

FDL Historic Preservation Office

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Much like our home, Mikinaakominis, the very logo that represents the Fond du Lac Tribal Historic Preservation Office rests on top of the shell of a turtle. Some Ojibwe believe the responsibility of carrying history through the present, and into the future, is bestowed to mikinaak. Perhaps an FDL Tribal Historic Preservation Officer of old, LeRoy Defoe, was inspired by a similar teaching.

LeRoy's gift for art is remnant. His influence persists into the present. Through his original depiction comes a new rendition: a logo to represent the Office's effort to perpetuate reverence for the history of Nagaajiwanaang. The preservation of Fond du Lac's cultural resources is imperative and worthy of being portrayed on the shell of mikinaak. Multiple interpretations of the

symbolism in the FDL THPO logo exist.

We, Evan Schroeder and myself, wish to continue this newspaper series by paying respect to the late and former FDL THPO, LeRoy Defoe. This spring, the current THPO Evan Schroeder found a sketch created by LeRoy. It may look familiar because LeRoy designed both the FDL logo and the FDL THPO logo. Anyone can learn more by visiting the "FDL Logo History" page within the "Culture" tab at fdlrez.com. There, one will discover that the lines around the arrowhead within the FDL logo represent a significant fire. With the help of FDL Communications staff, Evan finalized the FDL THPO logo that retains most elements of the original depiction, with the exception of the fire emanating from the turtle. We chose to do this because that fire will always be represented within the FDL THPO logo as long as our FDL logo rests on the shell of mikinaak.



LeRoy Defoe



FDL Communications