Red Lake Band
of Chippewa Indians

Revised Constitution
and Bylaws
REVISED CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS
OF THE
RED LAKE BAND OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS

PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians in order to promote justice, insure tranquility, encourage the general welfare, safeguard our interests and secure the blessings of freedom and liberty for ourselves and for our posterity, do hereby amend and revise our tribal Constitution and organize a Red Lake Tribal Council as the basic organization of the Band, and we do ordain and establish this Constitution and set of Bylaws as the rules for its deliberation.

ARTICLE I

The name of this organization shall be the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians.

ARTICLE II

The Jurisdiction of this organization shall extend to all land on the Red Lake Reservation in the State of Minnesota and to such other lands as may be acquired by or in behalf of said Band and added thereto under the laws of the United States.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. The membership of the organization shall consist of:
(a) All persons of Red Lake Chippewa Indian blood who are duly enrolled members of the Band on the date this revised Constitution and Bylaws is approved.

(b) The Tribal Council shall have the power to adopt ordinances subject to review of the Secretary of the Interior, or his duly authorized representative, governing loss of membership and future enrollment of members of the Band.
ARTICLE IV GOVERNING BODY

Section 1. The governing body of the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians shall be the Tribal Council and shall consist of 8 district representatives and 3 officers.

Section 2. In addition to the governing body there shall be an Advisory Council composed of 7 Hereditary Chiefs of the Band. The 7 Chiefs shall serve in an advisory capacity to the Tribal Council and shall continue in office until the office is vacated by voluntary resignation or by death. Successor Chiefs shall then be chosen by the governing body of majority vote in accordance with tribal tradition and in the terms of this Constitution.

Section 3. In addition to the 8 District Representatives the Band, as a whole, shall elect a Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer who shall be elected by popular vote regardless of district.

Section 4. The Tribal Council shall have authority to regulate its own procedures; to appoint subordinate committees, delegates, boards, tribal officials and employees not otherwise provided for in this Constitution and Bylaws and to provide their tenure and duties; provided, that any delegation of authority described in this Constitution and Bylaws shall be granted only by written resolution or ordinance and shall be withdrawn in the same manner.

Section 5. The Tribal Council shall have the power to redistrict the Red Lake Reservation and to apportion the representatives, subject to vote of the people, whenever such auction is deemed advisable by the Tribal Council.

ARTICLE V NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1. All elections shall be by secret ballot and a majority vote shall rule where there are only two candidates or where there is a simple yes or no vote on any question or referendum. In elections where there are more than two candidates for any one office, the candidate in the election receiving the most votes or a plurality of votes, shall be elected. 1/2/

Section 2. (a.) Any enrolled member of the Band 18 years of age and over shall be entitled to vote in any election. 2/

(b.) All eligible resident voters shall register with the district of their residence at the time of election. All eligible nonresident voters shall register with the district of their former residence or affiliation.
Section 3. Absentee ballots shall be furnished to eligible nonresident members upon their request to the Tribal Council Secretary, provided that all such ballots shall be returned to the Secretary on or before the date of the election in order that the ballots may be counted.

Section 4. Not less than 30 days nor more than 60 days after the date this amendment becomes effective an election of councilmen and officers shall be held. The first election shall be held under the supervision of the elected Constitutional Committee and the Superintendent, who shall set the date, designate the polling places, appoint the election boards, and provide the rules and regulations for the conduct of the election. All subsequent elections shall be held under the supervision of the Tribal Council who shall enact and ordinance to provide the rules and regulations under which elections shall be held.

Section 5. (a) A qualified voter to be eligible to become a candidate as district representative or as an officer shall be 25 years of age or over.

(b) An otherwise eligible candidate to run as a district representative, beginning in the year 1980, shall have been a bona fide resident of the district he is to represent for a period of one year next preceding the election date. An otherwise eligible candidate to run as an officer, beginning in the year 1982, shall have been a bona fide resident of the Red Lake Indian Reservation for a period of one year next preceding the election date. Anyone who has been removed for any reason from the Tribal Council, shall be ineligible to become a candidate in any Tribal Election. Anyone who has been convicted or is under indictment for a criminal felony offense shall be ineligible to become a candidate in any Tribal Election.

(c) Eligible candidates shall file their notice of intent to run for office with the Secretary of the Tribal Council identifying the office for which he is a candidate at least 20 days before the election date. The secretary shall post a list of eligible candidates at least 20 days before the election in each voting district. All candidates shall pay a filing fee to be prescribed by the Tribal Council.

Section 6. (a) The reservation shall consist of 4 districts and shall have representation as follows:

- Red Lake..........................2 representatives
- Redby................................2 representatives
- Little Rock............................2 representatives
Ponemah.............................................2 representatives

(b) Votes for candidates for district representatives shall be confined to the eligible voters of the district the candidate is to represent. Votes for officers shall be on a reservation-wide or at large basis.

(c) The 4 districts are described as follows:
Little Rock: All territory west of Fuller Creek and north on the reservation and east to the range line between range 34 and 35 W.

Red Lake: From a line due south of the east side of Fuller Creek and extending east to Shemehgun Creek.

Redby: From the east side of Shemehgun Creek extending east to the reservation boundary and north to Battle River.

Ponemah: All territory beginning from Battle River between the North and South Lakes and north of the lakes east from the range line lying between range 34 and 35 W.

Section 7. The successful candidates in the first election shall hold office as follows:

(a) The successful district representative from each district in the first election receiving the largest number of votes shall hold office for 4 years, or until their successors are elected. All successful candidates for officers shall hold office for 4 years or until their successors are elected.

(b) The other successful district representatives receiving the second largest vote in the first election shall hold office for 2 years, or until their successors are elected.

(c) All successful candidates in all succeeding elections shall hold office for 4 years.

(d) After the first election all succeeding elections of the governing body shall be held during the month of May in even numbered years.

ARTICLE VI GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITIES

Section 1. The Tribal Council, or its authorized officers or delegates, on behalf of the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians shall have the sole right and authority to represent the Band and to negotiate with the Federal, State and local governments and with private persons and to make decisions not contrary to this Constitution and Bylaws or with
existing Federal laws.

Section 2. To employ legal counsel, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, or his duly authorized representative, as long as such approval is required by Federal law.

Section 3. To regulate and license where permitted by law all business and professional activities conducted upon the reservation, provided that any assessment upon non-members trading or residing within the jurisdiction of the Band shall be subject to review of the Secretary of the Interior, or his duly authorized representative, where required by law.

Section 4. To enact ordinances to remove from the reservation persons not legally entitled to reside thereon and whose presence may be injurious to the peace, happiness or welfare of the members of the Band, subject to the review of the Secretary of the Interior, or his duly authorized representative.

Section 5. To enact ordinances, subject to the review of the Secretary of the Interior, or his duly authorized representative, governing conduct of the members of the Band and Indians from other Tribes on the reservation, providing for the maintenance of law and order and the administration of justice by establishing a police force and a tribal court and defining their powers and duties; and regulating the inheritance of property of the members of the Band except trust land.

ARTICLE VII BUSINESS AUTHORITIES

The Tribal Council of the Red Lake Band shall exercise the following powers, subject to any limitations imposed by this Constitution and Bylaws or the laws and regulation of the Federal Governments;

Section 1. (a) To administer any funds within the control of the Band; to make expenditures from available funds for tribal purposes, including salaries and expenses of tribal officials or employees. All expenditures of tribal funds under the control of the Tribal Council shall be authorized by resolution duly enacted by the Tribal Council in legal session and the amounts so expended shall be a matter of public record to the members of the Band at all reasonable time.

(b) The Tribal Council of the Red Lake Band shall prepare annual budget requests for the advancement to the control of the Band such money as now or may hereafter be deposited to the credit of the Band in the United States Treasury or which may hereafter be appropriated for the use of the Band.

(c) To deposit to the credit of the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians tribal
funds without limitation on the amount in any account, in any approved National or State Bank whose deposits are insured by an agency of the Federal Government; or with a bonded disbursing officer of the United States whenever the conditions prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior or his authorized representative in connection with such advances require the advance to be so deposited.

Section 2. (a) To manage, lease or otherwise deal with tribal lands and tribal resources in accordance with existing Federal laws.

(b) No action Shall be taken by or in behalf of the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians which conflicts with regulations authorized pursuant to Section 6 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), or in any way operates to destroy or injure tribal grazing land, timber or other natural resources.

(c) All reservation land shall remain tribal property and shall neither be sold or divided by allotment.

Section 3. To engage in any business that will further the economic well-being of the members of the Red Lake Band.

Section 4. To enact ordinances to provide rules and regulations governing fishing, hunting and trapping on the Red Lake Reservation.

ARTICLE VIII FUTURE AND RESERVED POWERS

Section 1. The Tribal Council of the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians may exercise such future powers as may in the future be granted to the Council by members of the Red Lake Band or the Secretary of the Interior or by any other duly authorized official or agency of the Federal Government.

Section 2. Any right of power heretofore vested in the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians, but not expressly referred to in this Constitution and Bylaws, shall remain in the Band, but may be exercised by the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians through the adoption of appropriate constitutional amendment if that be the wishes of the people.

ARTICLE IX MANNER OF REVIEW

Section 1. Any resolution or ordinance which by the terms of this Constitution is subject to review by the Secretary of the Interior shall within 10 days of its enactment be presented to the Superintendent of the Minnesota Agency who shall within 10 days after its receipt by him approve or disapprove it.
Section 2. If the Superintendent approves any resolution or ordinance, it shall thereupon become effective, but the Superintendent shall transmit the enactment bearing his endorsement to the Secretary of the Interior, who may, within 90 days of the date of its enactment rescind the resolution or ordinance for any cause by notifying the Red Lake Tribal Council of his veto.

Section 3. If the Superintendent disapproves any resolution or ordinance, he shall within 10 days after its receipt by him advise the Red Lake Tribal Council of his reasons therefor, and if these reasons appear to the Council insufficient, it may by vote of the majority of all members, refer the resolution or ordinance to the Secretary of the Interior, and if approved by him in writing it shall become effective.

**ARTICLE X REFERENDUM AND RECALL**

Section 1. Upon receipt of a petition by 25 percent of the eligible voters, or by an affirmative vote of 8 members of the Tribal Council, any enacted or proposed resolution or ordinance of the Tribal Council shall be submitted to a referendum of the eligible voters of the Red Lake Band. The majority of the votes cast in such referendum shall be conclusive and binding on the Tribal Council. The Tribal Council shall call such referendum and prescribe the manner of conducting the vote.

Section 2. The Tribal Council shall enact an ordinance which shall prescribe regulations, charges and reasons for removal or recall of a district representative or officer. The grounds for removal, right of petition, and other factors shall be carefully framed to protect the interest of the Red Lake Band.

Section 3. The Tribal Council by an affirmative vote of the majority shall appoint a replacement to fill any vacancy of a district representative or officer, caused by removal, death or resignation, provided the term of the replacement shall not exceed beyond the next regular election regardless of the length of the unexpired term.

**ARTICLE XI ADOPTION AND AMENDMENT**

Section 1. This revised Constitution and Bylaws when adopted by a majority vote of the qualified voters of the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians of the Red Lake Reservation, voting at special election called and supervised by the elected Constitutional Committee and the Superintendent, shall be submitted to the Secretary of the Interior and shall be in force and effect from the date of such approval, provided at least 25 percent of those entitled to vote shall vote.

Section 2. (a) This Constitution and Bylaws may be amended by a majority of the qualified voters of the Red Lake Band at an election called for that purpose, provided,
that at least 25 percent of the Band entitled to vote shall vote in such election but no amendment shall become effective until it shall have been approved by the Secretary of the Interior.

(b) It shall be the duty of the Tribal Council to call such election on any proposed amendment upon receipt of a petition signed by 25 percent of the qualified voters of the Band, or the Tribal Council may call such an election by an affirmative vote of eight members of the Tribal Council.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I TRIBAL COUNCIL

Section 1. A regular monthly meeting of the governing body shall be set by the Tribal Council. The Chairman shall call all special meetings.

Section 2. A quorum shall consist of 6 members and no business shall be conducted in the absence of a quorum.

Section 3. The Tribal Council shall cause to be installed, maintained and audited a complete and detailed accounting system.

Section 4. All Officers and employees of the Council responsible for the safety of the property and money shall be bonded in an amount sufficient to insure the Band from loss.

Section 5. The newly elected district representatives and officers shall be installed in office at the first regular meeting of the Tribal Council after certificates of their election have been issued.

ARTICLE II DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. Chairman. He shall preside at all regular and special meetings. He shall vote only in case of a tie. He shall see that all resolutions and ordinances of the Tribal Council are carried into effect. He shall exercise general supervision of all other officers and employees and see that their respective duties are performed.

Section 2. Secretary. He shall keep the minutes at the principal office of the Tribal Council of all meetings of the Tribal Council. He shall keep the tribal roll, showing all changes therein as required by this Constitution or ordinances duly approved by the Tribal Council. He shall attend to all correspondence, distribution of tribal information or other duties incident to his office including the reproduction of minutes, resolutions and ordinances and see to their distribution within the deadlines, if there be deadlines.
Section 3. Treasurer. He shall keep and maintain adequate and correct accounts of the properties and business transactions of the Tribal Council. He shall have care and custody of the funds and valuables of the Tribal Council and deposit same in the name of and to the credit of the Red Lake Band with such depositors as the Tribal Council may direct and which are acceptable to the Area Director. Disburse funds of the Tribal Council as may be ordered by the Tribal Council, taking proper signed invoices, vouchers or other recordable data. Render to the Tribal Council a monthly statement and report of all his transactions as Treasurer and render also an annual financial statement in the form and with the detail required by the Tribal Council.

CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION

The attached revised Constitution and Bylaws was submitted for ratification to the adult members of the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians in Minnesota, and was on October 14, 1958, ratified by a vote of 443 for, and 113 against, in an election in which at least twenty-five percent (25%) of those entitled to vote cast their ballots.

Dated: October 15, 1958
at Minnesota Agency
Bemidji, Minnesota

Red Lake Tribal Constitutional Committee

(Signed)  Dan Needham, Sr.
Dan Needham, Sr., Chairman

(Signed)  Adolph Lussier
Adolph Lussier

(Signed)  Roger A. Jourdain
Roger A. Jourdain

(Signed)  Andrew L. Sigana
Andrew L. Sigana

(Signed)  Louis F. Stately
Louis F. Stately

(Signed)  Byron L. Graves
Byron L. Graves

(Signed)  Tom Cain
Tom Cain
APPROVAL

I, Elmer F. Bennett, Acting Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, as required in Article XI, Section 1, of the Revised Constitution and Bylaws of the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians of Minnesota hereby approve said documents to be effective on the date of this approval.

Approval recommended:
(Signed) Glenn L. Emmons
Commissioner of Indian Affairs

(Signed) Elmer F. Bennett
Acting Secretary of the Interior
(S E A L)

Washington, DC
Nov. 10, 1958

1/ Article 5, Sec. 1, Amended Tribal Election, May 23, 1984
2/ Article 5, Sec. 2(a), Amended Tribal Election, May 22, 1974
3/ Article 5, Sec. 5(b), Amended Tribal Election, May 24, 1978
4/ Article 5, Sec. 5(b), Added Tribal Election, May 26, 1982
5/ Article 5, Sec. 1, Amended Tribal Election, May 15, 1996

AMENDMENTS TO RED LAKE CONSTITUTION

1. Resolution No. 62-74
   Article 5, Section 2(a), Amended Tribal Election, May 22, 1974
   - change voting age from 21 to 18

2. Resolution No. 78-78
   Article 5, Section 5(b), Amended Tribal Election, May 24, 1978
   - candidate residency requirement

3. Resolution No. 107-82
   Article 5, Section 5(b), Added Tribal Election, May 26, 1982
   - Amendment No. 1: candidate removed from Tribal Council prior shall be ineligible to run again
   - Amendment No. 2: anyone convicted of a felony is ineligible to run in any Tribal Election
4. Resolution No. 109-84
   Article 5, Section 1, Amended Tribal Election, May 23, 1984
   - plurality vs. majority vote

5. Resolution No. 120-96
   Article 5, Section 1, Amended Tribal Election, May 15, 1996
   - majority vs. plurality vote
TRIBAL COUNCIL
RED LAKE BAND OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS

RESOLUTION NO. 62-74

WHEREAS, at the General Election held May 22, 1974, there was submitted to a vote of the eligible voters of the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians by Tribal Council Resolution No. 30-74, the question of amending Article V, Section 2(a) of the Constitution to provide as follows:

"Section 2(a) Any enrolled member of the Band 18 years of age and over shall be entitled to vote in any election."

and;

WHEREAS, the General Election Board certified that at said election 1099 eligible voters voted on the amendment with 826 votes for the amendment and 273 against the amendment, and;

WHEREAS, said 1099 qualified voters constituted more than 25 percent (25%) of the total 2743 eligible voters entitled to vote at said election, and;

WHEREAS, Article XI, Section 2(a) of the Constitution provides that no amendment shall be effective until it shall have been approved by the Secretary of Interior.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secretary of Interior approve amendment to Article V, Section 2(a) of the Constitution to read as follows:

"Section 2(a) Any enrolled member of the Band 18 years of age and over shall be entitled to vote in any election."

FOR: 10
AGAINST: 0

We do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly presented and enacted upon at the Regular meeting of the Tribal Council held on Tuesday, June 11 1974, with a quorum present, at the Red Lake Tribal Council Hall, Red Lake, Minnesota.

[Signature]
FRANK A. JOURDAIN, Chairman

[Signature]
ROYCE GRAVES, Secretary
WHEREAS, at the General Election held May 24, 1978, there was submitted to a vote of the eligible voters of the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians by Tribal Council Resolution No. 28-78, the question of amending Article V, Section 5 (b) of the Constitution to provide as follows:

(b) An otherwise eligible candidate to run as a district representative, beginning in the year 1980, shall have been a bona fide resident of the district he is to represent for a period of one year next preceding the election date. An otherwise eligible candidate to run as an officer, beginning in the year 1982, shall have been a bona fide resident of the Red Lake Indian Reservation for a period of one year next preceding the election date.

and;

WHEREAS, the General Election Board certified that at said election 1,490 eligible voters voted on the amendment with 1,028 votes for the amendment and 462 against the amendment, and;

WHEREAS, said 1,490 qualified voters constituted more than 25 percent (25%) of the total 3420 eligible voters entitled to vote at said election, and;

WHEREAS, Article XI, Section 2 (e) of the Constitution provides that no amendment shall be effective until it shall have been approved by the Secretary of the Interior.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secretary of Interior approve amendment to Article V, Section 5 (b) of the Constitution to read as follows:

(b) An otherwise eligible candidate to run as a district representative, beginning in the year 1980, shall have been a bona fide resident of the district he is to represent for a period of one year next preceding the election date. An otherwise eligible candidate to run as an officer, beginning

RED LAKE ENTERPRISES

- Red Lake Indian Sawmills (70 Years) - Red Lake Cedar Farm Plant - Chippewa Arts & Craft Shop
- Red Lake Housing Industry - Red Lake Fishing Industry (54 Years) - Home of the Famous Red Lake Walleyes
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Tribal Council hereby respectfully requests that the Secretary of Interior approve amendment to Article V, Section 5 of the Constitution to read as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 1 - Anyone who has been removed for any reason from the Tribal Council, shall be ineligible to become a candidate in any Tribal Election.

AMENDMENT NO. 2 - Anyone who has been convicted or is under indictment for a criminal felony offense shall be ineligible to become a candidate in any Tribal Election.

FOR: 8
AGAINST: 0

We do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly presented and enacted upon at the Regular meeting of the Tribal Council held on Tuesday, June 8, 1982, with a quorum present at the Tribal Office, Red Lake, Minnesota.

Roger A. Jourdain, Chairman
Royce Graves, Sr., Secretary

--- RED LAKE ENTERPRISES ---
Red Lake Indian Sawmills (70 Years) / Red Lake Cedar Fence Plant / Chippewa Arts & Craft Shop
Red Lake Housing Industry / Red Lake Fishing Industry (57 Years) . . . Home of the Famous Red Lake Walleyes
RESOLUTION NO. 109-84

WHEREAS, at the General Election held on May 23, 1984 there was submitted to a vote of the eligible voters of the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians by Tribal Council Resolution No. 26-84, the question of Amending Article V, Section 1 of the Revised Red Lake Constitution, to provide as follows:

FROM: All elections shall be by secret ballot and a majority vote shall rule.

TO: All elections shall be by secret ballot and a majority vote shall rule where there are only two candidates or where there is a simple yes or no vote on any question or referendum. In elections where there are more than two candidates for any one office, the candidate in the election receiving the most votes or a plurality of votes, shall be elected.

and;

WHEREAS, the General Election Board certified that 1,254 eligible voters voted on the Amendment, with 775 votes voting yes for the Amendment and 476 voters voting no against the Amendment, and;

WHEREAS, 1,254 eligible voters voting on the Amendment constitutes more than 25 percent (25%) of the total 4,492 total eligible voters entitled to vote at the election, and;

WHEREAS, Article V, Section 1 of the Constitution provides that a majority vote shall rule, and;

WHEREAS, Article XI, Section 2 (e) of the Revised Red Lake Constitution provides that no Amendment shall be effective until it shall have been approved by the Secretary of Interior, now;

RED LAKE ENTERPRISES

Red Lake Indian Sawmills (72 Years) / Red Lake Cedar Fence Plant
Red Lake Housing Industry / Red Lake Fishing Industry (66 Years) . . . Home of the Famous Red Lake Walleyes
Res. No. 109-84
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THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Red Lake Tribal Council hereby respectfully requests that the Secretary of Interior approve the Amendment to Article V, Section 1, Red Lake Revised Constitution, as written under paragraph one, above.

FOR: 9
AGAINST: 0

We do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly presented and enacted upon at the Regular Meeting of the Tribal Council held on Wednesday, May 30, 1984, with a quorum present at the Tribal Office, Red Lake, Minnesota.

Roger A. Jourdain, Chairman
Royce Graves, Sr., Secretary
RESOLUTION NO. 120-96

WHEREAS, the electorate of the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians was presented the following referendum question on tribal election day, May 15, 1996:

"SHALL THE REVISED RED LAKE CONSTITUTION BE AMENDED TO REQUIRE MAJORITY RULE IN TRIBAL ELECTIONS?"; and

WHEREAS, the referendum vote resulted in 1,119 YES votes and 425 NO votes, meeting the requirements of Article XI, Section 2. (a) of the Revised Constitution and Bylaws of the Red Lake Band the said Constitution may be amended by a majority of the qualified voters in an election where at least 25% of the Band entitled to vote have voted; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Red Lake Tribal Council hereby authorizes the forwarding of the results of this referendum vote to the Secretary of the Interior for his approval as required by the Revised Red Lake Constitution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that at such time the approval of the Secretary is granted, the referendum provision shall be in effect and Article V, Section 1 of the Revised Red Lake Constitution shall be amended accordingly.

FOR : 9
AGAINST : 0

We do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly presented and enacted upon at the Regular Meeting of the Tribal Council held on Tuesday, June 11, 1996, with a quorum present, in the Tribal Offices, Red Lake, Minnesota.

BOBBY WHITEFEATHER, CHAIRMAN

JUDY ROY, SECRETARY