



Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Reservation Business Committee

Chairman Kevin R. Dupuis, Sr. Secretary/Treasurer Robert Abramowski
District I Wally J. Dupuis District II Brad Blacketter District III Roger M. Smith, Sr.

January 17, 2024

Governor Tim Walz and Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan
Office of Governor Tim Walz
130 State Capitol
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Minnesota Senators
Minnesota Senate Building
95 University Ave. W.
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Minnesota Representatives
State Office Building
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Governor Walz, Lt. Governor Flanagan, and Minnesota Legislators,

On behalf of the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa ("Band"), I write to you to express our wholehearted support for the Cloquet Area Fire District's ("CAFD") effort to identify and secure sustained and ongoing public safety financing. Specifically, we support the CAFD's 2024 bonding request in HF 644 and SF 78 of \$10 million for new fire facilities.

Since 2010, the Band and the CAFD have enjoyed the benefits of a Fire Services Agreement which has provided life-saving assistance to Band members living in the service area. The CAFD provides fire protection to 170 square miles and advanced life support ambulance service to more than 275 square miles in Carlton County and St. Louis County including the Fond du Lac Reservation; it is in the best interest of the Fond du Lac community and our neighbors that the CAFD receive the funding necessary to continue their invaluable work that so many depend upon.

The Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa asks that the Governor's Office and Minnesota Legislature support the Cloquet Area Fire District's 2024 bonding request and ongoing effort to secure public safety financing for their critical, life-saving services.

Sincerely,

Kevin R. Dupuis, Sr.
Chairman