

LEECH LAKE BAND OF OJIBWE
DIVISION OF RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
190 Sail Star Drive NW, Cass Lake, MN 56633

August 20th, 2014

Letter of Commitment to Participate in the Minnesota GreenStep Tribal Program

The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe is pleased to participate in the Minnesota GreenStep Reservation Program, a voluntary challenge and part of the GreenStep Cities Program. Minnesota GreenStep Reservation Program offers a free, voluntary continuous improvement framework. This support letter allows the Tribe to be recognized as a Step Two GreenStep Reservation.

GreenSteps is an assistance and recognition program to help Tribes and cities achieve their sustainability and quality-of-life goals. GreenStep is a free, continuous improvement program, managed by a public-private partnership, and based upon 28 best practices. Though these practices are tailored to Minnesota cities, we are integrating the Program into a Tribal focus on cost savings and energy use reduction, sustainability and resilience.

The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe appoints Brandy Toft and Amy Burnette, Co-leads of the Leech Lake Green Team, as the co-representatives for the GreenSteps Reservation Coordinator. They lead the Green Team in best practices, documentation and implementation of sustainability and green projects. They, along with the Green Team, will facilitate the involvement of community members and Leech Lake Staff in the planning, promoting and implementing best practices in-line with GreenStep Reservation and other avenues as they arise.

This letter also grants access to the B3 Benchmarking Database to facilitate analysis and cost savings advice to the Tribe regarding buildings' energy use and conservation efforts.

The Tribe will work at its pace in further advancement and/or completion of the GreenStep practices, curtailing them to fit within the Tribal framework and scope. We will strive for increased involvement and implementation of energy use reduction, economic savings, quality of life improvement, reduction of the Tribe's greenhouse gas footprint, among other endeavors to achieve sustainable practices and resiliency for Tribal Members. An on-going summary of the Tribe's GreenSteps best practice implementation will be posted by the Tribe on the Minnesota GreenStep website.


The Tribe has the unique opportunity to achieve both energy use and climate change gas reductions and cost savings through: building and facilities management; land use and transportation planning; environmental management; and economic and community development. Efforts to address energy and climate issues provide an opportunity to move toward energy self-reliance and greater community resiliency and quality of life; provide environmentally healthy and cheaper-to-operate public buildings; encourage new

economic development and local jobs; and support local food and renewable energy production to promote local sustainability. Efforts to localize food will promote sustainability, resilience and a healthier community.

The Minnesota GreenStep Reservations Program assists in facilitating technical assistance for the implementation of these sustainable development best practices the Minnesota GreenStep Reservation Program provides cost-effective sustainable development best practices in the following five categories: (1) Buildings and Lighting; (2) Transportation; (3) Land Use; (4) Environmental Management; and (5) Economic and Community Development. The Tribe has shown work in all categories and promotion of green initiatives to be built upon for a better and more sustainable Tribal Community.

In closing the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe is pleased to participate and hereby join the Minnesota GreenStep Reservation Program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rich Robinson".

Rich Robinson
Division of Resource Management Director

Cc: Brandy Toft, Green Team Co-Lead and Air Quality Specialist
Amy Burnette, Green Team Co-Lead and Purchasing Clerk
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