of all tribes recognized as “eligible for the special programs and services provided by the United States to the Indians because of their status as Indians[;]” and
- WHEREAS, the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, Bois Forte Band of Chippewa, Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, and the White Earth Nation are six separate, sovereign and independent Bands who have additionally formed the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe; and
- WHEREAS, the current list of “Indian Entities Recognized by and Eligible to Receive Services from the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs” refers to each of the six Bands as having “component reservations” of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe; and
- WHEREAS, the listing of each of the six Bands as “component reservations” of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe has sometimes caused confusion regarding the sovereign, separate and independent status of each of the Bands; and

DISTRICT I

43408 Oodena Drive • Onamia, MN 56359
(320) 532-4181 • Fax (320) 532-4209

DISTRICT II

36666 State Highway 65 • McGregor, MN 55760
(218) 768-3311 • Fax (218) 768-3903

DISTRICT IIA

2605 Chiminising Drive • Isle, MN 56342
(320) 676-1102 • Fax (320) 676-3432

DISTRICT III

45749 Grace Lake Road • Sandstone, MN 55072
(320) 384-6240 • Fax (320) 384-6190

URBAN OFFICE

1404 E. Franklin Avenue • Minneapolis, MN 55404
(612) 872-1424 • Fax (612) 872-1257

WHEREAS, the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe and the other Bands have long existed as sovereign entities that entered into several treaties with the United States prior to the creation of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe; and

WHEREAS, the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe and the other Bands delegated some of their sovereign authorities to the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe when they voted to adopt a constitution pursuant to the Indian Reorganization Act in 1936; and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding each Band's delegation of some authority to the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, the United States repeatedly has acknowledged and confirmed the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe and each of the other Bands as each being a separate, sovereign, and independent federally recognized Indian tribe; and

WHEREAS, the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe and the other Bands have each exercised their inherent separate, sovereign and independent authority to, among other things, execute binding agreements pursuant to multiple federal laws, directly receive funding pursuant to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 and enter into federally-approved compacts with the State of Minnesota pursuant to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, and compacts and other agreements with the United States pursuant to the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Executive has prepared a letter to the United States Department of the Interior for the purpose of seeking a correction to the list of federally recognized tribes to list and count the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe and each of the other Bands as separate, sovereign, and independent federally recognized tribes, in addition to the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, as "eligible for the special programs and services provided by the United States to the Indians because of their status as Indians."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Band Assembly does hereby support the Chief Executive's letter to the United States Department of the Interior.

WE DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing resolution was duly concurred with and adopted at a regular session of the Band Assembly in Legislative Council assembled, a quorum of legislators being present, held on the 29th day of September, 2021, at Nayahshing, Minnesota, by a vote of 3 FOR, 0 AGAINST, 0 SILENT.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we, the Band Assembly, hereunto cause to have set the signature of the Speaker of the Assembly.



SEAL OF THE BAND


Sheldon Boyd, Speaker of Assembly