

The Official Newsletter of the LAC COURTE OREILLES BAND OF LAKE SUPERIOR OJIBWE

FEBRUARY 2013



Message from the Chairman

Reflecting back on my former years on the tribal council, I recall several adverse situations the Lac Courte Oreilles Tribe faced and has overcome, such as the battle for treaty rights we now enjoy in our ceded territory. Racism was prevalent in those days, we "Indians" were labeled as welfare recipients and we did not contribute to the local economy. In response, the tribe issued two-dollar bills to all 300-plus tribal employees to prove that "Indians" pay taxes and to remind the locals of our economic strength. We flooded northwest Wisconsin with two-dollar bills; every register in the local townships received our money. In the early 80's, our tribe had a serious financial debt from the indirect cost debacle created by the US Government. The tribe responded with concentrated efforts to get special congressional legislation pushed through in a short period of time to address the funds the US owed the tribe.

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Boozhoo!

–by Lonnie Barber

The first thing I want to share with you is thanking everyone who submitted and shared their articles in the 1st "Official Newsletter of the Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Ojibwe". One article that didn't have a byline was the "Mission Possible" page. This was written, edited and pictures attached by Lorene "Bookie" Wielgot and Gordon Thayer.

I would also like to remind everyone that the Newsletter is posted on the

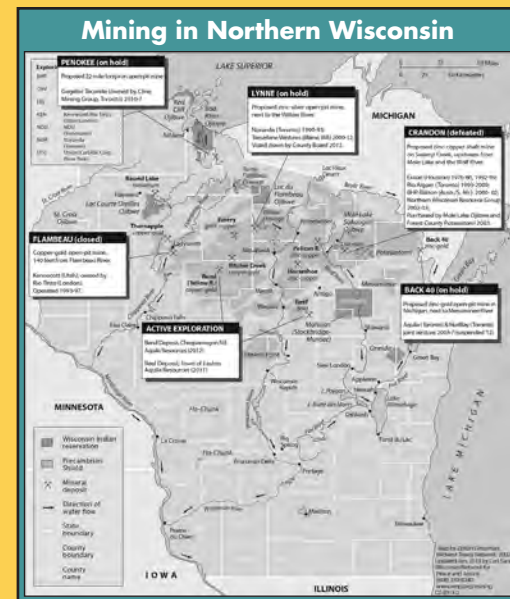
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Mission Possible Financial Accomplishments

This table reflects a snapshot of the financial progress the Lac Courte Oreilles Tribe has made since June 2011.

	June 2011	February 2013
Loans owed to Chippewa Valley Bank	\$10,179,000	\$1,240,500
Annual Loan Pmt to Chippewa Valley Bank	\$1,028,000	\$89,300
Amount owed on 2006 Bonds:	\$33,000,000	\$30,220,000
Late Grant & Contract Draw Downs	\$4,000,000+	\$ - 0 -
Bank Overdrafts per-day	\$150,000 to \$800,000	\$ - 0 -
Bounced Check Charges per year	\$150,000/year	\$ - 0 -
LCO School Deferred Revenue	\$ 6,000,000	\$ - 0 -
Tribal Government Budget	\$4.8 million deficit	Balanced Budget
Bank account balances (net)	\$ - 0 -	\$5.9 million
Employee Lay-offs	Imminent	No danger of lay-offs

A brief financial summary report will be distributed at the general membership on February 23 2013. The TGB has requested a Tribal Wide audit that has not been done since 2006 and scheduled to be completed by June 2013.



**LCO Tribal
Membership Meeting
February 23 at 9:00 a.m.
at the LCO Bingo Hall
Agenda available at the meeting**

In the news

Message from the Chairman *(from page 1)*

Fast-forward thirty years. The financial challenge this administration inherited in 2011 was at catastrophic proportion. Alarmingly, cash was running out, checks were bouncing, overdraft fees were excessive, over four million dollars in grants were not drawn down, we had a six million dollar audit deficiency at the school, the BIA placed the LCO Tribe on a restricted status and payments on the \$33 million dollar bond deal, which was financed in 2006 was draining our cash-flow. However, we now have good news! We are now on the road to financial stability through the hard work, perseverance and determination by our financial management team and support staff.

As Tribal Chairman, it was my responsibility to launch what I call the “*Mission Possible*” Recovery Plan in 2011. The Mission Possible Recovery Plan evolved from the one million dollar grant provided by the Shakopee Tribe. We engaged the Clifton Larson Allen firm from Minneapolis who provided financial and management guidance and drafted a comprehensive Tribal Management Plan for our leadership to follow. Parts of that plan have already been implemented with more to come.

The financial stabilization plan also included launching a Business Board consisting of experienced, successful tribal business people. The Tribal Governing Board, with some recommendations from the Business Board, made key management level changes, cost containment measures were implemented such as a 32 hour work week, directed the Casino to cut overhead and other costs and drew down four million in contracts that sat idle for several years. The Tribal Governing Board voted to use the Nez Perce settlement for debt reduction that was necessary to pay off old debt and address the cash reserves for the tribe. *See the “Mission Possible” comparison chart on the front page.*

The cash management position of the Tribe is now under control; and, we can thank all our tribal employees, the management and legal team, accounting and finance personnel.

Another adverse challenge is the severe prescription drug problem on our Reservation. To solve this dilemma, it will require assistance from the entire community and it will require responsible, accountable, leadership. Sadly, in the last year our tribe has had nine deaths attributed to controlled drugs. This problem is not new; it has been developing for several years. We can't wait to respond anymore, how many more of our loved ones must die from

the prescription drug overdoses before people step-up and say, “enough is enough”?

In 2005, the Federal Government conducted a major drug bust on our reservation. We are still dealing with the devastating effects to our tribe. Results of the arrests were numerous people being sentenced to federal prison. In April 2011, the US Attorneys Office raided our clinic and confiscated 132 patient records which they continue to hold. At our General Membership meeting in August 2011, the first in many years, I invited US Attorney John Vaudreuil to attend and provide an update on the investigation for the membership. I have invited Mr. Vaudreuil to attend our next General Membership meeting on February 23 to update the membership on the status of the investigation.

In February 2012, the State of Wisconsin issued a subpoena to the Tribe, requesting records related to the high volume of controlled drugs being prescribed by the Health Center. The Tribe denied the request informing the State of Wisconsin that they had no legal jurisdictional authority to subpoena the Tribe; subsequently the State closed its investigation.

In July of 2012, the Indian Health Service (IHS) Bemidji Area Office performed an assessment of our clinic operations. A subsequent IHS November 13 2013 letter cited “*numerous deficiencies related to LCO’s clinical care, administration and governance with a focus on the prescription and dispensing of narcotics of chronic conditions and pain management*” and requested corrective action by the Tribe to be completed in 45 days or face re-assumption of the contract, this would result in cancelling our direct care services that we now provide. IHS Re-assumption stipulates they could shut down direct care provided at our Clinic and the funds for patient care would be distributed to outside vendors for patient care. This re-assumption would lead to closing the clinic, not to mention the loss of numerous jobs.

The two prominent deficiencies cited by the Bemidji IHS: 1) the volume of Hydrocodone (Vicodin) dispensed at LCO was 268,241 pills between October 2011-June 2012 which averaged to 85 Vicodin pills for all patients being seen at the clinic. The report also cited the high volume of controlled substance drugs (Vicodin) being prescribed by Dr. Paul Strapon were greater than (4) times higher than the next highest prescriber. 2) The other major concern was Health Board governance, which pointed out the “*Health Board was micro-managing daily operations creating an ineffective management atmosphere. The Tribal Health Board has not*

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Message from the Chairman *(from page 2)*

received any governing board training.”

Due to the IHS findings and the pending loss of our clinic, the Tribal Governing Board on January 10, 2013, in a 4-3 vote, terminated the contract with Dr. Paul Strapon. In the same meeting, the contract for the Health Director (Gaiashkibos) was terminated and the Tribe will conduct an extensive search for a new director. In concurrent action on January 28th, the Tribal Council, in a 4-3 vote, dissolved the Health Board and directed the legal department to restructure the charter.

On January 18, 2013 the tribe received the second IHS letter *as notice of Reassumption for non-response for corrective action. The letter indicated “the final deadline for corrective action is February 18, 2013 and failure to do so will result in our immediate forward action for reassumption of the contracted services on May 1, 2013.”*

On Wednesday, January 23rd, I requested a meeting with the clinic staff to inform them of the corrective action we are taking to insure quality patient care in the absence of Dr. Strapon and to insure we don't lose our health center and jobs. I would like to commend the staff at our health center for enduring the stress and frustration during this tumultuous time and for the excellent work on passing the clinic accreditation.

On Monday, January 28th, 2013, the tribe received information that the State of Wisconsin Medical Examining Board filed a petition for disciplinary proceedings against Dr. Paul Strapon based on a Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) report and a report from the IHS. The State's investigation is ongoing.

In the midst of adversity, Lac Courte Oreilles has always been able to pull through, despite our differences. When we work together, like we have in the past, we can overcome all of these difficult challenges. The prescription drug problem impacting our reservation can only be solved when we, as a tribe, take personal responsibility for our welfare and responsibility for our children. Healthy families make healthy nations.

This past December was the first issue of the LCO newsletter and it is now posted on the Tribes website. Due to the cost, only 300 were printed for local distribution. I have since requested Lonnie Barber, our editor, to print more copies for local distribution to members who don't have access to the Internet.

LCO Tribal Membership Meeting

February 23 at 9:00 a.m.

at the LCO Bingo Hall

Agenda available at the meeting

Community Events

Looking for something fun to do on a Friday night? Then join the Sobriety & Hope Community members for the Monthly Sobriety Friday Friendship Dinner and



Gospel Music Jamboree. This festive event is held the first Friday of every month at 6:30 PM in the Peter Larson room at the Tribal Government Center.

The schedule includes a great supper, door prizes, good ole Country Gospel music, special speakers and testimonials of sobriety. If you have a favorite dish you would like to share bring it to the meeting. Come on out for a super Friday night for sober fun for the whole family! **For more information call: (715) 699-5373 or (715) 699-1378**

PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE 2013 INDIAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM



Come and share your project ideas and concerns for the Lac Courte Oreilles Tribal Community

Wednesday, February 13, 2013

11:00 AM

Peter Larson Room

~ Lunch will be provided ~

Elk hunt

First Ceremonial Elk Hunt September 14, 2012

— by *Stony Larson*

Bill Cadotte, Jim Miller and I were approached and offered tobacco by Jim Schlender Jr. on behalf of Mic Isham to represent Lac Courte Oreilles in the first ceremonial elk hunt. We were all to first meet at the Clam Lake gas station and convenience store on the morning of Sept. 14, 2012. Bill and I arrived and were instructed by wardens to go to the Day Lake Boat Landing. Jim Miller arrived late and missed the wardens and so didn't know where to go and never caught up with us.

Present at the boat landing were representatives of the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Commission, including Mic Isham, Councilman Rusty Barber, hunters from Bad River, Red Cliff, Lac du Flambeau and Mole Lake, as well as the GLIFWC Wardens and others.

There was a Pipe ceremony conducted. Afterward, we were issued licenses for the elk hunt and assigned wardens who would follow us. The warden accompanying the hunters who shot the elk, were to radio the others and all would meet at that location.

We all left, going out in different directions, accompanied by our assigned warden. Bill and I proceeded west on Highway 77 turning south on a forest road. We traveled for about 30 minutes when the young bull elk presented itself to us on the left side of the road. Being the driver, I stopped and Bill handed me his 7mm-08 rifle. I opened the door and glanced back at the warden. She motioned for me to get off the road, as is the rule. I moved toward the elk, which was no more than 20 yards away. As I moved toward the elk, the elk moved away but still very close. These elk, never before hunted, had little fear. I slowly got off the road and the young elk started moving forward. I moved with him, gave a whistle and he stopped. He was angled slightly away from me, so I aimed back a little on him and pulled the trigger. The elk trotted about 50 feet and dropped. Although not at all difficult, it was very exciting and I am very happy that it was a clean kill.

The warden radioed the others and we were given the OK to begin gutting out the elk. Everyone began arriving and a young man from Lac du Flambeau asked me if he could



take over the gutting for me. I was more than happy to let him, and I know he was proud and honored to do so. It was decided the elk would be transported by the wardens to Bad River and a feast would take place. On the evening of the feast, many of the hunters from the different reservations were present. All had an opportunity to speak and many good things were said. The remaining meat after the feast was divided up and distributed between the participating tribes.

It was a great honor for all of us to be a part of this event. Something truly meant to be. I equate it to a first kill ceremony, whereby thanks are given for the offering of a life, the elk's life, for the people, the Anishinabeg.

Join us for winter wellness workshop:

**PHYSICAL ACTIVITY IS
KEY TO LIVING WELL**

Tuesday, February 12th • Noon-1pm

LCO Clinic

Lower Level Conference Rm

Please RSVP to Sandy Z. at 638-5153 by Feb. 6

Open Enrollment Notice 2013-2014 School Year Information for Parents

The Hayward Community School District will be accepting open enrollment applications starting February 4 – April 30, 2013 for the 2013-2014 school year. Parents must apply no earlier than February 4 and no later than April 30. Late applications will not be accepted for any reason.

The Hayward School District has 3 charter schools available for non-resident students to attend our school district. We have the Waadookadaading Charter School, which is a language immersion school teaching Ojibwe to 3-year-old through 5th grade. The second charter school is called HACIL Virtual Education Charter School, which has attracted many parents that previously home schooled their children. This is open to K-12 students. And the Hayward School District's newest school, Northern Waters Environmental School is designed to take students beyond the four walls of the classroom through projects that explore our community and natural environment. Their mission is to explore our community's natural resources, economy, local culture and history. Parents and students can participate in any of these programs by filling out open enrollment forms if you live outside the district.

We also encourage open enrollment to our regular K-12 programs. Our K-3 program offers very small class numbers (18 students). The middle school has been recognized at the state level for outstanding achievement. Our high school offers many AP classes on campus as well as college courses for seniors at no cost to the student. Math scores on the ACT are well above the state average and the highest in this area of the state. Hayward also has started a K-12 Virtual School.

An open enrollment application must be completed for each new student. Students who are continuing open enrollment do not need to re-apply. Only new students to the District need apply.

Parents may apply in one of two ways:

- On-line (recommended) at http://sms.dpi.wi.gov/sms_psctoc
- Although on-line application is recommended, paper applications may be obtained from the Dept. of Instruction or the Hayward School District.

**For more information contact:
Hayward Community School District
15930 W Fifth Street, Hayward, WI 54843
(715) 634-2619 ext. 9001**

Tribal Governing Board Announces Education Scholarship Availability

The Lac Courte Oreilles Tribal Governing Board is pleased to announce the availability of education scholarships to qualifying tribal members. Scholarships are funded by proceeds from the LCO Youth and Education Golf Classic which is held on an annual basis to raise money for education and youth activities.

The scholarship application period is from January 1, 2013 through March 31, 2013, and is open to graduating high school or adult continuing education students. Scholarship application guidelines are available at the front desk of the Tribal Office.

"Strategies for Managing Younger Workers"

Succeeding With Our Nation's Youngest Professionals

By Brad Gingras, Chief Operating Officer, Northwest Wisconsin CEP, Inc.

Brad Gingras will provide facts and characteristics of the Millennials; tips and strategies to help understand, motivate, and succeed with the young professionals; and leave the participants with thought-providing ideas that may change how you not only view the future workforce, but also yourself.

Wednesday, February 27 1:00-3:00 p.m.

LCO Ojibwa Community College

Pipe Mustache Auditorium

Who should attend: Employers, Supervisors, Managers,
Human Resource Personnel

This event is open to community members.

Please RSVP by calling 715/638-5161



CO-SPONSORED BY: LCO VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION &
LCO OJIBWA COMMUNITY COLLEGE WORK BASED LEARNING DEPARTMENT

Chairman's Testimony

WRITTEN TESTIMONY of Gordon C. Thayer, Chairman, Relating to Regulation of Ferrous Metallic Mining and Related Activities, January 23, 2013

Chairpersons and Members of the Committee, my name is Gordon Thayer and I am the Chairman for the Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians. Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on Assembly Bill 1/Senate Bill 1, the bill to change the restrictions for permitting Iron/Ferrous Mining in Wisconsin.

The good, hard-working people of the Lac Courte Oreilles Tribe, a federally-recognized sovereign nation, have grave concerns with the substance and the impact of the proposed mining bill. Specifically, the Tribe has significant concerns about the legality of the bill as it relates to the tribes' treaty reserved hunting, fishing and gathering rights in the treaty ceded territories that cover approximately the northern third of Wisconsin. Second, the tribe has concerns regarding the information regarding job creation being associated with this bill and the impact it will have in sustaining employment for the people of northern Wisconsin. Finally, the tribe is concerned with the water quality that would impact Wisconsin for decades, if not centuries, by the mining practices that would be allowed under this bill. It is for these reasons that the Lac Courte Oreilles Tribe is staunchly opposed to Assembly Bill 1/Senate Bill 1.

This process has proceeded without tribal consultation or a concerted effort by the legislature to understand the potential impacts of the bill on the Wisconsin Tribes, more specifically on Lac Courte Oreilles, and no attempt has been made to measure the impact of the proposed legislation on the federally-protected treaty rights. The Legislature's decisions to conduct just one single hearing, at a distance of over 340 miles from the impacted area, creates a burden for public testimony for the people who must live in the affected area. By limiting this hearing the legislature restricts the amount of necessary information and feedback on the mining bill.

The State of Wisconsin is a party to the Lac Courte Oreilles v. Wisconsin case, commonly known as the Voigt case, from there the State may not exercise its authority to the detriment of the tribes' treaty rights in a manner that would be contrary to the requirements of the Voigt case. The State may not create legislation that could interfere with the Lac Courte Oreilles treaty-protected rights. This legislation

creates the opportunity for the destruction of treaty resources through destruction of habitat. The fundamental requirement of the Voigt case is the co-management of the shared resources in northern Wisconsin; this bill threatens this requirement.

Much has been said that the mining industry will provide a spark to the Wisconsin economy. Last year, Gogebic mining company promised jobs if Wisconsin weakened legislation concerning the mining permitting process. Gogebic indicated that it would create over 700 jobs if they were permitted to mine the mountain range. What was not said is the professional training requirements for the incoming jobs provided by Gogebic would be too expensive to train new personnel. The qualified personnel would be brought in from other job sites from across the country to fill these positions. So the job creation promised under this bill would not benefit Wisconsin directly since outsiders would be filling these positions. What is lost in this promise of "new" jobs is the sacrifice of the current jobs currently held by Wisconsinites; jobs in tourism, forestry, fishing guides and other jobs unique to the area. These jobs will be lost by the destruction of the woods and water. After the mining jobs leave, the sacrificed jobs will not return because the landscape will be changed. The net loss of the mining jobs at the expense of the tourism, forestry and other jobs is not acceptable.

The water is sacred to our people and vitally important to the survival of the all the people in Northern Wisconsin. Tribal members depend on clean, healthy water to meet their physical, social, cultural, economic and spiritual needs. Any activity, mining or otherwise, that threatens those resources must be the subject of careful and thorough scrutiny, including input from all aspects of Wisconsin, so a proper healthy decision can be made. Lac Courte Oreilles has been and will continue to be vigilant in our efforts to ensure that strong environmental laws are in place and are fully implemented so that our water is protected. The current bill fails in this regard. This mining bill allows groundwater pollution in an area extending 1200 feet from the edge of the mine or tailings area. If a company can't prevent pollution of that area, the bill allows the area of pollution to be extended another 1200 feet. In addition, groundwater standards would only apply vertically to 1000 feet. Below that level, no standards would apply, allowing a

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LCO Mining Impact Committee

—By Paul DeMain

It is good to remember that each and every person can make a remarkable impact with our legislators and the process at times when they speak up, write a letter or attend a meeting or hearing. Our voices are especially forceful when we stand together with our friends, relatives and neighbors.

And our voices have an impact when we understand what it is we may be dealing with so we can discuss options.

In the debate about mining, Shaft versus Open Pit and various other forms, we want to keep this in mind. The open pit mine Kline and GTAC have planned for northern Wisconsin is not something we have ever seen before in size and scope in this region. It is untested in Wisconsin, but the reason the corporation wants the law changed is because the current law forces them to prove that a similar mine has been opened, and closed and did not negatively impact the environment. This GTAC company can not live up to those standards and so they have literally bribed our representatives with political contributions to get their way.

Stand at the LCO casino lodge and look towards Hayward, Wisconsin. Then strip off the overburden for five miles (in the 1st stage), 1/2 mile wide and a thousand feet deep and ask where are they going to dump that in order to get to the ore? This is what the Penokee Range, some 20 miles or less north of us near Clam Lake in the National Forest will look like some day if this mine goes in.

Then ask about the ore itself within that excavation that needs to be blasted with dynamite and explosives, crushed, crushed again and again until it is like talcum powder and put onto a water slurry that will use thousands of gallons of water daily in order for big magnets that attract the ore out of the slurry mix, and ask, where is that water coming from, and where will it go?

Great mining jobs will be give to those who move here from the closed taconite mines in Minnesota, Michigan and other countries. Millions, if not billions of dollars are likely to be made by the mining company which has paid out in political contributions over \$15 million to politicians alone in the State of Wisconsin since 2010. And then in 10-15 years, they will all be gone again. The former mine in Ladysmith is now dealing with underground polluted water

plumes that make well water undrinkable, but the mining company is long gone.

When we talk about clean water, that is what we mean if it is an open pit, or any other type of mine.

When we talk about mining and potential impacts, we want to talk about clean air, clean water, clean creeks and streams, clean wild rice and fish and meat and in fact, living wild rice and uncontaminated fish and resources protected by treaties.

The Ojibwe people have already lost access to enough of their retained resources from mercury, over-hunting and other activities they have had no input in. It can no longer be that way -- and we need to speak up for the water, the trees, the critters that can not speak for themselves.

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IndianCountryTV.com presents the Annual Lac Courte Oreilles

Mid-Winter Social Dance

Saturday February 16th, 2013
Lac Courte Oreilles Casino Convention Center
Hayward, Wisconsin

Honoring the "Idle No More" movement

Protect Our Clean Water - Protect Our Air - Protect Clean Treaty Resources & Obligations - Support Passage of the VAWA

10am Set-up - Opens for VENDORS, CRAFTING, INSTRUCTIONAL, AND EDUCATIONAL BOOTHS
(No Booth Fees but a donation to raffle will be expected)

3pmish Open Feast until Gone

3:30-5:30pm Educational/Legislative Action Panel:
Broadcast Live on WOJB 88.9 FM

Ojibwe Prophecies - Bawdwaywidun (Edward Benton Banai)
Saving The Penokee Mountain Range from GTAC
Mining and Jobs: What About Future Generations? - Mike Wiggins,
Tribal Chair, Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa

Mining Impacts In Our Community - Jessica Koski,
Mining Technical Assistant, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community

Clean Water, Clean Air - Mountain Top Mining in Virginia - Bob Kincaid
Coal River Mountain Watch - Whitesville, West Virginia

Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) - CJ Doxtator (Oneida)
Murdered and Missing in Canada - Denise Pictou Maloney (Mikmaq)
Future Work - Paul DeMain

6-8pm Social Dance

LCO Reservation Host Drums -- Special by Overpass Light Brigade 8pm
8-9:30pm 100 HAND DRUM ROUND DANCE HONORING SONG SEQUENCE

Visiting Drums and Hand Drums Welcome (Very Limited Funding/Blanket Dance)
(NO GATE FEES, NO DANCER MONEY, Hardly anything but singing and dancing after 6)

Sponsored in part by IndianCountryTV.com and the Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe Tribe
Entire Day Broadcast Live at www.IndianCountryTV.com

WOJB WILL BE BROADCASTING LIVE

Employment Positions

Position Description

Position: Physician / Chief Medical Director
Location: Lac Courte Oreilles Community Health Center
Posting Date: January 23, 2013
Closing Date: Until Filled

Description of Position:

The Chief Medical Director provides direct patient care to beneficiaries of the Lac Courte Oreilles Community Health Center on a continuous basis. Work activities of the Clinic's Physician include direct supervision of support staff to include laboratory and x-ray staff. The Physician will determine diagnoses and complete treatment plans after proper examination and consideration of vital and other patient factors on an individual basis. The Chief Medical Director will supervise other staff physicians and medical staff and will build close working relationships with them to provide the best patient care possible he or she delegated. Will work closely with and carry out any additional tasks assigned or special projects brought up by the Health Director.

Please include the required documents when submitting your application to the Human Resources Department:

- Resume • Application • Letter of Interest • Credentials
- Proof of any Stated Qualifications
- Three (3) Letters of Recommendation
- Academic Transcripts • Current Licenses
- Authorization For Release of Information (available upon request)

Tribal Health Director

Summary:

The Tribal Health Director will manage the day to day operations of the LCO Health Center. The Tribal Health Director is responsible for overall administration, planning, organization, fiscal management, and supervision of all programs and staff of the Lac Courte Oreilles Community Health Center. Major duties and responsibilities include personnel management, fiscal Tribal management, Contract Health services management, planning, and coordination with other agencies and public relations. The Health Director will ensure compliance with Indian Health Service, and Federal Policies.

Culturally Sensitive:

The Tribal Health Director must be culturally sensitive and knowledgeable of the customs, traditions, practices and sovereign status of the Lac Courte Oreilles Tribe

Supervision:

The Tribal Health Director is supervised by the Lac Courte Oreilles Tribal Governing Board with direct oversight of work activities by the Lac Courte Oreilles Health Board

This job description does not constitute an employment agreement between the employer and the employee and is subject to change by the employer as the needs of the employer and requirements of the job change.

Applications may be obtained from and submitted to:

Lac Courte Oreilles Community Health Center, Attn: Human Resources Director
13380W Trepania Road, Hayward, WI 54843 • 715-638-5102 • 715-634-6107 FAX
The Lac Courte Oreilles Community Health Center is an equal opportunity employer. Native American Preference will be given to candidates of equal or comparable qualifications.

LCO Child Support Program



CHILD SUPPORT STAFF. FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: TISH KEAHNA, ATTORNEY/PROGRAM SPECIALIST; KAY LYNN TAYLOR, COORDINATED SERVICE/INTAKE SPECIALIST; SUE SMITH, DIRECTOR; JESS HALL, TECHNICAL SPECIALIST/ADMIN. ASST.; BECKY WILLIAMS, PATERNITY SPECIALIST; AND STAR BOSS, FINANCIAL SPECIALIST.

On July 1, 2010, LCO received 'Start-up' funding to establish our own Child Support Program.

On November 30, 2012, LCO CSP became a fully functioning 'Comprehensive' Program with the ability to take all eligible tribal cases. LCO-CSP has identified 860 cases in Sawyer County that are eligible to transfer. We will be starting with 10 cases at a time, and steadily increasing that number until we have completed the transfer. We plan to have the transfer process complete between January 2013 and July 2015.

LCO CSP is both an enforcement and legal office focusing on establishment and enforcement of Court Orders and the delivery of quality customer service to the families subject to the jurisdiction of the LCO Tribe.

Child Support has five mandates: 1. Paternity establishment. 2. Child Support Order Establishment. 3. Order Modification. 4. Enforcement. 5. Locate services.

Our MISSION: LCO-CSP is dedicated to working in collaboration with tribal, state, and national agencies and departments to help meet the needs of the entire family and to maintain an effective program, improve the welfare of our children, and strengthen tribal sovereignty. We make every effort to strengthen family responsibilities and values through quality services and cultural integrity.

Our purpose is to enforce the child's right for support—financial, medical, emotional, and cultural—from both parents in order to raise the standard of living for our Tribal children.

Our commitment to families to: Ensure Paternity is established when appropriate, Financial disputes between parents are minimized, and Parents are held accountable to support their children in accordance with their resources and abilities. *(continued on page 9)*

Kinnamon School Project

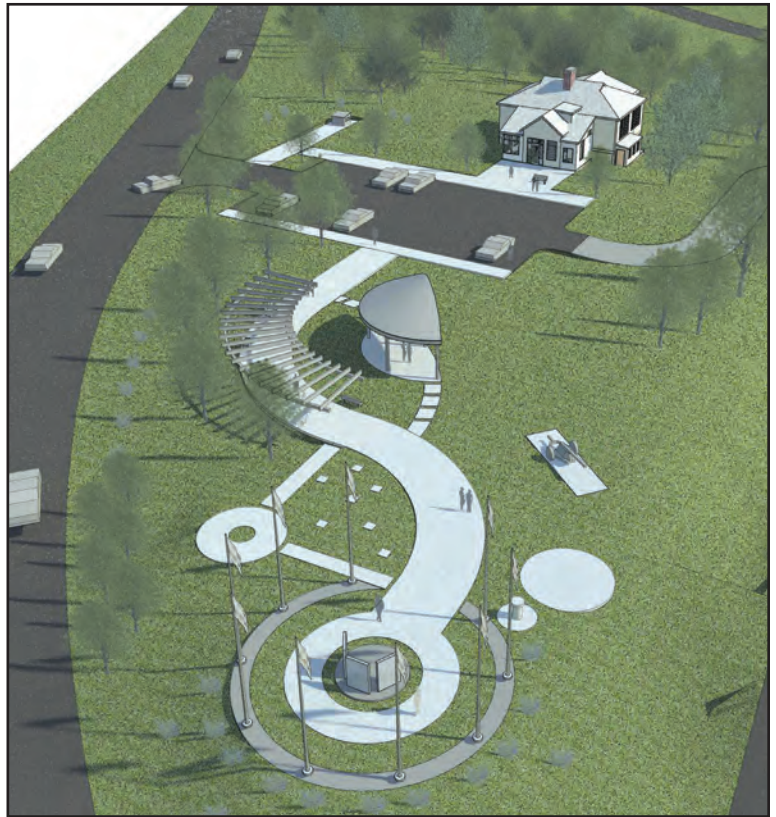
– by Brian Bisonette

This schematic design depicts an illustration of two distinct projects under construction simultaneously on the property known as “Kinnamon School/Veterans Memorial” located at the intersection of E & K.

In the fall of 2011, the Lac Courte Oreilles Band was awarded a three year Kinnamon School Rehabilitation grant, funded through the FY 2010 Rural Innovation Fund Program in the amount of \$789,063 dollars. The first year of the grant was Administrative, Planning and Procurement. Second year activities are Construction/Rehabilitation and the final year will address Funding Opportunities/ General Operations. Currently the Kinnamon renovation project is in Phase One, which addresses the exterior stabilization of Kinnamon School. Phase II, Interior work is scheduled this spring with a building completion date scheduled for September 30, 2013.

The Veterans Memorial Project is a multi-phased project that was funded by the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community (SMSC) Tribal Grant funding. The initial funding provided by SMSC purchased the Veterans monument, site and survey work. Fundraising efforts for project completion are currently underway.

The Project Director for the Kinnamon School Rehabilitation is Brian Bisonette and the Veterans Memorial Project



Coordinator is Nita Kemp-Riedell. General Contracting services for both projects, is the LCO Development Corporation assisted by Tim Meyer, Meyer Group Inc., Architectural Services, Duluth Minnesota.

LCO Child Support Program *(from page 8)*

We work to minimize family conflict as much as possible. We will work with both parties and try to get them to stipulate to an agreement and explain to both parents that it's for the benefit of their child.

We're very customer service focused. You're going to be able to contact your worker; you're going to be able to make contact with someone right away."

One of the methods to minimize family conflict will be the implementation of the Peacekeeping/Mediation process through the Grandparents Advisory Circle, whereby a trained facilitator or co-facilitators assist the parties in reaching a mutually agreeable resolution through respectful dialogue. The peacemaking/mediation process will consist of defining the problem, discussing solutions, and agreeing to a solution.

The LCO-Child Support Program is a federally funded program and was created by tribal law and “In support of the LCO Tribe’s commitment to provide for the education, health, social welfare, and economic stability of the present and future generations, the Lac Courte Oreilles Child Support Program recognizes the value of our children as our future.”

Announcements: February 12, 2013 Grandparents Advisory Circle meeting from 4 to 5 p.m. in the Peter Larson Room at the Tribal Building.

March 22, 2013 Open House in the Peter Larson room at the Tribal Building. The Child Support staff will be available to answer questions.

For more information please call 715-634-8934 ext. 297
Information is also available at the LCO Child Support website.

**\$5000.00
REWARD**

**For information leading to
the arrest & conviction of the
individual(s) responsible for
the destruction of spiritual
& religious sites of the
Lac Courte Oreilles
people last July.
Sawyer County
Anonymous Tip Line**

715-634-TIPS(8477)



Pride of the Ojibwe

13394 W Trepania Road . Hayward . Wisconsin . 54843

Phone 715-634-8934 . Fax 715-634-4797

Posted by TGB

**LCO Tribal
Membership Meeting
February 23 at 9:00 a.m.
at the LCO Bingo Hall
Agenda available at the meeting**

LCO Mining Impact Committee *(from page 7)*

Enough about corporate profits, it is time we started protecting the things we eat, breath and drink instead.

Is the risk of losing the Kakagon Slough wild rice, or the fisheries of the Chippewa Flowage worth 10-15 years of boom and bust economies in which people move in and move out worth it to the Anishinabe people who have lived and survived off the lands of this region for thousands of years.

Not to me, and I intend to say it loudly and often.

Boozhoo! *(from page 1)*

recently re-designed Lac Courte Oreilles web-site. lco-nsn.gov will take you there, point your cursor at the LCO News link and LCO Newsletter will pop up. This will take you to a new page where you can "CLICK TO DOWNLOAD NEWSLETTER". We must also thank the TGB for contracting with Will LaBreche of CreekBedDigital.com to re-design our web-site.

At this time, I would like to invite everyone to the "Mid-Winter Social Dance" on Saturday February 16th, at the LCO Casino Lodge and Convention Center. Paul De Main and Willard Gouge have put together something special this year.

As you know, the Gogebic Taconite mining company wants to open an open-pit iron ore mine (which could end up being 22 1/2 miles long and 1000 feet deep) on the Penokee Mountain Range. To be frank, this scares the hell out of me. The State Assembly and Senate are considering bills which would change the procedures for mining companies to obtain permits to eventually open a mine in the middle of Indian Country. This proposed mine would be in the middle of the ceded territories of the Bad River, Lac Du Flambeau and Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe, just south of Mellen and HWY 77. Run-off of any kind could have devastating affects on the Bad River, Bad River Ojibwe and their homeland. 815 acres of critical wetlands, adjacent south of the proposed mine could have their current protection eliminated by Wisconsin's proposed new mining law.

What worries me is that, if this Bill is approved, that the State would have a clear road on any future mines. There is a Vanadium deposit around/under Little Round Lake that could be of some interest to some mining company. There is an informal Hearing on the Penokee Hills/Gogebic-Taconite mine on the 9th of this month in Ashland. The Mid-Winter Social Dance will have an Educational/Legislative Workshop Panel Presentation on the 16th. The LCO General Membership meeting is on the 23rd. Three opportunities for us to learn and voice our opinions on the mining situation in Northern Wisconsin.

Of interest to veterans

Boozhoo from Ashland, Wisconsin!

My name is Katrina Werchouski, and I am the Coordinator for Multicultural Programs at Northland College. Below is an invite for auxiliary/VFW groups to take part in a historic event at Northland College on March 1st, 2013. We will have tribal auxiliary/VFW members present, and would like sent an open invite to welcome all Patriot Guard members from the upper Midwest (especially the tri-state area) to join us in being a part of the various aspects of our opening ceremony to welcome and honor Chester Nez, the last surviving of the "Original 29" WWII Navajo Code Talkers. If you don't want to participate in the ceremonies, we welcome you to attend the event and enjoy!

What: Northland College in Ashland, Wisconsin is bringing Marine corporal (3d division) Chester Nez to our campus. He is the last surviving of the "original 29" (though he acknowledges the original 32) Navajo Code Talkers. He helped develop and carry out the original code that was said to have won WWII. He also served some time during the Korean War, though not as a Code Talker, due to the secrecy of his original mission. Chester is highly regarded both in military settings, but also in native environments. He is a hero in both respects, and we would like to honor him with your presence, alongside of eagle staffs and military colors. We will also have an honor song sung to him in our regional and traditional tribal ways.

We are using Chester's visit as a way to start and celebrate our campus wide programming month of Indigenous Cultures Awareness Month, and I'd like to have the presence of native veterans there to show how important warriors are in our native communities.

Date and time: Friday, March 1st, 2013 from 7-9. If you are taking part in the opening ceremonies, I would like you all there by around 5pm if you are able to make it, as we will have numerous veteran/honoring attendees that will need to be organized before the event. Refreshments will be available in the theater of our campus center if you arrive early.

Location of the event will be at:

**Northland College, Kendrigan Gymnasium
1411 Ellis Ave., Ashland, WI 54806**

If you are a tribal veteran, please feel free to contact Nate Nez, Tribal/Regional Coordinator, State of Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs at: 715.762.5667 or nate.nez@dva.state.wi.us.

My contact information is: 715.682.1344 and my e-mail is: kwerchouski@northland.edu if there are any other questions.

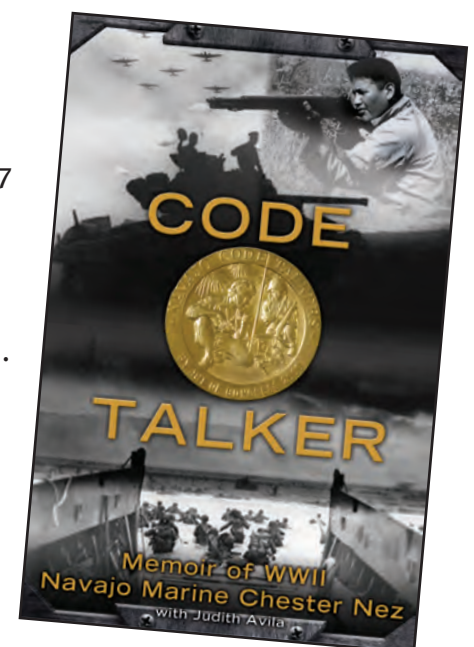
This is an extremely important event that will probably max out our gymnasium. We would be honored and grateful if you could attend.

We look forward to seeing you around campus during Indigenous Cultures Awareness Month!

Thank you for your service,

Katrina Werchouski, Coordinator for Multicultural Programs
Northland College, Ashland, WI.

For more info. about Indigenous Cultures Awareness Month: www.northland.edu/naicc



In the news

Please Update the Status of Your Files

The Enrollment Office would like to encourage everyone to update the status of your files. This is important to assure that all mailings get to the correct destination.

We have been receiving many calls concerning the Cobell settlement. They need to know their enrollment number or their IIM number. We have been told by the BIA that your IIM number is as follows (431U00____) The first three numbers is the code for Lac Courte Oreilles. The last four digits are your enrollment number.

At this time we are finding that addresses have not been updated. If your address has been updated with us, it will be updated at the BIA. Many checks are being returned because of incorrect addresses. They are then returned to the BIA to your IIM account. There is a phone number to call to inquire about a possibly returned check. The number to resolve claim issues regarding returned checks is (715-682-9918).

There is a number to call the Indian Trust Settlement which is: 1-800-961-6109. You may file a claim on-line at www.IndianTrust.com.

Please call the LCO Enrollment Office to update your information at 715-634-4853 or 634-4854.

Chairman's Testimony *(from page 6)*

company to discharge without limitation. The bill does not appear to consider the effect that mining projects can have on deep groundwater and the subsequent effect as that water rises to the surface to replenish shallow aquifers and surface waters. A scheme that fails to scientifically test and account for this connection could result in water pollution for miles.

It is for these reasons that the Lac Courte Oreilles Tribe is opposed to the mining bill. The opposition to this bill stems from the traditional and cultural beliefs of our tribal members. It also comes from the shared concerns of the peaceful people of northern Wisconsin and our shared love for the natural resources that sustain us.



Jauch and Bewley Announce Northern Listening Session on Mining Bills

Feb. 9th Listening Session will include discussion of both SB1 and Senator Cullen Proposal

Senator Bob Jauch (D-Poplar) and Representative Janet Bewley (D-Ashland) announced today that they will be holding a public listening session at the AmericInn in Ashland on Saturday, February 9th beginning at 9:00 a.m. The event is open to the public and the discussion will focus on the two recently introduced mining bills, SB1/AB1, authored by Senator Tom Tiffany (R-Hazelhurst) and LRB 0821, authored by Senator Tim Cullen (D-Janesville).

“Rep. Bewley and I have asked Senator Tiffany and his Assembly counterpart, Rep. Williams, to reconsider their decision to not hold a hearing in Northern Wisconsin on this new mining legislation and to date there has been no response. The only option remaining to ensure that the citizens of the North who were deliberately excluded from the process have their voices heard is to hold this listening session instead,” said Jauch.

The Northern Lawmakers stressed that this listening session will not be a partisan event. Their goal is to provide a more open and thoughtful process than Wednesday’s hearing. “This will not be a Democratic listening session or Republican listening session. It is an opportunity for citizens on all sides of the issue to be heard in a respectful manner, unlike the embarrassing manner in which the hearing on Wednesday was conducted,” said Bewley.

The legislators indicated that the listening session will help make the issue more accessible to citizens who live in the area of the proposed mine. “The committee chairs could have held a hearing somewhere in central Wisconsin to make it equally accessible for citizens from around the state to attend, but they didn’t. Someone living in Ashland or Iron Counties had to drive 11 hours round trip for the chance to offer two minutes in testimony on a bill that will directly impact their community,” noted Jauch. “Instead they chose to make the hearing convenient for their friends in Southeastern Wisconsin, going so far as to reserve a room for the conservative political group Americans For Prosperity to work from during the hearing, a reservation that was placed a full 3 days before the committee chairs announced the hearing to the public.”

The event will be open to the public and all legislators are invited to attend. Senator Cullen and Representative Nick Milroy (D-Superior) have already indicated they will participate and Jauch expects more legislators to announce plans to join them in the coming days.