



November 13, 2023

Via Email

Dear Tribal Leader,

On behalf the Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, I am reaching out to you humbly to inform you of a "divide and conquer" discriminatory act by the Wisconsin Joint Committee on Finance perpetrated against the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians and the Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, and to ask for your immediate consideration and assistance.

The Joint Committee decided on October 31, 2023 to exclude only Bad River and Lac du Flambeau from receiving \$1M each in Tribal Assistance Grant Program funds that are derived from over \$60M in tribal gaming compact payments made to the State, and that each of the other nine tribes in Wisconsin will receive. As of today, Bad River and Lac du Flambeau have not been informed by the State why the Joint Committee made this discriminatory decision. Lac du Flambeau is left to assume and speculate it was excluded from the grant program due to the Tribe's ongoing dispute with private landowners and the Town of Lac du Flambeau over the various trespass issues being fought over in federal court. Please see attached the joint letters signed by Bad River and Lac du Flambeau to Governor Evers and to Sen. Marklein and Rep. Born, Chairs of the Joint Committee on Finance, along with the attachments containing the request for \$11M in funding and the motion ultimately changing the request to exclude Bad River and Lac du Flambeau.

We found out today that the Wisconsin Department of Administration has already transmitted the grant award letters for signature and acceptance to the nine awarded tribes. Due to this situation, on behalf of Lac du Flambeau, I am respectfully asking your tribe to either reject the funds until the Joint Committee treats all 11 tribes in the State equally, or to only accept the funds under outspoken protest of the unequal treatment. Lac du Flambeau recognizes that the \$1M granted to your tribe goes a long way in assisting your tribe's efforts to provide essential governmental services to your tribal members and community. Lac du Flambeau does not make this request lightly, especially with winter months around the corner.

Lac du Flambeau will seek all legal and political remedies to address this injustice, but I am also asking for your help. It will speak volumes if all, or some, of our fellow tribes refuse or protest the acceptance of these funds.

I am more than happy to discuss this critical issue with you at any time. I can be reached at (715) 588-3303 and jjohnsonsr@ldftribe.com. Additionally, Lac du Flambeau's legal counsel, Andrew Adams III, can be reached at (651) 842-9102 and aadams@hogenadams.com if you and your attorneys have any questions.

Sincerely,

John Johnson Sr.
President, Lac du Flambeau Band of
Lake Superior Chippewa Indians

**Lac du Flambeau Band
of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians**

P.O. Box 67 - Lac du Flambeau, Wisconsin 54538 • (715) 588-3303 • FAX (715) 588-7930