

**BY-LAWS
OF
Northern Minnesota Tribal Economic Development Commission**

Section 1. Purpose.

1.01. The Northern Minnesota Tribal Economic Development Commission is enabled to act as a liaison between the Leech Lake Reservation, the Red Lake Reservation, the White Earth Reservation Tribal Councils, and area partners, businesses and interested parties to develop cooperative economic development efforts and other mutually beneficial projects on behalf of the three Tribal Nations and the region, which shall be presented to the three respective Tribal governments for approval.

1.02. The Northern Minnesota Tribal Economic Development Commission is authorized to coordinate with interested partners in the region and to collaborate on efforts that enhance economic development opportunities for the region. Any proposed agreement shall be presented to the three respective Tribal governments for approval.

Section 2. Membership.

2.01. The membership of the Northern Minnesota Tribal Economic Development Commission shall be as follows:

- Three Members and one alternate appointed by the Leech Lake Reservation Tribal Council, and
- Three Members and one alternate appointed by the Red Lake Reservation Tribal Council, and
- Three Members and one alternate appointed by the White Earth Reservation Tribal Council, and
- One Member appointed at large by the other Commission Members.

2.02. The members and alternate of the Northern Minnesota Tribal Economic Development Commission shall serve staggered two year terms. The terms will expire August 1 each year with two members appointed on even years and one member and an alternate appointed on odd years. Vacancies shall be filled by the respective appointing Tribal government by passage of a tribal resolution. At the discretion of the respective Tribal Council, appointed members can be replaced at any time by passage of a tribal resolution.

Section 3. Responsibilities.

3.01. The Northern Minnesota Tribal Economic Development Commission shall develop, review, and recommend to the three Tribal Councils specific business ventures. Each recommendation shall include a plan for establishing financing and operating the

proposed business venture. Each proposed business venture shall be presented to the three respective Tribal governments for approval.

3.02. The Northern Minnesota Tribal Economic Development Commission shall meet on a regular basis, no less than once every two months.

3.03. The Northern Minnesota Tribal Economic Development Commission shall assign committees to pursue joint projects, initiatives, and efforts that promote and enhance human resources through workforce development and education, business, and job creation and retention that increase the income and wealth for the region as a whole.

3.04. At each meeting of the Northern Minnesota Tribal Economic Development Commission, each assigned committee shall provide updates on the progress of their collaborative initiatives.

3.05. Meeting times and locations will be established by a majority of the Commission Members. All meetings shall be open to the public.

3.06. Representatives from the Northern Minnesota Tribal Economic Development Commission shall report respectively to the Leech Lake Reservation Tribal Council, the Red Lake Reservation Tribal Council and the White Earth Reservation Tribal Council no less than two times every year.

3.07. No later than August 31st of each year, the Northern Minnesota Tribal Economic Development Commission shall coordinate an annual meeting between the Commission and the three Tribal Councils to provide a progress update and submit an annual budget for the upcoming year.

3.08. Funds for the Northern Minnesota Tribal Economic Development Commission shall be maintained by the Tribe of the Finance Director and transferred, as needed each September.

Section 4. Limitations.

4.01. The Northern Minnesota Tribal Economic Development Commission has no authority to bind or commit or obligate either the Leech Lake Reservation or the Red Lake Reservation or the White Earth Reservation to any agreements.

4.02. The Northern Minnesota Tribal Economic Development Commission has no authority to authorize the expenditure of Tribal funds on behalf of the Leech Lake Reservation or the Red Lake Reservation or the White Earth Reservation.

Section 5. Administrative Structure.

5.01. Each September, the Northern Minnesota Tribal Economic Development Commission shall elect officers to be responsible for the designated duties. Officers shall be elected by a majority of a quorum of the Members. A quorum of the Commission members shall be six. Officers shall consist of: Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Finance Director.

5.02. Chairman. The Chairman shall preside over meetings.

5.03. Vice Chairman. The Vice Chairman shall preside over meetings in the absence of the Chairman.

5.04. Secretary. The Secretary shall record meetings and actions of the Members. The Secretary is also responsible to ensure all meeting minutes are communicated to the Leech Lake Reservation, the Red Lake Reservation and the White Earth Reservation Tribal Councils in a timely manner. The Secretary shall notify all Commission members and all Tribal Council members of the meeting location and time for each meeting of the Northern Minnesota Tribal Economic Development Commission.

5.05. Finance Director. The Finance Director shall develop and/or review all budgets submitted for accuracy and report any variances or discrepancies to the Members of the Northern Minnesota Tribal Economic Development Commission at a regularly scheduled meeting. The Finance Director shall disburse funds as approved.

5.05.01 The disbursement of funds shall require the approval of at least two of the Officers of the Northern Minnesota Tribal Economic Development Commission.

Section 6. Compensation

6.01. Funding will be made available to cover essential costs associated with the Northern Minnesota Tribal Economic Development Commission. Each Tribe may approve making funds available as needed on a project-by-project basis. Reasonable costs include: 1) Meeting stipends for Commissioners, 2) Travel reimbursement per federally approved rates, and 3) Associated meeting costs.

CERTIFICATION

These amended bylaws were approved at a meeting of the Commission Members by a majority vote on **December 10, 2009**. The amendments were presented to and ratified by the three respective Tribal governments.

Mike Myers, Secretary

Date