

Proclamation

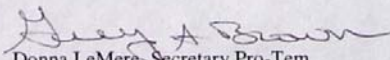
Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians

RESOLUTION NO. 84(09)

- WHEREAS,** the Wellbriety Journey for Forgiveness is a 6,800-mile cross-country journey to more than 20 present and former Indian school sites in May and June 2009; and,
- WHEREAS,** the vision of the Journey is to promote awareness of and healing from the historical trauma increasingly believed to perpetuate the alarming levels of substance abuse, suicides and domestic violence plaguing Native American communities today; and,
- WHEREAS,** a primary cause of historical trauma among Native people was the widespread abuse of Native American children at the 25 Bureau of Indian Affairs boarding schools and 460 government-funded boarding and day schools run by churches between 1879 and 1940 in the US; and,
- WHEREAS,** one of these early schools was located in our community; and,
- WHEREAS,** the non-profit organization sponsoring the Journey, White Bison Inc., has proposed that our community be one of the stops on the Journey route; and,
- WHEREAS,** White Bison has invited our community to participate in this national initiative by holding a one-day event to include educational activities, facilitated talking circles and traditional Indian ceremonies to promote awareness and support healing from the historical trauma originating from the boarding school experience; and
- WHEREAS,** the vision of the Wellbriety Journey for Forgiveness is not to take away from the positive experiences that Native people might have had at the schools, or to diminish the role that the BIA-funded schools play today, but to acknowledge those aspects of the Indian school experience that left a curse on Native communities, and to provide a collective time and space for Native people of all tribes to join together in healing from this tragic chapter in our history; and,
- WHEREAS,** the Wellbriety Journey for Forgiveness comes on the heels of national apologies by the prime minister of Canada and Australia in 2008 for the widespread abuse of aboriginal children at schools modeled after those created in the US to assimilate Native American children; and,
- WHEREAS,** the Wellbriety Journey for Forgiveness was endorsed by the National Congress of the American Indian via resolution (PHX-08-001) at its 2008 Annual Session in Phoenix, AZ; now, therefore be it
- RESOLVED,** by this Council in Rescheduled Regular Session assembled, that the Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians does hereby support the coordination of a local event in the community in conjunction with The Wellbriety Journey for Forgiveness when it is scheduled to go through the community in 2009.

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, as Secretary of the Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, a tribal government operating under a Constitution adopted pursuant to Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act, 25 U.S.C., s. 476, do hereby certify that the Tribal Council of the Band is composed of twelve members, of whom seven constituting a quorum, were present at a Rescheduled Regular Meeting, duly called, noticed, convened, and held on the 12th day of May, 2009, and that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted at said meeting by an affirmative vote of six members, none against, none abstaining, and that the said resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.


Donna LeMere, Secretary Pro-Tem
Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake
Superior Chippewa Indians