

# Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Reservation Business Committee

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Fond du Lac Hosts Dr. Birx, White House Coronavirus Response Coordinator *Dr. Birx Visited FDL Today To Learn More About the Tribe's COVID-19 Efforts*

### Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, MN - August 28, 2020

Today, Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa welcomed Dr. Deborah Birx, the Whitehouse Coronavirus Response Coordinator to hear about the Tribe's experience and efforts around COVID-19.

The COVID-19 pandemic has brutally swept through Indian Country. Fond du Lac has not been spared as we recently experienced positive cases on the Reservation earlier this month. Keeping the virus away from FDL has been the priority since the beginning for the Band, FDL's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and FDL's Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) team.

Chairman Kevin Dupuis, Sr. stated: "Fond du Lac has been focused fighting this virus for nearly eight months and the visit from Dr. Birx was a good time to reflect on the things we've done right and what can we work on to continue to keep our community safe. It is important to recognize the work of Fond du Lac's Public Health Emergency Preparedness team who has been meeting almost daily since COVID-19 hit the United States. We also know it is far from over and we must stay vigilant."

### About Fond du Lac Lake Superior Chippewa

The Fond du Lac Band (Nagaajiwanaang; where the water stops) is one of six Chippewa Indian Bands that make up the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe. The Fond du Lac Reservation was established by the La Pointe Treaty of 1854. Archaeologists, however, maintain that ancestors of the present-day Chippewa (Ojibwe) have resided in the Great Lakes areas since 800 A.D. The Band includes 4,200 members.

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